



***Edna's
Archive:
Performing
Absence
in a Troubled
Home of
History***

**Third Age
Learning K-W
Feb. 20**

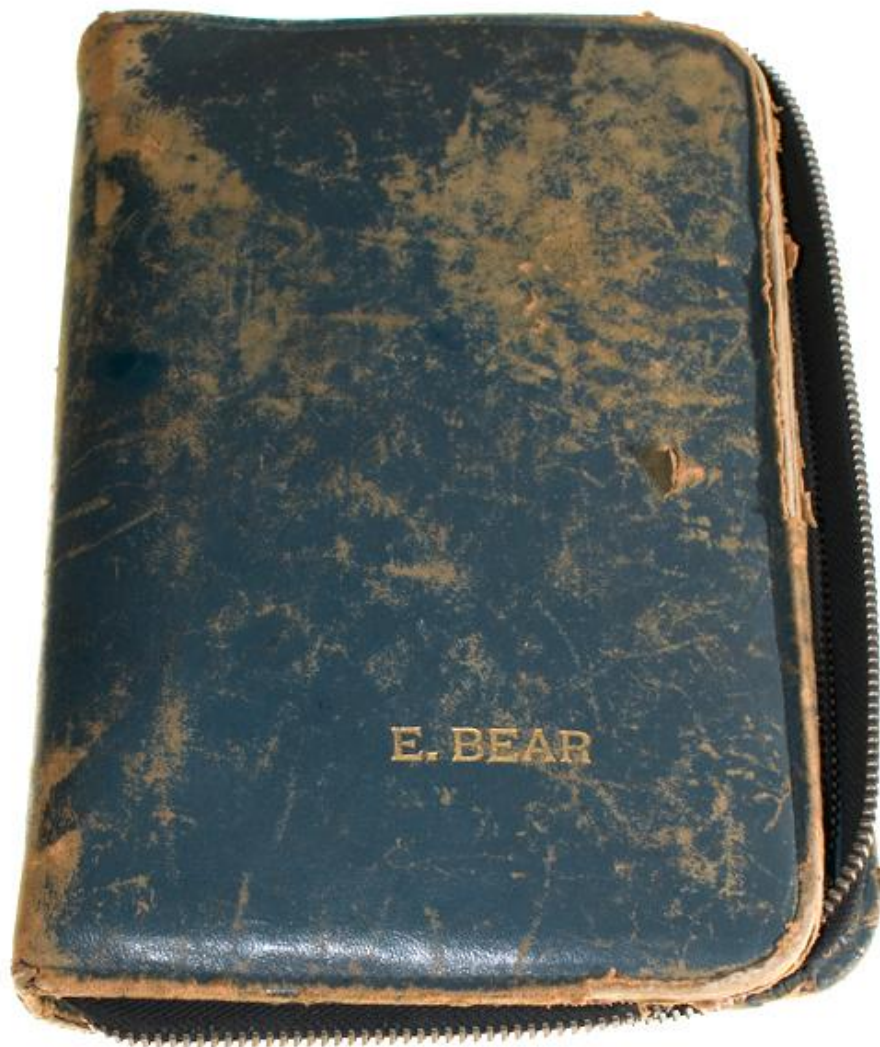
**Andrew Houston
www.andyhouston.net**

**University of
Waterloo**

The present home of Edna Bear



The Value of an Absent Woman



Archiving in Honour of Absence /

Homecoming with Respect to Displacement

#3

With The Wiegands still unfriendly, it would not be such a nice family visit anyhow. I just havent seen hide or hair of them for over a year. Adaline seems to be a go between of a sort. I'm sure not going to fall on my knees to them. I've made all the advances so far and have not done anything I consider wrong. I can still remember seeing grampa with the top drawer of gramma's dresser in the back bedroom on the bed and when I came up and asked him what gives, he said "mother wants her rosary and I cant find it". I said I could give her one, why didn't you ask us? That was just a stall because gramma had the will in that drawer and he wanted it and never did produce it. In order then to make him produce it, Mr Clement said I would have to lay a charge and if proved (and it could have been because the VonNeubrons were witnesses) he would have had to go to jail and I could not go that far. Oh well, thats all water over the dam now but at least you know if anything is said to you when I am not here to defend myself.

