

PRINCESS PATRICIA'S
CANADIAN
LIGHT INFANTRY



REGIMENTAL NEWSLETTER

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A monthly Newsletter devoted to the interests of all serving, and former members of the PRINCESS PATRICIA'S CANADIAN LIGHT INFANTRY, published at Currie Barracks, Calgary, Alberta, as an official Regimental publication, under authority of Lt col C.B. WARE, DSO, Commanding, PRINCESS PATRICIA'S CANADIAN LIGHT INFANTRY

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P.P.C.L.I. REGIMENTAL NEWSLETTERTHE COMMANDING OFFICER'S CORNER -

All ranks of the Regiment sincerely regretted the absence of Brigadier A. Hamilton GAULT, DSO, CBE, ED, at the Trooping of the Colour. He was however, very much with us in spirit, as were PATRICIA'S throughout the country. He is now, happily, very much on the mend and is at Mont St Hilaire, although his address will remain care of the GAULT Estate, 437 St James Street West, Montreal.

Training is intensive for the coming summer months, with Support and " D " Company providing demonstration platoons for Wainwright Reserve Army camps. " A " Company handles all new recruits and re-enlistments, and the LEONFORTE and ROATTI recruit squads are showing much promise. Many 1st class recruits are coming in, and our strength is now over 400 all ranks.

The eighty eight Cadets of the Canadian Officers Training Corps, attached for four months to the Battalion, are showing outstanding progress day by day. The scheme of providing and training officers for both the Active and the Reserve Force is proving to be a first class one, with very satisfactory results to date. The Cadets have been rapidly absorbed into all phases of the Regiment's activities, and are deriving maximum benefit from their training.

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THE SECOND IN COMMAND REPORTS -

With the end of May fast approaching we say good-bye to what was perhaps the most eventful month of the year for the Regiment. This seems to be a fitting time to extend a note of thanks to the Royal Canadian Air Force for their splendid co-operation and their playing which did much to make the Trooping of the Colour a great success.

The air force band carry with them a bass drum which has become internationally known, since it bears the autographs of many prominent persons, such as Princess Juliana of the Netherlands, General A.G.I. McNAUGHTON, Mayor Fiorello La GUARDIA, and many Victoria Cross winners of the past war. At the request of Band Master Carl FRIEBERG, our Commanding Officer's signature was added to the long list of international celebrities.

Needless to say, our own "Drums" did an excellent job, and much credit is due Drum Major J.B. MACHIE, for the commendable showing.

With the break-up of the Currie Area Men's Canteen, we at last have our own Regimental Canteen again. Both wet and dry Canteens are being repainted and re-decorated. In addition, the dry canteen is being enlarged to include a coffee and snack bar, which should prove to be a very welcome addition.

There remains no doubt that the Trooping of the Colour greatly impressed the Calgarians who were fortunate enough to witness the ceremony. Since the parade, large numbers of Calgarians have told me of how very impressed they were, and of how very smart and soldierly, are the soldiers of the Regiment they see in town.

P.P.C.L.I. REGIMENTAL NEWSLETTERFROM THE ADJUTANT'S OFFICE -

As in our last Newsletter, the most important item of news for the month concerns the visit to Currie Barracks of a distinguished personage. On Monday the 26th of May, Major General N.E. RODGER, CBE, the Quartermaster General, paid the Calgary area, and in particular Currie Barracks, an orientation visit.

General RODGER, arrived in Currie Barracks at 1030 hrs, and was introduced to the area detachment commanders by Lt col WARE, the senior officer within the area. Immediately after the introductions were completed, the General proceeded on a tour of inspection of billets, both permanent and temporary, and other accommodation facilities in the area. His inspection was completed by noon, and with Major E.W.H. BERWICK, Officer Commanding LdSH (RC), General RODGER proceeded to the Lord STRATHCONA'S HORSE Officer's Mess where he was the guest of Major BERWICK for dinner.

During the afternoon, the itinerary which had been planned for the General, took him away from the Currie Barracks area, but by evening General RODGERS had returned. He was the guest of Colonel WARE in the PATRICIA Officer's Mess for supper, where he had occasion to meet all of the Regimental Company Commanders, and many of the other Officers residing in the mess.

In our March edition of the Newsletter, mention was made of the Regimental parade square, then an appalling mess.... well one wouldn't recognize it as being the same square now. During the month, by dint of furious activity, it has become a joy to behold. It is now graded, packed, macadamized, and smoothed, and stands ready to be black-topped. We are told it will be ready for use within a fortnight.

In addition to normal training, the Battalion is providing two demonstration platoons for demo work this summer. The first, commanded by Lieutenant R.H. GRAHAM, is to become the COTC Demonstration Platoon, and will be called upon to do demonstrations of weapon training and tactical handling for the student officers. Sergeant M. BARNETT, will be Platoon sergeant, and Corporals E.F. SHAW, G.J. GOLDSWORTHY, and P.A. LYNCH, are to be the section leaders. The second platoon, commanded by Lieutenant L.W. BASHAM, will be utilized as an Infantry cum tank demo platoon at Wainwright late in the summer. Sergeant A.J.G. DAVIS, is to be platoon sergeant, and Corporals L.P. BERARD, H.S. CHATRY, C. NORRIS, and C.V. NELSON, will do the section leading.

THE RSM's PAGE -

We were immensely pleased to have ex-Regimental Sergeant Major T.J. TURNBULL with us for the Trooping of the Colour. He was able to come to Calgary for a two week stay, during which time he spent many golden hours with the 'new-crop' in the mess. His tales of the early days with the Regiment were a rare treat, and an excellent picture of the corresponding days of reorganization after World War 1. We were all very sorry to see "T.T." leave us for his home in Winnipeg, on the 22nd of May.

For those who have not had the pleasure of knowing "T.T.", I will outline his biography and some of the bright spots in his colorful career.

He enlisted in 1887 as a boy with the ARGYLE and SUTHERLAND HIGHLANDERS, and served with his Regiment during their tour of foreign service in India. This was in the day of high adventure when a mention of that place.....India..... brought haunting thoughts of mysterious Indian tortures, and bloody skirmishes in the Lyber pass, to every man's mind. These were the golden days, immortalized by LIPLING.

It was not long before T.J. TURNBULL's bent for music took him into the band where he became a Bandsman and Piper. However, yielding to his yen for action, "T.T." was transferred to a duty Company, and soon rose to non-commissioned rank in the field. In 1900, he had an opportunity to attend famed Kneller Hall, but forewent this rare chance in his eagerness to get into action with his Regiment.

He served through the war in South Africa as an NCO at duty, and was wounded in the leg by a Boer bullet whilst crossing the 'Modder River'. His wound meant the end of the war for him and he was transferred back to the United Kingdom. Here he transferred to the SCOTS GUARDS, and subsequently became a Drum Major with that illustrious Regiment.

But greater things were in store for the doughty warrior.....he was posted to the ENNISKILLEN FUSILIERS and was appointed Regimental Sergeant Major of that Regiment.

During the First World War, "T.T." was with his Regiment through the campaigns in France and in Egypt, and remained with the "SHIRAZIS", until the end of hostilities. However by this time he had served under three monarchs over a period of 31 years.....a long time in uniform.....and so his career in the Imperial Army drew quickly to it's close. In 1920, T.J. TURNBULL was retired to pension.

