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# THE TANK

CANADA

Official Journal of The Canadian Armoured Corps

Vol. 4

CAMP BORDEN, ONTARIO, APRIL, 1944

No. 4

THIS PUBLICATION IS ISSUED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF COL. J. A. MCCAMUS, M.C., E.D., OFFICER COMMANDING, CAN. ARM. CORPS TRG. EST.  
THE CONTENTS OF THIS PUBLICATION HAVE BEEN EDITED AND APPROVED BY MAJOR G. P. L. DRAKE-BROCKMAN, D.S.O., M.C.

Editor—Lieut. M. S. Sinn.

## This Month . . .

With this edition we have endeavoured to inject a little of the old college try into The Tank, and if pictures mean anything, then Life Magazine is running a close second. As a matter of fact, with the exception of one or two articles, our entire output this month is the handiwork of Corps talent. . . .

Take for instance our Sports Dept. . . . SGT. AB. HULSE of No. 3 sits down before a typewriter and with two clerks applying damp rags to the keys to guard against overheating, bangs out enough material to fill a Manhattan phone directory. . . . Take a gander at his hockey story (Page 24) together with thumb-nail sketches of the Brampton lads. . . . Seems they have quite a team. . . . Poor old T. & S. . . .

Our guest this month is C. B. PYPER of the Toronto Tely. . . . His widely read column appears daily on the front page of that publication. . . . Our thanks to him for giving so liberally of both time and talent. . . . His contribution appears on Page 5 and sets forth in a clear and concise manner the part the British Empire has taken in the present struggle. . . . We hope to hear from Mr. Pyper again. . . .

MAJOR G. P. L. DRAKE-BROCKMAN has set forth his views on the controversial subject of German Morale. . . . You'll find his article on Page 21 and if you have wondered why the German home front hasn't cracked under constant air raids and adverse news from the fighting fronts, the Major's contribution may answer many of the questions uppermost in your mind. . . .

On Page 10 we are presenting what we deem about the most interesting article in this month's issue. . . . It was written by MAJOR C. E. PAGE of the 14th Cdn. Army Tank Regt., and describes his experiences in a German Prisoners' of War Camp where he was quartered for many months following capture at Dieppe. . . . The Major was recently repatriated and is now at N.D.H.Q. . . . If you're interested in how our lads pass their time; what types of parcels they require most; how they introduced softball to the P.W. Camps, here's your chance to find out. . . .

VERN O'DONNELL, K. of C. Supervisor, sends along a column on Meaford, page 4. . . . Pictures of our lads who recently departed for overseas will be found on pages 12 to 14. . . .

The whys and wherefores of the Experimental Wing are explained on Page 15 by CAPTAIN C. D. MORRIS, while F/L L. W. WILSON, head man of the R.C.A.F. for the Army Co-op course at A-33, presents a few pointers on what this course means to pilots and why they are here. Page 16. . . . We asked PILOT OFFICER O. DODSON, one of the lads on the above-mentioned course, to give us his impressions of a ride in a Ram, and his experiences will be found on Page 17. . . . We know just how he felt. . . . By the way, the tank he drove is now back in working condition. . . .

On Page 18 you will find two letters from Overseas. . . . Gives you an idea of what our lads are experiencing in Italy and England. . . . And you hear complaints of how tough life is at Borden. . . .

Our Sports Editor, SGT. AB. HULSE, presents a word picture of LIEUT. ANDY TOMMY, Sports Officer, T. & S. Wing, on Page 26. . . . First of a series on Sports Officers in the Corps. . . . Those of you who know Andy, as well as the hundreds in the Armoured Corps who have seen him swish for the Ottawa Roughriders, will be interested in knowing more about him. . . . AB HULSE is the man who can tell you. . . .

Our cover this month is the work of CPL. JIMMY EVANS. KAY COSSAR, Hagersville, Ont., and FLORENCE JEANES, Hamilton, of the C.W.A.C. detachment here in Borden, spent a chilly hour or so hanging their thumbs in mid-air as James clicked his shutter. The Head is the work of LIEUT. C. A. PRITCHARD, who dreamed it up in fifteen minutes flat. . . . In passing it may be noted that the pix of the dance, Page 9, and the Ts O.E.T., Pages 12-14, are also the work of CPL. EVANS. . . .

Our thanks to those who have contributed, willingly or otherwise, to this month's edition. Pass the sinkers and coffee, Rooney, we're going to press. . . .

—ED.

ONE DOLLAR PER YEAR — TEN CENTS PER COPY  
Please address all subscriptions to the Editor.



## Editorial . . .

The news from Russia continues to hold first place in importance.

The onward march of the three Ukrainian Armies have produced big results during the past month. The First Army under Marshal Zhukov has reached, on the right, almost the outskirts of Lwow, has surrounded Tarnopol while the left flank is now about to enter Czecho-Slovakia and Hungary.

The Second Army in the centre under Marshal Konev has crossed to the Pruth on a front of over 100 miles and is now threatening Jassy and advancing towards the Sereti. In the south the Third Army has captured Odessa, in the vicinity of which city it seems as if a very large number of German troops are cut off.

Undoubtedly really big events are pending in this area, and immediate reactions may take place in several directions. First, the political effect these victories will have on Hungary and Rumania. Both countries are now firmly under German control. Doubtless Germany will do everything she can to prevent the oil fields of Brasov and Ploesti in Rumania from falling into Russian hands. Lack of oil and petrol is already hampering the German war effort and the loss of these oil fields may prove catastrophic. Whether the enemy can now stem the tide of Russian advance seems very doubtful. Furthermore if Germany fails to do this, Rumania undoubtedly will pass out of the war and with her Bulgaria. The eclipse of the latter country must jeopardize the German hold on the Aegean area and will leave the field open for operations by the Allied 9th and 10th Armies now in Egypt and Syria. Lastly, the days of the enemy forces still holding out in the Crimea seem numbered.

## Bogie Wheels . . .

I like to see the sun come up all radiant and pearly. I think I'll see it every day, but the darn thing comes too early.

A man is a big success when he can pursue the next meal on a full stomach.

Hitch your wagon to a star but hold your horses.

Many of us wish we were as smart as people think we are.

Blessed is the man who does not bellyache.

I heard a good story about a Flea and an Elephant who walked side by side over a small bridge. Said the Flea to the Elephant: "Gosh, we sure did shake that thing."

It is unfortunate that these big successes have been offset to some extent by two events. First, the strike of coal mines in England. This is a very serious matter which has affected transportation services in no small measure. It can only be hoped that it has not compromised the invasion schedule. Secondly, the enemy counter-offensive on the Assam-Burma frontier. It is difficult to see how a Japanese threat could in any way threaten the security of India, especially without sea or air superiority. Nevertheless a success which involves even temporary disruption of the E. Bengal railway would seriously compromise current operations by U.S. and Chinese forces further north and our own operations on the Aracan front.

In about one month the monsoon will break which will make operations on a large scale impossible. Hence, the Japanese will have to act quickly if they aim at attaining really important results. Should they fail, they may find themselves in desperate straits with their communications stretching back to the Salween River through miles of jungle devoid of any communications except tracks fit for pack animals only.

The operations in the Pacific are reaching an interesting stage. The recent successful attack by the U.S. on the Carolines has still furthered the process of reducing the two Jap bases of Truk and Rabaul to impotency. With the continued drain on Jap shipping through losses at sea from Allied submarines and aircraft the plight of many of the Japanese outposts in this area must be desperate, since their garrisons are wholly dependent on supply by sea for nearly everything.

G.P.L. D-B.

To get the full value of happiness we must have somebody to share it with.

\* \* \*

We wouldn't worry what people think of us if we knew how seldom they do.

\* \* \*

A word to the wise is useless.

\* \* \*

The roads are not passable, not even jackassable.

\* \* \*

Don't let it worry you if you don't know all the answers—nobody does.



# THE SIXTH VICTORY LOAN



The ready response to any appeal for special effort on the part of the Canadian Armoured Corps has always been a source of great satisfaction to me. There is indicated a loyalty to and pride in the Corps and a willingness to maintain its good name against all competition.

The forthcoming appeal to purchase Victory Bonds is one which cannot be viewed lightly. It is a challenge to us, not only as soldiers, but as citizens of Canada—the land, for whose freedom we are fighting to retain, wherein to live peaceably.

Each bond purchased brings victory that much nearer, and hastens the time of our return to civilian life when the purchasing power of the bonds we own will ease the difficulties of rehabilitation.

Let us invest in the future of Canada and at the same time in our own future by buying bonds to the limit of our capacity. Make A-33's contribution a worth while one to this Sixth Victory Loan.

COLONEL J. A. McCAMUS, M.C., E.D.  
Officer Commanding A-33 C.A.C.T.E.



PUT VICTORY FIRST



## Meaford... By VERN O'DONNELL

'Tis Spring and the young man's fancy on the Range turns to worries of how they are going to keep the Range Vehicles from sticking in the mud. Range personnel at present are getting a small sample of quagmires and headaches foretold by the few tried and true veterans who have been up on the top of this little mountain since its inception.

Bees, who caused the saying "Hive of activity", may well take a lesson from the goings on in and about Meaford Range in the past few months. From our O.C. Capt. Blecker and his 2 i/c Lieut. Morgan, whose rubber boots carry him around the range at an alarming rate of speed, throughout the entire Range staff to minute Lieut. Finch, who from his elevated crow's nest directs Range operations, the phrase has been "It isn't possible but we will do it anyway." The cooks of the Range have been wondering why wives raise such a hullabuloo when the husbands phone up to say they are bringing an old pal home as it is a common occurrence at the AFV Camp, where visitors' day is seven days a week, to receive notice that there will be a few extra for dinner; say thirty or forty.

Our happy hellos and mournful goodbyes have been many in the past few months. I am sure the entire Range joins with me in saying the best of luck to popular Captain Westbrook who was Tech. Officer on the Range for many months. We received a letter from him from somewhere in England and are glad to know that he likes his new post. Congratulations are in order for receiving his promotion to Captain.

Lieut. Schoone, one of the veterans of Meaford Range, on his transfer to Camp Borden, takes with him the best wishes of the many friends he made while stationed at Meaford. Lieut. Hamilton, who left for parts unknown, though only with us a short time became well known to all with his never failing good humour. We hear it was an awful blow to the nurses at CBMH to lose our head cook, Sgt. (Slim) Newton, but we are all glad that he is back after a very critical few months away from "his boys".

Newcomers to our permanent staff include Lieut. Cranston, our Tech. Officer. I am still trying to convince him that my riding in his vehicles has nothing to do with their breaking down. New arrivals also are Captain Price, Lieut. Roy and Lieut. Campbell and their staff of NCOs and men. Though at the time of writing they have only been here a few days we hear that at the Range dance in Meaford they have already made an impression on the local belles.

The last Range Canteen party put on by K. of C. was endorsed as being O.K. by all who attended. When there is a dance of this kind everyone on the Range who is not on duty, attends. It is the opinion of the fellows at Camp that the girls from Meaford attending these parties are just about as friendly a group as there is anywhere.

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**BARRIE**

# Empire at War

Written specially for The Tank, Canada

By C. B. Pyper

War Analyst of the Toronto Evening Telegram

It is commonly known, though frequently forgotten, that the British Empire, represented by Britain, led the world in the war against Hitler. Britain, confident in the support of the Dominions, was the first country to declare war voluntarily, and of all the major nations now fighting the Axis, only those of the Empire went into war without being attacked.

It is commonly supposed, though without any foundation in fact, that the Empire went into war unprepared. As far as the Dominions are concerned, that is true. As far as Great Britain is concerned, it is the exact opposite of the truth. The truth is that Britain had prepared for this war better than for any in her long and war-filled history. Her intensive preparation began late—the great rearmament scheme was not launched till the spring of 1937—but it was more wisely planned and thoroughly carried out than any on record.

A comparison with the situation at the beginning of the last war shows a tremendous difference. In 1939 the navy, as Winston Churchill declared when he was still a critic, was stronger relatively and absolutely than the navy of which he had charge in 1914. In 1939 conscription was introduced three months before war broke out; in the last war it was 18 months late. In 1939 the Royal Air Force, though inferior numerically to the Luftwaffe, was unmatched anywhere for quality of men and machines.

It was this air force, planned and created by the pre-war British government, that won the Battle of Britain in 1940. The men and machines that blasted the Luftwaffe out of the skies were not scrambled together in a few months by a new government, and though the output of aircraft was vastly increased under the spur of deadly danger, that increase was made possible by the fact that the foundations for expansion had been wisely laid. Lord Beaverbrook, who took over from Sir Kingsley Wood in 1940, declared later that without the work of his predecessor, his own efforts could have accomplished little in the time.

For the vast increase in the production of skilled pilots the pre-war British government deserves the credit. That government conceived the idea of using the great spaces of Canada for training purposes, and from its first idea was derived the great Empire training scheme which is seen in operation in Canada today and which has played such a tremendous part in the prosecution of the war.

In one other respect Britain had prepared as she had never prepared before. Long before the crash came her alliance with France had been put on a war footing, and the two nations were bound together for war purposes as they had not been till the closing days of the last conflict. On this point the lesson of the last war had been learned. When the crash

came there was a unified command and a commander-in-chief of all ground forces, a condition that was not reached in the last war till catastrophe threatened in 1918.

### French Army Presumed Greatest

It is to be remembered that Britain's preparations were based on the knowledge that she had the greatest navy in the world and the belief that France had the finest army. That combination, in the opinion of so experienced and competent a judge as Winston Churchill, was strong enough to defy any grouping of European dictatorships, the theory being that Britain would hold the seas and France the field until the British army could be expanded to the dimensions required. In the European crisis the Pacific was left, and had to be left, to the care of the United States.

