

WE'RE ALL GOING TO DANCE!

THE C.R.O. Bulletin

Vol. I, No. 16.]

FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION ONLY.

[FRIDAY, JAN. 10, 1919

EDITORIAL.

Our War Souvenir Number is a thing of the past, and it is not my intention to monopolise our columns in writing about it, but there are a few things our readers should know.

So far as the success of the venture is concerned, there is no doubt—that is judging by the reports I have received from various quarters, both inside and outside the Office, several flattering letters being received from Editors and Journalists. One well-known Canadian journalist describes the fact that we obtained a message from Foch as “a great journalistic feat.” These reports in conjunction with those we have received from our readers and the prospect of giving a substantial donation to St. Dunstan’s is a very satisfying reward for the amount of work involved.

I am pleased to state that their Majesties the King and Queen have honoured us by accepting copies of the Bulletin War Souvenir Number.

A full balance sheet of the last four weekly issues and the Souvenir Number will be published as soon as all the accounts are settled. The proceeds from all these numbers will go to St. Dunstan’s as will all future profits, instead of to Prisoners of War. We think everyone will agree that this is about the most deserving cause we could devote our funds to.

We propose to dispose of the originals of any value connected with the Souvenir Number by auction. Details of this arrangement will be published next week, but any reader who wishes to make a bid for any particular “original” should do so as soon as possible by calling on the Editor, when he can “inspect his goods before buying.”

It should be remembered that the books concerned with the management of the Bulletin are ALWAYS OPEN FOR INSPECTION BY ANYONE, and if any reader is curious upon any little point, no offence will be taken by a request to see same.

It has always been the policy of the Bulletin to help along anything which pertains to esprit de corps among the staff of this Office, whether it is done through amusement or otherwise.

During the last few weeks we have discovered one thing which is doing a great deal in this direction, and that is the series of dances which are being held in connection with this Office. This is evidently a “dancing office”—everybody wants to dance—and we have therefore taken up the cudgels on behalf of the dancing committee, and intend to give them such support as we can offer. Hence this “Dance Number.”

Now there is to be a real big dance on a date not yet decided on, but it is to take place very shortly—a C.R.O. FANCY DRESS DANCE (fancy dress optional), and on behalf of the Committee I appeal to the Officers, other ranks, and civilians to make every effort to support this affair to the utmost of their ability, the proceeds of which go to our old friends—St. Dunstan’s. That alone should be a sufficient incentive.

If the “heads” back up the idea half the work is done. Prizes are to be given for the best costumes, and I would suggest that a special prize be put up for the Section or Branch which turns out the best set of characters. R.2.A.2. have already challenged all comers in this direction.

There is a chance of your appearing in the “Daily Mirror” next day, so you should get busy pretty quick on something really original.

One more thing. This is a *select dance*, and those inclined to “rag” should stop at home.

CHEVRONS.

On 20th Dec., 1918, R.2.A.2. had an evening out. In fact, they had a very enjoyable evening out. Practically the whole of the Section partook of steak and kidney pudding, followed by a sumptuous repast of bread and cheese, all trace of which was cleared away by—water.

All this took place at the “Albert,” in Victoria Street, after which the entire company proceeded to the “Second House” at the Victoria Palace, having a most enjoyable evening and ending up in the very best style.

With the uncertainty of these times R.2.A.2. thought they would like to have

a little “convivial” together before the final break up, and it is a wonder that other Sections and Branches have not thought of doing the same. The Editor regrets that he cannot give a fuller account of the above affair, but this is all he remembers.

Our heartiest congratulations go out to Pte. G. W. Brayman, better known as “Happy,” who is to be married on Saturday, 11th inst., at the Presbyterian Church at Harlesden. We trust that married life will not bring him any more wound stripes than he already possesses, and that he and his future wife will find life one long path of roses and forget-me-nots.

No doubt his fine collection of silver spoons, etc., will now come in very useful. It is also rumoured that the “Marquis” is to be his best man, but this report must be taken with reserve.

