

Dozerdust

VOL. 2. NO. 7.

WORKS SERVICE ENGINEERS

FEB. 5. 1944.

THE LOWDOWN.

" WELL, here I am, going back to the Con. Depot. The first time I went there the Americans were there. Now we have a Con. Depot established. Shows how things can change."

Ray Barnaby.

JIM O'Duffy knows why a Frenchman does not like a Backloader. Maybe he'll give us the story.

WONG LOWE LAUNDRY.

VELLY GOOD WASHEE
CLOTHES
PLETS PANTIES

MUCHEE
CHEAP.
(Advt)

We do not make a rule of accepting ads, but as China has been recognised as a World Power and is one of our Allies, we make an exception in the present instance.ED.

"The Boogie Woogie Baby" did not do too well at the dance.

IN a special interview on Thursday night, Sapper Jimmy Woods stated that he shared the opinion of Walter Nash as published in N.Z. press. Sapper Wood added that the Pacific Theatre of activities were most closely related to N.Z., and should be regarded as her first battle ground in this global war. He went on to say that "to withdraw our troops after one of two engagements appeared shortsighted and hard to understand. Why remove the Kiwis when the battle was half won. Why not bump a few more thousand men into the Pacific and keep going until we had pushed old Tojo's whiskers under his toe nails. N.Z. and Australian troops could do the job - they proved their worth in jungle warfare! And much as he wanted to "get home some day" he felt he would like to stay in the Pacific until the Japanese were torn up to small pieces of paper! He was sure most of the men in Works felt the way he did. "For my part I don't think we'll get home for a long time", he continued, and I think most of us realised it.

There appears to be very little hope of our going back to N.Z. and then on to the European Front. And I don't think we will get furlough for some years! That was enough for us. (Dozerdust undertakes to obtain, if required, a guard from Infantry Det. should there be any display of violence towards Sapper Jimmy Woods.ED)

OUR congratulations to Dave Smith on topping list at Cooking School.

"FISHERMAN'S REST" a place to visit when you go to Base Camp.

Jack Dodds and Cyril Walker are leading a very quiet life except in the evening when they get busy on souvenirs - or so we learn from Bill Scott who looked us up on the weekend.

THIS IS NOT A "HOMER"

GLORIOUS BEER !

Beer Parade ! What a happy event for thirsty soldiers ! What a plain headache for those who administer the business ! Great joy when the news spreads that a carton of U.S. beer (24) whole bottles is available from each man on ration strength. What chagrin when it is discovered that the issue (paid for in advance) is to be rationed. This is where Army book-keeping comes into its own, in dealing with the many & varied types of obtaining delivery. ::FIRST we have the chap who pays for his own beer and drinks it himself. These are class A. Class B are the blokes who pay for beer themselves, but collect it for someone else. Then we have class C who, while paying for the beer himself, authorises somebody else to collect it for him. In a different category, however, are Class D gents, who pay for and collect beer under the name of another party, who doesn't want his ration. Then, as a variation, we have Class E, who, leaving camp, sell their beer (or what's left of it) to a second party who then may, as well as collecting this beer, make private arrangements for a third party to 'be in'. To add to the variety, we also have the chap who authorises somebody else to draw his beer, while he, instead of drawing his own, collects a third party's, who didn't want his anyway. ::Beer Parade, did you say ? Pass the Aspro's please. !

P.J.K.

NO news from " Wally " Hobson, " Curly " Griffin or other lads of the Wharf Coy. What about an article from Spr. Ireland on how he enjoys being back in Neel.

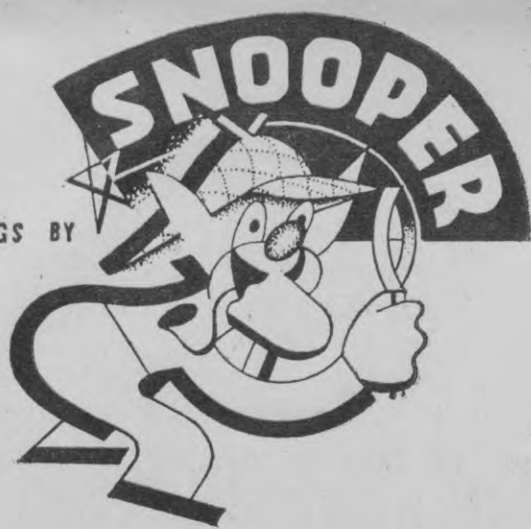
LIEUT. GILMOUR managed to make the dance on Friday night. He appeared to enjoy himself as much as he did the first dance we had back in Waicuru.

