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Finest In Comfort and Food Is Provided for Soldiers In Dominion's New Army

Work for Victory

ACTION NEEDED NOT CRITICISM

—G. G. McGEER

"We must conquer or be destroyed.

"We can win this war by putting everything we have into it. We can lose it by failing to make the supreme effort of our united power."

Thus, briefly, forcibly did G. G. McGeer, K.C., M.P., drive home to British Columbian radio audiences Tuesday night the seriousness of the war and the dire necessity of contributing "everything possible" to Canada's 1941 Victory Loan.

Mr. McGeer appealed to his listeners to put their bank deposits into Victory Bonds.

"LASH OF SERVITUDE."

He asked them to consider what would be the fate of all English-speaking peoples if "this world of ours were laid at the feet of Nazi military power."

"The answer to that question has been written with lash of servitude across the wrecked and blood-stained face of plundered Europe," said Mr. McGeer.

"It has been written for us to read in the tears, torture, blood and murder that witnessed the ruthless and brutal extermination of the Polish nation, the smashing of Yugo-Slavia and the crushing of valiant Greece.

"Yes, it is written even more clearly in the ashes of the humble homes of England that Nazism has made the charnel house for England's civilian dead."

THERE CAN BE NO PEACE.

"If we ever give in and accept an end to this struggle before Nazism is defeated and purged from the earth, there can be no peace or security for us who speak the tongue that Milton blessed.

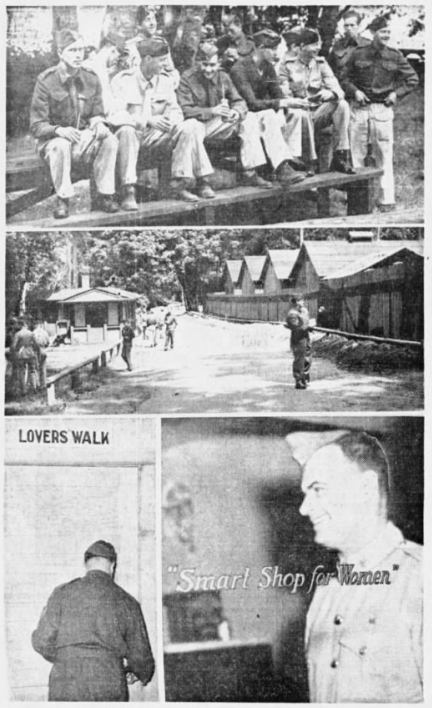
"If Nazism were to win this war Hitler has promised us the fate of annihilation."

Canadians are in this war fighting for the right to live, said Mr. McGeer.

"It is easy to find fault with what has been done and easy to say we should have been prepared, but if each one of us will do what he can, if each of us will do his share of what is given us to do, our contribution will be more effective than all the complaining and fault-finding we can put forth.

"Just at the moment the job for everyone is to see that this Victory Loan is over-subscribed.

"Let us buy Victory Bonds to the limit of our power. Let us become real stockholders in this great war venture, and then let us complain, grumble and criticize, which is our right, until we have another job to do."



IN VANCOUVER DEFENSE AREA—These photographs, taken during a newspapermen's tour of Vancouver defense establishments, gives some idea of life in the army at home. In the top photo a group of men serving at a nearby fortress enjoy a little relaxation. The middle shot shows a road which military authorities have asked the Park Board to close to civilians and the hutment which forms part of the fortress. In the lower panel are two pictures illustrating army humor. At the left the door called "Lovers' Walk" leads to the sergeants' mess, while at the right, "Smart Shop for Women" is still on an army window, a relic of civilian days.

Two Catholic Schools Planned for City

Two new Roman Catholic schools—one in Marpole and one in the West End—will be constructed to meet demands of a growing population, according to Archbishop W. M. Duke. Both schools will be ready for occupation in September.

The West End school will be a four-room building at Davie and Broughton. It will be conducted by the Sisters of the Immaculate Conception. The Marpole school will be built in the 1300 block West Seventy-third, and will be operated by the Sisters of Charity of St. John.

East End Is Lauded By Victory Bond Sales Head

"In the east end of this city you have the finest bunch of citizens that it would be possible to find—they don't wear their patriotism on their cuffs."

This was the tribute paid yesterday by Geoffrey Eyton, sales superintendent of southern section, unit F, Vancouver Victory Loan committee. Mr. Eyton was the speaker at Tuesday's regular luncheon meeting of the Rotary Club in Hotel Vancouver.

He dealt with the humorous experiences of his salesmen. Typical was the case of the young Jewish bond vendor who was forced to spend 45 minutes at one house. He didn't manage to sell a bond there—the lady of the house attempted to convert him to Christianity.

Entertainment was provided by Frank Scott and his talented family of dancers.

Kiwassa Club Meets

NEW WESTMINSTER, June 18.—Mrs. C. D. Peele was guest speaker at the meeting of the Kiwassa Club at the home of Mrs. S. R. Carey, 1522 Nanaimo street. She gave an interesting account of the pioneer days in the Royal City.