The lack of crime in the Office, as evidenced by the condition of the brass-work around the building, must be distinctly encouraging to all those who have the moral welfare of the military staff at heart.

The Editor is in receipt of a lengthy epistle about *beer*, which the contributor intended should be published in the “Bulletin.” We are afraid that this is impossible, as it might lead to complications. Besides, there is the “tone of the paper” to consider!

We are sure that everyone fully appreciated the Christmas holiday they received. The next one will no doubt be a longer one still—that is, if the statements regarding the hustling demobilisation of the Canadians are true.

It has been decided that in future there will be no more *monthly* subscriptions for the Bulletin, owing to the number of men continually leaving the Office, etc. The number required will be left with each Section as before and paid for each week.

Accounts of Deaths, Marriages, and Births of the personnel of the Office will be published if handed to the Editor not later than Thursday of each week.

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THINGS WE WANT TO KNOW ?

If some members of the staff got more "Ontario apples" than were good for them?

And did the men who do not come from Ontario get the "pip"?

Is Jock Eadie pleased with his transfer?

Has anyone ever seen S.Q.M.S. Seaman smile?

And is it true that he intends having that civilian time book of his fossilized?

What Sgt. Cutler is going to do with the human skull which the Editor presented him with, and is it true the Editor told him it was the skull of the last man who did not pay for his Bulletin?

And will the Canadian Government pay for the removal to Canada of the whole of Sgt. Cutler's luggage?

If five Officers at the Dance was not good, and will the others fall in line soon?

Has Sgt. Jackson convinced a few that the dances are not run on rowdy lines?

And what did the Hotel Detective hear in the Hall after all had left—except a few?

The name of that famous dancer who attended the C.R.O. Dance to watch Cpl. Harris, of R.2.B.5., dance his opium 'op, and what fee will he charge for others to learn his original cocaine glide?

If four boxes of matches cost 5d., and a S.Q.M.Sgt. sold same to his Section at the matchless price of five boxes for 4d., what quantity would he need to purchase to lose one shilling and his issue?

Please reply to S.Q.M.S. Nolan, R.2.A.1.

How many people the Editor shook hands with on the night of the R.2.A.2. "convivial"?

And where did Cpl. Ransom think he was when, after sleeping through most of the show, he woke up just as a lady came on the stage with "nodings on"?

If it is not nearly time someone thought of some new form of chevrons to wear? How about demobilisation stripes? One red one for the the first year of waiting, and a pink one for every twelve months after? (This joke is the sole copyright of the Bulletin.)

What the Editor of the Maple Leaf thinks of the Editor of the Bulletin, and vice-versa? And how many Bulletins were sold at the Pay Office?

If the side entrance in Bishop's Court has been closed to prevent the draught coming up the stairs?

When that flag is to be hoisted on the roof of the C.R.O.?

And if it is because we haven't a pole, wouldn't it be a good idea to punish a man by getting him to stand on the roof and hold it?

Or would that entice a taxi on the roof?

If "Section parties" are to be arranged for the next dance? Steak and kidney pudding to be followed by the Fox Trot?

Who is the C.R.O. lady who has entered for the "Daily Mirror" Beauty Competition?

And what are the chances of the C.R.O. pulling off this prize?

Are privates barred from dancing with this lady? If so, why?

And why does she always "come in late"? And, again—why?

Will "Happy" be happy ever after?

Where our old-fashioned Girl Guides come from?

How the proposed billiard tournament is getting along?

If sport has died a natural death in this Office?

Why the sporting apparatus which came to this Office sometime last year was not used, in spite of the fact that the Q.M. made every effort to hand same over for the use of the staff?

And is it not true that he got "fed up" with being referred from one to another and gave it up as a bad job, with the result that the "tackle" has been laying idle for months? He should have "filled up a form"!

Who was it "makin'" himself obnoxious at the dance?

