

# BEHIND THE LINES

The growth of the Air Cadet League of Canada from a small nucleus of independent squadrons into one of the largest and most influential youth-training organizations in the world, is a saga of national history.

In 1940, when the Air Cadet League was formed, it consisted of a few squadrons supervised by groups of interested ex-service men—functioning mainly in Vancouver and Montreal. The passing of an order-in-council in 1940 authorizing the formation of the league and thus was laid the corner stone for an organization that was to extend its scope from coast to coast, taking in every city and town throughout the nation.

Under the patronage of His Excellency the Earl of Athlone, Governor-General of Canada, with Air Marshal W. A. Bishop, V.C., as

honorary president, and Group Captain D. C. M. Hume as national director, the Air Cadet League now comprises approximately 350 squadrons and more are being formed every month.

In Ontario alone there are now 85 squadrons with a total enrolment of 3,000 cadets and 425 officers. During the last few months there has been a decided increase in the number of cadets being enrolled for training, in addition to the number of new squadrons being inaugurated. Officials of the league confidently expect that the total enrolment in Ontario will reach 10,000 by the end of December this year and 15,000 by next spring.

The league has three fundamental ideals. The concept of service to Canada is promoted and all training is directed to this end. The training given a young air cadet is designed to supplement his formal, secondary education, and to fit him for life in post-war Canada when aviation will have a place of increasing economic importance. The syllabus of training includes drill and airmanship for the purpose of fostering discipline and better citizenship.

Air cadet squadrons are sponsored by boards of education, service clubs and certain orders, including Lions, Kiwanis, Rotary and Optimist Clubs, B'nai B'rith, the Orange Order and the Knights of Columbus. The sponsoring bodies perform four functions: enrolment, finance, quarters and the recommendation of air cadet officers.

Commanding officers and adjutants of each squadron in Ontario

have now been enlisted in the R.C.A.F. special reserves list of officers and it is intended to enlist all air cadet officers in the R.C.A.F. within a short time, thus making the league a direct affiliate of the R.C.A.F.

V V V



A.B. Worsley      A.B. Deverson

A.B. George T. Worsley, son of Mr. and Mrs. Luke Worsley, 114 Kensington avenue north, a former employee of Kraft Containers, Limited, was on the Georgia during its newest adventure at sea. He was in the band at H.M.C.S. Stadacona for a time before going to sea. His father was with the 86th Machine-Gun Battalion during the last war.

A.B. Ronald Deverson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Deverson, 31 Frederick avenue, and a former employee of the Wallace Barnes plant, has arrived overseas. He was with the 2nd-10th Dragoons before enlisting in the R.C.N.V.R. In the summer, he was on one of the minesweepers which cleared Halifax harbour after the Nazis had sought to seal it. He has been recommended now for promotion to leading seaman.

V V V



A.B. Etherington      Sgt.-Gnr. Fell

A.B. Etherington, whose wife resides at 10 Kinnell street, was among local sailors who took part in the sweep of Halifax harbour late in summer. He attended Westdale Secondary School and was employed at the National Steel Car plant at the time of his enlistment.

Sgt. Gnr. Walter E. Fell, 19, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Fell, 71 Clinton street, is now in Great Britain. He is a former employee of the Wallace Barnes plant.



Sgmn. L. Penson      Sgmn. A. Penson

Sgmn. Arthur Penson, whose wife resides at 316 Bold street, and Sgmn. Lloyd Penson, whose wife and daughter reside at 149 Avondale avenue, have arrived in the Middle East. They are brothers. Sgmn. Arthur was employed formerly by Jackson's Bread and Sgmn. Lloyd by Mammy's Bread Company.

V V V

The Women's Auxiliary Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders P.L. (officers) remind the wives and mothers that the regular monthly bingo game will be held Tuesday afternoon, November 30, at the armouries. All are urged to attend as there will be a special speaker.

149  
WAR  
EUROPEAN  
1939  
CANADA  
HAMILTON  
BEHIND  
THE  
LINES