



Fairbridge Gazette

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EDITORIAL

In February, 1939, several Fairbridgians got together and the result was the first issue of the Fairbridge Gazette. Unfortunately, I was not here then, as I left England since that time, but I wonder how many of you ever thought or realized that it would turn out to be what it is to-day. Before I mention anything else, it might be of interest to our many Fairbridge friends, and even to fellow Fairbridgians, to know that during the same period the Gazette has gone to press exactly sixteen times, this being the seventeenth.

The Editorials have been written by several different persons. Jim Lally was one of the former editors. It was only a few days ago that I looked over each and every edition, and truly Jim was one of the Gazette's establishers and pioneer writers.

Many of our Old Fairbridgians have expressed the opinion that the Gazette has improved, and we hope that it will continue to improve. The fact is that it has become part of our lives.

Let it be known and remembered that Fairbridge is in no way behind the times, nor can it be called old-fashioned, as lots of things have happened. The war has brought many changes, both in the lives of Old Fairbridgians and of our former staff.

Now serving in the Armed Forces are fifty-seven Old Fairbridgians—forty-eight boys and nine girls—of whom twenty are now overseas. When they receive this, I sincerely hope that it will not only cheer them up but also remind them, one and all, that we in Canada at Fairbridge are very thankful for their services and, with them, hope and pray for a speedy victory and their safe return.

As for boys and girls at the Farm School, there are further changes. Most of the present sub-trainees will become trainees this July, and the present trainees—boys and girls—will be going out to work this summer. I think this little note might be of help: Try to make up your minds as to whatever you want to do. If you want to be a farmer, then stick with farming; if you want to be a rancher, then work on a ranch; or whatever your case may be. But remember that it will not be just that easy. You will find, as I have found, that you will come up against many temptations. My advice to you is first to do whatever you want to do along your chosen line of work, and then simply gorge yourself with as much experience along that line as possible.

In closing, we would like all friends of Fairbridge, former staff and Old Fairbridgians, wherever they may be, to know that "Some will come and some will go, but Fairbridge will go on FOREVER."

—Ken Braunton.

MY AIM

I will always try to:—

Be cheerful at school and at home. Have a sense of fairness in all games. Be kind to playmates and animals. Learn self-control and self-reliance. Lose with good temper and win without boasting.

IN MEMORIAM

They shall not grow old as we that are left grow old;
Age shall not weary them nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.

NORMAN ALSOP

Official word has been received that Norman Alsop was killed during flying operations at 3:30 a.m. on May 16, at Potter House Farm, Helmsley Moor, Yorkshire. His funeral took place at 10:30 a.m. on May 20, at the Royal Air Force Regional Cemetery, Harrogate, Yorkshire.

Norman died nobly as he had lived. He came to the Farm School with the first party of boys and girls from England in September, 1935. He was then 11 years of age. His five years at the Farm School were years of physical and mental growth and steady progress. In his last year here his Cottage

Mother reported of him:
"I cannot speak too highly of this boy as regards his moral character, attitude to work, and general esprit de corps." His Day School report for the same period showed:
"Standing A, Conduct A, Attitude A."

This pictures Norman as his friends knew him, always alert, manly, right-minded, cheerful at work on the farm or at games on the playing-field. He was captain of the School football and cricket teams. He played on the station football team at Macleod, Alberta.



He left the Farm School on April 22, 1940. His first job was in Buckerfields' Ltd., Victoria. He could not easily adapt himself to city life and work, and a few months later found him at work at Shadow Brook Farm, Chemainus. Here he remained for a year and made many friends in the community. But the Armed Forces were already calling him and, after three months further farm work at "Fairways," Sidney, and a short period of impatient waiting to join the Navy, he enrolled on October 7, 1941, in the R.C.A.F. preliminary Ground Training School in Vancouver. In December he was posted to general duties and presently found himself in the R.C.A.F. station at Macleod, Alberta, doing meteorological work. In July he spent a very happy leave at the Farm School. In November he remustered for aircrew and, to his great delight, was sent to Regina to enter on a year's course of training for a pilot. He did very well in the preparatory school exams, getting 70% in algebra, 100% in mathematics, and 83% in English. Unfortunately, he failed in co-ordination, an essential part of the practical course, and finally chose to go on to train as an air-gunner. He had a period of training in Trenton,

Ontario, and further training at MacDonald, Manitoba, where he graduated on September 3, 1943, and proceeded overseas.

He was keen on all his training and was glad to get into the aircrew after his months of ground service. It brought great joy to Norman to see his parents at Darlington after more than eight years. He wrote recently: "I was home to see my folks for a few days and everything is okay there except that every time I go back they won't let me out of their sight." It is clear that his parents were justifiably proud of their handsome son.

Norman had a spirit of unselfishness and understanding seldom found in a boy of his age. It almost seemed that he had a premonition of what happened. In a letter written to the Secretary of the Old Fairbridgians' Association on March 28, he said: "I am very much for paying up my fees and also for my last year's fees," and he goes on, "I will be going into operations very shortly and would like to go into it with the feeling that I am hoping to make it possible so that more boys and girls from this country can get out to the School and have opportunities that I myself and many others like me had in going to Canada; then, if something does happen, I will know that it was not in vain."

In his life and in his death Norman has left all of us a shining example. He would have been 21 had he lived to November 30 of this year.

ETHEL ANDERSON

Our Fairbridge family mourns the death of our beloved sister, Ethel Anderson, in her 17th year. All of us extend our sympathy to Andy, Lavinia, to her parents, and to other members of her family in England.

Ethel was taken suddenly ill with meningitis and, in spite of all that medical service could do, she passed away in the Royal Jubilee Hospital, Victoria, on May 1, 1944.