If the French army had lived up to half its reputation the theory would have been vindicated. Britain would never have lost a foothold in Europe. With the French colonial army on the borders of Libya there would have been no Italian threat to Egypt, and with the French fleet in the Mediterranean, Britain's naval strength would have been freed for the Atlantic and for the Far East.

It was the collapse of France, unforeseen and almost unbelievable, that falsified all calculations, brought Britain to the brink of catastrophe, and made her preparations appear inadequate. For that collapse nobody in Britain was responsible; for failure to foresee it nobody in Britain can well be blamed. Winston Churchill's judgment and knowledge of affairs in other countries have been highly and properly esteemed; in 1939 he declared that the French army, if not the largest, was certainly the finest in the world. Nobody in the democracies foresaw the catastrophe and no amateur strategist foretold it, though many have foretold catastrophes that never came.

The French army's defeat has been ascribed to many causes, including incompetence in the commanders and corruption in the state. One cause that has never received sufficient credit is that it was faced by the most powerful war machine ever created, a machine fashioned by men who, starting from nothing, had no shackles of the past to shake off, and who, apparently hopelessly handicapped, had to supply by inventiveness and new method the leeway they had lost through compulsory disarmament. That machine was handled by commanders who added to unquestionable military ability a scientific ruthlessness that the world had never seen before.

### Britain Stands Alone

In that machine and in Nazi methods there may be found sufficient explanation of the French military defeat, and it is scarcely to be doubted that,



had she continued the war, her armies would have been utterly destroyed. The same machine, when Hitler attacked the Soviet, overran in a few months territory greater than France and Germany combined, though Russia had been preparing for such a war for 20 years, and had been preparing intensively, with the Nazi campaigns as lessons, from the beginning of the war until Hitler attacked her 22 months later.

When France fell, Britain, backed by the Dominions, was left to face two powerful foes in Europe. It seemed doubtful that she could survive and impossible that she could save Egypt, the Suez Canal and the Middle East. In the summer of 1940 Anthony Eden gave a group of correspondents in London a hint of the gravity of the situation in Africa, where the way to the east seemed open to Hitler. If the Nazis got the Middle East our hope of ultimate victory was gone.

The British War Cabinet decided he would get neither Britain nor the Middle East. To balk him it conceived a plan of superb audacity. It is worthwhile to record the names of the men responsible. They were Winston Churchill, Neville Chamberlain, Lord Halifax, Clement Attlee and Arthur Greenwood. Lord Halifax revealed the plan, after it had proved magnificently successful, in a speech in Baltimore in 1942.

It was that Britain, alone against the Axis nations, should put a ring around them till she was able to strike. The ring was to reach from the north of Norway to Iceland, thence west of the British Isles to Gibraltar, and thence through Malta, Egypt, Syria and Iraq. There were many weak points, and if Hitler broke through anywhere the plan would have failed.

#### Desperate Measures Taken

One of the weak points was the Mediterranean, where Britain had only a token force of cruisers and destroyers to match Mussolini's battle fleet containing six battleships and seven cruisers of eight-inch guns. She had only 168 old planes in Egypt and four in Malta to match his air force. She had only a small garrison in Egypt to face the Italian armies in Libya and Ethiopia.

The plan called for desperate measures and they were taken. At a time when Britain was fighting for her lifeline across the Atlantic, every ship that could be scraped from the Atlantic patrol was sent to the Mediterranean. When she herself was expecting invasion, she sent men, tanks and guns around the Cape to Egypt. At the very moment when the British Air Force was fighting the Battle of Britain, precious planes were sent to Egypt and Malta.

The war had by then become a war of the Empire nations. The First Canadian Division—the only fully equipped division in the country after Dunkirk—was holding the fort in Britain. Australians, New Zealanders, South Africans and Indians were fighting alongside British Tommies in Africa. It was the British Commonwealth of Nations against two dictatorships, one of them the mightiest military power ever known.

The Battle of Britain was won by the Royal Air Force, which was an Empire air force. Canadians

and pilots from all the Dominions helped to blast the Luftwaffe from the skies. That victory, as is well known, saved Britain. In saving her, it saved the world. If Britain had gone down in 1940, if Hitler had been able to throw all his strength to the east, nothing could have saved the Soviet Union. With Germany on one side and Japan on the other Russia would have been lost, and thereafter all the resources of Europe and Asia would have been arrayed against this continent.

#### British Attack in Mediterranean

It was when Britain was herself at bay, battling for her life against apparently overwhelming odds, that the War Cabinet decided to attack in the Mediterranean. The Italian navy was beaten at Taranto, chased to port and blasted in Taranto harbor. The army that had invaded Egypt was driven back into Libya. Empire troops conquered Ethiopia, Eritrea and Somaliland. Egypt and Suez were saved when to save them seemed beyond hope.

Like Napoleon, Hitler had been checked at the Channel and frustrated in Egypt. The ring had held. That was the beginning of his end. The survival of Britain not only kept her in the war, but later furnished a base for the American expeditionary army and air force. The preservation of the Middle East dashed Hitler's hopes of joining hands with Japan. Such a junction, even as late as 1942, would have given the Axis, if not victory, at least a hope of prolonging the war indefinitely. It was prevented by the British nations.

#### Red Army Supplied by Britain

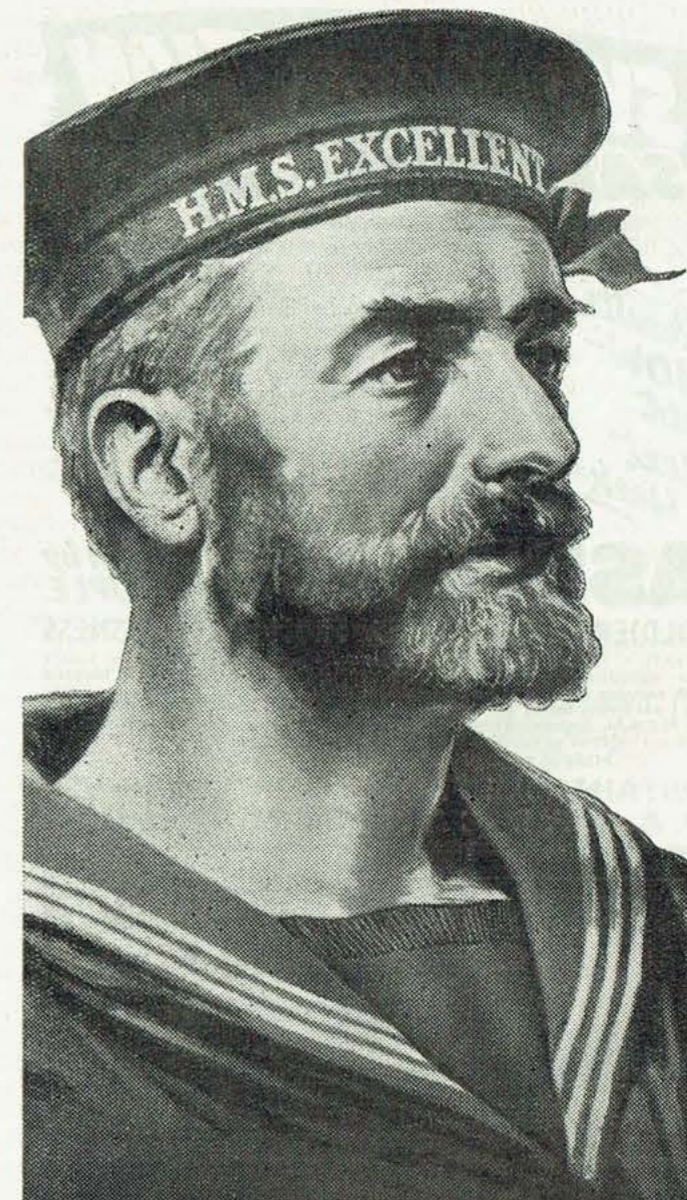
There were reverses to come, as is inevitable in any war. Hitler invaded the Balkans, and Britain, bound by treaty, sent sorely needed divisions to help Greece. They were unable to save Greece or Crete, but they helped delay Hitler's attack on Russia, and cost him precious weeks of summer. Meanwhile the Nazis had sent first-class troops and a first-class commander to Africa, and Wavell, weakened by the loss of the divisions sent to Greece, and possibly having poked his head out too far, was driven back again to the border of Egypt.

In June, 1941, Hitler struck at Russia. Winston Churchill at once pledged assistance to the Soviet, and Britain sent to Russia supplies she had been accumulating for use at home, in Egypt, the Middle East and the Far East. She sent them in freighters needed for her own purposes and escorted them with warships at a time when every convoy meant a major naval operation. She risked and ultimately lost her possessions in the Far East, but she helped keep Russian armies in the field.

From the beginning, she had maintained her mastery of the seas, against submarines, surface ships, magnetic mines and all other devices of a daring and clever enemy. Her armies, and those of the Dominions, were expanding into a vast force for service all over the world. Once more she and the Dominions were beginning to learn the ways of land war.

#### Japan Strikes in Far East

The ways of war, for peaceful democracies without conscript armies, need some learning. The Nazis, as had been shown in France and as was to be shown in Russia, had a start on the world. They had



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brought the business of air transport to a point that even the Russians had not reached. Their troops, after many victorious campaigns, were veterans with the feeling of invincibility. The Empire troops had still to learn the tricks of battle, but some of them were learning fast in Africa.

Then came the blow in the Far East. Japan, having profited by the fall of France to take French Indo-China and Thailand, had a land approach to Malaya and Singapore. She struck at Pearl Harbor, crippling the American fleet on which the democracies had depended for protection of the Pacific. Two days later she got the British battleship Prince of Wales and battle cruiser Repulse. The double stroke left her mistress for the time of the Pacific and she took everything as far as India on one hand and the eastern tip of New Guinea on the other.

The democracies seemed to face disaster. The Japanese had a clear way into the Indian Ocean. Hitler had reinforced Rommel for a supreme bid for Egypt. If he could break through, Germany could join hands with Japan to share the vast resources of the East Indies. If they joined hands they could hope to defy the Allies forever.

#### Form Strategic Plan

Like the British government in 1940, the British and American governments in 1942 formed a strategic plan to meet the emergency. The first need, as stated by President Roosevelt at a press conference, was to prevent a break-through. The first moves were made rapidly. The Pacific fleet was reinforced and damaged ships repaired. A squadron sailed from Honolulu to New Zealand to establish a supply line. Australian troops were recalled from Africa to defend their own country, and General MacArthur was called from Bataan to command in Australia. Britain seized Madagascar and forestalled attack on the supply lines to Egypt.

From this point the history of the Empire war is inextricably intertwined with the history of the United States war, for from then the great English-speaking nations planned and fought as one. While holding the ring, they prepared to attack. It was decided to drive Rommel from Egypt and land an army behind him in French Africa.

In June, 1942, there came a setback, with a defeat in the desert. In one day the Eighth army lost 230 of 300 tanks in an ambush. The immediate consequence was the loss of Tobruk and Rommel's invasion of Egypt. He reached El Alamein and it looked as though the break-through was coming. It didn't come. Auchinleck topped him and held him. Churchill found the army disheartened by unexplained defeat. He gave it a new commander, Montgomery, under a new chief, Alexander.

The desert defeat was the last serious blow British forces have had. Four months later Montgomery routed Rommel and chased him across the desert. At the same time, British and American forces landed in French Africa and began the campaign that cleared the Axis out of Africa, made the Mediterranean safe, put Italy out of the war, and gave the Allies her air bases.

#### Today's Bombings Conceived in 1940

Today, with vast armies massed ready to strike from Britain, vast air forces from both Britain and

Italy are blasting Germany and her satellite states. The British bombing offensive alone has done Germany more damage than Goering ever dared dream of for Britain. In three months of this year more than 48,000 tons of bombs were unloaded on Germany by the Royal Air Force and the Royal Canadian Air Force. That tremendous onslaught and the devastating campaign of last year were projected as far back as 1940, when Britain was going through her trial by fire.

In 3½ years of war the world has been brought from the very verge of catastrophe to plain sight of victory. There was never in the history of war or sport a come-back like that. For making it possible the credit must be given to the British nations and the men who directed their struggle in the terrible years of 1940 and 1941. For 17 months the English-speaking Allies have had almost uninterrupted success, with here and there a halt but never a serious setback. That is an amazing record against such a foe as Germany, and it was not made by accident, bungling or timid action. There are people who complain because they have not been given Rome overnight and because British and American armies are not now on the way to Berlin. They would be the first and loudest in complaint if ill-prepared enterprises had ended in disaster.

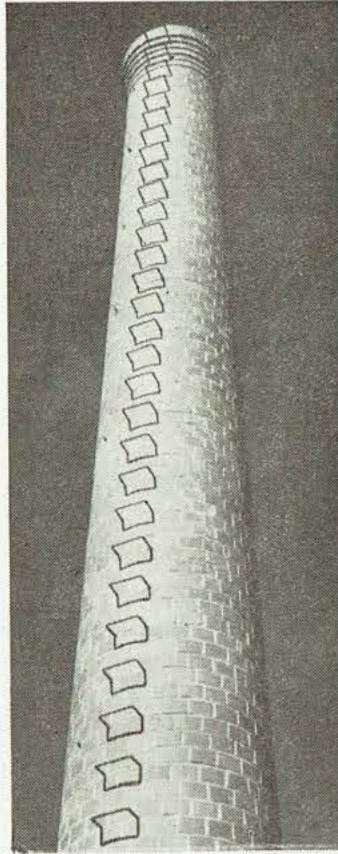
It is true that Britain has had defeats and losses. What country has not. Facing two powerful foes in Europe, she had possessions in peril of attack all over the globe. As has been shown, she saved Egypt and the Middle East when that seemed to be impossible. In the Far East she lost Hong Kong, Burma, Malaya—with Singapore—and her holdings in the East Indies. The United States had only one responsibility abroad, for the Philippines. They were lost in a few months. The Soviet Union in the first months of war lost its territory in Finland, the three Baltic States, its half of Poland, Bessarabia in Rumania, and an area in Russia greater than Germany and France. And it had not to face Japan.

