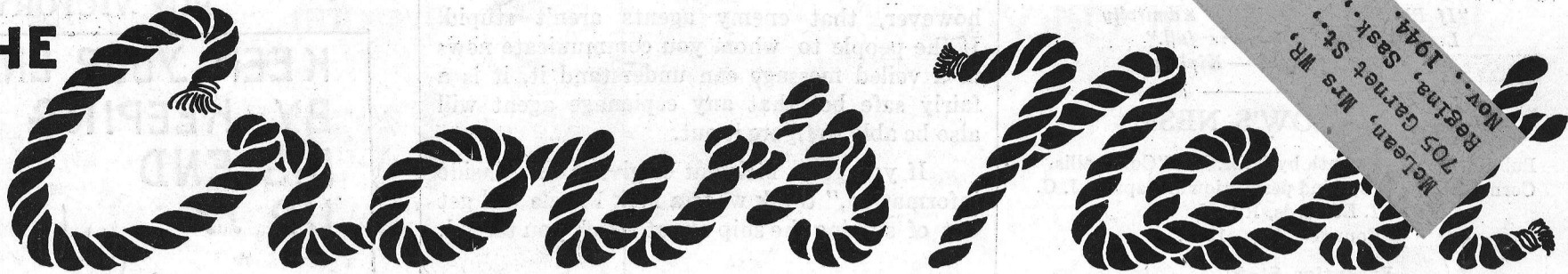




THE



NEWS OF CANADA'S NAVY

Mellean, Mrs. W.R.,
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Nov., 1944.

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TRURO, N. S., MAY 1944

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Our Naval Commandos

A United Kingdom Port—Amidst the rugged loveliness of Scottish hills, a group of Royal Canadian Navy officers and ratings, all of them volunteers, have completed training under Royal Navy tutelage for one of the toughest jobs the Navy has to offer. Now that their course is completed, they are Commandos, the first Canadians to take the Royal Navy's Commando course as a group.

From their training centre in Scotland, these leather-tough Canadians have moved into a Combined Training Centre where they are working with units of the Canadian Army on landing craft flotillas. They are participating in Army manoeuvres and will be attached to Army beach troops, ready and hardened for the "Big Show."

Fights On Beach

A Navy Commando differs from an Army Commando. The Army Commando is a specialist in fighting, with the hand-to-hand variety preferred; he fights anywhere. The Navy Commando dotes on fighting too, but he never leaves the beach which has been chosen for an assault landing. Rather, he defies the enemy to drive him from the beach.

The Naval Commando lands with the first wave of attacking troops and signals the remainder of the assault in. He helps to organize the beach for the landing of troop and materiel-bearing craft. It is his job, during an invasion, to work on the beach in close contact with the Naval officer who is in charge of the landing and who is standing offshore with the assault flotillas. When the beach-head is established, he controls the traffic into and through the beach until a more suitable port for handling the incoming traffic is available.

This Canadian Navy "tough type" must be ready for anything. He must be prepared to spend days on a beach under enemy fire. He must learn to live on scanty rations and thrive on them. He must be prepared to fight and fight superlatively well to hold the beach on which he has been landed.

Tough and Scrappy

That's why the training he took at this centre in Scotland was aimed at making him tough, scrappy and self-reliant. He learned how to beach his landing craft correctly, how to organize a beach in Navy fashion, and how to handle all types of light weapons.

"He is a soldier and a sailor too," says Lt.-Cdr. Dennis O'Hagan, RCN VR, of Halifax, N. S., the principal Beach Master, who wears the George Medal and Bar for bravery on special duty. "The Commando receives a great deal of Army training which ordinary sailors do not get and he learns to make himself comfortable almost any place and under almost any conditions."

Here in Scotland, amidst some of the loveliest scenery in the world, the Canadian Navy Commando has learned to kill swiftly and silently in unarmed combat classes. He has gone on days-long exercises under full kit: he has slept and cooked his meals in the open and was ready at the end of the gruelling manoeuvre to take prepared positions by assault. He has smashed his way through obstacle courses and negotiated tough

water hazards with powder and thunder flashes bursting around him and live ammunition cracking like a great whip-lash over his head. He is now prepared to get soaked to the skin like a Spaniel and to work and fight

that way for days on end if need be. He soon turned into a very tough guy. The Canadian Navy Commando has learned to wear with pride the badge of his "trade" on both arms, a black flash and on it, in red, an

anchor surmounted by a stooping eagle with a light machine gun crossing the anchor shank. Above the patch is the word "Commando" and above that again, "Canada"

"These boys will have a big part to play in the coming invasion," says Lt.-Cdr. O'Hagan. "They will be the fighting handy men on the beaches through which our troops and materiel will pour. They are fighting harbor masters, really."

ON GUARD



An outstanding bit of photography by a Royal Navy Canadian cameraman this picture of S/Lt. W. F. Harvey, RCNVR, of Waterloo, Ont., was taken by L/Photographer James Ryan, RCNVR, of Regina, Alta. The photo was taken at sea aboard HMCS Grandmere. The framing in one picture of symbols of the four most important features of sea warfare,—the ship, the fighting guy, the men who man her and the cause for which to fight, is a noteworthy accom-

plishment. The picture is real and compelling. S/Lt. Harvey served on the lower deck and spent 15 months aboard HMCS Snowberry as an HSD rating following which he advanced to commissioned rank. Jimmy Ryan is one of the best known of the Navy's photographers and has been the producer of numerous noteworthy camera shots dealing with the Royal Canadian Navy.

*"If Blood be the Price of Admiralty
Lord God we ha' paid in full."
— Kipling*

THE CROW'S NEST

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RE-DEDICATION

We take the liberty of reproducing the following poem used in Victory Loan advertising by the Canadian War Finance Committee, because we feel that in these few lines lies the full story of the need for buying Victory Bonds. We, in the Service had buddies "Who have died on the wind-swept seas in their sunken craft," and we must realise that if we are to be worthy of them we must do everything in our power to bring about complete victory.

Need any more be said than is contained in this poem?

*Are we worthy of them, O Lord,
Who have died through the weary years,
Who did not yield
On a shell-torn field,
Has their sacrifice died with our tears?*

*Are we worthy of them, O Lord,
Who met death in the burning sky?
They were young and strong
They have sung their song,
Must its echoes fade and die?*

*Are we worthy of them, O Lord,
Who have died on the wind-swept seas,
In their sunken craft,
On a broken raft,
O Lord, are we worthy of these?*

*They were eager for Life and Love,
Death has withered them, root and stem,
Let us pray, O Lord,
On a broken sword,
Let us pray to be worthy of them.*

DON'T TALK

In a recent memorandum addressed to all Naval personnel in his command, Rear-Admiral L. W. Murray, CBE, RCN, Commander-in-chief Canadian Northwest Atlantic, urged each and every member of the Service to guard against careless talk. He laid particular stress upon suppression of the practice of sending veiled messages in letters, by telephone and telegraph, to friends and relatives.

Rear-Admiral Murray's warning could well be taken seriously by all Naval personnel. During the next few weeks the fate of the world is likely to be decided and as the invasion hour nears it behooves each of us to assist, in every way possible, the guarding of vital information which, at the moment, has the enemy guessing so wildly.

The strong tendency to let the folks at home, or your close friends, know a little of the inside dope which you may have at your command, is a natural one. It should be remembered,

however, that enemy agents aren't stupid. If the people to whom you communicate news in a veiled message can understand it, it is a fairly safe bet that any espionage agent will also be able to figure it out.

If you get a kick out of giving out "inside information," think what a kick Fritzie will get out of sinking the ship about which you talked.

LAY OFF!

A recent editorial in a Nova Scotia daily newspaper deals with the problem of "Immorality in Hotels." The points placed before the readers are well taken and give food for thought on a subject that is certainly one of the social problems of the day. But reading into the editorial the Serviceman comes to what he knows will almost inevitably be found there. A Serviceman is held up as an example of those who practise the condemned subject.

The editorial in question tells how the proprietor of a "tourist home" had had a Naval officer and lady arrive at her home wanting accomodation. An examination of their registration cards revealed they did not tally as man and wife.

Now the example would have been just as potent had the newspaper referred to the alleged offenders as a man and a woman, but, no—the term Naval officer was used. The only purpose the editorial served was to draw attention to the Naval service in a very unsavory manner.

It was only a short time after the paper had come off the press that we were approached by one of the town's residents who pointed to the article and gave us that "Hmmm, so-that's-what-the-Navy's-like" look.

Why must the Services always be held up as the examples? Surely, the writers of such editorials must realize that scandal and immorality aren't confined to the men in uniform. Surely, they must realize that the vast majority of Servicemen are temporarily in uniform and were, only a few years ago, civilians, themselves.

On one page of a paper we read all about "the cream of Canadian manhood and womanhood" and on the next we read articles in which the men in uniform are dragged through the mud because one of their number acted in an indiscreet manner. *This isn't fair!* The men and women who volunteered to fight this war don't look with suspicion upon all civilians because one civilian is proven a thief. Furthermore, no persons are more incensed when a Serviceman commits a crime than are the people in uniform, themselves. The men and women of the armed forces of World War I had to put up with much the same type of criticism and this country didn't seem to go entirely "to pot" when they returned to civilian life.

Let's have a new slant on the moral side of the life of the man in uniform. Let's see his social standing given a boost instead of a knock!

BARRACKS' NEWSPAPERS

Quite a number of divisional headquarters and bases have their own barrack's newspapers, most of them in mimeographed form. Several have arrived at this office and the editors and their staffs are to be congratulated on the splendid publications which they are offering.

The Crow's Nest is greatly in favor of each barracks having its own newspaper in which the men of the establishment can keep abreast of the local news. It creates interest and helps the men and women to know each other better.

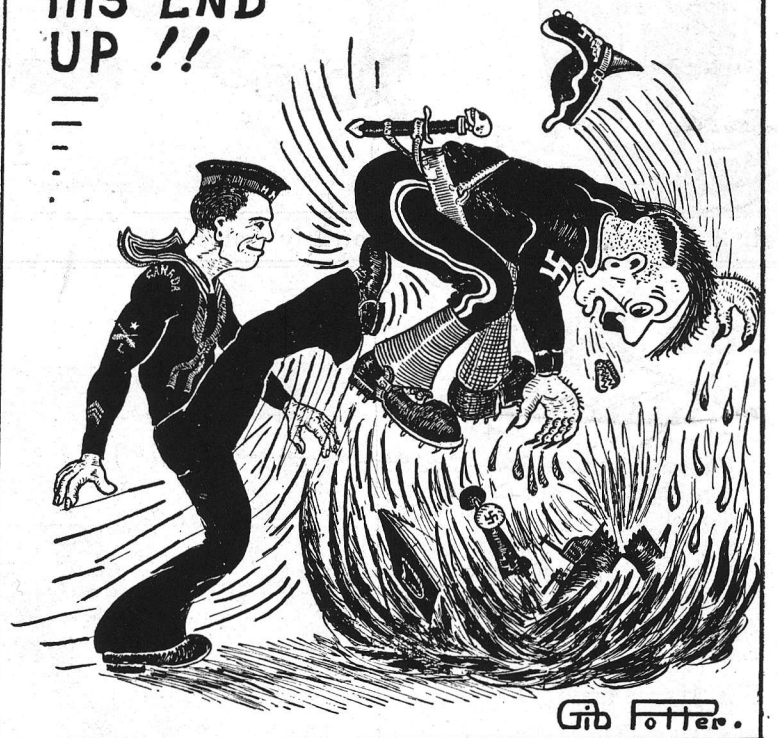
It is hoped, however, that those Divisions and establishments which have their own papers will not expect The Crow's Nest to condense news contained in their papers for reproduction in these columns.

Being a Navy-wide paper we can only allot a certain proportion of our space to each ship and establishment. As a result news must be in more or less condensed form and as up-to-date as possible. It is, therefore, most desirable that news and articles be written specifically for this publication by some member of each ship's company.

We want to be able to give the men and women of the Service the most news possible in the most attractive form.

BUY VICTORY BONDS!

**KEEP YOUR END UP,
BY KEEPING
HIS END
UP !!**



ACROSS OUR BOWS

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the editor may be accompanied by a fictitious pen-name to be used in publication of the letter but, the true name of the author must be submitted before the opinion will be published. No guarantee is given that any letter will be published. The name of the author of any letter will not be divulged to anyone other than the editors. Opinions expressed here do not necessarily reflect the views of the publishers.

Who Is He?

Dear Sir:



Could you give me some information about the picture that appeared in the April edition of The Crow's Nest. The caption of the picture read, "Wakey, Wakey., Folks are looking at you" and was photographed by L/Photog. E. Dinsmore. I am curious to know if it is my son. Hoping you will be able to give me some information, I remain,
Yours truly,
Mrs. E. Lewis,
Greenfield, Park, Que.

at any time for weeks later you can see someone reading it. The boys say, as I say, it keeps us posted on our pals in the Navy, in which I spent four months as entertainer for the boys in and on His Majesty's ships, wearing the uniform of a rating.

I'm enclosing a poem, if you can find space I would appreciate it if you could print it in The Crow's Nest.

A Sailor in Air Force Blue,
Sydney, N. S.

MY BOY

A mother sits with an album old
Yet precious to her sight.
It takes her back to yester year
Though she's alone tonight.

This is my John when he was seven
Her wrinkled lips did say,
And there he is when he's eleven
And here he is today.

Her toil-worn fingers pointed
First to a little lad,
Dressed in his little sun suit,
The first he ever had.

The second picture was a boy
With a twinkle in his eye
That's Johnnie in his first long pants;
She breathed a heavy sigh.

"And there's his picture now" she said.
He's only in his teens
My boy has grown up so soon
He knows what trouble means.

Yes, he's been dressed in navy blue
For just a year today.
He's fighting for his country,
God bless him 's all I'll say.

Wrong Number

Dear Sir:
Can your scribes answer the following question: Why didn't the Navy Show give our Base a call at Sydney, N. S.?
C. Wilmott, Bos', RCN,
North Sydney, N. S.

We are sorry but this information could only come from the Directorate of Special Service, under whose jurisdiction "Meet The Navy" is operating.
—Ed.

Good Idea

Dear Sir:
The lads of the Royal Canadian Navy have all heard of the first Officer to join the R. C. N. from reading the newspapers throughout Canada, but
Continued on page 3

We asked the photographer about this and find that he, too, would like to know the name of the rating pictured. "Dinny" admitted that he just didn't have the heart to awaken the lad just to ask him his name and took the shot purely for its human interest value. Perhaps some of our other readers can supply the name of the man.—Ed.

Fagan Her Hero

Dear Sir:

Would you be so kind as to forward me the name of the publishing company which put out the book, "Enemy In Sight" by S. R. Rogers? I am trying to get it but it doesn't seem to be in the shops.

Your March issue with the poem by Prentice was really a masterpiece. Fogarty Fagan is my hero, that is why I want the book.

Mrs. C. E. Oakander,
Banff, Alta.

