

# THE BEACON

"Let your light so shine"

Campbell River, B.C.

May 1943

Vol. 2 No. 5.

## SELECTIVE SERVICE COMMAND CONCHIE

### MEN MUST REPORT FOR EMPLOYMENT

In order-in-council, PC2821, passed April 7, 1943, authority is given Alternative Service Officers to serve conchies who are in ASW camps with an order to report for employment in agriculture, industry or elsewhere. Section 252, paragraph 1 reads in part, "The Alternative Service Officer may serve (ASWs) with an order requiring him to apply for...and to accept employment...in agriculture, industry or elsewhere as may be specified in the order".

According to the letter of the law, conscientious objectors may be forced into any and all industries whether or not that industry can not be entered conscientiously by us. This order-in-council does not uphold individual religious convictions such as objection to employment in munition plants, aeroplane factories, logging camps or any other war industries. This law actually disregards the original agreement of the Historic Peace Churches with the War Service Board that "alternative service" would be work of national importance not directly contributing to war. Already a considerable amount of placing of conchies into the most essential war industries has taken place declares one A.S.O.

The following are Alternative Service Officers: for British Columbia, Mr. C.H. Hanley, 475 Howe St. Vancouver; for Ontario, Mr. J. W. Pelletier, 174 Spadina Ave., Toronto. The Chief Alternative Service Officer is Mr. L. E. Westman, National Selective Service, Dept. of Labour, 238 Sparks St., Ottawa, Ontario.

It is to be hoped that these men who are invested with so great authority will consider the conscientious convictions of each man they place in industry, by recognizing the attitude which the government previously displayed. A respectful understanding of our cause by A.S.O's will help much in preventing penalties of twelve months hard labour or a \$200. fine or both, which a man who fails to report as required by an order served him is liable to. An alternative to imprisonment and fine would be constructive to our country.

*The Beacon headquarters has been transferred to Cowichan Lake. See page two.*



Published monthly by Alternative Service Workers in the British Columbia Forest Service. The men in seventeen of these camps fall snags, fight forest fires, construct roads, improve park, and supply fuel for general consumption. They work 48 hours a week and receive 50¢ a day, board and medical attention.

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Typist:

Wes. Brown

Publishers:

David Dueck, Pete Bueckert

Circulation Manager - George Heaman Asst. Cir. Mgr. - Nick Siblock

Proof Readers - Peter B. Epp, John L. Klassen. Artist - David Dueck

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#### WE ASK YOUR INDULGENCE

We are sorry this issue should reach you late. In the transfer of men to various camps our headquarters staff was deprived of most of its workers. This publication was put out by only three of the original staff and the welcome help of two recruits. At the scheduled time of publishing, your headquarters staff had the added work of planning and executing a conference of the entire Beacon Staff of associate-editors and camp circulation managers. We found it difficult to kill two birds with three stones because those birds were so large.

#### JOHN L. FRETZ ELECTED NEW EDITOR

At The Beacon Conference held in Nanaimo June 5 and 6, Wes Brown, editor tendered his resignation which was accepted. John L. Fretz of C-2, Cowichan Lake Camp was unanimously elected the new Editor-in-Chief. John begins his responsibility with the June issue. We look forward to a superior paper under his capable guidance. The June issue will be delayed until publishing equipment can be shipped to the new headquarters. ALL COMMUNICATIONS AND SUBSCRIPTIONS SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO THE BEACON, B.C.F.S., BOX 6, COWICHAN LAKE, B.C.



## Looking into the Unknown

Editorial - J.L. Fretz

What is more vague than that which lies ahead, or beyond sight? How many of us know what the morrow holds? Truly, we make plans and fully expect to prosecute them - but do we always do it? I do not wish to weaken your faith in making plans, for in them we are inspired to go forward and attain new goals; but how often have you experienced the futility of some planning? How often have you wondered why you did not plan differently? Haven't we all heard, at some time or other, an aged person say, "If I'd have my life to live over again, I'd do 'this and that' differently." Usually, their changes would be better. We all at some time regret incidents that have happened in our past life. They are gone; we cannot correct them now. However, there is a chance to better ourselves as a result of those experiences. The unknown lies ahead - we can resolve to set a higher goal for the future.

What is more puzzling than trying to discern that which lies beyond our view? To some it is more laborious than to others. I should say that those who do not greatly concern themselves about the future, will have little cause for anxiety. To others, who desire to improve the future, considerable study and interest is necessary. At present, the thought may enter your mind, "What is ahead for me after the war?" or "Will I be recognized by those who hold a different view than I?"

Today the world is watching us more than ever before. We have crept into the press and through the microphone before the public eye. Our name and our belief has been brought to the attention of a greater throng of spectators, and they are studying it. Do they expect much of us? Certainly they do! Do they expect much from their men on the battle-fields? Most decidedly! Men are suffering and dying daily for the cause of freedom. Why should less be expected of us because we believe differently? Should we not risk our lives also for causes that are urgently needed during this great and terrible conflict? Think of the innocent who are cruelly tormented as a result of devastation. We must be willing to help them. Let us prove our worth as noble Christians, not as cowards, that in post-war days we shall be able to do a greater part in bettering the moral and spiritual standing of our so-called Christian nations.

Too long has humanitarianism been tried - and failed. We must realize, and use, the power of an higher One, who has all power, and who will bring sure relief and peace to the bleeding heart of a sin-torn world.

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"Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for such is the kingdom of heaven". Today many little children of Europe are fatherless and motherless. They have been cruelly deprived of their natural providers and protectors to be left wandering the streets in rags and filthy depravation. Like stray animals they pick food from garbage tins to eek out an existance.

