



Dozerdust

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WORKS SERVICE ENGINEERS

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HOME ISSUE, ASSAID BY BASH CENSOR.

Norm Stanley's bugle calls have science, timing, everything in fact, but music. A touch of old India, what?

Eddy Heald takes to walking. Waist line parade, eh, Eddie?

It is rumoured that certain shops in Nou-mea were dry after a visit from "Speed" Watson and Tom Lyons.

A Sgt. who was called out of bed at 0045 h.s turned out the best "batch of scones" of the Unit.

Sgt. Gilloley and boys at Con. Depot are very attached to their job of work. Absolutely refused to take leave for week so kindly offered. Scared someone might crash in on job in meantime? We wonder.

Beer Rations Champ Ray Kelly - and S. Karst pass word round for unwanted rations. What offers?

Jim has been a restless boy the last few week-ends.

WHARVES AND WAR.

NAPOLEON'S celebrated statement that "an army marches on it's stomach" places the emphasis not upon food as such, but upon supply lines which convey food and materials of war in a campaign. The rapid development of submarines and defensive measures such as depth charges, radio location & many other devices, to take only one instance, underlines how important, as supply lines, ships are in modern warfare. It is unnecessary to comment on the way in which shipping and wharves attract bombers as a magnet does steel; and this applies not only to established wharves in metropolitan areas, but also to make-shift jetties "somewhere in the Pacific" : : : THE work of loading and unloading, the conditions under which it is done & the location of such spots are all "security" in every sense of the word. This means that Wharf personnel must work in obscurity, poked away on some hidden spot, deprived of many simple amenities enjoyed by other Units - they stick at their work with a spirit deserving admiration.

FREE....A splendid exhibition of "scone doing" will be demonstrated by "shorty" Lovell to first person who leans on hood of jeep. Try it boys.

Wally Hebeon reports "...I'm still doing the hermit act". Sorry we not able to witness it, Wally. What about writing us another letter.

Wanted a companion for Ray Bleach to keep him happy. Bill T. has left him.

Congratulations to Lieut. Wright on his recent promotion.

"Blondie" our pup, keep cool Don, now taking swimming lessons - can do three widths of bath.

"Dyclone" Lyons our tree climbing expert introduces new game. Called Lost Pipe. Light your pipe, look for it, and hen discover it in your mouth. Try it..

We have a dear hunter - sorry we mean deer hunter who brings home bacon - no venison.

WITH KISSES.

WHARF OPERATING COY.

"WORKS SERVICE OWN"

TO.....

HELLO darling Haze,
and Janice and Gra-
hame. Keep smiling.
X WAL X

BEST wishes to ...
Skeet and all her
family at Stanmore
Rd. Love & XXXXXXXX
George.

HULLO Pahiata ...
LOVE & CUDDLES TO
May. TOM XXXXXXXX

A merry Xma & a
happy New Year to
Ellen, May, Eleanor
and Maurice. Lots
of love. Chins up.
NORM. XX

LOVE an a big chee-
rio to MUM, DAD, ..
PAULINE, STEPHEN &
DOREEN. For you..X
Bill T.

TO Agnes, Jim, Ken,
Famila Love from
DAD. Cheerio to
Gran & Graigs XXX
H.C.L.

BEST wishes to ...
Keith, Georgie, Mrs
Owens & family...
Keep smiling with
chins up. LOVE. TOM.

CHEERIO to Ethel -
Ted - Janice, Mum
& Dad. Here is a X,
X and another X.
LES.

FROM SPEC a chee-
rio to Lucy, Steven
and Teddy. Love, X

THIS leaves me ...
Wll..hoping it
finds you the same
O.K.? Bill Clarke.

A BIG Cheerio..am
well. Love & cuddle-
cs. E. FITCH. XX

HULLO HOME.....
As curly as ever .
How windy Wgton ?
Curly.

TO Giuniata- am
wll, hope you are
the same. From DAD.

