

RCAF Station Comox

TOTEM TIMES

VOL. 4

RCAF Station Comox, B.C., Thursday, July 11, 1963

No. 9

19 Wing (Aux) and 25 Militia Combine



19 Wing Fly Long Range

Having completed a week long joint exercise with units of the 25th Militia at Camp Vernon and Courtenay, the 19 Wing Auxiliary from Vancouver have returned to RCAF Station Comox to participate in the second and last phase of their 1963 summer camp.

Phase two will consist of sustained long range flying operations extending over the B.C. interior and penetrating the west coast range to the prairie provinces.

Intermittent rain and fog conditions during the past ten days throughout the Pacific coast and along segments of the interior have given the reserve pilots here a precise task in meeting their flying commitments. However, G.C.D.C. Cameron, the Commanding Officer of the Vancouver wing said: "The program has not been curtailed nor faltered in any respect."

The wing will terminate the final phase of their program

on Friday and return to Vancouver over the coming weekend.

Danger, Explosives

Last week a parachute flare and launcher were turned in to station armament. These items can be highly dangerous if improperly used.

Normally safe pyrotechnics can become highly unstable and very dangerous with age. Do not experiment.

Turn objects suspected of containing explosives in to station armament for disposal.

New Chief Navigator For Nighthawk Sqdn.

Air Force Headquarters announced recently the promotion of F/L John Lind, 31, to the rank of squadron leader and his appointment to the position of Navigator Leader for 409 Nighthawk squadron at RCAF Station Comox, B.C.



S/L Lind in his new duties, will monitor and maintain the squadron air navigation policies and navigator proficiency.

S/L Lind enlisted in the RCAF in 1951 as an aircraftman second class airframe fitter. He remustered to aircrew training in 1952, graduating as a navigator, was commissioned and saw service with CF-100 interceptor squadrons in Canada and in Europe. Prior to his transfer to Comox in 1959, S/L Lind served a two year tour as an intelligence officer at No. 1 Air Division headquarters in Metz, France.

He is the son of Mrs. John Lind of Vauxhall, Alberta. S/L Lind is married to the former Gwenth Leeder, daughter of Mrs. N. Leeder of Petawawa, Ontario.

Wing Commander Stewart, left, SASO for 19 Wing (Aux) and Colonel Ramsay of 25 Militia, debrief the first phase of the 1963 summer camp with Group Captain D. C. Cameron, the Commanding Officer of the Vancouver Wing.

PMQ Youth Programs

On Tuesday, July 2, registration was held in the PMQ school with about 350 dependents from the ages of 6 to 19 registering. Registration is still continuing with over 400 expected this week.

The program started Wednesday with a grand parade of over 200 children in full costume. It seemed to make a hit with the 150 spectators who showed up to enjoy the fun. The remainder of the week was set aside for the track and field, crafts, minor games, a dance, and an indoor track meet.

COMING SPECIAL EVENTS

July 18—A Penny Carnival will be sponsored by the Junior Leaders Club, at the big marquee on the school grounds that evening.

July 19 — A Teenage Hay Ride is being planned. It will start at 7:00 p.m. with a hay ride to the beach followed by a wiener roast which lasts to 11:30 p.m.

July 30—An outdoor track meet is being planned as an all day event for all ages. Ribbons will be given to the winners at the end of the program, on Awards Night.

August 21 — The Giant Awards Night held in the Station Theatre will highlight the summer program as all those who won recognition in the various aspects of the summer program will be presented with an award by the special guest.

YOUTH RECREATION CLUBS

A series of clubs for the teenagers have been started this summer. Mrs. Haugen has had an enthusiastic response for the Drama Club, which has resulted in a Drama Workshop being held on the evenings of July 11, 12 and 13. This workshop will conclude Saturday afternoon. The clinic will be run by Mr. J. Magee, the B.C. Festival award winner for drama last year, and many other capable specialists in drama. I know we are all look-

ing forward to the play they will produce later on this summer.

LAC Prouse, the head of the Station Photo Club, started a Dependents Photo Club, Monday, July 8. Also, tennis and outdoor clubs have started this week.

Sgt. Wile Promoted



SGT. L. G. WILE

ADC has just announced that 409 Squadron has a new Flight Sergeant - Larry Wile.

F/S Wile began his Air Force career as an air gunner, graduating top of his class from Gunnery School at MacDonald, Manitoba. After spending a year instructing at Montjoli he wangled an overseas posting. F/O Wile flew a tour of operations as "Mid-Upper" in 408 Squadron's Lancasters. However, his proficiency at his trade landed F/L Wile back instructing at Dalton Battle School, England.