The funeral service was held in the Farm School Chapel and was attended by all our staff and children, and by a number of Ethel's friends from Duncan and vicinity. The beauty of the service was heightened by the playing of the organ by our honorary organist, Mr. Grogan. The pallbearers were members of Ethel's Day School class: Stanley Blake, Brian Strawbridge, Ronnie Auton, George Turner, Billy Cockburn and Henry White, who represented the Old Fairbridgians. Interment took place in the Fairbridge plot in Mountain View Cemetery, Somenos.

Ethel was one of our most brilliant basketball players; she had marvellous musical talent and was a member of the Farm School Choir for a number of years. In her Day School work she was a capable student and excelled in home economics, in which she took many prizes. Ethel will be greatly missed by all her many friends.



Lavinia, Andy and Ethel Anderson, taken in the summer of 1943, when Andy was home on embarkation leave, just before Lavinia joined the R.C.A.F. (W.D.), and Ethel went to her first employment.

Day School Activities

AGRICULTURE

Agriculture is one of many subjects taught at School. Our agriculture teacher is Mr. J. Gillatt. We have our periods every Monday and Wednesday, in which we do various things such as hoeing, cleaning and tidying paths, mowing lawns, weeding flower gardens around the Day School, looking after the cottage gardens, and learning about the soils. For the last few weeks we have been doing some work down in the bottom fields, weeding mangels, and hoeing.

We have planted in the cottage vegetable gardens tomatoes, lettuce, spinach, radish, onions and several other kinds of vegetables. Some of the cottages have even got watermelons and citrons planted, which is unusual for this climate and part of the continent. —Eugene Field.

MANUAL TRAINING

The manual training shop, which had been closed since Mr. Gower left, was reopened last summer with Mr. F. Brown as instructor. Manual is taken in one double period a week by all boys in Grades VI to X. Grade VI is working on joints, etc., while Grades VII and VIII are working on towel racks and letter boxes. Each member of Grades IX and X has made a table. These are sent to the Hospital and Cottages. The boys are now making trays for the Hospital's use.

Everyone seems to enjoy manual training because they know they will benefit in their future life from what they are learning now. —Bill Dowler.

WHAT WE DO AT HOME ECONOMICS

On September 3, 1943, we started another year of home economics under the supervision of Mrs. Sutton, our new teacher. We now have four classes, one more than in past years. Our classes are Juniors, Intermediates 1 and 2, and the Trainee Girls.

The Junior Girls in their first year of home economics have their classes on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. These girls have been taught how to use a sewing machine and have all made cooking uniforms and good dresses. On Thursdays and Fridays Mrs. Sutton takes cooking with them, where they are taught to cook the different foods that are in their year's training.

The Intermediates 1 and 2 are both in their second year of home economics. They have their classes on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. As these girls have learnt the first things about sewing, they have all made a slip, a white blouse and are now making their good dresses for Sunday. Besides taking sewing lessons they have had regular cooking lessons.

The Trainee Girls in their last year at the School have their home economics every afternoon. So now they have made house coats, pyjamas, underwear, work dresses, two aprons, and are now almost finished their Sunday dresses. The Trainee Girls are taught to cook a variety of foods. When they have learnt to cook these they prepare a dinner and invite different guests. Those who have not seen our work will be pleased with the skill and workmanship shown in the dress parade at the Day School closing. —Doris Taylor.

CADETS

Boys—

On Saturday, April 29, 1944, a group of picked cadets took part in the Sixth Victory Loan parade in Victoria. We went there in army trucks; then, without any delay, we "fell in." Promptly at 1:00 p.m. we stepped off down Douglas Street, with the Army and the C.W.A.C. leading and the Cadets following. His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, Col. Woodward, with Major Critchley and other distinguished men, took the salute at the march-past. Following this we continued to the outskirts of Beacon Hill Park, where numerous demonstrations of "ack-ack" fire and mock battles were displayed. Everything finished, we returned home, feeling we had helped to inspire the people of Victoria to buy War Bonds.

Annual Inspection—

On May 11, 1944, Fairbridge Cadet Corps received its annual inspection by a distinguished visitor, Col. H. M. Urquhart, D.S.O., with Lt. King and Sgt.-Maj. Garner from Cadet headquarters. After the inspection of the girls' and boys' companies, our cadets put on a first-aid, signalling, and aircraft detection display. Before the cadets were dismissed, Col. Urquhart gave

a short inspiring talk on cadet principles and their usefulness in the world of the future. —Major Bill Cockburn.

Girls—

At the beginning of the school term in September, 1943, it was decided that there should be a Girls' Cadet Corps along with the boys. Major T. M. Wilson took full charge and before long we had a company of thirty-four girls. Since that date the girls have all tried to co-operate and keep up with the boys. We take the same training and, so far, everyone has enjoyed it. Later in the year we divided the girls into three groups: aircraft detection work, first aid, and signalling. We all took to the work pretty well. The older girls are sorry the year has gone so fast, as next term most of them will not be here to take part in the good work. Anyway, I hope that, even if there are fewer girls next year, our Girls' Cadet Corps will be carried on, and I am sure that if the girls take as much interest in their work next year as they have done this, it will certainly be continued. —Major Nancy Scott.

AIRCRAFT DETECTION CORPS

Our Motto: Watch and Warn

The Aircraft Detection Corps was started at Fairbridge in February, 1943. At that time anybody was put on, some turned up and some did not. Then I met Flt.-Lt. Chaston in Duncan, and he said, "Pick out the most active participants." In November, 1943, nine of our boys were made observers in the Aircraft Detection Corps. The boys received certificates of appointment and then later they received their badges. Flt.-Lt. Chaston also sent us a lot of useful information and material, such as silhouettes of planes and a direction-finder.