THE Works Service provide a very
useful and important service to
the N.Z. Pacific Forces and are
able to undertake all manner of
work from the construction of any
type of building to the constr-
uction and maintenance of roads,
bridges and drainage system. : :
THERE is one branch of this Ser-
vice that is liable to be over-
shadowed by the achievements of
the big brother coy., but never-
theless forms a very interesting
adjunct to the Services mentioned
above. This is the Wharf Operat-
ing Coy., which, though small in
numbers, is highly skilled in the
job it has to carry out. At
times such as this a quick turn
around of ships is most essent-
ial and the Coy. has made it a
rule to keep on the job and speed
up the loading and unloading to
the fullest extent. From all
accounts this has been achieved
and the members of the Coy. have
a quiet satisfaction in know-
ing that it can hold its own when
it comes to handling ships. : : :
THE Company does not stop at this
but in the time between ships a
concrete works was started. Ex-
periments were made and it was no
not long before useful articles
were being turned out at a very
rapid rate.. Although the Coy.
has only two carpenters, these
stalwarts made all the intricate
moulds necessary to turn out the
various products. Progress was
slow at first, but the quality
of the finished articles proved
pays to make haste slowly. To
make a light serviceable article
out of concrete, the concrete
itself must be of first class
quality and quite a lot of exper-
imenting was necessary before the
best results could be achieved.
The shingle was too big, so a
screen had to be made by hand out
of wire, the shingle was dirty,
so a washing plant was necessary,
sand was needed, proportion had
to be decided, a water supply
was necessary and one installed.
Thus was a suitable concrete
evolved and the results have prov-
ed the value of the trouble taken.
: : : PERHAPS at this stage it
would be just as well to unnumerate
the various articles produced. In
the early stages of the works the
chief article manufactured was
the now famous Latrine Slabs which
earned for the concrete group the
name "Humourous Concrete Coy." (Cont. page 3)

ASK " SCOTTY "
if he knows who
can " work and
talk at the same
time ?"

LOVE to Violet,
Robert and Mavis...
always thinking of
you....XX...DAD.

Spr. Richmond
says he's not going
back to Public Ser-
vice after the war.
... but keep it
dark: he says the
P.S. will be after
all the good men.

OUR Wally Hobson
is another man who
is going to shy at
the counter.

HELLO Rita, Val,
and Victor - here
come cuddles and
XXXX's with our
DOZERDUST. What do
you think of it?
LOVE.....DAD.

" CURLY " Griffin
is growing into a
husky man with
a bark in his voice.

Old Timer Bur -
chall handed us a
great grin in the
City when we met
him on leave.

CHEERIO every-
one. I'm still in
the pink and sav-
ing up that thirst.
..Merry Xmas.
T.B. Gilloley.
(It is some thirst
too.)

CHEERIO & love
to Joyce & Bubs,
at Riccarton.
Cuddles and kisses
from TOM. XXX X

"Farmer" Mulholl
and says he thinks
a Farmers Union
would go well here.
All farmers please
note. (Farm what ?)

(Cont. page 3)

(Cont. from page 2.)

THE "HOME" AWAY FROM HOME.

Mosquito Net Gossip.

LATER work was concentrated on drainage channels, and suitable fittings such as gully traps, left & right hand junctions, prefabricated grease traps and a fifteen inch sewer pipe. The value of this was felt later when the Works called on to supply the hospital drainage, and while the pressure was on seven days a week. Up to date the amount of channelling exceeds four thousand feet. : : : WENCHMEN and Hatchmen have now turned their hands to building and drainage, and small parties are scattered over the area doing useful job in construction work. WHARF OPERATING boys have thus earned the right to be termed true sappers and have proved the versatility of the N. Z. soldier.

AT winching or building it don't matter a dam,
BUT they do like their share of the butter and jam.

THEY growl and they cuss they moan
and they groan,

BUT they got the job done and
they're out on their own.

THEY'RE winchmen and Hatchmen and
Tally Clerks best,

BUT they're fighting this war just
the same as the rest.

IN ship or in bure or drain they're
a home,

SO remember the Wharfies the Works
Service Service Own. (F.J.C.)

