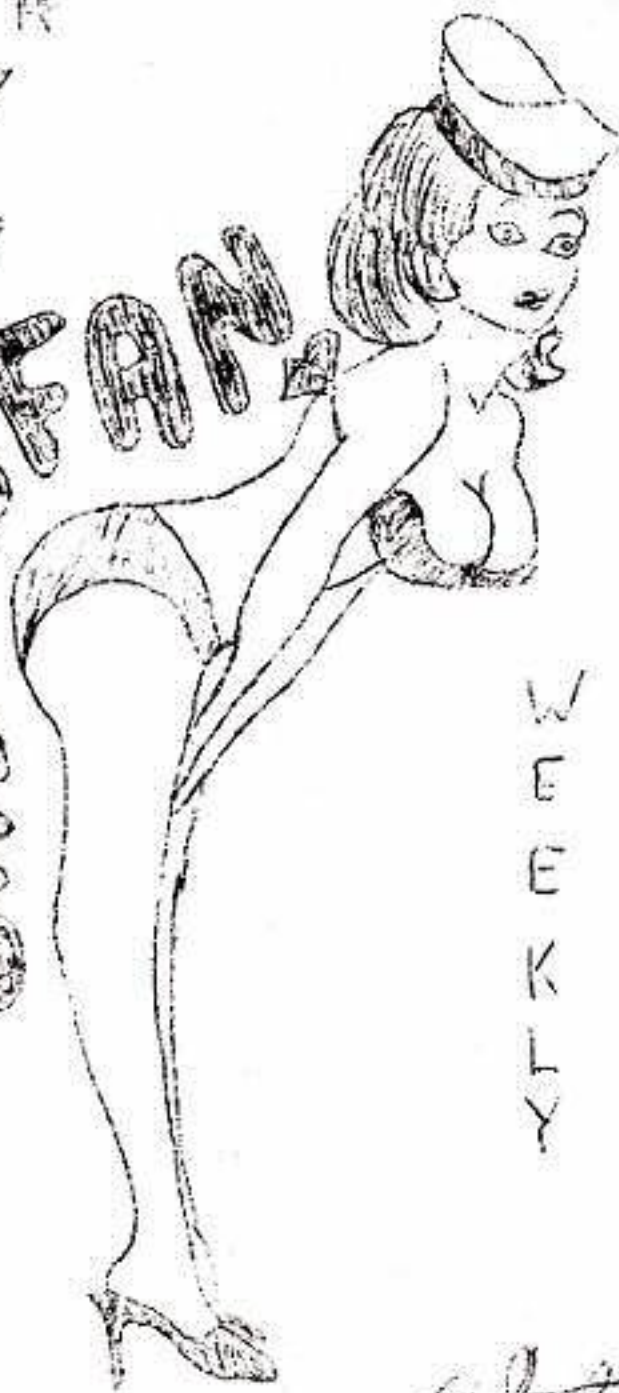


OUR



WALLY
FAN



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Galt

MESSAGE FROM THE CAPTAIN

I welcome the publishing of a ship's newspaper as one of the many signs that the ship's company is developing a very fine spirit. When I asked the editor the name of this paper, he didn't know! I hope by the time it goes to press it will have a name, and in the meantime I wish good luck to the _____.

If I may take a little more of your time, I should like to say how much I appreciate the effort which every one has put into the ship's life in the past few days. Every one seems to be thinking of new and better ways of doing things, either in connection with their departments, or in the way of off duty activities. It is enthusiasm like this that makes a ship we can really be proud of. Keep up the good work.

----- ... -----

MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

On this, the first issue of "Our Sally's Fan", I would like to pass along a few comments and notes from my ink-stained blotter.

It gives me a great deal of pride to see this paper, "Our Sally's Fan", come to press. To me it represents the finest when our shipmates take their valuable off-watch time to write articles, type stencils and do the countless other small jobs to put a paper out for the rest of us.

The staff of "Our Sally's Fan" have great plans: "Today, St. Laurent, tomorrow, the World!" In subsequent issues we're planning to continue publishing information on our ports of call, a literary section for our poets and writers, the Sea Snake gossip column, cartoons, and of course, our sport's page. Plans for the future include an "Advice to the lovelorn" column, (we have our own Annie "Fanny" Landers), a letter to the editor section, features on our ship's history, nautical note from the past, and letters from our adopted child.