This is not said to disparage the achievement of other allied nations but to set in its true perspective the achievement of the British nations. It is an achievement seldom matched and never surpassed in the history of war. If this seems extravagant praise it is only because we have forgotten the straits we were in just 3½ years ago. Then there seemed scarcely a hope that civilization could survive; now it cannot be crushed, unless, as Winston Churchill said recently, we make "some grave strategical mistake."

The men in charge of our war have brought us step by step from the edge of the abyss to the certainty of victory. They have neither been dismayed by defeat, betrayed by over-confidence, nor swayed by the clamor of fools. For that, they deserve thanks and trust. They had to meet the deadliest threat free peoples ever faced. Starting from a point when all hope seemed gone, when the odds against them appeared overwhelming, they out-thought, out-fought, out-planned and out-manoeuvered the enemy at every turn, till now they have him where they and their Allies can crush him. They were not lacking in boldness or brains who did such a job. We owe it to ourselves as much as to them to appreciate what they have achieved.



# New Instructional Wing Opened by C.A.C.



March 25th marked a new era in the progress of the Canadian Armoured Corps when the official opening took place of the 36 new Technical & Schools Buildings. The last of these have been completed and the Tech & Schools Wing will now be concentrated in its new area complete with MT Sqn, Gunnery, R/T and D&M Sqn.

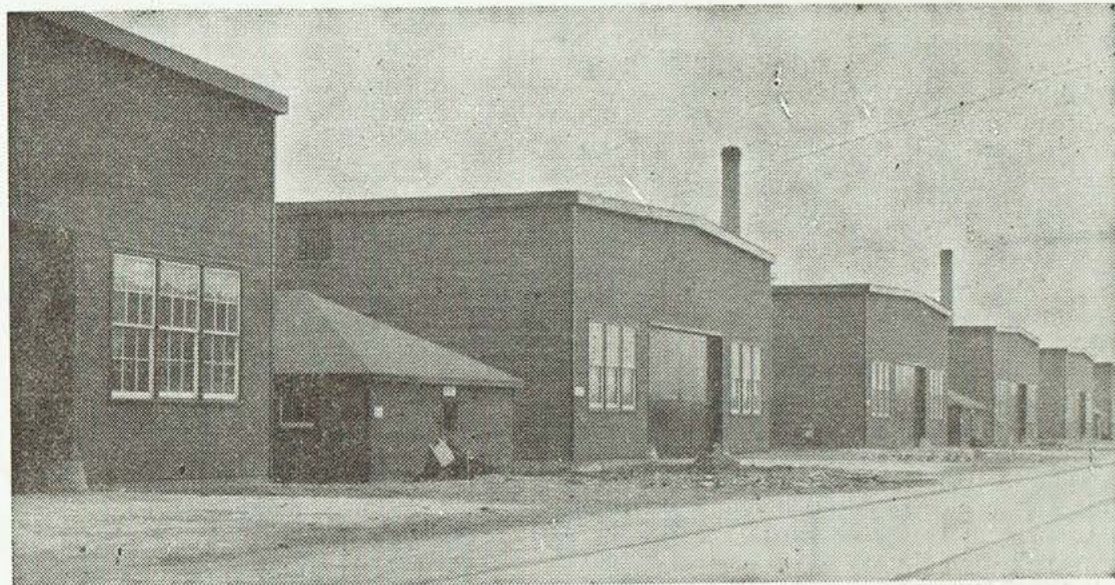
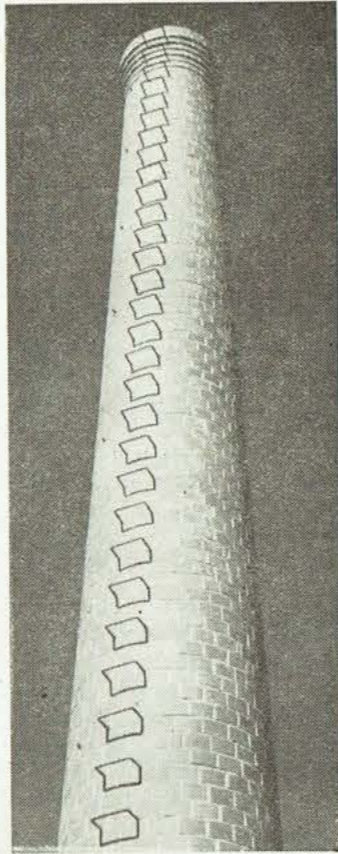
Both the Instructional and Administrative Buildings comprising the area are fitted up with every modern contrivance. They are well lit and heated. They will undoubtedly prove a valuable asset to the Canadian Armoured Corps in the future, when all the various types of ranges, models, etc., are installed.

Every effort has been made to embody the most up-to-date training appliances in the Instructional Buildings based on ideas obtained from overseas and the U.E. Armoured Force.

The official opening was marked by a visit from the Press and the holding of a dance in one of the Hangars when Col. J. A. McCamus, M.C., Officer Commanding CACTE, and officers of the CAC units entertained a large number of guests.

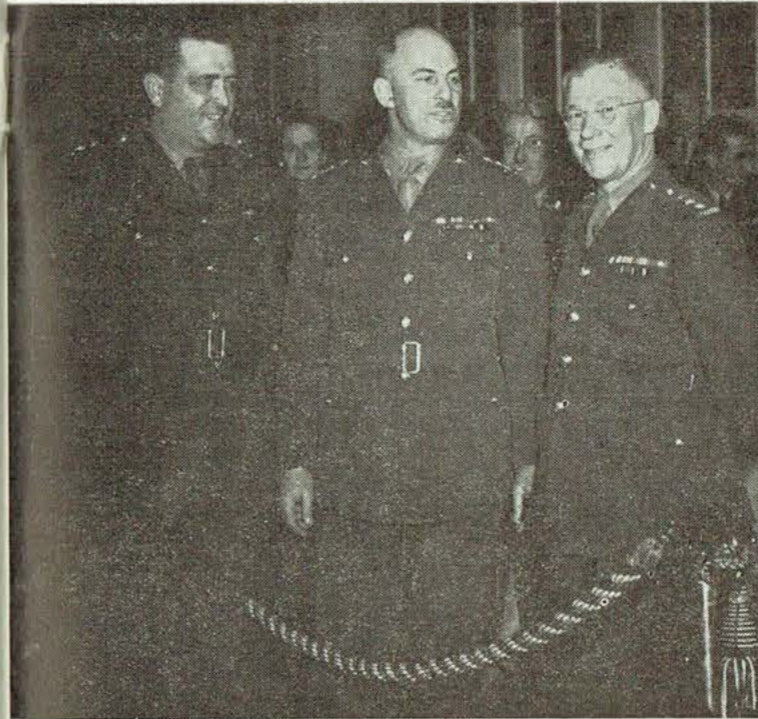
The entertainment also included a floor show put on by the "Black Berets" and a magnificent supper.

The evening's entertainment was greatly enjoyed by all.



## C.A.C. Dance

March 25, 1944



Left to Right  
Lt.-Col. J. E. Wilkins; Brigadier A. C. Spencer, E.D.; Col. J. A. McCamus, M.C., E.D.



Mrs. H. Senkler; Mrs. T. W. Rutherford; Maj. R. C. Armstrong; Maj. T. W. Rutherford



Mrs. J. S. McBride; Lt. J. S. McBride; Major H. A. McKibbin; Capt. W. Ramsey



Lt. W. E. Fetterley; Betty Murray; Kay Murray; Lt. W. May; Major Jack Stiver; Ronnie Murray; Lt. C. Greenwood



## I am Home From an Oflag

By MAJOR C. E. PAGE

I come from Calgary and at Dieppe I was with the Calgary Regiment. I was with the Canadian tanks there when we were captured. After being made prisoners, about forty of the officers started to help the wounded. We went around the beach and did what we could for the men who were there. We carried some up to collecting points where they could be picked up by ambulance, and then we ourselves were taken off.

First they marched us about twelve miles back behind Dieppe, where we stayed that night; and at six the next morning they took us back five miles into a town, and there we were put into a church. About three that afternoon they gave us a cup of soup; and that was the first food we had had since we had been captured.

Next we were taken aboard a train. They had a couple of coaches for officers but the men and the remainder of the officers were in box-cars. Then we went to an old French prisoners-of-war camp where we stayed about five days, and the rations were very slim.

Finally we were taken on into Germany to Eichstatt, to Oflag VIIB. This was my second visit to Germany, as in the last war I enlisted in the 56th Infantry Battalion in April 1915. I was just nineteen then. My father happened to be in the 31st Canadian Battalion and when I got to England he claimed me to his unit, and I went to France with the 6th Brigade, 2nd Division, and I was with them right up until after the Armistice. My dad was Captain and Quartermaster of that unit.

After the Armistice we went into Germany as far as Bonn, and we were there until January 1919. Then we moved back to Namur in Belgium, and I got back to Calgary in June 1919.

We passed through Bonn on my way from Dieppe to the prison camp, but all I was able to recognize was the Bonn Bridge. Last war, it was Berlin or bust, but I didn't get that far. I happened to pass through the outskirts of Berlin in this war, and from what I could see Berlin has had a bit of the busting this time.

Our camp, Oflag VIIB, at Eichstatt, was about sixty miles from Munich. It was in a delightful part of the country and resembled somewhat the foothills of Alberta, where I come from. It was a very nice climate and was very hot in the summer. In fact we used to run about in shorts and get a real suntan, and during last winter I don't think it was down below ten degrees of frost. There was very little snow last winter.

Our camp was a pre-war cavalry barracks. There

were four big brick buildings of the permanent barracks. They had running water and electric light; but the huts, which we called the 'Garden City', didn't have water or electric light. They used carbon lamps. The huts were fairly warm, but the ration of coal was very small.

There were about a hundred Canadian officers, and a lot of New Zealanders and Australians; but the majority in our camp were English and Scots. We had twenty-four Americans with us for a short while; but when they started American camps, they sent them to one. I remember they left on the night of the King's birthday. By the way, on the King's birthday everyone turned out in their smartest clothes, and those who had "SD"—that's Service Dress—put it on for the occasion. The pipe band turned out and played Retreat. Then we all gave three cheers for the King.

Some of the Canadian officers with me were Brigadier William Wallace Southam of Toronto, Lt.-Col. Robert Ridley Labatt, of Hamilton, Lt.-Col. Frederick Kent Jaspersen of Windsor, Ont., Lt.-Col. Charles Cecil Ingersoll Merritt, V.C., of Vancouver, Lt.-Col. Douglas Ellison Catto of Toronto, Major Sarto Marchand, F.M.R., Outremont, Quebec, Major David Claude Orme, S.S.R., of Weyburn, Sask., Capt. James Alfred Turner, Camerons of Canada, Norwood, Man., Major Brian Samuel McCool, R.R.C., of Toronto, Lt. Jack Taylor, of Toronto, the famous Canadian rugby player.

Captain John Foote of Port Hope, a Canadian padre captured at Dieppe, was in our camp for a while but he applied to go to a camp with Canadian men, and he left us, and we got reports that he was getting along very nicely and doing a fine job.

Our living quarters were very cramped. In some rooms they had two and three-deck beds. There were four officers in my room but there were only ten rooms like that in the camp. The average was about thirty-two to a room. We had a locker and a bed each, a knife, a fork, and spoon, a bowl and a cup, one blanket in summer, two blankets in winter and a towel. That is all the Germans issue. The Red Cross have supplied a lot of extra blankets and dishes.

In the huts in the "Garden City" during the winter, frost often coated the inside of the walls, which made it very damp, and our clothing got pretty damp after a while too. We were allowed cold showers practically any time we wanted them but hot showers we only got every two weeks. We made a complaint about them and they promised to make



MAJOR C. E. PAGE

## WAR TERMS EXPLAINED BY KIWI

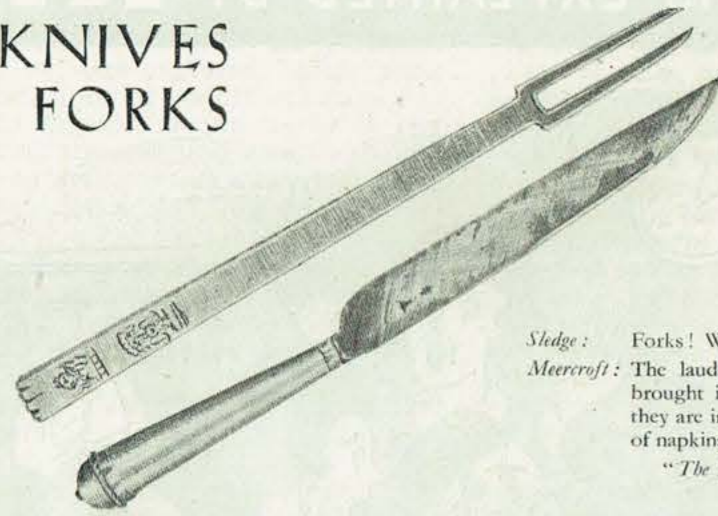


### "A COUNTER ATTACK!"

We don't expect you will find this rendering of a famous war term in any official handbook, but if you will ask any old-timer, he will very forcibly tell you, that for the finest polish on any leather—whether boots or equipment—there is nothing to equal Kiwi! It was good last time and it's still the same to-day. Get Kiwi Black or Kiwi Tan from your canteen.



## On KNIVES and FORKS



CHARLES I 1652, IN THE POSSESSION  
OF THE VICTORIA AND ALBERT MUSEUM.

*Sledge:* Forks! What be they?  
*Meercroft:* The laudable use of forks,  
brought into custom here as  
they are in Italy to the sparing  
of napkins.  
"The Devil is an Ass"  
by Ben Jonson.