He was demobilized in 1945 and re-entered the RCAF in '49, in Safety Equipment Branch. Larry came to us from Overseas Ferry Unit in St. Huberts some three years ago.

Congratulations!

Golden Hawks to Perform in B.C.

VICTORIA—The RCAF Golden Hawks, considered one of the world's finest jet-aerobatic teams, will appear at various B.C. centres next month, accompanied by the Red Knight, solo aerobatic flier, and the Training Command Band from Edmonton. It is announced by 5 RCAF Air Division Headquarters, Victoria.

Leading the RCAF contingent into the province this year will be the Red Knight, F/O J. W. (Bud) Morin, Maniwaki, P.Q., who will open his tour at Kamloops, performing there August 7 and 8. He will later appear at Penticton, Aug. 10; Port Alberni, Aug. 14; Chilliwack, Aug. 15; Victoria, Aug. 16; Comox, Aug. 17; Vernon, Aug. 18, and at Lake Cowichan, Aug. 25.

On leave from his regular position as an instructor at Portage la Prairie, Man., F/O Martin will fly the bright red T-33 Silver Star jet trainer through aerobatics that have thrilled crowds for the past five years at air shows across Canada and various parts of the U.S.

The "Knight's" 12-minute show begins with a roll off the top of a loop after take-off. His other manoeuvres include a Cuban-eight; clover leaf; hesitation, rhubarb and vertical rolls, loops and inverted flying.

A unique feature of the Red Knight's show is that all manoeuvres are carried out within the confines of an airfield — a difficult task with a high-speed aircraft.

Golden Hawks, commanded by Wing Commander R.F. Hatton, 47, of London, Ont., on the ground, and led by S/L Lloyd J. Hubard, 40, of Delta, Alta., in the air, open their tour at the Kamloops Air Show, on August 9. They will perform at the Penticton Air Show, August 10; Kelowna Air Show, August 11; Prince George Air Show, August 14; Victoria Air Show, August 16, and at Comox Air Show, August 17.

Formed in 1959 to mark the 35th anniversary of the RCAF and the golden anniversary of powered flight in Canada, the Golden Hawks have since given more than 248 precision performances before over 13,000,000 spectators in Canada and the U.S.

The seven men chosen each year for the team are drawn from the ranks of jet pilots serving with squadrons and training units of the RCAF. They have an average of 12 years of Air Force service and all have been stationed with Canada's No. 1 NATO Air Division in Europe.

Four years of demonstrating the high level of skill and precision demanded of the RCAF have won international acclaim for the Golden Hawks and a rating among the best of the world's aerobatic teams.

The 55-piece Training Command Band of the RCAF, based at Edmonton, and under the

Continued on Page 8
See "Golden Hawks"



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Sports: F. O. R. Burke (235), F. O. McGimpsey (409), F. L. L. Caron (409), Cpl. M. Standing

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Editorials

Help Wanted

Required Immediately — Reporters for the Totem Times. Working Time — 1/2 to 1 hour twice per month. Working Conditions — The same as your present job. Duties — To report items of interest in your section or about Station Comox, either humorous or serious. Remuneration — Unfortunately, Nil.

Perhaps the above advert should appear in the classified ads section, but your editor believes that it is a good way to start an editorial about the lack of "Station News" when press time comes around. Less than 20 per cent of our space is devoted to station items, and many of these items are received only after "hounding" someone to submit them. To the few who contribute articles willingly and without constant reminders, go our sincere thanks and a request to keep up the good work. A few more such individuals could make our paper something of interest to everyone.

Can you imagine a town the size of our station being unable to contribute enough news to keep at least a weekly paper going. I am not convinced that nothing happens on the station. Therefore, if you would like to help make YOUR paper better, submit your news to the Totem Times through normal Station Mail channels. It would be best to have the material typed, but it will be acceptable in any kind of writing or any language. If we can't translate it we'll print it "as is." The next deadline will be printed in each issue and I can assure your efforts will be appreciated. You never know, you may be a budding Shakespeare, and you won't find out unless you try.

WILF JOHNSON.

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Chapel Chimes

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SUNDAY—1000 hrs. DIVINE
WORSHIP.

Nursery—1000 hrs. in the
Chapel Annex.

Holy Communion—1100 hrs.
the second Sunday of the
month.

Senior and Junior Choir —
Next practice date to be an-
nounced later.