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There is an old saying that you can't keep a good man down.....well, never was it more truly spoken than of T.J. TURNBULL. In 1921, RSM T.J. TURNBULL, came to Canada as an Instructor to the Canadian Militia, and subsequently in the same year, was appointed RSM of the PPCLI.

His career in the Canadian Army is a matter of legend. Much of the fine reputation established by the Regiment in Western Canada in the peace years between the wars, is attributable to "T.T.". His vast knowledge of procedures and customs of the service was unparalleled in the West. In fact, even while he was still serving he had become a popular legend in military circles. Members of the Regiment always said that the song, "The Sergeant Majors on Parade", and particularly the phrases, "Recruits say I bite, NCO's die of fright"....were written of RSM TURNBULL. Yet these references only typify the awe in which he was held and the respect which his bearing and manner commanded, for there was never an RSM more fatherly to recruits off parade, and more friendly and helpful to young NCO's.

He was renowned for his sense of humour and his quick wit. Old timers still tell of the occasion on which the Orderly Sergeant, resplendent with his belt, bayonet, sash, and stick, paraded the CO's orders with his braces hanging below his tunic.

"Just like ruddy "B" Company," said the old man coming on parade, "Review order upstairs...order down stairs."

RSM TURNBULL retired from the Canadian Militia in August 1934, after a period in uniform totalling 47 continuous years. He has left an indelible mark within the Battalion; at the outbreak of war, every Warrant Officer and NCO of Sergeant or higher rank, had originally been chosen and started upon his career by "T.T.". Even to-day, two of those whom he chose are with the Battalion.....RSM C. GARDNER, and CSM G. MILLER. Through them his work carries on.....the work of fashioning a new generation to serve as worthy soldiers of the King.

P.P.C.L.I. REGIMENTAL NEWSLETTERFREZENBERG DIARY - 1947At Currie Barracks, Calgary, Alberta -

8 MAY 47 - A gala Frezenberg Dance was held on Thursday the 8th of May commencing at 2100hrs, in the Battalion's modern and spacious Harvey Hall. Although the main Frezenberg celebrations were to be held on Saturday the 10th of May it was decided to hold the dance on the Thursday to avoid the inevitable complications of a tightly overlapping program. The decision was a good one for the dance was a success.

Over 350 were in attendance to dance to the music of Johny BLACHLEY, and to enjoy the intermission keyboard stylings of Pte S.I. SPIDELL. Luncheon was served at 2300hrs, and after a short intermission, the dance continued until 0100 hrs.

Special guests of the Regiment at the dance were the 35 members of the RCAF Band who had come from Winnipeg to play for the Trooping.

Much of the credit for the success of the dance is due Lt R.H. GRAHAM, and Lt C.S. ROBERTSON, who were in charge of administrative arrangements and interior decoration. Especially praiseworthy was the novel floor lay-out.....the hall looked as much like a cabaret as it was possible to have it look.

9 MAY 47 - The only item of importance appearing in the Regimental diary for Friday, the 9th, is an account of the excellent Frezenberg Dinner held in the Sergeant's Mess. Since one of our tasks is to avoid too great a duplication of reporting, we refer you to the section, " Sergeant's Mess Notes ", where an account of the dinner is published.

10 MAY 47 - The morning of the tenth opened as dismally as any Trooping Day has ever opened. Rain and dark grey, low scudding clouds driven by a biting north wind, sent all but the most intrepid, shivering indoors. The clouds held no promise of lifting.....the prospects of a sunny Trooping were duller than the day.

Still preparations went ahead; it was too late and would inconvenience too many people to cancel the show at this late hour.

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Miraculously, at 1130 hrs, the sun found it's way through the overcast for a brief instant.....the sky began to appear far less foreboding. By 1230 hrs, large holes were in evidence all through the leaden cloud strata, and a warm spring sun shone down. By 1400 hrs, in the face of the determined north wind, most of the clouds had dispersed, and for the first time of the day it appeared evident that the Trooping would, as everyone so fervently hoped, be a sunny one.

At 1400 hrs, the Escort and the Guards embussed at Currie Barracks and proceeded to HMCS Tecumseh, where they debussed at 1415 hrs. Already the Trooping guests and the spectators were assembling to hear a short band concert by the RCAF Band, conducted by Warrant Officer Carl FRIBERG.

At 1450 hrs, Pte H.R. PARSONS, marched onto the parade square to sound 'markers', whereupon the four Guard markers, Sergeant J.C. CCUTTS, Sergeant F.L. MACI, Sergeant D. HOFFMAN, and CQMS D.C. SMITH, were marched on and dressed by RSM O GARDNER. At 1455 hrs, the cased Colour and the Guards were marched onto the square. The Colour was taken onto parade by CSM P.J. FORD. CSM F.W. SWIFT, Corporal R.W. BRAIWELL, and Pte D.C. TOUROND, comprised the remainder of the Colour Guard.

At 1500 hrs, RSM O. GARDNER handed the parade over to Captain J.R. ROBERTS, the parade Adjutant, who formed the parade into line left, brought the parade to open order, dressed the rear rank by the left, and ordered the Warrant Officers and NCO's commanding the Guards to the front. The four Warrant Officers, CSM G.H. LEE, CSM G.E. MILLER, CSM J.D. WOOD, DCM, and CSM W. DEBLY, DCM, moved to the saluting base to the tune of "Thunder", played by the Regimental Drums. When they had turned inwards and ordered arms, the Drums moved from left to right playing 'Colonel Moore', whereupon the Officers came onto parade and fell in facing the Guards.

At 1515 hrs, the Adjutant handed the parade to Major W de N WATSON, DSO, MC, the Parade Second in Command. Major WATSON slow marched the Officers and Warrant Officers to their respective guards while the Air Force band played "Land Of Hope And Glory". The Second in Command then gave the command "Troop". The combined band and Drums moved across the square first in slow time and then in quick time to the music of "The Colours", and "Sons Of The Brave". Immediately after the counter march of the combined band and Drums, the Escort for the Colour, under command of Lieutenant J.L. McCULLOCH, marched to the Colour to the quick-step, "British Grenadiers". RSM O. GARDNER then received the Colour from CSM FORD, and in turn presented it to Lieutenant

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J.E. LEFEBVRE, the junior Subaltern.

After the Escort for the Colour had presented arms to the Colour, and sloped arms once more, the Colour was Trooped through the ranks of the Guards who remained rigidly at the present. During this colorful portion of the ceremony the RCAF Band played, "The Garb Of Old Gaul".

Upon completion of the Trooping through the ranks, the parade marched past the saluting base in first slow, and then in quick time, with the Commanding Officer, Lt col C.B. WARE, DSO, taking the salute. Thereafter the Guards were reformed into line and advanced in review order for the General Salute.

The Commanding Officer then addressed the troops on parade, first reading to them the telegram of regret received from our honorary Lieutenant Colonel, Brigadier A. Hamilton GAULT, DSO, OBE, ED, who owing to illness was unable to be with us as he and we had so greatly hoped. He reminded the troops of the glorious self sacrifice of the heroes of Frezenberg, an example which set the pattern for the Regiment for all time and which never is nor ever would be let down. He recalled that May the 8th is also the anniversary of VE Day, and that we do well on this day to commemorate the memory also of the many gallant officers and men, some 400 of them, who laid down their lives in World War II for their Regiment and their Country. In ending he said, "On this our Regimental Day we remember all those gallant men of ours who made the supreme sacrifice, and we hallow their memory as an example and a way to duty for all of us and for all Canadians in the years to come."

