

Lieut. George Darling Writes Interesting Notes on Visit to Cornwall

Admired the Scenery at Penzance, St. Ives, St. Just, Mousehole, and Other Places of Interest on the Cornwall Coast. Met Many Interesting and Kindly People.

Lieut. George Darling of the Royal Canadian Engineers, who is now in North Africa, on his last leave in England wrote home an unusually graphic letter describing to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. Darling, his travels and interesting experiences since leaving Timmins. His description of a leave spent in Cornwall will be of particular interest to many here where there are so many loyal "Cousin Jacks," and "Jennies."

The following is part of this letter from Lieut. Darling: "My first view of the harbour at Penzance was quite striking. The slanting light of late afternoon seemed to fall through a rift in the clouds on the nearest thing to a fairy castle I have ever seen—St. Michael's Mount."

"At 6.30 p.m. we arrived in Penzance. My lady friend (referred to previously in the letter) gave me her card with her address at St. Ives. Later, I found the address of a sergeant-major on the back which attests to her powers I suppose."

"I didn't know who I was going to meet, but as I walked along, an old chap tapped me on the shoulder and asked, 'Are you Lieutenant Darling?' I replied in the affirmative, and he hustled me over to a waiting car, and we drove out into the country. We passed the ruins of the Bataallah tin mine, and stopped beside a house about the size of ours well out in the country. At the door I was met by Mrs. Nias, a lady 62, and her invalid sister-in-law, Miss Nias. They had an American Lieutenant there who was leaving the next day. He was from Boston—quite nice, but not exciting. I was given tea and shown to a very comfortable room. Then we had dinner, and what a dinner it was! A real roast chicken, with all the trimmings. They had killed one of their chickens for the occasion."

"The ladies were very interesting and I grew to like them a great deal. Mrs. Nias has several sons, all officers in the army. Two were at Dunkirk and one was captured and is a prisoner-of-war in Germany. He is a lieutenant in the R.A.M.C., and has been promoted to Captain for his good work as M.O. to the prisoners there. He had just sent them a photo of himself, and they were so pleased to get it. The two of them keep the house up. They have a maid in the morning to make the beds and clean the house, but they each lunch and dinner themselves and enjoy doing it. Miss Nias wheels herself around in her chair and does as much as a normal person. She is amazing. Later when we all knew each other better, she laughed at the shock she assumed we must feel when we arrived. I think it remarkable that they take chaps on leave at all, but I can see that they miss their own boys around the house and really enjoy having us around."

"Next morning we had an early breakfast and the lieutenant left. I seemed to have developed a terrific summer head cold that annoyed me a great deal. I spent the day climbing around the ruins of the old Bataallah tin mine, trying to figure out what they were. I also climbed, all over Carse Cornwall, which is very pretty. The country is barren here—few trees, but lots of hedges and innumerable stone fences and stone stiles. The stiles keep the cattle out, but allow humans to pass over them, and these stiles are rather picturesque."

"Bus service is fairly good there, but very crowded. I tried to rent a bicycle with no success. Miss Nias, however, phoned a retired bank manager at St. Just, and he loaned me his bicycle, and his daughter, who proved to be a very nice girl, accompanied me on some of the trips on her bicycle. When I went down to their house to get the bicycle, it seemed to occasion much interest, as I was the only Canadian in that part of Cornwall, though American troops had just recently been stationed at Penzance. All the people I passed said, 'Good morning!' It was rather friendly and nice after the crowded hostile streets of London."

"The next day the young lady and I cycled to Sennen Cove and sun-bathed on the beach. It was a beautiful day, and the rocks, sand and sky joined with the sea in a colourful holiday's Utopia. My cold was so bad I was afraid to go swimming in the cold sea, but the sun probably was good for me. We clambered over the cliff's at Land's End, and watched the seagulls flying around Longship's lighthouse. A long convoy with barrage balloons came leisurely sailing around the point with a lazy column of smoke behind that merged into a dusty haze for miles along the rocky headland."

"Then we walked to a tea room and had the inevitable English tea and cakes. Afterwards we cycled back through fields of purple heather and yellow gorse to the young lady's home. There we were met her father (Mr. Nicholas) and a couple of cute little girls who were just coming in on their ponies. They looked very sunburned and happy. The one had tumbled over

hair and blue eyes as big as saucers, while the other youngster was dark with freckles and a mischievous look. We were all hot and thirsty and went into the house for drink varying from beer to water flavoured with synthetic lemonade. As we listened to the news, the Italian surrender came through, which cheered us all up even more. They were pleased but not too gay or demonstrative. I think we all realized that it was not complete and that the Germans would take some evicting. I wondered if you people back home realized this as clearly, or whether you allowed optimistic emotions to lead to more exuberant demonstrations than took place in England. However, we hailed it as the best news of the war."

