

poral Roberts NCO as skipper, Spl. Cst. I. P. G. Awalt, engineer, and Cst. L. M. King, seaman, for further trials in actual operation.

The launching was attended by Asst. Commr. Geo. B. McClellan, O.C. "O" Division, Insp. G. H. Miller, Insp. P. J. Vaucher, both of "O" Division and, of course, Superintendent Roberts, O.C. "Marine" Division and Insp. J. Reader, Chief Engineer of the "Marine" Division, both of "Headquarters", Ottawa. As is customary, almost the entire J. J. Taylor family, whose company had built the sleek craft, and their employees were present. Corporal Roberts, son of the O.C. "Marine" Division has been appointed skipper of this new craft and the launching coincided with the wedding anniversary of he and his wife. In a thoughtful gesture, Mrs. Roberts was presented with a bouquet of flowers by the J. J. Taylor Company.

An Old Friend Writes Periodically we are favored with correspondence from ex-Sgt. Lewis McLauchlan (Reg. No. 3322) now of Haileybury, Ont. In his latest letter, he informs us that he became a member of "H" Division Sergeants' Mess at Tagish, Y.T., 55 years ago. His promotion to sergeant made one real impression for he recalls the white table linen in comparison to the scrubbed "deal" tables of the division messes and he remarks "they were a far cry from the meals served from chuck wagons in the cow camps of Wyoming and Montana, washed down with alkali water, and Arbuckles ariosa coffee (12½c per pound)".

Ex-Sergeant McLauchlan joined the Force in 1898 at Fort Saskatchewan and it is with unmistakable pride that he tells of his son, presently serving in the Force having joined

19 years ago. Although the "Old-timer", as we refer to him, has been on pension for the past 27 years, he still lives and breathes the Force, exemplifying the type and character of the men who built its strength and traditions. By such loyalty and devotion is the fabric of the Force strengthened and guaranteed.

Ex-Sergeant McLauchlan forwards a few lines from an old troop song he heard sung in 1898 by S/Sgt. Geo. Mitchell Grahame whose regimental number he believes to be 1127. He admits the words may be somewhat in error and wonders if some of our readers possibly remember the song. He has the melody if the music could be unearthed.

In the dusty old troop stable where the litter
is lying dank
and the cobwebs swinging free,
I can hear his sabre clank
and the Sergeant Major swearing like the D.

There's a stall I seldom pass
without grinning like an ass,
For it's there old B27 fell and died.

We'd been drilling all the morning down in the
dusty vale,
He'd been going much as usual
I'd been spurring strong and well,
He didn't seem to falter or to fail.

But I think his lazy spirit knew what he had
planned to do
when he laid him down in the stall where my
old trooper died.

For never was a brute more stubborn hard
to "bend"

In every turn and circle of the "ride".

Book Reviews

A CLERK OF OXENFORD. Essays on Literature and Life, by Gilbert Highet. Oxford University Press, Toronto, Canada. Pp. 272. \$3.75.

In *A Clerk of Oxenford*, Gilbert Highet, himself a clerk from Oxenford, discusses people, places and books. Originally, these essays were radio talks, and despite suitable revisions for the more formal setting of the printed page, they still retain the informal tone of a fireside discussion.

The essays themselves are grouped under three main headings: *The Arts of Prose*,

Poetry and Poets and *Imagination and Reality*. However, these titles do not in themselves indicate the scope or nature of the contents. For instance, in the section *The Arts of Prose*, Professor Highet covers such varied topics as the Icelandic Sagas and Lincoln's Gettysburg Address; in *Poetry and Poets* he discusses Japanese haiku poetry; while in *Imagination and Reality* he ranges from the art of invective to witchcraft, mountain climbing, chess, and the annals of escape and evasion literature. A bibliography of additional books on the topic discussed accompanies each essay.