We always speak of "Knives and Forks", never of "Forks and Knives", and yet in polite society it is the fork with which we are on the more intimate terms.

The reason is, probably, that the knife existed long before the fork made its appearance and that the first "forks" were really knives . . .

Chaucer's Prioress who "leet no morsel from hir lippes fall" knew neither knife nor fork. She dipped into the dish with her dainty fingers and demurely conveyed the morsel to her mouth with the same implements. In a book on Continental travel published in London in the year 1611 we read this: "the reason for this their curiosity (*i.e.* the use of the fork) is because the Italian cannot by any means endure to have his dish touched with fingers seeing all men's are not alike clean." Thus the fork appears to have succeeded the napkin for this particular usage.

The origin of the fork was probably a smaller pointed knife with which the joint was steadied whilst being carved. From that was evolved something like a skewer or one-pronged fork which later became the two-pronged fork. But these were only servers.

Individual knives probably came into polite use in this country about the fourteenth century, but the individual fork in association with the knife did not put in an appearance until the seventeenth century, though they had been in use in Italy at a much earlier date. In fact in some examples of early table cutlery which have been preserved we find sets of knives with only one fork.

English silver-handled knives and forks (two-pronged) of the eighteenth century show considerable variety and artistry of design, but as the fork developed from the two-prong to the three and later to the four-pronged and increased in utility, table cutlery tended to deteriorate in design. It has been left to the silversmiths of today to revive the combination of beauty and usefulness.

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it three hot showers in a month. But instead of getting three, we got one in five weeks.

The German rations were very poor, and, because we were receiving Red Cross parcels even these were cut down by a third. If it had not been for the Red Cross parcels, the men would have been in very poor condition. It was practically the Red Cross parcels that kept us alive and now the men I left behind are in very good physical condition.

### CANADIAN PARCELS POPULAR

The parcels were British Red Cross and St. John's, Canadian, New Zealand, and Australian Red Cross! Canadian biscuits, Canadian salmon, Canadian butter, and Canadian meat roll are particularly popular. I wouldn't be letting out any secret to say that Canadian parcels were especially popular, and that they were well packed and that the contents were well chosen. By the way, cigarette parcels have been coming in very well and I know all the prisoners appreciate them very much indeed, and I know all prisoners of war would want me to thank their friends and the organizations which send them on their behalf.

Through these parcels Canadian prisoners are now becoming tea drinkers. We make brews as we call it, about six or eight times a day, so when you're sending parcels, include tea, coffee, and cocoa, and some sugar. We start off with tea at half-past seven in the morning. After parade, which is at nine o'clock, we make another brew of tea. Then about half-past ten or eleven we make another one, and so on, about every two or three hours through the day.

Groups of six or eight officers will form a mess together, and pool all their resources. Food parcels are collected Mondays and Thursdays and they put all their food together in a common store, but naturally, in any group if one man was short he would always be looked after by his friends, and nobody suffered, so that people who did not get many parcels did not suffer.

If you send prisoners a miscellaneous parcel, try sending running shoes, shorts, sweat shirts, and baseball caps—I suggest that because the sun is very strong there in the summer-time and we play softball a lot, and the regular baseball cap shades you. In fact, we were making our own hats there, and very queer looking they were too. The odd bathing suit trunks—for sun bathing—come in handy, and a lot of the men were just as brown as the leather on my Sam Browne.

One thing a prisoner wants more than anything else is mail from home, and the odd snapshot of the family sure bucks him up a lot.

### CANADIANS INTRODUCE SOFTBALL

We played a lot of games in our camp. We had a three-quarter size soccer "pitch"—as the English people call it—a softball diamond with forty-foot bases, a basketball field, and a field hockey pitch, two tennis courts and four badminton courts and the sports committee had quite a time figuring out schedules so that everybody who wanted to play could play.

Canadian prisoners introduced softball in all the

camps they were in in Germany, and it is now the most popular game in the camps. In ours we started off with a league of six teams and by the end of the summer we had two leagues of twelve teams each. During two months in the summer, the football pitch is allotted to cricketers from 10 in the morning until 5 in the afternoon, because it takes all day to play cricket, and have tea. But the English officers played softball, too, and were enthusiastic about it and played well.

Parole walks have just been instituted in our camp at the rate of ten prisoners a day. Canadians do not participate in this because they do not feel they should have their turn until those who had been there since Dunkirk have had a break.

We had three theatre parties, a brass band, a pipe band, and three jazz bands. The theatre groups—most unprofessional actors—put on little plays and shows every once in a while. They rented their costumes from the Germans in Munich. They put on "The Case of the Frightened Lady," "Post Mortem" and a pantomime around Christmas time.

We had a library and an education department and there were over 70 different subjects which the men could take up and for which they could enter examinations. This was made possible through the Red Cross. Personally I didn't take anything myself, but my room mate, a South African, Col. Kriek, was running three different classes, Afrikaans, French and Dutch. He was also learning Portuguese himself. Other subjects which could be taken were law and engineering.

Since I have been back people are always asking me how we got the news in Camp. Radio sets, as you know, are not allowed, but we got the German papers every day. Our main source of news is, of course, from new prisoners.

From all this you might think that we have a swell time, but you must remember that we're confined behind barbed wire and guarded by sentries with rifles, and in most cases the prisoners have no idea when they are to be released. I was lucky in being passed for repatriation, and I expected to be repatriated at any time. So it wasn't quite so bad for me because my outlook was that I expected to be home before the war was over, whereas with the other fellows, they could have no such hope.

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## "Gone to Fight the Foe"

Since the outbreak of war in 1939, thousands of Armoured Corps personnel have received their advanced training at Camp Borden and proceeded overseas. Scenes on these pages depict the departure of a recent group and show the men receiving their final Ts O.E.T.

Officers from Camp Headquarters supervise these final tests and carry out a rigid inspection as regards neatness of dress and equipment to insure that all Canadian Armoured Corps reinforcements maintain the high standard of efficiency overseas established by their predecessors.



Lt.-Col. G. Melton, G.S.O. 1, Camp Borden, Major T. W. Rutherford, D.C.M., OC Trained Soldiers' Regiment and Major G. J. Stiver, G.S.O. 2, Camp Borden, inspecting the men previous to their departure.



Lieut. Gamble, of Montreal, neatly stows that Christmas shirt.



L. to R., Rear Row—Lts. G. D. Roberts, Magog, Que., S. T. Hamilton, Ottawa, B. A. Gamble, Montreal, I. E. Ponting, Ottawa, J. Lindsay, Norwood, Man., C. S. Miller, Toronto. Front Row—P. H. Large, Toronto, J. F. Arthur, Winnipeg, W. T. Danby, Weston, Ont., E. L. N. Grant, Prince George, B.C., D. L. G. White, Ottawa.



L. to R., Rear Row—C. G. Jones, Ancaster, Ont., R. H. Lindsay, Ottawa, R. L. Gruer, Aubrey, Que., E. D. McFavish, Winnipeg, J. M. McAllan, Ottawa, J. B. Johnston, Vancouver, J. N. MacKinnon, Barrie, F. J. McKenna, Sherbrooke, Que. Front Row—J. S. Waldie, Winnipeg, R. J. Thomson, North Bay, Ont., G. H. Skene, Agassiz, B.C., V. Pope, Toronto, S. I. VanFlyman, Toronto.



# Experimental Wing

By CAPT. C. D. MORRIS



Tpr. Harvey Harter, London, Ont., shows Sgt. W. H. Deane the ready position with the pistol, as Tpr. Harvey Hill, Toronto, and Tpr. Gord Hackridge, Hamilton, look on approvingly.



Sgt. J. Sylvester questions Tpr. Michael Herman of Ashville, Man., on A.F.V. recognition.



Captain T. I. Lumby, Ottawa, OC Draft, makes final check of documents.

Lieut. K. Nicholds, "G" Staff, Camp Borden, quizzes Tpr. Eugene Joannette, Ottawa, on his gas training.



Tpr. William Hall, Erin, Ont., assumes the correct position behind the Piat for Sgt. R. Clarke, as Lt.-Col. G. Melton and Major T. W. Rutherford look on.



Defective bogie wheels and other mechanisms are turned in to the Experimental Wing for testing.

The CAC Experimental Wing was started in January, 1941, by Lieut. Col. H. W. Steel who was at that time Lieutenant Steel. Since that time trials, tests, and experiments of every description pertaining to the army have been conducted by the wing.

Universal Carriers were first tested by Lieut. Col. Steel at the Ford Plant in Windsor. Recommendations which he made at that time are now incorporated in the present carrier in use by the British Army.

The first Armoured Car was turned over to Lieut. Col. Steel by Col. Worthington on January 21st, 1941, for tests. On March 11th, 1941, the Wing had its first accident. The armoured car turned over, pinning the Crew Commander underneath, killing him instantly.

The first Valentine and Ram Tanks were tested by the Wing and then taken by rail to Kapuskasing, Ontario, for three months Cold Weather Trials.

User trials and tests have been carried on here by the Experimental Wing on every type of vehicle in use by our armies. Not only are mechanical tests

made but tests of clothing, thermos bottles, chemical warfare equipment, food containers, and lubricants.

One of the most interesting tests carried out by the Wing was a landing trial test made from a tank landing shop on the east coast in conjunction with the United States Navy.

Photography plays a very important part in the wing as all tests and trials and modifications must be photographed and copies sent with all reports. Our photographic section comes under Cpl. J. C. Evans and is a twenty-four (24) hour a day job. Pictures are taken of all accidents for the accident board, and a recent assignment was taking pictures and making slides of the Stader Splint for Lt. Col. Ross of Camp Borden Military Hospital. Coloured motion pictures were taken recently of the actual operation and applying the Stader Splint to a broken arm.

Though Lieut. Col. Steel is O.C. of the Technical Wing, he still takes an active part in the Experimental Wing with Capt. C. D. Morris, the present O.C. of the Wing.



## Army Co-Op

By F/L L. W. WILSON, R.C.A.F.

It has been stated by military authorities that when the combined British-Canadian-American invasion forces smash into Western Europe to establish a second front, the highest degree of co-operation will have to exist between the three branches of the service, Army-Navy-Airforce, if success is to be insured.

The Germans pointed the way to combined operations during the invasion of the lowlands when the Nazi Air Force and ground troops worked as a unit, smashing all before them. Allied Military leaders, having witnessed the success of enemy methods during that period, have concentrated upon perfecting co-operation between air and land power and the success of their efforts will be borne out as the Airmen and Soldiers of the Allied Armies work as one to shatter German defences and liberate Europe.

Working towards this end, chosen graduates of Royal Canadian Airforce Schools across Canada are receiving a special co-ops course here at the Canadian Armoured Corps Training Centre in Camp Borden. The first class of airmen arrived early in the year and every few weeks a new group arrive for instruction before proceeding to the various war fronts.

While at Borden the Airmen are given a special course in Armoured tactics with emphasis placed upon tank recognition. They receive advanced information on the tactical movements of enemy armoured units as well as a thorough appraisal of the offensive capabilities and vulnerable points of German tanks. In other words the RCAF personnel receives, in highly concentrated form, the advanced training given members of the Armoured Corps.

During the course the pilots are taken out to the camp tank area where they are given the opportunity of operating the latest Canadian models in the capacity of gunner, driver and crew-commander. By this means they are given an insight into the methods of armoured warfare, what Ack-Ack may be expected from a tank, where a hit from the air would do most damage and what action is taken by an armoured fighting vehicle on encountering air opposition.

The airmen also make a trip to the Meaford Range where they fire the 75 and Browning, experiencing the smoke and grime to which armoured men are accustomed.

During lecture hours, the sand table is used extensively. This phase of the course is considered by the majority of pilots the most important as it demonstrates the tactical movements of tanks under varying conditions extending from desert warfare to fighting in hilly terrain. As the pilots under instruction are attached to the Tactical Airforce, they are vitally interested in being able to differentiate between friendly and enemy fighting vehicles. Their job is to co-operate with Armour in an advance and

unless they are familiar with our tanks, the possibility of attacking friends exists.

More than one of the students has voiced his fear of "peeling off" and hammering Allied armour in error. It is easily understood how this could happen in the heat of battle and therefore every effort is made by the instructors on the co-ops course to familiarize the pilots with the outlines and prominent features of Allied tanks.

One of the prime requisites of co-operating aircraft is to act as the eyes of an armoured formation. This is where a knowledge of armoured tactics fits into the pilot's picture. As one officer who had trained at No. 1 SFTS here in Borden expressed it, "I used to see your tanks running around in the training area and they seemed to be going nowhere fast, but this course has shown me that they were manoeuvring in definite formations."

Once the pilot understands the various formations tanks employ under varying circumstances, he can understand at a glance what is taking place on the ground and report accurately on enemy positions, harbors, large or small scale movements and thereby eliminate to a large degree the element of surprise on the part of the enemy. It was with this in mind that those responsible for the course drew up a syllabus embodying principally armoured tactics and tank recognition.

An interesting sidelight of the pilots' sojourn in Borden has emanated from their being quartered with Armoured Corps personnel. It is no secret that a certain amount of rivalry exists between the Army and Airforce, yet once the opportunity was afforded them to exchange views and realize the job of paramount importance to the war effort each of the services was contributing, a better understanding was immediately apparent. Consequently the esprit de corps that should exist between the Airmen and Army became a reality.

It is also interesting to note that our lads received their biggest "kick" out of driving the tanks. To men who have streaked across the horizon at speeds varying from 100 to 400 miles per hour, one would imagine that the comparative snail-like progress of a tank would prove dull, to say the least. Yet they voiced the opinion that the sensation of speed was far greater in a tank than in an aircraft, due mainly to the fact that once off the ground no comparison can be made with stationary objects, hence the rate of forward motion is lost.

