

A Week Spent with the R. C. A. F. Overseas

This is the third of a series written by Walter R. Legge, in collaboration with C. V. Char- ters, representatives of the Canadian Weekly Newspapers' Association on trip to the British Isles.

After a week with various activities of the Canadian Army in England, we started to see what the Royal Canadian Air force is doing.

On Saturday, September 5, we were received by Air Marshal H. E. Edwards, Air Officer Commander in Chief, R.C.A.F. (Overseas) at an informal press conference at which he freely answered all the questions put to him by the Canadian editors.

The Air Marshal made it clear that he fully favors Canadianization of the R.C.A.F. and that those who are in opposition to this do not fully understand what is meant. Canadianization of the R.C.A.F. overseas does not mean that it will cease to co-operate with the rest of the R.A.F., any more than some famous regiments would operate independently of the rest of the army.

He expressed himself as well satisfied with the standard and training of the men coming over from Canada, and summed it up in the words "Our Air Force is superb." At another time, he said "This war will be won in the air. It is the only way it can be won. Not without the Army and the Navy, but definitely in the air."

After such an interview, we were more anxious than ever to study the work of the R.C.A.F. at first hand. The first squadron which we visited was the one commanded by Squadron Leader Keith Hodson, D.F.C., of London, Ontario. One of the interesting things to be seen at this station is a remarkably fine scrap book containing photos and clippings of all matters which have taken place at this station. It is an excellent idea and very well carried out.

At this station we chatted with Flight Sgt. C. H. J. Fisher, of Wadena, Sask., who spoke of the pleasure he gets from his home town weekly which he has been receiving all through the two years he has been overseas. Another member of this station with whom we conversed was Flight Sgt. J. W. Cantelon, of Ridgeway, Ontario. A fine show of formation flying and manoeuvres was witnessed by the editors during the afternoon.

On Monday, going to a more distant station, the visiting editors were lucky enough to be able to see the departure and return of a bomber squadron which formed part of a raid on Duisburg. The same evening we witnessed a German raid on a neighboring town. The whole evening was such a unique experience that it will be the subject of a separate article.

Among those whom we met at the station were Flight Lieut. Cliff Guest, of Barrie and Ottawa, who immediately asked after Mr. and Mrs. J. A. MacLaren, of the Barrie Examiner, and Pilot Officer Arthur Morledge, whose father is a member of the staff of The Lloydminster Times. There are a number of Montrealers attached to this station. While there, a number of Halifax and Wellington

bombers were inspected by the editors.

The next day we moved on to another station where Lancaster bombers are located, and were given an opportunity to climb on board one of them. Some of the largest bombs being used against Germany were seen, and the editors also saw a bomber being loaded with bombs and being serviced for a raid that night.

At this station we talked with Flight Sgt. Reynolds Quinn of Bromptonville, who has two brothers in the R.C.A.F. Flight Sgt. Harold Quinn, who has just returned to Canada as an instructor, and P. O. Walter Quinn attached to another station in England.

Having eaten several meals in the messes of these stations, the editors agreed that the food is excellent and plentiful. It is served to the boys by girls of the W.A.A.F. These messes have large bright rooms, equipped with libraries, radios, gramophones and games, and there is a very pleasant and cheerful atmosphere in all of them. One remark that we heard was that the meals on the stations are very much better than the meals served on most of the boats bringing the boys over. In fact, it was suggested that something should be done to improve the meals on the boats.

Afternoon tea and late dinners, according to the English custom, seem to be the rule at all these stations. The following afternoon, the editors visited a night fighter station of another aerodrome.

He Was a Nice Girl

A young graduate of the North Bay Normal School played an odd trick of double identity on the school section of No. 8, West Luther. The trustees engaged a young lady by the name of Miss Roseburrough Murray, who arrived in due time and took charge of the school at Manek on September 8.

For a week things went well enough, and then suspicions were aroused. The young lady gave signs of not being what she appeared. Once a shaving brush was noticed in her room, which had given her quite a nice head of feminine hair, and suspicions were confirmed.

Police Officer Morley Wright of Arthur was asked to investigate, and when he arrived and asked to see the teacher, to the surprise of all, the once Miss Murray appeared dressed as a young gentleman, gave his correct name and acknowledged his attempted fraud, which for one week he had put over successfully, having even attended church on Sunday. His feminine wardrobe was complete. Just why he attempted his peculiar stunt is something of a mystery. He is of a very effeminate type and played the part perfectly. He is a graduate of the North Bay Normal School and is well up in his work. Arthur Enterprise.