Who is the "head" who is such a demon for work that he suggested that the men under him should have books at the side of them to jot down all that he (the "head") says, so that in the event of the man falling down dead, the next man would be able to carry on with the work?

We go further than that and suggest that a spare man should always be in attendance in this particular room, so as not to waste any time in getting the dead man away otherwise the work might flag.

What about fire sprinklers in this particular room, in case the men become overheated and set fire to the waste paper basket?

If the "Daily Orders" are disappearing or simply fading away?

If a certain Private in R.1.B. still retains his Gollywog?

If Cpl. Ford is feeling sad these days in having lost his new wife, who has been transferred?

If it is true that the O.C. Pris. of War was heard to say: "I can't work with people in the daytime. I will work all night"?

An example of devotion to duty which might well be copied.

York Cottage,
Sandringham,
Norfolk.

4th January, 1919.

To the Editor,

C.R.O. "Bulletin,"

Canadian Record Office,

Old Bailey, E.C. 4.

Dear Sir,

I have laid before the King and Queen the copies of the C.R.O. Bulletin which you have been good enough to send for their acceptance, and for which I am commanded to convey to you the expression of Their Majesties' best thanks.

Yours faithfully,

CLIVE WIGRAM.

NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH!

Description of man on an A.P.:—Complexion, hazel; eyes, brown; hair, single.

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So far as the hair is concerned, he should take care of it and brush it regularly every morning

× × ×

One of our Enquiry Clerks answering an enquiry:—"Do you wish to know the location of this man?"

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Soldier enquiring: "No, miss, just his address"

He must have been an Australian!

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An American Soldier came here one day, and on enquiring after his friend's location, etc., did not know his number. A certain young lady who attended him (not the lady in blue) remarked afterwards: "I have found his number; it is so-and-so." The American turned round and said: "Say, miss, what number do you mean—his telephone number?"

Now, if America had gone to war 1914, he'd have known the difference between a regimental and a telephone number.

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We are thinking of publishing a new book, entitled: "Why Australians and Canadians love one another."

DANCE NOTES.

Our Dance on December 4th, 1918, was a huge success, the sum of £11 going to St. Dunstan's.

Through the untiring efforts of several ladies, tickets sold rapidly. One hour after starting programmes were sold out.

The C.R.O. hold the record for the whole of England for extension of lights. The application went in at 10 a.m. (by hand). Permission granted by telegram 2.30 p.m. Some hustlers that day!

Our "Doc." was there with bells on.

The Committee wish to thank one and all for the support which was given them, thus helping to make this—the first dance—a big success.

OUR GRAND NEW YEAR DANCE.

Remarks heard: Lovely. Splendid. Grand. Had a good time. Wish it had been longer. Everybody satisfied.

No knockers. No grumbling.

The ladies surpassed themselves in fancy costumes. It was a wise man who could see through the camouflage of "The Country Girl," "The Pierrot," "Alladin," "The Cow Girl," "The Duchess," and the many other fancy costumes. Whether it was C.C.I., C.R., or 103 checkers!

Lieut. Candy was there with his "Wilson Smile." Busy as usual, but happy.

Major Sinclair, Capt. Myers, and Lieut. Donaldson were seen extracting themselves from the wire entanglements of the Lancers.

The band—all Guardsmen—was top hole.

Now think of the one to come—in February.

The Rights of Admission are **STRICTLY RESERVED.**

"One of the best conducted Dances ever held."—Vide Manager of Hotel.

The Committee have the Office behind them in this respect.

The hobby of the Dance Committee is to promote friendship and esprit de corps among one and all, and there is not the slightest doubt that they are well on their way to this end.

