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You NAME IT

CONTEST HELD OVER

Vol. 1 No. 2

January 1944

Ottawa

TO VICTORY IN NINETEEN FORTY FOUR !

"I am confident that Canadian Wrens will march with their British sisters to Victory in 1944".

Superintendent Joan Carpenter, WRNS.
Western Approaches.

Superintendent Carpenter's heartening words, part of her Christmas signal to Canadian Wrens, are an incentive to every Wren in the service. What 1944 will bring forth — none of us know, we only know that if we are to win this war, we must continue to work.

The Wrens have worked hard, this year they will work harder than ever before. By the time you read these words the third draft of Canadian Wrens will have arrived in England. They left Canada with the fixed determination to keep up the splendid standard established by the previous drafts. We know they will succeed.

They will succeed -- as the Wrens "at home" are succeeding -- because they understand that the service of which they are part, is the greatest in the world. It is a service that inspires them to do better than their best. They cannot let it down.

We feel it to be true that not a single Wren would wish to go back to civilian life until she has contributed, to the utmost of her ability, her bit towards the winning of the war. It is a much harder job to find inspiration when we -- as we are in Canada -- are out of the danger zone.

The truth is that, whether we fight here in Canada, or Overseas, the thing that matters -- the only thing that matters -- is that we carry on to the bitter end, courageously, and even gaily, remembering that we, the Women's Royal Canadian Naval Service, are a part of the Royal Canadian Navy. There is no greater reward.



Canada

Minister of National Defence
For Naval Services

Ottawa, January 3rd, 1944.

I must congratulate you and all who are associated with you in the production of the first number of the Wren newspaper. This little publication will be of great interest to the Wrens wherever they are stationed, and I hope you will be able to get good correspondents at the various bases and establishments.

I shall not venture to suggest a name for the paper, but I know that you will pick a good one!

With very best regards,

Yours very truly,

(signed) A.L. Macdonald.

LORD SEMPILL CONGRATULATES US

Chateau Laurier,
Ottawa.
January 10, 1944.

..... I congratulate you on the first issue of the Wren's magazine that I have just read from cover to cover.

Today we have W.R.N.S. in the Naval Air Service, in the Naval Air Department, Admiralty, at R.N. Air Stations and afloat too. They do splendid work and show how much better off we would have been in the last war if we had had W.R.N.S. It would certainly have made life more agreeable and surely have shortened the war!

My elder daughter was in the W.R.N.S. until she transferred by marriage into the Commandos. Her husband is now under Lord Louis Mountbatten in South Eastern Asia while she is rocking the cradle at home.

I know something of the splendid services that the W.R.N.S. give, but many of these cannot be spoken of until after the war. I pay a sincere and warm tribute to this splendid branch of the woman's service, to the Director, an Admiral in rank but "a mother in understanding" to all her girls. I am indeed proud to claim her friendship. Her last words to me were: "My love to each Wren you see in Canada". How gladly I give this message.

Yours sincerely,

(signed) Sempill

(Lord Sempill, who is Chairman of the Board of Trade and is in Canada on official business just now is the 19 Baron of one of the oldest families in Scotland and has had a distinguished career in the military and diplomatic services. His list of honors and associations would fill a page this size in "Who's Who" He was a distinguished dinner guest at Kingsmill House on 15th January. Ed's note.)

Here are extracts from a letter received from Chief Officer Isherwood. It was posted on December 14th, 1943, at which time she knew nothing of the new Wren paper just being born. Her opening words show just how anxious she is to hear all about our Wrens. By the time this copy is in your hands she will have - we hope - received her first issue of the Wren magazine.



C/O Isherwood, W.R.N.S.,
H.M.S. Proserpine,
c/o G.P.O., London.
December 14th, 1943.

.....I am longing to hear all the news of the Canadian front, so do hope you will keep me posted. I want to know who has been moved where and how things are going, and everything that happens to my beloved W.R.C.N.S. Hummell's Scrap Book has given a great deal of delight to many people, and all the photographs and cuttings have been greatly admired. I am very proud of it.