Getting really carried away, we've considered a "Hatched and Matched" column for any of you anticipating changes in your marital status or jacking up your family nominal roll, crossword puzzles, interviews with ship's personalities, and perhaps a few words from the local religious fanatic.

Also, we welcome any ideas, comments and criticisms anyone may have. This is our paper so let's all shoot for the best we can produce.

While I'm at it, if anyone can type, we need you. Typists are key men on this paper and if we have many, the work load can be spread around.

That's all for now; hope you enjoy "Our Sally's Fan".

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Staff this issue: Editor: S/Lt B. Botsford
 Sports Editor: P02 Kemp
 11 Mess Rep: P02 Glover

Contributing Staff: Cdr. Barrow, Lt. Ray, S/Lt. Eckford,
S/Lt. Pichler, C2 Drabble, P02 Kemp, P02 Glover, L/S Smith,
A/B Shortt, A/B Peachy, A/B Johnson, Cadet Vuillemin and yours
truly THE SEA SERPENT.

THE GOOD OLD DAYS

FROM "THE ONLOOKER" OF 1868

HER MAJESTY'S STEAM PACKET LAURENTIAN IS EXERCISING IN SOUTHERN WATERS FOR THE WINTER MONTHS. AN EARLY REPORT THAT HER FIRST LIEUTENANT, LT VAN FASHION, IS SUFFERING FROM A TOUCH OF THE SUN, HAS NOT BEEN CONFIRMED. IT IS SAID, HOWEVER, THAT HE IS ON A DIET OF BEATL AND EVERY MORNING FORCES THE SHIP'S COMPANY TO TRY AND PUSH THEIR HANDS THROUGH THE DECKS. THE SHIP'S SURGEON, DR FLYBALL, PRESCRIBES FRESH WATER, BUT THE ENGINEER, MR. HAIRY WIG, ADAMANTLY REFUSES TO ALLOW IT. ITS' BRINE OR NOTHING, HE SAID, AS HE APPLIED THE LASH TO THE STOKERS WORKING ON THE NEW FANGLED, HAND OPERATED, WATER MAKING MACHINE.

LAURENTIAN IS FITTED WITH BRAND NEW VENTILATING FANS DRIVEN BY ELECTRICITY. UNFORTUNATELY THEY ARE SLUNG WELL BELOW THE DECKHEAD AND SEVERAL PEOPLE, INCLUDING MR HAIRY WIG, AND MR SUGARY THE BOATSWAIN, HAVE NARROWLY ESCAPED SCALPING.

IN SPITE OF SERVICE IN THE TROPICS, THE CREW OF LAURENTIAN FEELS WELL. MR SCROOGE DICKSON, HER CATERING OFFICER, HAS DEVISED A NEW METHOD OF SERVING SALT BEEF. HE FIRST GRINDS IT UP IN THE SHIP'S GEAR ROOM, THEN FLATTENS IT OUT SO THAT IT RESEMBLES THE SOLE OF A SHOE, COOKS IT, AND SERVES IT BETWEEN TWO PIECES OF HARD TACK. THE SHIP'S COMPANY ARE SAID TO BE CRAZY ABOUT THIS INNOVATION.

THE ST LAURENT GOSSIP COLUMN

BY THE SEA SNAKE

I NOTICED THAT THE SHIP'S CLOWN A WELL KNOWN MOVIE PROJECTIONIST WAS AT IT AGAIN ON FRI NIGHT TRYING TO SHOW A MOVIE WITH OUT THE SPEAKER PLUGGED IN. IT SEEMS HE LIKES THE SILENT TYPE MOVIES, YOU KNOW THE KIND YOU GET IN SAN JUAN AND HE WANTED TO GET INTO THE PRACTICE OF HOW TO WATCH THEM.

TALKING ABOUT SAN JUAN THEY TELL ME A MESSAGE WAS SENT TELLING ALL THE GIRLS THERE TO BEWARE. IT SEEMS THAT H.B. ALIAS "THE TONGUE" IS JUST FROTHING AT THE MOUTH, AT THE THOUGHT OF THE TEN DAYS WE WILL HAVE ALONGSIDE.

