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MARY H. BIRHN. SHICK WALTER C ROSDI, Publisher CARPOILD L MCCILVRAY

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Markey of the Constitute Weekly Memoraper Association and the OMENO-Quebes Division of the C.W.H.A.

## The Editor's Corner UNFORGETTABLE FANTASY

For the past half hour we've been trying to coordinate our thoughts into a serious paragraph or two for the editorial column this week-but somehow we just can't get going. Visions of grace and beauty keep flashing across our mind, and because we can't concentrate on anything else-we think we'd better tell you about it - The Ice Follies of 1942, held in Maple Leaf Gardens last week.

From the very first instant of the programme you're taken into another world-"an enchanted lake". breath-taking in its beauty. The lights were dimmed for only a moment and then a softly lit panorama sprang auddenly into view. Gliding over the smooth green "lake", as if propelled by unseen hands, were twenty-four "water-lilies", presenting their Water Lily Ballet. Their gowns of glowing pale green satin came to the ice surface, and were stiffly extended at the hemline, so that each girl looked like the inverted bloom of a calla-lily. Shifting "moonlight" highlighted motionless nymphs on the lake, turning the sequin clad girls into st. ues of molten silver.

Enormous swan-boats, each bearing a lovely "fairy" moving slowly through the corps de ballet, completed a picture which we'll never forget.

The next scene transformed the lake into a winter wonderland. We were greatly taken with the enormous snow men, which, in spite of their size (10 ft. high -and goodness knows how much in girth) managed to be cute. We're still wondering how the person inside managed to see his way about

"The Adventures of Peter Rabbit" was a little act full of quaint charm. Mrs. McGregor of the cabbage patch was impersonated by Phyllis Legg, who amazed everyone by figure-skating on stilts. The four bunnies, (Flopsy, Mopsy, Cottontail and Naughty Peter) were adorable. They were as pudgy as could be and had big Hoppy cars.

There was an act entitled "Indian Legend" which was outstanding. Six or seven large totem poles were seen on the "camping ground", and here a whole tribal ritual was performed. The girls with sweeping feather headresses reaching the "ground", Indian braves with tomahawks and war-paint, and brightly hued teepees, made the scene a riot of colour and motion. At the limax of the act, all the lights were turned off and through some process which we cannot explain, the materials and colors took on an phosphorescent glow, with the deep purple ice as a foil. The scene was unearthly in its beauty. The beating of tom-toms and chanting of Indian war songs added to the atmosphere of mystery. We felt shivers running up and down our spine.

After the Indian Legend had been told, a comic note was introduced into the programme by the antics of Daniel "Bum", whose wild gyrations landed him in the laps of spectators, often as not We held our breath many a time for fear he'd really hurt himself. He had some awful spills. While we're thinking about the spectators, there was another act performed by the handsome McKellen brothers, called the "Round-Up" in which the one cowboy displayed more interest in two or three fair spectators than he did in skating. His partner spent most of his time prying him away from one or another of these damaels. He'd skate around quite respectably for a while and then make a wild dash to the sidelines. grab a lady and kiss her (or try his best anyway),-you could hear them shrick all over the Gardens.

Girls wearing skates and riding bicycles on the ice, astonished us, in a sequence called "Sunday-go-to Meeting." How they ever managed to keep the precision and beauty of the act under those conditions, we do not know. The printed programme states that the Ice Follies took a whole year to plan and rehearse, and after watch-

ing that performance we can readily believe it. Two bonnie Highlanders, Colson and Claudet did a sword dance on skates. It was done so well, they made the feat look easy. Another "Wee Bit o' Scotch" was added to the programme with the hilarious comedy team

Frick and Frack. Forty georgeous Ice Folliettes clad in white tunics, gold battle helmets, shoes and gloves, led by the "acro-Baton-ics" star, Betty Atkinson, made a grand finale. This military Dress Parade was performed to the accompaniment of 40 drums (each girl carried one) which rolled to a grand climax with the initial sounding of the

strains of "God Save the King." We've just taken small parts of the show and fried to describe them to you. There were a great many more features we'd like to tell you about, but space is limited. Suffice it to say, we enjoyed every minute. The action of skating routine, merged with beautiful costumes and music, made the Ice Follies a Sentacy we'll never forget.