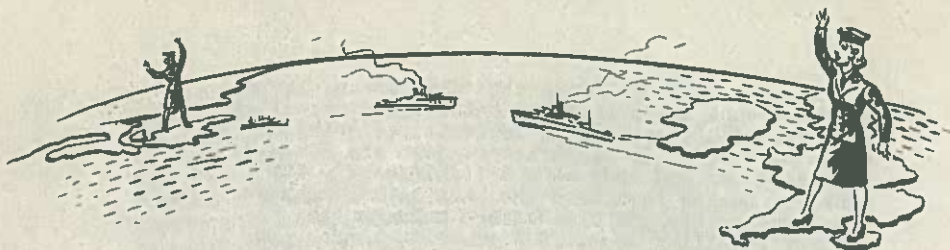
The air raid siren has just gone and the guns are starting to blaze away though not very noisily yet. I was awfully glad to find that the Canadian Wrens in London don't mind the raids and face them like veterans of the blitz.

I suppose you have heard of my new appointment. I have been here just one week and find it very exhilarating to be amongst sailors and ships once again. I am going to be very busy and shall have to do a lot of travelling, mainly by the sea.

Last year at this time we were planning the Christmas festivities at Salt -- I little thought that this year I would be planning festivities in such a remote spot, without a shop in sight, and all supplies very hard to come by!!

The B.B.C. has asked me to broadcast in February - it's to be in the Home Service so I don't know whether you will be able to hear it.....

(signed) Dorothy Isherwood.



TRANSATLANTIC GREETINGS

Canadian Wrens from coast to coast got lots of exciting mail this Christmas -- so much of it that Fleet Mail Office broke all records. But no messages were appreciated more, by every Wren, than the three from overseas which were posted on W.R.C.N.S. bulletin boards at all Wren establishments. Greetings for Christmas, best wishes and love to all Canadian Wrens came from Chief Officer Dorothy Isherwood, C.O. Orkneys and Shetland, and First Officer Lorna Kellett, of Western Approaches. Superintendent Joan Carpenter, Western Approaches, sent Christmas greetings from Liverpool and forecast that Canadian Wrens will march with their British sisters to victory in 1944.

And as the messages crossed the Atlantic, Canadian Wrens passed them on their way to the United Kingdom, new jobs for the Navy, and a Victorious New Year.

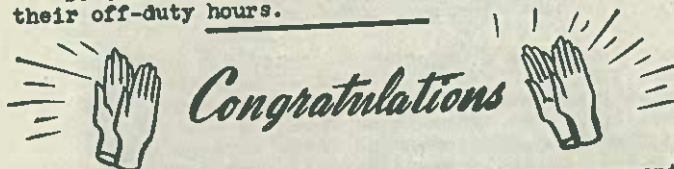
OVERSEAS NEWS

A member of the first draft overseas is setting another record for those who follow. A recent letter from Sub-Lieutenant Mackie, who was in charge of that first dozen to sail for the United Kingdom reveals that Wren Doreen F. Davie of Vancouver is acting as German tutor for the Canadian Legion's weekly classes attended by both English and Canadian Wrens.

In October, Sub-Lieutenant Mackie asked her group of Wrens to decide among themselves what they wanted to do in the winter evenings in an educational way. Some were keen to take up German, while others were anxious to brush up on their French conversation. Wren Davie taught high school French and German in civilian life, so the Canadian Legion are paying her a tutor's fee to take the weekly German classes.

A tutor from the Linguists' Club is in charge of the French class which is entirely conversational. Sub-Lieutenant Mackie invited the Admiralty Wrens serving at 10 Haymarket to join the class if they cared to and they were all delighted. The Canadian Legion furnished the text books and pays the tutoring fee and classes are held in the Officer's Waiting Room, 10 Haymarket, London, between seven and nine.

So the Canadian Wrens aren't wasting any of their off-duty hours.



Listed in the New Year's promotion announcement of the Royal Canadian Navy were fourteen women officers, of whom the Wrens are immensely proud.

Surgeon-Lieutenant Marian I. Templin was promoted to the rank of Surgeon Lieutenant-Commander, R.C.N.V.R.

Advanced to Lieutenant, W.R.C.N.S. effective first January are Lieutenants M.St.C. Baxter, M.H. Hazelwood, E.C. Cross, A.D. Smith.

Paymaster Lieutenant promotions were given A.E. Crozier and E. Middleton.