The airmen also expressed a feeling of supreme power once the tank was moving, and took great delight in pushing over trees of varying sizes and roaring through mud in which wheeled vehicles would bog down hopelessly. By so doing they gained valuable knowledge as to a tank's cross-country capacity and therefore where they may expect to find armoured vehicles, or otherwise, under actual battle conditions.

APRIL, 1944

APRIL, 1944

THE TANK—CANADA—17

## Wings in a Ram

By P/O O. DODSON, R.C.A.F.

I have been asked to give my impressions of a ride in a tank as an airman sees it. Well, here is what happened when I made my first "solo" in one of your Rams.

I crawled into the cramped space which is called the Driver's Compartment and which happens to be filled with all sorts of gadgets and thingamajigs placed strategically about so as to invariably come into contact with your head in a hellish manner every time you drive over a blade of grass.

The instructor looked at me and patted the tank lovingly. He seemed to pity the poor thing for the punishment it was about to endure. He sighed despondently and began to show me what made it tick.

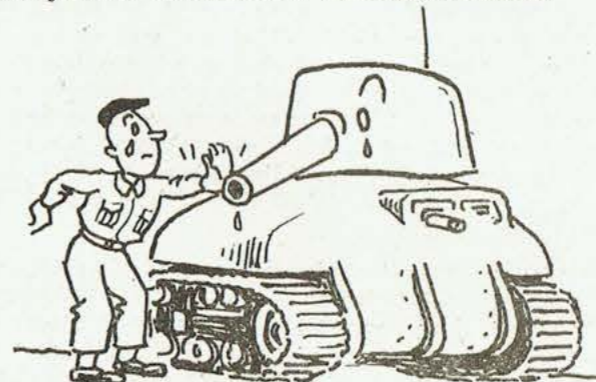
"This is the accelerator, that is the clutch and this is the gear shift lever. Here is reverse gear, here is first or the lowest forward gear, this is second forward gear, up there to fourth forward gear and back here to fifth forward gear."

"Lord," I said amazedly, "this machine was sure meant to go forward, wasn't it?"

He looked at me with a silence that seemed to say, "but not with you Bud, it wasn't." Oh well, I suppose these fellows have deep affection for their machines and dislike having them manhandled by greenhorns. I've heard that some fellows in the Air Force are like that too, and hate to have strangers play rough with their craft.

So, resigning himself to his fate, he said, "O.K., put 'er in second gear and let's go."

Lifting my left foot until my knee was crushing in my Adam's Apple, I finally managed to slip my toe onto the clutch and denting in the lower portion of the turret with my spine, I pushed forward on the pedal until I thought my foot had gone through the floor and at least six inches down into the sand. Grasping the gear lever with both hands I placed my right foot on the dash board and strained every muscle in my body to dislodge the gear from reverse. My effort was finally rewarded as the lever moved protestingly into second, so I revved up the engine and started to release the clutch very slowly so as to achieve a nice smooth start.



Never mind, darling, Dodson's gone.



SGT. R. E. ATKINS, RAF; P/O O. DODSON, RCAF

After about two minutes the instructor extricated himself from his point of vantage in the co-driver's hatch and shouted to me above the roar of the engine, "it's all right with me if we stay here until doomsday, but I don't think the gas will last that long" . . . . .

Thinking perhaps that he may be getting a little impatient, I thought I'd better speed up the procedure. The clutch engaged with a bang and we lurched forward like an elephant with the hiccups. So, with a few bruises shaking hands with correspondingly eloquent curses, we settled down to a steady pace of almost a mile an hour.

Expecting, any minute, to hear the instructor ask me whether we were going forward or backward, I made a rapid appreciation of the situation and decided to shift to a higher gear. With a roaring of the engine (I was sure it would fall out at any moment), a clashing of gears, a chipped right elbow and a cramp in my left leg, I double-clutched into third gear. I was very proud of this achievement, only the damn monster had stopped dead in its tracks long before I had re-engaged the clutch. Oh how I longed for my little Hurricane in which all one has to do is open the throttle to take off and close it to land again.

We finally got rolling with much skidding and slipping and rolled around the course without further serious mishap, with the possible exception of knocking over a few trees that I insist ran out in front of me when they saw the tank coming. My particular Ram had a weakness for open country, for it was only with the greatest difficulty that my will prevailed and we remained in the same county as the tank area.

Finally through blood-shot eyes I saw the start—Continued on Page 23.



## Letters from Overseas

Canadian Army Overseas,  
Central Mediterranean Force,  
Somewhere in Italy,  
30 January, 1944.

DEAR MAJOR GILMORE:

I received your very welcome letter of the 2nd of January today and as I have an hour to spare I would like to have a chat with you. I am very pleased that you received my 8th Army Christmas message, and the letter of November 25th. You may wonder at my letter being brief and vague, but I was on "Ops" from the 16th of November and didn't pull out of the line until the 6th of January. It was quite a siege. However, we were still at stand-to in a harbour in front of our 25-pounders and mediums, and we still had plenty of excitement, in fact, the truth of Bairnsfather's "Old Bill" saying "If you can find a better 'ole go to it" donned on me in this phase, and it was quite sticky at times.

We were, however, able to have the luxury of sleeping on the ground in our blankets, a privilege in which we were unable to indulge before, except for two nights around the 21st of December. In spite of the heavy and rough going, the intense mortar and heavy shell fire, the anxiety of bogging down, the high pitch of watchfulness, going through thickly-covered vineyards and dense olive orchards, I never heard a grumble from any of our crews. It is amazing the punishment a body can take.

Thank you for your kind wishes. Perhaps I shall have the good fortune of fulfilling many dreams and of living up to your expectations of me. I think I have been very fortunate in having so many adventures and experiences. In fact, at times the excitement is so high and so constant it almost becomes humdrum, and we never give it a second thought until the "do" is over, and we are sitting back in comparative safety. In fact, this war game is just like a fast-moving game of hockey where quick thinking and teamwork counts.

I enjoy your letters immensely and look forward to the little tidbits of news in Borden. I understand you now have a bigger and better mess, and that you were quite busy during the new year. It carries me back to last New Year when I was duty joe. This New Year I was also very busy. I should imagine that with all the changes I would hardly know Borden now.

I am glad to see that you were able to enjoy being home at Christmas with your loved ones. A man sure appreciates life at home when he has been deprived of such privilege. Here's hoping that you have many more such trips. I can understand that they burn up the old bank roll. We on the other hand have been piling up quids in the bank.

Yes, we certainly travel light, and I didn't know that I was assisting others when I mentioned how we

do things here. I shall try and remember not to be selfish. I may thus help others who will be joining us.

I should like to say one thing—one doesn't appreciate the courage and gallantry of the boys in the infantry—the old P.B.I., until one has had the privilege of working with them. The old red patch sure has come through with flying colours, and as we are army troops and have worked with many outfits in this 8th Army, we have had the opportunity to compare with other troops. It is too bad that tanks and infantry are not trained together in Canada—or perhaps they are now.

I can understand your desire to be with us; I used to chafe at the bit when I was instructing at Borden. This is the life—a great experience with its better understanding and comradeship, the intangible bond and fraternity that men acquire when they have fought together.

I haven't had the occasion to meet any of the Hussars as yet, but the other day we visited the "Straths" and tried to give them a little assistance, and the benefit of our previous experience.

I believe that the women of Canada would breathe easier if they knew what these Italians were like. I have met some of the aristocracy, but rarely. In the main, I am still appalled with the filth and squalor of this country. The weather here has not been anything to write home about, but beggars can't be choosers, in fact, it got so bad that whenever we could, we got the men into a house for shelter, being careful to take the lea side from the enemy, preferably on the ground floor. As I mentioned earlier in this letter, we were busy exchanging the Season's Greetings in metal form with Jerry on the "Tradesel" as the Italians call them, and for about one month we were in hailing distance of Jerry, varying from 30 feet to 1000 yds. I had quite an unusual New Year's Eve—one that I shall never forget. We were in a forward area a few miles north of a town on the sea-coast, with which we have had quite a bit to do. It started to rain and sleet a bit, and finally whipped up a gale. We were called to stand-to, expecting a counter attack. The rain was so bad it came into our tank and we baled water through the pistol port from 10 p.m. until 4 a.m. Finally we gave up in disgust. We were quite annoyed at Jerry by that time, and when he finally showed himself at first light on New Year's Day about 50 yards in front of us we lambasted hell out of him with 75's and machine gun.

Tactics as practised here are very flexible—a quick mind and the first punch is most essential. My own Regiment has acquired a good score of Jerry's tanks, Sps, and anti-tank guns, in fact, I think we are leading the league with my own squadron well in front. Jerry has left a lot behind for his folly.

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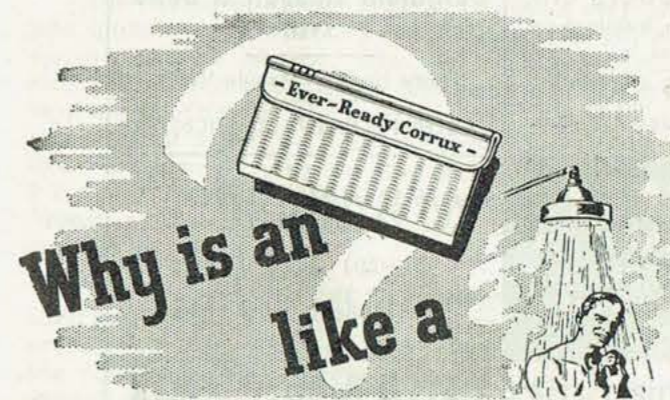
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We have met some of the Russian Generals, and they surely know their stuff. I believe they are really giving the works to Jerry. We also met Colonel Ralston before we started these Ops, and then General Crerar paid us a visit to the front quite recently.

I see I have talked at some length, and as I am writing this now by candlelight in a farm house I shall have to close and hit the hay. We have a busy day ahead of us tomorrow. I might add that when we come out of the line we usually refit our equipment and then go into training a couple of days with the infantry before pushing on to the next task.

Cheerio,  
VAL HILL.

Canadian Army Overseas,  
23 February, 1944.

DEAR SIR:

I received your very interesting letter yesterday. Without a doubt it was the fastest surface letter I have ever received from Canada. Thanks ever so much for answering so quickly.

To start out, two weeks from today I will be back at CACRU—from there I don't know what will happen. I am hoping that I will go to Eddie George or even a little closer to the picnic. When I was kicked off the last time, I did get the Colonel's promise that I wouldn't be wasting much time at CACRU, so I am hoping that he remembers.

The course up to the present has been very nice, and quite easy to me. My past experience will certainly come in handy. The rest of the Canadian lads find it tough, but some of them have only their two weeks' Officers D&M experience. It is hardly fair to send people on a course such as this with so little background. Up to the present my rating is P.1 plus. The only thing I am worried about is the Admin. exam. I don't think they will hold it against me if I do fold in a bit.

The course starts out with simple drawings and sketches. That was important to me because there are times when one can't find a parts list book, and the next best thing is a drawing of the part (possibly crude) on a piece of paper, attached to your indent. This will be good enough to be recognized by a bright clerk if he knows parts at all. This instruction is followed by 'B' vehicle repairwork shop. It is all simple heat treatment of metals, etc. In vehicle repair all one does is strip one down and repair it. One is instructed on parts repairs, etc., during the time spent in repairing the vehicle. After the theory, one overhauls a tank engine and tests it. This is followed by more driving, a review, and the examinations. While one is on workshops and overhauling, the evenings are spent in administration lectures, sometimes three and four a week, of two to three hours' length. You can see it is a good course to keep on in and make him work.

At present my class is driving, but I am on the light tank theory. They said I didn't need any driving, so that helps me out by permitting me to learn

what I can of the light tank, which I may need badly some day. I am also getting an extension of a few days to take Diesel, so between the lot I will really get a well-rounded course.

It is very nice to hear that good old No. 3 is still the best. We often hear from the boys over here that No. 3 was the best Regiment. I wish you lots of luck in the sports, and regret that I can't be there to help out. Give Padre Gault my regards. I did like his spirit when it came to sports.

Your new mess sounds like a palace. I imagine it will look nice, with all the new woodwork and the fireplaces. I hope you have them built big enough to hold a fair amount of fuel. I hate the little ones in this country.

That G.M.T. idea is one hundred per cent. When the lads get over here they have to pass T's.O.E.T. Under the old system of two weeks' G.M.T. they hadn't much chance. To be very frank, the Brig. is "hot" on that at the present time. Every Friday night it is field craft and night training. Every man and his dog goes out on that for four hours at least. Wiring, compass marches, and trench-digging are emphasized. Rifle, sten, grenade, and bren T's.O.E.T. are really needed. They have also to make good scores in pistol before passing on.

No doubt the Meaford range is like a rangle right now. I do hope you can get in and out more easily than before. I will never forget the night I spent with Major Harry Steel on a Court of Inquiry at Meaford. It took us twelve hours to get back to Camp.

Your mention of Christmas reminds me that I had a poor one here. I sat in the mess all day and didn't touch a drop. I won't forget that for a long time. New Year was the same—they don't celebrate here at all. All the P.E. Staff go on leave and all that is left are a few student officers—but I don't mind as long as I get into action soon.

I must close now. I wish I could give you more news of the old gang, but I just can't at the present time, as I haven't been back there for two months. I will write again when I get back. Give my regards to the Colonel, and the rest of the gang. Don't be surprised at anything these days—I think our picnic will begin in the near future.

I hope you are able to read this. I blame most of the poor handwriting on the lack of heat. Best of luck, keep them rolling out.

JIM DERIJ.

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# Fort Garry Horse



By MAJOR H. T. R. GILMORE,  
NO. 3 C.A.C.T.R.

In 1907 Captain R. W. Patterson of the Winnipeg Rifles was appointed major, and assumed command of 'A' Squadron of the newly-formed 18th Mounted Rifles.