The number of reports our post has made is not known but it is somewhere in the hundreds. The first types of planes we used to see were Hampdens, Ansons, Oxfords and Hurricanes. These have given way to American-built aircraft such as Catalinas, Dakotas and Venturas. All observers have visited Patricia Bay. Mr. Horsfall gave us a class in aircraft recognition on the evening of April 29. At the end of June there will be new observers made, so all boys under trainee age are urged to: learn your planes! —Harry Sharp.

SCHOOL TRICKS

1. How to read fiction books so that the teacher can't see you!

You first sneak in the class with the book hid down your pants. Then you bring out a larger book than the fiction one and put it inside the other one.

2. Writing answers on your ruler or eraser, or how to get all the correct answers the easy way.

You simply write the answers on the ruler or eraser. Then motion one of the class to ask you to borrow it and they write the answers in their book.

3. Trading answers with a person near.

You first read his answers and then, if he has a different one, you tell him how to get the one that you have got. Then if you both got it wrong you have to turn to the next fellow, and in that way you generally get about 80% to 90%.

4. When you know the books will not be collected.

You wait to find out if the teacher is going to collect them. If she does not, you copy them off somebody else.

5. There are more than this, but they are military secrets.

—Paul Conlon.

WHAT WE DO AT RECESS

Our activities at recess are varied. It is all, shall we say, a matter of choice. Some just sit around and read, others go to the library and hang out of the window or flirt with the girls. Others stroll around the school, then, feeling lazy, lie or sit down on the nearest stair or on a tuft of grass. The majority, however, go out for a game of softball.

This game of softball is quite an affair. Throughout the whole game everyone argues as to who's going to bat first or which was a "ball" and which was a "strike." Then a good batter comes up; he doesn't like to run, so he just stays there

and hits fouls, one after the other, which infuriates the rest of the players.

At length the schoolbell rings and everyone wants a last hit or a last catch. Poor Mr. Gillatt always has to come out and yell; then everyone comes in on the run, and recess is over. —Ronald Gunnell.

JUNIOR RED CROSS AT THE SCHOOL

In Division 2 we have a Red Cross branch. The name of it is The Beaver branch. At the beginning of the term we elected a committee of twelve persons, and they are:—

Ronald Emmerson, Vice-president;

Isabel Wylie, Secretary;

Lawrence McCarty, Treasurer.

On the Health Committee of the branch are Josephine Lough, Hazel Hughes and Margaret Caldwell, and on the Programme Committee are Victor Smith and Frank Danks. So far we have had two meetings and we hope to have one more before we break up from school. —Bobby Duncan

DAY SCHOOL CLOSING EXERCISES

The Day School Closing Exercises were held on June 23. Mrs. Scurrah presented the prizes, and the girls modelled their dresses and the other clothes they had made in home economics this year. The stage was banked with masses of beautiful flowers and there was a picture of a gate, opening on to a road leading over the hills and far away, set into the curtains at the back of the stage.

The prize list and winners will be found on page 8.

Farm News

DAIRY BARN

Our dairy herd now numbers about seventy head, of which thirty-two are milking. On May 5 a new milking machine was installed to give training in mechanical milking, which is a necessity on most dairy farms to-day. The cows took to the machine right away. The majority increased in milk and we produced 33,000 pounds of milk this month. This is an all-time milk record at Fairbridge.

We now have thirteen heifer calves born in 1944 and more are expected. Mr. A. Macfarlane, who has been our herdsman for the last three years, terminated employment at the Farm School on May 25. The fellows at the cow-barn will surely miss him, as he has been a very great help to us. He has taught us many things that will give us a much better start when we go out on our own. He has been succeeded by Mr. D. Fisher. —John Danks.

POULTRY

At the present time we have 600 birds laying approximately 300 eggs a day. We sell a few cases of eggs every week. In all, we have about 800 sexed baby chicks. The first lot of chicks are about four months old and the second batch are almost two months old. All are doing very well. We also have quite a number of broody hens. —George Pagden.

THE PIGGERY

We now have fifty-four pigs—four with litters, ten bacon hogs, eight sows, and Sambo, the boar. One of the sows bred by Sambo has had a litter of nine pigs; some were black, some were white, and some were black-and-white.

The piggery itself has been cleaned and whitewashed, and it is really looking quite good. Also a nine-acre run has been extended to our present pen, so the pigs have lots of room to run around in. —Percy Millman.

GARDEN NEWS

Two new patches of strawberries and one of loganberries were planted this spring and are now showing good progress. We have a larger crop of onions this year than we did last. We also have two patches of lettuce and spinach, and a large bed of cabbage, which includes Drumheads and Reds. Some of the latter will go toward making sauerkraut. Also planted in the vegetable garden are carrots and turnips.

Planted in the greenhouses are tomatoes and leaf lettuce. For seed-growing purposes we have some cabbage, curly kale and a patch of mangels. The latter-named are to produce seed for Great Britain.

Grown in flats and now transplanted in the lower garden are corn, tomatoes and celery. This year the orchard is being used for hay-growing, which is grown between the trees. Of the nine beehives two have been put away because they were beginning to drone. We also received four new queen bees, which will be of great help to our honey output in the coming season.

—Ted Carr.

Sports

CROSS-COUNTRY RACE

The annual cross-country race was run on Easter Monday, April 10, this year. The weather was not very good—it began to rain just before the race but cleared up again before the last boys were home. The winners were:—

Ronnie Auton, 1st, 32:26 minutes; Bill Dowler, 2nd, 32:30 minutes; Keith Pritchard, 3rd, 33:14 minutes. Philip Field won the prize for the first boy to come in aged 12 or under. He came in 15th, in 35:31 minutes. Ronnie's time this year was 1:21 minutes slower than Ken Arnison's, when the latter set the record in 1942.

