



THE C.R.O. BULLETIN



VOL. 1, No. 4.]

FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION ONLY.

[WEDNESDAY, JULY 10, 1918

EDITORIAL.

When you meet a man in this country with a silver badge, you know he has done his bit—at least you presume he has; but what of the thousands of men you meet in civvies who wear no badges? Are they slackers or in "cushy" jobs? By no means; a large percentage of them are medically unfit, but unfortunately the Government has not provided them with a means of showing the General Public that they tried but were rejected.

In Canada, however, there are four distinctive kind of badges, the first which is the most prized, shews that the discharged man has served in England and France, the second in England only, the third in Canada only, and the fourth that the wearer is honourably exempted.

As all these badges are distinctive, you can tell at a glance what part the discharged man has taken in the Great War. Of course, if a man has the misfortune to lose a limb or gets too badly wounded to enable him to carry on, the gold stripe and the chevrons tell their own tale in this country, but those who have the misfortune to be invalided out of the Service through sickness have nothing but the badge to show they tried their best to play the game. Silver badges, or rather, the men who wear them, are likely to play a great part in the destinies of the Empire when peace is declared, for a mutual understanding and sympathy is bound to exist amongst men who have done their "bit" for Freedom and Justice.

Will any of our readers who are thinking of taking up land under the Government Scheme in Alberta kindly give their names in to the Editor.



"NEXT TO MOTHER IN AFFECTION."

CHEVRONS—(continued from next Column)

The wedding is to be celebrated of Pte. _____ (deleted by Censor) of R.1.A2, to _____ (name of the happy bride-to-be will be announced later, as she has not yet been "elected)."

We understand the bride's travelling suit is to be trimmed in quite an original manner—chiefly pomegranates.

There will be no pork served at the wedding breakfast.

CHEVRONS.

We must have more copy. The more copy we receive the better will be the reading, for we can pick out the *best* material only for publication.

Back numbers can still be obtained, but they are running out and cannot be reprinted.

The *Bulletin* has now passed its first monthly milestone, and we hope that it has now come to stay for the "Duration." This week we have great pleasure in setting before our readers a summary of our accounts for the first month. It should be remembered that this has been an extra heavy month for expenses owing to extra blocks for heading, etc; also the *first* edition (the little yellow 'un) was not a success so far as sales went. As will be seen, not a penny goes for anything except the actual material expenses, the services of the staff being given entirely free. Next month we hope to have a larger balance for the *Bulletin* Prisoners of War Tobacco Fund.

TRADING & PROFIT & LOSS ACCOUNT UP TO AND INCLUDING 4TH JULY.

<p>Dr.</p> <p>To. Cost of Printing 2,600 Copies 14 13 6</p> <p>" 12 Printing Blocks 2 16 10</p> <p>1 Pd. in Advance 4 8</p> <p style="text-align: right;">2 12 2</p> <p>To Inks, Artist Material and Sundries 5 10½</p> <p>To net profit e/d 2 8 1½</p> <p style="text-align: right;">19 19 8</p>	<p>Cr.</p> <p>By Sundry Sales 2,398 Copies at 2d. per copy 19 19 8</p> <p style="text-align: right;">19 19 8</p>
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<p>To Amount carried to Credit of P. of W. Fund 2 0 0</p> <p>To Reserve Fund 0 8 1½</p> <p style="text-align: right;">2 8 1½</p>	<p>By Net profit b/d 2 8 1½</p> <p style="text-align: right;">2 8 1½</p>
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BALANCE SHEET.	
Liabilities	Assets
<p>Subscriptions paid in advance 2 7 0</p> <p>Reserve Fund 8 1½</p> <p>Net Amount standing to credit of P. of W. Fund 2 0 0</p> <p style="text-align: right;">£4 15 1½</p>	<p>Cash in hand & Cash at Bank 4 6 9½</p> <p>Sundry Debtors 3 8</p> <p>Dept for 1 Printing Block paid in advance 4 8</p> <p>Trading Copies & unsold Copies in hand amount to 202 Copies</p> <p style="text-align: right;">£4 15 1½</p>

P. F. BOSHER, Secretary.
L. E. CANDY, Lt. Treasurer

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THINGS WE WANT TO KNOW?

How a certain Staff Sergeant put on half a stone since he got married. Our envy is inexpressible.

Who is the Private in R1 A4 who put off a very important date with a young lady because he THOUGHT he had to work all night, and what he thinks of the boys who bluffed him???