After Colonel WARE had finished his address and marched off the parade, the Colour and the Troops were marched off to the "Mad Major", played by the Air Force band. Once off parade, the Guards were embussed and transported back to Currie Barracks, where the Commanding Officer, thanked all ranks on parade for their fine showing of the afternoon. Major WATSON, then dismissed the Guards.

Receptions were held in each of the three messes commencing at 1630 hrs. Their great success surpassed even our wildest expectations. Approximately 1200 guests were entertained by the Regiment, thus crowning our first Trooping held in Calgary with a wreath of success.

The day ended on a happy note....the weather had not been too unkind....a large number of guests and spectators were on hand to witness the colorful ceremony....and the receptions had been a great success.

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Among our guests were many familiar faces. Both Major General and Mrs A.E. POTTS were able to come from Ottawa for the ceremony; Colonel and Mrs SHOULDICE were present; Rowan COLEMAN, "Charlie" LEIGHTON, and Major W.G. GIBSON, were also able to attend. From Winnipeg came Major J.E. LEACH, Captain R.O. PORTER, CSM R. DUNN, and Sergeant D. COYNE. Major Meredith J. EGAN, Captain W.H.J. STUTT, Captain G.G. BROWN, and Lieutenant D.J. MacQUARRIE, came from Edmonton for the ceremony. Captain A.M. MILLS, who is employed as Staff Captain "A" at Rear Headquarters Western Command, was present; as were Terrence P. McCONVEY, now of Saskatoon, and Captain R.W. POTTS, now stationed with the RCSME in Chilliwack, British Columbia. Major A.H. FRASER, DSO, who was in Currie Barracks for the first two weeks of the month, was present at all parades and receptions.

RSM T.J. TURNBULL, as in the past, was on hand to view the proceedings with an experienced eye. RQMS HAMPTON, and CSM WOODBURN, as well as Pte BRADLEY, were also able to be present at the Regimental festivities.

Two original PATRICIA'S, former Sergeant J. JACKSON, and former Lance Corporal R. APPLETON, whose Regtl numbers were 299 and 1244 respectively, were on hand to view the parade. Both Sergeant JACKSON, and Lance Corporal APPLETON, are residing in Calgary, and both were over-joyed to see their 'Old' Regiment perform the colorful ceremony.

11 MAY 47 - On Sunday the 11th of May, the Regiment held it's annual Church Parade. Unlike Saturday, the weather on Sunday left little to be desired.....a perfect day.

The parade was formed up within Currie Barracks and embussed by 1005 hrs. The convoy moved off at 1010 hrs, and ten minutes later was at the debussing area, five city blocks from Christ Church. Immediately after debussing, the parade was formed up on the roadway leading to the Church, Guards were reported present, and the Officers fallen in with their Guards. From the debussing point, the parade moved behind the Drums to Christ Church, where all ranks filed in and were seated.

Present with the Troops were Major General and Mrs. POTTS.

The service was a Frezenberg one, most capably delivered by the Reverend H.H. CRUMP, rector of Christ Church. The Commanding Officer read the lesson from the Book of St. MATTHEW, Chapter 5, Verses 1 to 13.

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After the service, the parade was once more formed up and was marched past the saluting base. The Commanding Officer took the salute. From the base the parade moved to the assembly area where embussing was completed immediately. Once back in barracks, the troops were broken off to the "wet" canteen where beer was awaiting them.

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At Edmonton, Alberta. -

FREZENBERG Day was hailed in the best tradition at Edmonton. A good turnout of PATRICIA'S from both wars were on hand to pay tribute to those who fell at Bellewaerde on the 8th of May 1915, and to join in the traditional celebrations of the undying glory won by the "originals" on that day.

Prior to the banquet, at 1800 hrs, members of the Association were paraded to the cenotaph by the Parade Marshal, Sam CAMPBELL. Once here, Association President, Andy McCULLOCH deposited a wreath to the memory of those who fell, while the Pipers sounded the lament. The memory of Bellewaerde was foremost in the minds of all, and clearest in the minds of those "originals" present, eight of whom were at Bellewaerde on that fateful day.

At 1845 hrs the PATRICIA'S were piped into the banquet hall of the Macdonald Hotel, by Pipe Major Henry LAING and Piper Alex THOMPSON, and the festivities were begun. Foremost on the program was the tribute to fallen Comrades, after which Bob HUIR was called upon to say Grace. Andy McCULLOCH then proposed the toast to His Majesty The KING. A toast to the Regiment was proposed by Fred PURVIS immediately before the introduction of the guest Speaker, Colonel E.B. WILSON, OBE, ED, IC, by Lou SCOTT.

Colonel WILSON, a former Commanding Officer of The LOYAL EDMONTON REGIMENT (formerly 49th Battalion) who together with his Regiment served beside the PFCLI in the 2nd Infantry Brigade during the past war, spoke highly of the Regiment. He remarked that the Battle of Frezenberg was the turning point in developing the PATRICIA'S into the crack Regiment they were in two wars.

After Colonel WILSON's address, the hall rang to the tunes of many familiar Regimental ballads, including the renowned, "Ric-A-Dam-Do". Memories and tales of former days with the Regiment flowed freely.

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Included in the evenings agenda was an election of a new slate of Officers for the coming year. Here are the results of the election:

President	-	W.J. "Bill" RAISSON	
Honorary President	-	Brig A. Hamilton GAULT, DSO, OBE, ED.	
Past President	-	Andy McCULLOCH	
Vice President	-	Sam CAMPBELL	
Sec. Treasurer	-	Fraser M. GERRIE	
Executive	-	Bob SPROULE	Horace JONES
		Dick HERBERT	R.W. "Dick" ELLIS
		Don EDWARDS	Andy McCULLOCH
		Harry GUTHRIE	Alf PEART
		Percy JOHNSON	Fred PURVIS
		Norm CAMPBELL	Lou SCOTT

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At Toronto, Ontario. -

As in years past, members of the PPCLI Association of Toronto, turned out in force to observe FREZENBERG Day with traditional ceremony and celebration. This being the 28th anniversary banquet held 30 years after the epic struggles at Vimy and Passchendaele, many of the originals as well as veterans of World War II were on hand for the festivities.

The banquet was held in the 48th Highlanders Memorial Hall at 519 Church Street, commencing at 1830 hrs. Chief speaker of the evening was Major General Chris VOIES, CB, CBE, DSO, who commanded the PATRICIA'S from the 9th of October 1941 until 16th of November 1941 during the critical days of waiting in England. General VOIES captivated the ex-PP's with his ready humour and his quick wit, which became so well known throughout the Canadian Army during World War II. He spoke of his brief tour of Command with the Battalion and of his many and varied experiences during his eventful and colorful career.

A.G. VIETS, an original blinded in the last war and Norman A. FEYS, spoke of the significance of the Battle of Bellewaerde, and of the many happy acquaintances made with the Imperial Battalions whilst the Regiment was with the 80th Brigade.

Two distinguished Padres, Lt col Sidney A. LAMBERT, OBE, who always makes it a point to attend the annual dinner, and Dean RILEY, rector of St. James Anglican Cathedral, were on hand for the evenings fun. They together

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with the others present chuckled at the recitations of Jack MacLARIN, and at the excellent program of entertainment offered during the evening.

