

# Camp News

GRATIS TO  
H.M. FORCES

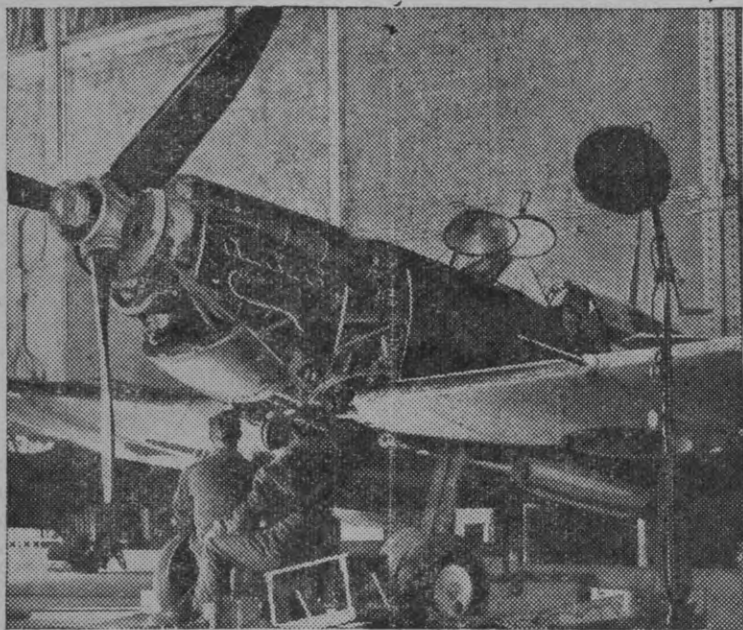
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Wellington, Friday, December 4, 1942

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R.A.F. ground staff overhauling a Spitfire before one of the Fighter Command's daylight sweeps over enemy territory.

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# Camp News

As this is not an official publication of Army Headquarters of the New Zealand Military Forces, all matters intended for publication should be addressed to The Editor and reach this office not later than 2 p.m. Mondays. Correspondence is invited on topical items of interest. Only business communications should be addressed to the Manager. Extra copies of "Camp News" may be obtained on application to the Manager, "Camp News," 3rd Floor, Whitaker's Buildings, 11 Manners Street, Wellington.

VOL. 3. NO. 151 Wellington, Friday, December 4, 1942



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# These "Detectives" know the truth about Germany

(By T. S. DOUGLAS in the "Daily Mirror.")

How much wool has Germany got left?

How much oil has the Axis in store, and where is it getting its new supplies?

How much cotton, nickel, chrome? Answer these and a hundred other questions like them and you get some idea of Germany's available resources.

The answers to those questions are vitally important. All over the world hundreds of experts have turned "detective" to discover them.

Take an example. In a suburban road of a famous Yorkshire city stands a quiet pair of houses which used to be the home of two or three families.

Outwardly the houses have changed little. But now they are occupied by textile experts, men and women for whom cloth holds no mysteries.

After working in their laboratories for a few hours they can tell you exactly what went into the making of any sample of cloth.

Periodically parcels are delivered at the house containing uniforms and underclothing taken from German prisoners. The cloth passes under microscopes, through various instruments, is treated with chemicals.

Soon a report is ready on exactly how that cloth was made. The detectives have seen through all the devices of the Nazis to make their wool go further.

They record exactly what proportion of pure wool, what proportion of viscose and what proportion of cotton went into the manufacture of the cloth.

Comparison of these records made at intervals since the war began, tells the stories. The Nazis rightly believe the fighting services should have the best of everything.

The Germany soldier used to get uniforms made of 100 per cent. wool. Then as the war went on the proportion of wool dropped to 70 per cent. Then to 65 per cent.—the rest of the fibres being cotton.

Perhaps it has dropped further. The experts naturally are not going to tell. How much of the Nazis' secrets they know is their secret.

The way articles are made may also reveal secrets to the experts. Socks that have constantly been re-footed, for instance, tell the detective a tale.

Of course, total war calls for economies. But there are the economies made on purpose, and the economies to which you are driven because of shortage of materials. In a sense they are false economies, because what they save in materials they waste in man power.

If the British blockade does nothing else, it forces the Germans to spend millions of man-hours a year on producing synthetic yarns and synthetic fuels.

They are not going to substitute cotton for wool, viscose for cotton unless they have to.

When the expert finds tiny scraps of cloth being used for facing Army uniforms, he can draw conclusions.

Like uniforms socks and underclothes, everything else captured provides clues for detectives.

A German prisoner is brought in wounded. A bandage has been applied. When his wound is treated, the dressing does not always go into the incinerator. Samples go to the analysts.

Interesting facts are found this way. For instance, bandages and dressings on German soldiers on the Russian front have been coming from France, the Balkans and other places.

