### 4. Elgee SCM

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### From the "Mighty Fraser" to Cultus Lake

by G. M. Whitcomb

From the fourteenth of May, until the sixth of September, six members of our university were on training at R. C. S. M. E., Chilliwack, B. C. in preparing themselves for their place in the Canadian Army as Engineer Officers.

At the camp, practically all phases of Military Engineering were covered, and much valuable information was gained which will belp us both at university, and in our life's work, whether it be military or civilian.

While at the camp, we were visited by quite a number of Canada's "Brass Hats". They all expressed a keen interest in the methods being used to train us for the Corps, and also took the opportunity of collecting ideas of value which they thought would be of use to them in training their own men.

For four weeks around the last of May, and beginning of June, we were confined to camp, and on call at all time for work in connection with the Fraser River flood. During that times our regular training went on the rocks and all interest at the camp was centered on the flood. Nevertheless, they say a change is as good as a rest (I don't believe that now), and the COTC pitched in with the rest of the army and did their part in holding back the "Mighty Fraser". The flood was very serious to British Columbia - - the worst in about half a century, and there was a feeling of obligation to the B. C. people to do as much as possible for them. It was no easy job, and many hours were put in by the army in sandbagging, watching dykes, evacuating people and their belongings, herding cattle from near breaks in the dykes, and various other seemingly insigniticant duties, which beyond doubt were major factors in saving lives and country.

But the river eventually gave up its battle, and we had to go back to our training. For the remainder of the summer, courses were given in particular engineering subjects such as surveying, roads and airfields. concrete, mines and booby-traps, bridging and others with which an Engineer Officer must be familiar.

It wasn't all work though, for at four thirty we were our own bosses, provided thre wasn't some nice night scheme, examination, or extra lecture that just couldn't be fitted in during the day. Just the same we got most of the night off, and in the early evening a stream of happy "Civilians" could be seen on the road heading for Chilliwack or Cultus Lake, a notable British Columbia summer resort only a couple of miles from the camp.

Not only was Cultus Lake popular, but every Saturday afternoon the highway would be dotted with fellows heading into Vancouver for the week-end. It became quite a popular place, and after one or two week ends there, there was no keeping a person in camp once one o'clock Saturday rolled around. Some of the boys went farther than Vancouver, and trips were made to Victoria, Seattle, and the Grand Coulee Dam.

In all, it was a good and profitable summer. I am convinced now that the COTC is a great outfit to get into. It assured fellows of good and lasting summer employment while at college, and a commission in either the Reserve or Active Army upon graduation provided they make



Contrary to its appearance this is not a cut from Brunswickan files of the 19th century. This is the "bridge" over which a considerable number of students pass each day. Beyond the bridge are the railway tracks which are often blocked by trains. The moral should be clear.

#### The Fat Man

(Continued from Page 4)

The intruder blew out a cloud of perfumed smoke. "How long have you been in business?" "What is this a racket?"

"No, no, not at all. As I said, merely a warning."

The inter-office communicator buzzed and the fat man pressed a button. "No, it's all right. I'll be through in a minute. No calls."

"About twenty-five years," he said, in answer to the question. "Good. Twenty six and eight months, to be exact." The fat man raised his eyebrows at the other's detailed knowledge. "Well?" "Will you sell out now or will you fight?"

"What the devil are you talking about?" He leaned back watch-

fully in his chair, his eyes narrow again. "I told you I came to give you fair warning. I am going to put you out of business . . ."

The fat man snorted laughter. Then he rose to his feet, the set of his body purposeful. "I have had enough of this tom-foolery. Get out!" The slight man smiled, his blue eyes cold and watchful. The heavy set man at the door tensed. "Have you ever heard of Orton's? Here's

The fat man's stand changed slightly. He glanced at the card and the man seated so casually on his desk. His lips tightened and creases showed around his mouth. "Yes, I have heard of Orton's."

The intruder laughed lightly, but his eyes seemed to bore right through the fat man. "you should. We stopped your expansion west, and you turned your attention to the other Maritime Provinces. You did pretty well, almost as well as we expected, and now you have them pretty well in your grip. There is very little that goes on in this section of the east that you don't have at least one finger in." He leaned back, his eyes still on the fat man who was now seated in his swivel chair, and whose fingers were drumming on the arm of it. "You see, we had our own grip on the west, and were consolidating it. We could not afford interference at that time. Besides, you were pretty well marked as our next - er - subsidiary. We blocked you in our own territory and let you expand down here so we could take you over later on. Will you sell out

The fat man stopped drumming. "You can't bluff me. De you think I am going to give up twenty-five years of work like that? You are crazy! Fight? Of course I'll fight!"

"Uh-huh. Naturally. We had you figured for that too. It is a pity, though, for my advisers had you appraised as a capable man, one who wold be exceedingly valuable in our organization." He grimiced, his first change of facial expression of the interview. "Now I suppose you will be made a nervous wreck with the worry of being driven out of

(Continued on Page 6)

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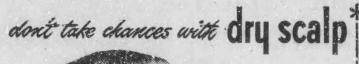
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