Why did Sergt. Russell start humming "The Bells are Ringing for Me and my Gal" when St. Paul's bells pealed for the Yanks on July 4th, and did a certain young lady in R.1 C hum the same tune???

How much a Saturday duty is worth and whether S.-Sergt. Blatch felt he was recompensed in accepting 10s.???

Who is the young medico at Streatham to whom a loquacious member of the fair sex is indebted for his certificate of indisposition???

If Privates Boshier and Kelly will now be placed on "returns" and have the rank of "A./Cpl. without" lavished upon them?

Whether a certain Staff Sergt. in R2 B3 really eats breakfast and dinner in addition to his 11 o'clock snack? And if his subsistence allowance provides it all?

What is the name of the hair restorer that Pte. Smith, in R2 B used to make his hair grow?

Was Pte. Bruce very disappointed because he couldn't go to the Ball Game?

Were they really Pte. Bell's cousins on the Sports ground on the 1st July?

Where did S.-Sergt. Savage leave his horse during his visit to the Sports on Monday?

And did he win his spurs with the Roneo Rough Riders or are they only an issue?

Does Pte. Wood, B. C., of B5 get his breakfast before coming to work now that his wife has come home from her holiday?

The name of the non-subscriber to the *Bulletin* in A.M.S. who borrowed his pal's copy when he was off sick and lost it?

And why he did not buy him another or give him the price?

Why speeches are not rationed, as all orations are seven-eights rations now?

Who is the dark young lady in R1 F

who is daily making a pilgrimage to A.M.S. Branch and what is her object?

How, when, and where Pte. Ferguson gets his information?

And whether the Editor thinks him fully efficient to be a Sherlock Holmes for RLC?

If it was not a toss-up with Sergt. Brown as to whether he would not recall his wife from leave or buy an alarm clock?

Who is the S./Sergt. in A.M.S. who wants to "double work" now that a vacancy has occurred, and is it to stop further promotion?

If the Spanish 'flue has not some advantages; on Tuesday, for instance?

If the camel going through the eye of a needle has not got a cinch compared with a private trying to get a new tunic out of the Quartermaster?

Does Gn. Stacey find it easier to write with his spurs on, and does he swim in them?

If Pte. Hurley's study of Spanish has kept him immune from the 'flue attributed to that country?

Why there were no Record Office competitors in the sports on Dominion Day?

If any of the ladies were at all interested in the individual who wore the red tights in the mile walking race?

What did a certain budding physical drill instructor say about him?

Whether Pte. Roe (ex-member of Fred Karno's Company) was a bigger scream on the boards than he is on the C.R.O. roof during phys'cal jerks?

Whether it is a fact that a man can be "gassed" by the fumes from the sewage ventilation pipes while doing physical jerks?

Where did S.-Sergt. Savage stable his horse while watching the sports on Dominion Day?

If our M.O. sent word down to the N.C.O.'s and men who usually assemble together for a chat and a smoke on Tuesday mornings to the effect: "That if it didn't matter, there would be no parade to-day." They all feadily agreed with the exception of one or two hard cases.

why he did it, calmly replied, "Waal, I guess I live just here."

The guard got red in the face, swallowed hard several times, opened his mouth to make a few observations, but had to give it up. He found he couldn't do justice to the situation.

Meanwhile the Canadian, calling a porter, said, "Hi, collar this flea-bag and call me a cab." His name and address were taken, and the train went on—"Evening News."

A TALE FOR THE MARINES

Did I ever tell you the tale, Sir,
Of the rats on the Mary Ann,
'Ow we, salted their tails to catch 'em,
And slaughtered them to a man?
All 'cept one hoary varmint
A wily old bundle of craft,
Who, when he 'ad dodged us neatly,
Put 'is paw to 'is nose and laughed.
But one day we trap'ed him nicely
And all of us crowded round;
"Did he give up the game," did you say,
Sir?
Not a bit of it, you be bound.
No, 'e jumped on the deck rail, blow me,
And taking a mighty leap,
'E landed on top of a seagull
What was swimmin' the vasty deep.
They fought for a moment gamely,
But the rat was at 'er throat,
And when he had killed 'er, Guv'nor,
'E turned 'e into a boat.
Yus, 'e lifted 'er right wing quickly,
As a sail for to catch the breeze,
And rowed with 'er left to the shore, Sir.
What's mine? Oh, old and mild, please.

CURRENT WIT OF THE OFFICE.

Convalescent Tommy: "Nurse, I I—love you."

Experienced Nurse: "Yes, but you'll get over that when you are *really* well."