WENG R, LIES

Altoze'her, the Canadian editors met the guiding gentus of Canada's overwas forces three times, the first time tust before we began our tunerary to England the second time at an inemercion of new equipment, and third time just before we left for home

Some people seem to think that the educes seve only told part of the sury that comething was modern from us. or It as extrally did se exertithing that se sere told not to say anything about it. It there people could have been present at these meetings, they sould realise just how far from correct their thoughts are. In Oeneral Monaughton's OWD WORDS, the editors were told to "tell the people of Canada everything that will not give comfort to the

rureny". Actually the trip tited came as a reach of a suggestion from the Oeneral that it would be an excellent way to terms a true picture to the people of Curada of stat is going on overseas. Naturally the Incation of Orners McNauetron's Headquarters to not eary for strangers to find Our bus procesded to a "nindepous", where we were met by dispatch riders on motorcycles who gulard us in to the place meeting was traid in a large conference roum, from the windows of shirth was a vista of praceful English countryside Occural McNaughton brought a chair arat sat down, but soon he was sitting

Welcoming the Canadian editors, the Orneral said that with joung men away from Canada for munths and ) care everything should be done to keep up their contacts with their own country When they are out of touch, they are out of sympathy, and things go wrong, and it is difficult to find the reason Cir back and interpret us to the prople of Cunada We in the Army are the expression of the purpose of the propie in Canada"

He went on to say that we are up adsinst an extremely serious numbers We started with a tremendous lack of pirwratten, and are not out of the woods yet, but in api'e of disasters, we are now on the up-grade. The mission of the press to tell fully what is going on, and the people will give their backing materially and morally. The Oeneral believes in telling everything that can be told without hurting the Allied

Biscuking of the Dieppe raid. General McNaughton said that his uppermost ferling was pride in our officers and men Replying to other questions, the General said that shipping was one of our greatest limiting factors, that the threat of invasion is not over; that the young officer policy would be continued; that the average age of Lieut -Oolone's now is about 33, which is much younger than in the last war

was more like a friendly firewide chat all partook of afternoon tea.

upstairs to his office.

Here the conservation was resumed proper spirit. for some time. After about an hour Letters from neighbours and friends and a half had been spent in this way, should be newsy, and if any of them un officer entered with a note and have the gift of humor in correspon-General McNaughton said he would dence lot them exercise it as often as have to confer with a visiting Amer- mossible. They will be thrice blessed ican Officer but that if the editors for their efforts. cared to return later he would be glad to talk further with them.

one as they left. ity. He is just as outstanding in his about Canada's war effort at home. job as Prime Minister Churchill is in

received his Muster's degree in science will certainly lessen his efficiency. Relperial Defence College in England. He than themselves and help them. That served in the last war, and was woun- will care their depression. ded twice. He received the Distinguish- Clossipy letters are always harmful, ed Bervice Order, the Order of St. Mic- whether written maliciously or careless-

National Research Council of Canada, ted by the reader. If a serious dom-and from 1929 to 1935 was Chief of the estic problem arises in a Service manys Canadian General Staff. He was given home in Canada, the news should be command of the first division of the broken to him by someone skilled in Canadian Expeditionary Force and such matters; and the greatest care since 1940 has been Commander-ip- should be exercised so that he will not Chief of the Canadian Army Ovenwas, be given a permanent cause for worry. Canadians have every reason to feel proud of Cleneral McNaughton.

#### THE NAVY LEAGUE

Province, branches and sub-committees his return to a successful civilian carof Navy League, Ontario Division; oth- eer when his period of service is finer unattached patriotic groups, or ished. kind hearted individual men and women are taking a share of the load of the Women's Committee of the Navy League has assumed in endeavouring members on active service are written to secure fifty thousand dibty bags and to regularly. One charch has adopted thousands upon thousands of woolens the method of preparing in advance for our sallors, according to Navy Les- addressed, stamped envelopes on which gue headquarters officials.

members such committees being ex scuttre, or disaling with magazines, Ges Oedeta Woolens and Finance. In all there are 3,560 Navy League manhers in Ontario, outside of members in Tor-

in addition there are 1,000 committisee of various patriotic groups working for the Navy Learne but not all are included in Navy League branches. The total number of workers to Navy League activities to the Province

is now no less then 64.548, including 170 Navy League use day committees Turtle necked long-threved smeaters. beimets, socks and see-boot stockings are preded ungently as well as further volunteers to mil duty bags quickly.