THEY TELL ME DOWN IN 11 MESS, ONE OF THERE MEMBERS WITH THE INITIALS OF H.K. EVERY SO OFTEN WILL CLIMB INTO SOMEBODY ELSE'S BUNK AND GO TO SLEEP. IT SEEMS THAT HE IS QUITE SMALL AND JUST HAPPENS TO SLEEP IN A TOP BUNK AND HAS TROUBLE WITH THE LONG CLUMB UP TO IT.

ALSO TALKING ABOUT 11 MESS, THAT P2 WALKING AROUND WITH A BEARD LIKE "FU MANCHU" REALLY HAS NOT SHAVED SINCE THE DAY BEFORE WE LEFT HALIFAX. IMAGINE THAT, EVEN WITH AHEAD START ON MOST OF US HE STILL LOOKS BAD.

WELL THAT IS ALL THE OLD SEA SNAKE HAS TO REPORT FOR THIS WEEK. BUT WATCH AND BEWARE OF THIS COLUMN NEXT WEEK BECAUSE I WILL HAVE MY SNEAKY SNAKES OUT, WATCHING AND LISTEN. YOU NEVER KNOW WHO OR WHAT THEY WILL REPORT ABOUT NEXT.

"OUR SALLY'S FAN" SENDS A SPECIAL WORD OF THANKS TO PO MILLER AND L/S JOHNSTONE FOR THEIR TREMENDOUS INGENUITY AND EFFORTS IN RESTORING OUR SHOWER WATER. SURE WAS A CLOSE CALL THERE.

BOSS TO VOLUPTUOUS SECRETARY: "TAKE THE AFTERNOON OFF MISS LOVETT, I WANT TO THINK."

SWEET YOUNG THING WHEN ASKED THE RATING OF THE SAILOR SHE'D BEEN OUT WITH: "I THINK HE WAS A CHIEF PETTING OFFICER".

I WONDER

THIS LONG DARK TUNNEL STRETCHES OUT
AND NEVER WANTS TO END
IT TWISTS AND TURNS AND AT EACH BEND
ANOTHER LIGHT WILL SHINE
WILL THIS BE MINE?
I WONDER.

AND WHEN MY JOURNEY'S OVER
AND MY RACE HAS BEEN RUN
WILL I BE TOLD IF I HAVE WON
OR CAN I EITHER WIN OR LOSE
AND IS IT EVEN MINE TO CHOOSE?
I WONDER.

AGAIN PERHAPS I'LL NEVER KNOW
PERHAPS I'M PART OF ONE GREAT FLOW
A NEVER-ENDING STREAM THAT LEAVES NO SIGN
WHICH MARK IS YOURS OR WHICH IS MINE
I WONDER.

BUT IF A MAN LEAVES IN HIS WAKE
A LOVE THAT TIME CAN NEVER TAKE
THEN HE CAN LEAVE THIS WORLD IN PEACE
CONTENT HIS LIFE WILL NEVER CEASE
TO LIVE, THOUGH HE HAS GONE AWAY
TO START AGAIN ANOTHER DAY.