They were out motoring and he bade defiance to all police traps.

Said he: "We're going at fifty miles an hour—are you brave?"

She (swallowing another pint of dust): "Yes, dear, I'm full of grit."

One morning a well-dressed man was found lying in a ditch. After some passers-by had pulled him out and set him on his feet they asked him where he had been. Speaking thickly, he replied: "I don't know, it was either a marriage or a funeral; at any rate, it was a *great success!*"

We can understand a man putting a farthing on the tray taking two cups of tea and trying to get away with it, but when he takes twopence change as well—it's the limit, don't you think so?

A new adaption of an old saying:—"Tis better to have paid and lost, than never to have raffled at all.

In the rolls of the stars it is written,
In the mist of the cataract's stride,
So long as they're German and Briton,
The sword shall ever divide.

COURTESY.

The diner who had cleverly taken another man's overcoat had just reached the door, when the owner tapped him on the shoulder. "Pardon me, sir," he said meekly, but would you kindly allow me to get another cigar from my coat pocket in case I do not meet you again?"

A FORCIBLE ARGUMENT.

Bridget: "This paper says there do be sermons in stone. Pwhat d'ye think of that?"

Pat: "Oi dunno about the sermons, but many a good argument has coom out av a brick, O'im thinking."

PINCHED.

The non-stop train was rushing to London, but at Bickley the communication cord was pulled and the express slowed up and stopped.

Scores of heads belonging to impatient "leave" men were put out of windows, and there was a general inquiry of "What's up?" The guard came hurrying along, shouting, "Who pulled that cord?"

A Canadian soldier, just getting out of a carriage, pleaded guilty, and when asked

LADIES' CORNER.

BY OUR LADY CORRESPONDENT.

PERSONAL.

There seems to be some dissatisfaction caused over one of the items published in last week's *Bulletin* under the heading "Things we want to know." Every bit of news that is printed in this column is sent to the correspondent and is signed by the contributor. One of the ladies seems to think that the correspondent was directing his remarks at her, when, as a matter of fact, it was meant for someone else. We hope that the lady in question and all the other ladies will take the right view of any little remark that may appear in this column about them.

THINGS WE WANT TO KNOW?

Whether our genial Super. greets everyone with the encouraging smile.

Why a certain fascinating young lady in R.I.C. is so fond of green bands these days.

And is she contemplating paying a visit to Buckingham Palace soon?

Does absence make the heart grow fonder?

And is it fair that the New Zealanders should steal away the hearts of our engaged young ladies whose beaux are fighting out in France?

Do some of the b'hoys in R. 11 realise the meaning of that well-known poem:—

"Shave, and the world will kiss you.
Sprout, and you're left alone."

Why the C.R.O. does not organise a club for grass widows and grass widowers only.

And would not an appropriate name for this club be: The Mutual Consolation Society?

If the lady in blue has decided to make Shepherd's Bush the rendezvous for the future meetings with her blue eyed, fair-haired boy.

And is it not a long way from Manchester Square?

If a certain popular Group Clerk has given up the idea of going on the land?

And is it because she does not know how to drive an ox and plough?

OUR FAMOUS SAYINGS.

"What d'yer mean?"—Mrs. H. Pike.

"Has any one got a list for Mac-Allister?"—Miss Hardy. (Chorus of Voices, *sotto voce*: "Gott strafe Mac-Allister.")

"Good Heavens!"—Miss Oldrey.

"How goes the enemy?"—Mrs. Bowmaker.

"Wurs 'is 'Riginal?"—Pte. Baldwin.

"Have y' heard the latest?"—L/Cpl. Carl.

"Why in the good old 49th Bn."—S/Sgt. McConnell.

"When you've finished that academic discussion."—Sgt. Calvert.

"Oh, you 'nooty' girl; on my 'cleean' files."—Miss Ball.

"Wipe yer chin."—Pte. G. Hunt.

"Hello! what's this?"—S/Sgt. Nicholson.

HEARD—

ON THE RIVER.

"Look, Bill, them blokes can't 'alf row."

"Yes, reminds me of the old days; wonder which is Oxford?"

Canadian Soldier (passing): "Oxford Hell, them's Canadians." (Evidently he thought Oxford would stand a slim chance against the K.C.B.C.)

IN THE TRAIN.

"'Im, 'e's Canadian, works up at Old Bailey, ought to be in France. Wot do they do up there?"

"Well, 'e's a typewriter up there. 'E takes my gal out and gets good pay."