The Hon. G. Howard Ferguson was a visitor to the Farm School on that day and presented the Cora Hind Trophy and other prizes.



The Hon. Mr. G. H. Ferguson presenting the First Prize to Ronnie Auton, winner of the 1944 Cross-Country Race.

BOXING

The Kinsmen's Annual Schoolboy Boxing Tournament was held in Duncan on April 25. There was a full house and, according to the enthusiastic boxing fans, they witnessed the best tournament yet. Fairbridge entered 22 bouts compared with last year's 28 entries, and out of the possible eight cups, Fairbridge won five of them. The following are boxers who won cups:—

- 70-79-lb. class—Malcolm MacDonald.
- 90-99-lb. class—Ernie Todd.
- 110-119-lb. class—Rudolph Smith.
- 120-129-lb. class—Rab Anderson.
- 130-139-lb. class—Albert Bettonie.

Besides the cups there were prizes consisting of an order for goods to the value of \$2.00 and \$1.00 for winners and runners-up respectively. The two most closely contested bouts were those between Albert Bettonie and Doug Cleough (the latter representing Duncan), and between Rab Anderson and Charles Wilkinson, of Cobble Hill. A good fake was put on by Albert, who in the third round stayed down to the count of nine, which enabled him to get back much-needed wind, and he got up to win the bout.

Jock Bennett and Bill Cockburn served very well as seconds for Fairbridge. It was a most enjoyable event, and besides the excitement of the good clean sport, the Kinsmen also collected a large sum of money for the Milk for Britain Fund.

At Fairbridge, two inter-house tournaments were held in the gym, in our new portable ring, which was made by Mr. S. Wilson, helped by Miss Hyndman, who made the padding for the corner-posts. These two tournaments were well enjoyed and also helped to put our boys in shape for the Kinsmen

contest. Our thanks go to Mr. Burns, trainer, and Mr. Wilson, who helped him, for their splendid work in the season's boxing.

On April 27 a dinner was held in MacMillan Cottage for all the boxers. Mr. Burns, who planned the occasion, had the assistance of Mrs. Davidson, Mr. Wilson and Mr. Macnab in preparing the banquet, along with the help of the boys' Cottage Mothers. Tables were spread in the dormitory. Invited guests included Mr. and Mrs. Clement May, Mr. and Mrs. J. Brown, Mrs. Davidson, and the boys' Cottage Mothers, also the Principal, and Mrs. Logan.

—Ronnie Auton.

SOFTBALL

Since the last issue of Fairbridge Gazette the main sport has been softball. At the beginning of the season it was decided to keep the same teams for softball as those who had played on the School junior and midget teams in basketball.

Since the beginning of the season there have been six outside games played, but out of all the games, only once did our midget boys meet with success. The explanation of this failure seems to be insufficient practice and lack of pitchers. Comparing our teams with the Duncan High School and Duncan Olympic Club teams, our chaps have not quite got the knack of handling the ball, and do not give enough "chatter in the infield." When our teams have got more experience in handling the ball and also get a little more training, we hope, with increasing skill, they will win more games before the season ends.

—George Turner.

SPORTS DAY

Everyone was roaming around the playing-fields as they waited for the meet to open. It began at 10:40 a.m., with the kind assistance of Mr. T. Hillyard and his loudspeakers. At intervals music was played, to everyone's delight.

The flat races, along with the relay races, were the first to be staged, taking up the time until noon. After dinner the flat races were completed, followed by the high and broad jumps. With much interested attention on the part of the audience, as well as much rivalry among the competitors, the jumps occupied the afternoon until 5:20. Supper was then served in the dining-hall, and the sports meet was over.

After supper there was a softball game between Duncan Olympic Club and Cobble Hill. This ended the day for all. Results of the sports meet were:—

- 1st—Fairbridge, with 57 entries, winning an average of 1.28 points in all events.
 - 2nd—Shawnigan, winning an average of .87 in all events.
- Other competing schools were: Bench, Cowichan Station, Koksilah, Mill Bay and Sylvania.

Much credit for the success of the meet goes to Mr. J. Gillatt, president, and other members of the Teachers' Association.

—Stanley Blake.

HOME-SITE

The Home-site has improved quite a lot during the last year. All the gardens and lawns are looking much better. The flower and vegetable gardens seem to be the greatest improvement. Mr. J. Gillatt, our Day School principal, has been trying very hard to aid the vegetable gardens, and each cottage will have lots to eat out of them this year.

Ken Braunton, home on holiday, made a grand job of edging the girls' path and we hope it will keep looking the same. Mr. T. M. Wilson is supervising the work as a whole, and much of his time is given to the general improvement of the gardens and grounds. Although there are fewer boys to look after the Home-site and to do the work, I think it is looking better than it ever has. The boys on spare have been congratulated several times by Mr. L. K. Sully, the duties master, for the fine work they have done.

We have missed Mr. Cornwall's visits to inspect our gardens this year. He has been in hospital for almost a year, and we would like to wish him a speedy recovery.

—Victor Smith.

EDITOR'S NOTE

Briefly worded letters on any subject concerning Fairbridge will be welcomed and three of the best will be published in the next issue of the Gazette. Poems and contributions on any topic are also welcome. Name of writer should accompany the letter, which may be handed in or posted to the Farm School office. Letters will be judged by the Gazette staff and a prize of \$1.00 will be awarded to the finest of the three articles published.