ANONYMOUS

LES MONTREAL CANADIANS

A MONTREAL CANADIAN FAN
SAYS BEAT US IF YOU CAN
WE ARE THE GREATEST TEAM
THAT YOU HAVE EVER SEEN

NONE OF US IS AN ALL-STAR
NOR LEADS THE SCORING RACE
BUT YEAR IN YEAR OUT BY GAR
WE FINISH IN FIRST PLACE

WE SHOW THE WAY EACH YEAR
WITH GRAS BILL AND POCKET ROCKET
FOR OF A GOAL WE HAVE NO FEAR
AS GUMPERS THERE TO BLOCK IT

DEFENCE AND COACHING ARE ITEMS
WHERE IN FACT WE'RE KNOWN TO SHINE
WE ARE THE NATIONAL TITANS
ON MAPLE LEAFS WE DINE

WE'RE KNOWN AS BEING MODEST
AND PRESSURE IS OUR TEST
WHEN THE GAME IS AT ITS FINEST
OUR PLAYING IS THE BEST

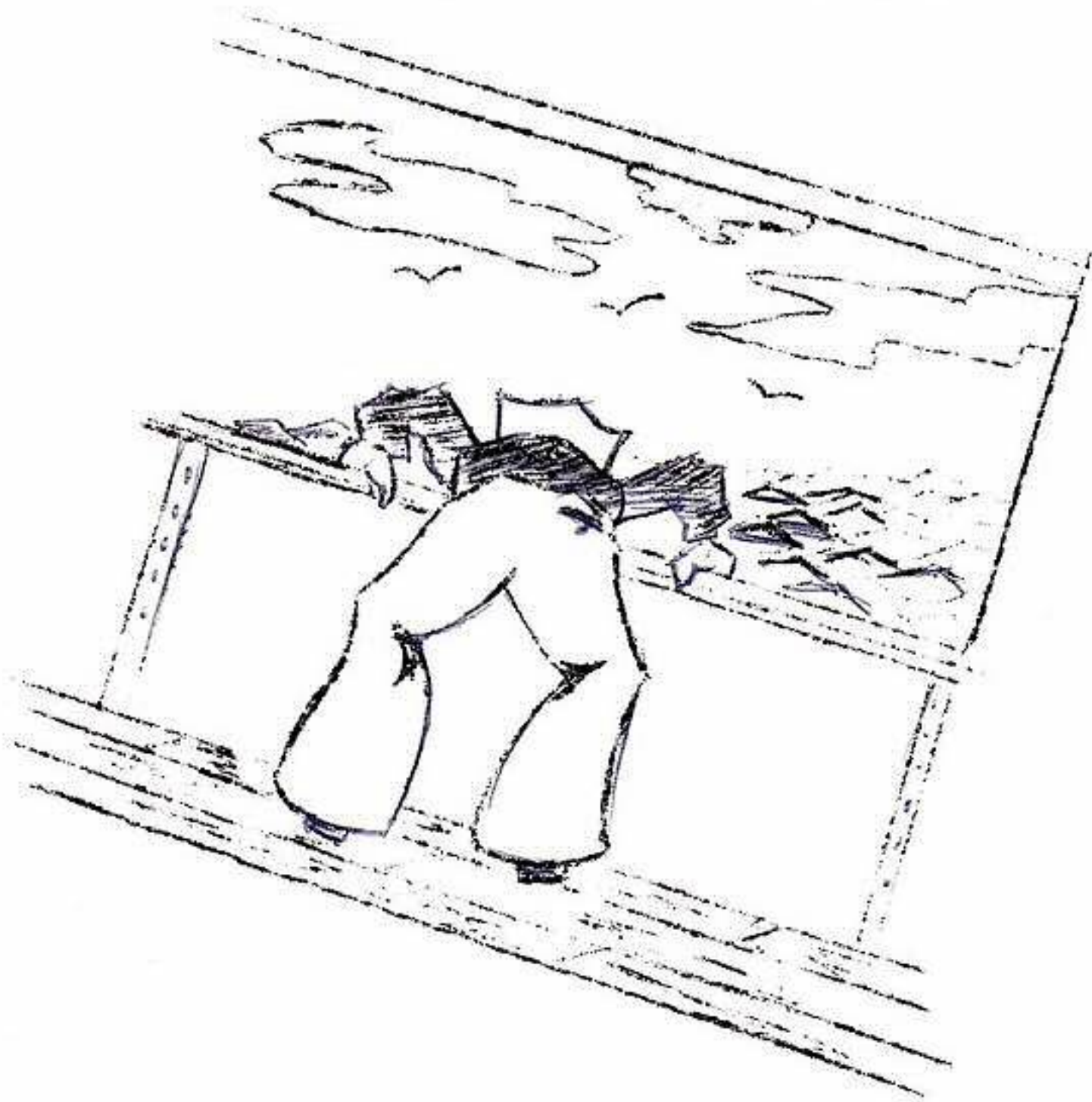
WE ARE THE RED, THE WHITE, THE BLUE
THE PLAYING ICE OUR HOME
WE'RE HOCKEY'S PROUDEST TEAM, THAT'S TRUE
FROM FIRST WE'LL NEVER ROAM

ANONYMOUS (WHO ELSE)

ANOTHER BY POPULAR DEMAND
THERE ONCE WAS A SCULPTOR NAMED PHIDEAS
WHOSE KNOWLEDGE OF ART WAS INVIDIOUS
HE CARVED APHRODITE, WITHOUT A NIGHTIE
AND STARTLED THE PURELY FASTIDIOUS.