I guess you like it there well enough to stay there to make your home forever if you have to and its like N.Y. You did not like



RECORD of BIRTH

Born at Toronto
 On the 5th day of August, 1922
 at 493 1/2 King East unto
 Mr. and Mrs. Wm. J. Bear
 Baby was weighed 5th.
 pounds 8 1/2 ounces _____
 height _____ inches _____



Named Edna Katharine,
 Day August 20th, 1922.
 Christened by Luther Miller,
 Sponsors Mrs. Chas. Lurys & Mr. H. Ryan.
 Place St. Pauls Church, Toronto
 Time 2 P. M.

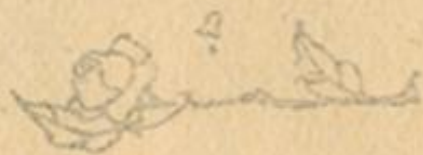


BABY'S
FIRST PRESENTS

Christening Robe & Skirt,
Coatee, Boots, Carriage, Covers,



PHOTOGRAPHS





XW 7757

LONDON TRANSPORT BUSES

ROUTE 13 FT

1	Hendon The Bell Bus Station	Bond Street	14
2	Brent Bridge	Portman St Ordnance St	13
3	Woodstock Avenue	Baker Street Station	12
4	Golders Green Sta	Lords Station	11
5	Chiswick Hill The Castle	St John's Wood Sta	10
6	Platts Lane	Miss Cotter Station	9
7	West End Sta	Richiey Rd Sta (Mer)	8

Xf 6801

FARE

2D

Leds City Transport. This ticket must be punched in the stage number to correspond with the point at which the passenger boards the vehicle. Issued subject to By-Laws and Regulations.

1
2
3
4
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6

12
11
10
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8
7

GLASGOW NUMERICAL P.T.B. Co. 4006

CLOAK-ROOM 43405

MAXIMS
CHINESE
RESTAURANT

5

CABIN.

SECOND SITTING.

Table No. 20

Seat No.

Name

Passengers are requested to hand this card to the Table
Steward when taking their seat at first meal.