OUR Eddie is something of a lad; on an improvised orchestra made out of tin cans and forks he keeps us amused. But is as a cook that he keeps everyone contented. An army never has an easy job. And this is particularly true when you are parked away in the Naiculi wilderness among the hills. To all meals have to be added the ingredients of good humour, cheerfulness and a liberal dose of ingenuity - some say camouflage. Eddie and his boys can cook all this up week after week, month after month. It takes some doing and is one of the main-springs behind the drive all the lads put into their work.

DISCOVERED by Captain James Cook 1774.

ANNEXED in name of Napoleon III. 24th. Sept. 1853.

1878... a native rebellion organised with object of killing all whites on island.

100,000 once native population of New Caledonia. Present population 30,000.

BY a decree of 2nd. Sept. 1863 New Caledonia designated as a convict settlement.

MAY 9th. 1864 first batch of 250 convicts arrived. Over 15,000 had been shipped from France by 1895 when decree was repealed. Today less than one hundred of original convicts alive in colony.

3,000 political deportees sent to New Caledonia. Mostly supporters of Commune of 1871. Treated on a different basis from "convicts". Eventually pardoned and returned to France

CATHOLIC missionaries landed Dec 1843. Large and important blocks of land still held by Church.

AMONG white population only about four hundred protestants; others Roman Catholics. Native population fairly equally divided between Protestants and Roman Catholics. South of island almost wholly Roman Catholic; north almost wholly Protestant.

FIRST free settlers, whalers & other adventurers. Outstanding personality, Walter Paddon, ex midshipman Royal Navy settled Ile du Bouzet, 1845. In a few years he was employing 200 natives and about 60

1895 - first attempt made to induce settlers from France made by Governor Feuillet.

Among early settlers were a number of families who migrated from Ile de La Reunion.

Last organised attempt 1925-26, when a number of settlers from north of France formed a co-operative concern to develop cotton industry. Scheme failed.

MINING represents 85% exports.

IMPRESSIONS
OF A FRENCH CAMP.

(By G. F.)

MY first visit to the camp was at night, but there was light enough for me to discover that the barracks were of the long, narrow, adobe type. Passing by, one could see by the dim light within that the sleeping accommodation was the familiar bed-cot with the inevitable mosquito net. There appeared to be twelve beds on each side of the barracks. Gear is not placed on the beds during the day but is neatly and uniformly arranged on shelves above the beds. : : : THE barracks and administration buildings are aligned around the brow of a slo slope with cook house, ration store and garage on the flat below. : : : RATIONS are supplemented by vegetables grown in two large gardens in the camp. Lettuce, cabbage, onions, tomatoes and other vegetables appear to do all. : : : REVEILLE is at 0500 hours, fifteen minutes only being allowed in which to have a tumbler of coffee and a slice of bread before going on parade. Shaving at this time, however, is not compulsory. The first meal of the day is not until 1030 hours and is followed by a siesta period until 1400 hours. Work ceases for the day at 1730 hours. Coffee and a slice of bread only for breakfast is not the rule in civilian life, but the Frenchmen say they have become used to the army way.

" OEUF MIMOSA ".

THIS is the name given to a dish which was being prepared by one of my French friends when I arrived on another occasion for lunch. Hard boiled eggs had been ~~boiled~~ and cut in half, the yolks carefully extracted and, after being whipped up with tinned salmon were being replaced in the whites. These were placed on top of sliced tomatoes, below which were lettuce leaves. : : : THIS was the first course and was followed by fresh fried mackerel with the juice of lemon to taste. : : : THE third course was fried beef steak, potato chips and lettuce leaves, the latter being soaked in oil. : : : BREAD and dry wine were taken with the meal which was followed by New Caledonian coffee. Milkless but mild and very sweet; unlike the coffee we sometimes have here. To finish off the meal a bottle of New Caledonian imitation " Curacao " was opened and this like the meal was " Tres Bon " : : : A variation in the meal is that the eggs are hard boiled, but in

a white thick sauce and was equally good. This was followed by large crabs which taste very much like crayfish, but are sweeter. Fresh fried mullet with the juice of lemon preceded a well fried beef steak, with very good potato chips and salad. The evening meal was " Fish Sausage " This was fish cooked in a very rich gravy and had an elusive sausage flavor. Ox tongues were also on the table and were followed by bread, cheese and marmalade.

