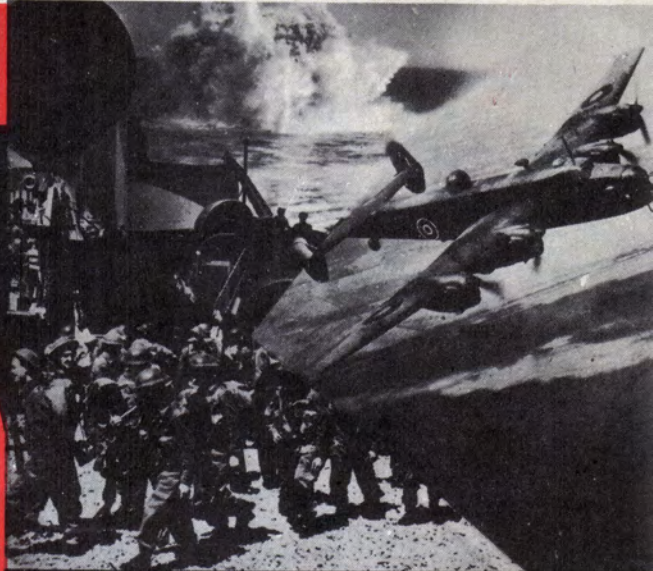


WITH **Arthur Jones**
THROUGH



YEARS OF WAR



Y.M.C.A.

A REPORT OF CANADIAN Y.M.C.A. WAR SERVICES



With
ARTHUR JONES*
Through 5 Years
of War . . .

IT IS NOW over five years since Arthur Jones left his home in Yourtown, Canada, to answer the call of duty. They have been full years for him and his buddies, rich in experiences he will always remember and experiences he longs to forget.

First the excitement of early training and the burning impatience to get "over" and start the fighting. Action came quickly for some in the Battle of Britain, bombing raids, submarine patrol and convoy duties. Others had the disappointment of outpost duty in Canada or the tedious wait in England. Drilling and training, blackouts and bombings, packing and unpacking, thinking every time that this was "it".

Followed grim, bloody days of Hong Kong, Dieppe, Sicily, Italy and finally the glorious epic of Normandy. Today Arthur Jones is somewhere in Germany or Holland, his major work gloriously completed. Soon he will be home or out in the Pacific. The medals on his chest and chevrons on his sleeve, mark him as a war veteran—veteran at 24 years of age.

But back of that war-hardened surface still beats the heart of the boy you knew and loved. Still he cherishes the hopes and aspirations of healthy youth—his spirit may be challenged but unbroken—his thoughts tonight are of home and a longing to roam the Canadian woods and fields again with "Mike",—his dog, at heel.

To help keep that spirit and hope alive through grim realities of war—guard him from loneliness and bitterness—guide and counsel him in adversity—fill his off-duty hours with some of the little pleasures and comforts he once knew—and to bring him back with his hopes undimmed and soul unspotted—the Canadian Y.M.C.A. has gone with him wherever he went, fulfilling the Christian task it undertook at the very outbreak of the war—patiently following the lines of battle, ready to serve Arthur Jones and his buddies whenever and wherever they could—even in the prison camps.

There were days when Arthur came in from some action deadened with grief and horror—almost berserk. Then a 'Y' supervisor kicked out a football and the tension was relieved as they swung into a game. Miraculously, just back of the lines a 'hut' appeared with a queer assortment of chairs and tables, some books and magazines, games, hot drinks, fags, and the familiar Red Triangle. Primitive, but compared with their water-filled slit trench, it was "home".

Yes, the 'Y' is there—with Arthur, and John, and George, and Jules and a thousand other Canadians in the Navy, Army, Air Force and Merchant Marine. The 'Y' is with them now and will remain with them when they come back ready to help them adjust themselves to civil life again.

This booklet has been issued and paid for by some friends of the 'Y' who have seen and know these things, so that you too may share the gratitude of Canadian fighting men to the Canadian Y.M.C.A.

*Here the name Arthur Jones is used but as a symbol. He might be your boy or any Canadian boy on service today in the Navy, Army, Air Force or Merchant Marine.