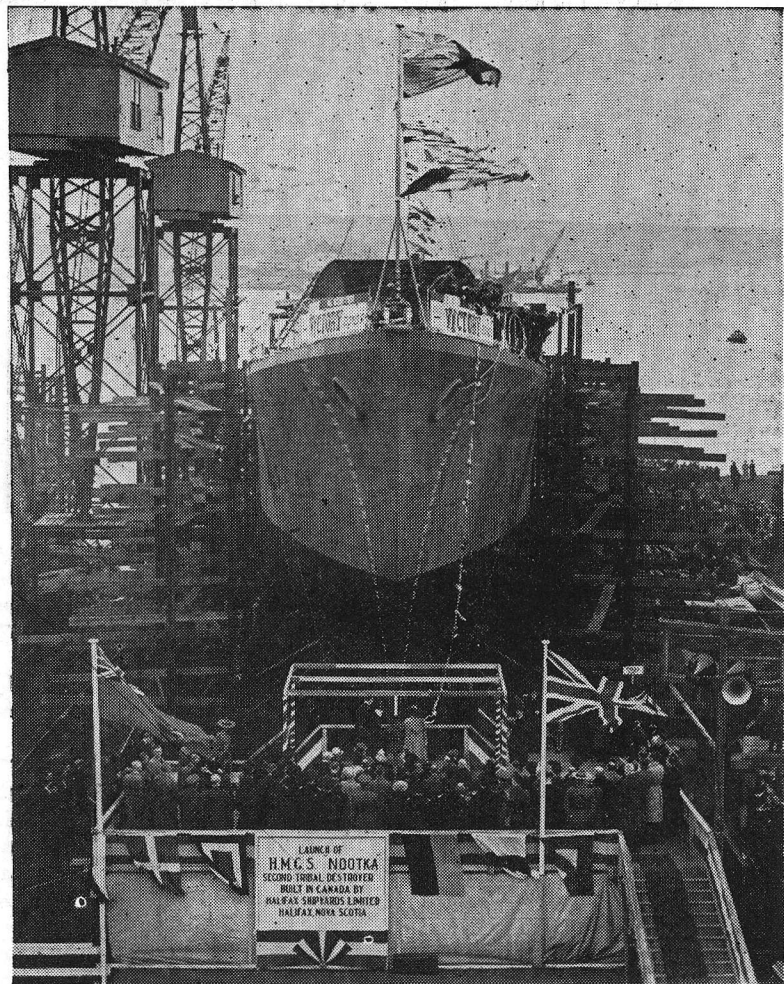
The publishing company is Cromell, \$3.25.

We hope this information will be of assistance to you. We agree, Mr. Prentice' poem was a most inspiring tribute.—Ed.

Even the RCAF

Dear Sir:

I hope you have space to publish a letter from a brother in air force blue, for I feel I should express my appreciation of The Crow's Nest which I receive monthly from a friend in the Navy and I figure it is the most used paper on our station. We read it thoroughly in our barracks, then pass it on to our library table where almost



Distinguished visitors, high ranking officers of the armed forces, prominent civilian officials, cheering thousands and tons of carefully constructed steel combined to paint a memorable picture at Halifax Shipyards as the second Canadian-built Tribal destroyer—HMCS Nootka—slid slowly, majestically down the greased ways to a perfect launching. Charming Rita Gallant, 21-year-old shipyard worker of Howland, P. E. I., one of the first women to work on the new vessels, played the feature role as she smashed the christening bottle of champagne on the ship's sharp prow. Rev. A. A. Rogers, RCN., of Halifax, Senior Protestant Chaplain of the Atlantic Command, officiated at the dedication ceremony.

All set for the christening, Miss Gallant stands with the christening bottle of champagne in hand while Rev. A. A. Rogers, naval chaplain, gives the ship his blessing. RCN Photo by L/Photog. J. Ryan.

HERE and THERE IN HMCS MONTCALM

With W. J. E.



Bob Corriveau one of our better known duck pin and soft ball artists was the centre of attraction at Halifax recently as he met up with Ali Hanson and Leading Writer J. B. Kelley. Both mentioned were former buddies of

Corriveau's.

Fred Eveland celebrated the start of his third year in the Navy by being drafted to the west coast and he just got out of the hospital that day as well.

A welcome addition to our ship is PO W. Saunders who comes from Toronto.

With a great deal of regret we say 'best of luck,' to the following officers, S/Lts. C. O. Lake, R. Eby, J. Drummond, D. McMillan and A. Morch.

WRCNS' Officer Lieut. S. Aves is being congratulated on getting her second stripe.

SA Fred Bertrand made a fine gesture when he was on leave. He came back and aided the bowling team in annexing the honors in the Quebec Garrison Duck Pin Bowling league.

What's in a name? Several colors of the rainbow were represented in a recent draft as Black, White, Brown and Green all left on the same day. In addition we have a Gray on our ships roster.

Bud Neville, a former member of the ship, is a member of HMCS Cornwallis boxing team and from all reports he has given a good account of himself in his fights.

Harry Richards is to be doubly congratulated this month. This former member of HMCS Montcalm successfully passed his course at St. Hyacinthe and got married all in the short space of two weeks.

Members of the ship's company turned a fine performance during the Victory Loan parade. Lieut. W. C. Garthshore is to be commended on the fine display.

Wtr. Danny Green is a welcome ing. We feel that the articles may be of interest to the people back home as well.

V. Stein, SBA,
HMCS Niobe.



Player's Please
MEDIUM OR MILD

PLAYER'S NAVY CUT CIGARETTES

New Claimant To Title Of Best-Cared-For Ship Giant Cornwallis Rink Fine Addition To Base

By Hermes

A Newfoundland Port: HMCS Lindsay, a corvette serving in the Atlantic, is the latest claimant of the much-disputed title "best-cared-for ship in the Royal Canadian Navy."

The ship's namesake town of Lindsay, in County Victoria on Ontario's Skugog river, has climaxed its previous gifts by sending a piano—and the Lindsay has a sailor named 'Mozart' who can play it like an angel.

The piano reposes in one of the ratings' messdecks and is getting heavy use in spare-time concerts and singsongs. But the boys in the Lindsay like it best of all when its keys quiver under the flying fingers of Able Seaman James William "Mozart" Veitch, of Winnipeg.

Officers aboard the corvette said the piano is only one of a long list of generous presents the town has sent, including Christmas parcels, ditty bags, books, magazines, and a handsome washing machine. The framed and mounted crest of the Corporation of Lindsay hangs proudly in the wardroom. It was donated by the Lady Hughes chapter of the I. O. D. E.

In addition to the ship's office taking the place of Norman Thompson who has left for the HMCS Griffon, in Port Arthur.

Three of the most popular instructors have left for duty elsewhere. They are Joe Wood, Clare Sturdy and Alan Parsons.

The British Colonies seem to be well represented in the barracks. The latest arrival is C. Scott from the Trinidad and Tobago Islands.

Big event of the winter season at HMCS Cornwallis was the opening of a new indoor ice arena with a seating capacity of 1700 and a regulation hockey-size ice surface. The outstanding feature of the arena is its "arch construction"; not a pillar or post is to be found within the building to obstruct the spectator's view of the rink from any seat in the house. Seventeen hundred clear vision seats in the arena to serve personnel of the base and an indoor rink the equal of any in the country; ice fans at Cornwallis are certainly in for a hey-day.

From Canteen Funds

The shell, a building proper, was built by a government grant, but the entire interior—lumber for seats and flooring, the ice-manufacturing plant, pipe installations and connections—was paid for from canteen funds. The flooring and seats were fashioned under the supervision of Lt/Cdr. E. Cowan of the Care and Maintenance Staff, and the pipes and installations were laid out entirely by the MTE Staff.

After its completion, the building was turned over to the P & RT staff and is now in use nightly. The early part of the evening the rink is reserved for interbranch hockey games and practice, with skating to music between eight and nine-thirty for the personnel of the Base—by nightly allocation.

Plans have not yet been made for the summer months, but it is hoped that a temporary flooring will be laid across the rink enabling it to be used for dancing, box lacrosse and other recreational activities.

Across Our Bows

Continued from page 2

what we would like to know is, who was the first rating to join the RCN?

I believe there were 52 men who were the originals. I wonder how many are at present serving and what their rank or rating is; also where they can be located.

I think it would make interesting reading for the readers of The Crow's Nest if they could hear the salty yarns, etc., these lads will tell if they ever come together. And why not?

Then how about a column of the same sort with regard to the first ten RCNVR's or RCNR's from each Division from Coast to Coast.

As for RCNVR ratings, I believe Hamilton, Ontario, can boast of as many originals at present serving, for the size of the company on formation of same in March 1923, as any other RCNVR Division in Canada. Here are a few Hamilton Originals that I can think of at the moment: CPO. Leitch, CPO. W. Warburton, CPO. J. Warburton, CPO W. Shade, CMM. W. Love, CPO. J. Winn, PO. G. Winn, W/Eng. W. Reese, CPO. Tel. A. Dery, CPO. Walky, SPO. T. Caison, CSB. Hughes, Yeo. Sigs. T. H. Pattison, SPO. R. Smith, L/Sea. W. Smith.

I think this is a good record for approximately 40 ratings in 1923. Can you find a better record? Let's hear from others.

Thanking you in advance,
T. H. Pattison, Yeo. Sigs.
Halifax, N. S.

"Ma" Mortimer Says Hello

Dear Sir:

I want to thank you for your write-up in the paper about me. There is just one thing wrong. You mentioned that I go to meet the sailors at the trains merely as a hobby. The boys are much too precious to me to be just a hobby. I'm very proud of them all

I always read every bit of your paper as I know so many of the boys that are mentioned in it. I'd like to say hello to PO Tommy Graham. How about a note from you, Tommy?

I now have a young girls' club going called the Liberty Belles. They pack

parcels, write letters and send books to the boys on various ships.

Last year I met 10,674 boys at the station. Not bad for a dry town, eh?

My prayers are for you all, each day.
With a mother's love,
Ma Mortimer,
Edmonton, Alta.

Your friend Tommy is now Warrant Officer (SB) Graham, Ma. He got his promotion late last month.—Ed

We'll Try

Dear Sir:

Having members of my immediate family in the RCN I naturally enjoy my subscription to The Crow's Nest. However, being an American, I am not too familiar with the Canadian terminology, designation, insignia, etc. I believe I am safe in assuming that this goes for the average Canadian land-lubber as well, so with this in mind may I suggest that you print in an early issue a list of the various abbreviations of rank, etc., with the explanation, for the benefit of the uninitiated.

The pleasure derived from reading The Crow's Nest would be, for my part, greatly enhanced by a knowledge of the various initials.

Would it be possible to print pictures or drawings of the different insignia?

Since I occasionally have the pleasure of entertaining boys of the RCN, as well as the RN, in my home, I find my ignorance of these things somewhat embarrassing; whereas, on the other hand, even an elementary knowledge of salty jargon sort of helps "break the ice".

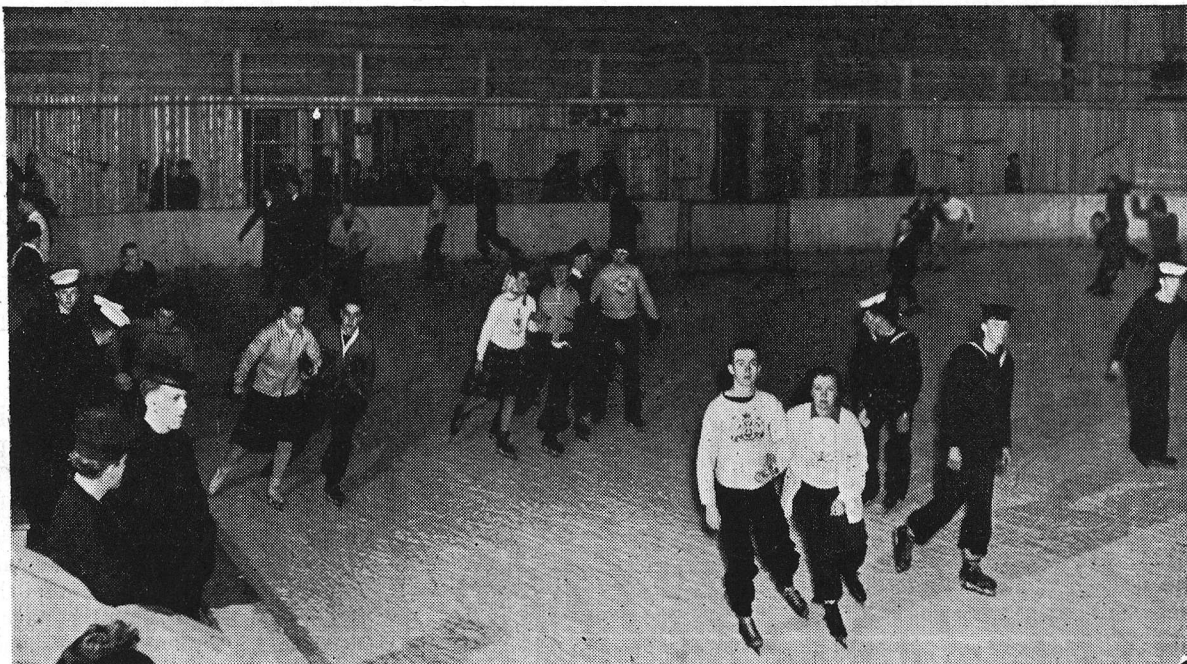
Harry G. Brown,
Mattapan, Mass.

Sorry we haven't been able to collect the proper material for this issue to fulfil your wishes, but we will make an effort to carry the desired information in our next edition.—Ed.

Note From Over There

Dear Sir:

Since coming over here more than a year ago, we have had quite a number of copies of The Crow's Nest and each copy seems better than the preceding ones. We cannot pick out any particular part which is best because the entire paper is very interest-



This is an inside view of the skating rink, latest big addition to the British Empire's largest Naval training centre HMCS "Cornwallis" at Cornwallis, N. S. The rink, with the exception of the actual building hull, was built entirely by Naval staff at the base and by canteen funds from the establishment. The huge building with its artificial ice and spacious interior is being put to many purposes by the thousands of sailors and sailorettes who have little outside the ship itself with which to fill in leisure hours. RCN Photo by Photog. Turner.

MIRANDA

By Henry Sherman, A.B.



Lacking a "What has gone before" column, I'll have to tell you late comers to the "Inner Sanctum" that last month I made a date with that cuddlesome camellia of the water world, Miranda the Mermaid, for the Navy Show, (aisle seats, sixth row orchestra). It was some time after this before my financial affairs resumed their status quo ante bellum, but as soon as pay day rolled around I gave my hair a final pat with the shoe brush, and dashed merrily down to the beach at a smart clip. The smart clip side-stepped neatly leaving naught but a vast expanse of nitrogen, cunningly intermixed with oxygen, to halt my blundering advance, and when I came to, Miranda was nursing a bump the size of an egg on the back of my head.

"Don't take my card, PO," I said, "I'll be up in a minute....." Oh, it's you, Miranda. What happened?"

"You tripped on a rock, fudge-face," she informed me sweetly.

"You should see your head. I've seen better lumps in the porridge they serve at "S" mess. But what's even worse, you've scared Waldo away."

"Waldo?" I murmured, as the wind sand and stars ceased their wild gyrations in my left eye. "And just who is Waldo?"

"Oh, he's an old friend of mine," Miranda answered. "And he's a perfect gentleman too."

Any one with a name like Waldo would HAVE to be a perfect gentleman, I figured. In self-defence.

"He was sitting here talking to me before you came. You scared him away."

"Scared him away?"

"Yes. When you came in sight, he took fright and ran."

Well, that's a fine 'how-do-you-do', I thought. My third date with her and already we're playing triangles. Who ever said that mermaids were monogamistic? The least she could have done was wait till we knew each other better.

"Of course," she continued, "Waldo is pretty young. That's why I try to help him."

"Oh!" I ohed. That sounded better.

"How old is Waldo?"

"I can't say exactly, but offhand I should figure about thirteen hundred and fifty years. Still a youngster, one might say."

Maybe one might, but this one mightn't. This one was beginning to get just a LITTLE anxious. "How old are you, Miranda?"

Miranda turned a delicate shade of green. "You should never ask a lady that question," she said. "Don't you know it isn't polite?"

"I know, but....." I could just see Miranda coming aboard the good ship "Nina" to have a friendly game of chess with Christopher Columbus. I always figured he must have had some outside help.....and if Waldo was young at thirteen hundred and fifty.....?

"Besides," Miranda interjected, "you shouldn't class mermaids with sea-serpents."

"You mean Waldo is....."

"Of course."

"Well now, that's DIFFERENT! I mean, how nice for the little cuss."

"Everything would be fine except for one thing. Waldo has headaches."

"Headaches?"

"Yes, he has migraine, from depth-charges."

"And this interferes with his work as a Sea Serpent?"

"Ye, and no," Miranda exclaimed "But more of that later. I want you to meet him."

"Ah, but is he a vegetarian?" I asked quickly.

"Waldo? He never ate anything that could bite back yet. I'll call for him," she said obligingly, and before I could tell her not to bother, I'd be just as happy if she didn't, she tapped the water with her tail; three short, three long, pause, two short.

