

Food and lodging at an Oflag

This is the third in a series of articles written by R. E. Stewart on his experiences as a prisoner of war in Germany after being captured at Dieppe. Canadian POW's were fortunate that their captors subscribed to the Geneva Convention. As a result we were supposed to be fairly well fed and lodged in decent quarters. Due to the increased allied bombings of road and railway traffic the Germans were often unable to supply us with enough food and so the International Red Cross was permitted to send food parcels to each individual prisoner.

In 1942 and 1943 these boxes arrived fairly regularly and we all received our fair share. Ordinarily we got one every month or in the good days, every two weeks. In 1944 they were becoming very scarce and by the last year of the war they were non-existent.

Never being certain of just when another one might arrive we guarded the contents quite carefully. I remember many occasions when I thought one cookie would suffice when I quite easily could have eaten at least a dozen. Naturally we all lost weight while behind the wire and some of us may not have stuck it out but for the Geneva Convention and those eagerly awaited Red Cross parcels.

The next-of-kin of each Canadian POW was permitted to send one ten pound parcel every three months. At first this could contain clothing only. Due to the efforts of the POW relatives' association this rule

was rescinded and from that time on parcels contained food. It was most gratifying to find such things as sugar, spices, cocoa, gum, or dehydrated bananas and apples. What a pleasure it was to immerse an article resembling a little crayon in some water and watch as a full sized banana appeared before your eyes!

The food produced by our captors was most unappetizing to say the least. It consisted mainly of margarine, unpalatable cheese, sausages, meat and potatoes which were not very tempting, a few vegetables, black bread and jam which had quite a peculiar taste.

The black market produced some German food which was a little better. Occasionally some extra meat or a rare egg was obtained by secret bargaining.

We ate by messes, a mess being composed of about one dozen POW's grouped together for eating purposes. Each of us took turns in doing the daily chores. After the cook and his staff had got full value out of the potatoes we would work on the skins to obtain a little extra.

On one occasion our mess received some meat which had been cut up into small chunks and obviously intended for the dogs but it surely tasted good to us even if it did produce the squitters (a bad case of diarrhoea).

The head cook would prepare potatoes, vegetables, stews, porridge, etc., to be distributed to the whole camp.



The duty boy of each mess would go to the kitchen to pick up his share. Some members would provide a little food from their Red Cross or private parcels.

It was a lot of fun when it was your day on duty because then you could raffle off the crust end of the bread which always seemed to be more filling than the ordinary slice.

Beginning December 24, 1943 and ending on New Year's Day, 1944 we had a big celebration after going very lightly on food for several weeks in preparation. Then the cook laid on the big do. An artist in the camp prepared the menu and posted it on the bulletin board. In a most humorous fashion it showed what we would have for the next nine days.

Every fellow in camp wanted this masterpiece. It was so

coveted as a souvenir that it was sent to England to be lithographed. Years later any of us who had produced the required number of marks received one at his home address. Mine now hangs in the sun room as one of my most treasured possessions.

Note re marks — Our pay was put into a bank account in London England. Each month two or three pounds were deducted and we received this money in the form of prison marks. When the war was over this German money was converted once again into our currency. If you were lucky at cards your account in England did not suffer too much.

Our camp was located in a former girls' school so that we had reasonably good accommodation. The rooms contained three-tier bunks with an open space in the centre. On each bunk a paliasse was placed on top of slats and there was one chair for the occupant of each bunk.

The slats gradually disappeared as they were required for fuel or escape purposes. As a result it was most exasperating to be awakened in the night as the chap above dropped in on you. The walls were covered with pictures of loved ones and shelves for books, cigarettes and cleaning materials were quite popular.

During the long winter nights we suffered from the cold. Most of us wrapped scarves around the middle of our backs. Occasionally an argument would start over the ventilation. Some wanted all the windows kept closed. Others wanted the odd one open. Usually the majority ruled and we would enjoy a little fresh air.

(Continued next week)

EDEN MILLS

Plaque in park dedicated as local centennial project

By Mrs. R. Wright
The centennial float entered by Eden Mills Community Club in Nassagaweya celebrations last Saturday brought favorable comments from many. It portrayed a replica of the old mill in Eden Mills even to the mill wheel churning water.

The Barden twins took prizes in the bicycle contest, Sunday at 2.30. A plaque built into a stone wall was dedicated to the community centennial project, Rev. R. D. Sinclair and Rev. Leeman taking part. Deputy-Reeve Hoey gave a brief history of the village and Mr. Ross Gordon, councillor, spoke briefly.