"Next day (after aspirins the previous evening) I woke practically minus the cold, and much happier. I caught the bus in the morning at the 'Miner's Arms,' and at St. Just Mr. Nicholas and daughter got on. They were going into Penzance to do their shopping, as it was market day. The bus was crowded with Cornish women doing likewise. Some of the girls are quite pretty with blonde hair and the bluest eyes. Others are dark and have almost Castilian features, where the blood of Spanish sailors shipwrecked after the Armada's defeat still shows in eyes and set of nose and brow. Somewhere here Drake played at bowls on a pretty Cornish green. (I'll bet he was drinking tea or doing something equally English, while the Invincible Armada, even as Hitler's legions, threatened the English coast.)"

"When we arrived at Penzance they showed me a quaint little shop where I bought the postcards I am mailing in separate letters. There was a large assortment of water colours, some rather good and all inexpensive. I saw one of a thatched hut that I have mailed you as a souvenir."

"When he had coffee at a little shop where the waitress presented her autograph book for me to sign. I took some photos in the pub where there were a lot of small palm trees growing. It is warm here all year round."

"We had dinner at a restaurant, which was good fun. Then I caught a bus to St. Ives, and it was a good trip. St. Michael's Mount is a beautiful sight. I was sorry that visitors are barred there now. The trip to St. Ives is very pretty and the first view of the harbour is very striking. It is one of the few real old-time fishing villages left, and is perfect. I would not care for it so much if it were full of tourists. I wandered through the narrow streets and visited the quaint shops. At tea time it started to pour down rain and I dashed to a tea room and had a real lobster salad. Was it ever good! It continued to rain as I made my way back to the bus stand, and took my place in the inevitable queue. By the time the bus arrived, I was quite drenched. I travelled straight back to St. Just and changed from battledress to my serge uniform. I did not bring my civies this time as I like the battledress to climb around in. Then, we had a very nice dinner. The food was very good, and some visitors came in after dinner. They were a charming couple and told me a lot of Cornish history, and the man touched on tin mining and metallurgy."

"Next day was still wet and rainy. I visited Newlyn and Mousehole in the rain and had tea at the 'Lobster Pot,' in Mousehole during a heavy shower. Tea is not such a bad idea. It gives you an excuse for slacking off in the middle of the afternoon, and I am usually hungry by then when I am on leave. Mousehole is a quaint tiny place with a lovely little harbour. I watched the fishermen hang out their nets and talked to an old fisherman for a while. He turned out to be a bit of a crank and I couldn't keep him on Mousehole and off world affairs. He complained that fishing was not subsidized like farming and they had no recompense for nets broken by naval boats despite the fact that fishing was essential in food production."

"I went back for dinner early as I was quite wet again, and had a quiet and restful time at the home of Mrs. Nias and Miss Nias."

"Yesterday I took a bus to Mousehole, as it was a beautiful day and I was determined to get some photos that were good. After taking some snaps I walked along the shore intending to go to Lamornee. I had quite a chore getting up the steep banks and wished I had stuck to the road. There were stone fences and hedges running parallel to the sea all along the steep bank. These contained little plots of cultivated land and I had quite a time reaching the top of the hill. At the summit I met a couple of ladies, both quite nice looking and I asked them the trail to Lamornee. They said I was now on it, so I tagged along with them. The younger one Mrs. Reading, knew the country quite well and told me all about it. I took photos along the way, which lay mostly through farms and farm yards. At last we came out on a

flat rock overlooking beautiful Lamornee Cove where we sat for a while admiring the view. Mrs. Reading's husband is a captain, and a professor at Cambridge in peacetime. After tea at the foot of the hill, I left them and walked back to Mousehole where I caught a bus back to St. Just. I had a lovely climb and a pleasant visit with my two ladies. They asked me to come back whenever I wanted to, and that I must bring my mother or wife, to visit them sometime after the war."