"If a man answers, hang up," says I. Just to keep my spirits up.

"You'll be crazy about Waldo," Miranda assured me. "To know him is to love him."

A few moments skipped by on their way to eternity and a most amazing sight came into my line of vision. There were two of them: one big and one little. The little one was sitting on the big one's shoulder, busily engaged in earnest reprimand. "I'm tellin' ya he won't hurt ya," it piped. But it lacked conviction.

The big creature looked as if he had just come back from a high tea with Flash Gordon. He was sixty-three feet long, seventeen feet high, and had an orange tail-light.

"That's Waldo," Miranda explained. "Right up to '39 he didn't believe in humans. There were a lot of stories about sea-serpents who swore they had actually seen living men, but they were always laughed at. Nobody believed them. You're sort of new to Waldo, and that's why he's frightened."

I looked at Waldo and his little friend. "Boo!" I said, feeling very important. With a loud cry of "Murder! Poleeth!" he turned and fled, taking his little pal with him.

And Flash Gordon has to use ray guns, I thought. It is to laugh. The coward.

And then they were back. The little guy was really getting tough this time. "Listen, you lummo," he was saying, "he won't bite ya! Can't ya see Miranda and him is pals?" Waldo did not seem to be convinced.

I looked the little fellow over. He measured about three feet from top to toe,—or tail, to be exact. Yes, he had a tail just like Miranda's, but the top half was perplexing. He started out to be a little merboy or something, but his head was shaped in a peculiar fashion. And he had horns.

"What's that?" I asked Miranda.

"Jest watch your language, bud," the creature interrupted. "I'm a gerk."

"That's Butchie," said Miranda. "He's a gerk."

"So I notice," I remarked.

"Butchie is only five hundred years old," Miranda explained, "But he and Waldo are the greatest pals, and always travel together. Waldo has an inferiority complex, because he lisps, and Butchie has adopted him."

This was a little above my head. "Why should a gerk, five hundred years



Waldo

old adopt a sea-serpent thirteen hundred and fifty years old? A sea-serpent who lisps?" I added.

"Well," answered Miranda, "Butchie's parents ran away from home when he was just two hundred years old and he felt he ought to have SOME ONE around the house. Waldo was the only one he could get."

"That explains it," I nodded wisely. "Butchie must be quite a guy."

"Oh, yes," she replied, "He's the black sheep of the family. He wants to invent the printing press and start a newspaper."

"How horrible," I exclaimed. "Even for a gerk!" Butchie must be mal-adjusted, I thought. That's what happens when you send your kids to progressive schools. "Spare the rod and boil the child" has always been my motto."

By this time introductions had come and gone and we all set out to get friendly, in the big economy package.

"Why don't you talk, Waldo?" I asked. "Have you forgotten how?"

He shot me a glance of haughty disdain. "Of courthe not. It'th jutht thothe dratted depth chargeth. Thome



Butchie

of them explode right under my nothe. Butchie and I have travelled all over the ocean floor trying to find thome peathe and quiet. The Atlantic is just full of convoyth and depth chargeth and thingth. The Pathific is even worthe. And ath for the Japth.....One hath only to turn one'th back for a moment.....

"Never will I forget the shameful occathion. I wath rammmed in the Aleuthianth by a Japanethe two-man thubmarine..... Well I'm here to tell you I couldn't thit down for a week! It was then that I thent Miranda a wire."

"A wire? And how, pour quoi, if I may be so bold, did you send a wire?"

"By electric eel of courthe, thilly?" said Waldo, palpably pained at my ignorance. "I wired her: AM ON VERGE OF PSYCOPATHIC NEURASTHENIA STOP IS IT QUIET AT CORNWALLIS STOP."

"When I got the wire it gave me quite a shock," added Miranda. But I replied at once: IS IT QUIET AT CORNWALLIS? WHY IT IS SO QUIET YOU CAN HEAR A BAROMETER DROP STOP WHOLE AEONS OF TIME GO BY WITH NOTHING TO BREAK THE STILLNESS BUT THE FAINT PLAINTIVE PEEP OF A WREN CALLING TO ITS KILL-ICK STOP IT'S SO QUIET PEOPLE SCREAM AND PLUG THEIR EARS WHEN NIGHT FALLS STOP ITS HEAVEN STOP."

"So here I am," sighed Waldo.

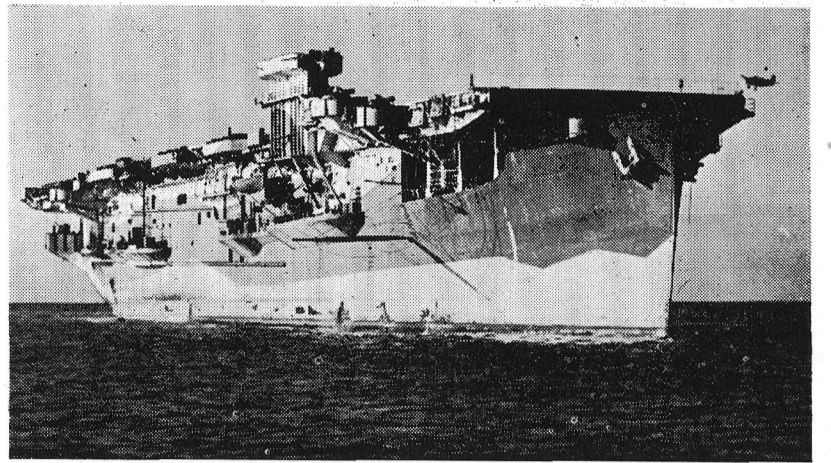
"With migraine," I added.

"And Butchie," he agreed.

"The idea is this," Miranda confided, two dancing dimples slipping in and out on the high tide of her smile (Picturesque Speech and Patter" yet!) I'm not going to let my being a mermaid keep me from doing my share for the war effort. I tried to join the Wrens. I tried the Navy Show there is only one thing left to for me to do."

"And we're the ones to do it!" This from Butchie. "We're going to produce an underseas Navy Show. My card, sir." And without further ado he handed me a clamshell upon which he

CANADIANS SAIL THIS CARRIER



Newly added to the fast-growing fleet of escort carriers of the Royal Navy this carrier, is one of two commanded by Canadian officers and largely manned by personnel of the Royal Canadian Navy. A development of this war, the escort carriers have already proved their worth in the ceaseless war against U-boats in the Atlantic and for fleet reconnaissance.

A close-up view of the carrier's starboard bow, with her boom out ready for boats to come alongside. Just off the corner of the flight deck can be seen one of her planes.—RCN Photo by Photog. Sheraton.

had been neatly engraved:

SINK THE NAVY
An All Sub Marine Revue
Songs Music Laughter
Butchie the Gerk Directeur
Auditions Held Nightly

"Sink the Navy?" I gasped, "Isn't that rather unpat'iotic?"

"Oh no," said Butchie. "We want them to come down and see how the other half lives, that's all."

"And what's this "directeur"? Do you mean you're producing the show?"

"Well, yes," he replied modestly. "But I had it put that way for those who can't read English. We're going to play for all classes of people you know."

"I see. But your auditions? Where do you rehearse? That takes a lot of space."

"Oh we have a fine place," Miranda chimed in. "In the rear end of the Saguenay."

"And it holds Waldo alright?" I demurred.

"Thertainly," snapped Waldo. "Exthept when I have headaches and my head thwells."

"Sinus?" I asked, sympathetically.

"But we digress," Miranda inter-veded. "We want you to handle the outside publicity for the show. Tell the boys at your base all about it and when we open Butchie will give you a free pass."

"Well that's nice of him." I thought.

"You betcha ol' pal, ol' pal," said the local Svengali, offering me a sea-weed cigar. "And I'll tell you what Herman....."

"The name's Sherman."

"That's what I said, Merman, you come down next week sometime, and watch a rehearsal. We have a Hawaiian string quartet coming down that'll knock you flatter than a Spanish mackerel at forty fathoms. The Kihikihi on the first violin is a solid sender and wait till you meet that blue Hinalea Lolo who plays the cello. When she wears that low cut evening gown of hers, I'll bet your dorsal fin sits up and takes notice."

"I don't doubt that," I managed to slip in while Butchie paused for breath, But....."

"No buts!" said the impertinent impressario. "Come and you shall hear Waldo sing!"

"Yeth," said Waldo.

"Come and you shall see Miranda act!"

"Do come," said Miranda.

"Come and you....."

"All right," I agreed. "I'll come. But just get one thing straight. That Hinalea Lulu, or whatever she is, better be properly clothed if you expect me to give you any publicity..... My girl back home reads this column. So does my Maw!"



We Service the Maritimes

This illustration is a combination line and halftone. Halftone 85 line screen.

The Eastern

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Directorate Of Demobilization Outlines Plans For Navymen

In line with the Government's policy of active preparation for ultimate demobilization, a Directorate of Demobilization has been established at Naval Service Headquarters. It is pointed out that the formation of this Directorate is not in any way to be construed as an indication that either early cessation of hostilities or a slackening of the war effort is anticipated. In fact, the reverse is the case. The Directorate of Demobilization has been set up to relieve other directorates of responsibility for considering demobilization and rehabilitation problems so that they may concentrate their efforts on winning the war. At present, the sole duties of the Directorate of Demobilization are to propose policy and to plan a smooth-functioning demobilization organization to be put into force when the war is won.

Getting Ready

At the present time, the regular Naval Discharge Routine which is used in the case of persons who are discharged "Medically Unfit" and "On Compassionate Grounds" is being adapted to the needs which it is anticipated will arise upon the conclusion of the war. Naval Order 3321 has been designed to permit the smooth flow of personnel about to be discharged from Ship to Shore and from Base to RCNVR Division. The RCNVR Divisions throughout Canada are being used as Discharge Establishments and when the time arrives, these Establishments will be in a position to handle wholesale demobilization without undue delay and confusion.

The Navy's Responsibility

It has been pointed out by Naval Service Headquarters that the Naval Service is responsible for the actual demobilization procedure. However once Naval personnel are discharged and become civilians, their re-establishment in civil life is the responsibility of the Department of Pensions and National Health. The Naval Service, however, has a keen interest in all Naval personnel and their future upon demobilization. In order that the Government's rehabilitation plans may be made known to Naval personnel, three executive officers are being trained and will shortly go to the larger bases and later to all Ships and Establishments in the Canadian Naval Service to outline plans for rehabilitation upon discharge. A booklet entitled, "What Will I Do When The War Is Won?" is being distributed and it is anticipated that in this way members of the Naval Service will have an opportunity of thinking about the post-war world and their particular place in that world before the official date for demobilization arrives. The three executive officers mentioned above will see as many officers and ratings as possible and will be glad to answer questions which may be raised concerning post-war plans and prospects.

It was announced in the House of Commons by the Honorable Angus MacDonald, Minister for Naval Forces, on March 14, 1944, that when personnel become available, the Navy will institute a personnel vocational guidance or counselling service which will be available to help members of the Naval Service to choose their post-war careers and advise them of the educational and vocational training facilities which will be available, both prior to and following discharge, to enable them to qualify for better jobs.

Training Plan

The Government has prepared a comprehensive plan to take care of ex-Service personnel. This plan provides for the educational and vocational training of those who joined the Service before completing their schooling and also for those who wish to train for new types of employment. The Government also proposed to assist personnel to obtain employment and has made very generous provisions for those who wish to engage in farming or fishing. Ex-Service personnel who have the misfortune to require medical treatment after discharge will be eligible for health benefits of the Department of Pensions and National Health for a period of 18 months after discharge and those who find themselves temporarily unemployed or awaiting returns from private business may be considered for maintenance grants until such time as they are adequately trained or obtain satisfactory employment.

Lieut. John H. McDonald, RCNVR has been appointed Director of Demobilization under the Chief Staff Officer Reserves, A/Capt. Paul B. Cross, RCNVR. He is being assisted by Pay/Lieut. J. A. Sutherland, RCNVR, the assistant Director of Demobilization, and Surg.-Lieut. G.J. Tweedie, RCNVR who is particularly concerned with the problems of Naval personnel

Home-Town News

Kingston, Ont.—Principal R. C. Wallace of Queens' University here, has announced the university has received a gift of \$300,000 from R. S. McLaughlin, Oshawa motor magnate, to finance construction after the war of a mechanical engineering building.

Thorold, Ont.—CP—Two burglars broke into the Ontario Liquor Control Board store here and stole a safe containing about \$1,700 in cash. Liquor stocks and permits were untouched. A person living upstairs saw the pair pushing the safe out of the front door on a hand cart from the store.

Lethbridge, Alta.—CP—Fire destroyed the Clark block in downtown Lethbridge causing damage estimated between \$90,000 and \$100,000.

A ton of clothing packed and waiting shipment to the citizens of Timovshaskaya, Russia, which was recently adopted by the City of Lethbridge, was destroyed.

Saskatoon, Sask.—Dr. J. T. Cooper, Saskatoon, won the prize for best dog in the show with his entry "Elmhill Envoy in Black," a male collie, and also captured ribbon for best Canadian-bred at the 16th Annual Spring Show of the Saskatoon Kennel Club, held in the Massey-Harris building. Reserve best ribbon went to N. J. Dinnen of Winnipeg with his female cocker spaniel, "Me Too of Rivervue."

Vancouver, —Two Victoria Cross winners met at Vancouver airport when Major Paul Triquet, second Canadian to win the Empire's highest military honor in this war, was greeted on his arrival here by Major Gen. O. R. Pearkes, general officer commanding in-chief, Pacific Coast, who won the cross in the First Great War.

Amos, Que.—CP—The Church of Barraute, a small settlement north of here, in Abitibi county, was destroyed by fire recently, causing \$30,000 damage. Cause of the blaze is unknown.

Edmonton,—Bounties of \$15 on cougars and \$10 on timber wolves came into effect April 1.

Payments are to be made only on those animals that are taken inside the province, excluding the National Park areas. Pelts on which bounty is claimed must have both ears intact.

Dundalk, Ont.—Among 3,100 ration books issued here was one to an Artemesia township bachelor, applying for the first time. He said he had "got along" without any rationed foods since rationing was instituted almost two years ago.

Halifax, CP—Addressing the largest group of Wrens ever gathered together, Cdr. Adelaide Sinclair of Toronto, director of the W.R.C.N.S., told the

Continued on page 8

who are discharged for medical reasons and others who will require medical treatment after discharge.

WHAT DO YOU WANT AFTER THE WAR? How Should Demobilization Be Carried Out? What Will Rehabilitation Mean To You?

Enter the Navy-Wide Essay Contest on DEMobilIZATION and REHABILITATION

THIS CONTEST IS OPEN TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE ROYAL CANADIAN NAVY
From Admirals to Boy Seamen

\$250.00 IN PRIZES

The Crow's Nest essay contest on demobilization and rehabilitation was started because this paper believed the men and women of the Royal Canadian Navy had definite ideas on how they think these problems should be handled when the day of Victory finally arrives. The contest has not been started because The Crow's Nest feels the day of Victory has arrived or is even around the next corner. Every man and woman in the Service should be thinking about the days to come, however, and deciding whether they want a new life handed them on a silver platter, or whether they want the authorities dealing with these problems to have a Canada ready in which there will be reasonable opportunities for all who are willing to work. Service personnel should be guarding themselves against an excess of sunshine in the post-war plans being put forth today and preparing ideas which are practical, not theoretical, moderate, not extreme; demanding of self-assertion, not breeding dependence. Such is the purpose of this competition, which it is hoped will be made full use of by as many men and women of the RCN as possible.

This contest has the full authority of the Minister of National Defence for Naval Affairs and of Naval Service Headquarters. The Navy has its own Demobilization and Rehabilitation Directorate working in your behalf and this Directorate will welcome any assistance which might be derived from the essays submitted in this contest.

The contest will run for a three month period in order to give all members of the Service, wherever they may be, an opportunity of submitting an entry. Contest closes June 30, at 12 p.m.