When you thank God each day for your daily sustenance, remember His little ones over there and pray for them.



## WHAT CONSTITUTES A CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTOR

In a decision handed down by Federal Circuit Court, Judge A.N. Hand and concurred in by Judges Charles E. Clark and Jerome Frank, it was shown that mere philosophical and political objection to the present war is insufficient to obtain draft exemption. The decision reads in part that a true conscientious objector must maintain "a general scruple against participation in war in any form, and not merely an objection to participation in this particular war. Moreover, the conviction that war is a futile means of righting wrongs, or of protecting the state, that it is not worth the sacrifice, that it is waged for base ends, or is otherwise indefensible, is not necessarily a ground of opposition based on religious training and belief".

This ruling was in the case of a Tuckadoc, N.Y. artist and his conviction was not upheld by Judge Hand's findings. Judge Hand said, "Though the registrant may have been entirely sincere in the ideas he expressed, his objections to induction were based on philosophical and political consideration applicable to this war, rather than on religious training and belief".

Selected by Edward Gilmore  
Religious Director of A.S.W. camps, BC

*Ambulance Unit?*

Speaking on the Amendment of Regulations respecting Conscientious Objectors, Mr. Douglas (Weyburn)... "May I ask the Minister of Labour a question with reference to the statement he has just presented with regards to C.O's? He read it rather quickly. Do I understand that if one of these conscientious objectors goes to work on a farm at \$35. a month and board he will receive only \$25. a month and board and the other \$10 will be turned over to the Government to go to the Red Cross?"

Mr. Mitchell: "That is correct."

Mr. Douglas: "That means that the man is to be fined \$10 a month for his views."

Mr. Mitchell: "I do not think that is a fair way to put it. At present they are only getting fifty cents a day, and I think that there is a greater degree of sacrifice on the part of the man who is willing to give his life if necessary."

Mr. Douglas: "A man should be paid for the work he does."

Canadian C.O's appreciate the value of sacrifice, but many of them are not satisfied with the present arrangement, that of turning over a proportion of their earnings to the government to be turned over to the Red Cross Society. They feel that they should not be denied the right to say where their own earnings should go, and inasmuch as men from almost every camp has expressed a desire to form an ambulance unit for service in China, but are seriously handicapped because of the lack of necessary funds, many of these men feel that this money should be diverted to such a project, supported by and manned by, Canadian Conscientious Objectors.

Contributed by Gus Harris, Banff ASW.



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## C 2 Resume

Andrew Bowman

We wish to challenge one statement in the April Beacon under "Horne Lake High Spots", which upholds that their camp is the nicest Forestry camp-site in B.C. We wish to disprove that statement as we have the former Horne Lake cook here now, and he stressed the fact that this camp has Horne Lake beat by far! If you wish to disagree, have a chat with our friendly cook, Mr. Harry P. Kerr.

On April 27th the Langford boys moved back to their "old summer home" again where they have since fought a few fires. Thus there remains at C-2 eighteen ASW's, the foreman Mr. E.A. Roberts and our cook.

Since tree-planting season we have completed seven and a half miles of lifting steel and ties and finished the road with the exception of a bit of gravelling here and there. At present we are doing our part as a demolition crew, taking down an old logging camp, salvaging the good lumber and burning the remainder to reduce future fire hazard.

### MAN HUNT!

C-2 camp-editor and amateur photographer, J. L. Fretz, heard about a beautiful waterfall in the scenic Robertson River valley. It greatly appealed to his photographic instinct and he forthwith made his way up the valley, on foot, one lovely spring evening.

Alas the evening shadows deepened, the hours rolled by, and no John. A search was made which lasted till the wee hours of the morning and at dawn the boys went out "en masse" to continue the search. With a twisted ankle and not having found his waterfall, John spent the night peacefully at an old abandoned logging camp. Weary and footsore he came into camp in the middle of the forenoon.

"All's well that ends well". Better luck next time, John. Oh, yes, remember, cougar have a reputation of avoiding men! (?)

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## GT-3 Resume

What was formerly camp Q-7 has been given a new setting. On April 28 all but two men were transferred to GT-3, Vedder Crossing. The site is favourably located on the banks of the Tamahi and Chilliwack Rivers, whose constant roaring reminds us of a strong Chinook wind blowing through the trees back home.

During our stay-over at Green Timbers enroute to our new camp John Reimer, a Q-3 man being transferred with us, was granted a farm leave. Jake Falk, formerly The Beacon circulation man at Q-3, who was also being transferred with us, received a farm leave.

Shortly after our arrival at Vedder a bear paid us a visit and investigated our store-room. Mr. Southworth, our foreman, successfully shot it.



## Koksilah Crumbs

Wilson Hunsberger

C-3 reports the loss of four worthy comrades on May 3rd. All men struck out for Ontario, "their" native land.

How shall we carry on without the enthusiasm of Corny Barg to spark our recreational activities, -soft ball, volley ball and ping-pong? How shall we live without the tasty food prepared by the faithful hands of able Abe Willms? How shall the ailments of our various pieces of machinery be diagnosed without the mechanical genius of Henry Wichert? Finally, how shall we learn to live and do correctly without the admonitions of our sage and scholar friend Harley Wideman?

## On Cutting Hair

To every campeo confined to a backwood existence come many peculiar desires. These fanciful whims inflict the individual with varying degrees of intensity, but never fail to attack all. One of the most common aspirations is the urge to "cut hair". I use the term "to cut hair" with discretion, contrasting it with the more dignified term "to barber". Most, but not all, of our backwoods clipper-scissor artists are "hair cutters". It is interesting to note the varying skills as recorded on the pates of our worthy comrades, and a detailed study reveals several well defined types of achievement.



