

Glorious Record of Lorne Scots

This is the fifth of a series of articles dealing with the history of the Lorne Scots. On Oct. 12 the Post-Examiner has been invited to present with its columns a representative of the Lorne Scots during the World Plowing Match at Major Cecil Sawyer's Battalion Farm. All former members of the unit are invited to attend the ceremony and attend social functions. Send your name and address to Chairman Invitations Committee, Lorne Scots, 48 John St., Brimpton, Ont.

World War II 1939-1944
Prior to the declaration of War by Canada on September 10th 1939, it was determined to send one Canadian Division to support Great Britain. Twelve Permanent Force and Militia units with the necessary auxiliary forces were chosen to form the first Canadian division. Lt. Col. Keene, Commanding Officer, The Lorne Scots, was given the authority to mobilize from unit personnel No. 1 Infantry base depot to form a part of the first Canadian Division. Later the Lorne Scots was selected as the regiment to form Defence and Employment platoons for the entire Canadian Army. The base depot became a Repatriation Depot with personnel in England, France and Italy.

The reserve regiment mobilized guards for all armories. Col. R. V. Conover, V.D., assumed command of the 2nd Reserve Battalion on 3rd Sept. 1939 and an administrative and training staff consisting of the commanding officer, adjutant, a training officer, a company sergeant major for each separate company headquarters and an orderly room sergeant was called out on May 4th, 1940. School were held in the evening for N.C.O. and specialist training and annual training was carried out at summer camps. A number of officers transferred to various units and to staff. In addition a draft of 1-officer and 150 men was mobilized to the 4th Highland and 15 officers and 350 O.C. for Lorne Scots details, personnel for 3 and 4th Inf. Div. Defence platoons and 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 Infantry Brigade Defence Platoons. Col. Conover was given Command of No. 24 Canadian Army Basic Training Centre on 18 Mar. 1942 and Lt. Col. L. E. Bertram assumed command. Recruiting for the active force and for the reserve unit was intensified. The regiment furnished most of the personnel for the 6th, 7th and 8th Div. Def. Platoons and 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21 Bde. Def. Platoons for service in Canada with the Home Defence Forces. The platoons of 7th Div. took part in the Kiska operation.

Service Abroad
On 31st Aug. 1939, Lt. Col. Louis Keene was authorized to organize a headquarters and two companies of an Infantry base depot with two provost sections to be known as the Lorne Scots No. 1 Infantry base depot—Canadian Active Service Force. When strength had reached 6 officers and 58 men recruiting was stopped. The unit moved to the active motive building, Exhibition Park, Toronto, on Dec. 20th. This unit moved overseas late in January, disembarking at Gourock on 8th of February, 1940. They were first located at Aldershot and later Cote June, 1940 was the first day as a base depot. The unit expanded from 55 all ranks to 1700 Major Lt. CSM Chung and 14 other ranks left for France to establish an infantry base depot at Chateaubriant. The advance party returned on 18th with other elements of the first division. On March 12 1941 the unit moved to Scarforth Barracks in Liverpool. During the heavy blitz the troops rendered very valuable service in aid of the civil power. Major D. C. Heagy, Medical Officer, was severely wounded. He was granted the George Medal for his participation in the rescue of civilians. The unit moved to various places and was serving as a repatriation depot when disbanded 11 July 1941. The personnel became No. 1 Canadian Gen. Repatriation Depot and took over Tweedmouth Camp, Thurston on 10th Dec. 1941 as No. 1 Canadian Gen. Effective Transit Depot. Eventually as the number of non-effectives returning to Canada increased four additional wings were established. Thousands of Canadian soldiers passed through these camps as returned instructors casualties.

Category men and others returned for various duties in Canada. The unit was disbanded 1 Feb. 1947.

The First Canadian Army Defence Company, Lorne Scots, with Major V. G. H. Phillips in command and a strength of 6 officers and 160 other ranks was formed on 7 July, 1942. The Company assumed guard duties at Army Headquarters and immediately commenced training. This unit attended the Lorne Scots training camp at Sheffield Park in June, 1942 and at Clisbury Park, April 10 to May 11, 1943. It was disbanded 30th April, 1944, as the Royal Montreal Regiment was to take over the duties.

No. 1 Canadian Corps Protection Unit was organized 2 Dec. 1940, consisting of 3 officers, 130 O.C.'s organized into three platoons with eight vehicles under Major Matthews as O.C. On 1 Feb. 1941, it became a Lorne Scot unit. Lorne Scots officers, Lt. E. W. Dodd, Lt. D. A. Reid, Lt. C. W. Darling, Lt. J. M. Conover, were appointed on Sept. 1, 1941. Major F. H. Chisholm assumed command 5 Jan. 1942. The unit was a part of the Lorne Scots training battalion at Sheffield Park from 6 June, 1942, to 6 July. On 23 Dec. 1942, Lieut. Act. Capt. S. Beatty assumed command. On 24th June, 1943, the unit embarked on S.S. Alexander at Gourock for Sicily, disembarking on Nov. 8th off Augusta, crossed to Italy on 19th of Jan. On 15th Feb. 1944 they relieved a company of the Seaford Highlanders in battle positions 3 miles north of Ortona until the 27th. The Company moved with the Canadian Corps, supplying guards, provost and Prisoner of War cage guards. Major Drennan, who had commanded the company was seriously injured and Major S. Beatty assumed command on 3rd August, 1944.

