

THE GEORGETOWN HERALD

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Bert Colman Writes The Herald Again From England

The Herald recently received another interesting letter from Cunnor A. E. Colman, who is in England with the armed forces. We print it herewith:

Dear friend, Well it is some time since I wrote to you about my leave in Glasgow, Edinburgh and London. Well I have since then had another seven day leave and also one or two week-end leaves. This time my friend and I went to Dundee, Edinburgh and London. We were going to have another day in Glasgow but the weather was not so good the first few days so we stayed longer in Dundee.

They get through they just go back and do it all over again. When we got across the tide was out so after a short walk we found a way down to the water to get some little shells.

Our next course of procedure was a show. We took in one or two of these every day and then the next day we went to London. In London we got a good room for two shillings and sixpence and our breakfast went with that. As we had never seen that part of London we went out for an hour or so walk after supper, and the next morning we took the underground and came to the station that we would have to leave from to get back here.

The Editor's Corner

DANGEROUS AND THRILLING

It's the newest, most thrilling, and hazardous phase of modern warfare—paratrooping.

During a pilot's course of training he is sometimes required to take a couple of jumps so he won't get cold feet if the time ever comes when he'll have to bail out.

That statement speaks for itself. For paratroops there can be no comforting slogan—if at first you don't succeed. . . . We've watched men bail out at different times and always with the same possible sensation at the pit of your stomach for the second or two when the human body is hurtling down through space with nothing to check it, till the parachute opens.

This was the moment I'd been dreaming about for weeks. I felt an urge to turn and say, "What's that? I didn't quite catch it."

As the chute opened, sledge-hammer blows collapsed my lungs, made black spots dance before my eyes. I was still fighting for breath when the universe came gradually into focus. Now I could see the plane hurtling on ahead of me. Everything seemed strangely peaceful, silent, motionless.

"The ambulance raced up as I struggled out of my harness and the driver inspected me, rather expectantly. I thought. Then he grinned, "No business to day?" I shook my head.

Men are being picked from every branch of the Canadian army for paratroopers, and they must be tops in mental and physical agility, with perfect coordination of mind and muscles. The age time is thirty, but most of the Canadians picked are around twenty-four.

MORE SERIOUS THIS YEAR

Universities opened their doors again on Tuesday and this year college life will be different from that of other years.

Young men and women of college age are old enough to be influenced by a world at war, and probably there are very few upon whose lives the war has not already had some effect. There'll be no "frills and furbelows" to campus life this year.

And this is as it should be. Even during the stress of war our educational standards must not be lowered, but in the process of being educated, our young people realize they must help in every possible way, the war effort of the country which makes such an education possible.

A WORD OF CAUTION

It's ideal bicycling weather. This factor combined with "car economy" seems to have brought forth a bumper crop of cyclists these days, and bicycles can be extremely treacherous things, though if traffic rules and common sense are not applied in their handling and we live near a busy corner and have seen a great many near-accidents.

We would ask some of the Home Guards which side was winning "We are" was always the answer. At the next corner, we would ask the Canadians and get the same answer. At five o'clock our train left and they were still trying to see which side won. I don't know just how I can find out as I won't be going back there on my next leave. I hope to get that in September.

Dundee is undoubtedly a nice place, if you don't mind going up and down hills every time you get out. We put in some time along the water front. You see Dundee is on the bank of the Tay River. It is a large river and quite deep when the tide is in. Then we saw the Tay Bridge. It is some bridge and I understand it is almost two miles across it. We wanted to walk across on it but the guard said no. It is a funny thing over here and just when you want to see some place some one (and quite often with a rifle) steps up and says no, and they mean no. Sometimes it makes you think there's a war on. Well we looked the place over between showers, but when it did start to rain too much we would look for a show or some place to eat.

We were in one show. There was a light over the door that said "Bar down stairs" and I don't think it was a milk bar either. We then went to see some other places such as Netherbow, the Old Rectory, the Royal Arms and Main Castle, which is one of the smaller castles. All around Dundee is a small, quiet place to spend a leave. We then came back to Edinburgh which is on the same line as Dundee. It was late afternoon when we got there so we decided we had better just put up and over here that is the first thing to do when you are in a place. You may find yourself without a bed for the night. We stayed at the Victoria League Club that night. We stayed there before but we did not like it, for this time, like the other, some one got in the wrong bed and that always means you get out from one to three hours of sleep.

Next morning we started on a sight seeing expedition. Edinburgh is a grand place for that, but the first thing we did after we got our bed, was to go out and have a look at the old castle to see if it was in as good shape as it has been. After a while we looked at it then we went to the Victoria League Club for a walk and for the first time on that trip the sun came out. I got my eye on a big rock wall or cliff and I told my chum I would like to get up on top of it and he said all right let's go. Well, it just looked to be over there, so it was. It only took us about an hour to get there and after asking for directions a few times we were told to just go through the palace drive and into the kins park and there it was.