Advanced to Lieutenant (Special Branch) are A.F. Innes, H.A. Burns, A.M. Mason, C.M. West, A.M. Ironside, K.M. Baker and Nancy Pyper.

Congratulations and best wishes for more stripes to you all!

Congratulations also to Acting Pay Lieutenant Dorothy R. Walmsley, H.M.C.S. "Conestoga", who is the first Wren Accountant Officer to take charge of a Ship's Office.



AT THE LEVEE

Although the annual levee held by the Governor-General on New Year's Day is essentially a masculine affair, commissioned officers of the women's branches of the three armed services are entitled to attend, and this year a number of Bytown officers were among the guests greeted by the Earl of Athlone.

Prime Minister Mackenzie King and members of the Cabinet were first to greet His Excellency. Then came the diplomatic corps, representatives of foreign powers and other Empire countries with their staffs.

The W.R.C.N.S. was represented at the levee by Commander Adelaide Sinclair, Lieutenant Helen Burns, Lieutenant Nancy Pyper, Lieutenant A.M. Ironside, and Sub-Lieutenants Fax, Corbett, Neill, Thwaites, Forsythe Redmond and Hancock.

NEWLY COMMISSIONED

To nineteen graduates from the December O.T.C. at Hardy House, Ottawa, congratulations and best wishes are extended by all the Wrens. The new Probationary Sub-Lieutenants are Helen Ballantyne, Helen Belyea, Dorothy Benson, Irina Chavchavadze, Rosemary Clarke, Joan Cogdon, Joan Cowie, Betty Crowther, J. Victoria Hanna, May L. Keightley, Margaret Paul, Dorothy I Murray, Dorothy G. Newman, Carol Sellars, Dorothy M. Sweet, Norma J. Taylor and Constance Thornton. Lieutenant Eleanor McCallum and Sub-Lieutenant Barbara Larson, two of our serving officers, also completed a course with the same class.



A report has just reached us of a delightful party given for the Director, Commander Sinclair, on her recent short tour to Vancouver and the Island.

Lieutenant Allen, the other Wren officers and the Wrens, gave a tea to which they invited all the hospitable Victorians who had entertained them so wonderfully ever since the first day of their arrival.

Among the guests were representatives of several outstanding organizations who had helped the Wrens in a variety of ways. Each Wren introduced her kind Victoria hostess to the Director who thanked her personally for her kindness.

Later the guests were taken over the quarters and all of them expressed keen delight in seeing the excellent arrangement and beauty of the new ship.

The Director also visited Royal Roads and received a enthusiastic reception from the Wrens quartered there, where Sub-Lieutenant Sally Mitchell is Unit Officer.

PRAISE FROM THE PACIFIC

Jericho Beach,
Jan. 5th, 1944

"About the magazine. I like it very much and I can't tell you how much it will be appreciated by all Wrens who are in small and isolated stations. We feel out here that we are very far away from the centre of Wren "doings" and it will be a godssnd to us. The only copy I have seen so far is the personal one that came with your letter. No bundle has reached us from N&D.A. so far"

(Signed) Polly Dobson (Lieutenant)



EIGHT LUCKY WRENS

Chosen to be guests of the Earl of Athlone and Princess Alice at Government House on New Year's Day, eight Bytown Wrens experienced a thrill they'll never forget when they met the Governor-General and the Honorary Commandant of the W.R.C.N.S. and spent an exciting day with them. From the morning, when they arrived, through the informal luncheon for 30 members of the three services, skating on the Rideau Hall rink, skiing in the grounds during the afternoon, a buffet supper with all members of the household and staff present, dancing in the Rose and Gold Ballroom and cards in the salon, there never was a dull moment for the Wrens.

Petty Officer Frances Treadgold sat on the Governor-General's right during the luncheon. The others were Leading Wren Ina Acton, Leading Wren Ann Harvey, and Wrens Roma Dodds, Mary King, Jean D. Taylor, Joyce Cudden-Woodthorpe and Fay Stansfeld.

When this issue of the Wren paper was going to press, Bytown Wrens were looking forward to the visit of Princess Alice, wife of the Governor-General, and Honorary Commandant of the Women's Royal Canadian Naval Service. Princess Alice was to inspect Wallis House on January 19th, and the Ottawa Wrens knew that she would be interested in every part of the quarters. Her Royal Highness has always been a gracious Commandant and a favourite with the Wrens. Her visits are looked forward to by officers and ratings alike.