SOCIAL BRIEFS AND ENTERTAINMENT

On Thursday, April 27, Mr. and Mrs. Clement May were guests at the boxing tournament banquet. After the banquet they entertained us with impersonations of Charles Dickens and some of his characters. Since our last issue of the Gazette, we had a masquerade dance at which the best-dressed were given prizes. The prizewinners were:—

Doris Taylor, as a gipsy; Agnes Duffy, as a canteen girl; Albert Bettonie, as a pirate; Joe Jessop, as a Fairbridge School girl.

We have received great enjoyment through the courtesy of the National Film Board, which has given us a show of films every month.
—Sarah Falcus.

CONFIRMATION

On April 20, twenty-four children of the Farm School were confirmed by Bishop Sexton, Bishop of Columbia. This group included ten girls. These were: Doris Taylor, Sarah Falcus, Amy Dobbs, Enid Nicklin, Phyllis Gay, Lillian Kemp, Nancy Scott, June Lewis, Jenny Mein, and Kathleen Anderson.

Also in the same group were eleven boys. These were: Albert Bettonie, Gordon Neale, Percy Millman, George Pagden, Bill Cockburn, Bill Dowler, Don Collins, Fred Harding, Arthur Fewings, John Danks, Barry Brown, and Ray Phillips.

All were prepared by Canon Hughes, the Farm School chaplain. After the service, tea was served in the dining-hall for those who were confirmed along with members of the staff and friends.
—Phyllis Gay.

FAIRBRIDGE NICKNAMES

Where they come from, nobody knows,
Nor where they go to,
But on they go.

Kenny Ryan—Nerr.	Betty Falser—Boop.
Ronnie Auton—Jumbo.	Barry Brown—Buster.
Bob Anderson—Rab.	Victor Smith—Bill.
Ken Braunton—Duke.	Rudolph Smith—Adolf.
Stan Blake—Gulliver.	Malcolm MacDonald—Stew.
Brian Strawbridge—Ossie or Basher.	Derek Merrison—Dopey.
Dennis Crawte—Demon.	Philip Field—Gremlin.
Ken Turner—Puggles or Block-Buster.	Kenny Turnbull—Weeney.
Gordon Tonks—Bomber.	Leon Field—Tuscon.
John Roberts—Professor.	Ernie Mein—Beanie.
Kathleen Anderson—Kilts.	Roy Myhill—Monkey.
	Frank Collins—Rabbit or Junior.

FAIRBRIDGE

In years to come, when we grow old,
We'll always think of joys untold,
Of life as smooth as silken spool
Spent in the days at Fairbridge School.

We'll think of how we left the farm,
Stepped into a world of hate and harm;
But "Industria et Veritate" was our stand,
And Fairbridge, near with helping hand.

Brothers and sisters we left behind,
In loving hands, gentle and kind;
Of them we never have a care;
Fairbridge will see to their welfare.

When months have gone upon their way,
Once more we long for Fairbridge play;
To see our friends' familiar faces,
And run about the same old places.

If we are weary, tired to roam,
Fairbridge will provide a home,
Ever trying to take part
In each Fairbridge pupil's heart.

Troubles, worries, all goes wrong:
Fairbridge will make you burst with song;
They'll help to start you on once more
To achieve the goal you failed before.

So, fellow ex-kids, join with me
In a cheer of ecstasy
For the dear old Alma Mater—
No school really could be greater.

—Eunice Cockburn.

THE BIRDS ARE BACK AT FAIRBRIDGE AGAIN

Spring came, and with it came our feathered friends the birds. We are all glad to see them back again, singing in the trees and busy building their nests in the bird-houses which are put up by some of the boys every year.

We have one in the front of "K" Cottage, in which two little swallows have made their home, and we watch them every morning, bringing home straw and string to build their nest.

It has been fun to see these birds come every year, and we hope that they will continue to come to Fairbridge for ever and ever, because the more we have, the lovelier it will make Fairbridge.
—Bobby Duncan.

HOW MANY WILL REMEMBER THIS?

There's a Plymmy running back
Down the old Koksilah track,
On the way to Fairbridge Farm.
There's water in the petrol,
The tires are made of wood,
The spark plugs are a-missing,
And the whole darn thing's no good.
There's a Plymmy running back
Down the old Koksilah track
On the way to Fairbridge Farm.

Here is the modern version. Try it out some time:—

Now the Plymmy she is gone,
And the Dodge must carry on,
On the way to Fairbridge Farm.
The gasoline is rationed
And every bolt is loose.
The tires need a-patching,
Yet she runs, the old caboose.
Now the Plymmy she is gone
And the Dodge must carry on,
On the way to Fairbridge Farm.

For without the ancient Dodge
Forever we would lodge
At the Fairbridge Farm.
So we'll put up with its rattling,
Its jolting and its bumps
Until it joins the Plymmy
In the Duncan auto dumps.
For without the ancient Dodge
Forever we would lodge
At the Fairbridge Farm.

—Anon.

Editor's Note—Since receiving this "poetic gem," the Dodge has undergone a complete rejuvenation and it is now with apologies to said Dodge, that we print the above verses.

A STORY FROM KINGSLEY FAIRBRIDGE'S LIFE AT OXFORD

Kingsley Fairbridge's father had told him that all Englishmen should know how to box. Here was his chance, and he did not mean to let it slip. "Footwork first, sir," old Barry, his boxing instructor, used to say; and by slow degrees he revealed to Fairbridge the use of hit and jab and hook and counter.