CONTEST RULES

1. Contest is open to members of the Royal Canadian Navy only and includes all ranks and ratings. No member of the staff of The Crow's Nest (as named at the top of col. 1, page 2,) shall be eligible, however.
2. No essay to exceed 1500 words in length. Essays will be judged from the standpoint of logic and practicability. Grammatical construction, spelling and vocabulary will not be considered by the judges.
3. Essays are to be written as constructive suggestions rather than as criticisms of policies or proposals of any organization or group. Material should be written on one side of the page only.
4. All essays become the sole property of The Crow's Nest which will have the privilege of reproducing any or all of them in the columns of The Crow's Nest, or in any other publication or radio program, providing credit is given the author.
5. Each entry is to be accompanied by a separate sheet of paper bearing the full name and correct Naval address of the contestant. This slip of paper will be removed and the

essay given a number before it is sent to the judges. Names of contestants are not to be written on the essay.

6. The decision of the judges shall be final.

7. All entries must be in the mails by 2400 (12.00 p.m.) Friday, June 30. Entries taking more than 30 days to reach this office, after the close of the contest, cannot be considered.

8. All entries to be addressed to: Contest Editor, The Crow's Nest, 23 North Street, c/o F.M.O., Halifax, N. S.

12 PRIZES

FIRST PRIZE.....\$100.00
SECOND PRIZE.....\$ 75.00
THIRD PRIZE.....\$ 50.00
FOURTH PRIZE.....\$ 10.00

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NAVY SHOW STAR



One of the most highly acclaimed members of the Navy Show's cast, pretty Wren Anna Leigh is a soloist with the Russian group and sings the lead in the novelty number, The Boy in the Bell-Bottom Trousers. Anna and the other members of the Navy Show cast are expected to be seen soon again in East Coast playhouses.—RCN Photo.

THE CONVOY SIGNALMEN

By Con./Yeo. R. Collins

It is seldom that we see them, for it's seldom they're in town,
The men who play a mighty part in our Navy's famed renown.
It isn't on our Naval ships or cushy jobs ashore,
That one is apt to meet them; no, it is something really more.

We have read of exploits daring in our fight against the foe,
Of corvette versus U-boat, that leaves our hearts aglow.
With their honors heaped upon them and the losses they endured,
They have kept the life-line open; our freedom have secured.

But take in mind this life-line, say forty ships or more,
As it starts upon its journey to some distant far-off shore;
See the Allied ensigns flying from the vessels large and small,
See the all-important signals that must be known to all!

This is the work of the Con/Sigs, from the time they join the ship,
Till they reach their destinations, then start on the homeward trip.
From dawn till dusk they're at it, with a "Stand-by" call at night
To relay every signal; by sound or flag or light.

They have no leave for re-fit, no happy weeks ashore,
A few short days with normal pay and they're off to sea once more.
Back on the freezing Atlantic, through fog or a drenching rain,
Or the scorching sun of a different run, but back they go again.

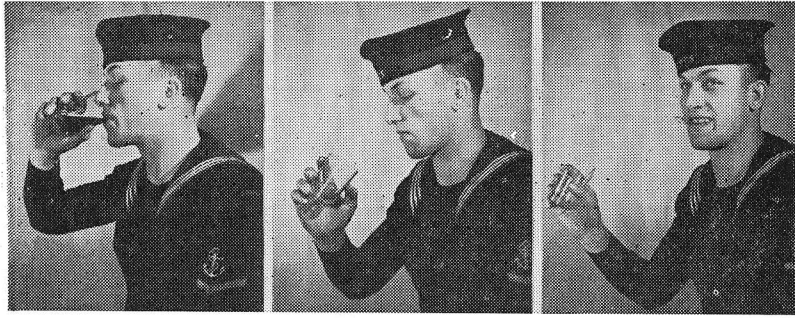
From the first of war they started, were the first ones "over there,"
Their sea-time equals any, their adventures much more rare,
Mined, torpedoed, dive-bombed; and one went through the hell
Of three weeks in a lifeboat; these stories they don't tell.

And it isn't only England that has welcomed them ashore,
But Russia, too has met them as well as Singapore
And other ports have praised them, in lands no longer free,
As round the globe they travel, on each and every sea.

But it isn't fame they're seeking in their all-important task
Of serving in the merchant ships, for this is all they ask;
That when this job is over and our lads come home again,
They shall hear and know a little of the Convoy Signalmen.

Ira's Mighty Jaws

By S/Lt. (S.B.) Frank Healy



Ah! Good! I'm hungry, though Well, here goes

An Eastern Canadian Port—One of the most versatile sailors in the Royal Canadian Navy today is a 24-year-old "superman" who spends his off-duty hours with Special Services entertainment shows demonstrating the herculean powers of his teeth and the amazing ability of his stomach's digestive organs.

He is L/Sto. Ira Matlock, RCNVR, of Turner Valley, Alta., Navy heavy-weight boxing champion since 1942 and 194 pounds of solid muscle. But since he mastered the art of eating glass and razor blades and swinging chairs and tables through the air with the aid of his teeth, boxing has taken a backseat.

Roughage, What?

Demonstrating on an average of four or five times a week in navy shows, Matlock usually ends up by consuming one razor blade, part of a normal glass tumbler and a "coke" to wash it all down—while his audiences squirm. His other feats consist of sinking his teeth into the top back of a chair and swinging it over his head. He holds it in his teeth while he slowly lies on his back and returns to his feet without placing a hand on the chair.



He then tops it all off by placing a chair on an average-size kitchen table, lifting it with his teeth gripped in the top corner of the table and carrying it around the stage with his hands behind his back.

Try it!!!

How Matlock developed the strength in his teeth, and how he digests what would ordinarily puncture a man's intestines and still remains in excellent health, is a mystery even to him. He claims he just started doing it ten years ago without any trouble at all.

Movie Stuff

"I saw a guy eat razor blades in a movie once," he recalled, "and made up my mind that if he could do it so could I. I went home and ate a razor blade with no ill effects. A little later on I went to work on glass and that too didn't seem to hurt me. With practice my teeth became stronger and stronger. "Not very long ago I went to the dentist," Matlock added. "He gave me a thorough examination and said he never saw a finer set of teeth in a man's head."

One night a few years ago he thought the game had caught up with him. He devoured two glasses, two razor blades and several drinks. The next morning he was rushed to the hospital suffering an acute appendicitis.

"They thought I had ruptured my appendix and rushed me to the X-ray room," he said. "But they couldn't find a trace of the glass or blades, which proved it was just a normal attack of appendicitis. The doctors were baffled."

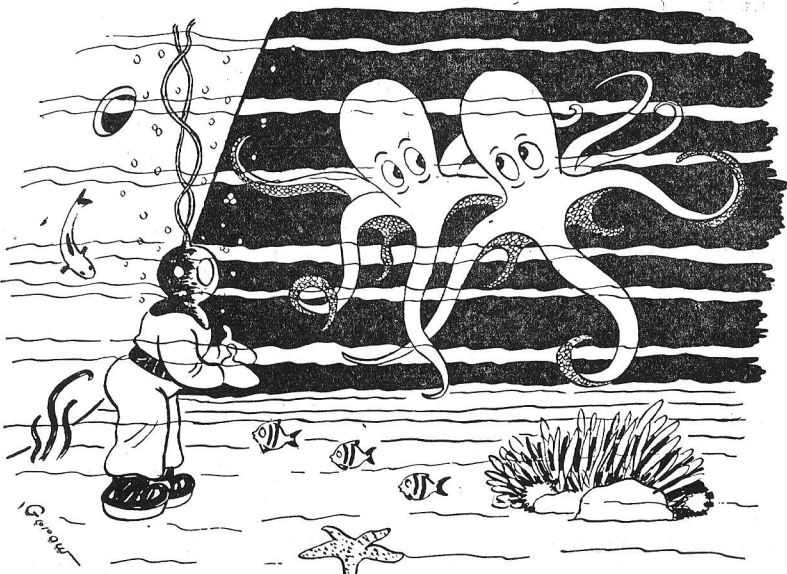
With nearly a year's convoy work in the North Atlantic behind him, Matlock is doing stoker duties in the Royal Canadian Naval Hospital here. He left the Turner Valley oil fields in March, 1941, to join the Navy and was promoted to leading hand last July. It may have been in the oil fields that he developed his strength but his other abilities—well!!!

Torpedo Gunner's Mates Elect New Club Officers

At the annual meeting held by the T.G.M.'s Club at the Club Rooms, No. 8 Isleville St., Halifax on April 7, the following new officers were elected: President, CPO Gornall; secretary, PO Lucas; treasurer, CPO Southron. New committees were also elected which include entertainment, welfare, employment, and publicity.

The newly elected entertainment committee then held a club smoker which was well attended. Highlights of the evening were CPO Southron and Carey in the merry noisemakers (music to you). Many of the old songs were sung in a voice that would put a tough Gunner's Mate to shame.

The club also wishes to announce that a dance will be held in the Stadacona Auditorium on May 5. Tickets can be obtained at the Torpedo Regulating Office, Torpedo and Gunnery School, "Stadacona I".



Gruesome-looking thing, isn't it?

For Honor And For Her

Somewhere a woman, in her firm sweet way,
Faces the future gravely for your sake,
Toils on from dawn to dark; from day to day.
Fights back her tears, nor heeds the bitter ache;
She loves you, trusts you, breathes in prayer your name,
Soil not her faith in you, by sin or shame...

Somewhere a woman—mother, sweetheart, wife,
Waits betwixt hope and fears, for your return,
Her kiss, her words, will haunt you in the strife,
When death itself confronts you, grim and stern;
But let her image all your reverence claim,
While base temptations scorch you with their flame.

Somewhere a woman watches, thrilled with pride,
Shrined in her heart, you share a place with none,
She toils, she waits, she prays, till side by side
You stand together when the battle's done;
O keep for her dear sake a stainless name,
Take back to her a manhood free from shame.



All the nice girls love a sailor, and Helen Desveaux, Glace Bay Gazette reporter is no exception. A visitor aboard the Canadian frigate HMCS New Waterford when a delegation of citizens from the Nova Scotia mining community of New Waterford, paid a surprise visit to the ship recently, Miss Desveaux was unanimously elected honorary mascot by the ship's company. Here she is shown surrounded by seven sailors serving aboard. They are, left to right: (Front row) PO Frank Gibbons, RCNVR, Montreal, and A/B Kenneth Childs, RCNVR, Peterborough, Ont. (Middle row) Roy Hill, RCNVR, Oshawa, Ont., James Butchart, RCNVR, Raymond Jenkins, RCNVR, and Ivor Anderson, RCNVR all of Vancouver. (Back row) Ordinary Seaman James Greer, RCNVR, also of Vancouver. —Photo by L/Photog. E. Dinsmore.

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- No extra charge for buttons.
- Wire Lace Braid at moderate extra charge

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- Monkey Jackets and Trousers, Doeskin.....\$ 55.00
- Monkey Jackets and Trousers, Serge.....\$ 35.00
- Greatcoats, Flat Melton.....\$ 60.00
- White Scarves.....\$ 2.00
- Cap and Badge.....\$ 10.00
- Black Ties.....\$ 1.00
- Half Hose, Plain Black.....\$.75
- Rain Coats.....\$ 30.00

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TIDDLEY TIMES TITLIST



The Canadian Wrens have a magazine of their own now and for some time a lively contest has been going on to choose a name for it. Prizewinner Lieut. Jack Snyder, RCNVR, of Montreal, is shown discussing his winning suggestion with Wren Rosemary Baker, of Vancouver, who modelled as cover girl for the forthcoming issue of "The Tiddley Times". S/Lt. John Whitmore, RCNVR, of Toronto, did the art work for the magazine, which is produced by, for and about members of the WRCNS free of charge.—RCN Photo by Lieut. G. Moses.

BOOK REVIEWS

These books are available at the Naval Library Service.

Condition Red—By Commander Frederick J. Bell, U.S.N. Condition Red takes its title from the signal of impending attack in the south Pacific. It was then that the destroyers struck—with guns, torpedoes, and depth charges. The going was hard, especially as most of the officers and crew were young and inexperienced Reserves. Besides the men of the destroyer, the aviators, the marines, the inhabitants of the various islands will have their part in this story of some of the most important and stirring actions of the War in the Pacific.

X Marks The Dot—By Muriel Stafford. With a nameless corpse, whom no one would confess to knowing, the police had a tough case on their hands. Particularly since the murder had occurred in the city's leading newspaper office. The only clue was the note he had scribbled while waiting. The words said nothing—the handwriting said a lot. And the only person who knew what the handwriting said was a trained graphologist. She could tell them so much from that one scrap of paper that the police could not believe she had not known the man before.

Our Living World—By Carroll Jane Fenton. This book is an engrossing and thrilling story of the science of life—human life, animal life, life in the sea, insect life, reptile and bird life and plant life. Our Living World includes everything you have always wanted to know about the origin and unfolding of our world in which we live. The story ends with a tracing of man's conquest of the earth, and its resultant effects, and a projection of his conduct so that it may remain our living world.

The Signpost—By E. Arnot Robert-

son. Here is the tender and moving love story of a convalescent RAF pilot and a young Frenchwoman whom he meets on the boat en route to Ireland, where he plans to spend the rest of his sick leave. It is also the story of the Donegal village of Kildooey where they stay together. As the plot unfolds, it becomes evident that there are two forces at work, curing Tom Fairbairn of his neurotic fear; love for this beautiful and obviously unhappy woman and preoccupation with the affairs of the villagers.

Twenty-Five Troubled Years, 1918—1943—By F. H. Soward. The way of the world during the past quarter-century—that uneasy period of revulsion from war, struggle for peace, descent into depression and return to battle—is the theme of this book. With a vivid historical sense, a strong feeling for the drama of events and personalities, the author writes of history still in the making. With great skill he blends fact, anecdote, significant comment, important declaration into an absorbing story.

Sea Power in the Machine Age—By Bernard Brodie. Bombers in the air and furtive marauders under the sea are threatening the ancient order of sea power. Technology once again is revising the power relations of nations, remaking the political map of half the world. On this continent we are striving anxiously to read the meaning for the United Nations of a process of technical change which began more than a hundred years ago.

One Eye On The Clock

Reviewed by Lieut. Noel Langley "One Eye on The Clock," by Geoffrey Williams, Lt. RNVR, because it

THE SAILORS' LADIES

by M.F.R.



Economics in war time is a fascinating study, and the ladies on the home front have worked out some of its fine nuances. One army mother we know decided to revamp her finances completely, make out a new budget—"and this time I'm really going to stick to it" she announced firmly. Three days after the New Regime had been in force her son phoned long distance from his training camp hundreds of miles away, and she promptly accepted the reversed charges on a lengthy call.

"Won't that throw your budget away out?" we asked mildly, thinking of the bill for \$7.94.

"Why, my goodness," this mother answered in astonishment, closing the page marked "Deficit" with a bang, "You only live once!"

Sailors don't really roll when they walk—they just sort of stagger uncertainly from effects of being moved around so much from one place to another. One Navy bride says her Ladies' Home Journal travels such a rocky road trying to catch up with her that the heroine in her favorite serial is usually married and settled down quite happily before she herself manages to get to the last chapter.

Add to the list of fifth columnists, those vague looking women who shop in the rush hours, complain in crowded street cars, and when confronted with revolving doors stand in the first space and let the people behind and before them do the work of pushing. They probably upset enough honest toilers from concentrating on their jobs the rest of the day to make quite a respectable total of man-hours lost. Such women should be used to explode land mines instead of tempers.

School teachers are struggling nobly to maintain their dignity in these days of radio quiz programmes. One young boy we know is an ardent fan of all the question and answer entertainment. Recently the teacher asked the class where a certain city was situated, and when no one answered she said pleasantly, "Now, this city, children, is so-and-so" giving them the facts. From the rear of the hushed, attentive room came the shrill cry when she finished, "Alright, alright, give the little lady four silver dollars!"