First of all, there is the "bowl on the head, clipped up to it style". This type is quite popular, wilfully worn or otherwise. It is the evidence of inability to blend the efforts of clippers and scissors. A clear line of demarcation sets off the work performed by clipper from that accomplished by the scissors. The lower nape seems to say, "I was clipped with the clippers", while the upper hair shouts, "I was snipped with the scissors".



Secondly, there is the "shingled roof effect". This style is accomplished by the neurotic "hair cutters" who become bold with one snip and timid with the next. The alternating application of the "snip lightly, snip heavily" action produces a munched apple effect, or not unlike a barn roof newly shingled. This unique style holds great promise, but still lacks approbation of some note-worthy patron of vogue such as the Duke of Windsor or Lucius Beebe.



Next we have the "high on one side, low on the other side" mode. This creation is caused by the artist becoming over enthused in his work while labouring on one side of the head, consequently forgetting that the maximum height of shearing is at a fixed point two and a third inches above the ear for the majority of patrons. A variation from the symmetrical location of the auditory organs further complicates matters, and finally causes the practitioner to lay down his tools with the pronouncement that he has finished



## ON CUTTING HAIR - cont'd

his work in the "high on one side, low on the other" style. The future of this fashion is indeed doubtful.



Lastly, we feature the "square cut, corner protruding" type. Here the self-style barber fails to contend with the shape of the cranium and consequently allows knowledge bumps and other sundry deviations from normal shape to protrude in the most jocular and carefree manner. This arrangement holds great possibilities as it adds interest to the whole upper anatomy. For example, the universal use of this vogue might some day bring these words from the lips of some fair damsel, "George has the most bee-oo-tiful brown hair, and he has the cutest little bump just above the left ear!"

Your camp editor is making further investigation into the methods used by other tonsorial artists throughout the BCFS and would welcome information regarding additional creations affected by other members of the Association of Backwood Hair Snippers.

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## Goldstream

Rufus Jutzi, C-4

Hello everybody, C-4 reporting. Here we are back at the camp with which we associate many days spent on fire-fighting.

On April 23rd, just one week after we came back from Hill 60 where we helped plant innumerable trees, several of us came down to the Langford camp to clean up before the gang came four days later. Thus ended a long winter for Nyle Shantz who spent nearly all that season here, the last two weeks alone.

While we did enjoy our winter camp at Lake Cowichan, the boys all seem to be glad to get back to C-4. Here the majority of us had our first taste of camp life and here, also, we were introduced to the art of fire-fighting. At present our work is snag-falling and road maintenance. We've had a few fires which were small and gave little trouble.

In coming down here we have one regret, however, and that is that our group was divided. The original Langford gang is back here, and the Emory Creek gang of last summer stayed at Lake Cowichan. We miss their fellowship and the contributions they made in our camp activities. We wish them God's blessing.

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Many reports from men in the Forest Service camps have come to your editor, expressing their deep appreciation for the services and help of Bro. E. Gilmore and Bro. J. Toews. We wish to sincerely thank each of them for the guidance given us and commend the Historic Peace Churches for appointing these fine men of God to carry on this home-mission work.

Wes. Brown



## *Chili Con Carni, Alberni*

By Don Ewing

Have you ever lived with a friend for weeks without making more than a casual acquaintance with him, only to discover, when thrown together with him in an entirely different environment, what a splendid fellow he is? That has been the experience of seven former Q-3er's, who were transferred here on May 6th. Lorne McGregor, Tom McBrine, Abe Toews, Frank Rempel, Henry Giesbrecht, "Ike" Hildebrandt and Don Ewing have each come to impress one another in a new way. Together with Jake Derksen, former Q-2 truck-driver, and Walter Keffer, itinerant saw-filer, we have been aptly described by foreman Joe Mottishaw as "one big happy family".

May 17th the family was increased by a further migration of eight men from Q-3, which included "Scotty" Macdonald who will take over the kitchen after Don Ewing's pioneering. Our compliment is to be made up by members of the Mobile Unit at the end of this month. Although we are only 30 odd miles from Qualicum Beach and just a few mountainous miles from Horne Lake, we are virtually on the west coast of Vancouver Island. The natural inlet of the Alberni Canal extends 52 miles from Port Alberni to the open sea. It has made the town of Pt. Alberni an important shipping and lumbering center although the rough, mountainous nature of the land in which it lies has so far defied the efforts of railway builders and road builders alike. The descent from C-6 to Pt. Alberni is four miles long. Dominated from the east by Mt. Arrowsmith (5900'), the landscape is green with young trees.

C-6 remained closed from the middle of last October until the beginning of this month. Consequently, it is not as well equipped as the permanent camps. One of the improvements to which we are all looking forward to in the near future is the building of a water-tank to serve both kitchen and wash-house. The water in the creek is of excellent quality, but we can't bathe in it because it helps to supply Alberni residents. Might I assure our readers that C.O. fragrance is really delightful. But then, mud will be mud!

I'll conclude with a word about our foreman. Joe has forbidden me to heap too many compliments on his shoulders - for the sake of his reputation! Therefore, I shall be content with a prediction: no matter how long we stay here, he will never allow us to lose our sense of humour. Just you see!

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**FLASH** -- An hydraulic ran is soon to be established to supply C-6 with running water. On hearing this, Abe Toews wondered if that was where "steel wool" came from!