ALAN DYE and Norm Carswell had a good time during the big flood. They shifted tent at 3.a.m. and a few hours later five foot of water SEVEN lads from Base Camp had a bright time at Con. Depot dance Friday night. Steve Nash made his alley good. (Good Old Steve)

N.Y.D. nominations for National Hunt Club Meeting close Feb. 11th. Meeting Feb. 14th. Rush the oats to the stables. "Doctor Mac & consultations free.

THE DANCE.

" IT was marvellous to be able to go along and find everything ready for you and not have to worry about kidding people into doing this and that which makes a dance a burden " was how one of the Waaco Coy. expressed her appreciation of the Friday night dance held in the I.D. Block while rain pelted down hellforleather from about six a.m. onwards. :: IT was a good dance. Harry Stringer made a good man in charge of ceremonies; the Sisters who prepared the supper in the afternoon may enjoy the satisfaction of knowing that they made the best supper we have had on the Island. Eggs, bananas, cheese and cucumber sandwiches disappeared with a speed that spoke of quality, and the oyster patties turned on by our cooks were equally popular. It would not be out of place to say, after what will be our last dance in the Dumbear Valley, that our cooks have, on every occasion on which we have called on them, come out tops. :: Music from 7th. Mob. Naval (U.S) band and the well decorated hall of Percy Kenna and his assistants, made most of us forget we were in a Pacific Paradise (Except perhaps those who were popping out to the Cubby Holes, on which Snapper seems to write with authority. But don't take him too seriously. His " sunshine " was not present - something he conveniently forgets to mention. Maybe he was looking for her in the Cubby Hole) :: AFTER supper, Major E. Blacker, OC of Works Coy., expressed his thanks to Col. E.G. Sayers for the use of the I.D. Block for the dance and to the Committee for the success of the evening. :: THE heavy rain which made the approach to the hall sloppy and treacherous, as some Sappers found as they telescoped earthwards, did not help matters. But by and large she was a good show ! On behalf of the Committee wish to thank S/Sgt. Jack Matheson and Sgt. Peter Wingfield for setting up the supper tables, organising the supper, and for what was an extremely unpleasant task, washing all the dishes by candlelight (that wouldn't stay lit) in the rain after the dance. " Welsh Tea " was well up to standard and was highly commented upon by one of the chic French girls who most surely would have given Tea Expert George a " Give Either Look " had he been handy.



SNOOPING round the Service Lines the other morning, I saw Gordon Berry get a shock when he looked into "Butch's" tent and saw some-
thin' lyin' on top of his clothes. Reckon he shouldn't leave things like that lyin' about, 'cos people come into a tent before a chap wakes up. But I guess I saw more 'n that on Friday night at the dance tryin' to keep up with them fast workin' Sappers. Course all them small rooms in the I. D. block spoilt me style and was in the Sappers and Corporals favour. There was no lights either when I keeked into them small cubby holes so that I couldn't see who it was doin' all the cuddlin'. Reckon "Doctor Mac" and Pat had their share of it. Then there was that tall, skinny Corporal whose always kiddin' he don't have nothing to do with women, but who always yaps to 'em and goes the big way with the French shshilas. Say, did you see those little French girls at the dance. I saw young Crosker y an' Compt on and Darroch doin' a heavy line, but I reckon the language barrier was too much for them. Heard Crosker y say he'd like to take one of girls and show her the cubby hole, but he didn't know how to ask. COURSE Claude Lowe was on a fuss, even though his gal from the Tailor's Shoppe wasn't there. He does a lot of kiddin', does our Claude. Heard a Waac say to him one day "If you ever want anything Corporal, just let me know, and I'll see what I can do for you!" She meant soon sewin' or ironing - I hope! Hope so, 'cos Claude is a decent bloke. LOT of mud around on Friday night. You know "Pat Willie" Hart? Well, he got stuck in the mud on his way to the dance and he was so exhausted he had to lean against the doorway nearly all night; he looked awful pale and sick at times. Jimmy Woods was a bit that way too. Only he staggered and his voice went all funny. Course he had Joe Fox to look after him. Cliff Burns was very