One young thing has been confusing her friends by beaming sympathetically at every Naval rating she sees wearing a white band in his cap. "Don't you just adore those poor Free French sailors?" she says in puzzling explanation. She refuses to be corrected, too. Probably when she sees the white cap covers appearing on the scene she will swoon with compassion, positive that they are now entirely Liberated!

makes no attempt to button-hole and awe its reader by dramatic devices, probably brings the real atmosphere of this war to a more rational and comprehensible plane than any book so far. He covers the battle of Crete and the Greek campaign, and subsequently describes how he and a crew of Naval ratings brought a U.S.A. Merchant ship from South Africa to England. At no time does he try to over-impress or strain the credulity by painting in larger-than-life colors. The humor is spontaneous and not manufactured for effect; and as it progresses, it enables the reader to identify himself with the feelings of the writer. His perspective and his honesty remain true, and as a result his story remains real and entertaining.

Put this book on your 'recommended' list. It is a young-man's-eye view of what, for the most part, is a young man's war. It represents the beginning of a firmer and more permanent period in contemporary war books.

A Navy Wife Speaks

By IRENE MacRAE

This story, written by Irene MacRae, of Toronto, while she was working as a Government secretary in Halifax, tells in a very stirring way, the story that is probably in the minds of hundreds of Navy Wives throughout Canada. It is Mrs. MacRae's first attempt at writing and is worthy of the highest commendation.—Ed.

I am what is commonly known in this war-busy eastern Canadian port as a navy widow; and I guess that's what I'll be for the duration. But I wouldn't have it any other way. Not so long ago I stood with other Navy wives watching our husbands graduate after four months strenuous officers' training. As each man went forward to receive the handshake and congratulations of the gold-braided and be-ribboned rear admiral, each woman stood high with pride—blinking back tears that only we could understand.

As I walked beside my own man, hearing him wished "all kinds of luck" his arm pumped up and down by enthusiastic comrades, it was not the shining new gold ring on his sleeve that made me glow with warmth when they said "well done!" I suddenly went back to the day we shared a table with a rating and his girl at a small summer hotel when in answer to some comment, I had replied, "My husband hasn't always been in this rig. He had two years at sea on the lower deck." The look of admiration in the eyes of the boy was all the acknowledgement my remark required.

Up From The Ranks

From the lower deck!! Only the man who has gone from the bottom can really know what that means. Of his actual experiences at sea his wife will know very little, but the girl who has followed her man to his home port, the girl who has waited the endless weeks until the ship returns and who has seen his grimy, work-worn hands, may guess something of the meaning of "lower deck."

There have been times, after a tough run in stormy weather, when his eyes seemed to be sunken into his tanned skin—dark shadows around them. Scrubbing his hands every day while he was ashore made very little difference to the dirt embedded in the scratches and cuts. I saw him hide them under the table when we ate in the hotel and then I remembered the well-groomed civilian I had married. I nearly wept when I saw him tumble off to sleep on the precious evenings he had at home. Then I would cradle his head in my arms and tell him that I really didn't want to go dancing, it was nice enough to have him home.

Then, the worries! Not only thoughts of the danger he might be in and the icy wind and water—but sleeping for two weeks fully dressed in case of action; slinging hammocks over tables on which they ate; trying to catch moments of sleep at any time during the day, while others off duty played cards, wrote letters, did washing nearby.

Those Traditions!

There was the day he came home with six stitches in the back of his head and a large patch of hair shaved-off because he had missed his footing in a rough sea. These thoughts were slowly driving me to hate the Navy, hate its traditions and customs. When I crawled into my clean bed at night I sometimes hated myself because I was comfortable and safe while my loved one might be cold, sick and dirty.

It was not until we had the notice of

his acceptance by the commission board and Ottawa, and we shopped for the new uniforms and accessories that I began to see what Navy means and how proud I am of the very fact that my husband has served on the lower deck, has been cold and dirty, has lived in crowded quarters, has done the lowest jobs in the Navy.

As I stood beside him that day of graduation, pleased and happy that he was a success, that he had made the grade, and when I took his arm as we went to the car which was to take us back to our humble home in this eastern Canadian port, my heart was saying, "he is a real sailor, he has come from the bottom, the men will respect him because he had done the jobs he is asking them to do."

Understanding Comes

Now that I have again joined the wives who wait on shore for ships that never seem to come in, I know my officer-husband is living on ship under conditions little better than he did as a rating. In fact his hours are longer, his job is more responsible, but I am wiser and older now than I was when I spent those sleepless nights imagining the horrors of the sea. I know now that the Navy is part of every good sailor, and although he may curse the sea when he is ashore, there is something that compels him to go back, something of a magnetic charm that makes him restless when he is home. And even I have learned about the traditions and

Continued on page 12

STOCKINGS ahoy! WRENS!

Full Fashioned Black Hosiery. We have a full range of sizes in these full fashioned black hosiery. Legs are of rayon, with cotton garter welt, reinforced heels and toes. Substandards. Sizes 8½ to 10½. Price

79c pr.

For the Nursing Sisters

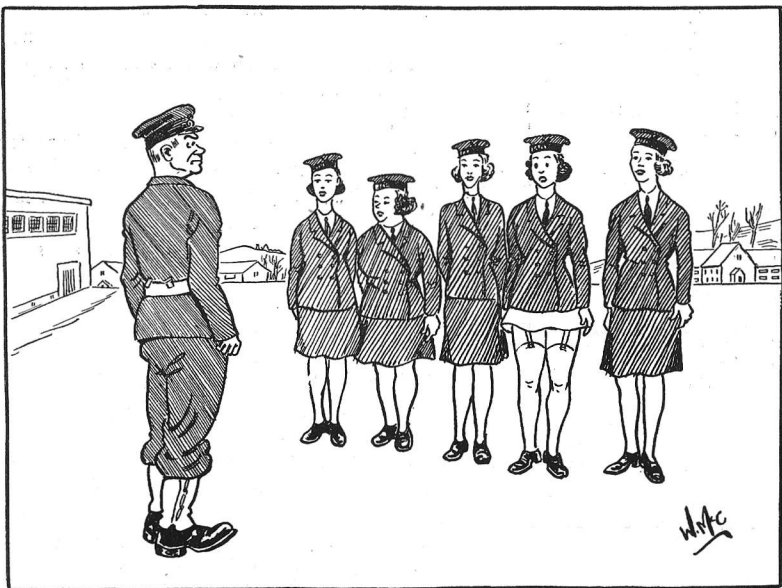
Briar Brown Full Fashioned Rayon. The right shade for nursing sisters. Legs of rayon to top of garter welt, reinforced heels and toes. Substandards. Sizes 8½ to 10½. Price

69c pr.



MAIL ORDERS SENT PROMPTLY

THE CANADIAN DEPARTMENT STORES LIMITED SYDNEY, NOVA SCOTIA



"Absent-minded again, Wren Bloggs?"

Planning For You

The following is the second in a series of instalments of material regarding rehabilitation. These instalments, offered in question-and-answer form, have been prepared by the Department of Pensions and National Health, following approval by the three Departments of National Defence. They will be of interest to all Service Personnel and should be of considerable aid to competitors in The Crow's Nest's essay contest.

Instalment 2

PROCEDURE ON DISCHARGE

Q. What do ex-service personnel get on discharge from the Armed Forces?
A. At present, regulations provide for thirty days' pay and one month's dependents' allowance if service personnel have had 183 days' continuous service. The clothing allowance recently has been raised to \$65.00, not payable, however, to officers. A free railway warrant is given to the man's home community at the time of entering the service, or to any other place, provided no extra cost of transportation is involved.
Q. What about furlough pay?

A. This applies to those with overseas service. Depending on the period spent overseas, full pay and allowances may be paid on return from overseas for a period up to thirty days.
Q. Are all ex-service personnel entitled to these discharge allowances?
A. No. If ex-service personnel are discharged for reason of misconduct, the discharge allowances do not apply. If they are discharged at their own request, or if an officer resigns his commission, they do not apply.
Q. What about medical and dental treatment?
A. As a matter of routine, all service personnel are given a complete medical and dental check before discharge. Necessary treatment is noted and personnel are eligible for that treatment free of charge for one year after discharge. Application for the dental treatment, shown as necessary at the discharge examination, must be made within 90 days of discharge, although there is provision under treatment regulations for dental treatment also during the year following discharge. Pensioners are entitled to treatment for life.
Q. What department takes care of discharge allowances?
A. Discharge procedure and allowances are the responsibility of the Department of National Defence. Once the discharge procedure is complete ex-service personnel come under the program of the Department of Pensions and National Health.
Q. What information am I given on the rehabilitation program on discharge?
A. Literature which has been prepared on the program has been distributed to unit officers. You should receive this directly authority has been granted for your discharge. The services of

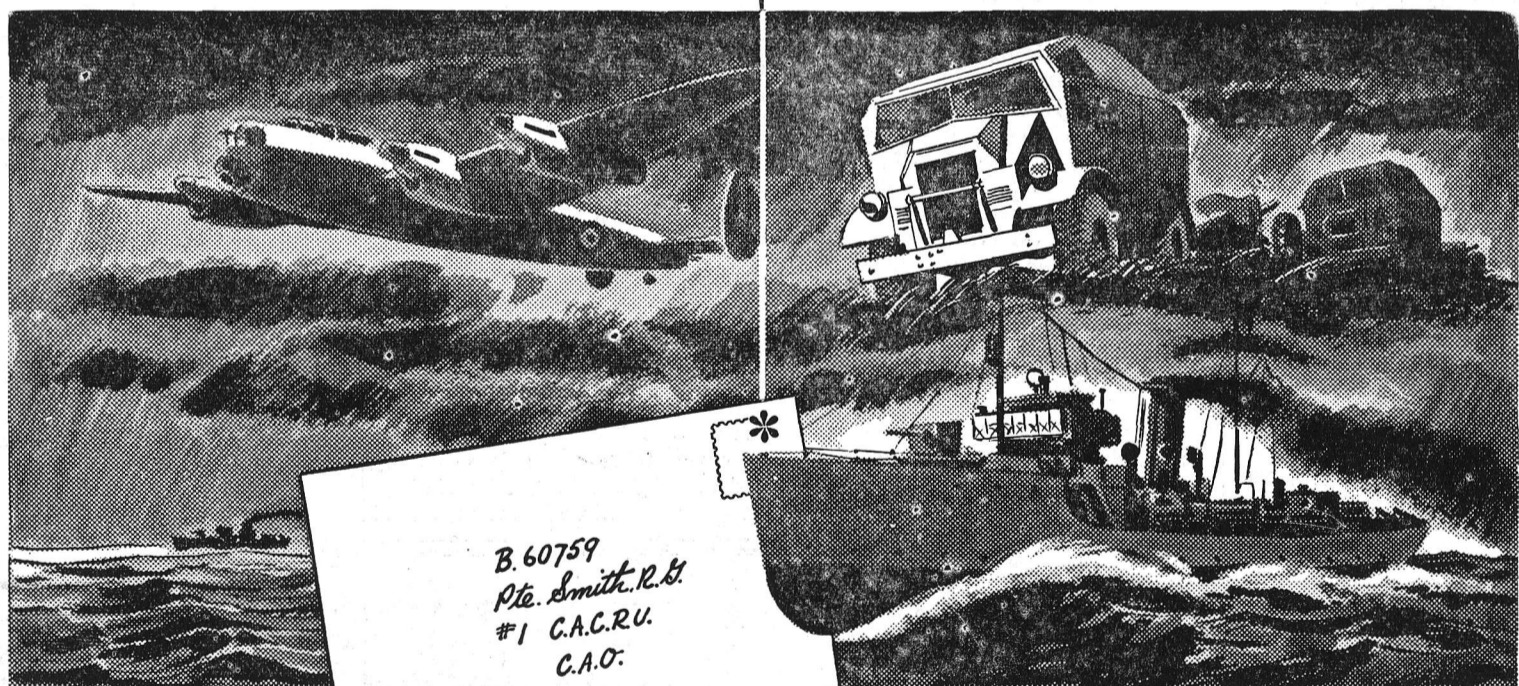
Veterans' Welfare Officers are available to advise and assist you. They can be found in Employment and Selective Service Offices in key centres across Canada. If there is no Veterans' Welfare Officer in your community, your local branch of the Canadian Legion has the necessary information and its officers will be glad to advise you.

Q. If ex-service personnel wish to return to the position which they held prior to the war, is there any provision insuring their reinstatement?
A. The Reinstatement in Civil Employment Act was one of the first measures passed. Under this Act it is laid down that it is an employer's duty, if application is made, to reinstate ex-service personnel who were bona-fide employees for at least three months immediately prior to enlistment.
Q. Is this a blanket ruling or are there any exceptions?
A. Reasonable safeguards, both for the employer and the employee, were made. For instance, if the ex-service personnel was hired in civil employment to replace a man who was already in the Services and the original employee in that position had applied for reinstatement, then the original employee has the preference.
Q. Are there any other regulations?
A. Yes. Steps of necessity had to be taken with regard to the possibility of changing economic conditions. For instance, an employer's business might be seriously jeopardized by the war and he might not be able to offer employment which was as good as, or better than, the situation the ex-service man left.

ADDRESSES ON THE MOVE... IN SPITE OF ALL WAR HAZARDS 31,500,000 LETTERS REACHED YOUR MEN OVERSEAS LAST YEAR

Do you remember the "Change of Address" form which you filled out when you moved your civilian home? After that was filed at your local Post Office, every letter sent to your old address had to be redirected to the new one, and that went on until your correspondents were familiar with your new location.
 Probably you didn't move very often, but each time you did, the Post Office gave redirectory service. And if you will think about that for a moment, you will begin to see what a stupendous task confronts the Canadian Postal Corps in handling the military mails, when thousands of men are being moved almost daily!
 Yet, in spite of the need of tracing men from reinforcement units to their locations on fighting fronts . . . in spite of the need of tracing them through hospitalization . . . or while on leave . . . when their unit is moved . . . in spite of delays in air mail service caused by adverse flying conditions . . . of delays in surface transportation caused by enemy action . . .

in spite of every war hazard you can think of . . . your Post Office and the Canadian Postal Corps delivered 31,500,000 letters to men overseas in 1943!
 It is inevitable that, in tracing men who have been moved, or wounded, some delays occur. It is inevitable that enemy action holds up delivery in some cases. But *everything that human ingenuity and effort can do to give you a service that means speedier delivery of the letters your men are waiting for, is being well and thoroughly done, and will be done.* New methods of speeding mail deliveries are being put into effect, new possibilities are being studied. Think of your own friends who have been posted to new locations overseas, and realize the task of tracing them when their mail arrives at their former address!
 You can help your Post Office and the Canadian Postal Corps to give even better service if you will take a moment to make sure that your mail is correctly prepared. Do these simple things . . .



B. 60759
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 #1 C.A.C.R.U.
 C.A.O.

1. Always be sure each letter or parcel (properly packed) is fully and correctly addressed.
2. Use light-weight paper for regular Air Mail, or use the Armed Forces Air Letter Forms. Airgraph letters take a little longer because they must be processed in Canada and overseas.
3. To men in hospital, mark your letter "In Hospital", if you are advised to this effect.
4. Never put into parcels perishable food, or any substance that can be damaged by extremes of temperature.



CANADA POST OFFICE
 Issued by the authority of
 HON. W. P. MULOCK, K.C., M.P., POSTMASTER GENERAL



In this case proceedings will not be taken against the employer under the Act if he offers employment under the best possible conditions and if he is not retaining someone else in the position that ex-service personnel left to enlist.
Q. Is seniority protected under the Reinstatement in Civil Employment Act?
A. Yes. Ex-service personnel employed in an industry where there are seniority rights must be reinstated with seniority for the period spent in the Services. If there are no seniority rights the employee must be re-engaged with preference according to the first date of employment and on terms no less favourable than would have prevailed had the period of employment not been interrupted by war service.
Q. What about disabled personnel under this Act?
A. If the employer can show that ex-service personnel are physically or mentally incapable of doing work which he has to offer, the Act does not apply.
Q. Is reinstatement in civil employment a permanent right or is there a time limit?
A. The onus is on the ex-service man to apply for reinstatement within three months after discharge from the Forces or from hospital in Canada, or within four months of similar discharge overseas.
Q. Who administers this Act?
A. It is administered by the Department of Labor and cases of infractions may be reported to the nearest Employment and Selective Service office. (The next instalment deals with the Post-Discharge Re-Establishment Order).