Camp Q-8 at Rock Bay has lost a number of its original campees and gained a few new comers recently. Abe Bartel is in Kleefeld, Manitoba on farm leave. Nick Voth is now on a farm at Arnaud and Abe Friesen a farm at Morris, both in Manitoba. Former campees of Vedder Crossing have replaced these men.



## Nanaimo Narrator

The camp, formerly known as Timberland C-7, is no longer in existance. The personnel, buildings and all the equipment of that establishment have been removed and used for the construction of another abode. We certainly felt sorry to leave the old camping grounds. This new project is known as the Nanaimo Camp, C-5.

Under the capable direction of Foreman Barney Moriez our new camp soon took shape. As though by magic - even if it involved much hard labour - nine huts, a dining-room and kitchen, and a wash-house were erected on a very pleasant site.

The new location, 8 miles west of Nanaimo along the Nanaimo Lakes Road, is in heavy timber. Southward, we are able to overlook the beautiful Oyster Bay, 10 miles distant. During clear weather the lofty peak of Mount Baker in the States is visible. To the west of the camp, about half an hours walk, is the small, but very picturesque, Blind Lake. It is rumoured that an expert angler could catch some fish there. To the north and east of our new home the fir and cedar majestically raise their leafy arms to the sky. Much as we dreaded parting with our old home, we now realize how unnecessary those fears were. Our present location is so much to our liking that the interests are severed from Timberland.

Just by way of comparison I would like to remind the readers that, as in the case of our unaccountable worry in the exchange of camps, similarly many of us often think too much of the comforts of our earthly home and do not concentrate sufficiently on that home which He has gone to prepare for us:

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Campees of C-5 welcome the transfer of Ed. Bayly from Horne Lake Camp.

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### TESTIMONY

I wish to give a testimony for our Lord. I have been thinking about the little verse in I Thess. 5:17; Pray without ceasing. Brother Gilmore was here in our camp recently to bring us a wonderful message. He mentioned that we need more prayer in camp. No doubt many of us have at some time experienced the power of prayer. Especially here in camp I have been comforted and strengthened through prayer.

Jacob Willms, C-5.

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### YOU WORK FOR IT!

Warmth, spring, holiday, plus hike equals adventure, blisters and backaches. Earl Coupland, Gerald Bean, Frank Willinger, Walter Schram and Warren Matheson of Powell River Camp found all three on Easter Sunday. They say they really had a fine time fishing. They even saw a whale. We're inclined to think that the big box of groceries was the best part of it. At any rate they're an authority on Powell River district now. Next morning, rising bell, CLANG, CLANG, followed by Oh! Ouch! my foot, Oh, h-h-h-h. "Well I don't care if it does hurt, one days freedom was worth it."



THE DANGERS OF INDECISION

Rev. Edward Gilmore

Joel 3:14, "Multitudes, multitudes, in the valley of decision".  
Joshua 24:10, "Choose you this day whom you will serve".

The term "decision" has been defined to mean free from hesitation or wavering; "to settle"; "to form a definite opinion". Indecision is a positive weakness in the human family. Satan smiles when he gets us to be changeable, vacillating, indefinite. Lack of decision usually spells wasted energy, wasted time, and failure.

There are several reasons why it is dangerous to ride the waves of indecision with respect to our soul's salvation. The first one is because of the injurious effects of indecision upon a man's character. Evading an issue only makes it harder for us when we do want to meet it. In Numbers 23:10 we read of Baalam who said: "Let me die the death of the righteous and let my last end be like his". But in Num. 31:8 we find Baalam among the slain enemies of God's people simply because he would not do what he knew to be right. Many a person has realized the call of God to be saved but has postponed their decision until a more convenient season. And by continuing in this course we may finally so undermine our initiative and weaken our determination that we accept any flimsy excuse as a justifiable reason for not being saved.

Indecision is dangerous because of the loss of time and opportunity. It has been truly said that a lost opportunity never returns. The yesterday of our life can never be re-lived. Truly, we can be forgiven for our failures and make restitution for our mistakes, but the possibilities of those lost opportunities are forever gone. The years we spend in sin are wasted years. The dying poet, although saved on his death-bed, cries out "Must I go in empty handed, Must I meet my Saviour so". There is nothing more worthwhile than to decide for Christ early in life and then consecrate all our life and talents to his service.

Last of all, indecision is dangerous because we may pass our last chance. We all like to emphasize the great love of God, and indeed it is great. But we should not forget that God also says, "My spirit shall not always strive with man", Gen 6:3. Sacred and secular history alike prove to us that God does finally bring to judgment those who refuse to heed His word. This short span of life is our probationary period. Eternal joy in Heaven or eternal despair in Hell will be the answer to our own decision, or lack of it. Jesus Christ is standing at the cross-road of everyone's life inviting us to accept Him as our personal Lord and Saviour. The blood of Jesus will wash away all your sins. But friend, you must decide. You cannot work your way into Heaven. Jer. 13:23, "Can the Ethiopian change his skin, or the leopard his spots? Then may ye also do good that are accustomed to do evil". We must be born again, and that experience can only be realized by a living, appropriative faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Will, you, my unsaved friend, accept Him, and will you accept Him now?



## From Powell River

By Earl Coupland

ARRIVALS: Adolph L. Brandt came to our camp from Green Timbers on May 12th. We welcome an old acquaintance and enjoy his ability on the piano accordion.

Pete Heldebrandt from Seymour has come to take over the bulldozer on road work as Sam Turner is leaving on May 18th.

DEPARTURES: Delmer Bechthold received his discharge because of an ulcerated stomach.

Herbert Wecker and Henry Spenst are away on a six-week farm leave.

William Solonuk is working in a fruit orchard in the Okanagan Valley.

