Visiting Canada's Army In England

By Walter R. Legge

While in England the Canadian editors were shown in great detail all the various activities of the Canadian Army in England.

There was no effort to show all of the army overseas, but at least one unit of each kind was visited and studied, and the ramifications of the various activities are truly amazing.

The first unit visited was an Ordnance Corps work shop, manned by highly skilled men making all kinds of repairs. There was an armorers shop, making repairs and adjustments to all kinds of guns, an optical shop making repairs to field glasses, microscopes, and similar instruments, a wireless shop repairing and making wireless receiving sets and transmitters, and a fine instrument shop which could even make parts and repairs to a watch.

The main shop at this unit is in charge of Capt. M. H. Hastings, who comes from Stanstead, Que., and who reported that he receives the Stanstead Journal regularly and enjoys every word of it. He had een overseas since September 1940. Another man at this unit is F. Beaseley, of Guelph, Ont., who was a runner up for the King's Prize for shooting at Bisley a few years ago.

The work of maintenance of equipment is a very important part of the army as we realized more and more as the tour progressed. While we saw many places where maintenance and repair work is carried on, this first unit was the only one doing the highly specialized work on instruments which we visited.

Field Battery Operations

The same afternoon a study was made of Field Battery Operations. This was an illuminating demonstration, of the close liaison between army and air force. It was shown how the decision is made as to whether air or ground gun action is to be employed and how each one is called into action.

As part of this demonstration, two batteries were set up in hiding under camouflage and a patrol of Mustangs were called out from a nearby air field. It was their job to locate the batteries and photograph them.

These tremendously fast and powerful planes gave the editors a real thrill as they circled and dived over the field, swooping down at times so close that it seemed as if they were going to take off our hats. It did not take them long to spot the hidden batteries and with a gay flourish they were off. We were hurried over to the aerdrome and on our arrival were shown the finished pictures of the batteries taken from the planes.

Leaving the drome, we drove for many miles, stopping for our evening meal at East Grinstead, where we ate in the room which the local Rotary Club uses for their meetings. Passing through many lovely old villages, we finally arrived at the hotel which was to be our headquarters for the next ten days.

Accommodation Difficulties

It is most difficult at this time to find accommodation for a party such as ours, which with drivers, photographer and officers numbered about sixteen. Many hotels are closed, many taken over by the government and those which have rooms are short of food, or if they have food, are short of rooms.

However, a quiet hotel in a seaside resort was able to look after the party and so arrangements had been made there in advance. Such resorts today are almost deserted. Pleasure travel is almost definitely discouraged, and most seaside places are under severe restrictions as to visitors.

Each day we started out early and travelled many miles in our private bus to various units, and most nights arrived at the hotel very late, usually travelling for many miles in the blackout. The way our advance rider and our bus driver could drive at good speed through the darkness was always a thrilling experience to a party who had always been used to driving with powerful headlights. To add to our wonderment, there never was a single direction sign or name post, and how they found their way without pause at intersections was a mystery.

Dieppe Units Visited

When we arrived in England, the thrilling story of Dieppe had just broken and everybody was discussing the exploit.

Therefore the next item on our programe, a visit with units that had just returned from Dieppe was of special interest. We were greeted by General J. H. Roberts, who led the Dieppe expedition and who spoke in high praise of the men and officers there.

The men then broke ranks and we had a most informal talk with them, sitting on the ground with small groups of the men, who grouped themselves according to their home districts. In this way, I talked with P.Mercier, of Sherbrook, C. Pigeon, who was formerly on the Sherbrooke Police Force, Permain Surprenant, of St. John's, B. Vennis of 67th St., Shawinigan Falls, P.Simoneau of Sherbrooke, J. L. Fontaine, of St. Pio, and Claude Rocheleau, of St. Cesaire.

They spoke regretfully of many missing comrades and were concerned as to whether they would find the replacements just as congenial.

Their stories of Dieppe were gripping. One lad told of being in charge of two carriers, which they finally landed after two attempts. After establishing a machine gun post they came off again and landed ammunition.

Another told of seeing bombs dropping all around his boat, also many falling planes which he was unable to identify. He told of seeing a Spitfire and a Messershmidt collide nose to nose and both fall into the sea.

One told of Frenchmen waving them in with evidence of joy at seeing them.

A story they were chuckling over was of some men who, finding the firing intense, took refuge behind some cases which they soon found out were filled with dynamite.

Many of these boys had brought back souvenirs of the raid, such as German badges, pencils, tobacco, etc.