B. BOTSFORD

R.C.S.C. "VIRGINS" AND THE SEA.



Sea cadets love to go to sea. Nothing else in the world can "bring up" their "emotions" so well as the sea. When the going gets rough we stand together, held with the same feeling, of who will get to the heads first. Nevertheless we love the sea in a way (far away)!

L/C. P. WILLEMEN.

Retract Willem

PUERTO RICO

Puerto Rico has had a vivid, violent and often glamorous past. Her history conjures visions of the daring voyages of Spanish explorers and settlers and of cut-throat pirates who sailed the Caribbean in search of booty. From the discovery of Puerto Rico by Columbus in 1493 until 1952 when she became part of the Commonwealth of the United States Puerto Rico has been governed by foreign powers.

Called Borinquen by its Native Indians, Puerto Rico (rich port) was renamed San Juan Bautista (St John the Baptist) in 1493. Although Columbus ordered a few herds of cattle sent from the Spanish Colony Hispaniola (Dominican Republic) to fatten the island's lush valleys no serious attempt at colonization was made until 1508.

In that year Juan Ponce de leon arrived with 50 armed men, with an inhumane attitude towards the island's 30,000 Indians, a thirst for gold and grand ideas of creating a new Caribbean jewel for King Ferdinand of Spain.

The first Spanish Settlement, Caparra was started near what is now the city of San Juan. However, in 1519 Caparra was relocated to the present site of San Juan and renamed Puerto Rico. How the city of Puerto Rico came to be called San Juan in 1521, and the island of San Juan, Puerto Rico, is a problem still baffling historians.

In the beginning trade with Spain was brisk. Sugar cane was introduced in 1515 and a few years later the first Negro slaves were brought to mine gold. With slavery as the custom, agriculture flourished. Cotton, ginger, cacao (chocolate), sugar cane and indigo (used in making blue dyes) were cultivated and exported.

However the tremendous success was to be short lived. The gold mines (which yielded 14 million) soon petered out, and until 1850 the island was besieged by European powers trying to win overseas possessions for their empires. England, France and even Holland tried to siege Puerto Rico from Spain. The raiders, striking mostly at unguarded settlements along the South West and North coasts, virtually stripped the island of its produce and cattle.

Eventually, the Spanish realized the strategic importance of Puerto Rico and fortified it. El Morro, the massive hulking fortress overlooking the port of San Juan, is still standing.

.... TO BE CONTINUED

WOULD YOU BELIEVE ANOTHER:

THERE WAS A YOUNG LADY NAMED BANKER,
WHO SLEPT WHILE HER SHIP LAY AT ANCHOR
SHE AWOKE IN DISMAY
WHEN SHE HEARD THE MATE SAY,
"HI, HOIST UP THE TOP SHEET AND SPANKER"

A LIST OF SOME OF THE NEW LIBRARY BOOKS:

ABDUCTORS	CLOETE	HOCKEY IS MY GAME	HULL
CHRISTY	MARSHALL	LAW OF THE GUN	EVANS
EXHIBITIONIST	SUTTON	SECOND HAND LIFE	JACKSON
FIFTY YEARS OF HOCKEY	McFARLANE	TROUBLED RANGE	LEHMAN
GUNSMOKE CURE	CODY	VIRGINIAN	WISTER
PYLON	FAULKNER	WOMEN	RUARK