1. Typical 'Y' Hut in Canada. 2. 'Y' Leave Centre in Belgium. 3. 'Y' Recreation Centre in England. 4. A 'Y' Mobile unit in Holland. 5. 'Y' Supervisor serving Tank Crew in Italy.



Where is the Canadian **Y.M.C.A.** serving?

IN THE LAST WAR the Canadian Y.M.C.A. went wherever Canadian troops were serving—right up to the battle areas. In this war that same service is continued but the Canadian government has allocated certain specific areas or units to each of the four national organizations and no one organization is serving everywhere.

Nevertheless, because of the global nature of this war, the programme of the Canadian Y.M.C.A. is today even more extensive than during 1914-18.

As of December, 1944, the Canadian 'Y' was conducting 3024 different operations in Canada, Newfoundland, Labrador, Iceland, United Kingdom, Mediterranean, North Africa, Sicily, Italy, France, Belgium, Holland, Germany and the West Indies.

These operations include Naval Bases, Air Stations, Army Camps, Units in action, Leave Hostels, Huts, permanent Y.M.C.A. buildings in Canada, Red Triangle Clubs, Outposts and Hospitals and the total participation by members of the four services since the outbreak of war now exceeds *three hundred million* attendances.

In this war of movement it is not possible to always establish permanent locations, especially in the forward areas. The 'Y', too, must be mobile to follow the units it serves. Thus you may find the 'Y' operating under canvas, from a truck or in some vacant building.

To serve outposts and units on the march the Canadian Y.M.C.A. operates 195 mobile units overseas with books, games, refreshments and other comforts for the men. 'Y' motion picture and concert units travel thousands of miles annually, taking entertainment to the boys. A 'Y' supervisor is with the Canadians captured at Hong Kong and neutral Y.M.C.A. supervisors are at work in prison camps in more than thirty countries.



1. British Tar teaches Canadians Darts. 2. Naval ratings enjoy a 'Y' Concert Party. 3. Learning to swim at the 'Y'. 4. 'Y' worker distributes skates. 5. Shore relaxation at the 'Y'.



With
ARTHUR JONES
 in the NAVY
 and the MERCHANT MARINE

ACCTION STATIONS for the men of the Canadian Navy and Merchant Marine sounded at midnight Sept. 3, 1939. From that minute on there has been no let up in this ceaseless vigilance on the high seas.

These men have learned to know the 'Y' as a friend — for there are few ports to which they sail where they will not find the welcoming sign of a Red Triangle. It may be a permanent Y.M.C.A. building or hostel at some busy port with comfortable beds, baths, games, books, writing rooms and somewhere to stretch out and relax.

It may be a Red Triangle Club with concerts, dances, motion picture shows and social activities running full time. It may be a 'Y' committee arranging trips or visits to friendly homes or a 'Y' supervisor doing what he can with limited facilities to make their few short hours ashore pleasant and enjoyable.

While it is not possible to have a 'Y' supervisor on every Canadian ship, many carry games, cards, books, writing paper and other little comforts provided by the Canadian Y.M.C.A. to brighten their time off watch. Many a Canadian sailor has learned to swim in a Y.M.C.A. pool.

For survivors of shipwrecks and torpedoings the Canadian Y.M.C.A. has already provided in St. John's, Newfoundland, alone, 43,300 free meals—beds and other comforts. Of all the services, the sailor gets to understand best the international scope of the Y.M.C.A. —for he has found a warm and friendly welcome at the 'Y' in many lands. During the first five years of war the total recorded attendance of sailors at shore functions of the Canadian Y.M.C.A. was 33,785,437.





1. A 'Y' Tea Car in action during training. **2.** The 'Y' provided thousands of table games. **3.** A well deserved rest at the 'Y'. **4.** Ice Cream at the 'Y' was like home. **5.** 14,467 Horseshoes were distributed by the 'Y'.