WE WELCOME to our Chapel
F. C. Brian W. Ross of the Uni-
versity of Saskatchewan. Brian
is a student for the Ministry
of the Presbyterian Church.
He will be with us until Sep-
tember, and will be associated
with the Chaplain (P) in all
aspects of the ministry here.

WE WELCOME also to our
midst all visitors. We pray that
you will find a rich blessing
in worshipping with us, that
your stay here will be pleasant
and your trip home a safe one.
"UTTERLY VAIN, UTTERLY
VAIN, EVERYTHING IS
VAIN!" Eccl. 1:2 (Moffat)

Such is the attitude, the idea
of life and many people. What
meaning is there in life? Is
there any? Most people back
away from such a question be-
cause such questions bother
them. They don't want to be
bothered. Yet this is part of
"THE COURAGE TO BE" —
to face up to life, to search for
its meaning and to stake one's
whole life on what one finds.
Man is caught in the web and
seeming futility of life and yet
he is groping — groping for a
light, and setting his feet, in
faith, on the path he finds.

For Christians "THE COUR-
AGE TO BE" involves having
Christ. But go one step fur-
ther, absolute faith in Jesus
revealed Himself in Jesus
is not just one-sided. It involves
not only one's self but God as
well. Faith is being accepted
into communion with God.
This happens when one accepts
Him for what He is. What
really happens is that one is

then grasped by the very pow-
er of God Himself. To be
grasped by this power is the
real basis for "THE COURAGE
TO BE."

Such courage involves com-
mitting one's whole life to Him,
because real life is commit-
ment. This is not an easy
thing to do, for such courage
must then effectively trans-
late the Gospel into day-to-day
activities, and become an in-
tegral part of one's whole life.
It may involve being critical of
the church, yet still love it; it
may involve looking objectively
at our society and world, yet
willing to right the wrong
one sees. Of such is "THE
COURAGE TO BE."

CATHOLIC CHAPEL FATHER H. THOMAS, F/L

SUNDAY MASSES — In the
Station Chapel, 8 a.m., 10 a.m.
and 8 p.m.

Weekday Masses — Monday,
Tuesday, Thursday and Friday,
4:05 p.m. commencing 1 June
for the summer months.
Wednesday, 8 p.m. and Satur-
day, 8:30 a.m.

CONFESSIONS — Before
Masses and Saturday, 7 to 8
p.m.

Baptism — Sundays by ap-
pointment.

Nursery — In the Parish Hall
for the 10 a.m. Mass only.

SUMMER CATECHISM —
Wallace Gardens School, 8
July to 18 July inclusive, 9 to
11 a.m. Priest in charge, Fr.
H. Thomas, assisted by FC KAT
Harder.

WELCOMED to our Chapel
FC KAT Harder — University
Chaplain (RC) who will be
assisting the Sisters with their
Summer Catechism classes.

Comox and Tyee Park will be
holding their Summer Cate-
chism in the Comox Eleme-
ntary School, 8 July to 18 July.
Priest in charge, Fr. J. Tunner.

Catechism Workshop for
teachers: St. Ann's Academy,
Victoria, 5 August to 10 August
inclusive. Fee \$5.00. Hours:
10 - 12 noon and 1 - 3 p.m.

St. Francis Xavier Diocesan
summer camp, Box 100, Shaw-
nigan Lake, B.C. Girls: June
30-July 12 and 14-26, July, boys
July 28-Aug. 9 and 11-23 Aug.

Lakes & Stream

By NUMB ROD

The past two weeks have
been unproductive as far as
time on the stream goes; how-
ever, I have spent a few ex-
citing moments at the Marina
where I have managed to en-
ter two worthwhile trout onto
the fly. These large yellow-
bellies were too sly for me and
successfully avoided the net.

I have been making enqui-
ries to determine what the Gold
River is offering these days.
I have heard of a couple of
abortive trips by local fisher-
men and also a few successes.
Amongst the latter is Dr. Fred
Lind of Courtenay who netted
two steelhead last weekend,
one six pounder and one nine
pounder.

There was an unofficial Civ-
il Defence exercise in PMQ last
weekend when W/C Croft,
S/L's Moore, Rushton, Bowman
and Townley and 10 sons ev-
acuated to Buttle Lake for the
weekend. The expedition was
a rousing success as the party
approached their limit on both
days with W/C Croft's boat
netting the most and S/L Cal
Rushton's boat getting the big-
gest.

Several 407 types hiked in to
Douglas Lake on the Forbidden
Plateau last Saturday and
found that the fish only re-
sponded to flies. Apparently, a
hatch of dragonfly larvae was
underway and the rainbows
and kamloops were responding
well. Weather permitting, I
hope to fish the Plateau lakes
this week and intend to take
a good supply of brown hackle
flies. Till next issue — tight
lines.