WHAT YOU DO NOT SEE IN NEW ZEALAND.....

SEA snakes at the beaches that vary in length from two inches to two feet. The body white with black rings like thick bands round the body.

SPIDER webs that stretch between trees from ten to twenty feet apart. How the spider reached from one tree to another kept all hands guessing until it was discovered that the spider hangs on the branch of one tree and releases several strands of web. Caught by the breeze the strands of web are carried to a nearby tree to which they stick. Some webs diamond shaped and stand four feet high; usually attached to the ground.

TREES that go on fire to get rid of old bark.

HILLS with enough mineral wealth in them to make you a millionaire several times over if you owned them.

A winter which is the dry season.

INSECTS of all shapes and sizes fluttering round your candle at night. Little we codgers with backs as hard as nails and long thin wings.; small moths that creep in your ears and down your neck; mosquitoes that stand on their hind legs and hiss at you through the net.

WILD pigs that look like maori dogs

MEN and women who have never known what it is to wear boots - even when working in quarries.



BY SNOOPER.

HELLO folks, I just been down to the coast lookin' up the Wharf boys. I guess I had a good time sittin' on a heap of rope watchin' the lads at work. It 'aint like work on the wharves in New Zealand, or so I hear 'em sayin'. These boys got something different on their hands. Same as when they make concrete.... they start off with mighty little and before you know where you are they have something to do the job with. : : : EVER meet " Shorty " Lovell ? He's a little guy like me, but he's travelled at lot and you should hear him on the piano. But get him on the jeep and, whew ! It's like this. " Shorty " drives for Capt. Clarke, he's O.C. of the Coy., well, all you got to do it tell " Shorty " someone else is goin' to do the driving, or that someone's rubbin' their boots on the wheel. You get music from " Shorty " that no piano could give. But he aint a bad sort and he always picks up when he tells you of the family back home. So does Eddie Hoald. Guess there must be something good about bein' married, 'cos all the chaps when they get tired just take a look at the photographs of the family and feel better after. I take a look at them too when no one's lookin'. Seems to me you boys and girls look pretty good. Different from these little brown boys and girls that run around here barefooted. I just been used to the wee fellas out in the Islands. Be nice to know boys and girls like you. I thought of askin' you to write to me, but I guess you're all too busy writin' to Dad. : : : OF course we got some young fellas in the wharf Coy. You know young Ned Sainsbury, he used to work in a bank they tell me; then there is " Curly " Griffin, he had a job pushin a pen too. Guess these lads wont settle down when they go back: they'll be same as me...maybe.....

BUT they all want to go back to New Zealand in a big hurry. They all say that. Listen' in the other night I heard Merv. Forscutt, Burchall, Mulholland arguin' which was best part of N.Z. and they all seem to say different places, but these chaps that come from Auckland gee, they talk plenty bout the place. But guess it must be pretty good. And I 'spose the girls are all as nice as the boys say. When you knock round way I do, you dont find many nice girls. Some wont look at a little guy like me 'cos my pop didn't have his name in hte stud book, or 'cos he wasn't rollin in cash. But your girls seem different. They look good, are kinda straightforward and no hanky-panky about 'em. That's good. And I reckon that's why you oughta look after yourselves and keep that way. : : : SAY, here's Licut. Wright comin' along, guess I'd better scoot. He might try to give me a job. Mind you he aint a bad sort, but I gotta keep snoopin on the boys. Guess I'll see if Capt. Clark's goin' out in the jeep. Have to watch " Shorty " doesn't see me sneak in. Before I go, 'spose I say, Merry Christmas, to all you little Kiwis in New Zealand...best wishes from SNOOPER for 1944.

WOLF AND SHEPHERDS.

A wandering wolf, that prowled
around the fold,
Did through the fence behold,
How chosing out a sheep, the
fattest and the best,
The shepherds at their ease
set putting it to death;
The dogs lie still and dont protest
He turned in spits away, and
snarled beneath his breath,
"Ho,ho, my worthy friends, you'd
make a fine to-do,
If that were me instead of you!"