With **ARTHUR JONES** in the ARMY

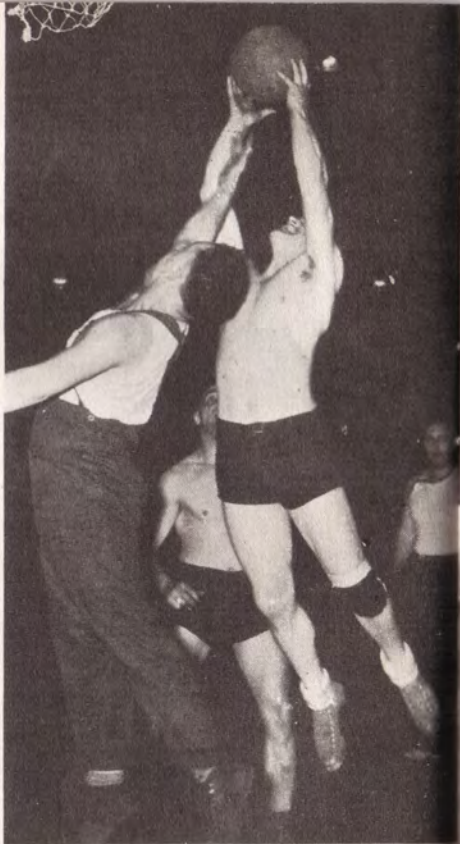
ARTHUR JONES in battle dress has met the Canadian Y.M.C.A. in many different places and in many different roles during the last five years. His first letter home was written from the 'Y' on stationery supplied free.

That concert down at the 'Y' hut on his first night in camp helped much to break the strange loneliness of regimental life for him. On his first route march during the commando course, when he felt ready to drop, a 'Y' Tea Car rolled up apparently from nowhere with a welcome hot drink, biscuits, chocolate bars and fags.

When he was stuck on that island fort "somewhere on the coast" he could hardly believe his eyes when he saw a 'Y' supervisor arrive with some games, books, writing paper and canteen stores, and to stay for a talk before going on to the next post.

In England he always found a touch of Canada and Home at the 'Y' hut or recreation centre... played hockey on rinks rented and operated by the Canadian 'Y'... spent happy days on leave at one of the 'Y' hostels.

It was the 'Y' which organized the regimental sports — provided skates, softballs, bats, footballs and other sports' equipment for the boys... ran the motion picture shows and organized the concert parties. When he landed in Sicily, five Canadian 'Y' supervisors rode in on the assault boats carrying small games, books, writing paper and some canteen stores. At temporary halts as they advanced the men had barely "dug-in" before the Red Triangle was hanging outside some barn or building and a sing-song started, while stores were being unpacked.



At a Field Day organized by the 'Y' in England.

Organized sports and athletics form a big part of the 'Y' programme. Here are some typical "Off Duty" action shots of Canadian soldiers in Canada and overseas. The 'Y' provides the equipment free.

When finally he reached France, the Canadian 'Y' was there, too, as it has been in Africa, Iceland, Gibraltar and other parts—busily organizing programmes to keep the boys occupied and happy during off-duty hours. Church services were frequently held at the 'Y' for all denominations and when leave came round, the 'Y' supervisor was usually the man who arranged where to go and what to do. A week after Antwerp had been liberated, the Canadian Y.M.C.A. had leased a hotel for the use of Canadians out of the line for a rest. In Holland, 'Y' mobile units went right up to the gun pits.

Often as a Tank Squadron harboured for the night, someone would yell out "Here comes the 'Y' " and from a mud-spattered old lorry with the Red Triangle on the side, a 'Y' man would jump out with his face all smiles, a cheery greeting and the makings of a pleasant evening.

Through all these travels and experiences Arthur Jones and his buddies have learned to look on the 'Y' supervisor as their counsellor, guide and friend. Many are the problems they have talked over quietly with him—problems of their own, of home, of a friend or of life in all its puzzling and bewildering aspects.

In 1944 the Canadian Y.M.C.A. had 380 supervisors and helpers overseas *with the Canadian Army alone* and were serving at 1589 points. During the first four years the 'Y' distributed *free* thousands of small games, books, musical instruments, and pieces of athletic equipment; millions of cigarettes, chocolate bars, biscuits and hot drinks; billions of sheets of writing paper and many other items. Total recorded attendances by army personnel at Canadian Y.M.C.A. functions to December 1944, was 100,518,448.