J. L. Fontain said that it was his grandfather who used to operate the Fontaine Toll Bridge, near Milton, Que. He said that he had a war godmother, Mrs. J. Pariseau, of Sherbrooke who had been very kind to him and expressed the opinion that if relatives kept in close touch with the boys, they would more cheerfully carry on.

The Fusiliers de Montreal certainly made a great name for themselves at Dieppe and set up a tradition for the French Canadian troops, and it was a great opportunity to meet and talk with them informally.

Russian Relief

A great number of people are leaving off a duty which they should attend to at once. The Canadian Russian Relief Fund needs your money to aid our valiant Russian allies in the relievng want among the families of those fighting men who have lost home and everything they own. It is our duty to help in every way we can. Don't leave off sending your donation of money to The Advance office and have it do its work in Russian relief.

During the past week one more contribution has been received, $10.00 from Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Collinson, making a total of $15 received. Send in your contribution now.

ROOSEVELT'S MESSAGE

It was in cheerful mood that President Roosevelt delivered his message to the newly assembled American Congress on Thursday. While Mr Roosevelt was cautious not to make a message of hope and confidence. He told the lawmakers that the period of defence had passed and in Asia, Africa and Europe the Allies were now on the offensive. He promised both Germany and Japan that the Allies would be hitting them and hitting them hard this year. He assured Germany that the Allies would be striking in Europe. "We are going to strike—and strike hard," he declared. He also promised Japan that the period of "defensibe attrition is passing. Now our aim is to force Japan to fight. Last year we stopped them. This year we intend to advance.

He also told a cheering Congress that the Axis Powers have lost their superiority in the air, which was their chief advantage. That superiority has gone forever. He backed this up with some astonishing production figures. Last year the United States turned out 48,000 fighting planes and in the month of December the total was 5,500. Bigger planes with more striking power were being built. This is the story of Allied superiority. In summing up the amazing production record of the United States he said, "the arsenal of democracy is making good."

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These things may look trifling, but on 6,500,000 daily telephone calls, they are very important.

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FOLK ARE FUNNY

Aren't we human beings funny? We spend money for gasoline, we take in picture shows, eat ice cream, drink soft drinks, smoke smokes and indulge in hundreds of things that bring us nothing but the entertainment of the moment. No permanent benefit ever comes of any of it, but we never think of kicking. It is only when we come to pay taxes, the thing that gives us schools, roads, sidewalks, public buildings, government benefits, that we rise up and holler our heads off.—Forest Standard.

The hand that rocks the cradle is making shells that rock the Axis.

The question in the physiology examination read: "How may one obtain a good posture."

The country boy wrote: "Keep the cows off it and let it grow awhile."

Future Events

CARNIVAL AT MARKDALE

Dress for and attend the Monster Carnival in Markdale Arena on Friday, January 22nd, sponsored by the Markdale High School. Dance following the carnival. Admission: 25c and 15c.

Small Ad. Column

FOR SALE— Several Heifers due to freshen this month. — Joyce Porteous, R.R.1, Flesherton. 33p2

WANTED — Horses and cows fit for mink feed. — John J. Meads Priceville, phone 21 r 4.

POTATOES WANTED — Will pay $1.50 for Grade A potatoes delivered at Flesherton. Write Box 29, Flesherton. 33p3

WANTED — Aged animals suitable for fox or mink feed.—Bert McIntosh, Eugenia, phone Feversham 5 r 25. 22p4

HIDES — Again in the market for hides—beef, horse, sheep and calf skins.—Frank Eagles, R. R. 3, Proton Station, phone 41r3 Flesherton.

LOST — In Flesherton on Saturday, Jan. 16, black Newfoundland dog, answers to "Teddy." Finder please notify W. A. Weber R.R.4, Markdale or phone 73r12 Flesherton.

FOR SALE — Durham Shorthorn bull calf, 13 mos. old, registered, T.B. tested.—Wm. Haines, R. R. 4, Flesherton, 1 mile south of Kimberley on open highway. 33p2

LOST—Between Flesherton and Ceylon on Tuesday, Jan. 12, new tire chain. Finder please notify John McWilliam, Flesherton. 33c3

WE ADVISE ordering Bray chicks now to get them into this year's program of home and oversea's production, especially as hatching is to order only. Cockerels good investments with meat rationing possible later. Started chicks. Information, prices, agent — John McWilliam, Flesherton.