The attendance prize, donated by Mrs. R. W. Conn, was won by Mrs. R. H. Buchanan, president of the club. Assisting hostesses were Mrs. Elmer Carncross, Mrs. Stanley Wright, and Mrs. F. C. Grocock.

Looking Backwards

FORTY YEARS AGO
June 18, 1901.

VANCOUVER WEATHER.—Summer has come, and the brewer and the iceman are both fully aware of the fact. Yesterday was a hot one, and today is worse. For weeks people have been complaining of the backward season. The only man who is blue is George MacDonald, who has about 8000 tons of coal in stock.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO
June 18, 1916.

MAJOR PRINGLE BACK.—"If you have any pessimists in Canada at the present time, send them to the Western Front and we'll soon make them optimists," said Major the Rev. Dr. John Pringle on his arrival from Winnipeg. The major, who is chaplain attached to the Third Brigade of Canadians, has been attending meetings of the General Assembly in Winnipeg, and will conduct several services while he is in Vancouver.

TWENTY YEARS AGO
June 18, 1921.

MUST CUT WAGES.—One hundred and fifty thousand employees of the Canadian railroads are being told formally today that tentative agreements will be submitted to the various unions employed inviting them to subscribe to a 12 per cent. wage reduction, effective July 1. It is despite every economy in management which has been invoked, despite short time in shops and elsewhere, the railways are unable to continue present wages.

Victoria Convention Of Royal Arcanum

The fortieth annual session of the Grand Council of Washington, Oregon and British Columbia, Royal Arcanum, will be held Friday and Saturday in the Empress Hotel at Victoria.

The supreme council will be represented by Wilford T. Shay of Denver, who will instal officers to be elected at the session. About 150 delegates from Vancouver, Seattle, Portland, Tacoma, Spokane, Olympia, Everett and Bellingham will attend.

BEARS GREAT RESPONSIBILITY

Signal Corps' Communications Network Is Vast Organization

Upon Major W. E. Leppard, officer commanding, and his Royal Canadian Corps of Signals unit in Vancouver Defense Headquarters, rests the responsibility of setting up and maintaining in all emergencies the intricate system of communications linking all military units of the Vancouver and Fraser Valley area.

It is a tremendous and important task, involving the use of telephones, wireless, radio, mobile radio units and even motorcycle despatch riders.

So Major Leppard's men must be expert technicians, the kind of men who make big wages at their jobs in civilian life.

They must be trained as fighting men, too, because in the field they look after themselves as best they can while carrying on their vital work.

JACKS-OF-ALL-TRADES.

Jack-of-all-trades you might call a signalman, for the scope of his activities in the course of maintaining communications is amazing.

They are metal workers, electricians, radio and wireless technicians and operators, telephone linemen and operators, acetylene welders, electric welders, cable-splicers, Instrument mechanics, carpenters, despatch riders, and, of course, all fighting men.

Major Leppard is particularly proud of his corps.

"I have an outfit any commanding officer would be proud of," he told a Vancouver Daily Province reporter.

"They have been gathered together from all over British Columbia. Some of the men used to be in highly paid jobs, some were radio and wireless amateurs, some were just young fellows who tinkered with engines, with radio or welding as a hobby."

MAKE FINE UNIT.

The major proudly displayed a complete interoffice communicating system for Defense Headquarters.

"My men made these . . . made them from scrap metal. We don't buy radio equipment. We make it right here. We make radio transmitters for all the forts in the area.

"The men in this unit have been trained in mechanical and technical work that will prove of value to them all their lives when this war is over."

The signallers have their own drafting and designing room, and they even built their own desks and equipment.

Major Leppard introduced his right-hand man, Sergt.-Major H. Hearnden, who handles the supervision of all maintenance and construction work done by the unit.

Sergt.-Major Hearnden recalled the electrical storm which last week "paralyzed" Vancouver and district. "We had light and power service in Defense Headquarters restored in an hour," he said.

PROUD OF "BRAIN CENTRE."

Major Leppard is proudest of all of what he calls the Vancouver Area's "brain centre"—the busiest switchboard this reporter had ever seen.

It connects with every fort and military unit in the Vancouver and Fraser Valley area.

He explained that, at whatever cost, it is his unit's job to see that communications are set up and maintained. Signals must go through, not only from the army command to the division, brigade and battalions, but back from them to the army centre, so that every operation may be completely co-ordinated.

The Corps of Signals maintains an ultra-modern system of radio communication employing self-contained mobile field units that enable the army command to keep in constant touch with each of its branches wherever they may be.

There are so many alternative means of communication that an enemy could not hope to disrupt them all. They consist of telephones, radio, mobile radio units, and as a last resort motorcycle despatch riders or even runners.

The messages must go through—whatever happens.

"Portuguese is the official language of Brazil.

TOUR OF VANCOUVER DEFENSES

'NOT BAD AT ALL,' RECRUIT FINDS

Fortress Camp Shines With Cleanliness, Visiting Scribes Discover

By DON MASON.