1. Airmen headed for the 'Y' hut in Bomber Command, England.
2. Stick hockey—one of the many games organized by the 'Y'.
3. The Billiard Room in 'Y' Hut at Port Albert, Ont.



With **ARTHUR JONES** in the **AIR FORCE**

FROM THE BATTLE OF BRITAIN to this very hour the boys of the R.C.A.F. have seen action and plenty of it and their record speaks for itself. They, too—together with their cousins in the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan—have seen the Canadian Y.M.C.A. in action and know the magnificent service it has rendered them since the very outbreak of war.

Throughout training camps in Canada, the Bomber Command in England, Newfoundland, the Mediterranean, India and other points the Canadian 'Y' has been with the R.C.A.F., organizing and providing equipment for games, sports, athletics, entertainment, dry canteens, hobbies, religious meetings and many other off-duty activities.

These services have been rendered at the request and under the direction of the Air Officers Commanding, who, with the men themselves, have been most generous in their praise for the work of the 'Y' supervisors allotted to various stations and units.

When the Air Training Plan was closed, the Canadian Y.M.C.A. was working at 182 air stations in Canada, with a permanent staff of 198 trained men and the total recorded participations in 'Y' programmes had reached the impressive total of 72,796,912.

Overseas, the work of the Canadian 'Y' with the R.C.A.F. has been no less phenomenal. The nature of operations required that R.C.A.F. personnel worked either as complete squadrons or as small detached groups with R.A.F. units. Because of this, the 'Y' had to develop a flexible service ranging from huts and recreations centres (where there were large bodies of



Bingo—relaxes tired nerves at the 'Y'.



1. 'Y' Lady Workers help to give a touch of home. 2. The Milk Bar in 'Y' Hut at Port Albert, Ont. 3. Lounge room in a 'Y' Hut. 4. Games room of Alouette Squadron equipped by the 'Y'. 5. A 'Y' supervised gym class.

Canadians) to regular visits by 'Y' supervisors to detached groups on many stations throughout Britain.

Nevertheless, in all areas allocated to them, the Canadian Y.M.C.A. was able, through its training and experience, to meet every need. In the North of England three hockey rinks were leased and operated by the Canadian 'Y' for R.C.A.F. — motion picture units were organized and routed to all stations on a regular basis. Recreation centres were furnished and equipped with books, games and comforts so that air crews had somewhere to rest and relax between tours of duty. Mobile 'Y' units visited and supplied the needs of the smaller groups. Hostels were operated by the 'Y' at leave centres, concert parties organized, thereby relieving the hours of waiting or the tension of duty.

When units of the R.C.A.F. were posted to the Mediterranean area, the 'Y' went with them and soon had similar programmes running in North Africa, Gibraltar, Sicily and in Italy. Today the Canadian Y.M.C.A. has 123 men serving with the R.C.A.F. at 543 points overseas in addition to a large volunteer staff of lady workers. Total overseas attendance of R.C.A.F. personnel at 'Y' functions was 29,947,176 in the first five years.





1. 'Y' Hobby groups include music among other things.
2. The 'Y' travelling library was popular at outposts.
3. An AA Gunner enjoys a free cup of tea supplied by the 'Y'.
4. In Holland 'Y' Tea Cars went right up to the guns.
5. This garage made a good 'Y' Hut during the advance.



With
ARTHUR JONES
 on
OUTPOST DUTY

THERE HAVE BEEN few points of service more trying to morale than duty at one of the many remote forts or outposts scattered along the Canadian coasts and overseas. At these points were stationed a handful of men on a point of land; far from friends, comforts or excitement of any kind; seemingly isolated and forgotten. While recognizing the importance and vital necessity of their duties, the men could not help but feel lonely, intolerant and frustrated.