red in the face too - the rain must have been beating down on him. Reckon some of the other lads did some elbow bending exercises so they wouldn't get outa practice with the pick and shovel. Y' know the way some of these old married coves got round the floor on Friday night makes me think the Kiwi 'aint got so much to learn. They kid a chap like me that they are different from other guys - and damme, I nearly fell for it. After the war, thin I'll write a book on "How Kiwis Make Love!" --- reckon I could sell it to the Yanks. :::: SAW you Bill Stokes from the Chaplain's Office, at 8th. Gen. enjoying himself - wasn't too slow either. Course he can talk about books and politics, and other highfalutin things, but he 'aint too slow. Boys from 353rd enjoyed themselves too. Reckon it was a good idea invitin' the lads over. :::: VERN Biggs musta had a good time at the dance - saw him smilin' away to him - self in the bootshop all Sat. morning. Couldn't find out what it was, though. Like to know who it was the boys disturbed in a cuddle when they came over for the plates. Kinda broke up the romance. Didn't see much of Stuart who came down for the dance. Reckon he was kinda busy. Heard him say he likes at the Con Depot. 'Spose we'll all be goin' up there soon. Reckon it 'll be good up in the bush. :::: Say, the other day I was in at Transit Camp and, on lookin' in at George King's tent I saw sheets on his bed, a pillowslip and lots of sissy things. Have to keep an eye on some of these lads.

For retails of Yap and Truk, appearing on page 6, we acknowledge reference to Pacific Islands Year Book 1943 and "Pacific Adventure" by Willard Price.

Through the courtesy of U.S. friends we have made arrangements to obtain a regular supply of Time and Newsweek magazines which will enable us to feature a NEWS UPON THE NEWS column each week. In the past it has not been possible to obtain literature on current affairs. We also hope to be able to add considerably to our International Newsboard.

THE "Dirkum Oil" this week carries Works Services to the foot of the Great Wall, Chin, where the Unit is to get busy patching up the bulges Old Father Time has made in his tramping down the centuries. After doing the job there the Unit will move on to the Burma Road. It is thought that the Services Section will be very important in both places. :::: IT is reliably stated from the Gonophone that, the China job apart, something important is being cooked up. A string of reliable reports come to hand on going to press. Owing to Gonophone's Cable Reporter being still in bed with a hangover from the dance only a brief outline can be presented to our readers, :::: BIG troop movements expected in three weeks -- direction unknown. Furlough system of fifty men per month said to be coming into operation. First preference to be given to men who have been in Fiji and other islands, then men who have been in Nepal for twelve months and over. Gonophone's Statistical Dept. got to work and submitted the ruling that, on a conservative estimate, Works personnel can with some degree of confidence, expect to make the furlough trip in seventeen years.

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BIG MONEY !

FOR the best humorous short story of approximately 500 words, DOZIERDUST offers \$5. Entries close March 11th, 44. Here is a chance to show Steve Nash he can't run away with prize every time. (To the Wharf lads - here is your chance. Be in)

WHAT is the width of the Great Wall - China - at the top ? George Norton would be grateful for the information. One guess was six miles, another six feet.

DEBATES against Hosp. team and Waacs postponed. A inter-section debates looming up on question of Private Enterprise. Says Ted Knowling " the longer I stay here the more I believe I am cut out to be an 'entrepreneur' " and Percy K. Kanna sees red when he hears clank of hammer and sickle .. so watch out for a big yapping match. All contestants asked to roll up their sleeves.

" I had rather have a soldier that knows what he fights for and loves what he knows " CROMWELL.