The unit embarked Feb. 17th, 1944, on H.M.S. Esperance Bay for France, landing at Marseilles and finally concentrated in vicinity of Antwerp on 12 March, 1945. They were on the outskirts of Apeldoorn when Germany surrendered on May 4th, 1945, and were disbanded 31st Dec. 1945.

Mobilized in Aug. '42
The second Canadian Corps Defence Company (Lorne Scots) was mobilized 21st Aug. 1942. Major H. G. Peacock commanding with a strength of 5 officers and 167 other ranks supplying guards and duties for corps headquarters. The unit attended the Lorne Scots concentration, April 10, 1943 at Clisbury Park. On Nov. 1943, the unit was disbanded as the Prince Edward Island Light Horse was to assume their duties, many Lorne Scot personnel transferring to the new unit.

No. 1 Defence and Employment Division for the first Canadian Division was authorized 6 Feb. 1941, with a strength of 1 officer and 60 other ranks. Under Lt. S. Strathy the unit embarked on H.M.S. Hilary at Gourock on the 15th June, 1943, landing on the beach in Sicily on July 13th. On 22 July Cpl. Cox and Pte. Barrett were killed by machine gun fire. The unit crossed to Italy on 3rd Sept. and assumed duties as provost, provost and guard platoons as well as guarding POW cages. On 13th February, 1945 the unit embarked on an LST landing in France on 16th, and proceeded by stages to Ziegen, Belgium, and were in the vicinity of Vloerhuizen on V. Day. The unit was disbanded on 26th Aug. 1945.

No. 2 Defence and Employment Platoon (Lorne Scots) for 2nd Canadian Inf. Division was authorized 6 Feb. 1941. On August 29 Lt. F. R. Black assumed command and 17 Lorne Scots joined to bring the platoon up to strength. The unit under Lt. F. R. Kelly embarked 3rd July 1944 and began unloading on June Beach on 17th July assuming provost duties on 7th. On 25th two men were killed 9 wounded by enemy bombing. The unit paraded through Dieppe on 3rd Sept. and on 8th Nov. were in the vicinity of Normancourt crossed the Rhine on 29th March and was used building at Dikburgh on 4th of May. V. Day and was disbanded 11 Oct. 1945.

Waded Ashore
No. 3 Defence and Employment Platoon (Lorne Scots) for 2nd Canadian Inf. Division was authorized 7th July 1941 and was mobilized at Standard Barracks at Hamilton Ont. from Lorne Scot personnel. Lt.

Charles Barclay assumed command. The Unit moved overseas and was attached to 3 Can. Div. Headquarters, assumed duties and commenced training July 2, 1943. Lt. J. D. T. Stewart assumed command. On June 3rd, 1944, the unit embarked for France, wading ashore at 1630 hours, 7th June, arriving at Divisional Headquarters at 2100 hours. This defence platoon moved with the Div. H.Q. during the heavy fighting in July and August. On 7th September, the platoon was attached as reinforcements to Queen's Own Rifles during the Boulogne operations. Lt. D. Stewart and two other ranks were killed and four others wounded. Lt. W. W. Lang assumed command on 11th October, 1944. The Division was engaged in fighting in Holland and Germany and was in the vicinity of Leer when the cease fire sounded at 0800 hours, May 5th, 1945. The unit was disbanded on 30th October, 1945.

No. 4 Defence and Employment Platoon was authorized 10 May, 1941, at Standard Barracks, Hamilton, under Lt. J. C. Bond, consisting of 1 officer and 60 other ranks and set up as a separate accounting unit, moving to join the 4th Div. Headquarters at Debert on 8th Oct. It was redesignated 4th (armoured) Division headquarters squadron—Canadian Armoured Corps on 26 Jan. 1942. The 4th Div. proceeded overseas to England for further training. On 24th July, 1944, the squadron unloaded and advanced to its concentration area where the 4th Div. took over from the 7th British Armoured Division in the Caen Sector. The Div. Headquarters crossed the Seine River on 31st August and the Rhine on 30 Mar. 1945. The Div. was at Bad Zwischenahn when news of the Armistice on May 5th was received.