By unanimous vote it was decided to send a special Mother's Day greeting to Jenny McGregor MORRIS, our beloved London Mother of two wars. The greeting was handed by Association President B.C. STONE, to the waiting messenger who was to speed the message to London.

The evening was a marvelous success, with happy reminiscences, nostalgic memories, and well worn stories of the days with the PP's over there.

The annual Church parade was held on the following day, Sunday the 11th of May, at St James Anglican Cathedral, Dean RILEY, officiating. A good turnout of the Old Gang were on hand to pay homage to the memory of those Comrades who fell on May the 8th.

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FREZENBERG DAY MESSAGES - 1947 -

The following messages were received by the Commanding Officer, on Frezenberg Day, 1947 :

-From our Honorary Lieutenant Colonel, Brigadier A. Hamilton GAULT, DSO, OBE, ED, in Montreal ;

GREATLY REGRET UNAVOIDABLE ABSENCE FROM THIS YEARS TROOPING OF THE COLOUR. THE OLD GUARD AND THE NEW GUARD ARE ONE AND OUR COLOURS WILL MARCH FORWARD IN THE SAFE KEEPING OF SUCCEEDING GENERATIONS OF PATRICIA'S.

GOOD LUCK TO YOU ALL.

-From Jenny McGregor MORRIS, our London Mother of both World Wars ;

IF YOU ARE HOLDING A PARADE, AS I EXPECT YOU WILL BE, OR A SERVICE, OR AT LEAST A DINNER TO COMMEMORATE OUR GLORIOUS REGIMENT'S 8th OF MAY; I WOULD LIKE YOU TO GIVE MY EVER-LASTING LOVE TO THE LADDIES, MANY OF WHOM ARE UNKNOWN TO ME PERSONALLY, BUT WHO SHOULD THEY FOR ANY REASON WHATEVER BE WITHIN SPEAKING DISTANCE OR CALLING DISTANCE, WOULD BE VERY WELCOME....FIRST AS PATRICIA'S, AND AFTERWARD I HOPE AS PERSONAL FRIENDS. TO THOSE WHOM I ALREADY KNOW, I SEND THEM LOVE AND GREETINGS. AS THE DAYS PASS THE REGIMENT IS EVER IN MY THOUGHTS AND ALWAYS IN MY PRAYERS.

BLESS YOU ALL,...EACH OFFICER, NCO, AND MAN....EARNESTLY DO

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I HOPE THAT THEY WILL NEVER BE CALLED UPON TO GO THROUGH ANOTHER DAY LIKE MAY THE 8th.

ALWAYS AFFECTIONATELY,
YOUR LONDON MOTHER,
JENNY

-From Air Vice Marshal I.M. GUTHRIE, CB, CBE, the Air Officer Commanding, North West Air Command ;

SINCERELY REGRET THAT OWING TO ABSENCE IN THE EAST MY WIFE AND I WILL BE UNABLE TO ATTEND THE TROOPING OF THE COLOUR OF YOUR REGIMENT IN COMMEMORATION OF THE BATTLE OF FREZENBERG. IN DUE OF MANY YEARS ASSOCIATION WITH THE REGIMENT AT WINNIPEG AND HAVING KNOWLEDGE OF IT'S EXTRA-ORDINARY RECORD OF GALLANTRY IN TWO WORLD WARS I AM EXTREMELY SORRY I CANNOT WITNESS YOUR FIRST POST WAR TROOPING OF THE COLOUR. WITH YOUR KIND PERMISSION I PROPOSE THAT AIR COMMANDORS J.L. HURLEY, CBE, AND ONE STAFF OFFICER ATTEND YOUR CEREMONY AS MY REPRESENTATIVE. I WISH ALL RANKS OF THE REGIMENT THE BEST OF EVERYTHING IN THE POST WAR ERA.

-From the Commandant R.C.S. of Infantry, at Camp Borden, on behalf of all PATRICIA'S stationed there ;

ALL RANKS PPCLI AT R C S of I EXTEND GREETINGS ON TROOPING OF THE COLOUR. OUR THOUGHTS ARE WITH YOU ON THIS GREAT OCCASION.

-From Lt col R.P. CLARK, DSO, who commanded the Regiment from the Gothic Line to "VE" Day ;

REGRET UNABLE TO ATTEND TROOPING. BUSINESS MAKES IT IMPERATIVE I BE HERE TOMORROW AND MONDAY. BEST OF LUCK.

-From Major and Mrs R.S.E. WATERMAN, in Vancouver ;

BEST WISHES FOR A FINE DAY AND A GOOD TROOPING OF THE COLOUR. OUR REGRETS THAT WE SHALL NOT BE IN ATTENDANCE.

-From Dr C.E. CORRIGAN, a former Medical Officer of the Regiment who wired from Winnipeg ;

REGRET UNABLE TO ATTEND FREZENBERG CELEBRATIONS. BEST OF LUCK TO ALL PERSONNEL OF THE REGIMENT.

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-From Captain C.P. McPHERSON, who wired from Winnipeg ;
 BEST WISHES TO ALL RANKS, SORRY COULD NOT BE
 WITH YOU.

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- PATRICIA'S have long been renowned for their versatility. Most recent proof of this can be seen in the scholastic 'honors' list published by the University of Alberta upon completion of the last semester. Conspicuous among the scholars are two ex-PATRICIA'S, both of them veterans of the fighting in Italy during the recent war.

Lieutenant G.A. GARBUTT, of Calgary, who was wounded while with the Regiment on the 6th of December 1943, has taken top honors in 3rd year accountancy, and has been awarded a scholarship to the Institute of Chartered Accountancy.

Also in the School of Commerce, Mr Vernon MILLARD, of Calgary, who has just completed his second year of Accountancy, has been awarded two separate scholarships; The WINSPEAR, HAMILTON, ANDERSON, and Company Scholarship for 2nd year Accountancy, and the T. EATON Company prize in Commerce. Mr MILLARD was wounded and lost his foot whilst serving with the Regiment in Italy on the 31st of August 1944.

The Regiment extends it's congratulations and best wishes for continued success to both Mr GARBUTT, and Mr. MILLARD.

- In keeping with the times, our Adjutant, Captain J.R. ROBERTS, has become air-minded. He has already several successful solo flights to his credit, and is already aspiring to fly bigger and better aircraft. We wish him continued success and many "soft" landings.

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INTERMEDIATE "A" FASTBALL -

May has been a month of great success for the Regimental Fastball team entered in the Calgary Intermediate "A" Fastball League. To date the team has met five of the opposing teams in six games and has gone undefeated.

First game of the league schedule for the PATRICIA'S found them matched against the RCAF team from No. 10 Repair Depot. The game was played away from home on the Air Force diamond on the 8th of May. SPIERS was on the mound for the PATRICIA'S, and hurled a steady 9 hit game, while his team-mates were backing him up with a 19 hit barrage off of the two Air Force hurlers. FIRBY for the PATRICIA'S hit a long 7th inning home run to spark his team to a final inning 4 run rally. His was the only long hit of the game. The final score read:

PATRICIA'S	-	17 runs	19 hits	3 errors
R C A F	-	7 runs	9 hits	5 errors

On Sunday the 11th of May, the PATRICIA'S again romped to a one sided victory....this time against the team sponsored by Maclin's Motors of Calgary. The game was played within the barracks on the playing field and attracted a large gathering of spectators.