NB—Please note change in
Sunday Mass schedule: 08:00
hrs. - Low Mass. 1000 hrs. -
High Mass and 8 p.m. - Low
Mass.

Summer holidays are a won-
derful time for relaxation. We
sincerely hope that all our
families take advantage to re-
create themselves so as to be
better equipped physically and
mentally to carry out their
duties as members of a mili-
tary organization. We owe it
to ourselves and families and
to the service to which we be-
long.

There are certain duties
from which we do not relax and
which should not be put aside.
The principles of our Christian
way of living, our obligation to
observe our Sunday duties and
the like, should be adhered to
whether on holiday or at work.
We take advantage of our
Station paper to wish members
of our congregation who are on
transfer the best of everything.
God bless! To those who re-
main here, a pleasant holiday
with your family and friends.



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Four Comox Pilots Promoted



F/L TERRY NEILL

F/L BUD HUSBAND

F/L SAM LAMBERT

The June list saw four Sta-
tion Comox pilots promoted to
the rank of Flight Lieutenant.
On 409 Squadron, Flying Offi-
cers Terry Neill and Sam Lam-
bert received their second
hoop. On 407 (MP) Squadron
Flying Officers Bud Husband
and Jack Rozon. Missing in
the photos is Jack Rozon.



TRAIL TREASURES

With ILES

Here are a few lakes and streams on Vancouver Island and
more on the Island abounding in trout. Only some of the more
commonly known and most easily accessible are listed.

Courtenay River—Good steel-
head runs throughout the win-
ter. Good December to March
inclusive. Best January and
February. Excellent cut-throat
river spring and summer.

Tsolum River — Good steel-
head river. Good December to
March inclusive. Best January
to February. Excellent cut-
throat river spring and sum-
mer.

Englishman's River — Good
steelhead river. Good Decem-
ber to March inclusive. Best
January and February. Good
cut-throat stream.

Salmon River — North of
Campbell River. An excellent
steelhead river. Good Novem-
ber to March. Best December
to March.

Sprout Lake — Near Alberni.
Fishing open year round. Kam-
loops trout, cut-throat, dolly
varden. Excellent camp sites.
Boats available. Fair rainbow
and steelhead fishing.

Great Central Lake — Close
vicinity Sprout Lake. Same fish
and fishing conditions as in
Sprout Lake. Best months for
steelhead February, June, Aug-
ust and September in outlet
rivers.

Ash River — Runs into Sprout
Lake. Excellent camping. Open
year round. Summer and win-
ter runs steelhead — June to
October, December to Febru-
ary. Cut-throat also good.

Nahmini River — Near Al-
berni. Winter run steelhead,
December to March.

Buttle Lake — Near Camp-
bell River. Excellent for dolly
varden, cut-throat and rain-
bow.

Spectacle Lake — Malahat
district. Eastern brook trout.

Stamp River — Near Alberni.
Summer and winter runs of
steelhead — July to September
and December to March. One
of the best steelhead streams
on the Island.

Round and Somenos Lakes—
in Duncan area. Eastern brook
trout.

Cowichan River and Lake—
Near Duncan. Excellent steel-
head river with good winter
run. Dolly Varden inhabit both
Cowichan Lake, and Cowichan
River. Excellent resident cut-
throat fishing in Cowichan
Lake. Eastern brook trout in
upper reaches of Cowichan
River.

Nanaimo — Excellent steel-
head runs December to April.
Best late December to March.

Campbell Lake — Excellent
for cut-throat, dolly varden,
rainbow. Best March to April.

Campbell River—Winter run
steelhead December to March.
Small summer run of steel-
head. Excellent camping. Ex-
cellent fly river. Very good
winter run cut-throat and
dolly varden.

Nimkish River — Difficult
to reach. Winter steelhead run
November to March. Cut-
throat abundant.

Comox Lake — 12 miles from
Courtenay. Good dolly varden,
cut-throat lake.

Elk River — Excellent steel-
head, cut-throat and dolly var-
den runs. Steelhead best De-
cember to March. Campsite at
Elk Falls.

Koksilah River — Flows into
Cowichan Bay. Excellent steel-
head and Kamloops river in
winter months.

Niagara Creek — Good for

brown trout year round. In
Malahat district of Vancouver
Island. Excellent campsite.

Little Qualicum River—Good
for brown trout year round.
Good for steelhead December
to April. Best late December
to March.