Basil Brock has returned to Ontario because of the farm-labour shortage.

Gilbert Andersen is home to recuperate from a successful appendectomy.

Scott Perry, our sub-foreman, has been away on a two-week leave at his home in Spuzzum.

Malcolm Fisher was released on April 6th. We hope his special treatment have him feeling much better.

We welcome the return of the eight boys who were working at the Quinsam Nursery just out of Campbell River. Their work at the Nursery was completed in two and a half months. Oh yes, and their visit to beautiful Rest Haven in May will ne'er be forgotten!

Fourteen amateur naturalists recently spent a sunny Sabbath afternoon hiking through the neighboring timbers to return with 25 varieties of trees and shrubs peculiar to this district. Many birds were observed and a portrait of a blue grouse was taken by our candid cameraman, John Issler, at a distance of four feet.

Specializing in amateurs, our group boasts its own film developers and printers in the persons of Paul Comm and Orville Berg. A recent order kept the dark-room blacked out till 12:30 a.m.

A wood lathe powered by a foot-tredle is appreciated by many amateur and skilled turners. It was constructed by Howard Kelly. Numerous lamps, collar button cups, and even fruit bowls and a rolling-pin have been produced from this efficient, home-made machine.

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### OUR ROAD PROJECT

Wilbur Wyman

GT6 road project is still advancing rapidly. It has penetrated four miles into the forest. With the aid of a small caterpillar, nicknamed the "kitten", the rugged hillsides are taking shape into a well-built road with the odd hairpin-turn and an occasional zigzag to make the joy ride more exciting. Our foreman couldn't bear the thought of destroying a humming bird's nest which was peacefully hanging in the right-of-way, and was obliged to slightly change the course of the road. The bulldozing crew is in the lead clearing the road, followed by Ken McIvor and Wil Wyman, powder-monkeys. Another  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles to a strawberry patch!



## Seymour Mt. Park

H.J. Schmidt

With the passing of another period, which demands an inventory be taken of personalities in camp, one finds it somewhat depleted as compared with that of previous months. Like most other forest camps, some of our number have left forest life, at least for a time, in favour of farm duties. Among these are: Issac Andrews, Sask; George Dyck, Jacob Fehr, Abram Derksen, Henry Friesen, Manitoba.

Two of our members are patients in the North Vancouver Hospital. Jacob Giesbracht, straw-boss and baby of our camp family (6'3", 240 lbs) acquired a poison condition in his foot. We understand he is doing well and will again join the rest of us at camp shortly. The morning of May 11th David Jantzi, our talented woodworker, was engaged on a three-member gang operating a chain-saw, falling and sawing up snags. In his attempt to clear from a falling snag while carrying the saw to a safety zone Dave slipped. The falling snag glanced off a stump and crushed his leg against a log. At the time of writing, we do not know the exact nature of his injury.

### PROJECTS

On a reduced scale work is continuing on the construction of a road up Seymour Mountain. The weather has been favourable of late to justify effort toward its eventual completion.

Other members are employed at the Forest Service Boat Plant in Vancouver to put up a board fence. Post-holes are completed and the posts set in. After the boards have been attached, the fence will be painted. Another crew is giving the yard a thorough spring cleaning.

Another of our groups is assisting a party of surveyors. They are surveying large sections of Seymour Mountain to determine what areas are to be developed and incorporated in the Greater Seymour Mt. Park.

### SEYMOUR SKETCHES

HOWARD BAUMAN - Mennonite, Ontario...stalwart example of a conscientious c.o. ...factory worker...religious leader with practical application in daily camp-life.

JACOB FALK - Mennonite, Manitoba...loves out-doors...has definite ambitions toward becoming a leading power-farmer...small in stature but large at heart.

URIAS BRUBACHER - Mennonite, Ontario...cobbler by trade...friendly to all...considers life a serious matter which demands one's best always.

DON MOFFAT - Brethren, Ontario...bible student...holds a commanding knowledge of same...a great speaker and debater...sincere and friendly.

ALVIN SCHMIDT - Mennonite, Sask...believes kindness cannot be rationed and demonstrates it...successful wheat farmer...a first-rate bull-cook.



## *A Modern Tom Sawyer*

By Hannie and Wiebe, Q-2.

It was a very hot day. The ditch-digging was tedious. Wiebe was tired. Dreamily resting on his bowed shovel handle, he was trying to conceive a plan to get that half-mile-long ditch dug. The day was much too warm for ditching and a snooze on a log would feel very pleasant he thought. At least he could sit on the log and think about it for awhile.

"Ahmmmm, that's better" he sighed as he dozed off.

"Huck" Krause soon came sauntering up the dusty road. The modern "Tom Sawyer" immediately galvanized into action. All in one movement he swung off the log, grabbed for his shovel and bent down for a careful look at the ditch. Deftly he took off a little shaving of dirt from one side, then backing up two paces he took another careful look. "Now a little off that side and a little deeper here", mused 'Tom Sawyer Wiebe' loudly enough for 'Huck' Krause to hear.

Huck came to a sidling stop near Tom, took a skeptical look first at the ditch, then at Tom. "Wotcha doin'?" asked Huck.

"A very exacting and important piece of engineering which "Aunt Betsy Webber wants particularly well done", replied Tom not even looking up.

The next five minutes Tom busied himself with his work. Two feet of very carefully constructed ditch was the result.

"Here, let me use that shovel for a while", said Huck.

"Oh no, Aunt Betsy wouldn't like me to let you dig in this ditch. It has to be done just so".

"I can do it just so", retorted Huck. "I'll give you my pie for lunch."