While less spectacular than its programmes in the large camps and centres, there is probably no service of the Canadian Y.M.C.A. more valued or appreciated than its service to outposts such as this. Sometimes the posts can be reached by mobile 'Y' wagons carrying a variety of small games, books, writing paper, or canteen stores. Often the 'Y' supervisor must travel by air or boat or on foot, but somehow he turns up on regular visits perhaps with a radio or phonograph for the post, or a motion picture projector to give the men one evening of entertainment. Soon he has a sing-song going, or a checkers or horse shoe tournament arranged, his cheery smile lifts up their hearts to tell them they are not overlooked or forgotten. Somehow the days seem shorter—their duties lighter because of these visits of the 'Y'.





1. Thinking things over at the 'Y'. **2.** 'Y' wagon brings cigarettes, candy, etc., to patients in hospital. **3.** 'Y' Supervisor talks to patient—does his shopping. **4.** A quiet hour at the Y.M.C.A. Chapel.



With
ARTHUR JONES
when things
go wrong

IT IS ONLY NATURAL that Arthur Jones, or any young man torn away from a peaceful home and plunged into the grim reality of war, should at some time come up against problems, apart from his service duties, which he has to talk over with someone.

He is seeing life in such a new, and often unpleasant perspective that it is little wonder he sometimes feels that old values and relationships are unreal or changed and he becomes bewildered, disillusioned and sometimes embittered. He wishes he could talk it over with mother, father, wife or a friend—but they are so far away. Perhaps an innocent letter has started him thinking that all was not well at home, that they are hiding something from him and in his tensed-up state of mind a mountain of trouble grows.

Perhaps he is wondering about the future, his job, or God. Perhaps temptation to 'let go' seems too strong and he needs an anchor. Perhaps he is in hospital and doesn't want his folks to worry.

It is then he unburdens himself to his Padre or 'Y' supervisor, and they talk things over man to man. Somehow in that talk his troubles slip away, he sees things again in their right perspective; his faith and courage are restored... he has found another real friend.

The men of the 'Y' are trained to help youth in its problems and to many they have been privileged to show the reality of that "strength which passeth all understanding"—the strength and comfort of a Christian life. This is one of the bedrocks of 'Y' service in war as well as peace. The personal interviews and services given by Y.M.C.A. supervisors up to Dec. 1944 totalled over 3,227,000.





1. 'Y' supplies arriving at a Prison Camp. **2.** Band equipped with instruments by the 'Y'. **3.** Camp concert parties received costumes and make-up from the 'Y'. **4.** The 'Y' helped relieve prison boredom. **5.** The 'Y' helped keep them smiling.



With **ARTHUR JONES** Prisoner of War

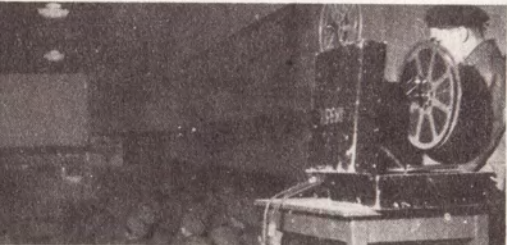
THOSE UNFORTUNATE ENOUGH to be taken prisoner have been often surprised to find the Y.M.C.A. back of the enemy lines helping still to meet their recreational, educational, religious and leisure time needs.

Under the terms of the Geneva convention, and through agreements reached with belligerent powers at the outbreak of war, the Y.M.C.A. and the Red Cross are recognized as the two international agencies permitted to visit prisoner-of-war camps and to assist in providing for the need of prisoners.

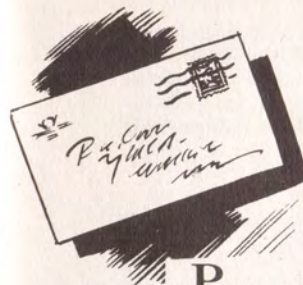
This work is performed through the World Alliance of Y.M.C.A.'s. to which the Canadian Y.M.C.A.'s are large contributors. The total budget for supplies and work among prisoners-of-war in 1945 is over \$8,000,000.00. Supervisors from neutral countries visit regularly prison camps in 35 different countries.

In this important work the Y.M.C.A. works in closest harmony and understanding with the International Red Cross on behalf of the men. The Red Cross is responsible for the inspection of camps and the physical welfare of the men in supplying supplementary food, medicines and clothing. The work of the Y.M.C.A. is to visit the camps, learn the needs and stimulate leisure time activities of the men, organize and supply where possible the equipment necessary for games, athletics, entertainment, educational and religious activities in the camp. It is one of the least known but most essential of all Y.M.C.A. War Services.