SAFE FROM HONG KONG

LONDON, (CP) Miss Phyllis Hartop, 38-year-old Lancashire civil servant, who witnessed the Hong Kong atrocities and reported to the British government, has returned to Britain.

Iowa Man's Hens Pay Eggs' Rental For Swell Hotel

Big Returns for Giving His Big Flock Up-to-date Apartments With Latest Electric Gadgets.

BROOKLYN, Iowa, (CP) — Come now a new wrinkle in chicken raising — a five-story apartment hotel for chickens.

The proprietor, elevator operator, custodian, porter and "room service" clerk is Earl Geiger, who converted one of two barns on his place into the "hotel" for his flock.

Besides the electric elevator there is running water, a cafeteria that never closes, sun lamps, and other little conveniences designed to make the hens happy and lay more eggs.

Right now, 1,100 chickens, pullets and hens occupy the top four floors. The main floor is temporarily home for 300 brooding ewes.

Perhaps you have lived in an apartment up next to the roof. Well, some of Geiger's hens know how you felt. The top two floors are above the eaves, with dormer windows cut into the sides of the hip roof.

The building is insulated with corn cobs crumpled and forced between inner and outer walls. Geiger says the water pipes didn't freeze even in sub-zero weather last winter.

Geiger made the job cleaning, litter from the upper floors easy. He built a chute designed like a laundry drop in a large house. He used ground cobs scattered on the floors to catch the litter; claims it is more absorbent than straw and won't pack.

Greatest thrill in the development for Geiger are the sun lamps. He gets up at 5 a.m. to turn them on (will have an electric clock for that purpose when he gets time to make one) and leaves them on three hours over the water troughs. The hens get their natural sunlight through screened windows.

The watering troughs are sections of eaves with the ends closed. A pressure system provides water on all floors and there is a float-operated valve to make certain the hens never go thirsty.

Stowaway Trouble — Geiger built the elevator, which travels 40 feet, with odds and ends of machinery. It has a capacity of 900 pounds and uses a half-horsepower motor. Hens are caught before being transported, but now and then strays get aboard because, says Geiger, "they seem to like to ride."

Several times a hen has fallen off, but none has been killed. Lumber for the entire remodeling project was cut from native wood and Geiger did most of the work himself. He estimates it cost about \$700.

The barn has a capacity of 1,400 laying hens. Geiger is getting 200 dozen-eggs-a-week now — expects 500 dozen weekly by next spring. Says Geiger: "This is really just a sideline. I'm raising stock and sheep and farming 120 acres of land."

War Bridesgrooms Watch Your Step Mother's Young

Brides and Matrons Dress Much Alike These Days, Experts Point Out, and There are Aids to Youth

NEW YORK, (CP) — Look twice: Mr. Furlough Bridegroom that girl you're grabbing at the altar may be the bride's mother.

It's hard to tell them apart these days, says Wilma Allen, who has been outfitting brides and their mothers for 22 years. The bride's mother has changed a lot in the last generation. She has gone down in weight from a size 10, formerly standard, to a size 16. Often the girl and her mother wear the same size in everything right down to the slippers, which are ordered in white for the bride, in a pastel tint for mother.

Miss Allen, bridal consultant for one of Fifth Avenue's famous shops, has 215 wedding "in" work" at the moment, expects to launch 1,000 girls in full matrimonial regalia by the end of 1942. This is stepping up her "war production" considerably. She wrapped up and delivered 772 wedding dresses in 1941.

Nowadays the bride and her mother often wear their hair in the same style, or her identical hats white for the bride, pastel for the mother. When the bride is wearing a formal white gown, the mother asks for a "simple dinner dress" such as "you would show my daughter." Usually it's a dress of roses, rose-leaf or melody-blue in color, flattering and fitted in style.

The mother of today's war bride is young in years, usually just slipping into the 40's, because the brides are younger. Probably, she was a bride herself just one war ago. She's more romantic than her daughter, brings herlorn jewelry to wear with the wedding gown, superfluous the bouquet and the wedding picture, turns up at wedding looking like the bride's sister.

Every Pit Boy Of Minefields Knows Lawtner

British Miners' Leader, Tough and Unflinching Has Proved Bulwark to War Effort as Well as Labor's Champion

BY POSTER BARCLAY Canadian Press Staff Writer

LONDON, (CP) Will Lawtner, round and rubicund champion of miners' rights, ranks among Britain's doziest and grimmest fighters.