"Married? You never can tell about them foreigners, most 'as wives over there. Look out, 'ere's the Helephant."



Mr. Jones: "Can I see Mrs. Jones, please?"

Enquiry Clerk: "I'm afraid you can't. She was taken away in a cab this morning with peritonitis."

Mr. Jones: "She *Was*, was she? and to think that she should run off with a dirty old ice-cream man?"

IN R2A C.C.

Had your leave yet, Gunner

Gun.: No; I'm going next week.

Where are you thinking of going?

Gun.: Most likely I'll go to Paris.

Taking the wife with you?

Gun.: Don't ask such silly questions.

Did you ever hear of anyone taking a ham sandwich to a banquet?

ON THE STAIRS.

"Bill, what is the French for 'camouflage'?"

He: "I should like to propose a little toast, dear."

Fair One: "Nothin' doin', boy, dear; I want a regular meal."

The above—a touching episode of the times—records one of the Staff endeavouring to entertain a C.C.I. girl "on the cheap."

Correspondence.

[A *Nom de plume* may be used in this column if desired, but in all cases the correct name and section must be stated, otherwise the correspondence can not be published. In cases where no *nom de plume* is given the INITIALS ONLY will be published unless the correspondent particularly wishes his full name to appear.

The "*Bulletin*" does not necessarily associate itself with the views expressed by our correspondents.]

To the Editor, "C.R.O. Bulletin."

The letter appearing in your column last week, and signed by "Fairplay," has given food for thought to many of the C.R.O. Military Staff.

I am entirely in sympathy with "Fairplay" when he speaks of the poor support that has been given to sports generally, but more particularly to baseball.

I am not prepared to argue as to the quality of the support that the Pay Office boys receive as against that tendered to the C.R.O. teams, but, being a keen observer, I am forced to admit that the quantity vastly differs and in favour of our adversaries, this being very noticeable in all ranks.

While on this subject, allow me to mention that I am a great believer in the old adage, "If you can't boost, don't knock," and the silly, childish, bully-ragging that is carried on in "Things we want to know" of your publication is anything but pleasing to all true sportsmen and our baseball team, though playing under most fearful handicaps, are always trying.

A BOOSTER.

To the Editor, "C.R.O. Bulletin."

From time to time Subscription Lists are circulated through the office for excellent purposes.

The money collected, nothing more is heard of the matter. This is neither satisfactory nor business-like, and with the existence of the *Bulletin* as a medium not excusable.

Will you suggest the publication of results in it?

Yours truly,

W. H. R.

[Your idea is a good one, "W. H. R.," and we shall be very pleased to publish the result of any collections made.—ED.]

To the Editor, "C.R.O. Bulletin."

I should like to take the liberty of expressing, through the medium of your journal, a few remarks relating to the Canadian sports held at Norbury on Dominion Day.

I think I express the opinion of many when I state that the whole affair was a complete wash-out from start to finish. I fully realise the difficulties experienced by the ground officials owing to the numerous competitors who failed to get off the mark.

Continued on p. 4.

Enquiry Column.



"CHARLIE" writes:—I admire one of our pretty stenographers but alas, I am being cut out by one of the Kilties. Unfortunately I have to wear the unbecoming slacks and putties. Would you advise me to transfer into one of the Scotch regiments? I have well-shaped legs, one's that I think would take her eyes immediately."

Answer.—By all means do as you suggest, Charlie. Come up to the office in kilts; no one will notice the difference, and if you can catch the steno.'s eye make your plans for catching her lips. I wish you luck.

"COLD FEET" writes:—"Some time ago I met a girl to whom I told I had a wife in Canada, which was a lie. Shall I risk telling the truth, or say that my wife has died, or wait and see in case I change my mind again?"

Answer.—As you are in England, "Cold Feet," and "Wait and See" is the Government motto, I should advise you to follow their precept.

"G.H.W." writes:—"What is the proper procedure if your best girl has influenza? Is it etiquette to kiss the back of her neck?"

Answer.—Why worry about the back of her neck? What is the matter with the next best girl's lips?

"A.F." writes:—"In our room RIB there is a continual flow of hot air. It seems to come from the table by the door. As several of the boys are off sick, we feel that it is caused by the said 'flow.' Will you tell us what to do to stop it?"

Answer.—Why stop it, "A.F."? What is nicer than a few days' sick leave?

Aunt Maggie

NOTE.

We regret to announce that, owing to old age and infirmity, coupled with writer's cramp, Aunt Maggie is unable to continue on the staff of the "Bulletin." We therefore will not run an "Enquiry Column" in the future. Of course, if a very urgent Enquiry comes to us the Editor's Grandmother will do her best to reply to it.

