

8th Medium Battery Veterans To Hold First Post War Reunion In Charlottetown On Saturday



With Old Home Week drawing to a close this city will experience another invasion Saturday morning when members of the original 8th Medium Battery of the last war gather here for their first reunion since they came home from overseas.

Pictured above are the boys who left here May 24, 1940, for Petawawa. At camp they were joined by the 1st Battery, Montreal; 5th Battery, Quebec City; and the 11th Battery from Winnipeg. United they formed the 2nd Medium Regiment and were known by that name until July of the following year when they were converted to Heavy Ack Ack. Their first Commanding Officer, appointed in April 1940, was Lieut. Col. P. S. Fielding, M.M., of Charlottetown, with Capt. F. B. Zink, Halifax, as adjutant.

In the group shown here are the members of the 8th Battery who originally trained at Beach Grove after being mobilized on September 2, 1939. The commanding officer then was Maj. G. G. K. Peake, now Brigadier Peake, D.S.O. Other officers at the start included Capt. Fred Brady, Lt. H. G.

Williams, Lt. F. R. P. Arseneault, and Lt. F. W. Smith. John Turner was Battery Sergeant Major. All the group were islanders except 16 who came the first week from Springhill.

It was in September 1941, after much complaining about inaction and having acquired the name as Petawawa's "Oldest Inhabitants", that the unit moved off for England aboard the S. S. Pasteur. An advance party of the Regiment had crossed on the H.M.T. Northumberland and spoke freely of the excellent mutton and the "spacious" quarters.

Arriving in the United Kingdom on September 26 the unit encamped at Borden and began a period of training and waiting, equalled only by Petawawa. They moved on to Blackdown, Surrey, for AA Training which they completed late in the year when they assumed a role in the air defence of Great Britain.

It was during this period that a gun crew brought lasting fame to the 8th Battery. Sgt. Frank Lappin, Charlottetown, was in charge of the crew when a Jerry raider came racing over their position.

Sgt. Lappin used 'Gun Control'—something like peace-time huller firing at a pheasant on the wing—to bag the plane. It was travelling about 300 m.p.h. and the sergeant had to direct the lead on the plane as well as estimate the distance the shell would travel before exploding.

The net result was that shell, plane and explosion were all at the same place at the same time and the Luftwaffe was minus a plane and a pilot.

Boys of the 8th Battery also took great pride in their ability to crack down on the Buzz Bombs or VI's between Dover and Folkestone where they had a total of 32 to their credit.

They finally sailed for France August 4, 1944, and landed on the coast of Normandy the following day. While there they changed over from an A.A. role to a ground role.

During the bitter months which followed their landing in Fortress Europe they took part in many famous actions at places whose names are now part of our history. Among them were Falaise Gap, Boulogne, Calais, Cap Gris Nez, Dunkirk, Maas River, Goch, Cleve, the crossing of the Rhine, Kusten Canal and many more.

During the years they saw many replacements come and go and as a result when the reunion is held here Saturday there will be men from all parts of Canada and the United States gathering to greet once more the fellows they know through the bitter fighting years.

But during the long and often weary years there were many incidents to lighten the burden of heavy training. Some of them happened in Canada, some in England and some in Europe. Along with them are loads of names which mean little except to those who were there.

Among the things over which the boys laughed was the Ottawa drive past when the C.O. saw one of his 45's being towed by an

ancient Leyland. Bdr. Lebeau was driving and was dressed in a bowler hat and black face. As he drove past he yelled at the C.O. "Wanna buy it?" Then there was the accident in England when the Regiment 'captured' an officer and 10 men of the Grenadier Guards at Blackdown. And the shooting down of the "Queen Bee".

Gunners still chortle over the G.P.O. ordering a Q.E. of 81 degrees to the guns. When sadly reminded that such elevation was impossible he replied "Well stick on all you can and fire twice as many rounds."

They remember too the time the guns of the 8th went up by road to Otterburn, staging at Lillesworth and Catterick, in the damp chill of October. And such names as Lancing and Mill Hill. There was the January day at Black Rock, Brighton, where their first experience with a land mine caused the first casualty.

Many will also recall "Operation Sparrow" when for some obscure reason the 8th code orders would have landed the Battery in the English Channel. Some might even admit playing Robin Hood to get a supply of fresh venison in Sherwood Forest. And who could forget Butlin's Luxury Holiday Camp? Or Captain Zink's famous battle cry "Pump 'em up boys!"

Remember, too, when the long-time M.O., Capt. E. C. Glidden, left the unit. He was replaced by Capt. T. A. Laidlaw, who is now practising in Charlottetown.