HOME TOWN NEWS
 Continued from page 5
 feminine tars here that for the next year 160 Wrens will be recruited each four weeks.

Ottawa, CP—Defence Headquarters has warned that wartime powers to prevent further influx of civilians into the war-jammed city of Halifax may have to be put into effect unless Canadians generally heed appeals against moving to that city.

Vancouver—A dozen of his best customers, including a lady bootlegger, several dipsomaniacs, and a noted second-story artist, welcomed Magistrate MacKenzie Matheson back to the bench after a siege of illness. Designating themselves as "The Old-School-Tie Boys," their signatures appeared on an appropriate greeting card on the magistrate's desk when he appeared for duty.

H. M. C. S. HOTEL

The town of Oakville, Ont., is known to be a very tiddley town. The good ship HMCS Oakville, partly through the efforts of the town after which it is named and partly because of the care given it by its crew, is a very tiddley ship. Neither town nor ship outshine the well-groomed crew members, themselves, however. Ah, no. The men of "Oakville" don't go ashore with run-down heels and scuffed-out toes on their shoes, nor do they set foot on terra firma like a lot of sartorial strikers. They tend to these matters, or rather have them attended to, before they go ashore. For is not HMCS Oakville the only ship in the Royal Canadian Navy carrying its own barber, cobbler and shoe-shine?

Any sunny day during off hours you can see a line-up of officers and ratings waiting their turn on the upper deck while three ratings "turn to" at their particular trades to glorify their shipmates.

Musical Shine

Over in one corner a dark-haired lad sits astride an upturned box, wrinkles up his nose and in a husky croon sings, "So, shine on, shoe-shine boy" to a pair of size 10 shoes in front of him, out of which grows a hefty Canadian sailor. The singing shoe-shine boy is Orest Peter Marcyniuk, Able Seaman, from Winnipeg, Man., who used to work as a bell-hop at the Mall Hotel there and often gave the "shine" boy a hand during rush hours.

Throwing in a social note and still sticking to the business of shining, Marcyniuk was in Galveston, Texas, for four months, on duty not long ago, and took a shine to a lady in the land of lone stars and lovely starlets and polished off his stay with a wedding. Another westerner aboard "Oakville," Kenneth Jorgenson, of Lethbridge, Alta., also found he had a lot in common with a Texas girl and went altar-ward.

Bless My Sole

Coming back to the tiddley trades trio on "Oakville's" upper deck we

Waxed or Woolly

"Do you want the moustache waxed or plain?" asks Sto. I Ross Humphrey, of Toronto, the ship's barber, when he has finished trimming the foliage of a bearded customer. Ross takes a lot of pride in his beard styling and claims to have developed several new twirls for the facial adornment of the sailors aboard ship. He has been barbering for the past nine months in "Oakville" and, incidentally, says he could do a much faster job if he could get a pair of electric clippers, somewhere. In civilian life

New Commanding Officer Takes Over At 'Chippawa'

By J. Curr



Lt.-Cdr. Kernohan

The command of Winnipeg's beautiful ship HMCS Chippawa was recently taken over by Lt.-Cdr. G. E. Kernohan, and in the words of a visiting officer from NSHQ, our new C.O. "Is one of the grandest officers we have in the Service." Formerly of HMCS Catarauqui, Lt.-Cdr. Kernohan has won the admiration and respect of all. Surg.-Lieut. Jacks, of Chippawa's medical staff, was passing out the cigars one day recently, the occasion being the birth of a son, Terry Ross. It was an appropriate event in view of the recent drive for recruits—which was quite a success here.

The new entries are a youthful-looking group, anxious and willing to trade the quietness and comforts of home for a life of action on the high seas. The jump from civilian life is not an easy one but they can do it as have thousands before. The additional classes have swelled the complement of this ship to Cruiser size—rather remarkable in view of the fact that most of the men have never seen the ocean—coming as they do from the centre of Canada.

Quiet-mannered Lieut. McPherson left recently to take up new duties at Cornwallis. S/Lt. Davison is now Gunnery Officer.

Of chief sporting interest at "Chippawa" were the bi-weekly hockey games between the Officers and Instructors. The series came to a close without the winner being declared. However, judging by the number of bruises displayed by some of the players, perhaps it was well that the ice melted.

The Sunday afternoon concerts, held every two weeks, on the parade deck, are very popular. Under the baton of Warrant Bandmaster Holroyd, the concerts attract large crowds of ratings and their friends.

I wish I were a parrot,
So I could have my say;
I bet I'd cuss the killick out
A million times a day.

BUT

I'm just a little O/D,
So cussing I will skip
And when he beats his gums at me,
I'll button up my lip.

and two songs by Dr. Ernest Vinci, too! Hollywood can keep its "Stage-Door Canteens"—just let's have more of Uncle Mel and his Concert Party Guild!

Thanks, Uncle Mel, for the grand morale-building job you're doing for the service personnel! And thanks, too to Miss Connie Levis and her fellow-workers at the North-End Canteen, for bringing us this extra-special treat!

CANADA'S OTHER WAR

By A/Surg. Lt.-Cdr. J. L. Johnston, RCNVR

A splendid, open article which every man and woman, in the Service or out of it, should read and think on.—Ed.

Canada fights two wars! One of these wars you and I appreciate fully as members of one of Canada's Armed Services. The second war is an internal war against the "saboteurs" of our nation as a whole.

The "saboteurs" are the venereal diseases or "V.D.," and the two great offenders are Syphilis and Gonorrhoea. These diseases waste man-power, and destroy the effectiveness of Armed Service personnel and civilians, every one of whom has a job to perform in advancing our war effort against the Nazi enemy. Our national effort cannot be maintained at maximum if our personnel is stricken by these disease "saboteurs."

Syphilis and Gonorrhoea are different diseases. Each affects a person in a different manner.

Facts are weapons in the fight against "V.D.!" Add to your present armament in the service by learning the facts of how "V.D." affects the individual!

The Quiet Invader

Syphilis quietly invades and quietly undermines the affected person's health, and the great tragedy of this disease is that outwardly the person feels perfectly well—NOW, but in middle life, years from now, this silent disease strikes with terrific force, suddenly, and too late to effect the cure which was possible early in the course of the disease.

Syphilis strikes a vast majority of people in the 18 to 30-age year group! Mark that! We, in the Armed Services, are in that group! Don't be tricked by innocent appearances or trivial signs; seek out medical advice concerning "doubtful" sores and *Don't wait!* Syphilis, the "Great Imitator" masquerades under the cloak of skin rashes, jaundice, and a host of apparently trivial symptoms. Remember two out of three victims of syphilis don't know they are infected because they feel and look well—now!

Like Smouldering Fire

Gonorrhoea, on the other hand, is like a fire, it blazes fiercely within a few days of infection. Pain, burning, and discharge, affect the genital passage. If treated at once the discomfort may subside rapidly. If inadequately or irregularly treated, a few embers of this fire may remain only to be fanned into a flame at a later date with disastrous results to the affected person in the form of crippling joint disease or heart disease or to his wife or to his new born child.

How can you tell when you've got "V.D.?" The answer is you *can't*—your medical officers *can* by thorough examination and blood tests. When in doubt consult your medical officers at once! Do not resort to "quack" remedies and "home" cures—should you be suffering from "V.D.," and do this, you are concealing the disease—a grave offence. Find out! Be sure! Sick bays are readily available if you have any "problem."

Only the care of qualified physicians assures a cure. The hazards of "V.D." are great enough without risking further dangers by self treatment or the treatment of "quacks" who pose as specialists in treating "blood diseases" or the "ills of man."

Wine, Women, V.D.

How do you catch "V.D.?" Promiscuous extra marital sexual contact is the great spreader of these

diseases, and "V.D." being no respecter of persons is caught where least expected. Outward appearances belie and mislead—"innocent looks" and "medical certificates" often cover highly infectious "V.D." Be advised that many cases of "V.D." arise as a result of foolish risks taken when judgement is dulled by drinking. Wine, women, and "V.D." is a common association.

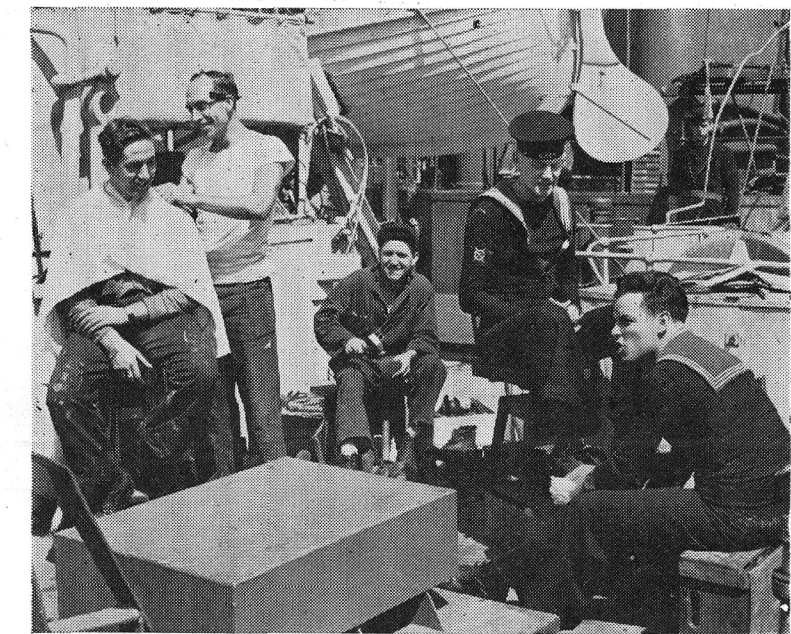
How can you avoid "V.D.?" The answer is—Avoid promiscuous sexual contact! Avoid unsavoury associations and questionable company. If you will keep before you a vision of home, and those who now, or in future, will depend on you, and do not take any risk which will hazard their health and happiness, you will do much to stop the spread of these diseases and will ensure your own clean bill of health.

Consider the facts carefully—lend your personal aid in this war against disease—we can defeat the menace, but this task requires the support of everyone. Don't take unnecessary risks which will permit these disease "saboteurs" to undermine your own health and happiness. The expenditure of excess energy can be and should be accomplished by participation in organized sports and recreational activities. These are available to you—make use of them and prevent the regrettable consequences of "questionable associations."

GETTING THE NEWS OF THEIR CHUMS



The men at sea in the Royal Canadian Navy are well fed but there is one kind of hunger that never seems to be sufficiently appeased. That hunger is—NEWS—news of home, of friends in the Service, of ships at sea. The day The Crow's Nest makes its appearance aboard ship the copies are snapped up by the crewmen, anxious to see what goes on in Canada's Navy. The Crow's Nest welcomes news items from the ships and enlists the cooperation of all sailors in gathering material. In the above picture six matelots enjoy a recent issue. They are, left to right, (sitting) L/S A. MacLean RCN, Saskatoon A/B G. Walker, RCNVR, London, Ont., A/B Jackson, RCN, White Rock, B.C. L/S N. A. Smith, RCNVR, Toronto (Standing) A/B A. Copeland, RCNVR Toronto; (In bunk) L/S Brocher, RCNVR, Montreal. This picture was taken aboard HMCS Arrowhead. RCN Photo by L./Photog. E. Dinsmore



RCN Photo by PO Photog. R. L. Keegan.

find Able Seaman H. Wallace Ironmonger of Edmonton, Alta., sitting astride a shoemaker's last, his mouth full of tacks, hammering hard on the shiny, new half-sole he has just set in place on a boot. Ironmonger, who used to work as a shoemaker and shoe salesman in an Edmonton store, was asked by some of the officers to do some repair jobs one day, and immediately decided to go into business. He has had a hard time getting enough leather and other materials to carry on his trade but so far has been able to supply all demands. The s'ogan is—"Ironmonger's soles wear like iron."

Shoes aren't the only things the cobbler repairs, however. He mends life-belts, jackets, machines, makes money-belts and wristwatch straps.

he worked at various times at barbering, tool-making and auto mechanics. He has learned a few new tricks since becoming a sea-going barber, though. There is, for instance, the trick of propelling a pair of sharp, pointed scissors along the side of a man's head without slicing a bit of ear off onto the deck when the ship gives an unannounced lurch. He's going to try to learn how to shave a man at sea without peeling "the apple" as soon as he can procure a good straight-razor.

These three lads don't figure on getting too much shore leave because a liberty-boat coming up usually means their rush hour is on. All three seem quite satisfied to take in a bit of their shipmates' money before their customers spend it all ashore, however.

UNCLE MEL'S FINE TROUPERS PACK AUDITORIUM OF NORTH END SERVICES CANTEN AT HALIFAX

By J. P. T.

Seating accommodation was taxed to the limit to hold the lucky people who came to see and hear the Variety Show staged by Uncle Mel and his Concert Party Guild on April 19 at the North-End Services Canteen. It was the 1975th entertainment put on by this grand group of troupers for the men and women of the services, and the results of this amazing record were apparent not only in the quality of each act, but also in the professional finish and fast-moving pace of the entire production.

Lacking the space and the knowledge of show-business to comment

adequately on each act, this reporter can only say that it was the best canteen entertainment these old eyes have seen in Halifax—and they've seen more than a few. The singing and dancing of Fay Webber, the dancing of Irene Spence, singly and with Sgt. Herb Le Frois, U.S.A., the triolet vocals by Flora Montgomery, Mary and Marjorie West, (that Flora is a card!) the accordion playing by Lila Tredwell and Charlotte Guy, the magic of Julius Silverman's violin and the wizardry of Billy McGhie's card and handkerchief sleight-of-hand, the beautiful voice of Dorothy Hamilton—all this

Navy Commandos Ready For Invasion



Commandos of the R. C. N. will be side by side with beach troops of the Army when the "Big Show" commences. The first group of Canadian Naval Commandos has just completed the Royal Navy course at a training centre in Scotland and are now fit and ready for one of the toughest jobs the naval service can offer. Ordinary Seaman Frank Albrechtson, RCNVR, of Montreal (with knife) demonstrates how to incapacitate an opponent permanently during unarmed combat classes at the Canadian Commandos' training centre. His victim is Ordinary Seaman H. D. Smith, of Toronto, Ontario. RCN Photo by Lieut. G. Milne, RCNVR.

Hilarious R. C. A. F. Revue "All Clear" Rocks Cornwallis Drill Shed Audience

Last month the RCAF Show "All Clear" arrived at "Cornwallis" and knocked the Drill Shed audiences for a loop. It was skillfully put together, and most of all, it was topical: it was what it was, and not an ordinary vaudeville show dressed up in uniform; it really "sold" the Air Force.

There was a spirit of enthusiasm and co-operation amongst the cast; they were obviously happy, and they instilled it into the audience. The scenery and costumes were always a cheerful and bright background to their frolics.

Their unit is a small miracle of compactness and intelligent economy, due to the expert organization and handling they have received. We tender our warm congratulations and thanks to F/Lieut. Robert Coote, the director, Section Officer Fahrenholtz and Flying Officer Marshall.

"Slim" Burgess

Their comedian, "Slim" Burgess, moved from number to number with a kind of benign screwballity, ad libbing when the spirit moved him and bouncing laugh after laugh out of the audience. He was excellently served with comic material, and he was as at home on the stage as an elongated gremlin on a Spitfire in a blizzard. It will be a long time before so smooth

and polished a comic treads our Drill Shed stage again.

The young ladies seemed more versatile than is usual; but this may be because the producers have expertly allowed every performer in the cast their "spot" somewhere in the show.

They are the Number 2 Unit (the first is now in England) and in the few short months that they have been "on the road," their record is an impressive one. They are the only Canadian Armed Forces Show to have played in the United States, where they were warmly welcomed, and did an excellent job of good-neighbourliness, and the whole company, including all their equipment, was recently flown to Labrador and played to the combined Forces there in sub-zero weather.

"Cornwallis" sees all too few fellow-service shows: we hope they will not forget us on their next trip through Nova Scotia.

Deformed?

Just-Signed-On: 'Gee, the pants and jumper fit me perfectly!' S.A.: 'Well, for gosh sakes! How did you ever pass your medical?'