A few days ago, an R.A.F. officer, anxious to have a look at a German plane brought down in the sea off Libya, dived into 20ft. of water with a piece of railway line tied to him to keep him down.

He got what he wanted and brought it to the surface for more detailed examination.

But samples are not always taken so dramatically.

How valuable this work can be, was indicated in the Great War. On the entry of the U.S. in 1917, Barney Baruch wanted to make a grand analysis of German resources in this way.

The U.S. Government wouldn't give him the money. So Barney Baruch provided it out of his own pocket—£25,000 for a quick look round German samples.

Three commissioners made reports. They ended up by giving a forecast of the date the war would end.

All of them guessed November, 1918. One said November 11. But that, of course, was just luck.



Skiers ascending the slope for morning exercises.



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Even though you are in Camp you can prepare for your return to civil life. Spare time study will qualify you for a good position. Write for particulars and mention the subject you wish to study. Here are a few of the 300 Courses:—

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"Well! The petrol gauge says half, Sarge—does that mean half full or half empty?"

—"Daily Mirror."



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**Royal Oak Hotel**  
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TO-DAY'S GREATEST DRINK  
**WAITEMATA ALES and STOUT**

# THE CAMP LAUREATE

A certain J.P.  
Noted for verse  
M.C., referee,  
Merits a curse  
Ye Gods  
It's over the odds.  
Two poems this week

From Colonels to cows  
He is quite versatile  
He write and he types  
His odes by the mile  
He has to record promotion  
Award  
In correct Army style  
Should he lapse into verse  
I fear for my file.

Robert Burns, Kipling,  
And others of fame  
Started as young  
Though I would not name  
Who knows? J.P.  
Might do the same.  
It's the poem that matters  
What's in a name?

When he writes on the zephyrs,  
The stars and the moon,  
The stage is all set  
He may start to croon.  
Call Sydney at once  
Fire hose and tin hat  
Leave treatment to Syd  
And that's that.

There may be a crowd  
Controlled by one Hicks  
Supported by Jonesie  
Rationed with bricks  
Horses, a cow and a goat  
Will sure to be there,  
All eager to have  
Some locks of the poet's hair.  
But leave it to Syd boys  
He knows the drill,  
Many a poor soldier  
Remembers his skill;  
A little cold water  
Issued neat and with care  
Has been known to cure "blindness"  
Our Poet will get a good share.  
—Pro Bono Publico.

# The Colonel

The corporal who rose to be a colonel within a year. He is Lieut.-Col. Ernest Martin, 41, born in Russia, now in charge of a secret base there. Martin was called up in 1939, won D.C.M. at Dunkirk, was sent to Russia and promoted Lieut.-Colonel. Here is a description written for the "Daily Mirror" by a former colleague:—  
May, 1940. Dark days of grim fighting, withdrawals. Pursued by dive bombers, Me 109's, every type of aircraft Jerry could put into the sky, the regiment falls back to Dunkirk. Batteries take up positions, the enemy in front, the sea at their backs. They stand with their guns and equipment—what is left of the troop commanded by the bloke everyone knows as Jim.

They have lost their officers killed and wounded; one gun is out of action, but still they stand with Jim Martin in charge.

The B.E.F. were being evacuated from Dunkirk, and the regiment was giving support with A.A. defence. All the ammunition that was left was stacked round the guns, and the boys just waited.

They didn't have long to wait. Over came Jerry, along the beaches they swept, machine-gunning, dive-bomb and high level bombing. All hell let loose.

"Let 'Em Have It."  
"O.K., boys," came the shout from the command post, "let 'em have it." That was all that was needed, then up went the muzzles, into the breeches went round after round, rammed home by sweating, cursing gunners.

Nerves were strained to breaking-point, but all the time there was that

# THE POET'S REPLY

Here's to the budding poet,  
Who's name I do not know,  
He prefers to remain anonymous,  
Pro bono publico.

He says he fears for his personal file  
Well that is his sad fate;  
If his movements are anonymous  
Can I keep it up to date?

Yes, I've written many poems,  
As his second verse does show,  
But I'm making no apologies  
Pro bono publico.

My subjects have been varied,  
But of Kipling I fall short,  
His works are far beyond me,  
But at least I am a sport.

I've written of our Cpl. James,  
Ted Hicks and Fiddler Bill;  
I've mentioned half of our Camp Staff  
But with a friendly quill.

The Colonel he has had his share  
Yet he never makes a fuss;  
You see he knows who writes the prose  
For I'm not anonymous.

And presumably for my poison pen  
This is your antidote—  
Cold water mixed with nice hard  
bricks  
And my hair chewed by a goat.

Well here's to anonymous,  
And a word before I go,  
I sign my name not just for fame  
But pro bono publico.