No. 1 Defence Platoon for 1st Canadian Infantry Brigade was authorized 6th Feb. 1941, and disbanded 16 Feb. 1943. It was reorganized 34th Feb. 1944, in Italy and relieved a platoon of the Royal Regiment of Canada in the Front Lines on 6th April, 1944, for ten days, resuming guard duties at Dde. headquarters facing the Adolph Hitler line in May 1944. The unit embarked at Lephorn 9th March, 1944 and reached the Reichswald Forest in Germany on 3rd April. On 19th July, 1945 the unit was disbanded after a broken career. The Lorne Scots having founded this unit in May, 1943, the platoon became part of the Saskatchewan Light Infantry (machine guns). Many of the Lorne Scots transferred to the Saskatchewan Light Infantry. There were no original Lorne Scots on the strength when hostilities ceased. Only one man, Pte. Gray, was killed by enemy action.

Garden Hints

The last application of lawn fertilizer should be put on no later than the 15th of September, say horticulturists with the Ontario Department of Agriculture. This enables the grass to develop a good root system and harden off before winter sets in.

Apply a complete turf fertilizer with a 2:1 ratio such as a 10:6:4 at the rate of 15:20 lbs per 1,000 square feet. To avoid burning apply when the grass is dry and water in.

September is one of the best months for weed control in lawns. Fall spraying has an additional safety advantage since most cultivated plants in gardens and borders are less sensitive to sprays than in spring.



ACTON FIRE FIGHTERS entertained wives and families Sunday afternoon during their annual family picnic at the scout hall. Firefighter Don Van Fleet is shown above as he serves ice cream cones to a group of eager kiddies. Prior to this an unknown quantity of hamburgers and pop had been consumed following races and games.

Fall Fair Draw For Auxiliary

The Acton Ladies' Auxiliary for Retarded Children held their first meeting since their summer vacation on September 5 at the home of Mrs. P. E. Dunham. Mrs. Norman Price, president, announced that there would be a meeting of the North Halton executive for retarded children on September 16 at the Sunshine School, Hornby.

The auxiliary's convengers for the bake sale held in June reported that it was a financial success. Mrs. J. Buckman, treasurer for the recent campaign for retarded children held in April, stated that the financial results reached beyond expectations.

Tapes and Tickets

The auxiliary is at present collecting cash register tapes from the two boxes placed in the A and B and the IGA supermarkets. These tapes will purchase gifts for the Sunshine School for Retarded Children. It was decided to leave these boxes all the year round in the supermarkets due to the interest of the general public.

Members of the auxiliary are busy selling raffle tickets for the lucky draw to be held at 5 p.m. Saturday at the fall fair. There are ten lovely prizes to be won which will be displayed in a local store window and the citizen of the year, John Gov., will officiate at the draw.

The prizes are an electric heating pad, hand mixer and bread box bought by the Auxiliary; bicycle donated back from last year's gifts by Mrs. Kay Alger; canned ham from Bradley's Meat Market; 53 coupon from Cameo Shoppe; dressed doll donated by Mrs. Roy Knapp; lazy Susan from Mrs. Doreen Nazim; clock from Simpsons and towel sets from Eaton's.

The Auxiliary will operate a booth at the fall fair.

Next meeting of the auxiliary will be October 3 at the home of Mrs. J. Buckman.

Y.P. Dance

The first young people's dance of the season was held at the Anglican church Friday. This year memberships are being sold.

Halton Progress Display At World Plowing Match

With a budget of \$3,500, Halton County plans to present a "progress" display at the World Plowing Match in Caledon, October 8.

Located in a 30 by 50 foot tent, the display will emphasize Halton as a good place to live for its cultural and social advantages, rather than stressing its industrial development and potential.

The evolution of Halton from the first County Council meeting in 1853 to 1963 will be shown in exhibits at the entrance to the tent. The interior will be divided into eight by eight foot sections for models and pictures of the homes for the aged, hospitals, the Ontario School for the Deaf and the Halton County Museum. The Oakville hospital will have a model including its new addition and the George town District Memorial Hospital has promised a display.

An Emergency Measures display will maintain radio contact with the County Administration Building at Milton, so that all enquiries may be answered at once.

Centre of the show will be the industrial display—50 content only revolving color slides of the area, scenic and industrial shots and the mutual aid fire services of the district.

The display is being arranged by County Council's Industrial Committee, under the chairman-ship of Oakville Deputy Reeve Herbert Morris. Other members are Reeve George Leslie and Deputy Reeve Wilfred Leslie of Esqueping and Deputy Reeve W. E. Hunter of Georgetown.

John Age, an artist who opened his own gallery in Terra Cotta, has done a large mural for the new Vadhalla Inn in Toronto.

\$62,589 Pavilion At Rockwood Park
Construction on a new \$62,589 recreation pavilion at Rockwood is expected to begin as soon as approval is granted by the Department of Lands and Forests.

The building is to be built of wood and stone native to the surrounding area and is expected to be completed by next summer. Contractor for the construction is Hurling Brothers Construction Ltd. of Stone Creek. Their bid was accepted by the Grand Valley Conservation Authority recently.

—Thanksgiving is the second Monday in October.

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Registration Night Wednesday, September 18th

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