SPORTS HAPPENINGS

ON THE NATIONAL SCENE
BY PO KEMP

- 1/ AT THE HALF TIME VOTING IN THE NHL, STAN MIKITA WAS CHOSEN AS TOP MONEY WINNER FOR THE ART ROSS TROPHY AND ALSO THE LADY BYNG TROPHY.
2. BILLY HARRIS INFORMED COACH BERT OLMSTEAD THAT HE WOULD BE BACK WITH OAKLAND AS SOON AS HIS HEALTH IMPROVED.
3. FOR LOCAL JR. CANADIAN FANS, KEVIN SMITH WHO PLAYED FOR HALIFAX LAST YEAR AND WAS PICKED UP BY FORT WAYNE ON THE DRAFT LAST SUMMER, HAS QUIT THE TEAM AND RETURNED TO HIS HOME TOWN IN PEI.
4. IN WEDNESDAYS HOCKEY GAME, 31-1-68, LAS ANGELES SCORED THEIR FIRST GOAL AGAINST MINNISOTA THIS YEAR. THE FIRST THREE GAMES MINNISOTA HAD SHUT OUT L.A. RESULTS OF THIS GAME WAS
LOS ANGELES 1 MINNISOTA 6
5. NANCY GREEN, CANADA'S HOPE FOR THE OLYMPICS IN SKIING HAS HAD HER PROBLEMS. IT ALL STARTED WITH AN INJURY LAST WEEK IN FRANCE. SHE HAS RECOVERED FROM THE INJURY BUT IN TRIALS ON MONDAY 28TH, SHE PLACED 24TH OUT OF 30.
6. IN LOCAL SPORT, ST LAURENT WON THE 5TH ESCORT SQUADRON CURLING CHAMPIONSHIP IN DECEMBER. MEMBERS OF ST LAURENT'S TEAM WERE LT BENNETT, CPO DUGAL, PO WADDELL AND L.S. HALL. WELL DONE IS EXTENDED TO SKIP HALL AND HIS TEAM; FROM THIS WRITER AND THE SHIP'S COMPANY WHO HE REPRESENTED IN WINNING THIS TROPHY.

11 MESS WEEKLY REPORT

WELL AS EVERYONE KNOWS BY NOW THE RUM RATS WERE THE FIRST ONES TO GET THE DECK HOCKEY STARTED. IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN NO SURPRISE TO ANY ONE THAT THIS WAS SO BECAUSE THE P2'S ARE ALWAYS FIRST IN EVERYTHING THAT GOES ON IN THE SHIP (EXCEPT CAUSING TROUBLE, OF COURSE THEY STARTED OFF IN A GRAND FASHION IN BOMBING THAT WEAK TEAM FROM THE WARDROOM 5-1 AND THEN WIPING OUT BENNETT'S BOILER BUMS, THE ER'S FROM 12 MESS (BOTH PHYSICALLY AND IN THE SCORING 4-2). IN THE GAME WITH THE ER'S THAT OUT STANDING PLAYER "DOC" FORBES WAS EJECTED FROM THE GAME. THIS REPORTERS VIEWS ARE THAT IT WAS NOT CALLED FOR. I TALKED TO DOC AND HIS WORDS WERE AND I QUOTE "I WAS INJUSTLY TREATED IN BEING THROWN OUT OF THE GAME BECAUSE I AM BASICLY A VERY MILD MANNERED PERSON" END OF QUOTE.

DUE TO THE OUTSTANDING INITIATIVE OF 11 MESS THERE WILL BE TROPHIES FOR THE WINNERS IN BOTH DECK HOCKEY AND VOLLEY BALL. INDIVIDUAL TROPHIES WILL BE GIVEN TO THE TOP SCORER, BEST GOAL TENDER AND TO THE MOST VALUABLE PLAYER IN DECK HOCKEY AND VOLLEYBALL.

THE TROPHY WINNERS WILL BE SELECTED BY THE CAPTAINS OF EACH TEAM GIVING HIS FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD CHOICE (NOT FROM HIS OWN TEAM) TO LT SPICER WHO WILL TABULATE AND ANNOUNCE THE RESULTS OF THE WINNER OF THE MOST VALUABLE PLAYER.

IN CONCLUSION, THIS REPORTER IS OF THE OPINION THAT THE RUM RATS, THE BEST TEAM TO BE SEEN, WILL MAKE A SHOWING IN WINNING JUST ABOUT EVERYTHING IN SIGHT.