Puntledge River — Excellent
steelhead river; good Decem-
ber to March inclusive. Best
January and February. Good
cut-throat river spring and
summer.

ing golf with square balls is
fun and funny? What would
you rather play, monopoly or
chess? Very soon baseball
coaches are going to form a
union?

For the answers to these and
other pressing problems that
affect YOU, consult your way-
out editor and ask for HELP,
or wait for the next issue.

—HELP!

Way Out Dept.

Are you worried about today
being the end? And what about
those bombs we always hear
of but never see? Is your stom-
ach sensitive to the fear that
you may have to limp to work
next year? Will you ever be-
come one of the unemployed
when there is no work to be
done?

Is your wife or favorite one
suddenly taking to a social
psychology text instead of be-
ing her normal, pleasing and
sexable self? Is your bikini brief
bathing suits an indication of
the living end of clothes? Is
there any doubt why the world
is feeling its population boom
and boom and boom? Did it
ever occur to you that there
are more females on our
streets? What are we going
to do about the increasing
number of male back seat driv-
ers? Will the mind ever rule
the body?

What program produced by
the CBC would show up green
on a TV set in your house?
What do you think people
would do if they could not be
living when they are enjoying
life? Should we reconsider life
insurance a waste to those that
are no longer with us? How
would you like to die if pain
could not be eliminated.

Don't you think everybody
should be required to know
how to fly a motorboat? Play-

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Tuesday, July 16, 1963

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407 DEMON DOIN'S

407 Squadron would like to send a rather belated welcome to F/L's Doug McGrath and Big John Setton and Lt. Shoemaker, our American exchange officer, all new pilots on the squadron. And while we're on the subject of pilots we would like to extend congratulations to Jack Rozon and Bud Hubbard on their promotions to F/L on the last list.

The pilots and engineers held a rather successful barbeque on the night of January 23rd with booze flowing freely. There were a number of folks looking a little off color when they arrived at the squadron briefing the following morning and with the thoughts of rare steaks in their minds, were not overly impressed with the choice of movies that morning.

The Old Saltchucker

Salmon fishing in the local area, and to points both north and south, are poor for this time of year. There have been reports of two or three large springs landed at King Coho camp at Little River.

The coho that are being caught are biting at either a small Tom Mack or herring (whole or strip). For the real early birds and by that I mean dawn, there are a few of the real big ones starting to arrive in the pool at Royston. As the fishing is poor so is the reporting. One word of advice to those that keep asking how can I catch a fish, the only answer is you won't unless you wet a line.

PHOTOGRAPHY Down to the Beach



and stiffly posed. Keep the horizon level in the viewfinder no matter what the angle of the person being photographed.

A passing boat may make your trigger finger itchy but chances are that it will appear too distant in your final print. Build a picture around it by framing the scene with the trunk and branches of a tree, or give it foreground interest by having someone or a small group in the foreground watching it.

Beach photography doesn't end with sunset. The sunset itself is a prime subject, particularly if it has figures silhouetted against it — and a campfire and weiner roast under the stars. Use a flash with a fire in the foreground. The beach has pictures to offer all day long, all you need is the camera and lots of film!

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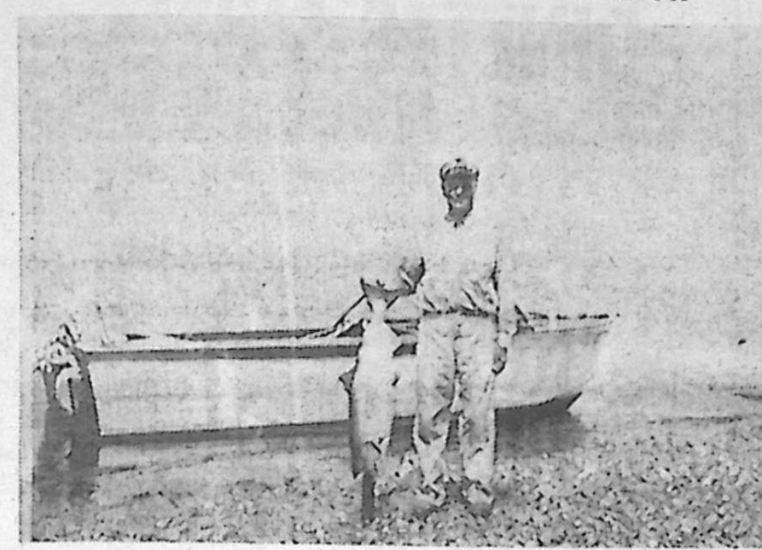
| AMOUNT OF LOAN | MONTHLY PAYMENT PLANS | | | |
|----------------|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | 36 months | 30 months | 24 months | 12 months |
| \$100 | \$3.12 | \$3.61 | \$4.12 | \$4.66 |
| 500 | 15.62 | 18.06 | 21.24 | 24.24 |
| 750 | 23.44 | 27.09 | 31.86 | 36.36 |
| 1000 | 31.25 | 36.09 | 42.48 | 48.48 |
| 1500 | 46.88 | 54.14 | 63.72 | 72.72 |
| 2000 | 62.50 | 72.19 | 85.44 | 96.96 |
| 2500 | 78.12 | 90.24 | 107.16 | 120.12 |