The above fable is from a collection written by Ivan Krylov, the favourite Russian fabulist. Many stories are told of him. Above the couch on which he spent a great deal of time hung a photograph on the wall. When warned that it was likely to fall on him, he replied: "I have worked out the angle at which it will fall; it will miss me by two inches!"

LOVING greetings to Sunny Taurenga & Marlborough the Golden, from a Pacific Isle. XXXXXXXXXXXXOLIFF.

MANIOC is a plant of great value which with the Yam is the basis of the native's larder. It is very nourishing and rich in starch which the digestive processes turn into glucose. The extent to which it is used by the natives shows that the introduction of the plant into the country has been a great benefit to the native who relies on it for himself and his stock. : : : IT is a sturdy plant, giving no difficulty in the choice of soil, thriving and cropping heavily in mineralised soil which does not lend itself to cultivation. The roots remain in the soil for months without any ill effects, provided the soil is healthy. After two years in the ground the roots harden and become stringy. The life of the plant is seldom more than two years. : : : THERE are altogether eighty varieties of the manioc, or cassava, as it is called, only two of which are grown in New Caledonia: the White Japanese Manioc which has a green stem and many branches and is an early cropping variety. The planting is simple. On the second ploughing a cutting about four or five inches long is dropped in the furrow behind the plough, the working of the plough covering them sufficiently. Once the stalks come up, which they do rapidly, they are earthed up. They are planted two to three feet apart in rows a similar distance apart. The rapid growth and large leaves so cover the earth that it is impossible for weeds to grow. : : : THE second variety of manioc found on the island is known as Bitter Manioc which was introduced for industrial purposes, but was never developed. This plant contains poisonous properties which make it dangerous for man and beast alike. The poison is destroyed by cooking. It is said that even the White manioc, which is harmless, if fed to animals for several months, develops a form of sickness. : : : The plant exhausts the soil much more than any other agricultural product; it is never grown more than once every three years, and after the first year, the ground is usually manured for, say a corn crop. The usual yield is, from twelve to twenty tons per acre.

"FROG'S" efforts on a sideboard offer an officers' mess were not appreciated at first, " but sweet are the uses "

FOR Ivy, Barry & June tons of X's. Jim.

IN this brief article I wish to outline the noble art of boxing of which you have no doubt heard something. It takes place in what is called a " ring " which is the first thing one has to learn. Having thoroughly grasped that fact you then proceed to distinguish between the boxing " ring " the " Bull Ring, " and the Wedding Ring ", both of which are places of captivity. The boxing " ring " is totally different; in fact, it is not a " ring " at all. It is something very different and, unless you are an expert at geometry, you may as well keep out of it. For you have to show that a ring is a square, and a square is a ring. This is frightfully complicated. If you fail you take what is known as " the count ", and you take it lying down. : : : AROUND this " ring " or square, there are three ropes on each side, the object of which is to keep you in and your friends out; not that they will be particularly anxious to get in with you. Their attitude usually being that, if you are mug enough to get in, you take what is coming to you. : : : IN the " ring " with you are two other men. One is generally called your opponent; he always appears much larger and stronger than you are; normally he has thick ears, a broken nose and few front teeth. His one object you soon discover is to make you look as little like Robert Taylor as possible. In order to prolong the process you are each given a pair of gloves. The third man in the " ring " is given a pair of white trousers and a shirt on the assumption that he may come without either were the precaution not taken. His presence is the pretext that he watches for fair play -- what he does when he finds it is not known. First, he makes you shake hands, which is entirely superfluous, - you may not wish to meet the man socially. A gong is sounded and you immediately think of " chow ", but you are not allowed to leave. As the man with the broken nose hits you all his friends roar approvingly and yours find it convenient to visit the latrine, or tell each other " I told you so! " Your natural impulse to escape is foiled by the man in white. If you take refuge on the floor, he will stand over you giving you " the count " while you work out the mathematics of rise and fall in the " ring ", if you are sensible, you stay put, if you are insensible, you also stay put. That is the highest art of the game. (By Full Count)