



R.C.M.P. Scarlets

“The Scarlet Challenge”

By S/Sgt. E. H. (Hal) GRAINGER

Moving to the new Division Headquarters has provided an opportunity for physical exercise which was not available at the previous location. After all, downtown Halifax was no place to be tossing a ball around, let alone hitting one with a bat.

A small group of fitness-minded ladies who were scattered throughout the sparkling new office, decided something had to be done. The sunny days of mid-spring were no time to be indoors, so why not put the space, which could be seen when glancing out the window, to good use. It wasn't long before the air was filled with baseballs, giggles and the occasional groan. We investigated and found that all the ball equipment, gloves, bat, balls, etc., had been impounded for noonhour exercise.

Baseball and sore muscles became household words during coffee breaks. Remarks such as: “Did you see me catch that one?”, “I almost caught it!”, “Oh my aching back!”, “My legs are killing me!”, “We should play baseball!”, became commonplace.

The spark was lit. Soon the little group was nine, then a few more were added and the “R.C.M.P. Scarlets” emerged.

Practices were now scheduled for the evenings. Scarlet sweaters trimmed with white, white lettering, red ball caps and white and red socks became their uniforms. Assistance from members was sought, and Supt. Riddell, S/Sgt. Vance, Cpl. Lavoie and others as well as I, began putting the ladies through their paces. These girls from the Financial Branch,