"Next day, Sunday, I left in the rain, and had a long twelve-hour run back to camp. I did not run into anyone interesting on the train. A squadron leader, a civilian and an English lieutenant shared my compartment and I had a very pleasant trip. I had a very pleasant leave. I feel more rested than I have for some time, and quite refreshed mentally. Paul Laprairie phoned me to-day. I am going to meet him for dinner. He is on leave and wanted me to go on a '46' with him. Of course, I can't. If he had only let me know before I could have arranged it. I am going to London to-morrow for a short 2 1/2-day course. That will be interesting."

CANADIANS IN ITALY



Fresh Pork for dinner in the near future is the idea which these Canadians in Italy have in mind. The pig, a black one, was purchased from a farmer by Pte. J. E. Conroy, Peterborough, Ont., left, and Pte. Albert McMillen, Toronto. (Canadian Army Overseas Photo)

Council Asks Civilian Defence Committee to Keep Up Its Good Work

General Recognition of the Value of C.D.C. Work. Keeping Organization in Active Condition Would Prove of Inestimable Value in Case of Any Emergency Here.

Recently announcements from Ottawa suggested that the Civilian Defence Committees organized throughout the Dominion for service in case of air raids or other war emergencies would not be further sponsored by the government as it was felt that any danger of invasion or air raid was no longer existent. The Timmins town council does not altogether agree with the idea of disbanding the C.D.C., believing not only that the organization has done good work in the past but that it may be of inestimable value in case of any kind of an emergency in the future. At a recent meeting of the town council the following resolution was passed unanimously:

"That the Timmins Civilian Defence Committee be instructed to maintain the organization intact as outlined in letter of the chairman dated Nov. 25th, 1943; and

"That this Council expresses its sincere appreciation of the excellent work accomplished by the Committee since it was organized."

The Council considered it inadvisable to disband the organization at the present time, and a copy of the above resolution was sent to Mr. J. W. Dougherty, chairman of the Timmins Civilian Defence Committee, with the suggestion that the organization carry on. The training given under the C.D.C. has been very valuable for those taking part and for the community. This training fitted men to handle any situation that might arise from fire, flood, accident or other cause. The experience of bombed cities overseas taught many lessons in the way of preparedness and meeting emergencies that might arise. While the purposes of the training was to fit people to be able to meet war emergencies, these emergencies are so diversified in their demands that they are duplicated in many peacetime emergencies. While it would appear that there is no danger of air raids in this part of the country now, there still remains the possibility of sabotage or other enemy action arising from actions of enemies or enemy sympathizers in Canada. In addition, there are many peacetime emergencies. Civilian Defence workers are all trained in first aid and similar work. One group taking

flat rock overlooking beautiful Lamornee Cove where we sat for a while admiring the view. Mrs. Reading's husband is a captain, and a professor at Cambridge in peacetime. After tea at the foot of the hill, I left them and walked back to Mousehole where I caught a bus back to St. Just. I had a lovely climb and a pleasant visit with my two ladies. They asked me to come back whenever I wanted to, and that I must bring my mother or wife, to visit them sometime after the war."

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First Juvenile Court Held Near James Bay Last Week

Magistrate Tucker Makes Trip by Dog Team from Moosonee.

Magistrate E. R. Tucker, of Cochrane, held the first regular Juvenile Court held north among the Indians of the James Bay area last week. A Hudson Bay post was entered last winter and a quantity of goods taken. The R. C. M. P. were soon on the job and found that the robbery was the work of a half a dozen Indian boys. The matter was dealt with just the same as it would be in other parts of the province. With this end in view Magistrate Tucker held Juvenile Court in the far North, travelling to Moosonee by train and going from there to the Hudson Bay Post by dog team.

So far as known this is the first time that Juvenile Court has been held among the Indians in the James Bay area, and reports from Cochrane are to the effect that the result was quite successful and that the Indians were much impressed with the procedure. Part of the stolen goods was recovered by the good work of the R. C. M. P. The six boys charged with the robbery were ordered to make restitution for the balance of the goods. The court suggested how this could be done, the boys helping in cutting wood and the sale of the wood providing for the payment for the goods taken and used or destroyed or lost. The boys were impressed with the seriousness of the offence and the necessity for avoiding any second offence, the decision in the case, as is common with Juvenile Court cases, being along the lines of allowing the lads a second chance to be good and honest citizens without having any stigma on their records for the first offence.

Women's Division R.C.A.F. Needs Bandwomen Now

Bandwomen Needed to Fill Vacancies in Brass Band.

Qualified bandwomen are required to fill vacancies in the Women's Division brass band. Players considered qualified on the following instruments can be enlisted providing they are found suitable in all respects:—Brass players, Cornet players, Clarinet players, Trombone players, Euphonium players, Bass drum players and E-flat alto horn players.