"Well, just for a little while then", Tom says, slyly easing down on a log for a rest, mentally congratulating himself on his diplomatic victory.

Huck was doing well. The mud was flying and the ditch was fast taking shape, when along came some of Huck's Q-2 friends. There was Puddin-Head Funk with all his fellow rascals, Hunky Heidebrecht, Fatsy-Mac Klassen, Rusty Pushworth and the Balzer Buddies.

"Whatcha makin'?" they asked in chorus.

"Very important job. Gotta be done just so. Gave Tom my piece of "Milky Mellor's" apple pie, just so's he'd let me do this."

The boys were soon all enticed. By dinner-time all the Q-2 gang had contributed to Tom's project. Some picked, some shovelled, some moved boulders and all gave a tidbit in pay for the pleasure of being allowed to dig. Having finished the job, they wandered off to find newer and more exciting things to do.

It was Webber, the road-boss, who brought W. Wiebe to his senses with an abrupt "What's the meaning of sleeping on the job?"

Half asleep, Wiebe rises from the log and drowsily answers, "Why Aunt Betsy, the ditch is all done, look."

(cont'd next page)



## TOM SAWYER - cont'd.

"Aunt Betsy, Aunt Betsy, what in tarnation do you mean? Get up and finish that ditch."

Disillusioned, Wiebe viewed the long untouched grade. Truly his diplomatic plan had been a dream, but it was good while it lasted.

MORAL -- Every C.O. must dig his own ditch.

Please note: All incidents related in the foregoing are purely fictitious and any likeness to any CO, living or dead, is purely coincidental. With apologies to Mark Twain.

## Q-2 Chips

The following men have been granted farm leave: Ben Dick, Levi Toews, John Barkman, Henry Koop, Jake Loewen, Peter Dueck, Corny Dueck, Jake Kroeker and Dave Neuman.

Of the 14 men who went on their furlough in April only 3 have returned. It is thought that the absentees have been granted farm leaves.

The spirit of Canada's Army hung over Q-2 for about two weeks as nineteen soldiers were stationed at our camp. Some were shovelling gravel into trucks which Alternative Service Workers were driving. The men have since been posted to Q-8.

The softball team of Q-2 played the Army on May 1st to come out with colours flying. The score was 22 - 11 in "favour of the winners".

It is now possible to drive from Campbell River to Q-8. Mr. Cliff Pattison, foreman at Q-8, initiated the new road on May 9th. The work is progressing well under the supervision of Mr. Martell, Mr. Webber and Mr. Harris.

## from project Q-1

Among the lucky ones to receive farm leaves were P.B. "Skinny" Hildebrandt and Henry A. Friesen.

Some of the boys of our camp are determined to make life as sweet as possible. They captured two hives of bees. If the boys can't go home for harvest, we hope their honey will take the sourness out of camp life.

Several of our men are engaged in extending a road to the Elk Falls look out tower. George Nicholson, forest service cat-driver took ill suddenly and was rushed to the hospital and operated on the night of May 14. for a major rupture of the bowels. He is now becoming well and expects to go home for a rest-cure about the second week of June. Andy Klassen from Q-2 is substituting for George on the cat.

Stew Donaldson has returned from his vacation with new recipes for our kitchen. Ted Lewis cooked for us during Stew's absence.



## Campbell River, Q-3

On May 6th, seven of our number were transferred to Pt. Alberni camp. They were: Frank Remple, Henry Giesbrecht, Tom McBrine, Lorne McGregor, Isaac Hildebrand, Don Ewing and Abe Toews. Another seven men followed them on the 17th. The last seven were: Al Vinal, Frank Showler, Hugo Harms, Pete Klassen, Lloyd Smith, Henry Reimer and Walter Martens.

John Martens, Manitoba, and Helmut Neufeld, Vancouver, were granted farm leaves. Helmut is working at a dairy farm near Vancouver.

John Bueckert of Hague, Sask. received farm leave and release on the day farm leaves were cancelled by Ottawa. John accordingly returned his leave card to the foreman and remained in camp. Three weeks of patient waiting for re-consideration brought its reward. Supt. of A.S.W. Mr. H. J. Hodgins, kindly granted John his release on June 1st.

Al Smith, former sub-foreman at Bowser camp, is our new foreman. Although "Al" has only been with us for a short while he has gained the popularity and respect of all campees.

## WHO'S WHO

at Q-3

PETER WOLFE -- Mennonite Brethren farmer from Yarrow, B.C.....a grad of Lake Louise camp 2....Pete is a first-class straw-boss....volley-ball is his weakness....keeps a picture locked from prying eyes!...says "camp-life stabilizes a man's character".

BEN HOTCHKISS -- Farmer from Thessalon, Ontario...a Montreal River old-timer...a good sport known to everyone as "Jazum", short for Ben.....a member of the Church of Christ.

PETER B. EPP -- Mennonite Conference farmer from Rosthern, Sask.....a transfer from Sawmill Camp, Radium Hotsprings...a dynamic-tension enthusiast and camp kibitzer.

ALBERT SHANDLEY --  $\Delta$  203 pound, red-headed six-footer from Vancouver... married...formerly a transport-driver, Al is a camp truck-driver..... soccer and softball player with a voice like Crosby.

JOHN L. KLASSEN -- Bergthaler Mennonite farmer from Hague, Sask....his wife now operates his large farm...a transfer from Sawmill Camp, Radium Hot Springs...quiet and conscientious worker esteemed by all....ardent ping-pong and volley-ball player.