From left to right: Lt. Commander Dennis J. O'Hagan, RCNVR, of Halifax, N.S. joined the Royal Canadian Navy in August, 1940. He was engaged in a shore job in Canada and the Middle East before joining the Canadian Commandos as principal beach master. Ordinary Seaman Douglas Trewin, RCNVR, of Sackville, N.B. He went straight to the Commandos in October, 1943, after finishing his basic training at Deepbrook, N.S. Ordinary Seaman Fred Gamblin, RCNVR, of Bloomfield, N.B. He has been in the Royal Canadian Navy for nine months, and joined the Commandos straight from basic training at HMCS "Cornwallis." Petty Officer Archie Thacker, RCNVR., of Charlottetown, P.E.I. He has been four years in the Royal Canadian Navy saw service in corvettes and minesweepers before joining the Commandos in October, 1943. At right is the badge of the Canadian Commandos.....the eagle, the anchor and the rifle. It is worn on both arms of the jumper or tunic with the word Commando above it, headed by the badge Canada on the shoulder. These badges are today a familiar sight at a British base where Canadian Commandos are operating closely with Canadian Landing Craft flotillas in preparation for the coming invasion.—RCN Photos by Lieut. G. Milne, RCNVR

Boxing Tourney At HMCS Shelburne Attracts Enthusiastic Service Crowd

Keen interest was shown recently at an inter-service boxing meet at Shelburne, N. S. A very enthusiastic crowd turned out to see this, the second meet of this type at HMCS Shelburne.

All contestants put up a good fight—some were experienced and some novices at the game. A well-balanced card was planned and ran as follows:

The first bout was between Wilson (Shelburne Navy) and Lafort (Liverpool Navy), the latter taking the fight by points after a very close battle. Weight 160 lbs.

The second bout brought Saunders (Shelburne Army) and Schultz (Yarmouth Army) together. Schultz knocked out Saunders in the third. A case of experience vs novice. Weight 135 pounds.

Dupont (Shelburne Navy) took the third fight of the evening from Collins (Yarmouth Army) by points. Dupont had Collins on the run the first round. Collins matched Dupont blow for blow in the second round but was staggering from Dupont's barrage in the third as the bell went to give the Navyman the decision. Weight 135 lbs.

The next bout was a surprise. Two novices met and slugged it out to the end. West (Liverpool Navy) won by points from Golden (Shelburne Army). It was West's first time in the ring. Weight 160 lbs.

The fifth was an exhibition between Morris and Power both of Shelburne Navy. Both men were professionals. A draw.

The sixth bout went to an extra round of one minute as Lalonde (Liv-

erpool Navy) and Doucette (Yarmouth Army) put up a good display of boxing ability to end in a draw. Weight 147 pounds.

Blanchard (Shelburne Navy) defaulted to Lee (Yarmouth Army) in the second round. It was good boxing. Weight 147 pounds.

The eighth bout brought Lefort (Liverpool Navy) back to the ring to defeat Calderiski (Shelburne Army). West defaulted to Lefort to give the latter the championship of the 16 pound class.

The ninth fight on the card was an exhibition between McQuinn and Nicholson both of the base. No decision. Wrestling now entered the ring with bag and baggage as sumthin' vs sumthin' else fought it out.

The last bout of the evening was a professional wrestling match between Socker Rockett from Toronto Navy and Gerry Hillis of Shelburne Navy. A good show. Some of the lady guests

Lots Of Entertainment For Men At Sea But Mail From Home Holds First Place

An Eastern Canadian Port—Ashore and afloat men of the Royal Canadian Navy are being provided with every type of entertainment possible these days to break the monotony of the many lonesome hours away from home.

But if you want to really chase blues away just drop your loved one a letter. Nothing can do more to buck up the morale of a Navyman than mail from home. For sailors, who spend many hours, days or even weeks at sea, visiting strange ports, meeting excitement at every turn, still long most for that letter from you.

Next to these missives navymen look most for entertainment supplied by the navy. They have monies, books, current magazines, newspapers, sports, musical and amateur theatricals and religious services to bide away the "leisure hours." Games of all sorts, candies, cigarettes, soft drinks, movies at sea, may all be had—but the warmest desire is still for "regular cheerful letters from home and the girl friend."

Despite the fact that sailors are well looked after in the entertainment line, it's the mailman who gets the

could not stand the groans.

The Shelburne entries were coached by C-Sht. Nicholson. A/Captain, C. D. Donald, RCN refereed. The Atkinson brothers looked after the judging. Lieut. M. A. Mears RCNVR. was announcer and time keeper.

greatest welcome. So don't you forget to write to him today—even if it's only a note or a postcard, most of all he wants that letter from you.



"Slim" Burgess, of the RCAF's "All Clear"

Get In The Swing!

Answers to and queries about The Crow's Nest's big essay contest (rules and prizes are found on page 5 of this issue) have been coming in large numbers to this office during the past month.

The Crow's Nest is delighted to discover the number of persons who are giving serious thought to the problems which they must face in the future. However, it is hoped that even greater numbers will submit answers during the remaining two months the contest will be open. Answers have come from various departments of the Service and from men of varying ranks.

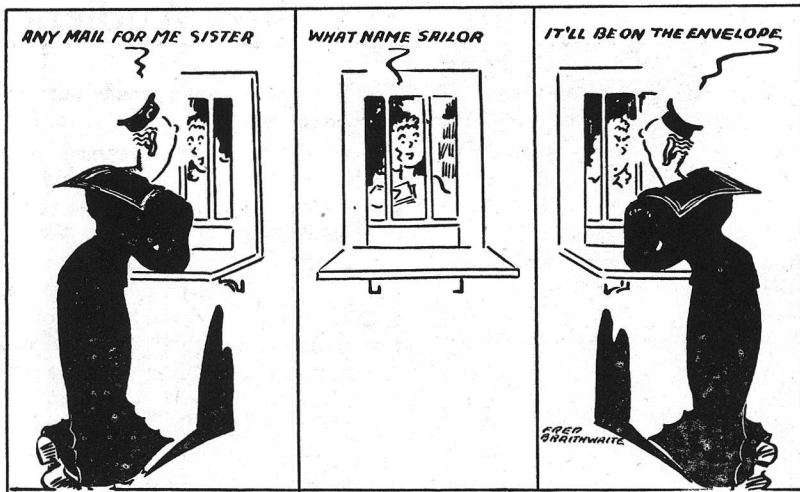
Get in the running, now. You haven't anything to lose by sending in your ideas and you have an even chance with anyone else to win one of the 12 prizes offered.

Notice To Subscribers

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'WILBUR'

by Braithwaite



Avalon Sport Shorts

by "Sully"

Ah! At last I've found a comparatively quiet corner into which to lower my creaking frame. To write this little commentary I have to think, I must have quiet. Even then, it's an effort. Nevertheless, here goes.....

I'd like to send Spring greetings from "Newfie." I cannot. Alas, the weather man has balked again, leaving us resting gently under a couple of inches of snow. Are we perturbed? Why certainly not, because we know that sooner or later, the sun will shine. (It says here).

We have a heart-breaker for you, as regards our senior basketball loop. It might not be exactly heart-breaking for you, but it certainly was for us. Our spectacular "Avalon" bucket-tossers were eliminated from the semi-finals of the league in a couple of gruelling contests, which were enough to break anyone's heart. As I mentioned last month the Avalonians whipped the RCN team and gained a playoff berth with U.S. Artillery, and U.S. "Peppers." In a two out of three series with the Artillery, Avalon lost a hard fought contest by a hair-breadth score of 49-48. In the second game, history repeated itself by putting Avalon on the wrong end of a 52-51 score. Thus in losing the series in straight games, Avalon also lost by only one point each game. "Jock" McKenzie summed up the whole issue in two words. "Tough Breaks!" Yes, indeed, there were some tough breaks, but the boys took them in good part, and are already placing bets for next season.

Inter-part Basketball is also touting, and there were a couple of surprises there also. In the semi-finals, the "Noicoms" took on the Supply Office, and proceeded to put the damper on all the S.A.'s hopes and desires. In the other bracket, Administration RCNB whipped the Regulating Office, to gain a final berth with the "Noicoms." In case you are wondering who the "Noicoms" are, it's just a fancy name for the NOIC Staff. They proved their right to a fancy name by trouncing the RCNB team, and becoming Base Champions. Altho' I said they trounced RCNB, it was actually a very close contest and provided plenty of thrills for the onlookers. Close or not, the "Noicoms" are Champs and are well deserving of the title. Some of these lads are probably known to you, so here they are: E. Schroeder, D. Schroeder, Graham, Cameron, Casey, Mableson, Musson, Bate, Rand, Clark, Miller and Mackisaw.

Naturally at this time of the year, there is a lull between seasons. Basketball is nearly a goner, and the weather does not permit much outdoor recreation, so we have to have a filler-inner. Said filler-inner in our case is volleyball. Not much trouble was encountered, in starting our very enthusiastic league because the whole interpart line-up just switched right over to volleyball. All of the teams, which up until last week were playing basketball, are now playing in a weekly volleyball tournament.

Another boxing show has come and gone since our last issue, but the results were not quite as favorable as on previous dates. Our team took a trip up to the American Army Base in Argentina, a couple of weeks ago, and even tho' we lost the tournament we don't feel that our standing was lowered a great deal. Any of our Naval personnel will understand the difficulty in keeping a first-rate team at all times, due to the little thing that they call "the drafting process". We did lose some of our best boys, leaving us with a number of young, inexperienced scrappers, who were to be highly commended for their true Navy enthusiasm. In Argentina, the "Yanks" took 5 bouts, we won 3, and 1 was a draw. It was simply a question of condition and experience, and so, as we've been trying to put across, our young lads couldn't have put on a better show, even if they had won. The three

END GOOD CAGE SEASON



Although beaten out of top cage honors in the Newfoundland basketball loop, the members of the RCN senior team at "Avalon," pictured here, are rated as a smart crowd on the floor and gave the fans plenty of excitement during the season just ended.

Back row, from l. to r.—W/O Bud Foster, Victoria, B.C.; A/B Geo. Black, Niagara Falls, Ont; L/SA Al Seed, Victoria, B.C.; Tel. Herb Rand, Toronto, Ont.; P/O Bert Borton, Capt, Vancouver B.C.; Front row l. to r.—P/O Griff Jones, Coach, Victoria, B.C.; Dick Scroder, Montreal, Que.; Ernie Shroder, Montreal, Que.; L/SA Tommy Brazier, Windsor, Ont.; "Eddie" Bourque, P&RTI Hull, Que., Manager.—RCN Photo.

boys that we did take, were handled nicely by "Tommy Campbell, Art Charlebois, and Aurele St. Louis. Of course, there was no doubt about Campbell, he's definitely the tightest lad in this here base, and we ain't kidding. The only reason he didn't knock his man out was that he couldn't catch him. It was a one sided decision for T. C.

Charlebois fought a very classy boy by the name of Hodges, and altho' he nearly had a knockout, this also came our way, in the form of a decision. Hodges had put the Indian sign on our boys a couple of times before but he met his match in Charlebois. This was the best fight of the night, in the opinion of the judges, ('cuz yours truly was one of them).

St. Louis met up with a boy named Robingson, and showed the All American bleacher section just what went to make a Canadian Sailor. In the first round, St. Louis suffered a broken nose which did not stop bleeding for the entire bout, but he came off the canvas, and pounded Robingson into a T.K.O. job in the third round. When he got thru throwing punches he was hardly able to lift his hands, but the crowd could certainly lift theirs, and they nearly brought the house down. All in all, the trip was highly successful, and as usual, the Americans couldn't do enough for us. They are strictly tops in the line of entertaining and we thank them sincerely. Dave Brown, our genial boxing coach has tons of confidence in his "boys" and as usual, comes forth with "We'll take 'em next time."

Monthly totals for our Ship's Organ-

ization have taken a slight drop of late, due of course to the season. Hockey played out very early in comparison to the other bases, and outdoor sports are held up by the very inclement weather. Nevertheless, the drill hall has taken the strain quite adequately, and every ship which visits this port, gets in a few basketball games. Other recreations at hand include, volleyball, bowling, swimming, weightlifting, and a complete array of gymnastic facilities. Naturally with the approach of summer weather, football and softball will come into their own.

AVALON BASKETBALLERS LOSE THREE YEAR CROWN

The Scribe

Basketball once again has been the outstanding winter sport in "Avalon." Although our RCN team was beaten for the first time in three years, nevertheless they gave a good account of themselves and treated their faithful followers with some really good ball. The league consisted of two American teams, two RCAF teams, and two RCN teams. The RCN teams were known as the "Avalons" and the RCN. It may as well be admitted right now that the "Avalons" coached by PTI "Mac" MacKenzie nosed out the RCN team by one game. Coach Griff Jones of the RCN team asserts that the "Avalons" were just lucky but don't let "Mac" hear you say that. He figures that he had the best team.

Well folks! that's "30" for this year from your basketball scribe here in "Avalon." Here's hoping that next year we'll be writing to you with the RCN back in the winning van.

Baseball Season Getting Into High Gear As Summer Advances On Stadacona I

By A/PO A. Bullock, PTI.

Here at Stadacona I, with ole man summer having a strangle hold on the Weather man, the baseball season is away with a rush. Bud Morrison, hard-hitting left fielder of last year, will be dugout boss of the Navy nine. On inside dope from Bud, the Halifax fans will see a new squad take over the diamond.

Recently, none other than yours truly, attended a ladies' softball meeting to get some inside information on the activities of the weaker sex. S/Lt. Du-fresne, WRCNS, Sports Rep., who managed the ladies to the Provincial title last year, has stepped forward to do the same this year. With the nine teams to oppose our navy girls, some excellent ball is anticipated.

Won City Cage Crown

Incidentally, the Wrens won the Halifax city and district basketball championship, coached by Bill Devitt, of senior basketball team, who was recently presented with the Lyall Award, for being the most valuable player of the League.

The Stad. I volleyball season has drawn to a successful conclusion, with the ERA's making themselves worthy champions. Sweeping through the league without a loss and winning the title by three games straight, gave them the honor of being undefeated champs.

A great deal of credit goes to Sto. PO King of "A" Block Reg. Office, for his fine sportsmanship, and his ability to be right in there punching.

Good Boxing

Speaking of punching, Chief James, well known in boxing circles, and his leather pushers, give boxing instructions, in the Drill Hall every Monday, Wed. and Friday of each week. Some excellent material is working out at present, including Joe Dubrofsky, Dominion Amateur featherweight champ; Kid Wolfe of Timmins who has fought almost all of the good feather weights in Ontario and is a promising beginner; Jim Carpenter, who in his initial starts won convincing wins. his last over Cpl. Wildman, who is making a name for himself in the Army All Canada Boxing Tournament.

The boys are all looking forward to renewed activity this summer. A/PO Craig PTI is now assisting Chief James as boxing instructor. An ex-fighter himself, is very enthusiastic in whipping the boys into shape.

More Glory

Hold on, folks, although a little late, we dedicate this space to the Basketball fans. The Navy intermediates, a fast and powerful squad, came through to take the honors by defeating the YMCA.

The Navy Seniors, a smooth-running team at the start of the season, battled their way to top place, but due to drafts, entered the semi-finals with only three of their original line-up.

Being defending champs, the intermediates were brought up to fill the ranks. With a two-game total score to count, (Army being the opposing team) the first game ended in a deadlock, and the second a five point win to the Army who stepped in to beat the Airforce for the City Title.

The Navy muscle men are mustering the usual three nights a week at the Stadacona II gym, where some very excellent weight-lifting classes have been conducted of late.