#### Appeal From Principal Chaplain

The following apprel read in Bt George's Church, hunday, November 15th, will be "I great interest to all who have a loved one, or friend in the armed forces. It is written by Stuart Island, for the Principal Chaplain.

Letters to Mrs in the Ferres The blober suitortiles in our Armed Purcee have been quick to realize the erest value of letters from relatives, irrends, and acquaintances in scutaining the morale of men who are away from home on active arretor. While

on top of the deak in a most informal much gold has been done already, it is considered by those who are in close touch with our Cenedian boys that the number of the right kind of letters despatched to them must be greatly increwed, and that no liverace man should be overlocked. The Principal Chaplains are, therefore, touing a general appeal to all Church people to undertake this duty and privilege on the widest possible scale.

#### Who should Write

Even one agrees that correspondence is the sacred duty of the family and immediate relatives, but every tiervice mun has interests cartaide of the family circle and loves to hear from anyone who has had almilar interrets to life OBTI. Persons prestously associated with him in the alsop, on the tarm, in school, in aport circles, fraternities, or lodger, and in his twome church, are urged to write him as often as possible, giving news of those various forms of activity which were his in civilian life. The neighbours next door, the head of his service club, the cultain of his football team, the teacher in his former school, the young people he chummed around with, and the minister and other officuts of his church all have a mighty part to play in contributing to the

murale of the atment Bernice men The Right Kind of Letter It should be borne in mind that the

The last conference with General purpose is not simply to increuse the McNaughton was just as informal, and i munber of letters west. The character of the letter is all important. Naturally It opened in a mess foom at head- the family letter will deal with intimate quarters, with the General sitting on affairs at home. This is as it should the broad sill of a bay window with be; but it has been pointed out that the editors grouped around him while not more than one quarter of any letter should be about difficulties at home After talking in a conversational if the wife, or other members of the mauner about many matters, including family, run into difficulty-and all famshipping problems, the manufacture of liles have their troubles the Bervice weapons, especially those made in Can- man naturally wants to be informed; ada, transatiantic air transport, but he can be informed in such a way training and equipping of troops, food that he will not be too depressed as and army medical services, he sud- a result. Three-quarters of the letter denly leaned forward and asked should be news and cheerful, and ·Would you boys like to come up- through the whole letter there should stairs with me?" He then led the way run the refrain that the family at home are tackling their problems in the

Letters from children are always uplifting and interesting. Children do Rising, he shook hands with each not know how to be depressing or despondent in their correspondence. They Ocneral McNaughton is tall, lean, can send pressed floors, talk about and speaks in a quiet, confident tone their school and personal interests, and that shows that he knows just what take the Service man out of his immhe is talking about. One cannot help ediate environment in such a way that but be improved with his quiet, kind- he will be the better for it. Every Canly manner, which at the same time adian, in writing to men on active sershows his tremendous energy and abil- vice, will do well to include newsy items

The Wrong Kind of Letter

Canadians may well feel confident | Some letters from relatives are full that their army is in the best hands of self-pity, such as that from the wife as long as General McNaughton re- who says: "I am so lonely and fed up I don't care whether or not I go on General McNaughton is a native of living". This is enough to lower the Baskatchewan, born there in 1887. He morale of any soldier husband, and it from McGill University and studied at atives stricken with loneliness should the Royal Staff College, and the Im- seek other people in greater distress

hael and St. George, and many other ly. Many of these letters are not based on fact and many tell only partial He was for several years head of the truths which may be wrongly interpre-

Emphasis on the financial success of civilians in these war days may make the Servce man feel that he was foolish to join up and that those who have stayed behind are profiting by his absence. He should be made to feel that Literally hundreds of groups in the everything is being done to provide for

> A Practical Suggestion Churches and other societies should

take every care to see that all of their the name, rank, number, and correct In Ontario, headquarters officials address of the Service men are all

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state, there are now sixty banches of typewritten. The names are then read typewritten. The names are then read out at the meeting of the society or officers and 2,134 committee members. Contained within those sixty bran-flervice man then volunteers to write takes the envelope, encloses the group, and members who know the letter, and then posts it. The maintain-flervice man then volunteers to the letter, and then posts it. The maintain-flervice man then volunteers to ing of an up-to-date list of names and store, alert and sotire.