There is much for the 8th to recall in Europe and the getting there. Tilbury Docks, the "Cyrus Curtis" June Beach. Then there was that August 8th when the first rounds were fired in battle. It lasted 9 hours and the Regiment sent 4,605 rounds to pay respects to the enemy. Oldtimers will remember the appearance of the farms and villages on the road up to Caen? Lisieux also? The non-ton bride at Elbe? on the way to Abbeville? And those little bits of

humor like the time the Mayor of Sully-le-Sec (which was far from then) insisted on kissing the officers of D Troop. And the day of heavy firing when the guns got so hot the barrels dropped.

There will be many more things for the boys of the 8th Battery to remember when they gather here from all parts of Canada and the United States this Saturday. Perhaps not the least of them will be the knowledge they have of a good job well done.

Malpeque United Church Holds Anniversary

The 143rd anniversary of Malpeque Church was duly recognized with special services on Sunday, August 12. As one approached the large historical church the beautiful green carpet of well-kept grounds and cemetery revealed the pride of the caretaker and presented a fine picturesque appearance. The strains of the melodious pipe-organ, and very beautiful floral decorations so artistically arranged in the chancel made a setting of inspiration.

Rev. Mr. MacKay, pastor assisted by Rev. Dr. Ramsay led in devotion. Rev. E. R. Woodside, pastor of Bathurst United Church was guest preacher and presented a sermon of eloquence, the text, "The Rise of the Horizontal Fellowship" and "The 20th Century. A Century of Paradox".

The large choir under the direction of Mrs. John Andrew, organist, sang the anthem "Waiting on Jesus" by Ackley, with Messrs. Ramsey and Lockerby taking the duet part.

The evening service was conducted by Rev. Mr. MacKay, and again Rev. Mr. Woodside preached a fine sermon of inspiration on "The Emergence of Lay Religion." He also made reference to the Christian Frontier Movement in Great Britain, the American Lay-

nian's Movement for a Christian World, and other similar movements in their places.

The large choir again rendered assistance with the anthem "More Like The Master", by Gabriel.

Messrs. Dunning and Johnson Long River sang two duets of fine harmony, "God's Way is the Best Way", and "The Love of God", by Lehman. Mrs. Andrew was organist and had charge of music for the day. There were large congregations present at both services.

U. S. CASUALTIES
WASHINGTON, Aug. 15.—(AP)—Announced United States battle casualties in Korea reached 80,700 today, an increase of 220 since last week. This is the lowest weekly increase since the first weekly summary was issued last Aug. 7.

LONDON — (CP)—Visitors to London's famed St. Martin-in-the-Fields Church in Trafalgar Square have been shocked by a notice tacked to the main entrance. It reads: "Ladies, beware of thieves."

Skinny men, women gain 5, 10, 15 lbs.

Get New Pop, Vim, Vigor
What a thrill! Boy's limbs all over with healthy, firm, well-developed muscles. Girl's body all over with healthy, firm, well-developed muscles. Women, men, who never could gain weight, are now proud of their healthy, well-developed muscles. They thank the special vitamin-building, food-building, tonic, Cortex. It tones up, stimulates, invigorates, iron, vitamins B₁, calcium, enriches blood, improves appetite and digestion, puts flesh on bare bones. Don't fear getting too fat. Stop when you've gained the 5, 10, 15 or 20 lbs. you need for normal weight. Try Cortex Tablets for new vigor and added pounds, this very day. At all drugstores.

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That's all you need to start building up that nest-egg of cash you've always wanted.

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OLD HOME WEEK SPECIALS

Aug. 11 To 18

KAYS! KAYS! KAYS!

GROCERIES	DRY GOODS, ETC.
Red Rose and King Cole	Men's SHORTS AND TOPS—
TEA, lb. 89c	Reg. 1.50, Pair 99c
SUGAR, 10 lbs. 1.17	Men's T-SHIRTS—
SUGAR, 100 lb. bag 11.50	White only, S.M.L. 79c
Pitted	Boys' SHORTS—
DATES, 5 lbs. 89c	S.M.L., 2 pr. for 79c
Large Size	Men's POLICE SUSPENDERS—
CARNATION MILK, 6 tins 1.00	Reg. 1.00 79c
Pure	Men's White HANDKERCHIEFS,
LARD, 4 lbs. 87c	5 for 79c
Best Quality	Boys' DUNGAREES, reg. 2.95 2.39
GRAPES, 2 lbs. 39c	Men's Heavyweight OVERALLS,
Large Box	Reg. 4.50 3.99
MATCHES, 3 boxes 28c	Men's Dress SUSPENDERS,
Fancy Mixed	Reg. 1.25 79c
COOKIES, reg. lb. 49c 39c	Men's Fleece-lined T-SHIRTS,
	Med. and white only, reg. 3.50 .. 2.49
	Ladies' Cotton STOCKINGS,
	Reg. 59c 39c
	BOBBY PINS, 10 cards 39c
	TABLE CLOTHS, Fancy—
	Reg. 2.50 1.50
	DISH TOWELS,
	Reg. 39c—Four for 1.00
	Nylon STOCKINGS, 42 Gauge,
	Reg. 1.79 for 1.39

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