The dance committee is composed as follows:—Lieut. L. E. Candy, S.Q.M.S. Hewitt, H (R2B. Cen. Sec.), Sgt. Jackson, H.L. (R2B5), Sgt. Marshall (R2B), Cpl. Chipperfield, W. (R2.B.5), Cpl. Wallace, W.N. (R2B4), Cpl. Wood, H. (Ord. Room), Pte. Douglas, R.H. (R2B5), Pte. McCoskey, W.J. (R2A4), Miss M. Smith (R.1.F.), Miss George (R.1.C.), Miss Massey (R.1.C.), and S.O.M.S. Scott (A.M.S.).

S.Q.M.S. Sealy, of R.2.A.Z., on behalf of his Section, challenges any other Section in the Office (males only) to turn out a better set of characters (in the opinion of the Judge) than R.2.A.2.

The characters to number not more than six.

We hear that, providing enough tickets are sold **INSIDE** the Office, the Committee are in favour of making this a C.R.O. dance entirely.



The Seaman and his Book.

THE COMING DANCE.

To avoid duplication it has been decided to publish a list in the Bulletin each week of the characters which have already been selected by those who intend going to the dance in fancy costume.

Those who have decided on their costumes should write down the name of the character they intend to represent, and hand it to the Editor as soon as possible. This will do away with half-a-dozen Robinson Crusoes, much to the annoyance of each other.

Correspondence.

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

(To the Editor.)

Owing to an oversight on our part there has as yet been no mention made in the Bulletin of the C.R.O. Concert Troupe.

The members of the troupe gave most willingly all their spare time for the many rehearsals that were needed to make the concerts held at the Central Y.M.C.A. a success. The proceeds of the concerts were given to the Canadian Red Cross and amounted to about £5 after expenses were paid.

Many people, I fear, thought that the party were doing the work for self-amusement, but it was not so at all. It was done with the best of intention, to give free concerts to all Hospitals, and everyone in the party knew what they were up against and worked whole-heartedly.

But unfortunately the party will have to be broken up, as one member has left the Office, and as the work is rather heavy now, the boys cannot be spared to do the concerts that are already booked.

Thanking all who helped us and supported the concerts,

A LADY MEMBER.

(To the Editor.)

Walking round St. Paul's Churchyard the other day I noticed a lot of black portions on different parts of the stonework round the Cathedral, mostly on the huge pillars.

Other parts are just as light as others are dark, and I am curious to know what causes these quaint marks. I should be very glad if you would kindly tell me in your next issue.

CURIOUS.

Dear Curious,—

How the —— should I know who put the "black portions" on St. Paul's Cathedral? Anyway, seeing that you were so curious I was going to write privately to you and tell you that the pigeons were to blame, but on second thoughts I went out of my way to make several enquiries, and discovered that once upon a time there was a man who used to write and ask editors —— silly questions, but one day he was caught and, after a very fair trial at the Old Bailey, was sentenced to wash down St. Paul's with a soap and flannel, and he got about the job, but died before it was completed. The "black portions" are those he hadn't time to do.

—Editor.

(To the Editor.)

Could any of your readers tell me the correct costume to wear if I go to the Fancy Dress Dance as Mars?

JOHN R 2.

O let me try and tell you, John, You won't need to have your trousers on, But if you're going dressed as Mars, Then it's up to me to go as Pa's.

—Editor.

RE-MOBILIZING FOR PEACE.

ARTICLE I.

Our war machines will soon be operating backwards, so that even if it has no brakes it seems at least to have a reverse lever.

In the early stages of the war the people complained that we were not getting on with "it" fast enough. Now they are beginning to say that we are too slow in getting out,—but, it must be remembered that considering the proportion of Canada's population that are engaged directly or indirectly in the War, that the task of putting this splendidly organized Force back to Civil Life and placing the nation's business on a peace instead of a war basis is not simple. The fact that the War organization is of a high standard must be taken into consideration, and in all justice the remobilization for Peace must be of an equal standard. It is proposed that a weekly article of this description be published in the Bulletin, and that a different subject involved in reconstruction be dealt with each week. Perhaps this would be the right place for a word about the organization of reconstruction that is essentially ours, namely, The Great War Veterans' Association of Canada, who stand for the following:—

To keep alive in Canada the ideals for which you fought in France.