We took one look at it and then looked for a place to eat before we started to the top, but there were no eats around there, so away we went up a pathway. After a while we saw a little rabbit, but he just took one look at us and I think it must have been a mind reader, for he dashed to the closest hole he could find. Still no eats there and the rock looked much too hard so away we went until we met a policeman and we asked him how to reach the top. There was a sign which we reached the top. Arthur's seat is up there, he is called, and then we asked him if there was a place to eat up there, and he replied "no". I guess Arthur must have taken his eats up with him. After a while we got to the top, 222 ft. 9 inches above sea level or over 500 ft. from where we had started. It was well worth the long hard climb. After we got to the top there was a wonderful view from there. There is a tall stone about three feet high with a brass plate on top pointing out to all the places around there. On some days you can see as far as a mile. The day we were there you could only see about 20 miles. It made a nice place to take my hat in.

It was most certainly a good climb that it was not so hard to come down and where we did come down it was an angle of 35 degrees. If we had started to roll we would have undoubtedly got stopped on the rocks about 150 feet down but we got back safe alright and right side up, and took the shortest way we could to get to where there was a place to eat, and say, did those fish and chips go good!

From there we took a saunter around another part of the city, and you know we are getting good now, for we never got lost in Dundee or Edinburgh this time at all. But London, well, I'll come to that later.

We next went out to the Firth of Forth Bridge, but once again it was no, so we did not walk across that bridge, but we did go across, close under it, on the ferry boat. Boy that is some piece of work on that bridge. I have been told that they keep a good sized gang of men on it all the time doing nothing but painting it, it takes two years to paint it and as soon as

After all our hurry and when we got there, there was absolutely nothing to be seen, so they told us we could go back to our hut but to keep all our things on. After an hour or so the air cleared and we found that those of us who were not asleep were very soon in the land of nod.

I wish I could tell you about this camp but once again someone says "no" and so no it is but I never knew until the other night that a fellow could go so far and get nowhere so fast. It was like this, I met my chum about a mile out of camp the other night about 6:15 and we started out for the devil's punch bowl, oh just a mile and a half up the road. We started to walk around the top (and this is just a big hole in the ground with trees and gullies in it) so after a short way we started down a path. We went halfway down and just kept on going till we got on a road that looked good, so we decided to wander around and come out at the other side. Well it came out all right but just where we will do not know, but one thing I do know it was far from where we started in fact as far as it possibly could be. So we started back but it was all the same wherever we turned, left or right. It was still wrong on thing however that we did find after three and a quarter of an hour walking. We did however get back at 10:45 the same night. We had a pass till 11:00 o'clock, but the funny part of it was that we never came to a town of any size and we were on good paved roads most of the time.

Oh, yes, just while I think of it, I hope no one got things the wrong way when I spoke of our young girl friend in my last letter, for the young lady I had was just forty-seven then but is forty-eight now, is a married woman and her husband is in the army. As I did not see her on my last leave I have not seen her since and may not get back there again. I guess I won't be seeing her any more.

Last week and I was to Slough, not far from Windsor. I went to see a fine old man there, he is seventy three and is still working. I don't think that they ever get too old to work over here. He had lived in and around Slough all his life, so on Saturday night and Sunday he took me out around the town. He told me just what it was like when he was a boy and of how it had grown. One part of it has been built up in the last fifteen or twenty years. There are some of the finest houses and roads that I have ever seen since I have been here. In Windsor I saw a house that was built in 1676 and it is still a good looking home.

It is getting quite late now and I have to be up at six a.m. for PT so in closing I would like to take this opportunity to thank the boss of the "Herald" Paper Mill for the pipe for which they have sent me. Also my old friend Stan Leon for the "Herald". They have all seemed to have come at the right time.

Wishing you and your paper the best of luck, I'll close for this time but will try to write you again after my next leave.

I remain as ever,

BERT COLMAN,

R11888

NICKEL TO BE REPLACED BY 12-SIDED COIN

Canada is to say goodbye to the old round five-cent piece and have instead a twelve sided coin. Finance Minister Fliley has announced. The Minister said the new coin will be minted from a different metal, the purpose being to save nickel. The new coin will not interfere with telephone paystations.

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Gray Coach Lines TIME TABLE. NOW IN EFFECT. Daylight Saving Time. LEAVE GEORGETOWN.

Table with 2 columns: Eastbound and Westbound. Lists departure times for various routes including Toronto, London, and Stratford.

"IN OUR MAIL BAG"

Editor Georgetown Herald, Georgetown, Ont. Dear Sir, This is a letter of appreciation for your kindness in sending me your most admirable paper each week for over two and a half years now and I assure you I enjoy reading same and now my son has arrived over here with the Armoured division I pass it on to him. I may say I have met many men from Georgetown and other points of Eastern Ontario who served with me in the name of Lorne Scots. I had heard from the Glen over the H and it is sure nice to meet the others whom I had had then at the meeting overseas. I wish you all success in your good work. Yours Sincerely, A. TROTTER. O.Q.M.S. Perth Reg. Canadian Army.

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Going West. Passenger and Mail 8:36 a.m. Passenger, Sat. only 2:15 p.m. Passenger daily except Saturday and Sunday 6:14 p.m. Passenger and Mail 6:46 p.m. Passenger, Sundays only 11:20 p.m.

Going North. Passenger and Mail 8:45 a.m.

Going South. Passenger and Mail 6:32 p.m. Depot Ticket Office-Phone 20w.

BUSES LEAVE GEORGETOWN

Table with 2 columns: EASTBOUND TO TORONTO and WESTBOUND TO LONDON. Lists departure times for various routes.

AY COACH LINES

AY COACH LINES. Send for Tickets and Information at 457; all day. H. LONG - Phone 38.