36/7710

English Toilet Paper



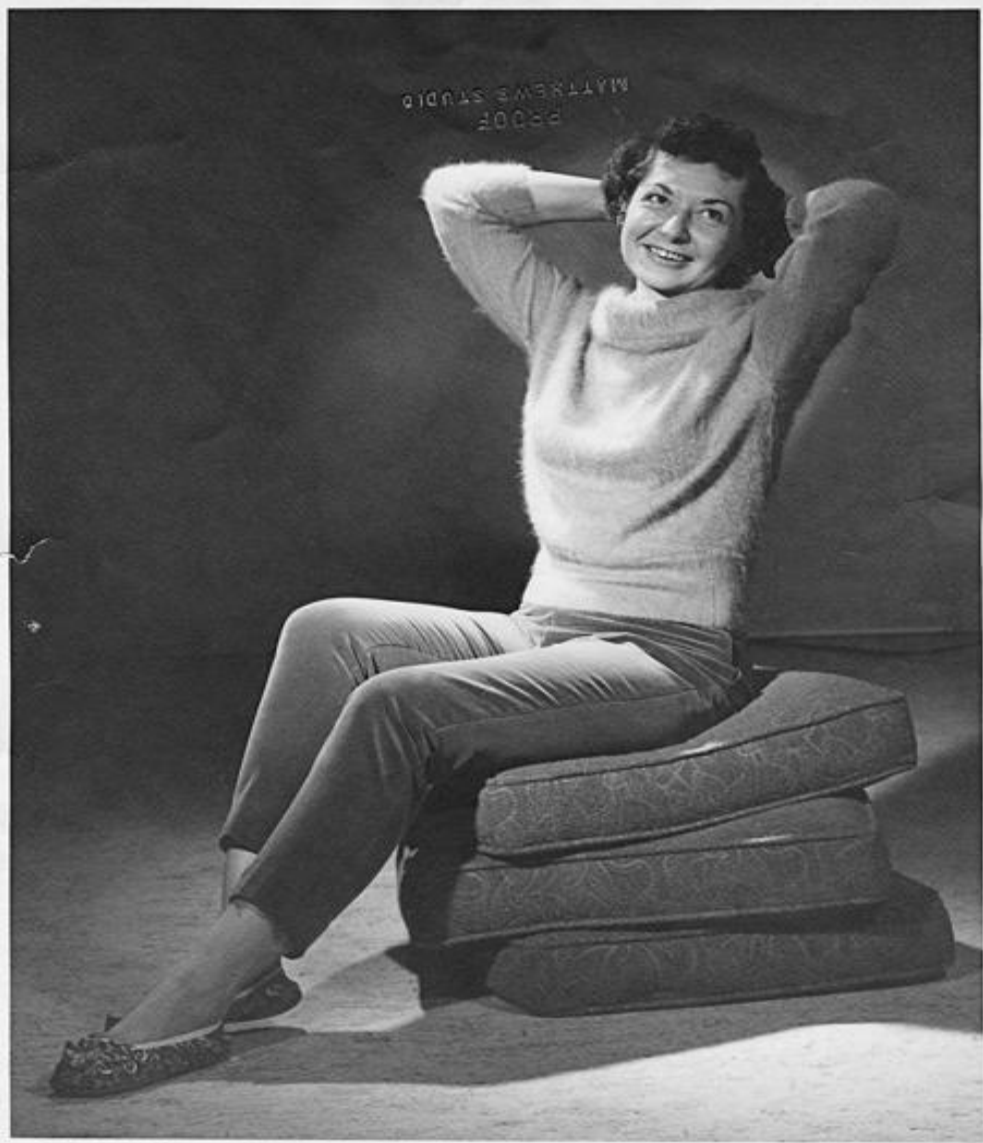






SPECTACULAR WELCOME—When the S.S. Pasteur steamed into Halifax harbor over the weekend, the returning Canadian servicemen were given a spectacular welcome by an army band carrying 50 Cwacs and a military band and two fireboats playing their hoses in unusual designs against a clear sky.