FROM THE EAST COAST



The Stadacona Wrens have their own beauty parlor now, they're glad to announce, just like the Conestoga and Cornwallis establishments, and Wren Winnifred Wener, of Winnipeg is handling the coiffure problems of more than a thousand girls stationed in Halifax, assisted by Wren Louise Webb, of Stroud, and Wren Ann Paskaruk, of Winnipeg.

If you've ever been in that famous Eastern Canadian Port and tried to get an appointment at a hairdresser's, you'll appreciate the delight of the Stadacona Wrens in their new addition. It's in one of the bright lower deck cabins of the Wren Block, furnished with equipment purchased by the Navy from Wren Wener, who closed her own beauty parlor in Winnipeg to join the service as an S.B.A.

All work is done by appointment only and tickets are obtained at the Wren's canteen. If there's money left over after supplies are paid for, it goes to the canteen fund, but profits aren't the idea in this shop, as the low prices illustrate. It's bound to be a beautiful New Year!



(In our second issue we are delighted to publish our first poem. It was written by P/O Docker, well known to every Wren in the Service. In her life she has

travelled far and wide, and she has seen many beautiful views. Here she tells you about the nicest view of them all. If you aren't convinced NOW, wait until you see the view from the mess at Stadacona. Let's have your poems every month. Ed.)

From my window I can see
Wonderous things that interest me.
Ships, Trains, the Sky and Trees
In the distant fields of green.
Lads pass by from other lands
Somehow, I'd like to take their hands,
And tell them that we understand
The hardships they endure off Land
To bring to us the things we need.
For Honour's sake; this is their Creed.
Looking round with pride I see
Everything surrounding me.
All so new and shining bright,
Lots of windows, streaming light
On pots and pans, and galley hands,
Happy voices in the air,
Proudly Wrens will do their share.

P/O Docker,
H.M.C.S. Stadacona

Halifax on New Year's Eve!.....surely the most nautical atmosphere in which to greet the New Year. The noise alone at midnight was guaranteed to bring a lump to one's throat, such a queer mixture it was of thrill and comedy, and it must be difficult for anyone who was not there to imagine the accumulation of sound afforded by every ship raising its voice simultaneously in greeting. Big booms, shrill whistles and cheeky, impertinent little 'peeps' all merged together, every tone and key combining to provide an accompaniment for the constantly moving searchlights and the twinkling stars. The feeling of exultation was tempered with the speculation as to what was happening in ports in other countries; probably some have no cause for jubilation, the New Year holds out no possibility of Victory for them; others may feel hopeful

anticipation and yet be unable to express it since searchlights and sirens are reserved for less pleasant occurrences in time of war. However, Halifax, was hampered with no such restraint, and let the whole world know that it looks to 1944 with confidence.

Lt. Cdr. Doris Taylor,
W.R.C.N.S.

ACCLAIM FROM THE ATLANTIC

H.M.C.S. Cornwallis,
December, 1943

"Speaking for all the Wrens in Cornwallis, we are simply delighted with the wonderful news about the forthcoming Wren paper. It is such a splendid way of keeping in touch with friends in the Service who have been drafted apart,

"Our heartiest congratulations and the very best of luck to our very own paper and we shall all do our best to keep the Wrens throughout Canada up-to-date with what is going on in H.M.C.S. Cornwallis.

(signed) Jehanne D. Languedoc
Sub-Lieutenant

THEY LIKE HER

One of our "foreign" correspondents has just sent a message by carrier pigeon, concealed in an invisible capsule, telling us that Lieutenant Brodie is the most popular girl at H.M.C.S. Protector. Confidentially, and most secret, the ratings call her "The Little Skipper" and one of them calls her "MOM". He was pretty worried, with the rest of us, when she was ill recently, and we're all relieved and happy that she's well enough to be back on duty again.

WITH THE BYTOWN WRENS

Christmas week started off with a ship's concert at Wallis House when Santa (Cudden-Woodthorpe) made his entrance via the supply office, sleigh-drawn by

two reindeers (M.T. drivers). The several excellent numbers presented included a skit about Sick Bay, by the Wren Officers. Sub-Lieut. Fess made a most attractive patient but succeeded in escaping the wiles of a very evident wolf portrayed admirably by Sub-Lieut. Rugherford. Holiday week refreshments concluded the performance.

