

CROWD HONORS CLYDE ROURKE AT SERVICE

Rev. A. W. Fosbury
Speaks at Service for
Park Head Flyer

MILITARY HONORS

A memorial service was held on Sunday morning in the Park Head United Church in honor of Wireless Air Gunner Clyde Burton Rourke, youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. T. B. Rourke of Park Head. Gunner Rourke was reported missing after coastal patrol duty on December 13 of last year, and is now officially presumed dead. It is not known definitely where his death occurred, but it is thought that it was in the vicinity of the Bay of Fundy.

The church was crowded for the service, which was in charge of Rev. E. S. Moyers of the Park Head and Allenford United Churches. Rev. A. Walter Fosbury, who was the pastor of the church seven years ago and who knew the late airman well, assisted in the service and gave the address. Mr. Fosbury is at present on his holidays and is visiting in Park Head.

The Hepworth branch of the Canadian Legion and the Hepworth and Park Head Volunteer Civil Guard under the command of Gerald Spencer conducted the official military part of the service and formed the guard of honor before the church. The Union Jack and the Canadian Legion colors were displayed on either side of the banks of beautiful flowers around the flag-draped pulpit and the R.C.A.F. flag over the choir.

At the end of the church memorial service the Last Post was sounded and the Union Jack, held by Sid Duffy, and the Legion colors, held by George Moyer, were dipped in respect to the lost airman, while two minutes silence were observed. After the sounding of Reveille the members of the guard of honor, numbering about 60 men, filed past the poppy wreath before the pulpit and dropped the poppies they had been wearing upon it. The two flags were then draped over the pulpit.

Mr. Moyers opened the service after which the quartet of Mrs. George Gray, Mrs. Norman Smith, Percy and Harold Doust sang "Ask Jesus' Care." Mr. Fosbury read the first 15 verses of the Gospel of St. John and Mrs. Norman Smith sang the solo "The Lord Is Near."

The singing of the National Anthem immediately preceded Mr. Fosbury's address for which he took as his text John 15:13: "Greater love hath no man than this, that he lay down his life for his friends."

"We have preached peace," Mr. Fosbury said, "ever since the last war when we hoped and believed that the war of the dictators might be averted; when we did not know the might of the weapon Hitler was forging."

"Then," he continued, "when we were compelled to face the fact of war, our peaceful youth enlisted in the scores of thousands to face the greatest military machine ever known to man."

The speaker paid tribute to Clyde Rourke, for whom the service was being held, as a Park Head boy of whom the community may be very proud as one who had died for an ideal, becoming one of the host of the dead of the Second Great War.

In conclusion Mr. Fosbury quoted from Lawrence Binyon's great poem, "For the Fallen": "They shall grow not old as we that are left grow old . . ." and also quoted from a sermon preached in the Park Head Church at the end of the First Great War by the Rev. Richard Shepherd: "Still I see them coming, walking in a broken line . . ." After Mr. Fosbury's address Mr. Moyers sang the solo, "Sweet Gallilee."

Among the relatives present from a distance were Mrs. John Milne, of London, and her daughters, Mrs. Gainey, Mrs. Fred Axtel and Miss Vidal Milne; Mr. and Mrs. Earl Rourke and family of Montreal and Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Shortread of Toronto. Others relatives and friends were present from Owen Sound, Warton, Shallow Lake, Hepworth and Brantford, and filled the entire centre section of the church.

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MISSING SAILOR NOW LISTED DEAD

PARK HEAD, Jan. 15.— Mrs. J. E. Hamilton of Park Head has received word that her eldest son, Second Petty Officer Harold Rourke of Toledo, Ohio, was killed in action in the Pacific. He was serving with the United States Navy. A fortnight ago Mrs. Hamilton received word that her son was missing following action in the Pacific on Dec. 26. Relatives and friends had hoped that later word might reveal that he was safe, but the tragic news of his death has now been received.

Deceased, who was 37 years of age, sailed the Great Lakes for almost 20 years prior to his enlistment in the U.S. Navy in October of 1943. He was on convey duty in the Atlantic until August of 1944, when he was transferred to the Pacific. He leaves to mourn his loss his wife, the former Bestha Miller of Toledo, Ohio, his mother, Mrs. J. E. Hamilton of Park Head, two brothers, Sgt. Stanley Rourke, serving in Holland, and Ronald Rourke employed in a munition plant at Brantford, and two half-brothers, Corp. W. E. Hamilton, serving in Belgium, and L.A.C. Stewart Hamilton, stationed at Cole Harbor, N.S. He was born at Park Head and attended school here and news of his death will cause deep sorrow amongst a wide circle of friends.

On New Amsterdam



CPL. DELMER ROBINSON

of Shallow Lake, only son of Mrs. E. Robinson of Park Head has arrived in Canada aboard the new Amsterdam on Sunday, according to word received by his wife, who accompanied by his mother went to Toronto to meet him. Cpl. Robinson enlisted in July, 1940, and went overseas in Feb., 1941, after which he served in England, France, Belgium, Holland and Germany. He is expected to arrive in Shallow Lake in a few days.

Serving on Corvette



STKR. 1 KEITH L. PHILP

Aged 21, son of Mr. and Mrs. Newton Philp of Park Head, enlisted in the Canadian Navy in December of 1943 and since March of last year has been serving aboard a corvette. He had spent all his life at Park Head prior to the enlistment. Educated at Park Head and at Hepworth Continuation School, he was working on his parents' farm before joining the Navy.

In England



LAC HERBERT CASWILL

Is the 24-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Caswell of Allenford. He enlisted 2 months ago as a radio technician in the R.C.A.F. Prior to his enlistment, he had been taking a home-study course in radio. Word has just been received by his parents of his arrival in England.