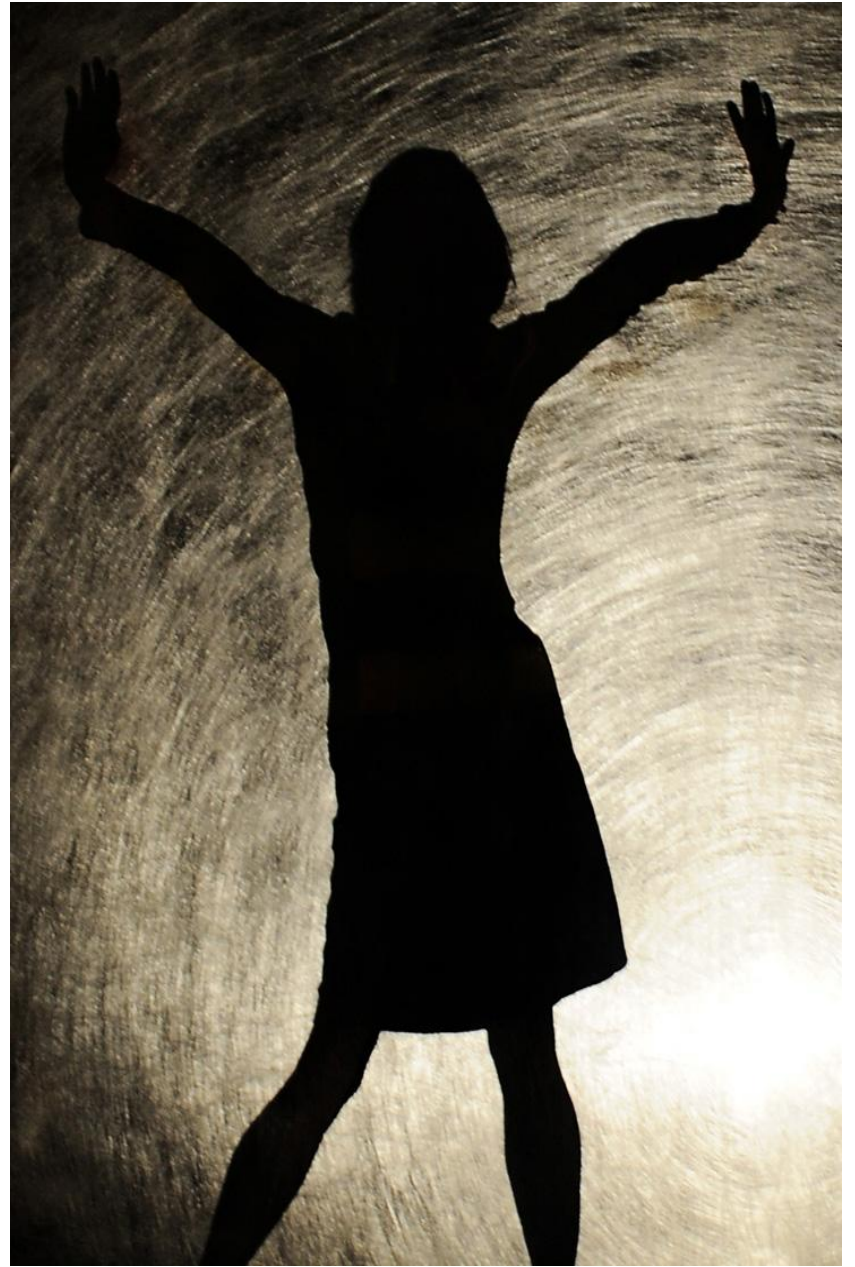














Public Utility Building



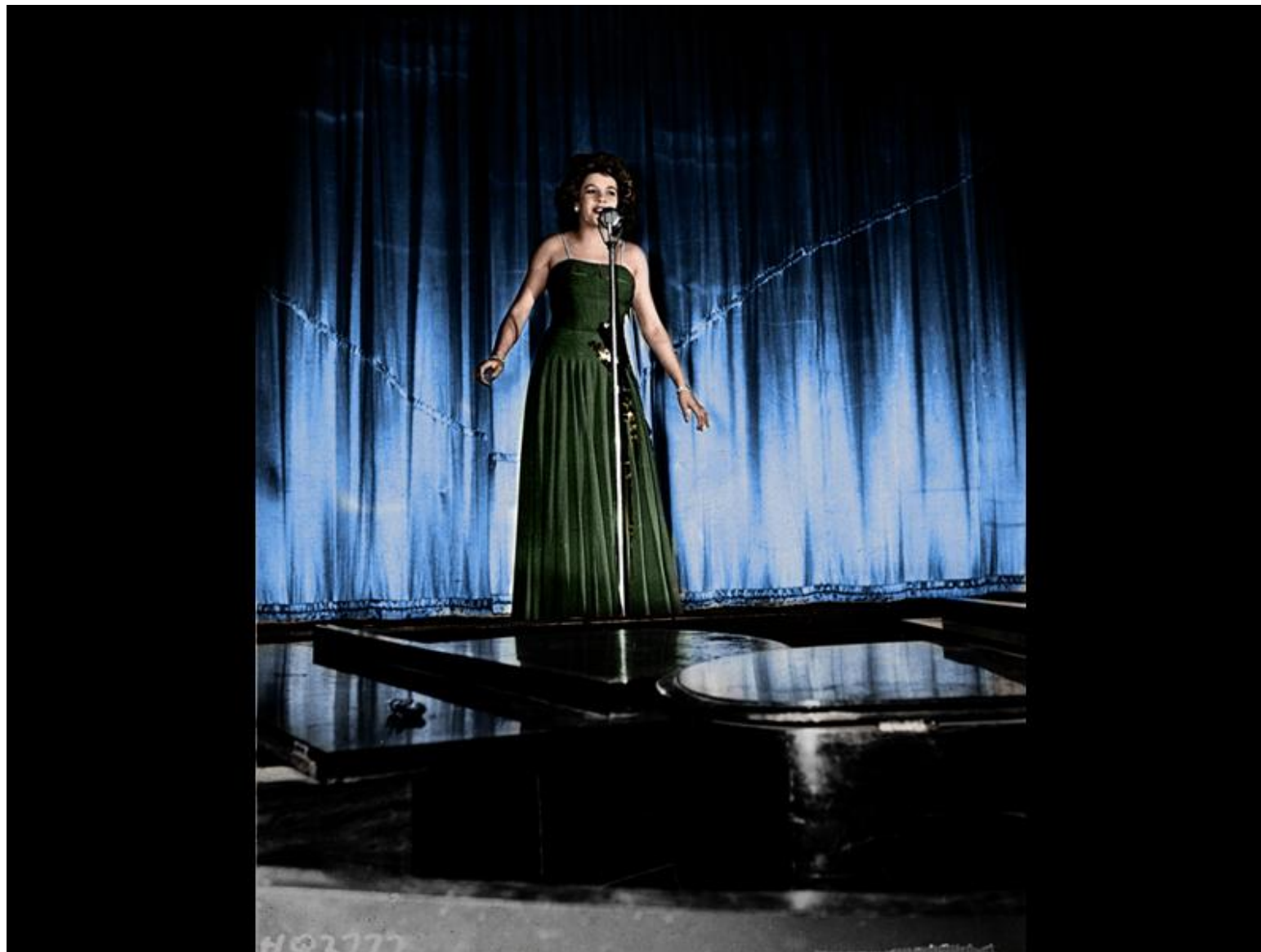














W-DEBS BARLOW, SMITH & BUVETTE SHOW WHY THE CAN-CAN MADE GRAMPA GO "WOO-WOO!"



W-DEBS

"CALLING Q-FOR-CUTIES!" IS THE RALLYING CRY OF THE RCAF'S NEW ALL-GIRL SHOW, OVERSEAS BOUND. THE ELEVEN 'W-DEBS' ARE AS TUNEFUL, CUTEFUL & TALENTED A GANG O'GALS AS EVER MADE A JOE FORGET TO GRIPE.



Doreen Allen, fiddling W-Deb



GIVING WITH THE MARACAS IS KITTY HELWIG, AIDED ABETTED AND ABOUNCED BY CECI SMITH & DORIS GEORGE, IN A MEXICAN ZAPATEO ABOUT A LITTLE HOME ON A RANCH ON THE GRANDE



Members of the latest RCAF show, "W-Debs," now touring the United Kingdom, look over the guest book of the newly opened London Stage Door Canteen with Beatrice Little (Lady Peel) of theatrical fame. From left to right are: LAW. Kay Helwig and Sgt. Ken Bray, Toronto; Miss Little; Cpl. Audrey Carty and FO. Lola Thompson Davis, Ottawa, in charge of the girls.

Military Notes

AW Edna Bear leaves for Ottawa on Monday morning to assume duties as a dancer with the R.C.A.F. show at Rockcliffe. She is a daughter of Sgt. William Bear, who is stationed at London, and Mrs. Bear, 41 Lancaster Street East.