-PO GLOVER

A RESULT OF THE WARDROOM RUM-RATS ROUT:

A WITTY SUBS REMARKABLE OBSERVATION: "LT. (OPS ALMOST SLIPPED) ? IN HIS SHORTS AND SANDLES FOR THE DECK HOCKY GAME, REMINDED ME OF AN AWNING STAUNCHION."

WEDNESDAY JAN 31 SAW THE FIRST BLOOD DRAWN IN THE LONG TO BE REMEMBERED ST LAURENT DECK HOCKEY SERIES AS THOSE VALIANT AND STOUT-HEARTED (WELL STOUT ANYWAYS) GENTLEMEN OF THE WARDROOM ENGULFED THE PRIDE OF THE P2'S MESS.

OH, IT WAS AN AWFUL CARNAGE AS THE P2'S, IN A PHOTO FINISH, MANAGED TO EKE OUT A CLOSE 5-1 VICTORY OVER THE OFFICERS.

"GUMP" BENNETT PLAYED A STANDOUT GAME LETTING IN ONLY 5 SHOTS WHICH ISN'T BAD CONSIDERING THE NUMBER OF SHOTS HE STOOD IN FRONT OF.

THIS REPORTER LOST COUNT AFTER 40. ON THE OTHER HAND "GLENN HALL" GLOVER WAS HARD PRESSED TO STOP AT LEAST 10 SHOTS ON THE P2'S NET BEING OUT DONE IN A BLAZING BREAKAWAY BY "ROCKET" RICHARDSON. MEANWHILE DOC FORBES, "LITTLE BUCK" WADDELL, THE FERGUSON TWINS, "ROCKY MOUNTAIN" SPARGO, AND "TANK" KNOBDELL MADE THEIR PRESENCE FELT FOR THE RUM RATS OF 11 MESS.

THE ROOKIE OF THE YEAR AWARD WILL GO TO A REAL UP AND COMER "BOOM - BOOM" BARROW WHO JUST HAPPENED TO DROP BY ON HIS DAILY STROLL AND WAS IMMEDIATELY PRESSED INTO SERVICE FOR THE WARDROOM GANG. HE WAS LAST SEEN SWALLOWED UP IN A MOB OF STAMPEDING DUNGAREES.

ALL TOLD THE GAME WAS A MEMORABLE ONE WITH THE WARDROOM PROVING ONCE AGAIN THE AGE OLD ADDAGE, NICE GUYS ALWAYS LOSE.

-S/LT ECKFORD

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE BADGE OF H.M.C.S. ST. LAURENT

THE DIAGONAL WAVY STRIPS OF THE FIELD ARE IN REFERENCE TO THE RIVER ST. LAURENCE, AFTER WHICH THIS DESTROYER TAKES ITS NAME. THESE STRIPS OR BANDS ARE MADE GOLD AND BLUE ALTERNATELY IN RESPECT TO THE KING OF FRANCE IN WHOSE NAME DID CARTIER DISCOVER AND EXPLORE THIS GREAT WATERWAY. THE ARMS OF FRANCE WERE THEN THREE GOLD FLEUR-DE-LIS ON A BLUE FIELD.

THE LEGENDS SURROUNDING THE HISTORY OF THE RIVER ST. LAURENCE ARE MANY, BUT HENRY BESTON IN HIS WORK ON THE ST. LAURENCE (1942) STATES THAT THE TUTELARY OR PROTECTIVE SPIRIT OF THIS GREAT RIVER IS THE WHITE OR ARCTIC WHALE. SO THIS SPLENDID MAMMAL IS DEPICTED TRAVERSING THE WATERS, AND TO IDENTIFY HIM WITH THIS PARTICULAR RIVER, HE IS CHARGED ON THE SHOULDER WITH THE GRID OF ST. LAURENCE.