He entered heart and soul into the game, studying Tommy Burns and Gunner Moir, and novices trying to turn their science into art. Then the night of the competition came. His opponent was the Hon. Julian Grenfell, of Balliol College, a man Fairbridge had often sparred with in the instruction ring. Grenfell was very keen to get his Blue, and had literally "been all over him" so often that he had no doubt as to the result of the fight. Fairbridge lost.

Fairbridge was still determined to win his Blue; in his heart he had no doubt of it, but to win it he had to train, practise and read. He lost no time. Every day at 12:15 he sallied forth for a run along the country roads, where most of the natives stared after him as if he were an orang-outang. But some of the old sports would cheer him on. He spent four nights a week in the gym, and the other three he employed in long country walks.

The night of the prelims came finding Grenfell up to weight and Fairbridge at ten stone thirteen. As they stood together in the dressing-room, Grenfell said, "This is the worst moment of my life."

Then Grenfell went out and stepped into the ring. There

was a volley of applause. Fairbridge stepped in after him, and went over to old Gee, his second, in the far corner. Gull stood up and introduced them: "Mr. Grenfell of Balliol. Mr. Fairbridge of Exeter. Seconds out of the ring. Time!"

Grenfell opened up restrainedly, but he soon had one at Fairbridge's face, followed by a heavy one to his stomach. Fairbridge tried hard to get him in that round, without success. Grenfell opened the second round in good style, quick and free and light, and, in the midst of it, Fairbridge saw him make up his mind for a heavy left, Fairbridge, leaning forward, bracing himself with his right leg, covering himself with his left hand, glided over Grenfell's coming arm with his right. There was a delicious shock, and Grenfell, lifted clean off his feet, collapsed to the floor. No more deliberately planned hit was ever delivered.

From that time onwards Fairbridge became of Exeter College a part, and the College a part of him. He had done something for it.

—The Editor.

HEARD ABOUT FAIRBRIDGE

Cottage Mother (to small boy): Have you washed yourself for dinner?

Small Boy: Yes, mum.

Cottage Mother (after seeing he was still dirty): Well, you had better go back and wash again. You had to wash when you were in England.

Small Boy: Yes, but we were at least allowed to get dirty first.

Old Fairbridgian News

BOYS

There have not been many changes in the employment of O.F. boys during the last few months. Rab Anderson has received his call to the Navy. Ken Braunton has put on a sun-tan at the Farm School after a year's factory work in Burnaby. Ivor Hunt is working on a tugboat. John Mead is farming at Langley Prairie again. Stan Newbery recently had his appendix removed at Kamloops and is now at the Farm School. John Newell has bought a motorbike. Phillip Tipler is now quite well again and is working with a survey party in Alaska.

Of the Merchant Navy boys, Ken Bennett, Joe Fenton and Ken Davies recently visited the Farm School on the return of their ship from Australia and New Zealand. Andy Buglass and Frank Wallace have both visited their homes in England and Scotland. Peter Conlon calls on Mr. Green in London from time to time. Ralph Powell phoned to the Farm School when he was in Vancouver just before Christmas, and shortly before he sailed off into the blue again. Norman Richards has been home to England and writes or cables from time to time from either side of the Atlantic. A postcard came from Ronnie Crawte for his brother, from Bombay. We have had no recent word from Trevor Stockbridge.

Of the boys in the Army, Andy Anderson, Dan Brayfield, Tom Kemp, John Monnington, Sidney Jarvis (who was Sid Park until he recently changed his name to that of his foster-parents in England, and who has also been promoted to the rank of corporal), Leonard Smith, Joe Duffy, Jack McNally, Tom Speed (lance-corporal) and possibly Ed Walton are in England. Denys Beechey, Victor Hughes, John Leebetter, Frank Todd, Bob Warnock, Peter Wilkes, Alf White and Bill Stoker are at present still in training in Canada.

We think with pride of the O.Fs. who have been in the thick of battle in Italy, many of whom have been there for several months, and endured much bitter fighting under great hardships which we at home cannot possibly realize. These boys include Henry Brayfield, Jim Dobbs, Laurie Drape, Hal Skelton (who has also changed his name from Horace, by legal action), Art Worsnop and George White. Hal and Art are together in the same outfit.

There are now twelve boys in the Canadian Navy. This is truly the "silent service," and we rarely hear from any of them. Art Cain is on a Canadian destroyer on the English side. Vic Garside and Jock Stewart are doing commando training in the U.K. Pat Hood is on a corvette on the Atlantic and has visited his home in England several times. John Hunter (acting petty officer) is still on the Pacific Coast but has applied for a transfer back to the Atlantic. Ginger McDonald, Jim Morgetroyd are on the Atlantic. Les Snaith, who recently was on leave at the Farm School, is also on a Canadian destroyer and has visited his folks and the families of other

Fairbridgians in England. Bernard Kynaston, Jack Lowe, John Meers and Pat Webb are still in training in Canada.

Of the eight Air Force boys, Tom Turner and Frank Morris are overseas. Dick Speed and John Dee are still in training (that is, he was when we last heard about him); Dick led his class at graduation in his instrument mechanics course of training. Peter Forrest, Tom Renwick (at the same station as Bill), Bill Renwick and Eric Wheeler are all at stations in B.C.

A letter came recently from Jim Lally from the prison camp where he has been a prisoner of war since last August.

GIRLS

Our O.F. girls have moved around a bit recently. Five of them are now married, with several more marriages looming on the horizon. Mrs. Hincks (nee Sally Dillon) now has three lovely children; she is living in Calgary. Mrs. Kent (nee Jeannie Morrison) lives in Vancouver. So does Mrs. Kirwin (nee Peggy Auton). Mrs. Remillard (nee Pearl Daniel) was married recently in Winnipeg to a sailor, AW1 Katie Howard (nee Katie Taylor) is remaining in the R.C.A.F. (W.D.) Wren Joyce Pritchard was married on June 9 in Sidney, N.S., to Leading Seaman Alfred Murdock.