1. 1 1/2 billion sheets of free Notepaper were used in Y.M.C.A writing rooms like this.
2. A Dutch orchestra at a 'Y' Dance in Holland.
3. 'Y' Picture Shows were always popular.
4. Many Concert Parties were organized, equipped and run by the 'Y'.
5. A Free cup of Tea hits the spot with these twins.



What ARTHUR JONES thinks of the 'Y'

PERHAPS THE BEST measure of the value of the War Services of the Canadian Y.M.C.A. is the opinion of the men themselves. Here are a few extracts from hundreds of typical letters received at the 'Y' every week.

"At this unit the Y.M.C.A. has done a wonderful work. Honestly, it is impossible to give them enough credit. They have furnished and maintain a swell library; have three picture shows a week; Sunday evening 'Friendly Hours'; arrange trips, banquets, free dances, etc., for everyone. They give us a mail pick-up service we never had before, sell stamps, save money for the boys... it's wonderful what they've done for us and lots never give it a thought."

LAC. K. P. W.

"The Y.M.C.A. is doing a swell job looking after the Canadian boys on Active Service over here, which meets our needs and strengthens our bodies, minds and spirits by supplying us with all the comforts we had at home before this crisis and saves us from many bore-some hours."

Gnr. J. C. W.

"Never before have I felt such a great urge to express my feelings of sincere gratitude to the Y.M.C.A. Several weeks ago I was chosen to fill the vacancy at an isolated air station. A very gruesome picture of our location was painted and we started off in despair. Instead, out here in the centre of a wilderness we have facilities which make it 'the promised land' instead of being in the centre of a wilderness."

Sgt. W. R. K., R.C.A.F., Nfld.



"I want to take this opportunity to show my appreciation of your services to our boys here in camp and elsewhere. I certainly enjoy the tea and biscuits out on the range in cold weather which is only one of the many nice things you do for us. In the future I am sure we won't forget the Y.M.C.A. as it stayed with us at all times."
Pte. A. L. C.

"If people could only know the million ways the 'Y' services help the boys they wouldn't have to ask for support. If God permits it, upon my return I'm going to be one of the 'broadcasters' to the public of the ways you have helped to make us all a little bit happier away from home."
Spr. H. W. H.

"We had your man Tim McCoy with us. I think he got the O.B.E. or something. Many's the time he put on shows when we needed them badly. He gave us books and sold chocolate bars at reduced rates. Then there was the sports' equipment and all that stuff. The fellows like the 'Y' and they're doing a good job for the boys."
Cpl. D. R. B.

"The Canadian 'Y' is doing a good job in Italy. They have a dandy leave centre in Florence where fellows can read, play games or get something to eat. The fellows think a lot of the 'Y' and I knew if ever I needed anything I could always go to them and they would help me out."
Sgt. A. H.

"The 'Y' do a wonderful job on this station and to this fact all agree."

F/Lt. H. K. McK., R.C.A.F. Bomber Command, England.

"I am spending this evening very quietly at the Y.M.C.A. here in York. The more I think of this place the more I think what a godsend it is to Canadians in this part of the country. It is certainly a credit to the Y.M.C.A. overseas organization."

Sgt. J. C. M.—R.C.A.F.

A Prisoner of War writes:

"At this festive season of the year, all Royal Canadian Prisoners-of-War join me in sending you their warmest Christmas Greetings and sincere Best Wishes for the New Year. The recreational and sporting facilities that you have supplied have helped us to spend the past year in good health and spirits and the knowledge of your continuing help lets us look forward to the New Year with confidence that we can fulfil our duty of returning to our country as able and fit men. Sincere thanks for your outstanding work comes sincerely and deeply from every Canadian prisoner of war."

Group Captain L. E. W. Stalag Luft III, Germany.