WHEN CARTIER FIRST ENTERED THE WATERS OF THE ST. LAURENCE IT WAS ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEATH OF THAT COURAGEOUS DEACON OF THE ROMAN CHURCH WHO, IT IS SAID, WAS PUT TO DEATH ON THE ORDERS OF EMPEROR VALERIAN BY BEING ROASTED ON A GRID. THIS IS SUPPOSED TO HAVE OCCURED ON 10 TH. AUGUST 258. IT WAS ON THIS DATE IN 1535 THAT CARTIER SAILED INTO THIS RIVER AND GAVE TO IT THE NAME ST. LAURENT. THE GRID APPEARED IN ONE OF THE TWO UNOFFICIAL 'BADGES' USED BY A SHIP BEARING THIS NAME DURING THE WAR-AND AS A SECONDARY REFERENCE IT IS HERE SHOWN ON THE WHALE.

OVERHEARD IN THE WARDROOM:

LT. RAY SPEAKING TO SOME SUBS: "I WAS TEN YEARS IN THE NAVY BEFORE I REALIZED 'LIEUTENANT-SIR' WAS TWO WORDS."

HOW ABOUT THIS:

A LITTLE RUTHLESS LAUGHTER CLEARS THE AIR AS NOTHING ELSE CAN DO; IT IS GOOD FOR US, EVERY NOW AND THEN, TO SEE OUR IDEALS LAUGHED AT, OUR CONCEPTION OF NOBILITY CARICATURED; IT IS GOOD FOR SOLEMNITY'S NOSE TO BE TWEAKED, FOR HUMAN POMPOSITY TO BE MADE TO LOOK RIDICULOUS.

HMCS ST LAURENT

Part One : The Past

Time ; January 3rd , 1934 . This marked the unofficial time for the debut of HMCS St Laurent . During the West Indies winter cruise of 1934 , the four Canadian Destroyers , Saguenay , Skeena , Champlain , and Vancouver exercised for several days with ships of the Home Fleet , including the battleships HMS Nelson and Rodney , Valiant and Malaya . In this period of combined training , the Canadian division formed a complete flotilla with the addition of HMS Kempenfelt , Crescent , Cygnet , Crusader , and Comet . Little did the Canadian Navy know that the seforementioned five were all to become part of Canada's fleet very shortly .

The London treaty of April , 1930 , set an upper limit to the total tonnage of warships of each type that the British Empire , the USA , and Japan might possess . The destroyer allotment was set at 150,000 Tons each for the British Empire and the USA , and 105,000 Tons for Japan . At this conference , the British Empire and the USA , supported by Canada , and the other dominions , with the exception of one , unsuccessfully urged the abolition of submarines . Interestingly enough , Canadian delegates throughout the conference , showed a special interest beyond doubt in proposals for limiting the construction of submarines and aircraft carriers .

So , under the terms of the London Conference , the HMCS Champlain and Vancouver , had to be discarded by the end of 1936 . due to this striking blow , correspondence between the Naval Service Headquarters and the British Admiralty early in 1935 , had decided to transfer two "C" class destroyers to the RCN .

It seemed better to accept this offer than to have two new destroyers laid down ; for although new ships would be longer lived and slightly more efficient than second-hand ones , they would cost considerably more and would take a couple of years to build .

HMS Crescent and Cygnet were recommended by the Admiralty , because they were similar to HMCS Saguenay and Skeena , and hence their acquisition would mean that the RCN would possess a largely homogeneous half-flotilla . Needless to say , at this point , Canada envisaged the acquirement of six additional destroyers . In accord with the recommendation of the Naval Service and the Joint Staff Committee , the Cygnet and Crescent were purchased from the Admiralty for \$978,527.07 each .

They were built by Vickers-Armstrong and launched on September 29 , 1931 . They were commissioned in the RCN at Chatham , England , on February 17 , 1937 , at which time Crescent was renamed HMCS Fraser , and HMS cygnet was renamed HMCS St. Laurent . And so begins the life of "Sally" .

S/Lt . Pichler .

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The sea was rough and visibility poor, and as our ship fell into the convoy column it bumped the stern of another vessel but without doing any real damage. The weather grew even worse, and ships of the convoy became scattered over a wide area. Finally we recieved a coded radio message telling us to rejoin the convoy. We changed our course, and a few minutes later there was a terrific crash. We had rammed the same ship for a second time. Frantic, our captain signalled, "Can you stay afloat ?"

"Yes," flashed the other skipper. "Try again."

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Statistics are like a bikini bathing suit. What they reveal is suggestive, but what they conceal is vital.