AW Edna Bear, who left yesterday to take up duties with the R.C.A.F. (W.D.) Ottawa, was presented with an appreciable gift by the members of the cadet and inspection department of the Dominion Electronics, where she was formerly employed. Miss Bear was also presented with a leather correspondence case by the senior class of the Marguerite Switzer Dance Studio, of which she was a member.

June 14, 1944

WOMEN'S DIVISION

FLASH! The W-Debs have arrived. For your information, the W-Debs is an all girl show of Canadian airwomen and their overseas to entertain RCAF personnel.

Last night the regular all ranks dance was speeded up by 11 W.D.s of the "W-Debs. Officers Party," newly arrived overseas to speed joy, humor and songs at RCAF stations. The troupe is using this camp as their "gilt" point, so we'll be seeing a lot of them. We hope, because the three shows they are giving for us.

R.C.A.F. Members Arrive at Lachine

MONTREAL, Feb. 12 (CP) — A large group of R.C.A.F. personnel have reached the Lachine registration depot on their way to their homes after tours of duty overseas. Many of the draft, one of the largest to return to Canada, are veterans of the aerial warfare in many theatres of war. Some were returning home after more than three years abroad and many were either the D.F.C. or the D.F.M. Included in the party were a number of members of the R.C.A.F. (W.D.).