In April, 1912, from this Squadron was organized the 34th Fort Garry Horse with Major Patterson becoming its first Commanding Officer, with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel. At that time the Regiment was localized as follows: Regimental Headquarters—Winnipeg; 'A' Squadron—Stonewall, Teulon, and Balmoral, Manitoba; 'B' Squadron—Selkirk, Manitoba; 'C' Squadron—St. Norbert, Niverville, and Otterburn, Manitoba.

In 1913-14 the Regiment attended annual training at Sewell Camp.

On the 5th August, 1914, a muster parade was called and enrollment for overseas began. The Regiment was soon recruited to cavalry war strength with recruits coming from the 12th Manitoba Dragoons, and the Saskatchewan Light Horse, to join their comrades of the "Garrys".

On the 31st of August the Regiment left for Valcartier, at which place the Regiment became the 6th Infantry Battalion and was brought up to infantry battalion war strength. It was then that the original badge of a silver gate with a scroll "Facta non Verba" was changed to a silver gate on a bronze maple leaf with a silver numeral "6" in the gateway, and the scroll reading "Western Cavalry." The Regiment sailed on the 3rd of October and disembarked at Plymouth, England on the 16th of October.

In January, 1915, the Canadian Cavalry Brigade was formed, consisting of Lord Strathcona's Horse, the Royal Canadian Dragoons, the 2nd King Edward's Horse, and the RCHA. The Regiment was selected to form the Depot Regiment for the Brigade. Badges again changed to a silver gate on a bronze maple leaf, with the scroll "Fort Garry Horse" and remained the official badge of the Regiment from that time on.

In December, 1915, it was decided to make the Canadian Cavalry Brigade a purely Canadian Brigade and the 2nd King Edward's Horse was to be replaced by the Fort Garry Horse.

The Regiment landed at Le Havre, France, on the 25th of September, 1916, and proceeded to join the Canadian Cavalry Brigade, then part of the 5th Indian Cavalry Division.

The Regiment served on the Somme during 1916 and 1917, and during the winter of 1917-18 spent most of the time in the trenches with sufficient men left out to look after the horses. On the 20th of May,

1918, Lieutenant-Colonel R. W. Patterson became permanent Brigade Commander with the rank of Brigadier, and Lieutenant-Colonel H. I. Stevenson succeeded him as Commanding Officer.

After the armistice the Regiment remained in Belgium until the 2nd of March, 1919, and returned to Winnipeg on the 2nd of June, 1919.

The Regiment was re-organized as a NPAM Cavalry Regiment in 1920.

In 1939 the Fort Garry Horse was ordered out as an Army Tank Regiment.

During the War of 1914-18 the Regiment took part in the following battles: High Wood and Bazentin in 1916, Moreuil Wood, Gattigny Wood, and secured as battle honours the following:

Somme	1916-18	Cambrai	1917-18
St. Quentin Canal		Bazentin	
St. Quentin		Beaurevoir	
Pouziers		Amiens	
Pursuit to Mons		Flers-Courcelette	
Hindenburg Line		France & Flanders	

In 1936 the Manitoba Horse was amalgamated with the Fort Garry Horse and brought with it the following battle honours:

Northwest Canada	1885	Batoche
Fish Creek		

The Fort Garry Horse is allied with the 4th and 7th Dragoon Guards and has for its Regimental motto "Facta non Verba" (words not deeds).

The Regimental march is "El Abinico" and it is said to have been chosen as a result of an incident which occurred on board ship on the Regiment's proceeding to England in 1914. The bandmaster, looking for something to provide variety discovered the music for this march in the library of the boat "Lapland" on which the Regiment sailed, and it became very popular with all ranks.

Individuals in this Regiment won many honours, a few of which might be mentioned: Lieutenant Strachan, V.C., Lieutenants Cowing and Fleming, M.C., Captain Whitehouse, M.C., and two D.C.M.s, 4 M.M.s, and 2 bars to the M.M. were earned during one skirmish with the enemy at Rumilly in 1917.

Between the 8th and 10th of August in 1918, 3 M.C.s, 3 D.C.M.s and 11 M.M.s were awarded to this Regiment, and during the attack on Gattigny Wood the 9th and 10th of October, 1918, Major Middlemast and Lieutenant Dunwoody earned the D.S.O., Lieutenant-Colonel Stevenson a bar to the D.S.O., and 2 M.C.s, 5 D.C.M.s, and 11 M.M.s were also awarded. It is interesting to note that this action was described by General Cavanagh as "the best cavalry action carried out by any cavalry on any front during the War."

For a number of years the Regiment has published a magazine known as the "Blue and Gold" which is well worth reading.

## German Morale

By MAJOR G. P. L. DRAKE-BROCKMAN, D.S.O., M.C.

As a result of the continuous Allied successes against Germany which have been gained of late; in respect of the bombing of enemy's cities and industries and seemingly owing to the heavy defeats inflicted by the Russian Armies, speculation continues to grow as regards how much longer German morale can "stick it". It may therefore be profitable to take stock of the situation at this junction.

In order to arrive at any approximate appraisal of the situation it is necessary to study all the factors, both material and psychological. The latter demands a knowledge of German mentality, character and tradition, and the key to these is largely to be found in the history of that country and its people during the past hundred and fifty years.

A few months ago a young German flying officer, then in a Prisoner of War camp in Canada, volunteered the statement that he thought there was a possibility Germany would not win the present war but that she would win the next one. On being asked the reason for this somewhat strange remark, he stated that the Allied democracies were all so incompetent and effete that they would inevitably throw away the fruits of victory in the same way they did in the years which succeeded the Treaty of Versailles.

To many of us a statement of such a nature may well seem fantastic but from the German point of view there is, unfortunately, much to encourage the enemy in such a belief. It may be argued that expressions of this nature are confined to a few Germans only of ultra Nazi character, but nevertheless the fact remains that similar beliefs are held by great numbers of Germans both among the civil population and in the Armed Forces. It is this hope of another chance to wage successful war in the not too distant future which in the main forms the basis of German morale and keeps them working and fighting. Therefore, until we have fully disillusioned the enemy of the possibility of ever again perpetrating the horrors of the past four years, the main incentive to continue the fight will remain.

It is the process of this disillusionment which presents the main difficulty as regards lowering German morale at the present time. Before suggesting possible methods of furthering Allied ends in this direction let us for a moment examine the reasons why the German still holds such strong convictions in this matter. They may be summarized as follows:

(i) Prolongation of the war over a long period which would impose increasing loss in manpower and material on the Allies to the extent that the latter would be prepared to sign a compromise peace.

(ii) Disunity among the Allies as regards both current war policy and the ultimate treatment of Germany after the War, consequent to a condition of affairs produced by (i).

(iii) The present policy pursued by Germany of depopulating, impoverishing and ravaging all the

countries adjacent to her to such an extent that in the first place Germany will be immeasurably stronger in comparison to the former at the end of the war than she was as compared with 1939. Secondly, by so doing she will present the Allies with an economic problem of such magnitude as regards rehabilitating these countries that the latter will be unable to complete the task without impoverishing themselves.

(iv) Lastly the belief that the Allies, because of convention or other principles would not dare to subject Germany to treatment similar to that which the latter has meted out to other nations which she has conquered. In this respect her one real fear is Russia who like Germany herself is a totalitarian country.

It will be realized from a study of these factors that the process of disillusionment by the Allies must at present be both difficult and slow, for the reason that comparatively speaking the war, except from the air, is remote from Germany and until Allied troops actually carry the war to her territory to a sufficiently intense degree, the hopes she cherishes at present will not be shattered. Furthermore it must be plain to the Nazi leaders themselves by now that the only chance of saving their own skins lies in the fulfilment of condition number (i) above and that they will therefore strain every nerve to try and attain it. For this reason they are prepared to go to any lengths to control the civil population, by every means in their power. While no doubt a considerable amount of the civil population is tired of the war any inclination to display such tendencies is liable to ruthless suppression. Against this suppression the civil population can have no redress until Allied armies move into Germany.

The problem therefore resolves itself as a necessary preliminary into applying ways and means of expediting the process of reducing the will of the German people as much as possible for prosecuting the war and finally abandoning the struggle.

At present the only method we have of carrying the war into Germany is through the medium of air attack. Fortunately the weight of attack, already very heavy, is increasing daily. Broadly speaking there are two methods of applying it. First by attack on objectives of a military or war production nature. Secondly, against the civil population. In the latter case action, once initiated, is likely to produce quicker results. This we know from experience where Germany has used the same methods with striking success: for example at Rotterdam and Belgrade.

Air action of this nature paralyzes the life of the civilian and makes it unbearable and since the civilian is employed wholesale in war industry and in the transportation services, conditions quickly become chaotic. In order, however, to carry out a policy of this nature in full, attacks on enemy air installations will be a necessary preliminary.

Next after the employment of air power as a means for disrupting morale is propaganda. Here



again, however, as the enemy is to a large extent not accessible to propaganda owing to control in Germany, this method in order to be potent must be combined with active and vigorous efforts to encourage and arm various types of internal resistance in that country. The most fruitful source of this type of action are the thousands of workers of the conquered countries now toiling in Germany.

The organization of active bodies among these people, armed and organized to carry out subversive movements and sabotage will form both an incentive to the German population to resist, in an increasing degree, the existing regime in Germany and also, as such movements grow, will curtail the ability of the Nazis to inflict ruthless repression on the discontented portion of the population.

The economic and political fields also provide considerable scope for lowering German morale. Hitherto certain neutral countries have been supplying Germany with essential food and raw materials. This state of affairs has been unavoidable up to now as the Allies have not been in a position either to stop this procedure by force of arms if necessary, or because they were not able to offer these countries protection against German aggression in the event of the latter taking retaliatory measures against them.

There have, however, been drastic changes in Allied policy recently in this respect which will have considerable repercussions in Germany. Tightening up of this economic control besides hampering German war effort will bring home to the Germans that those neutrals which hitherto have been regarded in the light of friendly countries can no longer be regarded as such, and may even eventually become potential enemies. The loss of prestige suffered by the Nazi Government in these circumstances would be immense.

To sum up the present situation these are the facts. No wholesale failure of German morale may be expected in the near future, since morale is maintained by a ruthless control exercised by the German Government, which for the time cannot be countered. Until the time arrives therefore when this control ceases to exercise its present power because the discontented elements in Germany no longer fear it, Germany will fight on.



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The final overthrow of this Nazi control will not cease until the soil of Germany is invaded or alternatively the degree of air attack becomes so heavy that the entire breakdown of civilian life takes place. The latter process seems gradually to be taking place but it is necessarily a slow process owing to the fact that the enemy can carry out a policy of dispersion covering not only the Fatherland but also the countries he has conquered. Intensive developments of the other measures mentioned will serve to accelerate the process.

The execution of them, however, demands rapidity of action, unity and ruthlessness on the part of the Allies if the full benefit is to be derived from them.

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TOOTH PASTE

## Wednesday Night At Eight

By SGT. R. STENNETT

It's Wednesday night at eight, place Sgt. Mess No. 1 CACTSR. There must be something doing for all the Sergeants are present, and at the door RSM Blackman, the M.C., is receiving Officers who were fortunate enough to be invited.

What is it all about? It's a social, now a regular feature of our Mess. How did it all start? A few weeks ago the boys decided that there should be a "get together over a few drinks." (Very few, being rationed.) A sing song started, and a very successful evening was ended with some impromptu gags. Everyone agreed it was such a success that a committee was formed under the direction of SSM "Ike" Penney (no relation to Ike Eisenhower) assisted by Staff Norm Freeman.

To give you an idea of what "Wednesday night at Eight" means here is a brief review of our last social at which the Officers of "A" Squadron, Capt. F. H. Wheeler, Lieutenants S. W. Wilkinson, H. G. Correll, R. G. Ferguson, F. C. O'Toole, G. F. Youngman, R. L. Hurst, S. Turner, E. G. Cochrane, J. S. MacPhail, and the Adjutant E. L. Marrus, were the guests. When everyone was seated "Ike" took over, promptly nicked all present for fifteen cents, giving them in return a small chit of paper with a number on it, explaining that this small fee was to cover the costs of the party, including prizes.

At this point of the program, we were initiated into the grim proceedings ahead of us—"Truth or Consequences". With this bomb shell, we shuddered, knowing full well, that with the type of questions that "Ike" would ask we would have to face the consequences.

And so the fun started. The first victim, Sgt. Silver, unable to answer the question, was promptly transformed into a dog, complete with collar, dog (one)—with leash attached. He was christened "Poinsetta" due to his pedigree (his father was a pointer, his mother a setter), and to make him feel at home, a post was provided. As a further penalty any person wishing to pet him, merely called "Poin-

setta", and he obediently trotted over on all fours and barked.

And how the mighty fell, "The Baron" master of the Q.M., descending to the low level of the carpet, and with his nose pushed a very uncooperative pea to the opposite corner. But the highlight of the evening came when Mr. MacPhail, Sgt. Atkins and the M.C., RSM Blackman, accepting the consequences, had to perform a strip tease to the tune of "Queenie of the Burlesque Show" right down to their multi-toned undies, the R.S.M. being the hit of the evening.

### WINGS IN A RAM

(Continued from Page 17)

ing point loom up before me and again tying myself in knots, I brought my snorting steed to a halt. The instructor helped me remove my broken body from the driver's compartment and I swear that as I eased to the ground I heard him mutter, "Thank God."

Seriously though, we had a most enjoyable time and every phase of the course at Camp Borden has been highly educational. I know that what we've learned about tanks will be of inestimable value to us in the near future. I have always dreaded the possibility of mistaking one of our own AFVs for that of the enemy. The course I have completed at Borden has done much to ease my fears.