SPORTS.

ROWING.

K.U.B.C. REGATTA A BIG SUCCESS.

Last week we promised our readers a good time at the Regatta on Saturday 6th. instant and now it is over we feel we were quite justified in doing so. Without fear of contradiction we can safely say that it was a big success, and for once in a while the Record Office supporters were as strong as those of the Pay Office.

The affair was favoured with fine weather, and it was one of those "free and easy gatherings" which was not bored by any air of officialdom. Among those present were Lord Desborough, Dr. Tory, Col. Ulick G.C. de Burgh, C.B., Lt.-Col. Regan, Maj Craggs, (Judge) and Lieut. Sleep, (K.U.) Lord Desborough, in a pleasing little speech, spoke of the many close finishes he had witnessed from that famous boat house similar to the one he had just seen between the Records and Pay Office eights. Dr Tory replied on behalf of the K.U.B.C. Chief interest was centred in the eights, the Record Office putting up a good fight and after an exciting finish were unfortunately beaten by the Pay Office by barely threequarters of a length. Anyway, the Record Office pulled off two of the events out of four. A very pleasant surprise awaited the Competitors at the close, Mr Bradshaw-Chairman of the London Rowing Club presented them with silver souvenirs. The following are the results in detail—

Final Single Sculls: B. C. Wood, C.R.O., 2 W. L. Doyle, C.A.P.C., 3 E. Parker, C.R.O.

Final Pair Oar Race; H.W. Sealy and F. Marshall, C.R.O.

Final Four Oar Race; Owing to an accident at the start this race will have to be decided at some future time.

Eight Oar Race; Pay Office beat C.R.O. by three quarters length.

Great as last Saturday's success was, the Secretary, S.Q.M.S. A. C. Wiltshire, R. A 4, informs us that other Races are being organised which should prove to be even a greater success, so watch out for further announcements.

CRICKET.

On Saturday 6th., inst., playing on a public pitch at Battersea Park, we were beaten at the post by the narrow margin of three runs.

The only outstanding feature of the game was Charman's 26. Final scores; Canadian records 83 for 10, Alford House 86 for 10.

BASEBALL.

On Saturday 6th inst. the Record Office lost to Hounslow Aviation by 16 to 9.

Owing to the state of the "Ground" remarks on the game are out of place.

SWIMMING.

K.U.S.C.

The "Sealed Handicap" held at St. George's Baths July 5th, proved an easy win for Pte. Chrysler, R.2 A.4, but "we know his time now". Nuff sed?. Look out for future announcements.

The 5th Annual Swimming Festival will be held at Tottenham Public Baths on Thursday July 11th 1918. A fine programme has been arranged and among other items there is a Grand Team Race between R.N. Division, Canadians (2 teams) Australians, New Zealanders and Americans. The Canadians will be presented by the K.U.S.C. A Police band will be in attendance. Doors Open at 7 p.m. Commence 7.30 p.m. Tickets 3s.-2s.-and 1s 6d. (Res.), 1s. and 6d. Balcony. Now roll up and support the Canadians.

BOXING.

At the Ring on Monday afternoon Sgt. H. Rolph, (Canadians) knocked out Cpl. Jim Sullivan, (London Scottish) in one round.

Correspondence—(continued)

but I think no excuse could be offered by the Committee for the haphazard way they ran off the events. Possibly Monday's experience will be a lesson in so far as too many officials bungled matters. Few of the officials understood their respective jobs, the announcer especially hopelessly mixed things up, and there were frequent occasions when the spectators had to remind him to announce the results on numerous events.

The judges also must be reminded that a runner is not allowed to cut across the path of another runner. This error was apparent in the Relay Race, when the C.A.P.C. Private crossed directly across his two opponents, thereby causing them to fall. The judge might have at least started the race again, as they would have been justified in disqualifying the C.A.P.C. runner.

Why was the Record Office not represented in this race?

WHONOS.

NOTE—For the information of our readers it is necessary to note that we cannot divulge the name of our correspondents using a Nom de Plume.

AGONY COLUMN.

LUCY ENG.—Why silent? Garter y found in my pocket was a gents. Hairpin I use for my pipe. Let's start afresh, reply here next week. Love like Lion's Liver.—ORD. SGT. J.

BLUE EYES.—Monday night, Serpentine, dying to see you. Bring shoes. Fergie working—LONESOME LIL.