Kitchener Airwoman Tours Britain With W-Debs Show

Life in Britain as a member of the cast of an R.C.A.F. show is proving an excellent experience for AW Edna Bear, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Bear, 41 Lancaster St. E. In letters to her parents she paints vivid pictures of present-day conditions, her travels and her impressions of the island fortress.

The attractive Kitchener airwoman arrived in England on June 8, one of the 11 girls of the all-girl show, "W-Debs." On board the girls were treated royally, living in the officers' mess and eating their meals with the ship's officers. They were the only girls on board. Each one was permitted to bring two suit cases, a walter bag, a raincoat, a trench coat, a gas mask, a tin helmet and civilian jacket.

Her first week in England was spent in Gloucester where the real meaning of the hackneyed phrase, "shortage," came home with repeated requests of English children for chewing gum. Of all foods, AW Bear confesses that she misses eggs more than anything else. These are practically unobtainable. After a

few weeks of English eating, she came to miss peaches, corn and other Canadian fruits and vegetables. But of potatoes and cabbage, staples on the English wartime menu, she has seen more than she enjoys. Once she wrote humorously of having eaten shortcake served with three strawberries.

Some of the first Kitchener men whom she met while on tour were Porky Dumart, Irvin Wismer and Ray Dedala. The latter brought their mail from one station to the other. Since then she has seen Douglas Melchior, Jimmy Craven, Jack Marshall—who arrived in the city this week—Pinky Kaufman's brother, Rockell, Claude Bergman and his brother, Douglas Yackie—and Bob Fields who are with a military band, Don McEwen, Herb Lippert and Lorne Utley.

"They (the local men)," she writes, "usually come and shake hands after the show and they all say they think it is one of the best." In another letter she says, "We are booked until next spring, with two shows on Christmas Day." At present, she is touring Scotland, prior to possible embarkation for France.

A feather in the hats of the W-Debs was Spindrift 420's action in sailing by plane after the show. "Every show is packed," she wrote. "Sometimes we turn away as many as 300 boys."

During August they toured the army camps instead of air force stations. At one such camp, on Aug. 4, the cast was entertained following its performance in the officers' mess.

"At 12 p.m.," writes AW Bear, "everyone got up and I thought they were going home. Instead they sang, 'Happy birthday, dear Edna' and 'For She's A Jolly Good Fellow.' The colonel came over and blessed me and Sgt. Major Ernie Hobson also came over and shook hands and said he knew you and daddy, having formerly belonged to our Canadian Legion."

At another camp the officers asked all members of the show to leave their autographs on the ceiling of the mess and also their big marks by placing 11. Requests for autographs and pictures are made wherever the show goes.

Of England's airfields Miss Bear writes, "The airfields at night resemble huge mileways. Colored lights shine for miles to guide the planes."

Enthusiastic sight-seeer, Miss Bear writes of visits to many of England's famous show places, and in particular of a visit to Lord Mowbray's castle, Allerton Hall. A guest at one of the W-Deb performances, Lord Mowbray invited the cast and the man attending it to his estate. She remarks also that she visited "a camp of spies."

In private life, Miss Bear is the wife of Pte. Gene Humbley of Moody, Texas.



TROUPE—AW Edna Bear, an R.C.A.F. entertainment unit dancer, is scheduled to join the overseas branch.

AW Edna Bear Overseas Bound In R.C.A.F. Show

AW Edna Bear, tall, slim, brunette, and 21, was the last girl to enlist with the R.C.A.F. a month ago, and will soon be on her way overseas.

The story of many an ambitious girl, she will dance her way across England, and possibly Scotland, as a member of the cast of the "Debutantes of 1944" R.C.A.F. show.

On-stage, she flashes through five dance numbers, and has a part in a skit. She must be equally agile backstage in order to change costumes for the can-can, rumba, tango, Mexican and variety numbers, as there are only 11 girls in the cast. She's out front a good deal of the show.

The show will not make an appearance in Canada, but is due almost immediately in England to replace a unit now in Scotland. Edna's dark eyes sparkle at the thought of being able to quench her thirst for travel.

Edna was a student of the Marguerite Switzer School of Dancing for two years, and was an employee of the Dominion Telephone Industries Ltd., prior to enlisting.

She is a daughter of Sgt. and Mrs. William Bear, 41 Lancaster Street East.