Your tactics are somewhat similar to ours, due, I suppose to the fact that both the Armoured Corps and the Air Force are forms of highly mobile artillery. We use different instruments to do the same job; that is, blast out the enemy.

As I have said we had a very interesting and pleasant stay at Camp Borden and I wish to thank the personnel of the Armoured Corps, No. 1 Training Regiment especially, for their kindness and hospitality, and I hope that some day we may be afforded the opportunity of returning your generosity. In saying this I know I have voiced the feelings of the entire flight.

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# C. A. C. SPORTS

By SGT. AB. HULSE, Sports Editor

## Hockey Highlights

On Monday, March 20, the powerful Brampton Bullets overcame a gallant crew of puckchasers from T & S Wing to annex the CAC hockey championship, and bring to a successful conclusion the most ambitious sports programme yet attempted by Corps. For ten weeks competition waxed in high gear attracting favorable attention throughout the Province and providing a splendid tonic and morale builder not only for the boys in the black berets but countless other service personnel and civilians.

It is extremely doubtful if a better calibre of hockey was played anywhere in Canada in 1944. Lest we forget milestones in the march of time, we have summarized the main playoff happenings.

\* \* \*

### THE SEMI-FINALS

**Brampton 8-Newmarket 3**  
**Brampton 17-Newmarket 2**

It was with brave hearts that the Redmen from No. 23 strengthened by the arrival of goalie Lt. Pat Corrigal entered the playoffs at home against Brampton. For 23 minutes it looked as if the series might be a close one and then the Caswell clan started to click with a six goal second period barrage that clinched the match, and the series as well. The Redmen never recovered from the shock of that episode. Teddy Lister with five goals was the individual hero. Three days later at Georgetown the Bullets coasted to a one-sided victory. They could do nothing wrong and the Redmen never did get going. Thorpe, McComb, Iannarelli, Lister and McLaughlin all performed the hat trick. Johnny Callanan was the best individual player for the Redmen in the series notching three of their quintet of tallies. In defeat the Redmen were glorious with their try, and hustle, it was the case of a good big man being better than a good little one. The only exception to rule we remember was little David and his slingshot, and Newmarket had no slingshots against Brampton.

**T & S Wing 12-No. 2 CACTR 8 (overtime)**  
**T & S Wing 7-No. 2 CACTR 4**

Midland arena was the scene of both the above classics which drew full houses and netted the team treasuries some needed cash. Betting on the series was even money and Tech supporters took some of the No. 2 personnel to the cleaners as they backed their team to the limit. The first game was the most exciting of the season. With less than five minutes to go a beaten No. 2 team rallied with a Merriwell finish to score three goals and send the contest into overtime. The effort, however, proved costly for the Rams were played out and in no shape



Alex. Sandalack

for the extra session which saw the Tech boys get three goals without an answer. Glen Brydson, Mickey McGuire, Chuck Hamilton of T & S and Charlie Nesbitt of the Rams all scored three goals.

The second game while drawing a larger crowd, failed to produce the crowd punch of its predecessor. The first period saw a 1-1 tie, but from then on Tech took command, although the tricolors from No. 2 gave everything they had. Frank Mazzie in the T & S nets was one of the stars of the game along with Brydson and Boddy. Reg. Westbrooke and Lt. Bob Bangay were the stand-outs for No. 2. It was in this game the famous goat incident occurred, as T & S supporters coralled a couple of goats and paraded them on the ice with the sign "We have No. 2's goat." They had!

\* \* \*

### THE FINALS

**Brampton 9-T & S Wing 7 (overtime)**  
**Brampton 8-T & S Wing 3**

Brampton drew first blood in the finals by taking an overtime win after T & S had given them a great battle all the way. It was 2-1 for the Bullets at the end of the first period and at the end of the second it was 4-3 for Brampton. Then Jimmy Boddy went to town and scored three last period goals to give the Borden boys the lead, but with only a few minutes remaining Bun White tied the count. In the overtime Eugene "Joint" McComb, starry Brampton pivot, tallied on two picture plays to dash the hopes of T & S supporters; Bun White and Mickey McGuire got a tally each, however these two were superfluous to the finish.

Happy Emms of Barrie and RSM Eddie Burke of No. 2 handled the game in big league style. Tech played this game minus Glen Brydson, who was ill in hospital, and several other players, but were granted permission to play Lt. Alan Kuntz of No. 1 and Lt. Jack Leeming of No. 2. Mr. Kuntz, former New York Ranger, in his new role did a particularly fine job, but Tech were handicapped by the absence of the rotund Brydson.

The second game found Sgt. Brydson back in the line-up but still far from ready for action. Brampton allowed T & S to use Lt. Leeming and Ur-

—Continued on Page 28.

## Meet the Champs



### No. 24 CAC (B) TC, BRAMPTON, ONTARIO

**BOTTOM ROW (Left to Right)**—Cpl. "Flash" Abram, Gnr. J. M. Creighton, L/Cpl. R. S. Thorpe, Lt.-Col. R. V. E. Conover, V.D., Cpl. J. J. Iannarelli, L/Cpl. E. A. Young, L/Cpl. J. J. St. Denis.  
**CENTRE ROW (Left to Right)**—Capt. "Bing" Caswell, Gnr. "Red" Creighton, L/Cpl. R. N. McLaughlin, L/Cpl. D. T. Bartliff, L/Cpl. "Joint" McComb, Gnr. W. B. Montgomery, CSM "Bob" Edwards, Cpl. J. Murden, Capt. H. Barr.  
**TOP ROW (Left to Right)**—Cpl. C. Rawn, L/Cpl. "Ted" Lister, L/Cpl. K. Dixon, L/Cpl. F. B. White, Cpl. "Vern" Ayres, Tpr. J. Ingoldsby, Gnr. G. Dukes.

**GOAL:** CPL. TRUMAN "FLASH" ABRAM, a Toronto boy with plenty of mercantile experience, guarded the nets in fine fashion all season. Abram wore a mask most of the season but seldom missed a loose puck.

**L/CPL. J. J. ST. DENIS**, who hails from Cornwall, where he played intermediate hockey previously, while not playing in league fixtures, was always on hand to lend his efforts if needed in goal.

**DEFENCE:** CPL. V. T. AYRES, captain of the team and biggest player in the group, is a Toronto boy. Has played for New York Americans, New York Rangers, Quebec, Philadelphia and St. Louis, among other clubs. One of the cleanest players in the league.

**L/CPL. ED YOUNG**, grey-thatched blueliner, is from Collingwood. Also played with Guelph Jrs., Niagara Falls and Port Colborne Srs. A steady performer.

**L/CPL. KEN DIXON**, Oakville. Previously played with Marlboro and Oakville Jrs., and had a trial with Toronto Leafs. Leading lacrosse scorer in the OLA last season, and has also played for Mimico at that sport.

**L/CPL. D. T. "WHITEY" BARTLIFF**. Whitey played his hockey with Clinton and Stratford juniors before joining the Bullets, where he performed in every game. May well be in professional ranks after the war.

**CENTRE:** L/CPL. EUGENE "JOINT" McCOMB. A Newmarket boy, McComb centred Aurora juniors to a champion-

ship in 1939 and Sutton Greenshirts and Aurora RCOC to Intermediate OHA titles in 1942 and 1943. He is also one of the most prolific scorers in mercantile hockey.

**CENTRE:** L/CPL. R. M. "BOBBY" McLaughlin, a Toronto boy who has played with Runnymede C.I. and Marlboros in junior and Army Daggers in senior. He was on the office staff at Maple Leaf Gardens before enlisting.

**WINGS:** L/CPL. F. B. "BUN" WHITE. White is an Owen Sounder, where he played both hockey and lacrosse. Has also played both games at Orillia. Played lacrosse last summer with Brampton.

**L/CPL. R. S. THORPE**. Bobby comes from the Niagara Peninsula. He played previously with Grimsby and St. Catharines juniors. Is also a fair performer at lacrosse.

**L/CPL. E. G. "TEDDY" LISTER**. Teddy has starred previously with Timmins and St. Catharines. Late in 1942 he was added to the Brampton lineup and helped them win the group title last year.

**CPL. J. J. IANNARELLI**. Joe comes from Kitchener, but it was in Northern Ontario he first came into hockey prominence. Besides performing for Brampton, is one of the best in mercantile hockey.

**TPR. D. P. BOWEN**. Don is a Barrie boy where he played for the Colts. Has also played with Belleville. This year he was a member of the No. 2 D.D. team, Toronto Garrison champs.

—Continued on Page 27.



## Meet Mr. Tommy

Too often the men behind the athletic scenes in all army units are in the class so aptly described by the poet as "unwept, unhonored and unsung" and with this idea in mind we present the first of a series of word pictures of the Sports Officers throughout the Corps.

The present Army sports schedule and particularly that of Corps is a heavy one, and one that calls for particular aptitude, unlimited patience, and a stout heart to serve as a buffer against the unforeseen obstacles and opposition that sends the best laid plans of a sports officer galleywest. A few weeks ago we heard Lt. Col. C. R. J. Lancaster, CO of No. 26 BTC, Orillia, say, "A sports officer's job is one of the most difficult and most thankless in any unit." We know those who lend a hand with unit sports will agree with this statement.

With the appointment of Lt. "Andy" Tommy as sports officer, those in the know believe T & S Wing have made a ten strike, for in the pages of modern Canadian sports history few athletes are better known or have had a more spectacular career. Thirty-two years ago at Hartland, N.B., Mr. Tommy saw the light of day and from the outset speed on his pins, the ability to take punishment and come back for more, and quick thinking were individual traits that stood him in good stead, both then and in later life. He was educated at Mount Allison academy and the County Vocational school at Woodstock, N.B., and while at these institutions got his start in nearly all branches of sport. He was a member of the academy English rugby team, N.B. champions, played basketball for both Mount Allison University, and Woodstock juniors, Dominion junior finalists, played short-stop for the Provincial hardball champs, as well as mopping-up the running events at numerous track meets.

The lights of the big City called to him after school days were over and he entered the federal civil service transferring to Ottawa, with which city he is best associated by the sports fans. He competed in the annual Civil Service track meets for several years and not only won a flock of prizes but a bride as well, for it was at one of these events he met the present Mrs. Tommy. He tried his hand at hockey, playing junior City on the outdoor rinks, but the records show he was no wizard at the winter sport.

At basketball, however, he was a standout in City league competition, and hardball saw him in action in senior company as well as in the Canadian-American league, the latter in reality a minor pro circuit. He played left field or took the mound as

occasion demanded and might, if he had so wished, gone even higher.

Ontario fans for some reason have never cottoned to rugger and so young Mr. Tommy found it necessary to turn to the Canadian brand of football if he was going to participate in his favorite sport. In order to obtain a working knowledge of the game he turned out with the Rangers of the Quebec RFU in the season of 1931. The Rangers were the leftovers from the vaunted Roughriders team of the Big Four circuit, plus a bunch of green, willing high school lads. Given little chance to win they took the league title with Andy galloping a la Red Grange, a feat that soon attracted the Roughriders scouts. St. Thomas proved too much for the Rangers in the Dominion finals.

In 1933 he entered big time competition and for nine consecutive years was one of the cogs in a mighty Ottawa machine which captured four Big Four titles, four Eastern Canada titles, and one Dominion championship, a record that ranks with the feats of Queen's University, Toronto Argos, Hamilton Tigers, and Winnipeg Blue Bombers.

Andy's speed afoot many a time produced pay-off points in the pinches, and every game he was a marked man by the opposing outside wings and guards. Like all the Ottawa lads he neither asked for nor gave quarter, the Roughriders being noted for their rugged style of play. Occasionally, he was the goat and a game in the loss column as his flying foot led field generals sometimes to gamble for points. Highlights of his football career would be hard to choose from, perhaps the best known incident is the occasion when he took a punt deep behind his own goal line, side-stepped in ghostlike fashion the oncoming tacklers and galloped the length of the field for a touchdown without a hand being laid on him.

The year 1940 we should judge was a milestone in his career. In that year he captained the Ottawa team to three titles including the Dominion honors, and then won the Jeff Russell Memorial trophy awarded annually to the player most outstanding in "sportsmanship, courage and ability". In addition he was picked for the All-Eastern and All-Canadian teams. A grand slam in any sport.

Now, in the greatest of all games the majority of the Roughriders have tossed aside the football sweater for the battle dress, around 20 of Andy's former mates being in uniform including F/O. Tony Golab, "the golden boy" of Canadian football, now one of the RCAF's heroes, and the late P/O. McFall, who has paid the supreme sacrifice. Many of the

—Continued on Page 27



Lieut. Andy Tommy

—AB. HULSE.

## Black Beret Basketball

While no official Armored Corps basketball league was in existence this year, all Camp Borden CAC centres, except TSR, were entered in the Knights of Columbus North Zone league and participated in a group along with entries from RCOG and Camp Borden Military Hospital. The league got under way in November and with the exception of the holiday season double headers were featured each Tuesday night until the end of March.

From the outset it was apparent that the CBMH boys and T & S were destined to fall by the wayside. The medicos had an inexperienced team, and while T & S had such good players as Lt. Sol. Wolfe, Sgt. "Silver" Elliott, Sgt. Ernie Cassells, Sgt. "Smooth" Fletcher and others, Coach Sgt. Steve Brodie was seldom able to floor a full team, hardly conducive to a winning effort. By March the play-offs were a reality with No. 1 CACTR finishing first, No. 2 CACTR, No. 3 CACTR and RCOG following in that order. K. of C. Supervisor David J. Speyer and Sgt. Elliott of T & S Wing provided excellent efforts with the whistle.

