

Copy of Address

Delivered by Lieut.-Colonel P. R. Hanson to soldiers arriving at Canadian Discharge Depot, for discharge, disposal or furlough to Canada.

SO that your stay at the Depot will be pleasant and you will avoid a lot of trouble and complaints, Standing Orders are posted in every bedroom, halls and prominent positions. Right after this parade go and spend five minutes in reading these Standing Orders, and live up to them, and you will leave this Depot with kind recollections of your stay at the Canadian Discharge Depot.

This is not a hospital nor a convalescent home, but a Discharge Depot. Our object is to get you to Canada on the very first available steamer. Those dates are uncertain, and you must be prepared to go at once. N.C.O.'s and men should take the very first opportunity to arrange for the transportation and passports for their wives, families and dependents to Canada. See Captain O'Brian at the Embarkation Office on the first floor.

N.C.O.s and men who have reported here for furlough: Your furlough does not commence until you sail, and you are attached to this Depot for duty and are subject to the roster and demands of the Adjutant and Regimental Sergeant-Major. It is impossible to grant leave in England as your furlough has been granted to you for Canada. It is regrettable to state that there has been considerable trouble, at times, with furlough men, who take it upon themselves to shift their duties and to act as if they were on furlough. This has been a very bad example for the medically unfit and crippled men going through the Depot, and we have authority from the Adjutant-General of The Overseas Forces of Canada, Canadian Headquarters, to return immediately any furlough man to his Depot. Now, boys, I don't want to do this, but it has been done seven times in the past year. All I want is you to play the game with me and my staff, and we will see you through.

You are warned that any man found defacing or marking any part of the walls or windows, or in fact any part of the building, will have to pay the damages himself. All occupants of any particular section of the building will be punished and assessed for the damages, if the culprit is not discovered.

I always appeal to you men going through here that there are hundreds of thousands more Canadians still slogging away and doing their bit in France, and they would be so pleased to know, when they are lucky enough to get their "Blighty" or discharge, that you have not destroyed their resting place at Buxton. Thousands have gone through here in the past eighteen months, and they have left the buildings in good shape for you. Now you do your share to keep it in good shape for "Bill" when he comes along.

The entrance for all N.C.O.'s and men is any door on the south side of the building, of which there are five. The north side of the building is out of bounds except for inspections and the parade which you are now on and for men on the sailing on the morning of departure. The pathway along the bottom of the grounds running alongside the young girls' school is also out of bounds. There is only one entrance to the grounds and that is through the gate by the Police Hut, and not over the fence. The punishment for breaking in or out of barracks has been anywhere up to fourteen days' stoppage of pay, and the man who breaks barracks is put on police duty for six nights, and for every man he catches breaking in barracks, two days' pay is remitted off his punishment, and I have always found that these men make very good policemen.