GAJERSKI pitched for the home team and yielded only 7 hits while striking out 6. In addition, the big right-hander hit two singles and a home run in five trips to the plate to score 3 runs himself, and bat in an additional 4. The PATRICIA'S went on a hitting spree to boost their individual averages....BEZAIRE continued to pound out extra base hits.....GRASLEY hit 3 out of 4.....RAVEN, CAMPONI, and FIRBY each collected 3 hits in 5 trips to the bat.....and in all, each member of the team hit twice or more often in the 9 innings of play. The final score read:

PATRICIA'S	-	14 runs	23 hits	1 error
MACLIN'S	-	4 runs	7 hits	0 errors

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Third game of the current schedule found the Regimental team pitted against the Golden Arrows, on Wednesday the 14th. Missing from the line-up was our star catcher, Corporal Phil RAVEN, who was admitted to the Currie Military Hospital prior to the game. BEZAIRE, who had been doing an excellent job on 3rd base, was brought in to fill the gap, and Lieutenant OSLAND, who had been managing the team, took up his position on 3rd.

The game followed the established pattern with the PATRICIA'S superior pitching and hitting enabling the soldiers to pile up a commanding lead. In only one inning were the PATRICIA'S put out without scoring at least one run. SPIERS took over the pitching detail and chalked up a masterful 3 hit performance. In addition he set a new mark by striking out 12 of the opposing batsmen to face him! At the same time, SPIERS shared the batting honors of the day with FIRBY. Each player hit safely 4 times in 5 trips to the plate. Among SPIERS' 4 hits were a smashing home run in the 3rd inning and a long double in the 6th. Two other homers were poled out by PATRICIA'S during the game.....FOX clouting for the circuit in the 2nd, and BEZAIRE hitting a 4 bagger in the 4th. The final score read:

PATRICIA'S	-	13 runs	19 hits	3 errors
GOLDEN ARROW	-	5 runs	3 hits	5 errors

The fourth league game was played in Currie on a chilly Monday, May the 19th. In spite of the adverse weather, a large gathering of spectators were on hand to see the home team score their 4th straight victory. On this occasion the Plamors were the victims.

A wild 8th inning in which the Regimental team worked 2 triples, 2 doubles, 4 singles, and 1 error into an explosive 8 runs, proved to be the margin of victory. SPIERS on the mound for the PATRICIA'S won his 3rd straight game, limiting the Plamors to 3 hits while bringing his season strike-out total to 24. GAJERSKI, playing in right field, was top man at bat hitting 4 for 5, including a single, double, triple, and home run. His 4 bagger was counted no run when CAMPONI touched him before he had crossed the plate. BEZAIRE clouted the games only other homer. The final score read:

PATRICIA'S	-	13 runs	17 hits	4 errors
PLAMORS	-	5 runs	3 hits	4 errors

The fifth and the sixth games were a home and home series played against the Calgary City Police Force. The first game of the two game series was played at Currie Barracks on the 22nd of May, and the second was played on the CNR diamond in the city of Calgary on the 29th of the month.

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GAJERSKI was on the mound for the PATRICIA'S in the first game, and yielded 9 hits while his team-mates were collecting 19 off of PETERSON and MOFFAT, the opposing moundsmen. The PATRICIA'S were never in trouble, and coasted to a decisive 15 to 7 victory. For the soldiers, both GAJERSKI and BEZAIRE hit for the circuit.

In the second contest the policemen showed a strong reversal of previous form, and came within one run of spoiling the PATRICIA'S victory string. The constables took advantage of 3 walks and 4 errors to put across 6 runs in the final 3 innings. SPIERS again took over the pitching duties, allowing 6 hits and striking out 12 opposing batsmen in 9 innings. GAJERSKI continued his home run spree by connecting for his 4th home run of the season. The game summaries are below.

1st Game:

PATRICIA'S	-	15 runs	20 hits	6 errors
POLICE	-	7 runs	9 hits	6 errors

2nd Game:

PATRICIA'S	-	11 runs	11 hits	6 errors
POLICE	-	10 runs	6 hits	5 errors

BOXING -

We have boxing action to report in our Sports roundup for the month of May. On the 23rd day of the month, two of the Battalion's top fighters met in the feature attraction of the widely publicized 17th Field Ambulance boxing card. The headliner was a ten round affair, each round being of two minutes duration.

Both Pte SCHAMMORN and Pte HAYES had seen action in the previous month in the Provincial Amateur boxing tourney staged at Cardston, Alberta, and had attracted wide attention as clever fighters....consequently their match was a popular one. Once again (Sergeant E. TRUDEAU) went along with the fighters to manage and supervise them in the ring. Just before fight time, both boxers were weighed in at 156 lbs.

Round One : The round and the fight opened at a lively pace....both boxers were obviously intent on taking an early lead, and consequently threw hard punches whenever a target presented itself. HAYES appeared the more aggressive of the two and was constantly worrying his opponent with an irritating left jab. Mid-way through the round two unintentional low blows thrown by SCHAMMORN, hurt HAYES, who never the less fought on.
HAYES round.

Round Two : Once again HAYES set the pace as he continued

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to dominate the in-fighting. His blows were well thrown and obviously had SCHAMEHORN in trouble through the round. However, through clever foot-work and fast blocking, SCHAMEHORN managed to stay out of serious trouble through the torrid 2 minutes.

HAYES' round.

Round Three: In a surprising reversal of his previous form, SCHAMEHORN came out very fast and began to rain stunning blows all over his surprised opponents head and body. HAYES bobbed and weaved out of trouble, but could never regain the initiative. SCHAMEHORN continued to press his opponent at the bell.

SCHAMEHORN's round.

Round Four: SCHAMEHORN continued to show increasing speed and clever punching to dominate the early minute of the round. HAYES fought gamely to hold his own, and did some effective and brilliant counter punching, but could not withstand SCHAMEHORN's onslaught. Midway through the final minute, HAYES was again in trouble, but seemed to be fighting his way out of the tight spot when suddenly SCHAMEHORN landed a solid blow to the chin. HAYES slumped to the canvas. The referee began to count and had reached a count of eight when HAYES began to rise.....he tried gamely to gain his feet but was counted out at 1 minute and 48 seconds of the fourth round.

Winner: SCHAMEHORN, by a knock-out.

THE REGIMENTAL RIFLE TEAM -

The Regimental Rifle Team has been active during May. On Saturday the 24th, five members of the team participated in the Calgary Garrison Rifle Association shoot at Camp Garcee, and without exception each managed to place in the prize money. The five team members who took part were; Captain J.C. NEWLANDS, Captain E.D. McPHAIL, Sergeant E. NORMAN, Corporal R.G. BUXTON, and Pte E.L. BILTON.

The shoot commenced at 0800hrs with 85 competitors entered in their various classes, and continued through the day until 1830 hrs. Included in the morning program were; (1) 21 or Bust at 100 yds, (2) application at 200 yds, (3) application at 300 yds: while in the afternoon; (4) application 300yds, (5) application at 500 yds, and lastly (6) application at 600 yds. Shooting conditions were generally favourable during the morning portion of the shoot, but rapidly changed to most unfavourable by the day's end.....a strong gusty, changeable wind made wind calculation and allowance impossible.

Top man from the Regimental team was Corporal R.G. BUXTON, who shooting Greenshot "B", captured 1st place at both

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200 and 500 yards. In addition he managed to place 4th in the morning aggregate, 6th in the grand aggregate, 2nd in the application at 300 yards (morning), and 6th in the application at 300 yards (afternoon).