IN 1644 it was an easy matter for a soldier to know what he was fighting for - he was fighting for his FAITH and he fought with the Sword of the Lord. :::: IN 1944 the soldier fights with the Tommy Gun ; he is not sure of faith. It is something that depends upon an involved chain of reasoning and is liable to end up anywhere. :::: SO far as one can summarise our Faith we would say it is , in essence, the beliefs that men and women are reasonable beings; that they are capable of living and working together for the common good; that is the assumption on which we base our collective actions. :::: TODAY we are engaged in the greatest example of collective action in our history. The object - FREEDOM TO LIVE THE WAY WE HAVE CHOSEN. That briefly will be the booty. :::: TO what extent will the average man benefit from the " booty ?" On return to civil life most of the pre-war liberties will be restored. What else ? Jack Gibbs, when he was asked, said he thought

that " the hard won Freedom" would mean we would be free from another war in twenty five years ? He cannot be assured that he will; he cannot be assured that in 1950 he will have a job; he cannot be assured that the "Freedom" he now enjoys of three meals a day, clothes and housing will be his in 1950. Jack is not the only man. New Zealand is not the only country. For many men the world in a state of international lunacy is safer, simpler and happier than the "home" of peace and joy to which they long to return. Fantastic but true. :::: WHAT are we going to do about it ? Take what comfort we can from telling our children and ourselves that there always have been wars and always will be ; that it is not such a bad thing anyway, because we always win. Or are we going to be honest and say that no one wants war - so why the hell have it ? And to that are we going to add - no one wants unemployment, poverty and narrowmindedness buttling into our lives either. If we are going to have the Freedom we are

FREEDOM : PRIZE OF VICTORY. (cont from page 4.)

fighting for, we have got to do something with it; we have either to build up a way of living we like, or like the "way" that is pushed on to us. "Freedom" is largely what we allow it to be.

NEWS UPON THE NEWS.

SOVIET-CZECHOSLOVAK TREATY

Mid.D.M. 43.....cover a twenty year military alliance between the two countries, which binds them not to make separate peace now. In post-war set up they pledge full economic collaboration and determination to mind own domestic business. :IMPOR- TANT....." Each of high contracting powers undertakes not to conclude any alliance and not to take part in any coalition directed against other contracting power. : : : IMPLI- CATION..... TWO-WAY treaty may develop to include Poland & Austria, maybe other states closely related to Russia. Russia determined to have no unfriendly States between herself and the West.

JAP POSTMORTEM.

CAIRO CONFERENCEagreed Japs to be deprived of all territories seized or occupied since 1914, and all territory filched from China. In other words, Japs to be pushed back to territorial possessions of 1853. This will reduce her possessions in Sq. Miles from 2,413,130 to 48,66. And brings her population down to 75,000,000. from the 385,109,000 at which she stands today. On paper looks good. In practice what will be done with hundreds of thousands of Japs who have grown up in acquired territories? Her mandated outposts as Japanese as Tokio. Supposing conquered peoples desire Jap way of living?

SECRET WEAPON.

Stockholm Correspondent (TimesM) writes :)--- " Germany is continuously experimenting with new weapons of various kinds. Last summer it was reported that a pilotless plane had crashed off

the Danish island of Bornholm near Sweden. Also within the last few weeks the Germans have been trying out a new artillery shell of great destructive power on Leningrad. Swedish scientific aviation circles are skeptical, but admit the possibility that the new weapon may be a heavy-water atom bomb dropped from radio-directed planes : : : : SURPRISE raid of Dec. 2 on Port of Bari, main supply base of Night Army, brought question of Secret Weapon to fore.

OIL.

" Tell me the sort of agreement that the United Nations will reach with respect to the world's petroleum resources when the war is over, and I will undertake to analyze the durability of the peace that is to come " Harold L. Ickes (U.S.A) : : : : OIL EXPERTS say U.S. is drawing on own reserves heavily, that it is on verge of becoming a net importer of oil. " That Capital of Oil Empire is on the move to the Middle East ? : : : POTENTATES of that Empire are - Saudi Arabia, where U.S.A. has straight out concession through Californian Arabian Oil Co. Bahrain Islands also source of oil under control of same Company. Rights in Persian Gulf split up between Gulf Oil Co. 50% and British Coy. 50% : : : : Biggest and oldest producers in the Middle East are Oil Fields of Iraq which are controlled by Anglo-Iranian, Standard Oil (us) and Socony (French - Dutch) : : : : IN Near East Britain controls 80% and the U.S. 15%.

