A Day Spent With The Navy

Another in a series of articles written by W. R. Legge and C. V. Charters, who represented the Canadian Weekly Newspapers Association in a recent tour overseas.

By Walter R. Legge

Naturally we could not see all of Canada's efforts without seeing something of the Navy, for Canada has an important part in the naval services, even in Great Britain.

Our original programme called for seeing an important ceremony at a naval station where Canadians form a part. However, at the time this was to take place, our party was far from the location, and it meant a loss of two days in travelling to go and return. As this represented a lot of our remaining time, it was decided to take us instead to a naval base nearer at hand.

While we did miss seeing any of the Canadian naval forces, it gave us an opportunity to visit one of the most famous of English bases. With Lieut. Dowton as our guide, we set off on September 14th, and travelling over one of the old roads of England finally arrived at our destination.

A visit to the "Victory"

The first thing we were shown was one of the most famous ships in English history, which is now a national shrine, Nelson's famous flagship the "Victory".

This ship, completed in 1765, took six years to build, and although it is 177 years old, and has probobly been visited by millions of people, it looks almost new.

It was from the deck of this ship that Nelson sent our his famous message which has echoed around the world, and still inspires the hearts of Britons everywhere, "England expects that every man will do his duty." It inspired his men to win the greatest naval battle of history, a battle that changed the history of the world. It was British skill and bravery that won that battle of Trafalgar, for the French ships were larger, faster, more numerous and carried more gcns.

Nelson had 27 British ships while the French had 33, and when the battle was over 18 of the enemy ships had been captured, and the rest sunk or scattred. But Nelson died a hero's death.

We felt that we were treading hallowed ground as we gazed on the plate on the deck which shows the exact spot where Nelson fell, and the roped off space between decks, where he died with the words "Thank God, I have done my duty". The plate on the deck reads "Here Nelson Fell, 21st Oct. 1805" while a plate amidships records that "Here Nelson Died."

It is interesting to compare the size of the "Victory" with a modern battleship. The Victory is 186 feet long with a beam of 52 feet, and has three gun decks with 100 guns. She could fire a broadside of 52 guns. A modern battleship is more than four times as long.

The Victory was forty years old as it led the fleet in the battle of Trafalgar. Today a battleship is obsolete in half of that time.

To raise anchor, boys would pull the chain a certain distance and run forward to nip it again, and from this came the expression "Nipper".

A Modern Destroyer

From this visit to the ancient Victory, we were taken over a modern destroyer of the "Hunt" class, a destroyer which actually took part in the Dieppe raid, which gave us a vivid picture of the exacting requirements of modern warfare, and the contrast in ships.

Among the ships that happened in port, so that we had an opportunity of seeing them, were the former Royal Yacht, which is now a destroyer, and the Sultan, a 100 year old ship now used as a training ship for engineers.

While travelling around the harbou in a launch, we met an interesting sailor. This man, a Canadian, and his son were brought back wounded from Dieppe, and the son died from his injuries. The father has adopted another sailor, an orphan, who looked after his son when wounded.

After a splendid lunch in the Officers' Mess, we were first given a realistic A. R. P. demonstration in which incendiaries, bombs, gas, and wounded were taken care of. Smoke bombs added realism to the show, and the rescue of wounded from a high tower by ropes was very interesting.

Our next call was at the base chapel, the Chapel of St. Ambrose. Dedicated on December 18th, 1935, this chapel has many unusual features including the emblems of many submarines around the walls, among others, that of the "Thetus" which was lost and afterward recovered. It is since given a very good account of itself. All the furniture in the Chapel was presented by friends.

A trip through the submarine base was most enlightening, one especially interesting demonstration was methods of escape from a submarine under water. This we watched through the glass walls of an enormous tank filled with water.

Then a hurried visit was paid to numerous buildings in which naval training, physical training, and drills, were going on, and a mess where 1000 men are fed at one time.

The most impressive feature of the afternoon was a review of four thousand trainees with band and everything.

While everyone connected with the enormous base is working most strenuously, they still have time to look after fifty acres of potatoes on the grounds, although we found it difficult to believe that fifty acres could be found for such a purpose.

After being given afternoon tea at the Officers' Mess, we were taken around the nearby city to see bomb damage. For this trip and the other little motoring we did while at the base, WRENS were the chauffeurs. There are a large number of WRENS employed at various tasks around the base.

An Ancient Inn

It was a day packed with interesting and instructive sights, and we were sorry to have to start away on our long journey in our bus, to our headquarters. The trip was broken at Lipbrook, where we visited the Royal Anchor Hotel, which was built in 1416.

The rooms in this hotel are all named after famous people who have stayed in them, and bear such names as Nelson, Samuel Pepys, William Duke of Clarence, the Duchess of Kent, etc. In front of the hotel is a fine old chestnut tree which is reputed to be 300 years old.

Altogether, our day with the Navy brought home to us that Britain's greatness has come from her Navy, and that the spirit of Nelson is still carrying on.