Next to Corporal BUKTON came Captain McPHAIL with "in-the-money" scores at 21 or Bust at 100yds, 200 yards, 600 yards, and both the morning and the grand aggregates. Captain NEWLANDS placed in both the morning and the grand aggregates, and Sergeant NORMAN placed in the morning aggregate. Private BILTON, firing in the same class as Corporal BUKTON, placed 4th in the application at 500 yards.

INTER-COMPANY FASTBALL -

The inter-Company Fastball schedule is away to a healthy start. To date five games have been played, and at this stage of the race, "D" Company appear to be headed for the championship. All teams except the two COTC enteries have played to date, and thus far only the Officers, with a victory over the Sergeants, and "D" Company, with victories over both "A" and Support Companies, remain undefeated.

Scores have run high, with all but one game producing 20 or more runs. Most improved team in the league is the "A" Company entry who recovered from a 14 to 4 drubbing at the hands of "D" Company and returned to down Headquarters Company 24 to 4. The games to date have gone;

21	MAY	47	-	"A" Coy	4	"D" Coy	14
23	MAY	47	-	HQ Coy	20	Sp Coy	21
26	MAY	47	-	Sjts	21	Offrs	22
28	MAY	47	-	HQ Coy	4	"A" Coy	24
30	MAY	47	-	Sp Coy	2	"D" Coy	18

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Of course the reception following the Trooping of the Colour occupies the spotlight position in the Officer's Mess Notes for May.

The reception was a grand success with 300 Officer's guests passing through the receiving line between 1630 and 1710 hrs. Lt col and Mrs C.B. WARE, received the guests and made them welcome to our new mess. During the afternoon, many old acquaintances were renewed and many new ones formed. Tea was served at 1700 hrs, Mrs INIGHT, Mrs JENNINGS, and Mrs SCOTT, alternately pouring during the afternoon.

A fortnight later, the Mess was again host to many Calgarians.....this occasion being the COTC's introductory tea party. The party began at 1630 hrs and continued on until 1800 hrs. The Commanding Officer and Mrs WARE, and Major and Mrs WATSON, together with the Adjutant and all Company Commanders were present at the party.

At 1100hrs on the morning of the Trooping, all officers serving Regimentally in addition to many who were able to come from their places of duty across Canada, were assembled to have a group photograph taken.....the first since the formation of the present CA(AF) Battalion. Among the officers not serving Regimentally, who were photographed in the group were, Major A.E.T. PAQUET, Major J.E. LEACH, and Captain R.W. POTTS, DSO, RCE. The photograph was taken in the dining hall of the Officer's Mess in front of the uncased King's and Regimental Colours.

May has also been a very busy month in-so-far as Officer's Mess sport is concerned. A varied program of fastball tennis and golf provides ample opportunity for every officer to pursue the sport of his choice.

First item on the sports calender, was the fastball game played between two teams chosen from the Regimental Officers. The game was played on the 6th of May in ideal weather. The powerful team captained by Major D.L. CLARKE emerged the victors after a "hit-happy" 6 innings. Major WATSON's team went down to a thumping 34 to 17 score.

Still flushed after their high scoring game, the officers combined their two teams into one powerful unit and accepted a challenge hurled at them by the Sergeant's team. The final result was a great upset, and a severe blow to the morale of the Sergeant's Mess.....after 7 innings of good ball, the officer's team emerged triumphant 10 runs to 5. In fact the game greatly

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surprised the spectators, who were inclined to agree with RSM O. GARDNER, when he said, "History has been made."

The PATRICIA Officer's golf team suffered their initial set back at the hands of the STRATHCONA Officers. In a hotly contested competition, the Armoured Officers won by a 24 stroke margin. There were no spectacular cards handed in at the tourney's end, most scores being between 100 and 110.

The second Regimental Officers golf tourney was played at the Earl Grey Golf Course on Thursday the 29th of May. Scores were generally an improvement over the first cards of April. Low man of the day was Lieutenant C.M. PYNE, who shot a steady 93.

1st Team -

Lt col WARE	104
Capt McPHAIL	110
Capt HARBORD-HARBORD	118

2nd Team -

Major CLARKE	97
Capt MULHERIN	117
Lieut ROBBINS	129
Lieut LEFEBVRE	151

3rd Team -

Lieut FOX	100
Lieut GRAHAM	114
Lieut SUTHERLAND	116
Lieut MOAD	117

4th Team -

Capt SHAWCROSS	109
Lieut PYNE	93
Lieut OSLAND	72 (13 holes)
Lieut WHEELER	118

5th Team -

Lieut STOPPA	116
Lieut MONCRIEF	116
Lieut FENSLEY	134
Lieut BASHAM	141

Tennis has begun. An elimination tournament has been arranged to determine correct player seeding for future matches. The first round will be completed by the 8th of June.

THE PASSING PARADE -

- Our hearty congratulations are extended to Lieutenant and Mrs L.W. BASHAM, to whom on the 2nd of May was born a son, Peter.
- During the month we have said au revoir to Lieutenant J.L. McCULLOCH, and to Lieutenant J.G. LERR, both of whom were posted to Saskatchewan sub-area. Lieutenant McCULLOCH has gone in the capacity of A & T Officer to the Regina Rifle Regiment, while Lieutenant LERR, has gone as Records Officer, replacing Captain W.F. VINCENT, who is retiring to pension.

P.P.C.L.I. REGIMENTAL NEWSLETTERSERGEANT'S MESS NOTES -

May has been a busy month in the Sergeant's Mess. First item of note was the annual Regimental Dance held on Thursday the 8th of May, in Harvey Hall. All sergeants were in attendance, and to the man enjoyed themselves whole-heartedly.

On Friday the 9th, the Sergeant's held a mess dinner, their second since coming to Currie Barracks. Present as guests of the mess were; Lt col C.B. WARE, DSO, Major W de N WATSON, DSO MC, Major W.J. MacDOUGALD, Major D.L. CLARIE, Major J.D.M. GILLAN, Captain J.R. ROBERTS, Captain G.S. COOLEY, Captain C.M. REHILL, Captain E.D. McPHAIL, and Lieutenant A.V. ROBBINS. Unfortunately Brigadier A. Hamilton GAULT, DSO, OBE, ED, our honorary Colonel was unable to be present due to a regrettable illness. The dinner was a great success, largely due to the untiring effort of the dinner committee.

Since the Trooping of the Colour was held away from barracks this year, special busses were chartered to transport Sergeant's guests to and from HMCS Tecumseh. Sergeants SPIERS, and CLARIE were in charge of bus transportation.

After the Trooping ceremony was completed, a reception was held in the Sergeant's Mess to accomodate the many Sergeant's guests. A delightful buffet luncheon and a sparkling punch were served. Many "old-timers" were on hand to reminisce and exchange tales of former troopings in Fort Osborne Barracks, and to make many acquaintances among the new Mess members.

The Trooping was also an occasion for the children, for under the able supervision of Sergeant (Father) T.I. JAMES, and Sergeants ADIN and JENFINS, they enjoyed their own miniature reception.

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P.P.C.L.I. REGIMENTAL NEWSLETTERNEWS OF AND FROM PATRICIA'S SERVING AWAY -

During May, we have been delighted to receive more mail from PATRICIA'S whose duty takes them far afield, and consequently to catch up on a little of the go on which we shall pass along on this page. In addition, with the arrival of the COTC detachment from Camp Borden, which contains many old friends, we have enjoyed many personal liaisons, and consider ourselves right up to date on Camp Borden news.