The monthly meeting of the Ladies' Aid was held Monday at the Wright home. Mrs. H.

Gilbertson in charge of the W.M.S. opened with a hymn. Mrs. R. Wright took the scripture from Psalms, 34th chapter, and Mrs. Mino led in prayer. Several items of business were attended to. A reading "The Quietness of Prayer" was given by Mrs. Bob Gilbertson and Mrs. Beryl Wright a reading "What is Home" was followed by a solo by Mrs. Mino.

The Ladies' Aid was conducted by Mrs. Beryl Wright. The minutes and treasurer's report were read and roll call was answered with a donation of an apron for the bazaar in the fall. Old business was attended to and several items of new business in the near future mean a busy time ahead.

Mrs. W. Lauby gave a reading and a duet by Mrs. Mino and Mrs. Wright followed. Mrs. H. Gilbertson extended a vote of thanks to the hostess and all those taking part. Refreshments were served.

Members numbering 16 from Eden Mills Presbyterian church choir took part in the community service at Brookville Township Hall grounds last Sunday.

Edgewood Camp played host to St. Mark's Lutheran church picnic, Waterloo, on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. N. Marshall Sr. are at their cottage at Doe Lake.

Mr. and Mrs. James Hamer

were at Sparrow Lake and are now enjoying a few days at Expo.

Guests this past week of Mr. and Mrs. R. Wright were Mr. and Mrs. L. Thorarsson of British Columbia, Mr. and Mrs. H. Rognvaldson, Elliott Lake; Mr. and Mrs. L. Lewis, Santa Anna, California; Miss Gail Hewett, Buffalo; Mr. Moore, Streetsville; Mr. and Mrs. W. Moore, Guelph; Mr. Melvine Vincent, Mimico.

Mrs. W. Leeman was hostess for the monthly meeting of Eden Mills United Church Women at the manse. The devotional period was opened with the singing of a hymn. Mrs. Howard James read the scripture from John 15, 13-27 and led in prayer. A reading on "Good Neighbors" was given and poems "Touch of Gold" and "Little Things" were read.

The president, Mrs. E. Millson took charge of the business period. Minutes were given by Mrs. Marshall Sr. and the treasurer's report by Mrs. D. Beattie. Twelve members answered the roll call with a verse from the Bible on friendship.

Four guests attended, one of whom was Mrs. Moffatt, area vice-president. Mrs. E. Millson will attend the convention in Arthur. Mrs. B. Saulnier, Mrs. D. Beattie and Mrs. N. Marshall volunteered to go to the Nassagaweya celebrations and

LIMEHOUSE

Receives honors in grade 8 piano

Congratulations to Miss Anne Shortall who received first class honors in her grade 8 piano Royal Conservatory of Music examinations recently.

Mr. and Mrs. G. Scholz attended their son's wedding at Tacoma, Washington, and continued on to spend a few days in Los Angeles, and have since arrived home after an enjoyable motor trip.

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Marshall and Miss E. Marshall of Toronto recently visited Mrs. Osburn and the Lawson's. Mrs. Ross Alexander of Burlington has been visiting her aunt, Mrs. Angus Lawson and family. Mrs. Stuart Smith of Weston has been visiting the A. C. Pattersons.

Mrs. W. Mitchell and her cousin Miss Pearl Scott left by plane on Sunday evening to visit Mrs. Mitchell's daughter, Mrs. James Evans and her husband in Saskatoon.

Miss Anne Sutherland of Scarboro and London and Mr. Ian Durand of Western Canada called on Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Benton on Saturday.

—Be sure to let the Free Press know about your summer visitors and holiday trips. These friendly items are what make a small newspaper different from a daily.

Name five P.C. delegates to leadership convention

A small group of Halton Conservatives gathered at Milton District High School Monday, June 26 to organize the new federal riding of Halton East and to name delegates to the Leadership Convention to be held in Maple Leaf Gardens, Toronto, in September. The meeting was followed by entertainment.

Five delegates and five alternates were named to take at the convention. According to the Conservative constitution the five man delegation must have three senior men, one Young Progressive Conservative under 30 years of age and one woman.

Mrs. Barbara Cooper of Oakville was named as the woman delegate, and Charlie Martin of Milton was named the Y.P.C. The three senior men are Rev. Andy McKenzie of Acton, Doug Latimer of Georgetown provincial president of the Halton East Conservative Party and Roy Brown of Erin.