Joan Buchan and Catherine Hood are working in hospitals. Florrie Cowans and Catherine Stoker are in hotels. Ellen Duffy is at a school. Mary Anne Wilkinson is still at Boeing's. All the other girls are working in private homes in Vancouver or Victoria. Eunice Cockburn matriculates at King Edward High School this term.

In the Women's Services, Mary Batt is in the Vancouver recruiting office. Frances Gibson is in Nanaimo on duty. Winnie Hardy was recently in Detroit on a "72" from Camp Borden. Nellie Falcus has been home for several week-ends and hopes to be promoted and sent overseas. Jessie Newbold is also in Nanaimo. Lavinia Anderson was home from MacDonald, Manitoba, on the sad occasion of her sister's funeral. Joyce (Pritchard) Murdock is stationed at Sidney, N.S., and Edie Phelps has just left for basic training with the W.R.C.N.S. in Galt, Ontario.

At this time we would like to send a special word of greeting and encouragement to all our O.Fs. in the Canadian Armed Forces, and especially to those who, after long periods of training and waiting in England, are ready and poised for the final assault on the European fortress. There is a tough fight ahead for us all, whether we be in the fighting forces, in the Merchant Navy carrying supplies and tools of war to all parts of the world, in the production of food on the farms, in the homes, or in the factories back here in Canada, or whether, like the staff at the Farm School, we are involved in the care and training of the younger generation who, we hope, may be spared from fighting as their brothers and sisters now have to do. We all have an essential and vital part to play in this struggle and the better and more wholeheartedly and truly we play our part, the sooner the struggle will be over.

—M. E. Hunter.

EXCERPTS FROM BOYS' LETTERS

HENRY BRAYFIELD, from Italy—"Will you thank the newspaper staff for the paper I received. It gave me a few pleasant moments. I think they are doing a grand job. I haven't had a chance to see any of the boys in this theatre yet but there's always a chance of bumping into them one day."

PAT HOOD, from Halifax, N.S.—"Now that I've seen England again I haven't the slightest desire to live there again. Of course, it's swell being able to visit the folks, but just take me back to good old Vancouver again and I'll never move a yard outside the city limits. I built Canada up so much to the folks back home that I believe I could organize an immigration party of my own. After the war I hope to see a lot of the folks come over here and help populate Canada."

GEORGE WHITE, from Italy—"I'm glad they had a good soccer team at the school; it reminds me of the first team we had, and a very good one at that, and I can still play soccer, at least I could in Blighty." (George met Jim Dobbs in Italy.)

LEONARD SMITH, from England—"I miss Fairbridge more than anything and I do hope everyone is feeling fine. You don't know how much Fairbridge means to you until you are miles away from it. I can only say that being 6,000 miles from it, you miss it just 6,000 times as much."

FRANK WALLACE, from Scotland—"Would you tell the boys and girls at the School they don't know how lucky they are; the kids here have a pretty tough time of it. I wish you would thank Mr. Brown on my behalf for the time he spent on me and the cursings he gave me—they have helped a lot."

JIM LALLY, Prisoner of War in Germany—"I have been very fortunate the past few weeks in receiving letters from yourself and one or two Old Fairbridgians. Unfortunately, as you are already aware, our writing material is limited and therefore under the circumstances I am unable to answer each individual letter as is my wish, so I am taking the liberty of asking you to thank those concerned . . . Remember me to everybody."

NEWS OF FORMER STAFF MEMBERS

Lt. John Logan attended a three-week instruction course in England recently, where Sgt. Don Morton was one of the instructors. John is now in Normandy.

Lt. Bill Garnett and Major Art Plows met in a tube train in London. Major Plows has been fighting in France since D Day.

Mrs. O'Leary is still at the same Canadian General Hospital in England.

P.O. Joe Lewis is still in England but longs to get back to British Columbia.

P.O. Broadhurst will be able to catch up with the Fairbridge news from Edie Phelps while she is at the basic training establishment at Galt, Ont.

Lt. Joyce Gooding is back in B.C. after her course in England.

After thirty months of operational duty flying a Spitfire, Flt.-Lt. Arthur Sager was a welcome visitor to the Farm School, with Mrs. Sager. He treated us to a thrilling account of some of his adventures.

OVERSEAS REPORT FROM ITALY

(Heavily Censored)

I arrived in this country about a month ago, after spending about five months in Algeria. Buildings in the city proper and in the outlying suburbs were nearly all damaged. Amid the ruins, little raggedly clothed bambinoes gazed at us apathetically as we marched past. Some of the blocks were wired off from the rest of the city, with signs bearing the dread word "—" in prominent display. From time to time a child would run up and beg for "mangare" or "chocolate," and we would give them what we had, as no one could refuse the poor kids.

The actual country of Italy is quite pretty. The mountains in the distance, and the blue Mediterranean sparkling in the sun. No thousand dollars for this pleasure cruise! We get paid by the Government for this one.

We are just outside a fair-sized town here, amid surroundings similar to the snowcapped Rocky Mountains. There the similarity ends, for the civilization, or rather the living stan-

dard of the common people, is far below that of the American Continent. The women do most of the work here and seem suited to it. Some of them are so muscular that I shudder to think what would happen to me if I were to anger one. Why, I have seen some of them lift two hundred pounds in a tub and place it on their head with ease. I couldn't even budge some of the loads that they pack. The men are lazy and I wonder if I am not really an Italian, or have Italian blood in me, anyway!