- Captain C.A. WILKES, who is doing a tour of duty as Administrative and Training Officer with the Winnipeg Grenadiers, dropped us a welcome line on the 2nd of May. He reports that-
 - "here in Winnipeg we have many PATRICIA'S, some still serving and others on civvy street, and of course the PATRICIA Club is still a thriving concern amongst us. I hope to be able to drop in and say hello in the not too distant future. Being an old member of the Regiment, I am interested in seeing how the new crop is doing."
- Another ex-PATRICIA doing A & T work has written us to put us "in the know". He is Captain John S. EDMONDSON, presently attached for duty to the Canadian Scottish Regiment in Victoria, British Columbia.
 - ".....This is just a note from an ex-PP who is still interested in the Regiment. Received the first advice of your publication from LAWRENCE (Captain C.F. LAWRENCE) at West Coast Artillery, who was kind enough to lend me three copies. I must say that I found them very interesting from the view-point of an ex-PATRICIA. You will be doing us a great favour if you pass along the word that there are two ex members of the PPCLI employed with the Scottish.....namely E.O. ROBERTS, who is employed as a Staff Sergeant, and Yours Truly who holds the post of A & T Officer. Reading through the several editions, I have noticed several names that are familiar to me....OSLAND, IEMBLEY, HARBORD-HARBORD, Larry McCULLOCH, Bill GARDNER, T. JAMES, S. ADAMS, George MILLER, Colonel WARE, and several others. Please pass along my regards to them and to all old members of the unit. Reading about your celebrations of the 17th of March brought back memories of several former celebrations that took place in Winnipeg, and the regret that I was unable to be with the unit for this years celebration. Could you shed any light on the reasons for adopting the Rifle Green for the Regimental Blazer ? Wishing the Unit every success, now and in the future. "

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- We were very pleased indeed to receive a long letter from Lieutenant A.M. POTTS, serving at the School of Infantry in Camp Borden, and with the letter a long list of new subscribers to the Newsletter; we wish to thank Lieutenant POTTS and to welcome the new readers of our journal. Lieutenant POTTS writes in part.....

".....The letter has become a great favourite here, and its contents are read with avid interest by those of us in the hands of borden (Sands of Borden). Most of our personnel from the Regiment are in Calgary for the summer.

.... Life is very quiet, but I manage to keep myself fairly busy as Assistant Administration Officer, Messing Officer, Assistant Manager of the Camp Theatre, and Secretary of the Men's canteen, plus being mixed up with Unit Accounts. Never the less, I am happy with my job and still manage to get into Toronto on most week-ends.

.... It has been gratifying to see MONCRIEF and BERGER during their visits at the Medical Corps School. I'm all caught up with the news from the Battalion, and a little homesick for Calgary, after having talked to them.

.... I imagine that there is great excitement around Calgary these days, preparing for the Trooping and everything. It would be worth a month's pay to me to be there. I'll be thinking of you all on Saturday.

.... Please give my regards to all of the gang."

- From Camp Shilo, Bandsman F. LIGERTWOOD, a stalwart whose untiring effort and great patience with a temperamental Mimeographing machine made possible the first four issues of the Newsletter, has written to let us know how he is faring in that far away land.

".....I received the April copy of the Newsletter about a week ago, and I thank you very much.....We have been here over a month now, and I speak for all of us when I say that we miss Calgary very much."

- All ranks of the Regiment send their heartiest congratulations to Major and Mrs W.H.V. MATTHEWS, to whom was born on the 8th of May, a son, William Harold Victor, Jr.
- Major MATTHEWS is at present attending the 1st Canadian Staff Course at the Royal Military College, Kingston, Ontario.

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P.P.C.L.I. REGIMENTAL NEWSLETTERNEWS OF AND FROM Ex-PATRICIA'S -

More news from Ex-PATRICIA'S has rolled in during the month, and very happily, many old PP's were able to be present at this year's Trooping of the Colour. Consequently, the news of and from Ex-PATRICIA'S is not confined only to this page.....you will find mention made of Ex-PP's in others, such as the Frezenberg Diary - 1947. However, most of our correspondence is reproduced and acknowledged below.

- From Brigadier W.G. COLQUHOUN, CBE, MC, has come a letter bearing more subscriptions from the West Coast.....from the Women's Auxiliary in Esquimalt to be precise. We wish to thank Brigadier COLQUHOUN, who has become a champion "subscription-getter" for his great interest in the Newsletter.
- Another most interesting letter was been received from Lt col H.W. NIVEN, DSO, MC, who wrote to us on the 30th of April from his home in Scotland. Lt col NIVEN has been a steady correspondent, and his letters have done much toward helping us contact PATRICIA'S "over there". Colonel NIVEN's letter reads in part.....

".....Just received a letter from an old member of the Regiment who was a Corporal with us and is now Rector of Trinity Academy Leith. Reverend A.J. WEIR, MM, BA, PhD, a rather important person around Edinburgh. He is still PFCLI to the backbone and cherishes all the associations it recalls. I am sending on my copy of the Newsletter for his perusal and return.

.... He was one of the reinforcements we received after Passchendaele.

.... Hear from General WORTHINGTON, of the training your men are getting in the Yukon, and it is very interesting.....

.... Lately I have been picking up a lot of information of old PFCLI in Scotland, and may send you a list of men I have discovered.

.... Your casualty list for the past year or two of old PP's was sad reading. I knew them all; outstanding was Jim CHRISTIE who was the greatest warrior of them all, with more notches on his gun than any man in the British Army, he enhanced the reputation of the Regiment on many many occasions and books could be written on his exploits: each one of his deeds was an epic.

.... HANCE was Colonel ADAMSON's servant, and the cry of "HANCE" in any back billet was something some of us will never forget.

.... Again complimenting you in your efforts to interest all present and past members of the Regiment."

- Our beloved London Mother, Jenny McGregor MORRIS, has written us again on the 8th of May, to share with us memories of that epic date.....

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".....Here we are again on our great day.....and I am so glad to report that the January Newsletter, in it's fine blue cover has come in safely. It was devoured right away from cover to cover.....thank you very much for it. Someday our Sporting News will be better. I am so happy to know what the Regiment is doing today.

.... I always try to find a church somewhere, with a service on the 8th of May....if not I slip into an empty one, as on June the 2nd. This being a small town we just have the parish church...and wasn't it grand, tonight the Bishop of Thetford held a confirmation service.....and so May the 8th 1947, as May the 8th 1915, and May the 8th 1945, all mean much more than just another May the 8th.

.... I wonder how many of the old PATRICIA'S would remember Charlie WAJE, our first Quartermaster?

.... I see the Toronto Secretary mentions many old members who have 'passed-on' lately.....Charlie passed on March the 19th 1941, aged 83. He got his DCM on the 29th of February 1884 at Trenkitat, Battle of El Feb, and was at Paardeberg February 28th 1900.....and now old Jim CHRISTIE has joined him. They were both in Christie Street Hospital, and I have a picture of Charlie shaking hands with the King in 1939.... he was proud to tell how he had been decorated by and had spoken to Queen VICTORIA, and then to have his photograph taken as he shook hands with Her Great Grandson.

.... On Saturday the big "do" in Toronto, and on Sunday the Church parade....and in about a months time I shall be getting a menu signed by my beloved Laddies, and another souvenir will be added to my collection,

.... My love to everybody.....