On Christmas Eve, Leading Wren Bryant played the Santa role, aided by two well-stuffed pillows, and as she presented a gift to everyone she accompanied it with a resounding smack--even the male representative from Special Services being a recipient! Wrens Middleton and Johnson won the jitterbugging contest again.

Christmas Day was a big event, with special menu, decorations galore, and officers rushing around to serve the ratings. Commander Sinclair and Lieutenant Commander Mills, garbed in white smock and chef's cap, carved for the cameramen. Turkey dinner was served to 240 officers and ratings at Wallis House.

A sleighing party on the 29th brought the old year to a fitting close and 50 super-gorgeous hand-picked Wrens attended a skating party and dance on New Year's Eve. At midnight, the personnel on board at Wallis House to greet the New Year consisted of P.O. Treadgold, Regulators Riddell and Marsh, the shore patrol the Duty Officers (Sub-Lieutenants Bacon and Gerrie) and two ship's cats. Late leave was granted to the rest of the ship's company to the delight of everyone except those named above!

Wallis House has a new regulating office, the pride and joy of P.O. Treadgold. C.P.O. Goodwin has fulfilled every demand for signs. A bit of spring is evident in the bukbs blooming in Wren cabins. A large yellow cat has been bequeathed to the Wardroom. A promising duel between Nobby and Solomon appears to be a certain future event.

GLoucester Gleanings

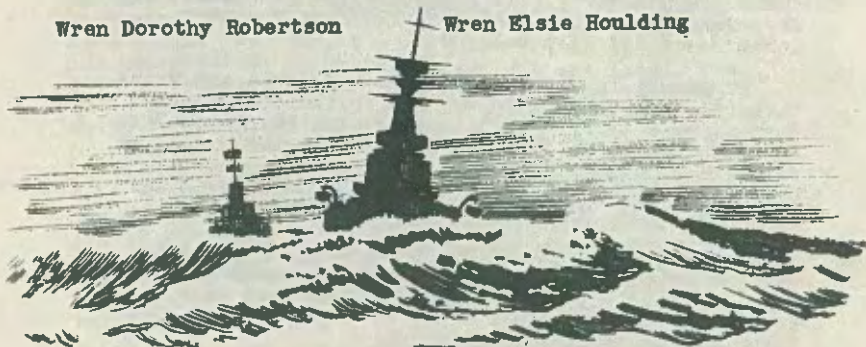
"Country Cousin" reporting to the Wren magazine, and introducing No. 1 Station. Almost a year ago the first W/T Wrens put out to sea down the country lanes bound for a harbour somewhere south of Ottawa. Their first ship, new and tiddley, floundered in the Spring mud, but her enthusiastic crew of cooks, M/T's and stewards, etc., was not daunted and soon it became the pride of all aboard. Under the capable helmsmanship of Sub. Lt. Cross (she became a full Lieutenant on New Year's Day) her maiden voyage of 1943 was a very happy one.

Early in January, 1944, new W/T's joined the complement, and Sub. Lieutenant Crowther has taken over the wheel. To our new officer, and Wrens we extend our best wishes and we feel sure that our second trip will be as successful and happy as our first. To our old shipmates who joined the staff at N.S.H.Q., and to those who became officers, we feel as if you will always be a part of the first crew of No. 1.

More from the crew in the next issue.

Wren Dorothy Robertson

Wren Elsie Houlding



YORK NEWS

The Wrens at C.O.R.D. entertained Sunday afternoon, December 26th, for the Chief Protestant Chaplain, Bishop A.G. Wells and Mrs. Wells, whose official Toronto visit included tours of inspection at 146 Crescent Road and at Holwood House, the two Wren Residences for H.M.C.S. "York".

The Senior Protestant Chaplain, Rev. E.G. Foote and Mrs. Foote accompanied Bishop Wells who took advantage of the occasion to renew old acquaintance with Bishop A.R. Beverley, of Toronto, father of Leading M.T. Driver Margaret Beverley, and gracious host to many a Toronto Wren.