—J.P.

bloke Jim Martin, with his tin hat cocked on one side of his head, cool, calm and collected, giving a hand here, orders there, gee-ing the blokes on when they wanted to drop, always ready to do any man's job when they were tired.

He was recommended for his D.C.M. by the Senior Naval Officer on the beach, but somehow he wasn't very interested, there was a job of work to be done. . . .

Everybody knows the story of Dunkirk, how we came back, but nobody had heard of Jim Martin.

In September, 1940, he was promoted B.S.M. and posted to my battery, and was the finest B.S.M. anyone could wish for. He worked hard, played hard, cut red tape right and left and got any job done. He was loved and respected by men who didn't know him from Adam.

### On "Special Mission."

Soon afterwards Jim Martin was made a second lieutenant, and the men who had eaten with him, slept and fought by his side, knew him as Mr. Martin and were saluting the rank he held.

But here was a difference. It wasn't just a question of saluting the pips he wore. This was a man and we were doing what we, and the men in his old troop, would have wanted to do.

He was with us from that day until June, 1941, when a special order came through for him to report to H.Q.

The troop was called together by the troop commander; a few words spoken. Mr. Martin was leaving us on a special mission.

Some of us had an idea what it was, but the one thing that stood out was we were losing an officer, a gentleman, and the best friend we had ever had.

We knew later that he had gone to Russia, and often wondered how he was getting along, and what he was doing. Seeing his photograph in the papers brought it all back.

This is not a fairy story, or a biography of a man. It's just a little way of showing what Lieutenant-Colonel Martin meant to all the men who knew him and served with him.

We, the men of his old troop and battery, want to send this message: Good luck, good shooting, and stay on target Jim.

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The large number of servicemen who arrived at Wellington for weekend leave found the hospitality offered by the clubs particularly acceptable.

With increasing numbers of the forces attending the dances, film shows, concerts and other diversions designed for their entertainment, the service clubs are finding these facilities more taxed than they have ever been. During the week, dances and outings were arranged for sailors, and virtually every centre staged a special concert, tea, or dance, at the weekend. Volunteers dispensed suppers, played dance music, and gave free dancing tuition, and the evening services held on Sunday were usually followed with concert items by guest artists.

The committees, hostesses and cafeteria helpers who give voluntary and continuous service, planning, preparing, and serving the many meals which constitute the major item at most clubs, would be grateful for donations of food-stuffs to supplement supplies. Flowers or light reading matter for the lounges are equally welcome. Country people have given generous and steady support by sending hampers and meat, and W.W.S.A. land groups in the city and suburbs and at Lower Hutti contribute the vegetables they grow, these, and the women's groups and business firms which sponsor occasional teas or suppers, being unfailingly helpful sources.

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### GRADE III RETURNED MEN

#### Decision Of War Cabinet REMAIN IN THE FORCES OR REHABILITATION

War Cabinet has decided that returned servicemen in the Grade III medical category shall be permitted either to remain in the forces or to be discharged and receive at once the benefits of the Government's rehabilitation provisions. This decision, the Prime Minister, Mr. Fraser, announced on Saturday, would be brought into immediate operation.

The Prime Minister referred to a statement issued by the N.Z.R.S.A. announcing that the Dominion executive of that body, at a recent meeting, had unanimously decided to urge the Government—"That till they are discharged, all servicemen should be either on (a) full military pay and allowances according to rank, or (b) on war pension, or (c) found satisfactory employment by the State Placement Service, or (d) receive rehabilitation unemployment allowance; and that in no case should they be placed on social security till all these steps have been exhausted."

"The question raised by the Returned Services Association of the retention in

## Everyman's Hut

### THIRTY PIECES OF SILVER.

"Then one of the twelve called Judas Iscariot, went into the chief priests, and said unto them, what will ye give me, and I will deliver him unto you? And they covenanted with him for thirty pieces of silver."

—Matt. 26, v. 14, 15.

"Thirty pieces of silver," for the Lord of Life they gave,  
"Thirty pieces of silver"—it was only the price of a slave.

But that was the priestly value of the Holy One of God,  
and they weighed it out in the temple—  
The price of His precious blood.

"Thirty pieces of silver," laid in the traitor's hand,

"Thirty pieces of silver" and the help of an armed band—  
Like a lamb led to the slaughter they did bring the Son of God,  
At midnight from the garden where His sweat had been like blood.

"Thirty pieces of silver"—burns in the traitor's brain,—

"Thirty pieces of silver," Oh! it is hellish gain.

"I have sinned and betrayed the guiltless!"

He did cry with fevered breath,  
And he flung them down in the temple

And rushed to a madman's death.

the forces of servicemen who return from overseas or their discharge with full benefits of pension or rehabilitation provisions," said the Prime Minister, "has already received the attention of War Cabinet on representations from Mr. Moohan, chairman of the Rehabilitation Board. As a result of consultations between the Army, the Rehabilitation Board, and the National Service Department, arranged by the Minister of Defence, recommendations were made to, and adopted by War Cabinet, which provided for an important alteration in the position of those members of the armed forces who have returned from service overseas and who, while being medically unfit, are not permanently unfit for further military service.