Library Board last Thursday (December 2) there was a great deal of comment on the success of Children's Book Week in Timmins. The opinion was expressed that the contribution of space by The Porcupine Advance helped greatly to make it such a success. The members of the Library Board, therefore, asked me to extend to you their very hearty appreciation of the articles and the very fine editorial which you wrote for Children's Book Week.

Yours very sincerely, (Mrs.) Helen Clifton, Secretary

Three on Ballot for President of Timmins Branch of the Legion

Ballots Sent Out This Week with Full Instructions for Voting and Returning. Six to be Elected to Executive from Twelve Names. Annual Meeting, Dec. 27th.

This week the ballots for the annual election of the officers for Timmins Branch of the Canadian Legion were mailed and this shows one of the biggest lists ever presented to the members. It also does more than that, it shows a greatly increased interest in Legion work and affairs. The response of the members in returning their ballots duly marked as per instructions on the ballot will also prove to those elected that the members are fully behind the work carried on by the Legion in this district.

The following are on the ballot for president, and with the names a brief sketch of the candidates is given: P. J. Dunlop, a member of the 1943 executive, chairman of the Finance committee, well versed in Legion matters and public affairs. Chairman Separate School board and on staff of Hollinger Mine.

A Name, has been president for a number of years in the past. Was awarded Life Membership for his work on behalf of the Legion. Mine Rescue Supervisor of the district. Granted J. P. certificate some years ago and has been of great assistance in this capacity to the veterans of the Great War 1 and to those of the present conflict.

Les. Nicholson, president of branch for 1943, taking the chair upon retirement of previous president. Has been a very energetic worker in Legion circles for years both in Timmins and Matheson. Holds Legion Efficiency badge; Secretary for the Zone in this

R.C.A.F. Now a Larger Organization Than C.P.R. and C.N.R. Combined

This Was One of the Striking Statements Made to Kiwanis Club, by Flight-Lieut. Gordon Hislop. Kiwanis Praised for the Contribution Made by the Air Cadets Sponsored by Kiwanis.

Flight-Lieutenant Gordon Hislop, of Toronto, here in charge of the Mobile Recruiting Unit from North Bay Centre R.C.A.F. was the guest speaker at the Timmins Kiwanis Club luncheon at the Empire hotel on Monday. His address was a most impressive one and showed in graphic way the notable growth of the R.C.A.F. One of his most striking statements was that the R.C.A.F. had been built into an organization larger than the Canadian Pacific and the Canadian National Railways combined. He quoted facts and figures in regard to men, equipment, etc., to prove this point.

Flight-Lieutenant Hislop had a special word of praise for the Timmins Kiwanis Club, pointing out the fine contribution made to the war effort through the organization and development of the Air Cadet movement here. The test for the men of the R.C.A.F., said the speaker, is nimbleness of mind rather than a capacity test. He explained that a man with great brain capacity might not be eligible for the service unless his re-actions were prompt and sure. Of course it took brains and ability for the flying service but equally necessary was rapid reaction and co-ordination.

Flight-Lieutenant Hislop had a special word of praise for the women of the R.C.A.F. They were filling a worthy need in the war effort by releasing men for flying. The women of the Women's Division of the R.C.A.F. do unusually effective service in code deciphering, meteorological observing, office work, wireless and other important lines.

The speaker urged that the Kiwanis and similar organizations should make it their duty after the war is won to interest themselves in international affairs, so that they too may add their influence to prevent wars in the future.

Stratosphere flying was another interesting topic dealt with by the speaker. In recent months engines capable of operating efficiently under stratosphere conditions has been developed. Stratosphere flying, he said, is now a reality, and it may be largely adopted in a few months.

The guest speaker for the day was introduced by Kiwanian Francis Woodbury, while Kiwanian Percy Moiseley expressed the thanks and appreciation of the meeting.

President W. H. Burnes was in the chair, and during the course of the meeting announced that there would be a directors' meeting at his home at 110 Tamarack street on Friday night at 8 p.m.

Visitors for the day included Pilot Officer Mark Banning, who is home to Timmins on leave, and Sergt. Stewart, of the R.C.A.F. Both were given hearty greeting, and Pilot Officer Banning was asked for a few words, responding briefly but effectively.

Kiwanian Percy Moiseley gave a report on the salvage work carried on by the Club.