The Late Geo. H. Long

The news of the sudden death of Capt. Geo. H. Long in a Toronto hospital, while on his way home from Niagara, came as a great shock to his family and friends in Maxwell, where he was born 66 years ago, the son of the late Wesley and Dianna Long, grandson of United Empire Loyalists.

As a young man he spent a short time in Northern Michigan and later sailed on the Great Lakes, where he received the rank of Captain. He also spent some years in the Canadian West. He was in Regina at the time of the great cyclone. While there he worked at the trade of carpenter and he was also an expert cabinet maker. Since the death of his brother Fred he operated a fruit farm in the Niagara district. He was a man of many sterling qualities, honest and upright in all his dealings and will be greatly missed in this community. He was a member and Past Master of Prince Arthur Lodge, A.F. and A.M., of Flesherton, and of Minitou Lodge, Collingwood. The funeral which was largely attended was under the auspices of the Order. Dr. S. L. Mercer assisted by Rev. C. McNichol of Feversham conducted the service at the home

He is survived by three brothers, Albert of Toronto, James and Chester of Feversham and one sister, Mrs. Thomas Beatty of Maxwell. Three brothers, William, Charles and Fred predeceased him several years ago.

The pallbearers were all old friends and neighbours, John Stephen, William Chard, Thomas Bemrose, Ray Fenwick, Andrew Pallister and Sam Arnott.

The flower-bearers were Geo. Long, Geo. Priestley, Harry Montgomery and Leanord Seeley.

SEND IN YOUR RENEWAL.

The British Ministry of Agriculture states that farmers in Germany who require to purchase a new farm implement must prove the necessity for such a machine by supplying as scrap a similar machine used on the farm until 1941 or 1942.

Dumb Dora—"I was awfully lucky at the Christmas party last night."

Mamma—"In what way, dear?"

Dumb Dora—"We played a game in which the men either had to kiss a girl or forfeit a box of chocolates. I got ten boxes."

The Late John English

Nottawa lost a highly respected and esteemed citizen in the passing of Mr. John English who died on Thursday morning, Jan. 21st, at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Alex. Mullin, Feversham. Mr. English had suffered from a heart condition for several months and since the passing of his wife in November his health rapidly failed.

The deceased, who was a son of the late John English and Elizabeth McComb, was born in Port Hope, Nov. 22nd, 1868, and when quite young moved with his parents to Rock Mills, where he spent his young manhood. On April 6th, 1892, he married Jeanette Kennedy, who predeceased him November 15th, 1942. Following their marriage he was engaged in farming for several years in Osprey township, later moving to Nottawa, where they resided until the death of Mrs. English and since then spent his time among members of his family.

He is survived by two sons, John of Detroit, Angus of Hamilton, and two daughters, Annie, Mrs. Alex Mullin, Feversham,, and Elizabeth Mrs. Frank Hewson, Duntroon. One daughter, Bernice, Mrs. Gordon Thompson, predeceased him in September, 1941. There are also eleven grandchildren. Four brothers and one sister also survives, James of Cascade, Idaho, David of Minneapolis, Minn., Alex of Rock Mills and George of Wilder, Idaho, and Mrs. W. Clark of Wilder, Idaho.

Mr. English was a member of the Orange Order for many years and for a number of years W. M. of Nottawa L.O.L. 955. He was also a member of the Black Knights. He was a good friend and neighbour, kindly and genial and his passing is deeply regretted by all who knew him.

His remains were taken on Sunday to the home of his daughter, Mrs. Frank Hewson, Duntroon, the funeral service being held on Monday afternoon in Nottawa United Church where, though weather and road conditions were unfavourable, a large number of friends gathered to pay their last tribute of respect. Rev. W. O. Bristol of Collingwood Baptist Church was in charge of the service and spoke comforting words to the bereaved family from the text "My Grace is Sufficient for Thee." Rev. R. A. Birnie assisted. Interment was made in the Baptist Church Cemetery, Collingwood. The pallbearers were four grandsons, Claire English, Bruce Mullin, Frank Hewson, Elmer Mullin, also Herman Prentice and Robert McKee.

Among the beautiful floral tributes were wreathes from the Orange Order and the Bell Telephone Co., which were carried by Messrs. Merle Roberts, Wm. Service, R. Weir, O. Tracy, W. Law, A. Beaupre, L. Blackburn and E. Jamieson.

Friends from a distance included Mr. John English, Detroit, Mr. Angus English and Claire, Hamilton, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley McComb, Mr. and Mrs. Thos. McComb, Mrs. Annie Sargeant, Owen Sound, and Mr. Merle Roberts, Feversham.

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

FOR SALE — Purebred Hereford Bull, six months old, heifer calf seven months old, both registered. Wm. Fadden, Phone 22r4-1, Feversham, Ontario. 35p1

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.

Chicks? immediate delivery; also started. Or order for future delivery. Bray wants your order early to insure delivery. Agent will quote prices and book order. John McWilliam, Flesherton.

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.

LOST—At dance, Flesherton, New Year's Eve, goloshes enchanged, size 10 left in place of size 8. Please return to F. Ready, phone 73r3, Flesherton. 35c1

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, Executer, Flesherton. 24-4

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