#### Existing Regulations.

"Under the existing regulations, only those men who are permanently unfit for any form of further military service can be discharged, and other men are retained on full pay and allowances for a period and, when their pension and any other rights to which they are entitled have been adjusted, they are placed on leave without pay. The representations made to the Government by the Rehabilitation Board were to the effect that this procedure was not satisfactory in the case of Grade III personnel from overseas who are unlikely to improve in health so as to reach a higher medical grading, as their rehabilitation was likely to be prejudiced by their indefinite position.

"After giving careful consideration to the recommendations mentioned above, War Cabinet decided that men in the Grade III medical category who are unlikely to reach a higher grading and who prefer to stay in the Army performing duty suitable to their physical condition should so remain, and that other men in this class who so elect be discharged. This enables the latter to be fully restored to their civilian status and to receive at once the benefits of the Government's rehabilitation provisions. This decision will be brought into immediate operation, the necessary alteration to the statutory regulations being in course of completion.

#### Employment Question.

"The question of whether, if suitable employment or other rehabilitation provision is not immediately available—a contingency which I am informed has not yet arisen to any extent, owing to the urgent need for workers in industry generally—the assistance given to the returned men should be by means of the ordinary social security unemployment benefits, or through rehabilitation unemployment payments, can be considered by the Rehabilitation Board. The Government will consider sympathetically any recommendation of the board on the question. In any case it does not appear to be a matter of major importance.

"The main question and concern on which the Government, the Rehabilitation Board, and the Returned Services Association, and indeed the whole people of New Zealand, are agreed upon, is to provide adequately, fairly, and indeed generously for the men who have risked their lives for their country and for us all.

"The Government and War Cabinet," Mr. Fraser concluded, "welcome at all times suggestions for improvement in the provisions for returned men from the N.Z.R.S.A., and are grateful for the helpful co-operation in the whole war effort invariably extended by that organization and its officers and national executive."

It may not be for money, and it may not be for gold,  
But still by tens of thousands is this precious Saviour sold.

Sold in the marts of science,  
Sold in the seat of power,  
Sold for a godless friendship,  
And sold in pleasure's bower;

Sold where the awful bargain  
None but God's eye can see.  
Then ponder well the question—  
Shall He be sold by thee?

Sold! O God, what a moment—  
Stilled is conscience voice,  
While the recording angel  
Proclaims the awful choice.  
Sold! but the price of the Saviour  
To a living coal shall turn,  
With the pangs of remorse for ever,  
Deep in the soul to burn.

### YOUR KODAK SNAPS!

Leave your Films for developing and printing at Everyman's Hut.

### KODAK SERVICE

When his greed for money drove Judas to sell his Master, did he realise that he was condemning Him to death? Surely not, — but having taken that step he was powerless to prevent the consequences of his action.

#### Everyman's Thought for the Week:

"The error of a moment may become the sorrow of a whole life."

### SCHOOL FOR WAR PRISONERS.

Stalag VIII B maintains a school which the C.Q.M.S., who is a headmaster in civil life, describes as "the only English school in Germany and founded by myself in September, 1941." There are forty-one tutors, all of whom are qualified. The syllabus, which comprises sixty-three subjects, includes electrical engineering, diesel-engineering, auto-engineering, accountancy, shorthand, English, mathematics, geography, advertising, music, German, French, Spanish, Greek, Latin, anatomy, physiology and first aid. The number of students who attend classes daily is, he says, 987, but the total number of men with whom the school deals is 15,000 to 19,000, "as we are now endeavouring to help those out on working parties."

### NEARLY.

First Office Cat: That cat Violet is always borrowing my pencil. She says hers wants sharpening and she hasn't got a knife.

Second Ditto: Hasn't she got a tongue in her head?

First Ditto: Well, dear, I shouldn't think it's quite sharp enough for that!

### NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS.

Instructions as to the insertion or withdrawal of advertisements in the "Camp News" must be in writing. Advertisements received without such instructions will be inserted until countermanded and charged accordingly.

Alterations to standing advertisements should be handed in by 12 noon each Monday.

While every care is exercised in regard to the insertion of advertisements, the Proprietors do not hold themselves responsible for errors or non-insertion through accident or from other causes.

All business communications should be addressed to the Manager. Letters to the Editor, News Items, etc., to the Editor.

We cannot be held responsible for errors in advertisements transmitted by telephone.

STEWART, LAWRENCE & CO., Ltd.,  
Proprietors.

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Friday, December 4, 1942



Crew of a Wellington bomber back from an attack over Germany and looking well pleased with the night's work.