... and what some others say

**Commander C. M. Cree,
Naval Officer-in-charge, Prince Rupert.**

"I think that one of the things which I shall remember longest in connection with my associations concerning Prince Rupert, is the sincerity of effort displayed by the 'Y' toward the betterment of Service personnel generally. May I thank you and congratulate you on a job well done."

**Capt. F. L. Houghton,
Canadian Naval Mission Overseas.**

"It is impossible to speak too highly of the wonderful work that the Canadian Y.M.C.A. is doing at H.M.C.S. "Niobe." I cannot think of any possible way in which the services of the 'Y' to the R.C.N. in this country could be improved upon."

General A. G. L. McNaughton.

"No help has been more valued than that which you and the Y.M.C.A. have given and for this I will always be very grateful to you personally and to all officers of the Y.M.C.A."

**Sir Archibald Sinclair,
Secretary of State for Air of the United Kingdom**

"These 'Y' institutions have meant a tremendous lot (especially in the very early days) to young airmen who were facing Service life in a strange setting far away from home. Capt. Balfour and other visitors to Canada brought me glowing accounts of the splendid work which the Y.M.C.A. were doing ... we are full of admiration for it."

**Squadron Leader F. C. Foy,
R.C.A.F., Vancouver.**

"On behalf of the A.O.C. may this headquarters express the deep appreciation and gratitude felt by all personnel in the Western Air Command for many kindnesses and courtesies during the past year. The unbounded energy, enthusiasm and unstinted generosity which has been so abundantly demonstrated by the Y.M.C.A. War Services during the sixth year of war is fully and completely recognized and appreciated."

A Canadian mother writes:

"I have a lad at and I am enclosing a page of his letter. It seems a pity not to give you the tribute but please do not mention it to him. ... I'll surely remember the 'Y' and thank you ever and ever so much. We mothers appreciate your work too."
Mrs. P. W.



And what all this adds up to

THE VALUE OF THE War-Services of the Canadian Y.M.C.A. in terms of the morale, spirit, character and well-being of Canadian fighting men will never be measured but the following abbreviated statistics may give some indication of the type and extent of the work performed since the outbreak of war. The figures are for the Canadian Y.M.C.A. only and *do not include* services rendered to Canadian boys by the British, United States, or other Y.M.C.A.'s. in various theatres.

FIGURES AS OF DECEMBER 31st, 1944

16,332 Workers

As of December 31st, 1944, the Canadian Y.M.C.A. had in the field the following numbers of workers:

	Canada	Overseas	Total
Supervisors and Full-time staff.....	801	1,383	2,184
Volunteer workers.....	12,650	1,498	14,148
All Services.....	13,451	2,881	16,332

At 3,024 Locations

'Y' Huts, Leave Centres, Clubs, Buildings, Rinks, Sports Grounds, Outpost Points, etc., served by Canadian Y.M.C.A. in 1944:

	Canada	Overseas	Total
All Services.....	605	2,419	3,024

With 237 million attendances

The total recorded attendances by men of the services at functions of the Canadian Y.M.C.A. from 1939 to 1944 were as follows:

	Canada	Overseas	Total
Navy & Merchant Marine...	27,298,640	6,486,797	33,785,437
Army.....	54,597,684	45,920,764	100,518,448
Air Force.....	72,796,912	29,947,176	102,744,088
Total.....	154,693,236	82,354,737	237,047,973

Programme Participation	Attendances
Motion Pictures (319,584 showings).....	67,560,856
Personal Interviews and Services.....	3,227,106
Sports, Athletics and Physical.....	21,206,983
Served by Tea Cars (overseas only).....	6,201,808



Equipment and Supplies Issued **FREE** by the Canadian **YMCA**

UP TO DECEMBER, 1944, the Canadian Y.M.C.A. had distributed sports' equipment, stationery, sports' clothing, cigarettes, chocolate bars, hot drinks and other items to the total estimated value of, approximately, \$1,517,810.00.