WANTED — Set of 1-horse sleighs. —J. K. McLeod, Ceylon, phone 40 4

FOR SALE — Four young cattle.—Lawson Whitehead, Ceylon.

WANTED — Horses and cows fit for mink feed.—F. Eagles, Proton Station, R.R. 3, phone 41r3.

LOST — At time of recent fire, small battery radio, was known to have been taken from building. Please return to Robt. Smith, Flesherton.

NOTICE — Will the person who exchanged No. 8 overshoe for a No. 9 on Sunday evening, please phone 44r13, Flesherton; range stove in good repair.—G. A. Cairns. 34c3

FOR SALE—7-room brick house in Flesehrton, large lot, garage, good well, must be sold to settle estate of the late Andrew Gilchrist. — Apply to John Stewart, Executor, Flesherton. 24-4

BUSINESS CARDS

AUCTIONEER

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LICENSED AUCTIONEER for the County of Grey

Farm and stock sales our specialty. Terms: reasonable. Satisfaction guaranteed. Dates arranged at The Advance office.

DR. J. E. MILNE

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Office hours: afternoons 2 to 4.30. Wednesday and Saturday evenings 7.30 to 10 p.m.

No office hours on Sunday.

January Clearance

Dresses, Shirts and Millinery

Now is the time to buy your Winter Needs

JERSEY DRESSES

One Lot Jersey Dresses (slightly damaged) good range of shades, regular value up to $3.95. Clearing **$1.29**

LADIES' CREPE DRESSES

Good assortment of styles and colors. Come early for them and get your share. Clearing **$1.98**

LADIES' CREPE DRESSES

A wonderful range from which to choose. These are all high class dresses, sizes 14 to 52, worth up to $8.95. Clearing **$2.98**

BOYS' SWEATER COATS

These are extra value. They come in fancy colors and plain jumbo knit, sizes 28 to 34. Specially priced at ..... **$1.95** to **$2.50**

MEN'S WINDBREAKERS

Pig tex, a beautiful soft leather, fully rayon lined with zipper front. They come in dark brown shades, sizes 36 to 46. Special **$8.95**

MEN'S OVERCOATS

Buy your Overcoat now, as the quality won't be as good later. Good assortment of tweeds, meltons, etc., in all sizes. ..... **$16.50** up

MEN'S HORSEHIDE JACKETS

Genuine glove finish pony horsehide full zipper front, breast pocket, slash side pocket, adjustable waist-band, full rayon lined. They come in brown, black and green. Special **$12.95**

MEN'S Brushed Wool SWEATERS

With combination trimming, full zipper front, good assortment of colors Special ..... **$3.50** to **$4.25**

MEN'S SWEATER COATS

Buy your Sweater Coats now, while we have the stock, later they will be hard to get. They come in fancy colors or plain jumbo knit, and all at the old quality. ..... **$2.98** to **$3.95**

MEN'S PROSPECTOR BOOTS

Made of a good quality leather with solid leather soles, in 12 or 15-inch top. Sizes 6 to 11. From .... **$5.75** to **$9.85**

Children's WARM SNOW SUITS

These warm Snow Suits are just the thing for the kiddies to play in, and keep them warm. Made of a nice heavy blanket cloth with helmet to match, in several different shades, sizes 2 to 6 in the lot. Special **$4.39**

SKIRTS

Nice quality wool skirts. These are extra value—get yours now. Special ..... **$1.00** to **$1.49**

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You will find a big assortment from which to choose, some plaid and combination trimmed, all sizes .... **$3.45** up

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A smashing clearing of Hats. Genuine clearing of all hats, lovely models. This season's styles. Clearing **$1-$1.49**

BROADCLOTH

In plain colors, nice quality for quilts—and a big range of shades, 36 inches wide, per yard **25c**

GIRLS' SNOW BOOTS

Made of a good quality white leather with sheep wool cuff at top, oak leather soles, sizes 11 to 2. Priced at **$2.45**

GROCERY SPECIALS

Golden Corn ..... 2 tins for 25c
Heinz Soup 10 oz. tins ..... 3 for 25c
No. 4 Peas ..... each 10c
Heinz Soup, 16 oz. tins ..... 2 for 25c
All Wheat, with plate ..... 2 for 29c

This Store open Thursday Afternoon during January.

Store House 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. each day
Saturday 9 a.m to 7.30 p.m.
Commencing Jan. 30th, this Store will close Saturday at 6.30 p.m.

F. T. Hill & Co., Ltd.

MARKDALE, Ontario