If there's a mining question to be settled or the government calls for more coal to stoke the factory furnaces this 53-year-old president of the powerful Mineworkers' Federation pulls off his coat, rolls up his sleeves and pitches in. He revels in hard work.

He's not a trade union leader who ascended by way of the soap-box-rostrum or swivel chair. Every pit boy and mucker from Durham to Wales knows this great, muscled fellow with chest and shoulders of ox-like proportions.

And he's almost as tough and unflinching as an ox. When difficulties arose in the minefields last spring and a crisis threatened at a time when the government was striving to

bolster coal stocks, he stripped off his jacket and went to work. He got results.

Made Miners Happy — Lawtner travelled from pit-head to pit-head addressing the miners and it was mostly his efforts around the conference table that got them a raise in pay, a minimum wage and better working conditions. The government and owners were satisfied. The miners have never been happier.

An enemy of Germany long before the war Lawtner hopes soon for a second front because "it's better that we should die in the struggle than thrive and endure under Fascist monsters." He believes, too, that instead of outgazing the Russians it would be better to give them support to show that Britain stands wholeheartedly behind them. So he's out to see that the miners provide the coal to make that possible.

Lawtner, who has travelled in every European country and the United States, had a brush with Nazi ruthlessness a few months before war started. He has never forgotten how they went out of their way to humiliate him.

While returning from a miners' conference in Poland Nazi guards pulled him off a train at Anberin, led him to a room with covered windows and forced him to strip. They investigated everything, even his rubber

brush and the bundle of his shaving brush.

The only reason Lawtner could suggest for the action was a brand-over a secret, and mobile radio station. The incident was broadcast in parliament and the foreign secretary was asked to protest to the German government.

Was M. P. and Jailed — During the National Strike in 1926 he served two months in jail. He's no point of that record as the three years he sat in parliament in a socialist. When he was defeated in 1931 he didn't find himself out of a job long. He pulled on overalls again and went back to the pit where he first started work at the age of 12, breadwinner for a family of 15.

SMOKES PILE UP — LONDON, (CP) — Britain in three months consumed 57,171,120 pounds of tobacco as compared with 53,985,216 pounds in the corresponding period of 1941.

THAWATHIA, Kas. (CP) — Among want ads in a local newspaper: "Wanted: a lady for general housework; two in family; a good home, fishing trips and plenty of sugar."

Make the most of your Tea..

steep 5 minutes

"SALADA"

VICTORY LOAN DRIVE FOR \$750,000,000 OPENS MONDAY



We will push on to Victory!

WHEN FRANCE FELL, and Britain stood with her back to the wall, one strong jaw jutted out, and the grip of one clenched fist shook the Empire.

It was Churchill hurling Britain's decision across the channel. *Quit? Never! Fight? Yes, through the bill of adversity till victory is won.*

Today Canadians face challenge after challenge with the same unconquerable spirit. Today we are asked to do without so that our fighting men will have everything they need—when they smash straight into the heart of enemy defences.

Canada's ringing answer to this latest challenge will be:

"Yes, we'll fight with the last ounce of our strength, and the last dollar we can earn and save."

Canada's Victory Loan drive opens Monday. Canada's Victory Loan representative will ask for your answer soon.

Will it be "No, I do not choose to do my part?"

Or will it be "Yes! Yes! Yes!!! I will buy Victory Bonds! I will lend all my support to help make victory sure."

You will be laying up for yourself the best of all investments—VICTORY BONDS are backed by all the resources of the Dominion of Canada; they yield a fair rate of interest; you can borrow against them; and they are readily saleable when you need the cash.

HOW TO BUY

Give your order to the Victory Loan salesman who calls on you. Or place it in the hands of any branch of any bank, or give it to any trust company. Or send it to your local Victory Loan Headquarters. Or you can authorize your employer to start a regular payroll deduction plan for you. Bonds may be bought in denominations of \$10, \$20, \$50, \$100 and larger. Six-month, bank-trust companies and local Victory Loan Headquarters will be glad to give you every assistance in making your order form.

WEAR YOUR COMMANDO DAGGER

It is a symbol indicating that you have bought the new Victory Bonds.

NOTHING MATTERS NOW BUT VICTORY.. Buy THE NEW VICTORY BONDS

THIS WAY TO ALASKA



The great force of United States soldiers carving a highway to Alaska through the Canadian wilderness has conquered obstacles of all kinds. Through the bushland and across muskeg and rivers the road now extends for hundreds of miles. A typical ferry used by the army's engineers is shown in this photo. Utilizing the river's current, a barge forces its way across on the end of a wire cable from shore to shore.