- Once again we say many thanks to Fraser M. GERRIE, who sent us a menu and a clipping covering Edmonton PATRICIA Associations' Frezenberg Dinner.
- And to Eric W. HARRIS, Secretary of the Toronto PATRICIA Association, we also extend our thanks for his thoughtfulness in sending us the May the 8th notice, a clipping, and his personal account of the activities in Toronto on Frezenberg Day.
- During May we also had a letter from former Lieutenant J.V. "Vic" SPURR, who was Intelligence Officer with the Battalion for many months during the past war. Vic, whose home is in Calgary, has written to say....

".....Occasionally I meet Ex-PATRICIA'S, such as Lieutenants RICHARDS, and GARBUTT, who are both attending the University of Alberta, and Lieutenant McCLELLAND, employed here in Calgary also Lieutenant Don MUNROE, who is farming north of here, at Airdrie, I believe."

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- Also, on the 9th of May, the Commanding Officer received a letter from Mr Charles LORD, Fisheries Inspector in British Columbia, whose son, Lance Sergeant Charles Grainger LORD, was one of those who fell during the epic storming of the Hitler Line on the 23rd of May 1944. Unfortunately, due to unavoidable circumstances, Mr. LORD was unable to be present at the Trooping of the Colour this year, and wrote to tender his regrets.

- On the 29th of May, a wedding of unusual interest to PATRICIA'S took place in Calgary, Alberta. Mr G.A. GARBUTT, and Miss Betty ALLAN were wed in the home of the Groom's parents. The bride is a sister of Lieutenant V.S. ALLAN, who was killed whilst serving with the Battalion on the 15th of December 1944.

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REGIMENTAL HISTORY, Part 8 -" FIRST ACTIONS WITH THE 7th BRIGADE "

- 26 NOV 15 - PATRICIA'S spend a short period in Fletre, near
to Bailleul, where the Regiment is augmented by the
18 DEC 15 3rd University Company. This reinforcement brought
the Battalion's fighting strength to 1040 all ranks.
- 7 DEC 15 - Lt col H.C. BULLER, DSO, resumes command.
- 22 DEC 15 - The PATRICIA'S are temporarily designated Corps
troops, and are placed under command of Maj Gen H.S.
MERCER, CB. The PFCLI, together with the RCR, the
42nd Battalion, and the 49th Battalion, were united
to form the 7th Canadian Infantry Brigade; thus form-
ing the first complete Brigade of the proposed 3rd
Canadian Division.
- 25 DEC 15 - PATRICIA'S spend Christmas day in La Cytte, strength-
ening the defences of Mount Lemmel on the southern
tip of the Ypres salient.
- 1 JAN 16 - Regiment is billeted at Fletre.
to
8 JAN 16
- 9 JAN 16 - The 7th Brigade moves into the line to relieve the
1st Canadian Infantry Brigade. PATRICIA'S are the
Brigade reserve at Dranoutre.
- 12 JAN 16 - PATRICIA'S move into the front line in the soggy
to Wytschaete sector, and alternate between forward and
28 JAN 16 reserve throughout tour.
- 7 FEB 16 - PATRICIA'S occupy the line 3000 yards immediately in
to front of Lemmel. With the exception of a minor
28 FEB 16 counter-sniper scrap on the 27th of Feb, the tour is
uneventful.
- 28 FEB 16 - Battalion returns to reserve position.
- 1 MAR 16 - PATRICIA'S complete another tour in the Lemmel trench-
to es, after which they are called upon to furnish in-
7 MAR 16 structors for the newly formed 9th Infantry Brigade.
- 8 MAR 16 - Battalion in reserve for rest and training till 20th.

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20 MAR 16 - PATRICIA'S move into Poperinghe in the Ypres Sector.

The battle line of the 3rd Canadian Division was very critically placed at an obviously suitable point for the enemy to attack as soon as weather conditions became favourable. Hooge, Sanctuary Wood, and Mount Sorrel had always to be held in force. It was to this critical sector that the 7th Brigade was despatched.

The whole of this front line, and more particularly the Sanctuary Wood sector was commanded by the German position. The two opposing trench systems were very close, and the enemy had a strong point of great advantage in the 'bird-cage', a fort in the grounds of Stirling Castle, from which he could enfilade the greater part of the entire front. It was early recognized, and by none more clearly than by Colonel BULLER, that if the Germans made a determined effort to reach Mount Sorrel and Observatory Ridge, this front line could easily be blown out of existence. The defensive system for Sanctuary Wood was therefore, entirely dependent upon a rear supporting line. (named the "R" line.)

Broadly speaking, the Canadian front although garrisoned as a front line, was in many places only an outpost line, and could easily be rendered untenable by enemy artillery fire. Further the line was so positioned that even a local success on either flank would be a serious set back to the defending force; and lastly, there was no rear line area in which to deploy troops or in which to conduct a strong secondary defence, in event of an enemy break through. In short, the position was very unhealthy.

- 21 MAR 16 - The 7th Brigade moves into the Hooge- Sanctuary Wood sector. The PATRICIA'S relieve the 3rd Battalion RIFLE BRIGADE, in Brigade reserve at Zillebeke (immediately behind Sanctuary Wood). Two Companies are sent forward to garrison a small copse on the Battalion front.
- 24 MAR 16 - PATRICIA'S move into Sanctuary Wood relieving the 49th Battalion.
- 24 MAR 16 - A tour of trench occupation during which time the
to
29 MAR 16 Regiment comes under sporadic shelling and constant sniping fire.
- 29 MAR 16 - PATRICIA'S move back into Poperinghe for a 7 day rest period.

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- 5 APR 16 - PATRICIA'S move up to line as Brigade reserve. Much
to time is spent in reserve line trench construction.
12 APR 16
- 13 APR 16 - PATRICIA'S move into front line on the Hooge sector,
to relieving the 49th Battalion. A very unpleasant 8
20 APR 16 day tour in this sector greatly increased the Reg-
iment's casualty list. Sniping was deadly, and the
night firing, machine guns made movement at night
very risly. Upon completion of the tour, on the 8th
day the exhausted Battalion was relieved by the
60th Canadian Infantry Battalion.
- 21 APR 16 - PATRICIA'S retire to Poperinghe for a well earned
rest.
- 29 APR 16 - A night move takes the Regiment to the railway dug-
to outs behind Sanctuary Wood, where they remain in
6 MAY 16 Brigade reserve.
- 7 MAY 16 - PATRICIA'S spend a week of grim defence in the front
to line. The German artillery was by this time precisely
14 MAY 16 ranged on the front line trench system, and on the
rear areas upon which they maintained a steady
fire. The Germans' object was obviously to destroy
the Hooge and Sanctuary Wood defences, and to pre-
vent any large movements of men or materiel to their
front. Though the Regiment suffered only 33 cas-
ualties during the week, as compared with the 60
suffered in the Hooge sector.....the incessant
pounding of the German guns had severely taxed
physical endurance.
- 15 MAY 16 - PATRICIA'S withdraw to Poperinghe for rest.
- 23 MAY 16 - PATRICIA'S move into Brigade reserve.
- 30 MAY 16 - The Regiment moves into the line in the Sanctuary
Wood sector, opposite the 121st Wurttembergers, who
had for the past fortnight been specially trained
in shock tactics for the forthcoming assault.