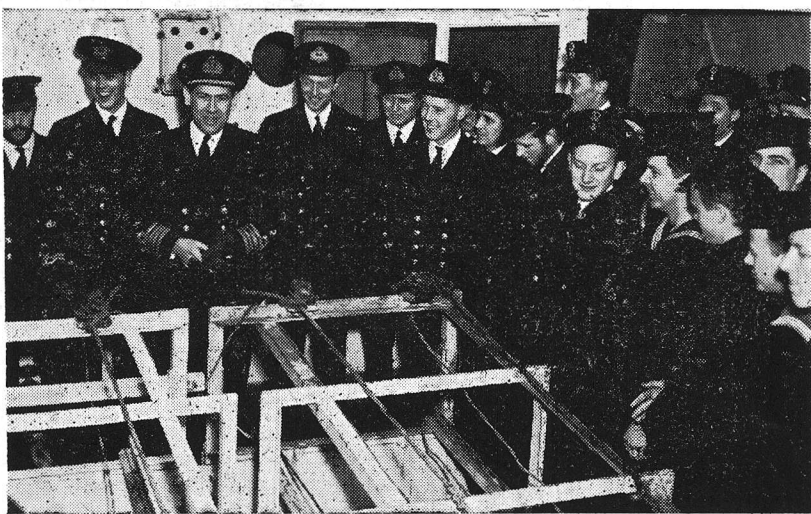
Upwards of 30 ratings under the watchful eye of PO Joe Sklar (Empire middleweight champion) and L/Sea. Walter Ludolph, PTI, are taught the finer points of weight-lifting and body-building. Classes do not consist solely of strong men, but chiefly of fellows interested in the body beautiful.

What do you look like in a Bathing Suit?

Surg.-Lt.: And how is this patient to-day?"

S.B.A.: "Well, he took a turn for the nurse this morning, sir."

INAUGURATES WHIRLWIND CAMPAIGN



Captain "D", Newfoundland, Capt. James M. Rowland, DSO and Bar, RCN, visited the famed "Corvette K-225" to inaugurate the Sixth Victory Loan drive and is shown (above) speaking to the ship's company on the quarter-deck. After buying the first \$100 bond himself, Capt. Rowland, accompanied by two Nursing Sisters, sold \$6500 worth of Bonds in two hours. By the next day, "Corvette K-225" had gone over the \$8000 mark, thus winning two pennants for doubling its \$3500 quota.—RCN photo by W/O G. Muirson.

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J. P. GALLAGHER

TAILOR

94 Sackville St

Halifax, N. S.

PATTER FROM PREVOST

By Wtr. R. Griffiths

HMCS Prevost at London, Ont., has sailed through some rough weather during the past month or two, what with strong March winds, April showers, and even lately, the odd snow storm and blizzard but the old ship has weathered all storms and is now progressing peacefully into the nice, sunny weather of Spring.

There's no doubt about Spring being here when the lads in blue can be seen daily strolling down Dundas Street with members of the fair sex.

Then again, broken windows, or should we say scuttles, are always a good sign of the coming of Spring and there have been several such occurrences during the past month as the lads have given up hockey for another season and are swinging right into baseball. They can be seen at every opportunity practising on the Parade Square and the old pill, as well as the windows, is taking an awful beating.

Parade Square Face-Lifting

Talking about the Parade Square, it is now getting a new facial. Steam-rollers, trucks, and what-have-you are busily engaged in chopping up the old cement and paving crushed stone, sand and asphalt to make what we hope to be one of the best Parade Squares any ship could have.

Spring cleaning is also very evident in the Men's Mess, which has been closed down for the past couple of weeks, while undergoing a new paint job. It promises to be well worth waiting for and in the meantime we are all saving a little money.

One of the highlights of "Prevost" in recent years was the visit of Admiral G. C. Jones, RCN, Chief of Naval Staff. His visit aroused much public interest, as it was the first time that an Admiral had ever visited this division. Admiral Jones inspected the Guard of Honour in front of "Prevost" and had lunch in the Wardroom with the heads of various departments. He then proceeded on a short inspection trip of the Ship and the English Language School. He was also received by the Mayor at the City Hall and paid a short visit to Military Headquarters M.D. No. 1. Admiral Jones had dinner at the Hunt Club before departing for Windsor.

Promoted

CPO Monague, well known to practically every rating who went through this division, has been promoted to the rank of Warrant Officer and is now stationed at HMCS Donnacona.

A few old Prevostites visiting the ship last month include L/Sea, Oakley, Lieut. Gale, Sub./Lt. Dave Jackson, S/Lts. Morch and Waddell, the last three being former Officer Candidates, O/Sea. Marlatt, PO/Wtr. Nicoll and others. Be sure and drop around fellows as we're always happy to see you again.

Navy Ball Success

There was a great deal of excitement around Prevost recently, what with our Navy Ball being put on at the Arena. The dance was a tremendous success and was attended by numerous civic and Naval dignitaries.

A great deal of interest is also being shown in the Sixth Victory Loan. One of the biggest parades London has ever witnessed with over 5000 taking part in it, including Navy, Army, Air Force, Wrens, CWAC's, and W.D.'s was held here in the latter part of April. "Prevost" doubled her quota in the Fifth Victory Loan and we're all endeavouring to "go over the top" again with this one. So remember the slogan for the Sixth Victory Loan "Put Victory First."

ENSIGN ASSOCIATION HAS NEW CLUBROOMS

The White Ensign Association occupied their new club house at 8 Isle-village St., Halifax on April 7. Owing to the large increase of members it was a necessity. The hall will be used for meetings and social functions.

Recently delegations from the Association and the Canadian Legion met to exchange ideas. The Association representatives were headed by Lt.-Cdr. Salt who, in an address, told those present the meeting of the two organizations was purely a friendly gesture, both having the same ideals and principles. A Legion representative was invited to address an Association meeting at a future date.

300 Applicants

The secretary, Mr. Pounder, read a letter from the Naval Depot, Gaspe, accompanied by 300 applications for membership from Naval personnel, with a view to forming a branch in Quebec.

A dance committee was appointed comprising of CPO King, chairman, Messrs Black, Bradley and Edwards. Dances will be arranged in the auditorium at Stadacona commencing this month. CPO Black and CPO Brennan were appointed to the publicity committee.

The Association is anxious to encourage sport, and will, in all prob-

FOOTLIGHT FANFARE

By Gib Potter, S.A.

Combined Operations...feature Special Service Concerts...Navy's S B A Johns and Aircraftsman Djck Wainwright piano duet accompaniment to Army's Lance Corporal Harvey Aiken's vocalizing.

Sincere tribute to Bill Hook's Whistling Wizardry is Audiences' 'Pin-Dropping' Silence during his numbers crescendoing to a clapping climax.

Former HMCS Hamilton Shipmates will remember 'Banjo on his Knee' Elmer Misener, the boy from Hamilton and his foot-tapping provoking Blitzstrumming.

Wren Songster Leslie Hill (No relation to Citadel, Ouch!) Claims Camay Complexion Caused by Vancouver Climate. Civic Plug, Board of Trade please note.

Hamiltonian Gordon Riley, Special Services Impresario's Dry Humour Characterizations, with the Sad Sack Touch, go over to many a Hearty Snicker.

Writer Roger Greig, Toronto's Nelson Eddy, has an RPO's Rabble-Rousing Voice Volume that scorns a Mere Mike's assistance as he puts over his songs with GUSTO and Personality.

Wren 'Jimmie' James, Stratfordite, soft voiced Balladist in the Night Club Smoothie Manner, is a Eye-pleasing Ear-pleaser.

Club Swinging in Technicolor was CPO Signalman Clifford Lawes' well remembered Specialty Act and now its Hyah Chief at his new base, ST. HY.

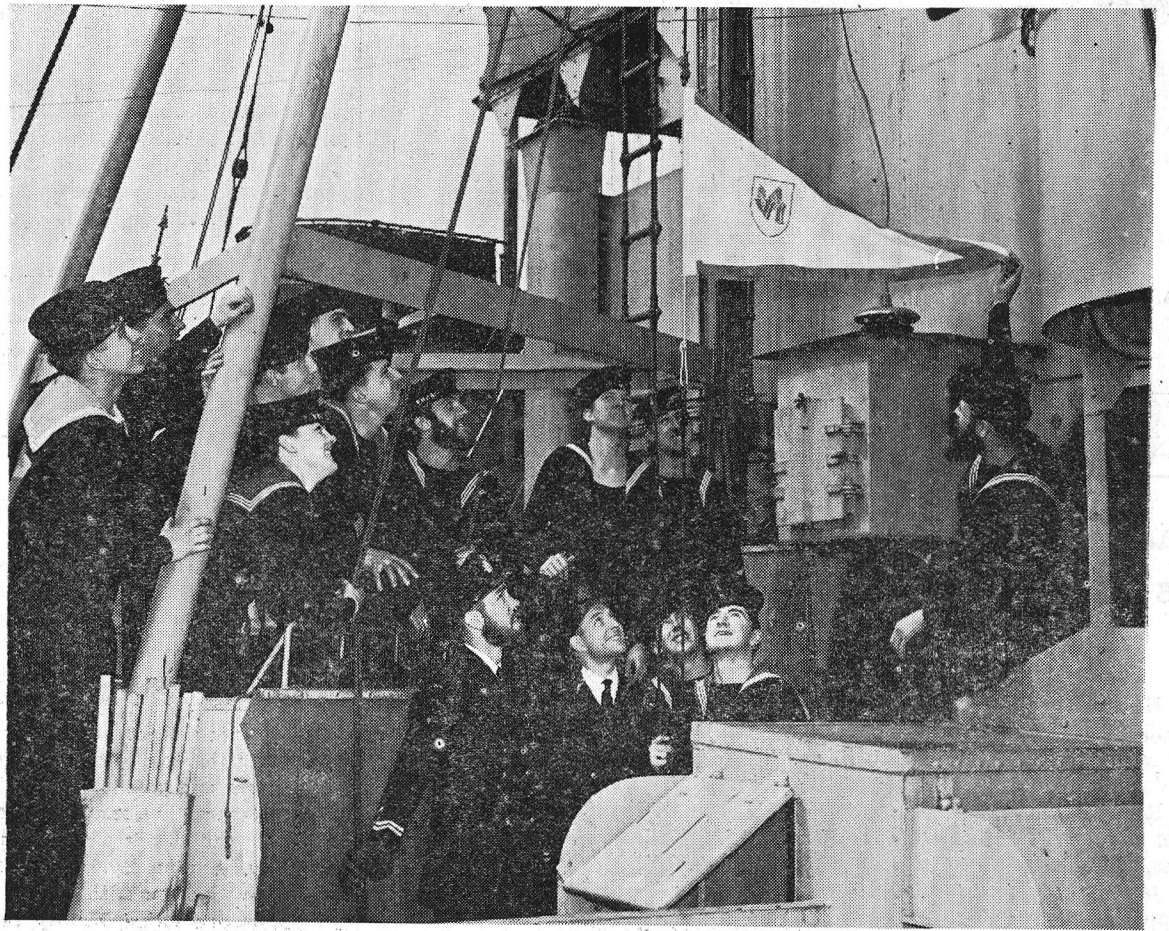
Wren, with the Bobbie-socker Complex, stop chewing gum and take notice when Swooncrooner Leslie Harris of Montreal gives out with the pipes.

The VOICE of 'Hearts of Oak' Navy's Radio Program is now saluted as LIEUTENANT Berlin.

Stoobad! But its Hail and Farewell to Dancer Betty Gibson who has been transferred (Drafted to You!) to her home town (How does she do it!) Toronto, taking with her the best wishes and many thanks of the Stadacona Concert Troupe of which she was an always willing Star Performer!

ability, enter baseball and softball teams in the Halifax Leagues.

OVER THE TOP FIRST DAY



First Royal Canadian Navy Ship to fly the Sixth Victory Loan pennant is the frigate, HMCS Port Colborne, which oversubscribed its \$7,000 quota on the first day of sales by more than \$2,500. Happy to have the opportunity to be the first to go over the top, the crew were jubilant as they raised the pennant to the yard-arm in the above picture. In the foreground are the First Lieutenant, Lieut. George E. Best, RCNVR, of Toronto, (left), and the ship's bond salesman Lieut. Bob Kent, RCNVR, of Brantford, Ont. The signalman is John More, RCNVR, of Winnipeg.—RCN Photo by L/Photog. E. Dinsmore.

Three New Regina Lieutenants Suffer "Induction Ceremonies"

By Lieut. (SB) P. H. McKew

Three special branch officers, Lieutenants McKew, Kennedy and Baxter, the former two on receiving their commission parchments, the latter being promoted, were inducted to their Lieutenancies in hilarious fashion on April 17, at HMCS Queen, Regina, Sask. Lieut. Ed. Walker, as Father Neptune, made an excellent old man of the sea in flowing white whiskers, sea boots and a sabre of undetermined vintage which had probably seen better days. He was ably assisted by acolytes S/Lt. Hall and P/S/Lt. Whelan, also in marine garbings. The victims were disrobed, blindfolded, lathered, sabre-shaved and soundly ducked. Following administration of these "rites" they were presented with King Neptune's diploma admitting them to his "Mystic Order of the Sea." The novitiates underwent their gruelling test in true Seaman-like manner and bigger and better ducking parties are being planned for future occasions.

Cdr. N. L. Pickergill, RCNVR, former commanding officer, was the guest of honour at a mess dinner given by the officers of HMCS Queen on April 1. Our commanding officer, Lt.-Cdr. F. C. Aggett, welcomed Cdr. Pickergill and paid tribute to his many outstanding qualities with which "Queen" was proud to be associated. Other guests of the mess were Surg.-Lt.-Cdr. Gorrell and S/Lt. M. Patterson.

Lieut-Commander Aggett and the officers and men were entertained by the Massey Harris "Combines of 1944" show at the Grain Building on the evening of April 18. This performance, a first rate affair, sparkled with music, comedy and costumes. It was greatly enjoyed by all present and, incidentally, has already been presented 225 times. It must have something!

Sports Under Way

Twice a week the Navy has the use of the RCMP pool, the best in the area, and the men are given the necessary instruction as well as the opportunity to enjoy themselves.

A volleyball league consisting of six divisional teams has been in progress since March 13. These games take place during P and RT classes.

Interest has been shown in boxing with the result that HMCS Queen was represented in the boxing tournament at No. 2 I.T.S., RCAF, Regina, April 1. Both our entries, O/Sea. Goddard and O/Sea. Benson won handily over their RCAF opponents.

A table tennis tournament will be run for all naval ratings commencing Thursday, April 13.

Movies Shown

There are two movies a week shown on the drill deck by the Canadian Legion. The Wednesday evening attendance is only fair but Sunday even-

ing performances have enjoyed good crowds, thus the attendance has grown. This latter is enhanced by the fact that the Trafalgar Club serve refreshments at the completion of the program. Consideration may be given in the future to request the services of the Royal Canadian Navy Film Society. Each Thursday, at 1600, an instructional film supplied by the Department is presented to the Ship's Company.

There are over 300 books on board now which are read by the ratings. A request has already gone forward for the necessary forms for the setting up of a proper library with the help of the Naval Library Service. Facilities are available, and a library would be a good addition to the recreational activities of the Ship.

This Ship is doing its full share in boosting the sale of the Sixth Victory Loan. Six members of HMCS Queen have volunteered to speak in support of the Loan.

PALSIED POETRY

By Hermes

No.3.-Clothes make the man, and that's why I brush my teeth.

I'm putting on my tiddy suit,
I'm brushing up my smile;
A dab of polish for each boot
To make them shine in style.

A squirt of hair-oil adds a touch;
Fresh razor for my shave,
To get the skin you love to clutch
That mermaids seem to crave.

Now let me see, my hat is square,
My tapes: six inches long.
They say the brave deserve the fair
But Esquire proved them wrong.

For though the Wrens like muscle men
For partners in romance,
A guy like me; weight: 'one, two, three'
Relies on well pressed pants!

NAVY WIFE SPEAKS

Continued from page 7

from whence they sprang. I have learned to admire and respect what I once thought I hated. I have learned that a sailor's wife must share her husband's love with his ship, and do it gracefully.

The Lieutenant's wife is coming across the room and I hastily bring my thoughts back to the company in which I sit. "Will you have more tea?" she is asking, and as I mumble something that should sound like, "I have plenty, thank you," she is saying, "..... and your husband is a sub-lieutenant on one of those new ships, is he not?" "Yes," I murmur absently and then like an actress automatically quoting a line from her favourite play: "He served two years on the lower deck!"

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