The vast quantity of this equipment purchased, shipped and distributed by the Canadian Y.M.C.A. may be judged by the following quantities:

Notepaper.....	1 1/2 billion sheets
Envelopes.....	3/4 billion sheets
Postcards.....	4 million
Playing cards (packs).....	4 1/2 million
Matches (books).....	5 1/2 million
Cigarettes distributed FREE.....	41,500,000
Checker Boards.....	90,108
Chinese Checker Sets.....	622,000
Table Tennis Balls.....	591,408
Hockey Sticks.....	54,064
Softballs.....	75,000
Badminton Birds.....	11,712
Boxing Gloves (sets).....	4,948
Horseshoes (pairs).....	14,476
Darts.....	51,547
Lacrosse Sticks.....	8,604
Rugby Balls.....	5,800
Soccer Balls.....	9,682
Gramophone Records.....	49,042
Basketballs.....	7,200
Volley Balls.....	9,766
Sports' Shorts and Trunks (pairs).....	11,462
and many other items.	

CANTEEN SERVICES

The Canadian Y.M.C.A. has no financial interest whatever in the operation of canteens. Where required, dry canteens are operated purely as a convenience to the men. In Canada 5% of the sales are paid monthly to the units served and any remaining surplus sent to Receiver General of Canada in trust. Overseas all profits are held for the Federal government. In short, the Y.M.C.A. merely *operates* the canteens. The entire finances are under government control.





In friendly counsel, sports, games, hobbies, physical training, informal education and social activities the returned man finds much of interest and help at the 'Y'. Six months' Free Membership is offered to all men from the date of discharge.



With
ARTHUR JONES
when
he comes home

MANY PROBLEMS will face Arthur Jones when he returns to civilian life. In many respects that re-adjustment will be even harder than was his adjustment to service life. For a while old ways will seem strange, friends different, his civilian job will lack the glamour and excitement he has become accustomed to, restlessness will make it hard to settle down.

The Canadian Y.M.C.A. is fully conscious of these problems and is prepared now to utilize all its experience and facilities to help Arthur Jones quickly regain his feet, renew old friendships and make new ones and take his place again in the community as a happy and contented citizen.

As a small gesture of appreciation and friendship, every man honourably discharged is being offered *six months' free membership* in his local Y.M.C.A. This will enable him to use the gymnasiums, swimming pools, games and social facilities of the 'Y'; join in discussion groups, hobby classes, dances and other activities in his home town. Personal counsel will be available to help him solve many problems.

In these small but important services the Y.M.C.A. hopes to continue many of the friendships it has enjoyed with men on every battle front and with them help in building that better Canada we long for.





and so
**ON TO A
BRIGHTER WORLD**

IT IS NOW OVER 100 years since Sir George Williams founded the Y.M.C.A. to serve the needs of youth in Spirit, Mind and Body. Through peace and war that service has continued and grown abundantly until today there is hardly a country where the Red Triangle cannot be found.

Today we all look hopefully toward a brighter world but deep in our hearts we realize those hopes rest so largely on Canadian youth. Will our young men and women have the vision, faith and courage to persevere toward the horizon and make those dreams come true?

Throughout the war, in addition to its services to men in uniform, the Canadian Y.M.C.A.'s. have continued and expanded their work among youth on the home front. As it faces the Peace, the Y.M.C.A. realizes there will be no time to relax but it must swing right into this greater challenge of building the leaders of tomorrow.

In this it is hoped that many of the men who have known the 'Y' on the battle fronts may, when they have themselves settled down, turn to help provide their younger brothers with leadership in citizenship and Christian living. Thus will be kept alive in Canada the spirit of true democracy in its richest and fullest sense. Thus will be realized the dreams and hopes of those who died.

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ARMY



Y.M.C.A.

ON SERVICE WITH YOUTH

This report was prepared for release prior to the glad tidings of Victory in Europe.

To the general facts and information contained herein will soon be added the personal testimony of men returning to Canada who have known and are grateful for these services.

Meanwhile the work of the Canadian Y.M.C.A. in Europe has greatly increased. Now that the fighting has ceased, there is even a greater need for organized programmes of sports, entertainment, athletics, etc., to shorten the hours of waiting.

The 'Y' will stay with the Canadian forces so long as the need is there, then return with them to Canada or to the Pacific to continue its Christian service until the last shot is fired and on through the days of peace which lie ahead.