

Chaplains Bissell and Simard have an informal discussion with cadets during a break in the training program at this summer's Sea Cadet training centre, CFB Cornwallis. The Protestant and Roman Catholic chaplains provide a wide range of services to the cadets during their stay at Cornwallis.

Chaplain . . . the Cadet's Friend

The work performed by the Protestant and the Roman Catholic chaplains at the 1970 Sea Cadet training centre, CFB Cornwallis, does not stop with looking after only the spiritual welfare of the cadets, or at the end of the normal working day.

Rev. G. E. K. Bissell of Corunna, Ont., the Protestant chaplain, and Rev. Laurent Simard, Ottawa, the RC chaplain, play a key role in assisting in the overall training and welfare of the cadets while they are at Cornwallis.

In addition to conducting their respective Sunday morning services, Lt.(N) Bissell and Capt.(A) Simard in effect act as a cadet's clergyman away from home and are available 24 hours a day to assist in any situation that may arise.

One of their most satisfying tasks is the padre's hour which each conducts during the evenings.

These sessions last approximately one hour and are informal by intent. The cadets are given the opportunity of selecting the topics they wish to discuss, including religion, school, parental control, social relations and love, etc. The discussions are fairly free-wheeling.

The chaplains also visit with the cadets in their blocks during the evening, or invite the cadets to visit them in their respective offices should they have a personal or emotional

problem which they wish to discuss in confidence.

The chaplains are often called to provide comfort and advice if there is a death or serious illness in the cadet's family while he is away from home, as well as making hospital visits.

In the case of Father Simard he is often asked to assist French-speaking cadets overcome the language and cultural differences which some encounter on their first trip away from home.

Both chaplains have the training and experience necessary to work effectively with large numbers of young people.

Lt. Bissell, a graduate of Wycliffe College, University of Toronto, and a priest of the Anglican Church of Canada, is commanding officer of the Sea Cadet Corps Repulse in his home town. He has served the cadet movement for a number of years, both at home and at summer camps at Acadia prior to 1964, Quadra and Cornwallis.

Capt. Simard of the College Dominicain de Theologie, Ottawa, has taught at the high school and college levels for a number of years. A graduate of Laval University he taught French in the Chicago high school system for four years, and at present is a teacher of public speaking in Ottawa.

The "In" Routine

A question that is often asked by Sea Cadets during the regular training year is: "What happens when I first arrive at the summer training centre?"

Lt.Cdr. E. G. Bradley, training officer at this summer's Sea Cadet training centre, provides a simple answer.

A cadet arrives at the training centre by one or means of transportation provided free by DND, including rail, bus or train.

On arrival at the centre he is issued with bedding and a summer uniform, and then assigned to a section in one of three accommodation blocks.

Once settled in his new 'home' the cadet is assigned to one of 16 divisions, depending on previous cadet experience, where he meets his divisional officer, a person with whom he will have close contact for the next two weeks.

Now the cadet is ready to commence his training.

The cadet soon finds that the old saying "early to bed and early to rise" has its good points as he participates in a full round of training and recreational activities.

During his free time, especially in the evenings, he is encouraged to make new acquaintances from other provinces, take part in sports or attend a class of instruction of his own choosing.

A cadet quickly learns that mother is not around to make his bed, pick up his clothes, and tidy up for him. This, he has to do for himself.

However, at the end of the two-week period the cadet who departs for home can take considerable pride in knowing that he has taken another big step in becoming a man.

Corps Attending 2nd Training Period

Newfoundland: RCSCC Beothic, Fort Townsend, Golden Hind, Great Eastern, Labrador, Mary Rose, Matthew, Terra Nova and Windsor. Nova Scotia: RCSCC Cape Breton, Caribou, Dreadnought, Louisbourg, New Waterford, Sydney, and Westmount. Quebec: RCSCC Champlain, Jacques Cartier, Joliette, Richelieu, Rouanda, Trafalgar, and Sioux. Ontario: RCSCC Drake, Falkland, Haida, Howe, Illustrious, Lanard, Quinte, Scarborough, Skeena, St. Lawrence, Stormont, Trent, Petrolia, and St. Georges.