Your co-operation in solving the problems of reconstruction is needed, and it is only by organized effort on your part that the just demands of returned soldiers will be acceded to.

To perpetuate the close and kindly ties of mutual service in the Great War, the recollections and associations of that experience and to maintain proper standards of dignity and honour between all returned soldiers.

To preserve the memory and records of those who suffered and died for the nation. To see to the erection of monuments to their valour—the provision of suitable burial places, and the establishment of an annual Memorial Day.

To ensure that proper provision is made

for the due care of the sick, wounded and needy among those who have served, including reasonable pensions, employment for such as are capable soldiers, homes, medical care, and equitable provision for dependents of enlisted men.

To constantly inculcate loyalty to Canada and the Empire, and unstinted service in their interest.

To guard carefully the good name, interests and standing of our comrades still overseas, and to which they should be entitled upon their return.

To impress upon its members that they are to continue in their services to Canada as citizens and the same spirit of sacrifice and loyalty which they have shown to Canada, and the Empire as soldiers, and to remain as members of the Association non-sectarian, and non-partisan.

To establish, maintain and operate Clubs, clubrooms, hospitals, employment and information bureaus, industrial and other schools and institutions, libraries and establishments for the benefit, promotion and advancement generally of the interests of soldiers, and to furnish stock and equip the same in such manner as the Association may determine.

If you have any troubles—if your pay and allowances are not adjusted properly, or if there is any matter in which you require assistance, get in touch with the nearest branch of the G.W.V.A.

The above is a mere outline of what this organization is doing and intends to do. Its future power rests with you.

The subject to be dealt with this week is Pensions.

The Board of Pension Commissioners, with its head office in Ottawa, has branches in all the principal cities throughout out Canada.

Some of the guiding principles on which Canadian pensions are awarded, and with which all pensioners, prospective pensioners, and those interested in their welfare should be acquainted, are set out below.

These are not intended in any way as a comprehensive explanation of the basis of Canadian pension awards, but merely as an outline of the salient features.

PENSIONS.

1. Soldiers are not pensionable for service only.

2. Pensions are awarded only in cases of disablement, due to a wound or disease occurring or resulting from, or aggravated on service.

3. Disablement is estimated only by the effect it may have upon the soldier's capacity for ordinary work. That he cannot return to his former occupation does not entitle him to a higher pension than the extent of his disability warrants.

4. If a soldier is so disabled that he is completely incapacitated for ordinary work, he received a "total disability" pension, which has been fixed at \$50.00 a month.

5. If, by his disablement, a soldier's capacity for ordinary work is lessened, he receives a percentage of the "total disability" pension equal to his handicap.

6. This percentage has been most carefully and thoroughly worked out for every disability, and it is as accurate and fair as it is possible to make it.

7. The earnings of a man may be capable of making, or the amount of his pre-war earnings will not in any way affect the amount of pension awarded. The extent of his disability is alone considered.

8. Widows of sailors or soldiers who have died are entitled to pension for so long as they do not re-marry.

9. Children of sailors or soldiers are entitled to pensions up to the age of sixteen if boys, or seventeen if girls.

10. Pension is only granted to parents of a sailor or soldier when he was their main support previous to his death.

The following record of enlistments in each province up to May 31, 1918, will give some indication as to the replacement in industrial life after the War.

Alberta	42,538
B.C. and Yukon	49,628
Manitoba	63,408
New Brunswick	22,622
Nova Scotia and P.E.I. ..	28,516
Ontario	231,274
Quebec	62,761
Saskatchewan	32,521
Total	533,268

S.M. J. BRYANT, W.O.

NOW THAT WE HAVE GOT STARTED AGAIN, THE EDITOR WOULD BE GLAD TO RECEIVE COPY OF ALL KINDS FOR PUBLICATION IN THE BULLETIN.