

CANADIAN



9.6.43



Miss J. Welland,
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ON ACTIVE SERVICE

977893. L.A.C. Darby.

31. R.A.F. Depot.

Moncton N.B.

Canada.

6.6.43.

17.

Dear Jean.

Hope by this time you have received letter no 15. This should have reached you fairly quickly and I expect you were surprised to see the date of it.

We are still hanging about waiting. But most of us have regular jobs so the time goes quickly. I believe I mentioned that the post office has been honoured with my services. It's quite interesting and you do get a kick out of reading other peoples postcards!

Have you been doing anything special just lately? Had any more wisdom removed or has it all gone. I was thinking that September is drawing near and you will soon be getting that uniform polished up.

² I wonder whether they are keeping back the invasion until then so they can really put the wind up Hitler? Two shocks in such a short time would be too much for him.

Suppose the weather is O.K. for tennis now, have you got many games in yet, or have you decided to retire until after the war, I mean with the numerous engagements of the burial, sorry I meant choral society you can't have a lot of time.

Well, after those few side remarks I will tell you a few of my doings these last few days, probably they will amuse you somewhat. To begin with, being a fine upstanding lad and also a recruiting campaign in town for the Banaston W.A.A.F. they decided to borrow 200[£] for a parade through Moncton, of course it's not necessary to say they sorted all the tall ones out and although I was in the rear rank (normal place) with my knees bent I didn't get away with it. However this is the third time I've been on shes

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in Moncton, twice for a parade and once for
a military funeral so I think Moncton residents
should have been given a break, but the
flight sergeant thought otherwise. Of course
we had plenty of drill the day before and
of course bags of brass polishing, and uniform
pressing. The afternoon of the parade was fine
and hot; the whole of Moncton turned out,
the local police force were mobilised (all four of
them) and they really do things in style.
Here, there were five brass bands, even the A.T.C.
had a band, we all formed up and after
a few technical 'itches' the leading band burst
forth into what they thought was a march
however we all got under way and headed
for the main street of the town where the
group bptam took the salute, was really
shaken by the number of people in Moncton,
there were crowds three deep lining both sides
of the road and practically every other one
had a camera, I bet we wrecked some
cameras that afternoon.

4/ Earlier in the week at our station
done a special W.A.R.F. precision squad
gave a very good drill show, in fact I
will admit equal to our I.T.W. standard,
which is considered fairly good, after they
finished their show the dance restarted and
there was keen competition amongst the boys
to dance with the girls, am afraid the
local ladies who have had things far too much
their own way took a poor view of it.

Last Sunday we went for a hike
around Inoncton, you only need to get about
three miles out and the country is quite
wild, the woods are so thick it is
impossible to force your way through, there
and there are a few tracks and one
or two small streams, the country is quite
pleasant; especially now as all the trees are
in leaf and the grass is very fresh looking,
the only drawback is the mosquitos which
have bitten large lumps out of me, I'm covered
in lumps and bumps, didn't know I was
so sweet.

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Am gradually collecting snaps of various parts have visited, my camera is still not 100% but most of the pictures are fairly good, by the time I get home my collection should be interesting.

The mail from home has been very disappointing just lately, have only received 1 airmail from home although there must be a few letters due, however I did get 200 plays which Dad sent me, there is also some ~~to~~ tobacco on the way, its duty free of course and there was no letter inside.

Well, not much more news, have been watching a baseball match but cannot get much kick out of it, it seems too much like rounders to me, its like a good many other things here is cracked up to be something wonderful like 'boca-kola' a poisonous concoction. One thing I do take a good use of is the Hamburger stall not far from the camp, their hot dogs and coffee

6 are pretty good, make a nice snack, also they don't close until 2 AM. like most of the cafes, so you are sure of getting food if out late.

Shall be looking forward to receiving a letter from you soon.

Believe me for the present

Yours Jack.

P.S. No news from the electric front yet.