OVERSEAS—AW Edna Bear Humbley, 41 Lancaster St. E., is in England with her troupe "W-Debs" R.C.A.F. show of 1944. They expect to tour England, Scotland and Italy.

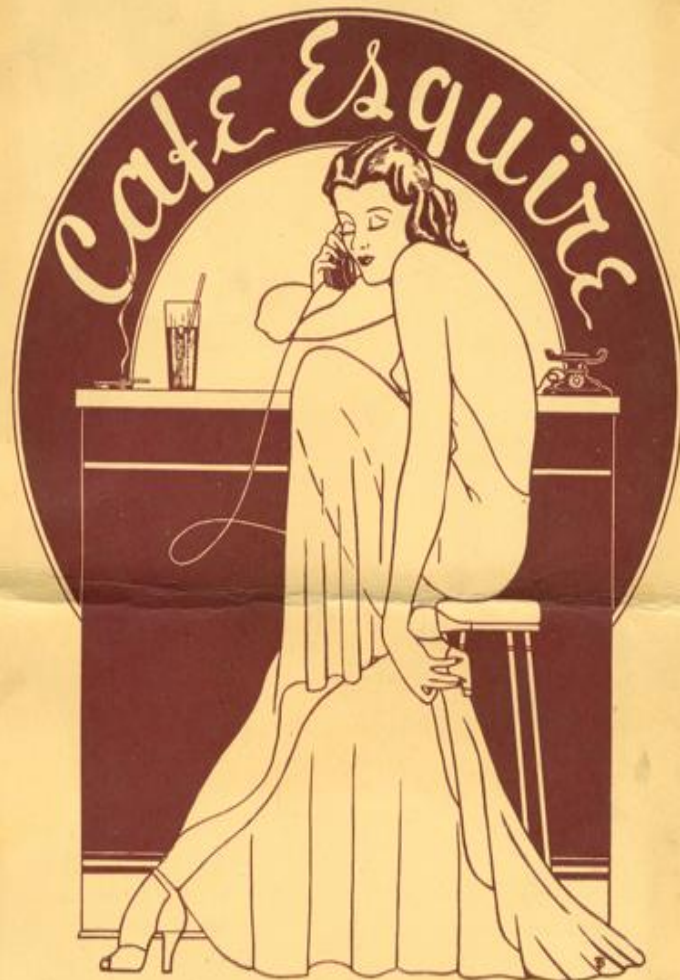
Elmira Girl With Air Force Show in England

OTTAWA (CP) — With the arrival in Great Britain of "All Clear"—lively Royal Canadian Air Force variety show — R.C.A.F. entertainers have carried Canada, plus a lot of laughs, in thousands of Canadian boys and girls away from home.

The show, featuring short sketches and pretty chorus girls, is the third R.C.A.F. review to go overseas after a cross-Canada tour. "Debutantes of 1944" and "W-Debs" preceded it. A fourth, "Swingtime" is at present touring Canada.

Supervisor of the show is Sgt. Ldr. N. M. Gidder, 250 Metcalfe St. Ottawa. Conducting the troupe in Britain are Lil-Linck, A. A. Marshall, whose sister, Mrs. F. P. Hopkins, lives at 1277 Glenholme Ave. I. Toronto, and Section Officer Alton J. Fairbairn, daughter of R. E. Bear, 24 King St. E. Ottawa, Ont.

Included in the cast are Capt. Elizabeth M. Stone, Toronto; L.A.W. Doris I. Brunette, Ottawa; Betty Parks, Niagara Falls, Ont.; Ann Good, Montreal; and Eleanor Walker, Windsor; L.A.C. Gerry Finkelman, Winnipeg; Capt. Margaret LeBlond, Prince Albert, Sask.; and L.A.C. David Hodges, Vancouver.



"No, I'm not trying to hide anything, I'm at the Esquire Cafe"

Beverage List





MUSIC BY
ARMAND MEERTE
EDDIE'S MUSIC DIRECTOR

LYRICS BY
GEORGE STORRY

THE Esquire WALTZ

VOICE AND PIANO

40¢

Mr. Meerte, after many years of happy association with the management of this Club, has graciously turned over to us this song as a gesture of good will both to us and to you our mutual friends... We, in turn, present this Souvenir Copy to you as a token of our most sincere appreciation of your patronage...

