CANINE COMMANDOS



The Canadian Army's newest recruits are four dogs of mixed breed who are learning to use their fangs for guard duty. The dogs will grab an intruder and pin him down until help arrives. Inset shows Lou Abfalter, a well-known dog trainer, who is teaching the canines commando tactics.

FOUR of the newest recruits in Canada's Army are youngsters of 15 to 18 months, averaging about 65 pounds in weight and from two feet to 18 inches in height, answering to the names of Privates Buster, Ping, Rex and Postum. Altogether they form a sort of canine United Nations. Rex is an even mixture of husky and collie Buster is half Labrador retriever and half airdale; Ping is 50 per cent collie and 50 per cent chow. Postum, who looks like an alsatian, claims that his place in Dogdom's nationality is a military secret.

Training for guard duty with the Army, the four dogs are undergoing a four-weeks' course in canine commando tactics. They are learning to be suspicious of everyone except their keepers, four members of the R.C.O.C. Pte E. M. Brenan of Ottawa has teamed up with Rex; Pte. A. Dennis of New Brunswick with Buster; Pte. T. W. Jones of Winnipeg with Ping; and Pte. J. G. McIntyre of New Brunswick with Postum.

The dogs are learning to attack an intruder by seizing his arm and pulling him down. An instructor wears a heavy two-inch-thick pad from his shoulder to his finger tips for the job. When he approaches, the dogs are supposed to leap upon him and get a good hold on the padding. They all respond in the approved manner except Buster, who fakes a bite at the padding and then tries to sink his teeth into the instructor's ankles. According to the trainer it's a neat trick that Buster himself developed—but it's a little tough on the instructor.

Meals for the dogs consist of 3 pounds of cooked meat for every 25 pounds they weigh. They are given one serving a day. They are fed, groomed and taken on their patrols by only one man. The presence of a second person anywhere within their sight will meet with a hot reception.

The dogs are trained to respond to verbal commands and gestures. They are never struck nor whipped even though in the early days of their training they disobey orders.

Nature has given them thick heavy coats, ideal equipment for duty during cold winters.

Food Storage Suggestions

Garden root crops, apples, and onions, should keep for six to eight months in a good storage, while pears and celery usually last only two or three months. Squash and pumpkins usually begin to spoil after three or four months at most.

If Hitler wins, the issue for you will be living itself and not just the cost of living. Think that over and figure it out for yourself how much beyond 10 percent of your family income you should put into War Bonds every payday.

SOCIAL LIFE IN AND NEAR STILL POND

Mrs. Bidwell is visiting with her neice Dr. and Mrs. Sterling at Church Hill, also spent a pleasant time in Wilmington, Del.

Mr. and Mrs. Donald Carter, Messrs. Kennard Jones, and Durmond Gosman, attended the ball games between Washington and the Athletics at Shibe Park, Sunday. The Senators winning both games. They also witnessed the large fire at Broad Street Station.

Tolling of the school bell called the Young recruits back to the school room and their studies, Wednesday. Albert T. Hickman, started his school days on Wednesday. All entered into their studies with their usual vigor. Most all our boys and girls worked during their vacation period, and had good times, but seemed anxious to resume their school duties once again.

Mrs. F. B. Harper and family visited relatives in Wilmington, recently.

Mr. Claude Hackett of Baltimore has been visiting his father, Mr. W. K. Hackett and other relatives here.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Westbrook with their children Fay and Donald spent several days with relatives in Chester, Pa.

This weeks birth-day list includes: Miss Pauline Starkey, Mrs. Frederick Cornelius, Mr. Edward Schofield, little Mary Lill Atwell, Mr. J. Carson Greenwood, Mr. Ernest Briscoe and Marjorie Harper.

The Official Board of Still Pond Methodist Church, held their regular meeting at the parsonage, Tuesday evening. Rev. Flater presiding at the meeting.

Mrs. Helen Harper Davis of New York was the guest of her sisters, Mrs. Wm. Medders and Mrs. W. B. Harris.

Mrs. Elwin Ford, Mrs. Wallace Ford and Mrs. Carson Greenwood were visitors in Wilmington, Friday.

Guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. F. B. Harper on Sunday were, Mr. and Mrs. F. B. Harper, Jr., with their son. Mr. and Mrs. Jo Harper with boys, all of Baltimore.

Mrs. L. P. Atwell is spending this week with her sister, Mr. and Mrs. Donald Ross at Camp Meade, near Baltimore.

Mr. William Busick, of Baltimore, visited with friends sand relatives here the past week.

The Philathea Class met at the home of Mrs. F. B. Harper, Wednesday evening.

The winner of the blanket from the County wide Club for this week is Mrs. Edgar Hague of Worton.

Mrs. Bidwell had as her Sunday guests, her friends, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Scheetz of Philadelphia.

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