PETE BUCKERT -- Hard-working, heavy-eating, smiling snag-faller...farmer from Hague, Sask...hobbies are corresponding and snap-shot collecting... believes B.C. has two suns in its sky!

at C-2

CHARLES DEIGHTON -- Scholarly service station operator from Victoria, BC. So good natured he'd give the shirt off his back and doubtlessly sew on some buttons first..."simply a matter of reciprocal goodwill" Charlie would say.

NOAH BAUMAN -- Able truck-driver from Hawkesville, Ont....now conveys us daily along the famous Renfrew Trail in his rambling Ark...on anything from growing beans to mixing cement, Noah has the answer.

FRED DEAN -- Stationery salesman in Western Ontario...still loves to give "the old sales-talk"...Fred's chief worry is how to reach Vancouver and back in twenty-four hours on twenty-four cents...favourite colour, "HAZEL".



## The New Birth

By John H. Enns

As we read in Hebrews 9:27, man is well aware that his days on earth are numbered and that sooner or later he must appear in the presence of his Creator to give account of himself. Consequently, many are the ways and means by which people seek to merit eternal life. Some strive to earn their way by good works or a moral life; while others rely on such formalities as baptism and church membership. Even though these things are good in their proper places, they will not secure eternal life for anyone who depends on them alone. Except a man be born again he cannot see the kingdom of God. John 3:3.

The natural or unregenerated man is incapable of entering the kingdom of God because he is born in sin. He has transgressed God's law. Scripture says, "All have sinned and come short of the glory of God". Certainly no one can say that he has never failed to obey God's law. Whosoever shall keep the whole law and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all, Jas.2:10. Thus man is under condemnation and his end is death. The wages of sin are death, Rev.21:8.

However, there is a way we may take which leads to the kingdom of God. God's only begotten Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, bore our sins on the Cross that we might be freed. For he hath made him to be sin for us who knew no sin, that we might be made the righteousness of God in him, I Cor.5:21. God's holy wrath against sin was avenged at Calvary when Christ was hanged on the cross for you and me. Because of Christ's redemptive work God is able to justify us.

But even though God has done His part towards the rescue of humanity there remains that which man must do. God offers man reconciliation in Christ, but how can sinful man come into fellowship with a righteous God or enter into His kingdom? According to scripture, man must be regenerated. He must undergo a complete inward change wrought by the Holy Spirit. Man must repent of his evil deeds and in faith accept Christ as his personal Saviour. Repentance and faith in God are two things which always accompany the new birth. He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me hath everlasting life and shall not come into condemnation, but is passed from death unto life, John 5:24.

Those of us who have not experienced the new birth or do not accept Christ as our personal Saviour are condemned to eternal death. He that believeth not the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abideth on him, John 3:36. It is up to us to choose for ourselves. The signs of the time show that Christ's coming draweth nigh and the question is, "Are ye ready to meet Him?" Let me point out the words of the Lord Jesus: "Therefore be ye also ready, for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of man cometh". Mat.24:44.

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..... Hush, I pray you!  
What if this friend happen to be - God?

- R. Browning.



## At Q-4, Courtenay

This month we send news from another camp. Q-5 is now deserted save for the presence of care-takers Mitch Glecoff and John "Z" Friesen. Camp Q-4, near Courtenay, has come to life again after a quiet winter. As most of the work around the Bowser camp had been finished we are transferred to this area for the fire season.

Q-4 is a pretty camp, its natural beauty improved by the efforts of certain landscaping artists who were here last summer. The cabins are set about a park-like clearing in the trees, just a stone's throw from the rippling Puntledge River. Everything is green, - the dense second-growth effectively hides the old stumps. It is a pleasant change!

Our strength has been reduced by a few more farm leaves. Bill Zacharias and Henry Fehr returned to Saskatchewan for a short six weeks. John W. Peters and John S. Friesen received their medical discharges. Henry Peters was placed on a farm near Courtenay by Selective Service. He is close enough to camp to visit us sometimes, peddling up on a gal's bicycle. The latest word is that he is milking numerous bossys and liking it.

Project "F" (farm) is something new, an experiment of the Forest Service. It might be called the A.S.W. alternative to the Victory Garden, the idea being to produce enough common vegetables to feed the camps through next winter. For this purpose about 25 acres of good soil was obtained close to Courtenay, two Loxtave Huts were thrown up and four of our husky men moved in to husband the crops. The four farmers are: Henry Neufeld, straw-boss; Cornie Neufeld, Cornie Frase and Jack Tiessen, the latter being chief cook and cleaner upper.

At present the fellows are busy planting potatoes, onions, turnips and other vegetables dear to the heart of growing labourers. When there is need of additional man-power, as there is at present in the preparation of potato seed, other men from the Courtenay camp are on call.

Project "F" is conducted by our Foreman, C. G. MacKenzie, with the guidance of Mr. Hurford from whom the land was obtained. It should go a long way toward easing the vegetable problem in the camps next year.

Q-4 project work is to be changed from snagging, though it still involves swinging a saw. Following the trail of the Seymour Mt. Camp we will be cutting wood to relieve the expected fuel shortage of the coming seasons. The wood will be cut in four-foot lengths and stacked, later to be cut and split for general consumption.

SEEBE FRAGMENTS: Hello, Fellow Conchies everywhere! We here at Seebe think The Beacon is a big success and would not be without it for anything. It keeps us informed about conchie activities and boosts morale.

We were starting to wonder whether spring would never come this year, but at last the trees are coming to life and the drab hillsides are slowly turning a brilliant green.

The talk of the town is farm leave and every other conceivable kind of leave. Rumours and super-rumours are so thick in the air that you cannot see the sun for them. Where are we? Why not adjust ourselves and be content with circumstances which we are not able to alter? Cheerio!

Frank Isaac.