Above payments include principal and interest, and are based on prompt repayment. But do not include the cost of life insurance.

HOUSEHOLD FINANCE HFC

W. E. Johnson, Manager
549 England Avenue Telephone 334-2406
COURTENAY

Jack Williams Catches Salmon



Saturday last week, Jack Williams, Bendix Tech Rep, caught a 26-lb. spring salmon. The fish, boated after a 2 hr. 45 min. fight, was hooked on a herring strip. Rumour has it that his helmsman, Ted Newman, has just purchased deep sea gear for next week end.

Little League Baseball

Two top teams in the newly renovated PMQ ball league pictured above displayed recently the keen competitive fervor prevalent throughout the entire local league.

Smartly dressed in their uniforms donated by Courtenay and Comox businesses, the young combatants made battle with big league finesse right down to the knocking of the

mud off the shoe prior to standing to bat. Turnout to local games by cheering supporters has been brisk and most encouraging to the youngsters and to the ball programming committee.

BLACK HAWKS



Back row: Stan Thompson, Larry Ackland, John Kendal, Steve Mountford, D. Mason, John Johns, Billy Ackland. Front: Dingman, Legge, Gramle, Ray, Syl Thomson, Ricky Ackland, Hughes, Dan Charbourough. Coaches (left) Cpl. McPhee (right), Flight Sergeant Mountford.

COMETS



Back row (l. to r.): Joey Dunbar, Kent Sperion, Jim Shentag, Chris Soden, Randy Speiron, Owen Moore. Centre: Jim Dunbar, Ian Leadly, Doug Fenwick, Bill Boleh, Barry Steadman, Grant Dunbar. Front: Curtis Speiron, Dan Dunbar, Mike Noonan, Ken Comar. Coach: Flying Officer Henderson.

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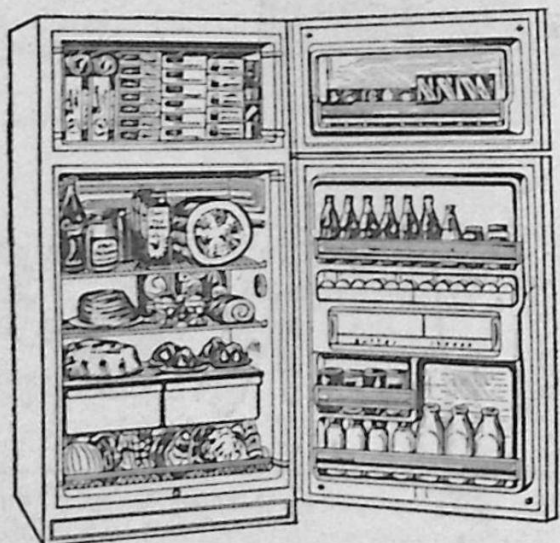
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Steelheading on Canada's Puntledge

By BILL ILES

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Steelheading on Vancouver Island's Puntledge River generally starts around Christmas gradually building up to a peak around the early part of February to slowly decline and fade out toward the end of March or early April.

Christmas and New Year's days, hordes of Isaac Walton's followers attired in their oldest and most favored hats, pocketed jackets and hip rubber boots, may be seen staggering from amidst the haze and confusion of the festively decorated interior of their homes, arms clasped around a mass of fishing rods, nets and lure boxes, a map of their favorite fishing area tightly clenched between their teeth.

The Puntledge River, where abundant catches of huge steelhead are constantly reported, in a much favored stream of Comox-Courtenay area residents.

This turbulent glacier-born stream originates in the mountainous, lake dotted, southeastern corner of Strathcona Park. On its run through this small corner of the park, the Puntledge is further fed by several smaller glacial streams. It continues on its tortuous 25-mile route through several progressively larger lakes and through several mountain valleys to eventually flow into Comox Lake. This lake, 8 miles long by one mile wide lies in a valley almost completely surrounded by high mountain peaks. The Puntledge emerges as victor from amongst the many rivers feeding Comox Lake and continues on under its original identity to finally empty into the Strait of Georgia.