Wren Officers who dropped in to meet the official party included Lt. Edna Whinney, Sub. Lt. Noreen Harper and Sub. Lt. Sheilah Florance. In charge of tea arrangements were Leading Wrens Margaret Beverley; Muriel Constable; and Wrens Patricia Cole, Barbara Jones and Helen Webb.

Many gracious invitations were issued to Wrens and Ratings in Toronto over the Christmas holidays. Two Toronto Wrens took advantage of the dinner invitation from the Sir Ellsworth Flavelles for Christmas Day. They were Wrens Rita Earl of Montreal, and Louise Gallenger of Winnipeg.

Four C.O.R.D. Wrens saw the New Year in as guests of the Royal York Hotel. Invited to the Hotel's regular dancing party, they were served New Year's Dinner in the Tudor Room, along with four York Ratings, and representatives from the other two services. They were Wrens Mae Dickinson, Eleanora Thornton, Lorna Young and Jean Robertson.

On Annual leaves this week from Toronto are Wrens Barbara Jones, skiing in the Laurentians; Georgina Murray, back to British Columbia; Pam Phipps to Port Arthur; Eileen Collins, back to the Kootenay Country of British Columbia; Muriel Carpenter in Cornwall; Maureen Marshall to B.C.; Doreen Martin over in the United States; Shirley McNeill back to Manitoba.

A Captain's Writers' Course gets under way this week at Holwood House. Wren Writers from York will study three nights a week for their leading hooks. Chief P.O. Writer Harold Cohig will give the lectures. Exam date is set for 18th February.

Three Toronto Wren pioneers leave this week for an unnamed Eastern Establishment. These girls were among the group which journeyed from Galt by truck one day about a year ago this time, to open Holwood House. All are members of the Steward Staff, and have done a creditable job of homemaking for the Wrens in Toronto. They are Hildur Halvarson, Amy Meadows and Anne Kolida.




CORNWALLIS CLIPPINGS

P erhaps we should say "How do YOU do?" as this is our first meeting with some of you, but that sort of thing is so formal, and after all we are "birds of a feather" -- some a little more weathered than other. Oh! well! -- So we'll just say "Hello" and carry on with a little of the matey local colour. Things certainly do change, don't they? January in

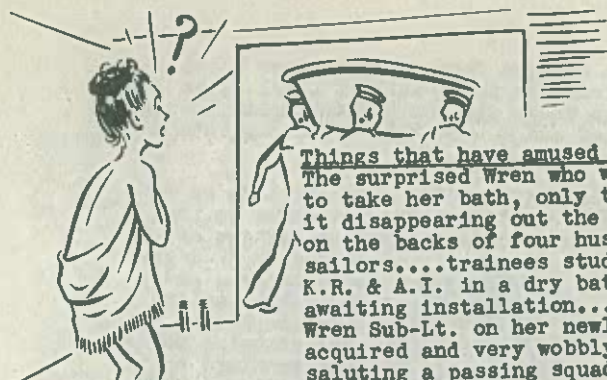
Cornwallis has a changed face to April (our birth). It's a far cry from the thirteenth of April, when 29 brave but bilious Wrens stepped off the train into a foot and a half of mud -- now they only step into a foot of snow.

Did we mention mud? Not at all. Well do we remember those two days of beautiful sunshine in the middle of July when we swam in the blue waters of the Annapolis Basin -- temperature 32 degrees. But the sea came into its own, and so did the Wrens when the Sailing Club was formed. Land-lubbering Wrens were taught the art of tying Bends and Hitches, how NOT to stand up in a boat, and last but not least, rowing - a very useful thing to know while out sailing! But sailing was not our only activity in the sports line. There was baseball, volleyball, golf, swimming and of course, dancing! There were trips out "to Sea" in the ships -- when the odd Wren turned a little green and was heard to mutter something about "Mal de Mer". There was the lovely picnic spent entirely in a downpour, that had all the aspects of turning into The Flood, and the Navy Blue dye out of burberrys ran down dainty white legs! But it's all fun.



The end of the summer brought on the Great Evacuation or, to be more explicit, the opening of the New Block. The betting ran high as to when the Great Day would dawn, and optimistic Wrens packed and unpacked religiously and daily. But the day *did* dawn, eventually, at 1600 one afternoon, and a few hundred odd (literally speaking) females, were to be seen trudging up the road, in assorted groups and even more assorted outfits, looking like a cross between a P/Wren leaving the kitting store on her first day at "Conestoga" and a Russian refugee! Inside the New Block the only heat was the heat of confusion, and the miracle of hot water coming out of the taps marked "Cold".