The alternate delegates follow the same structural breakdown. Mrs. Francis Ritchie of Oakville was named the woman candidate, William Sargent Jr. of Oakville was named Y.P.C. and Robert Reed of Milton, Norman Nixon of Erin and John Dolphin of Oakville were named the three senior candidates. There is a registration

fee of \$25 for delegates and \$15 for alternates to the convention.

The new federal riding will consist of five members from Oakville, two from Milton, two from Georgetown and two each from Esqueness, Erin, Erin Township and Acton.

One of the five delegates to the meeting will be named to the policy committee.

MILTON 878-3272
Show Times
SUN. thru THURS
8 p.m.
Fri. & Sat.
7 & 9 p.m.

Roxy THEATRE Saturday 2 p.m. Matinee

THURS.-FRI.-SAT. JULY 6-7-8


"DUEL AT DIABLO" — Color
JAMES GARNER — SIDNEY POITIER
"THE DAVE CLARK 5" — Short
"PINC PANIC" — Cartoon
Sat. Matinee at 2 p.m.

SUN.-MON.-TUES.-WED. JULY 9-10-11-12

"ARIVEDERCI, BABY" — (Adult) — Color
TONY CURTIS
"RACE WITH THE WIND"
"STORY OF GEORGE W." — Cartoon

THURS.-FRI.-SAT. JULY 13-14-15

"KALEIDOSCOPE" — Color
WARREN BEATTY — SUSANNAH YORK
METRO IN MINIATURE
"HIGHWAY RUNNERY" — Cartoon
Sat. Matinee at 2 p.m.



New Laws for Consumer Credit

effective July 31st 1967

The new Ontario Consumer Protection Act, which comes into force on July 31st, helps everyone who buys on credit by obliging the lender or seller, to make a written statement of the true cost of credit. This provision, and others in the Act, will not relieve the consumer of his normal responsibilities of shopping carefully and choosing wisely; but it will make it easier for him to make the right decisions.

Disclosure of the cost of borrowing
In all time payment transactions the borrower must be given a written note of the cost of borrowing, both in dollars and cents, and as an annual percentage rate, before credit is granted. The lender must also set down any charges he intends to make if the borrower should default on payments.

Cooling-off Period
This new ruling applies to sales made by itinerant sellers, which is the Act's name for sellers who operate away from their permanent place of business, and who make a charge to the buyer for the privilege of buying on time.

A contract made with an itinerant seller can now be cancelled by the buyer, provided he does so in writing and delivers the cancellation to the seller personally, or by registered mail, within two working days of the contract being signed. If he cancels in this way, the buyer must return any goods already supplied, and the seller must return any money or trade-in which he may have received. The trade-in does not become the seller's property until the two-day cooling-off period has elapsed without the buyer cancelling the contract.

Registration of itinerant sellers
As from July 31st, 1967, all itinerant sellers as defined by the Act must register with the Consumer Protection Bu-

reau. If the seller is a company or a partnership, only the company or partnership must register, not the individual employees.

Information to be contained in a contract
Under the new Act, certain important details must be written into all contracts for the sale of goods or services to a consumer, when the purchase price is \$50 or over. To be binding, the contract must comply with the Act and must be signed by all parties, who must each receive a duplicate original copy.

Repossession
If the buyer should default after two-thirds of the purchase price has been paid, the seller cannot repossess without permission of a judge.



Penalties
Substantial penalties are provided for contravention of the Act and its Regulations. Lenders and sellers who are likely to be affected are urged to make themselves familiar with the Act.

WHAT YOU SHOULD DO
Borrowers and buyers should bear in mind that nothing in the new Act relieves them of the responsibility of making careful decisions when considering a loan, or a purchase on credit. Keep this notice as a reminder of your rights. Information on borrowing, and on credit buying, is contained in a leaflet which can be obtained from the Consumer Protection Bureau, 123 Edward Street, Toronto 2.

Lenders and sellers should make themselves familiar with the Act and its Regulations. The Consumer Protection Act 1966 and Ontario Regulation 207/67 (25¢ each) can be obtained from the Queen's Printer, 28 Broadbent Street, Toronto 5. For advice on the working of the Act and its Regulations, see your qualified business adviser.


Low introductory price on this NEW FRIGIDAIRE 2-DOOR with amazing RIDE-AIRE

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- Automatic defrosting refrigerator section!
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Hon. H. L. Rowntree
Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs



DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS
Consumer Protection Division