## Cruise News from Camp "M"

Speculation is rampant about the future of the mobile unit. Reports indicate a shrinkage from fifteen to three men as soon as pressing work at Little Qualicum Falls Park and Englishman's River Falls Park is completed. Camp is at Qualicum Park, but most of the men now commute by truck each morning to do the work at Englishman's River where the main jobs will be completed by the end of May. It is expected that the skeleton crew remaining will return to parks we have already visited, while the rest of the gang may join other camps for fire-fighting.

PERSONNEL Membership in the camp has been changing ever since its inception last October. Several men have been transferred, many have been added (7 from Horne Lake being the last addition) and one has been released for farm work. Howard Pollard was granted leave to work his farm in Ontario, and the campers are happy that he has this opportunity. Others among us are investigating varied avenues of service to be entered, it is hoped, under the new selective service regulations... A real loss was felt when our cook, Archie Robb, left the crew. He was tops as a friend and a great cook. Langford camp men will be appreciating that fact now. Dave Morrison, is rendering good service as Archie's successor.

WORK Since coming to Qualicum Park extensive general clean up and construction work has engaged the crew. A really classy log cabin has been erected by Jo. St. Pierre, Ken Williams being his chief assistant. It was the special project here, and we are proud of the finished product. The footbridge built across the river just above the swimming pool was a creditable piece of work. We still have a picture of it. But that's all. One dark night, after days of rain, the river rose. A huge log came down stream and now the bridge is down over the falls.

"Chief Engineer" Ed Giesbrecht directed prefabrication of two bathing houses for Englishman's River Park, and supervised their transportation and erection. Our hats fly off to him as a most versatile worker.

We must report with deep regret that during the building operations at Englishman's River there was one casualty. The much-loved friend of the caretaker, a pet snake, met violent death in an accidental manner.

## Horne Lake High Spots

Fire season was opened in the ranger district of Lawrence Vantine with Joe Weis and Paul Storms being rushed on the morning of May 17 to Fanny Bay locality where lightning had struck two big snags. The men worked a hand pump while falling pieces of flaming bark constantly bombarded them.

With Barney Moriez going to Camp C-5, Nanaimo, as foreman of that newly-organized camp, Jack Fisher came to us from Q-3, Campbell River. Jack and his wife are living in a cottage on the lake, close by the camp.

Sub-foreman, Bill High, having resigned office, Earl Schomahorn has



## HORNE LAKE HIGH SPOTS - cont'd

been promoted to this position from that of straw-boss and is capably carrying on. At present the foremen are supervising a two-hundred-foot bridge construction on a road being pushed through to Lost Lake, at a point some eight miles from camp.

Ted Andres, accompanied by Ben Veer, arrived in camp with his 14-ton caterpillar diesel and is doing a splendid job on the new bridges. The boys are assisting famously. Immense timbers are being used in these structures. Heavy used-planks for stringers were hauled a distance of fifty miles by truck. At present new lumber is also being hauled by Ben Veer and Irwin Klassen from Nainimo to Q-2, a distance of 120 miles, for bridge construction there.

Corney Hiebert has just received his medical discharge and will return home to Lost River, Sask. Dave Wall is suffering from an abscess on the gland. Bill Thiessen had a carbuncle operation performed on the back of his neck. It is healing with considerable difficulty as the stiches have pulled out twice. Required to keep his neck straight, this six-foot-four man finds trouble trying to dodge beams overhead. John Janzen, our truck driver, suffered muscle strain and injury to the tissue of his leg when a log fell on it. As for John C.G. Fehr, his boils remind us of the suffering Job of old. He has been a wonder to behold with that boil under his nose which has swelled his upper lip to immense proportions. But John is looking his normal self now.

Paul Storms has been assigned to Green Timbers Manning Depot for office work under supervisor Mr. MacKenzie. Joe Weis will succeed Paul as camp-editor of The Beacon.

Farm leave was granted Clarence Hiebert to his home province of Manitoba and he left camp May 4. We miss the quartet music since you left, Clarence. The present committee arranging for the Sunday evening services consists of Harvey Bartel, Willard Toman and Henry Toews.

On May 8th, compassionate leave was granted Willard Toman of Guernsey Sask. as a telegram from home notified him of the serious illness of his mother. We all wish Willard's mother a speedy recovery.

For several nights after supper a number of men could be seen clearing slash from a virgin strip of bushland a quarter mile from camp and cultivating the soil with shovels and rakes. They are now urgently waiting for the garden to show signs of life. Cabin "F" planted sweet-peas and snap-dragons in flower boxes which sit on either side of their front doorstep.

The untiring efforts of John Koop and Jack Tabbutt have finally met with success. They caught several rainbow trout in Horne Lake. Perhaps it's that new fishing pole you made, John! He constructed it from arbutus and rosewood. It is a four-section master-piece of handicraft.

The number of men at present enrolled in camp is eighteen.



The war-refuser is under no manner of obligation to justify his war-refusal in terms of any easy escape from tragedy. If he knows history and the present world situation, the causes and consequences of war, it is of course possible, and it would be advisable to construct a logical case against it. Most people, however, have not that knowledge, nor, with our selective publicity, is it easy to obtain. But it is not necessary to become a historian, a philosopher or a cynic. It is sufficient to see and feel the irreconcilability of Christianity and war, and to act upon the insight by choosing Christ, and then by inescapable consequence to reject war.

R. Edis Fairbairn.

THE BEACON  
 B. C. Forest Service  
 Box 6  
 Cowichan Lake, B. C.



*Rev. Thos. Reesor  
 Address Pickering, Ont.  
 R. R. 2*