"Not bad, this modern army life . . . not bad at all!

"Plenty of good food, well cooked; not too much work, plenty of time and facilities for recreation—what more could a young man ask?"

Sounds like an advertisement for Canada's recruiting drive, doesn't it? But the speaker, a young Canadian soldier of two weeks' standing, didn't mean it that way.

He was sincere in his praise. He likes his new job.

He was answering questions of reporters who accompanied Col. C. G. Beeston, officer commanding, on an inspection tour of part of the far-flung Vancouver defenses.

Two weeks ago this soldier was a private citizen. Today he is serving with an artillery battery at a fortress that is a strategic part of the defense of this area.

ENTHUSES OVER FOOD.

He was agreeably surprised to find such excellent living conditions in a Canadian army camp.

"I had been prepared for something quite different. You see, I had heard about 'lousy' army grub . . . you know the sort of thing. But I have found that the grub in this man's army is as good as, or better than, that served in the average Canadian home . . .

"Our bunks are swell, and boy! You don't know what cleanliness means until you join the army."

Lieut. C. L. Curtis-Willson, British army officer who arrived in Vancouver a week ago after nearly two years of active service in southeast England and France, conducted the newsmen through the fortress camp.

MODERN VILLAGE.

He showed them a modern village of neat, clean hutments—practically complete within itself.

The camp's kitchen would make the neatest housewife look to her laurels. It is as clean as a new pin—not for the occasion because this was a surprise visit. The press party arrived just in time to watch Bombardier Gil Coleman, head cook, and his staff preparing lunch.

In case the reader should think that the young gunner was exaggerating, here is the menu for this fortress camp for that day:

BREAKFAST—Rolled wheat, bacon and boiled eggs, toast and honey, coffee.

LUNCH—Vegetable soup, roast beef, roasted potatoes, boiled carrots, bread pudding and custard sauce, bread, tea.

SUPPER—Hamburgers, fresh tomatoes, boiled potatoes, baked apple, tea.

It's fresh milk for breakfast. Canned milk for other meals.

And a box of British Columbia's famous apples is kept in the kitchen at all times. A soldier can have as many as he wants as often as he wants.

PLAN MEALS CAREFULLY.

The modern army meals are planned by expert dieticians, planned for health and made as tasty as possible. In camp the meals are planned a week in advance and can be changed, however slightly, only by permission of the Orderly Officer.

Cleanliness is almost a fetish. Every utensil used in the kitchen and the mess hall is sterilized, either chemically or with boiling water.

Personal cleanliness is just as important. The camp we inspected has one building devoted entirely to wash basins and showers for the men—and everything in the building, even the floors, is spotlessly clean.

The hutments are cozy and comfortable; the beds are cots in tiers of two—with springs.

A soldier in the last war wasn't so lucky. He slept on a bed spring of wooden slats over two-by-fours.

"We are beginning to get these new army cots in England now," Lieut. Curtis-Willson told the touring newsmen.

Gunner R. Hay, asked for his opinion of the army cot, declared:

"Better than the beds we sleep on at home. It's even comfortable in the 'upper berth.'"

Recreation plays an important part in the soldier's life in this fortress camp, although there are no nearby facilities for outdoor games except a well-used horseshoe pitch.

A Salvation Army hut provides a canteen, table games, a reading, writing and sitting-room.

The reporters left the camp believing:

"Not bad, this modern army life—not bad at all."

At a searchlight battery headquarters camp on the North Shore the reporters found more scope for indoor and outdoor athletics.

The fine, large armory has ample floor space for basketball and indoor hockey. A nearby park provides space for soccer and softball.

And there are pool and other table games.

Major Robert Hunter, officer commanding, proved to the reporters that at least one of the famous "punishments" for erring soldiers of the last war has given way to modern science.

FIRST AID POST.

There are no hills of "spuds" to be peeled by hand today. A machine takes care of that.

This splendid camp is equipped with a full regimental first aid post—just in case. It is in charge of Cpl. E. J. Perry, who takes a justifiable pride in his work.

"The more serious cases are taken to military hospital," Cpl. Perry explained.

Back in Vancouver's defense headquarters the touring reporters learned from Major R. H. Green and Lieut. C. G. Webber how the tremendous task of distributing supplies to units throughout the Vancouver area is handled.

The central supply depot is in effect a warehouse. From it every fort and station in the area, including the R.C.A.F. stations, receive their rations, a week's supply at a time.

To give the reader an idea of the magnitude of the task, there were 65 tons of potatoes in storage at the headquarters that day. Most of these, by the way, were donated by Lulu Island Chinese growers.

And there are tons of meat, in refrigerators; butter, eggs and cheese, and tons more of non-perishable supplies.

Feeding an army is definitely "big business," and the Vancouver area handles it as such.

The food is inspected at headquarters, and then, after it is distributed to the various forts and units connected with headquarters, officers make unexpected visits to the various camps.

Nothing is left to chance.

Not bad this modern army life. . . .

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