The weather has cleared up a little now. The sun has started to shine again, which will be a welcome change after the dirty weather we have been having. —Laurie Drape.

Here is a letter that was received by Pearl Daniel (now Mrs. J. Remillard) when she was Editress of the last issue of the Gazette. It is from Staff-Sgt. Don Morton, who used to be our herdsman. It is dated April 8, 1944, from England:—

Dear Pearl,—On my way back from leave this week, I was passing through London and called in to see Mr. Gordon Green and Miss Hart. They always give me a very warm welcome and any news they have of Old Fairbridgians who are over in this country. This time I had tea with them, and also a copy of a Fairbridge Gazette to read over and discuss.

I think the Gazette is steadily improving, and in this last issue you had a great many items of interest. Keep it up!

Soon after I landed here in 1942, I ran into Henry Brayfield in Aldershot. We spent the afternoon and evening together and I intended to arrange another meeting but, unfortunately, we were never able to do so, and of course he is out of reach now. A few months later I found the Lake Superior Regiment stationed close to me, in a different part of the country, and I managed to contact Sid Park. We went to a show and had supper and talked much of old times at Fairbridge. Although I have not seen him since, we have kept in touch by letter.

Tom Turner has also been a regular correspondent, but he and I never get leave at the same time. He called on my mother in Birmingham when he was up visiting Middlemore.

Just recently Lt. John Logan came to this school to take a course in C.W., and I was able to see something of him for nearly three weeks. It was a great pleasure to see him again. I feel that he and Ken should both have been included in your list of those Fairbridgians of the staff who are in the services. Sgt. Fred Colk, who was mentioned in The Cowichan Leader as being a prisoner of war (you can verify this) was also a member of the staff for a short while.

I asked Mr. Green of John Monnington's whereabouts. I find that he is very close to the school, but as he is away on a "scheme" it may be some time before I can contact him. I was very sorry indeed to hear of Glenn Sveinson's death. He was a very regular visitor to the Farm School and took part in all our activities.

I enjoyed Mr. Garnett's letter and Jack McNally's. I wonder, as they do, when we shall all meet again. Yours very sincerely, Don Morton.



Day School Closing Exercises—Prize List and Winners

Name of Prize—	Donor—	Recipient—
General Proficiency	Mr. A. J. Hendry	Philip Field
Improvement in Written and Spoken English.....	Mr. L. A. Grogan	Kenneth Ryan
Improvement in Writing	Col. H. W. Laws	Brian Tibbles
General Improvement—Junior Division.....	Mr. Logan Mayhew	Agnes Taylor
General Improvement—Senior Division.....	Mr. R. W. Mayhew	Averil Ingram
Class Spirit Among Younger Children.....	Day School Staff	David Macfarlane
Bird Lore	Mr. L. F. Solly	Eric Lewis
Real Interest in Agriculture.....	Mr. L. F. Solly	Arthur Newbery
Day School Agriculture	Mr. E. S. Healey	William Dowler
London Cup (Agricultural Field Work).....	Anonymous	Robert Duncan
Peggy Taylor Cup (Inter-Division Singing).....	Mrs. E. E. Pearlman	Division 3
Woodwork Prize	Mr. P. B. Fowler	Ronald Auton
Junior Home Economics Prize	Mrs. P. B. Fowler	Christina Smith
Intermediate Home Economics Prize.....	Mrs. P. B. Scurrah	Kathleen Duffy
Home Economics Prize for Diligence.....	Mrs. Hobart Molson	Lillian Kemp
Trainee Household Training	Mr. Bertie Heilbron	Sarah Falcus
Bertie Heilbron Prizes for Consistent Effort.....	Mr. Bertie Heilbron	Senior Division: Ronald Hancock Olive Morrison
Sir Charles Gordon Award for Courtesy, Sportsmanship and Scholarship.....	The Late Sir C. Gordon	Junior Division: Donald Cumming Betty Falser
Louie Simpson Award for Improvement in Girls' Trainee Year	Anonymous	George Turner
Trainee Punctuality (Boys).....	Anonymous	Enid Nicklin
Silver Badge Winners—Children gaining highest number of points in Cottage Life, School Life, etc., during 1943-44.....		Patrick Conlon
		Girls (Order of Merit): Pam Morrison Agnes Taylor Margaret Wylie Sheila Henrikson
		Boys (Order of Merit): Ronald Auton—Blue Victor Smith—Maroon Ernest Hodge—Green Ronald Milne—Black George Turner—Black George Cumming—Blue
Gold Badges for Trainee Efficiency.....		Fred Harding
		Doris Taylor
Ashley Cooper Prizes for Best Fairbridge Record.....	Sir P. Ashley Cooper	William Cockburn
		Sarah Falcus

CUPS AND TROPHIES

Cora Hind Trophy (Cross-Country Race).....	Ronald Auton
Prince of Wales Track and Field Championship.....	Ronald Hancock
John Taylor Memorial Trophy (Sportsmanship in Boxing).....	William Meers
Prince of Wales Inter-House Sports Cup.....	Blue House
Psi Upsilon Trophy for Inter-House Proficiency.....	Maroon House
(Maroon House—8050 points)	
(Blue House—7891 points)	
(Green House—7854 points)	
(Black House—7653 points)	

Not awarded this year:—

- Achievement in Music (Mr. C. H. Henniker).
- Selborne Natural Science Prize (Mr. W. J. Garnett).
- Softball Cup for Inter-House Softball.
- Randolph Bruce Football Trophy for Inter-House Football.
- Bernie Schwengers Cup for Inter-House Proficiency, Juniors (Mr. B. Schwengers).

CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to Eunice Cockburn on graduating from King Edward High School. She is the first Fairbridge girl to complete her high school education.