Kiwanian A. F. McDowell gave a progress report on the Air Cadets, stating that another squadron was being formed of boys from 12 to 14 years of age.

Kiwanian F. Woodbury announced that there would be a Kiwanis Ladies' Night next Monday, Dec. 13th, at 7 p.m.

A hockey match between the Air Cadets and the Sea Cadets was announced by Kiwanian Percy Moiseley. It will be held on Friday of this week Dec. 10th, at the McIntyre Arena.

Kiwanian Ted Rowe spoke for Dr. Lee Honey, and said that Dr. Honey extended his kind regards to the club.

The weekly war savings draw was won by Kiwanian Jack Fulton. The community singing for the day was led by Capt. Douglas Church, with W. H. Wilson at the piano.

Timmins Boy Scouts to Make Another Collection of Waste Fats Saturday

More Boys Interested This Time and Patient Co-operation of Householders Again Asked. Good Success in Last Collection, but Better One Hoped for Saturday.

Waste fats are still very urgently needed for use in the making of munitions, and the Timmins Boy Scouts again on Saturday, Dec. 11th, will make a collection in town. For the convenience of the public the collection will be made between the hours of nine and twelve. There will be enough boys at the work to fully cover the town in that time. All householders are asked to co-operate to the fullest possible extent. In the last collection on Nov. 20th there were 700 pounds of waste fats gathered by the boys. This was better than some of the previous collections but still not good enough. The Boy Scouts also recognize that some good people who had fats all ready for them that date were unfortunately missed in the collection. The Advance earnestly asks the patient co-operation of the householders in this connection. The Boy Scouts have been having their own trouble but have been making a gallant struggle to overcome all handicaps. They have been organizing and planning. Before the last collection The Advance promised that the collection would be better than on some previous occasions. So it was. Again the promise is made that it will be still better on Saturday, Dec. 11th. The boys are taking very serious interest in the matter, recognizing its great importance. The collection of waste fats is a very essential matter at present, and all will agree that Timmins should keep up its end in this as in all other patriotic efforts. This is the idea that is activating the Boy Scouts and their leaders at the present time. There are two hundred Boy Scouts in town and over 300 Cubs, and it is planned to use as many of these five hundred boys as possible if needed to make a thorough collection on Saturday. During the past few days the Scout Leaders have been lining up the boys of all the troops with this end in mind.

Although it is only three weeks since the last collection it is hoped to make the collection on Saturday the best yet. On account of Christmas, the date for the collection had to be set a little ahead this time.

In a circular issued earlier in the war, the Boy Scouts asked the people in general to "Help the Scouts to help their country" in this matter of waste fat collection, and the following suggestions were given householders:—

Things To Do 1. Save all your waste cooking fats, save pan drippings from roast ham, beef, lamb and poultry. Save broiler drippings from steaks, chops, veal and bacon. Save deep fats, whether liquid

or vegetable shortening, from fried potatoes, fish, doughnuts, etc. 2. Pour into clean, wide-mouthed can. It is best to pour into a wide-mouthed can, such as a coffee or vegetable shortening can. Be sure the can is spotlessly clean. And strain your fats as you pour them in, so that all foreign matter is removed. 3. Keep in refrigerator or a cool place until the Scouts call for it.

Things Not To Do 1. Don't put your fats in glass containers or paper bags. 2. Don't let fats stand so long that they become rancid. If they do, the glycerine content is reduced.

This Fats Collection is not just a spur drive. It must be sustained for the duration of the war. Explosives will be needed in increasing quantities by all branches of the Armed Forces of the United Nations as the war spreads and intensifies.

Premier Drew in Britain to Arrange Trade Office There

In connection with Premier Drew's departure for Great Britain last week, the following information was released from the office of the Acting Prime Minister:—

It has been decided to open Ontario Offices in England so that Ontario may be directly represented in arranging agricultural and industrial outlets in Britain as soon as trade revives. Through these offices, plans will also be made for the extension of commercial and trade outlets in various countries as soon as trade can be resumed.

It is also intended to make special arrangements for assisting troops from Ontario in connection with any problems which may arise during the period of demobilization.

It is understood that the Prime Minister will announce further arrangements of considerable importance after they have been completed in London.

It will be recalled that the first point in the 22-point programme, which he placed before the people of Ontario last summer, promised the strengthening of the British partnership in every way possible and it is understood that his personal visit to Britain is connected with that undertaking.

The Prime Minister flew by bomber from Montreal and arrived in London on Thursday last.