The play-offs provided plenty of excitement and upsets. No. 1 and Ordnance clashed in one bracket, while No. 2 and No. 3 met in the other. Ordnance caught No. 1 minus some of their best players in the first game and took an 11 point lead for a real upset. No. 3 likewise surprised the wiseacres by taking a 7 point lead over the maroon and gold clad No. 2 team, who were fancied for honors. Basketball is almost as unpredictable as horse-racing as witness what followed. In the second clashes between the foursome, No. 1 not only overcame the deficit from the first game but severely trounced Ordnance, Hunter being the star of the game. In the other game No. 3 increased their lead to 11 points at the halfway mark, but in the last half No. 2 rallied and tied the round. Overtime saw ten minutes of hard play, with No. 3 finally winning out by one point on the round.

The finals saw No. 3 take a five point lead over No. 1 in the first game by virtue of some sensational passing. No. 1 came back strong in the return match

to tie the round after seven minutes of play, and at the half were only down two points on the round. The last half was No. 3's all the way as they outscored their opponents 12 to 4 to take the game 23-18 and the round by ten points.

At the time of writing No. 3 are scheduled to meet either Camp Headquarters or No. 1 SFTS of the RCAF for the Borden laurels, and on a comparison of play in the zones it would appear the Corps representative has a real chance to win. In view of the fact all four CAC centres took part in the North Zone league and No. 3 shaded them, Lt. Bob Fitzpatrick, Corps Sports Officer, had no hesitation in calling No. 3 champions of the Armored Corps. Good Friday's basketball tournament while limited to 5 players a team saw a quintet from No. 3 take down all honors, further establishing themselves as Corps' best.

### No. 1 CACTR (colors, blue and red)

Players: Lt. Stan McComiskey, Toronto; Tpr. J. McKenna, Toronto; Tpr. Sam Hunter, Toronto; Tpr. Ted Wesloh, Kitchener; Tpr. Joe Sonosky, Toronto; Tpr. John Inwood, Woodstock; Tpr. Gordy Lawson, Tecumseth; Tpr. Scotty Stewart, Toronto; Cpl. Viv. Rowland, Toronto; Cpl. Carl Boehmer, Kitchener.

Coach: Lt. Stan McComiskey, Toronto.

### No. 2 CACTR (colors, gold and maroon)

Lt. Pinky Pickard, St. Catharines; Lt. Andy Tommy, Ottawa; Cpl. Bill Keele, Toronto; Tpr. Doug. Dicks, Vancouver, B.C.; Tpr. George Sandalak, Thorold; Tpr. Bill Brooks, Toronto; Tpr. H. D. Martin, Toronto; Tpr. Pat Fox, Winnipeg; Tpr. George Charchuk, Hamilton; Tpr. Mike Keogan, Ottawa; Tpr. Doug. Jack, Toronto.

Coach: Sgt. Earl Parks, Toronto.

### No. 3 CACTR (colors, green and white)

Lt. Al. McKinnon, Smiths Falls; Lt. Bryce Page, Vancouver, B.C.; Lt. N. M. McLeod, Mount Allison, N.B.; L/Cpl. Lorne Vanetta, Abbotsford, B.C.; Tpr. Joe VanBuskirk, London; (Capt.) Tpr. Tommy Anderson, Toronto; Tpr. Earl Browell, Creston, B.C.; Tpr. I. Clarke, Toronto; Tpr. W. L. McDougall, Ottawa; Tpr. Lefty Dowdell, Windsor; Tpr. Norm. Wright, Vancouver, B.C.; Tpr. Frank Fillingier, Vancouver, B.C.; Tpr. Norm. Reed, Oshawa; Tpr. G. V. Kelly, Barkerville, B.C.; Tpr. G. A. Stewart, Vancouver.

Coach: Sgt. Ab. Hulse, Aurora.

### MEET THE CHAMPS

(Continued from Page 25)

**GNR. W. B. MONTGOMERY.** A Maritime boy with previous experience at Glace Bay and Sydney Millionaires. Monty played few games after the early season.

**GNR. J. M. CREIGHTON.** Red performed in other years with his home town, Peterboro, and is a fine lacrosse player. Also plays mercantile in Toronto.

**TPR. JACK INGOLDSBY.** Son of a famous hockey father, is a Torontonion and played junior hockey with De La Salle. Last year he turned professional late in the season with Toronto, but has spent most of his time in the minors.

**COACH: CAPT. D. B. CASWELL.** Bing is a Midland boy and besides coaching can take a regular turn in the nets, having played with Toronto Varsity and various mercantile teams. Is a high school teacher in civilian life.

**MANAGER: CSM BOB EDWARDS.** Bob is the grey-haired laddie with the 48th bonnet on his noggin. Held a similar post last season and this year is really wearing the smile that won't come off.

**SPORTS OFFICER: LT. HARRY BARR.** Mr. Barr did

a grand job assembling the team and making all the necessary arrangements, no mean feat in itself. Resides in Toronto.

### ANDY TOMMY (Continued from Page 26)

fellows are too old for service, for Ottawa players hung on when old age retired many, while others are holding key positions in administrative posts.

Weighing around 170 pounds, just past medium height, with eyes that miss little, Mr. Tommy is a familiar figure these days as aside from other duties he endeavors to enhance on other sport scenes the fine reputation T & S won this winter in hockey. At home there is his wife and three growing boys to come back to. If you were to ask Andy his greatest thrill undoubtedly he would tell you it was when Andrew Jr. won the "Y" Camp championship at Golden Lake last summer, with younger brother Arthur as runner-up. In a few years' time we may expect to see the name of Tommy once again attracting nation wide attention on the playing fields.



## Modified Mayhem

No indoor sport today has more crowd appeal than professional wrestling. This fact is best indicated by growing box office returns and a faithful following of fans week after week all over the North American continent, wherever the grunt and groan artists congregate. This, despite the fact the majority of the contests are billed as "exhibitions" and everybody but a naive few know enough to take what is seen and heard with copious grains of salt. The reason for all this, however, is plain. Wrestlers are like actors, the ring is their stage, and seldom is a cue missed or a scene spoiled. Some of the greatest thespians of the day are performing with the behemoths, and as in vaudeville, the higher-priced help to get the top billing. The crowd may know it's all malarkey, but it is the best type of malarkey available and they love it. Soldiers differ little from civilians in their likes and dislikes, and every time the "rasslers" are on display you can depend on the lads in khaki being present in goodly numbers.

Last month, Lt. Bob. Fitzpatrick, the Corps sports officer, arranged with the Sports Service League of Toronto, and promoter Frank Tunney to bring a wrestling show to Camp Borden for CAC personnel. In addition to the wrestlers, to become better acquainted with Armoured Corps athletic needs, officials of the Sports Service League also made the trip. Included in their number were such prominent Queen City sports figures as Controller Fred Hamilton, Jack McDonald, president of the CWAA; Jimmy Grahamshaw, Sunnyside softball czar; Fred Norbert of the OAAU; Bill "Foghorn" Smith, announcer at Maple Leaf Gardens, and many others. The Sergeants of No. 3 CACTR were hosts to the visitors and wrestlers before the bouts and the Officers' Mess of the same unit did the honors at the conclusion of the show.

Over 700 officers and men jammed Hangar E-137 for the festivities and roared themselves hoarse as

the boys went to town with their antics. Mr. Fitzpatrick turned the show over to Referee Bert Maxwell and Announcer Bill Smith and this duo kept proceedings going at a fast tempo.

The first bout was a service clash with Jack Pavolos of the Provost Corps meeting Frank Hewitt of Ordnance. Both of these lads are preliminary boys, but despite their lack of experience they put on a fine show. No need to ask whom Tpr. Joe cheered for when the units were announced.

The second bout brought together two well known boys, LAC Pat Flanagan and Jack Wentworth of Hamilton. Wentworth essayed the part of the villain and pursued Pat through 30 minutes of banging and squirming to a draw, the same verdict as in the previous bout.

Whipper Billy Watson, one of the greatest drawing cards on the Continent, and Jan Gotch of Woodstock were teamed in the main bout and here the crowd saw wrestling at its best. First one and then the other took command in tossing his opponent to the mat, but right triumphed in the end with referee Bert Maxwell, who took as much punishment as the grapplers, and the crowd counting Gotch out. Both Watson and Gotch incidentally, while looking the picture of health, have been rejected for active service more than once.

Following the bouts, Lt.-Col. N. H. Macaulay, D.S.O., expressed the appreciation of those present for the fine show and the work of the Sports Service League. Controller Hamilton, in reply, said the wrestlers came free of charge and had yet to be paid for putting on shows any place in Ontario. His organization had supplied over \$100,000.00 worth of sports equipment to the armed forces and would continue to do so as long as it was needed. He especially promised to see Corps Centres were cared for, an announcement which was greeted by cheers. Another wrestling show is keenly awaited by all ranks.

## HOCKEY HIGHLIGHTS

(Continued from Page 24)

ban Morrison of No. 2, but balked at allowing Mr. Kuntz to play. They themselves trotted out Jack "Ding" Ingoldsby, Toronto Maple Leaf rookie who had only played in one league game all season. From the start it was clear that Brampton were redhot and Tech had cooled out from their previous form and the issue was never in doubt after the half-way mark. Bobby Thorpe and Ingoldsby were their best performers with no weak spots showing in their armor. Sandalack and Boddy played outstanding hockey for the losers.

Following the game, the Corps commander, Col. J. A. McCamus, M.C., presented his trophy to Cpl. Vern Ayres, captain of the Bullets. Lt.-Col. R. V. Conover, V.D., replied on behalf of the victors, while Lt.-Col. Don. Douglas congratulated Brampton on behalf of T & S Wing. The CAC hockey trophy now rests in the Soldiers' Recreation Room at Brampton.

## STATISTICALLY SPEAKING

Leading goal scorer over the regular season: Cpl. Joe Iannarelli, Brampton (23 goals).

Most time in the penalty box: L/Cpl. D. T. "Whitey" Bartliff, Brampton.

Most goals in one game: Lt. Lin Bend, No. 2 CACTR, scoring nine against Orillia.

Best team average for goals: Brampton, with an average of 12.5.

Best team average for goals against: Brampton, with an average of 3.45.

Most shutouts for goalies: Two each by Cpl. Reg. Westbrooke, No. 2, and Tpr. George Brooks, No. 3.

Most consistent scorers: Tpr. Walter Zuke, Newmarket, and SSM George "Mickey" McGuire, T & S, both boys failing to score in only one game during the regular season.

Leading playoff scorer: SSM Mickey McGuire, T & S, 18 points with six goals and twelve assists. Runner-up: L/Cpl. Bobby Thorpe, Brampton, with 15 points, ten goals and five assists.

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## Military Kanteen Shop



49 Dunlop Street  
Barrie - Phone 2332

OFFICERS

Same Browne Belts . . . Haversacks  
. . . Shirts . . . Ties . . . Lanyards . .  
Imported Glengarries . . . Gloves . .  
Overseas Patches . . . Sox . . . Bara-  
thea Hats (all sizes).

SPECIAL

Barathea Suits, \$37.50 Greatcoats, \$37.50  
As long as present stocks last.

TRENCH COATS

Unlined, 1/2 lined, full lined, with zipper, \$19. up  
KHAKI SHORTS, SLACKS, REGULATION KHA-  
KI DRILL SUITS, 3 pcs., limited quantity only.

OTHER RANKS

EVERYTHING FOR THE SOLDIER

Also Regimental Badges . . . Wedge Dress Caps  
Money Belts . . . Forage Caps, Tradesmen's  
Badges, Etc.

Special Price on Sleeping Bags

LOOK FOR THE MILITARY KANTEEN  
OPEN EVERY EVENING UNTIL 9 P.M.  
GOODS SHIPPED ALL OVER CANADA

# Country lub

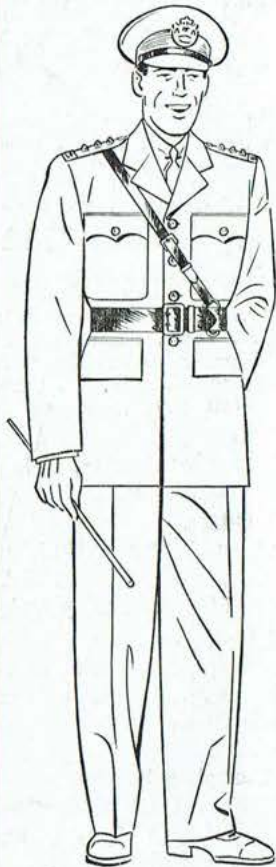
## ICE CREAM

• It's finer, smoother and  
more flavorful

Ask for it—in mess, canteen  
restaurants and stores

ORILLIA CREAMERY LTD.





Complete Range

## Uniforms; Raincoats

Greatcoats  
and  
Accessories

**J. F.  
CRAIG**  
AND SONS

AT THE  
FASHION CRAFT SIGN

Dunlop St.      BARRIE  
Phone 4302

The Store  
That Quality Built



The trademark  
guarantees your satisfaction

*Player's Please*

MILD OR MEDIUM

NAVY CUT CIGARETTES  
Plain End or Cork Tip

COMPLIMENTS OF

LAKEVIEW DAIRY  
and  
CITIZENS' DAIRY

(Suppliers to the Armoured Corps)

## Greeting Cards

BIRTHDAYS: SWEETHEART, SISTER, MOTH-  
ER, DAD, WIFE; GENERAL BIRTHDAY, WIFE  
ANNIVERSARY, SYMPATHY AND  
CONVALESCENT

On display at your canteen

**Whitty's Drug Store**  
ALLANDALE

## WE FEATURE CARDS

FOR EVERY OCCASION  
SMART—UNIQUE—EXCLUSIVE  
Don't forget all those Important  
Dates

**Send a Greeting Card !**

BOOKS, STATIONERY, GAMES  
TOYS

## GIFTS

Which we wrap and mail for you.  
Our aim is to be of courteous  
service to you.

**WEAYMOUTH'S**  
BOOK STORE

30 ELIZABETH ST.  
PHONE 4055      BARRIE, ONT.