THE HUN.

" THE German soldier is a very good fighter, and it is a great mistake to suppose that he is finished and that the war will soon be over. He is not finished at all. The German general is a first-class, highly trained professional soldier, and he is particularly good if you allow him to do what he wants to do " Gen. B. Montgomery From the Bulletin Dec 1.43)

RUBBER.

U.S. first rubber factory in production. Turning out 90,000 tons per year - as much as 100,000 Malay natives gather from 18,000,000 rubber-trees. Industry growing. This is not a home issue.

YAP.

YAP - native word meaning "The Land". This island one of Micronesian Group which came under Japanese control through Mandate. It consists of a main island with islands of Map and Rumung very close ringed in a lagoon thirty five miles long and five miles wide, girdled by a coral reef.

LANGUAGE - only a thousand words in Yap language. Natives - Kanakas.

CULTURE - up to outbreak of war Yap was regarded as most primitive spot in Pacific.

CUSTOMS - each native owns his or her own plot of land. Food grown on plot is strictly personal. No other native may touch a coconut that falls from palm tree.

FOOD - is gathered from each plot by cook and cooked in separate pots for each man and woman. The only persons allowed to eat out of same pot are mother and daughter. If there are, say ten people for a meal, the cook must gather from ten plots, cook in ten different pots on ten different fires.

WOMEN - 40% of women incapable of bearing children. Thought due to sexual irregularities - both sexes - This lack of fertility determines marriage system and sexual morality. A woman who bears an illegitimate child is greatly sought after - she has proved her worth. Sexual intercourse outside marriage bonds not disfavoured.

UNMARRIED - men live in what is known as "ALL MAN HOUSE". From time to time girls are recruited for use in establishment. Regarded as a religious and social mark of favour to be so chosen. When girl has completed her term, she is greatly sought after as a wife. She is well treated - except for nightly ordeal - in the HOUSE.

PROSTITUTION - in Western sense of the word unknown. Amateurs leave no opportunities for pro's.

YAP - girls taken to Tokio on visit give Jap Romeo's cold shoulder.

YAP - men likewise regard Jap system of prostitution with disfavour.

SNOBS - Yap has high caste system based on genealogy. Combs worn to signify rank. Length of comb degree of rank. Combs vary from three inches to four feet. Most severe punishment - to cut a man's hair off. Temporarily reduced to slave.

SLAVES - consist of conquered people and descendants. Have no rank. Are communally owned under authority of king. They have their own plantations and villages.

TABOOS - religious superstition dominates lives of people. In agriculture in particular. 24 hours before a man goes on a fishing trip he must have no associations with a woman. If going on a visit to another island he must refrain from cohabiting with wife for a month before trip and one month after his return.

BETEL NUT - islanders able to tell from stains on ground much same type of information U.S. Red Indians and Aussie Abos deduce from foot prints.

POPULATION - decreasing over years. One of few islands where it has not shown increase.

EDUCATION - since Jap control education - 50% children go to school - and health service pushed ahead.

YAP - H.Q. of International Cable system, 1920-22 Subject of friction between U.S.A. & Japan.

TRUK - not an island, but a constellation of 240 islets and about 70 islands surrounded by a loop of reef 30 to 40 miles in circumference. Some of deepest harbours in world reputed to be within loop.

MBN - do all cooking, tilling ground, household work. Cook all the food for week-end on Friday. Not yet taken to child bearing.

TRUK - regarded as the Singapore of Jap in Pacific. U.S. possession of Marshalls gives first foothold in Micronesia's "Asia's New Great Wall".

LANGUAGE - 3000 words.

SEE International Newsboard further details. How Japs regard Truk.

NEXT WEEK : GUAM.