Fall also brought Cupid (strangely enough - it's usually Spring, isn't it?) and the Wrens led the field with two All-Navy matches and one Army-Navy.



Things that have amused us:
The surprised Wren who went to take her bath, only to see it disappearing out the door on the backs of four husky sailors....trainees studying K.R. & A.I. in a dry bathtub awaiting installation....a Wren Sub-Lt. on her newly acquired and very wobbly bike, saluting a passing squad.....

The trainee, in charge of an organized party marching up the road who shouted, as they approached a Commander, "Wrens will meet an Officer--Face Right!""We don't mind the eyes being left in the potatoes but we don't like them winking at us"....the way we always have to say to the visiting firemen on the personally conducted tours, as we point out each point of interest "Temporary, you know!"

But it won't be long before this mammoth and wonderful Base is completed, and then we will be sufficient unto ourselves, and we hope that all the Wrens will have the opportunity and experience that we have had of knowing and appreciating "Cornwallis". It has to be seen to be believed! And in conclusion we want to wish all the Wrens, from Sydney to Victoria a Happy New Year.

Galt Gossip



While the sixteen strokes of the ship's bell were sounded by Sub. Lt. Stephens to usher in the New Year, the small group, gathered around to toast 1944 and pledge renewed friendship, wore sober and thoughtful faces. Many had welcomed in 1943 at Conestoga, the rest under various horn-tooting conditions. High on the Conestoga hill, victory seemed closer with the turning of another annual corner.

During January the Ship's Company had a daily lecture, which included seamanship with practical work at H.M.C.S. "Warspite" in Kitchener. This was a very popular refresher course. Early in the month a group of regulators came for lectures, study and drill in connection with their work.

Gangways at H.M.C.S. Conestoga which have resounded in the past few weeks to the dignified tread of Ship's Company only will soon once again echo the clatter of civilian heels, the chatter of Probationary Wrens and the rustle of spring fashion, when the new 8-weeks' training period begins early in February. The first class of 160 will enter during the week of February.

The revised training schedule still will endow the mind with naval information and the body with drill and work parties. The additional time at Galt for the trainees should make the period slightly less breathless than it has been in the past.

An engagement pad, almost unthought of at this ship, was really a necessity during the holiday festivities as the round of gayety began. Prefaced by hard work, the two weeks went off in gala style. Ingeniously decorated, the fo'c'sles and the gymnasium were perfect backgrounds for carols, Santa Claus, presents under trees and munching of Christmas goodies which just had to be eaten before they spoilt.

All adjudged of equal merit by the Commanding Officer, the fo'c'sles have now resumed their former appearance, in most cases. The aft fo'c'sle in Nelson has been turned into a mess for Chiefs, P.O.'s and Leading Hands.

"Silent Night, Holy Night" was the most favoured carol and "White Christmas" well up in second choice for general singing. The opportunity to hear Sub-Lt. Shaughnessy and Lieut. Ockenden play was seized at every opportunity. It is needless to remark, knowing the yummy quality of cooking by Wren cooks, that the Christmas and New Year's dinners were of an absolute excellence. Naval custom was followed and Lillian Arsenault donned the Commanding Officer's hat and jacket for Christmas Day.

Recruiting officers who spent a week in December here have claimed to be the first graduates of a commando course. Ratings from the west coast to Newfoundland were pleased to find an old friend in the group and be able to chat for a few minutes before the commandos shot off to drill or lectures.

Chairs, tables, even a piano or two, rumbled up and down gangways in January, a sewing machine went sailing by and filing cabinets - all part of re-arrangement of the ship. Administration of affairs will all be in Collingwood now, while the Administration Building contains officers' quarters.



WEDDING BELLS

PEACOCK-WAYLING: Sub.Lieut. Katharine Wayling to Pilot Officer J. Clayton Peacock, R.C.A.F., at St. John's Anglican Church, on 3rd January. The reception was held at Kingsmill House, Ottawa.

GOODWINS-HUGHES: Wren Mary Phyllis Hughes to Petty Officer Ernest Goodwins, R.C.N.V.R., at St. David's Presbyterian Church, Halifax. Reception at the Nova Scotian Hotel.