In the Puntledge River the spawning run is in the winter with little or no run during the summer months, such as there is in the Ash, the Stamp and other Vancouver Island rivers.

The steelhead is a furious battler and can't be considered beaten until he's actually landed. Many times have I seen fishermen fight these beautiful fish to a standstill only to have them spit the lure into their faces as they prepared to slip the net under them.

Steelhead lurk in deeper pools awaiting a juicy morsel of food to be brought to them by the current. The Puntledge, wide, littered with these deep pools and interspersed with gravel bars and shallow rocky bottom where waders can be used to their fullest advantage, lends itself magnificently to fly and spin fishing.

The most effective lure against steelhead is a highly controversial point. Each fisherman has his own pet lure or bait. Personally, I believe live baits are most effective for winter steelheading, however, many fishermen recommended salmon roe, Devon minnow, a No. 3 Gibbs Tee Spoon and a piece of red flannel. In fact the red flannel is one which is very highly recommended by a great many successful fishermen in this area.

The gear recommended is a nine or ten-foot rod, a sturdy reel capable of holding at least 300 feet of 12 pound test line, a 30 inch 8 or 10 pound test leader and sufficient weight to allow the lure or bait to roll along the bottom; the weight used, varying with the speed of the current.

One of my favorite haunts on this river is a short distance downstream from the junction of the Tsolum and Puntledge Rivers, which in reality is the Courtenay River. Here and there are gravel bars which can easily be reached with hip waders. These gravel bars bring typical steelhead pools within reach of the spin and fly fishermen. Many excellent steelhead have been taken from this spot which is within

the Courtenay city limits and his motives are to knock all within sight of heavy traffic. Call it coincidence if you like, but while writing this portion of my article a friend of mine phoned a report of a 19½ lb. steelhead catch from this spot.

The rivers in the Courtenay-Comox area had been quite high for several weeks due to exceptionally heavy rainfall and, as a result, fishing had been quite poor. This chap however is a fanatical fisherman and takes great pleasure in catching fish at the most unlikely times. I'm convinced

Continued on Page 7

See Steelheading

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Steelheading

Continued from Page 6

ent fishing friend refer to as the "Meat Hole."

Another productive spot on this river is the Condensary Bridge about 1/4 of a mile upstream from the junction of the Tsolum and Puntledge Rivers. Here the water is fast, rushing over stones and small obstructions. This portion of the river can be fished from

the bridge or from a path which runs along the riverbank leading from the bridge downstream to the area mentioned above.

One of the best spots, quite near the city of Courtenay, is that portion of the river just below the power house and a short distance upstream from the Condensary Bridge. Here the river banks fall off quite steeply then level off to form a narrow path along the edge of the river. At this point the water from the main part of the river combines with that which was redirected through the flume from the dam upstream to run the power turbines. This results in a violent turbulence, creating deep pools. Large steelhead lurk here to gather food which is stirred up from the river bottom.

Wading this portion of the river is, of course, out of the question during the heavy rain periods. However it is easily fished from the narrow path, or from the gravel bars on the east side of the stream.

Many beautiful steelhead have been taken from here during the latter part of December and early January. Many have also been hooked and lost because of the fast water and a few natural snags.

The Puntledge or Courtenay Rivers are not the top steelhead rivers on Vancouver Island for there are many rivers which at times far exceed the Puntledge in steelhead catches. Rather it's a river which must be fished carefully and skillfully if a good catch is to be made, but it is also a river which, with conditions just right, can and often does produce

duces wonderful catches of steelhead.

On my arrival in Courtenay in 1957 I took up residence in a tourist camp operated by two Chinese lads located on the shore of the Puntledge River. I have yet to meet better fishermen. Many times have they skunked me on this river.

One time in particular comes to mind. We three had been fishing the "Meat Hole" and other likely spots from 8 a.m. until almost noon. My friends had a beautiful catch of steelhead. I had nothing and believe me they weren't letting me forget it. Several times they teasingly offered to bait my hook or adjust my leader, or otherwise help me.