HALL-WILGRESS: Leading Wren Patricia Wilgress, (attached to P.R.O.) to Pilot Officer Ormond J. Hall, RCAF. The wedding performed by F/L Campbell, Chaplain at Patricia Bay, at St. Andrew's Anglican Church, Sidney, V.I. (date 11th December, 1943).

WORMAID-BOJESCO: Wren Doris Bojesco to Leading Stoker Williams R. Wormaid. The Wedding performed by the Rev. William Hills, Naval Chaplain, in the Chapel of HMCS "Cornwallis". The bride was given away by Lt. Cdr. D.K. Miller.

OUELLETTE-BONDY: Wren Irene Bondy, of Windsor, Ontario, to Adolph Ouellette, R.C.N. Petty Officer J.D. Smith gave the bride away. The wedding ceremony was performed by the Rev. Father A.L.Nolan, R.C. chaplain at the Wrens Training Establishment at Preston

BIZETT-CHEGOSKY: Wren Vera Chegosky, Edmonton, Alta., to Corporal Don Bizett, of the U.S. Army.





Stadacona News

At Christmas time about 850 Wrens were on board, the rest were on leave. Individual Christmas presents for each one were given out by a Wren Officers' Cook - D.S. Jolicœur - dressed as Santa Claus. The officers served the ratings at Christmas dinner.

At Christmas and again at New Year's Eve the Wrens were hostess to 300 seamen off the ships for an evening of dancing.

On the 10th January the Leading Wrens held their first Mess Dinner. Leading Wren Meta Fraser is the Mess President. Tables had been arranged in the shape of an anchor and a hearty and sincere welcome was extended to all the new Leading Wrens. The guest of honour was Joan Bramley who had received her P.O. buttons that day. C.P.O. Docker had made a lovely cake, inside of which were P.O. buttons, and on Bramley's first piece of cake was a button. After the dinner the Unit Officer spoke to the girls on the qualifications of leadership and Service ideals.

- ALVEY

The Petty Officers held a party for the cooks, stewards and W.R.A.'s just before Christmas. There were only about six P.O.'s at the time, they had a Christmas tree and dinner which they served entirely themselves. The Unit Officer and two Quarters Officers were guests.

Chief "Sandy" left for Conestoga on the 27th December. The Wrens were sorry to see her go, she had done a grand job of reorganizing the Regulating Office at Stadacona.

STADACONA ADVANCEMENTS

Margaret J. Docker to C.P.O.; Cassidy, Florence to A/R.P.O.; Joan Bramley to A/P.O. Librarian; Eileen Church to Leading Wren; Vivian Moore, L/W; Margaret Heatley, L/W; Maude Felming, L/W; Cathleen Boulton, L/W Sailmaker; Margaret Dunning, L/W Messenger; Margaret Coyle, L/W Messenger; Katie Gillies, L/W Writer; Esther Brandon, L/W Writer; Isobel Summers, L/W Writer; Eleanor Nickell, L/W Writer; Dorothy Oakes, L/W Writer; Margaret Stevens, L/W Writer.

Wren Magazine still Unnamed!

CONTEST HELD OVER!

As you will have seen, our paper is still unchristened and although there has been an enthusiastic response and we have received hundreds of suggestions for our Name Contest, it has been decided that the time limit of the contest should be extended to allow every Wren a chance at it.

Because the copies of the first issue were delayed in the mail Wrens on the two coasts were almost excluded by the January 15th deadline. The Contest will not close until February 10th. And may the best Wren win!



MASTHEAD

This paper is published every month at Ottawa for members of the Women's Royal Canadian Naval Service, by authority of the Director, W.R.C.N.S. Editor, Lieutenant Nancy Pyper; Associate Editor, Wren F. Elliott; Staff Assistant, Wren Ruth Tomlinson; Art Editors, Lieutenant Alan Beddoe, O.B.E. and Sub-Lieutenant John Whitmore, R.C.N.V.R.; Photographic plates by R.C.N. Photo Section; Multilithing, Naval Duplicating Section; Circulation, Naval Distributing Authority. All correspondence should be addressed to the Editor, Room 416, Laurentian Building, 80 Elgin Street, Ottawa, Canada.