I stubbornly refused to admit defeat until late afternoon shadows began to fall across the fast moving stream. Then, in disgust, I threw up my rod to one of them and told him to "Fill Your Hat." With a big grin on his face, he handed me his rod and after a cursory glance and slight adjustment to the worm curled on my hook, probably done for effect only, he made a beautiful cast into the centre of the stream. I imitated their every action with this rod and for the next 20 minutes, they, one on each side of me, continued to haul in trout after trout, while I frantically tried every trick I knew, without even a nibble. I've caught many cut-throat and steelhead in this stream since but I have yet to learn just what I was doing wrong that day. We still meet now and then and their sly grins tell me they haven't forgotten this incident, but they

Nautical News

The Marine Section reports a very quiet two weeks. There have been no distress calls and congratulations are in order for all our local fishermen and water skiers.

If your boat is kept at a dock make sure your tie-up lines are adequate. South-easters occasionally become quite strong even during summer months and several nice craft have been wrecked in this area due to inadequate mooring ropes. Also check your bilge after a heavy rain or blow.

Trout fishing is still good. The cool wet weather is providing

| Day | Time | Hgt. | Day | Time | Hgt. | Day | Time | Hgt. |
|-----|-------|------|-----|-------|------|-----|-------|------|
| 10 | 03:03 | 9.2 | 14 | 07:00 | 9.5 | 18 | 02:45 | 13.4 |
| | 07:24 | 11.1 | | 12:39 | 9.5 | | 10:24 | 0.3 |
| | 14:37 | 1.1 | | 17:48 | 6.4 | | 18:00 | 13.0 |
| | 22:12 | 13.8 | | | | | 22:48 | 9.9 |
| 11 | 04:00 | 8.6 | 15 | 00:34 | 13.7 | 19 | 03:33 | 13.1 |
| | 08:23 | 10.5 | | 07:58 | 3.7 | | 11:09 | 0.1 |
| | 15:18 | 1.9 | | 14:19 | 10.0 | | 18:48 | 13.6 |
| | 22:43 | 13.8 | | 19:04 | 7.9 | | 23:47 | 9.9 |
| 12 | 04:58 | 7.7 | 16 | 01:17 | 13.6 | 20 | 04:24 | 12.9 |
| | 09:35 | 9.9 | | 08:49 | 2.3 | | 11:53 | 0.4 |
| | 16:02 | 3.2 | | 15:47 | 11.0 | | 19:32 | 13.9 |
| | 23:18 | 13.8 | | 20:27 | 9.1 | | | |
| 13 | 05:59 | 6.5 | 17 | 02:00 | 13.5 | 21 | 00:41 | 9.7 |
| | 11:01 | 9.5 | | 09:37 | 1.2 | | 05:15 | 12.5 |
| | 16:50 | 4.7 | | 16:59 | 12.1 | | 12:37 | 0.1 |
| | 23:55 | 13.7 | | 21:45 | 9.7 | | 20:12 | 14.1 |
| | | | | | | | 01:32 | 9.2 |
| | | | | | | | 06:07 | 12.0 |
| | | | | | | | 13:20 | 0.3 |
| | | | | | | | 20:49 | 14.0 |
| | | | | | | | 02:23 | 8.7 |
| | | | | | | | 07:00 | 11.5 |
| | | | | | | | 14:00 | 1.1 |
| | | | | | | | 21:25 | 13.8 |

"The Ancient Mariner"

know better than to mention it. Come New Year's day and on through to the end of March or early April, the shores of all areas mentioned above are lined with fishermen. It's not unusual for example to count 15 to 20 fishermen casting above the many pools below the Puntledge power house.

Continued Next Issue

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GOLDEN HAWKS

(Continued from Page 1)

baton of F/O J. H. (Bud) Woods of Kamloops, will open at Vernon, August 14. This will be followed by appearances at Chilliwack, August 15; Victoria, August 16, in conjunction with the Golden Hawks and Red Knight; Victoria (Butchart Gardens), August 18; White Rock, August 19; Abbotsford, August 20; Pen-ticton, August 21; Kelowna, August 22; Kamloops, August

Junior Leaders Club

The unsung heroes of the summer program are the volunteer junior leaders. These unselfish people are doing a magnificent job, helping the senior leaders in every phase of the activity. They have formed a club of their own, which is dedicated to service in the community. The club, under its capable president, Barb Perry, schedules junior leaders for certain periods on the playground, organizes money raising projects, and plans socials for teenagers.

This club is sponsoring a giant car wash for Saturday morning, July 13, at the PMQ school. We hope these ambitious kids will get your support; it costs just 99c.

23, and Prince George, August 24 and 25.

The band, which has just returned from its third tour of Canada's NATO bases in Europe, was formed in Winnipeg at the end of the Second World War, and has been based at Edmonton since 1947.

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