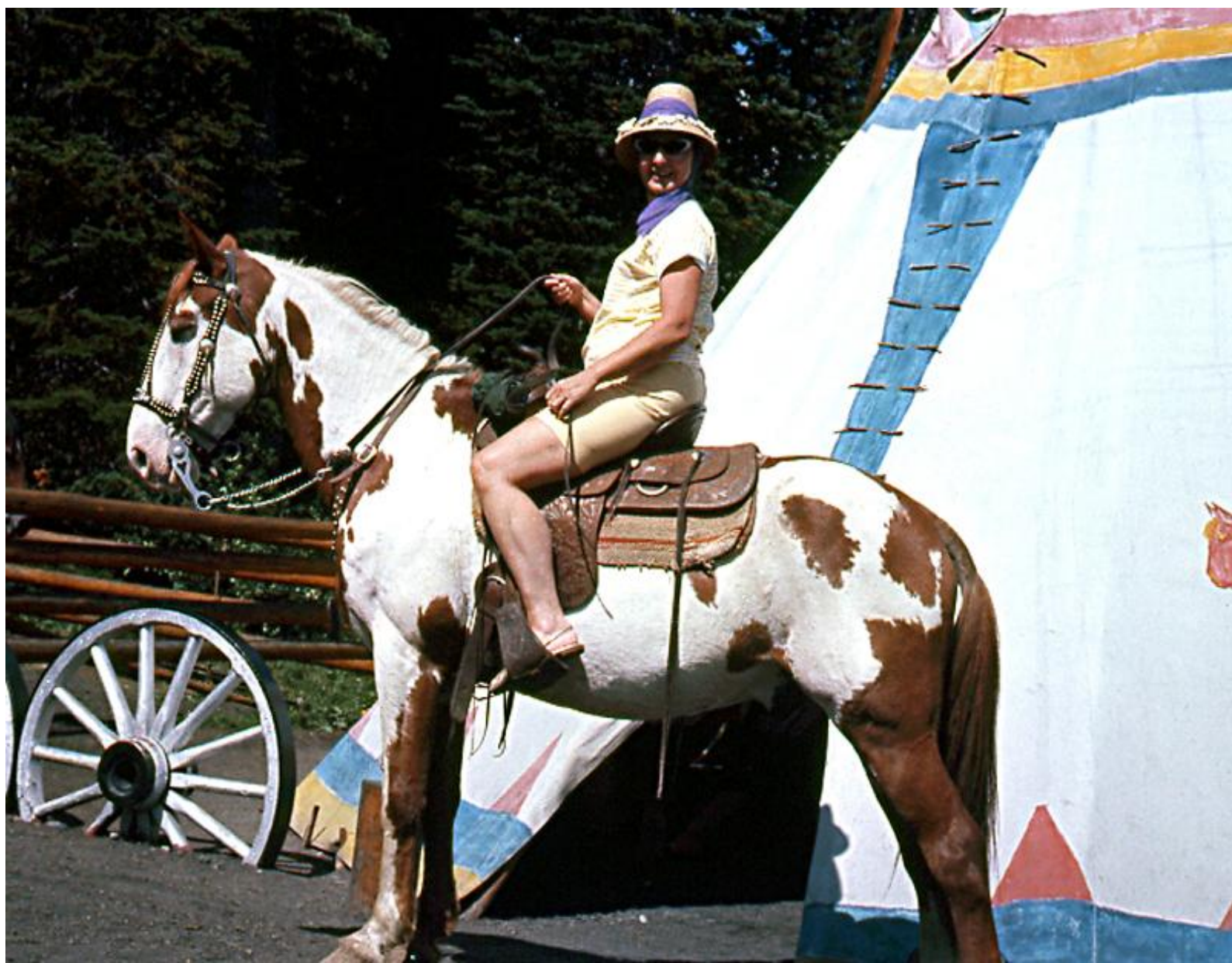
The Management



MATTHEWS PHOTO LAB.
223 - 14TH ST. N.W., CALGARY
TELEPHONE AT 3-2121

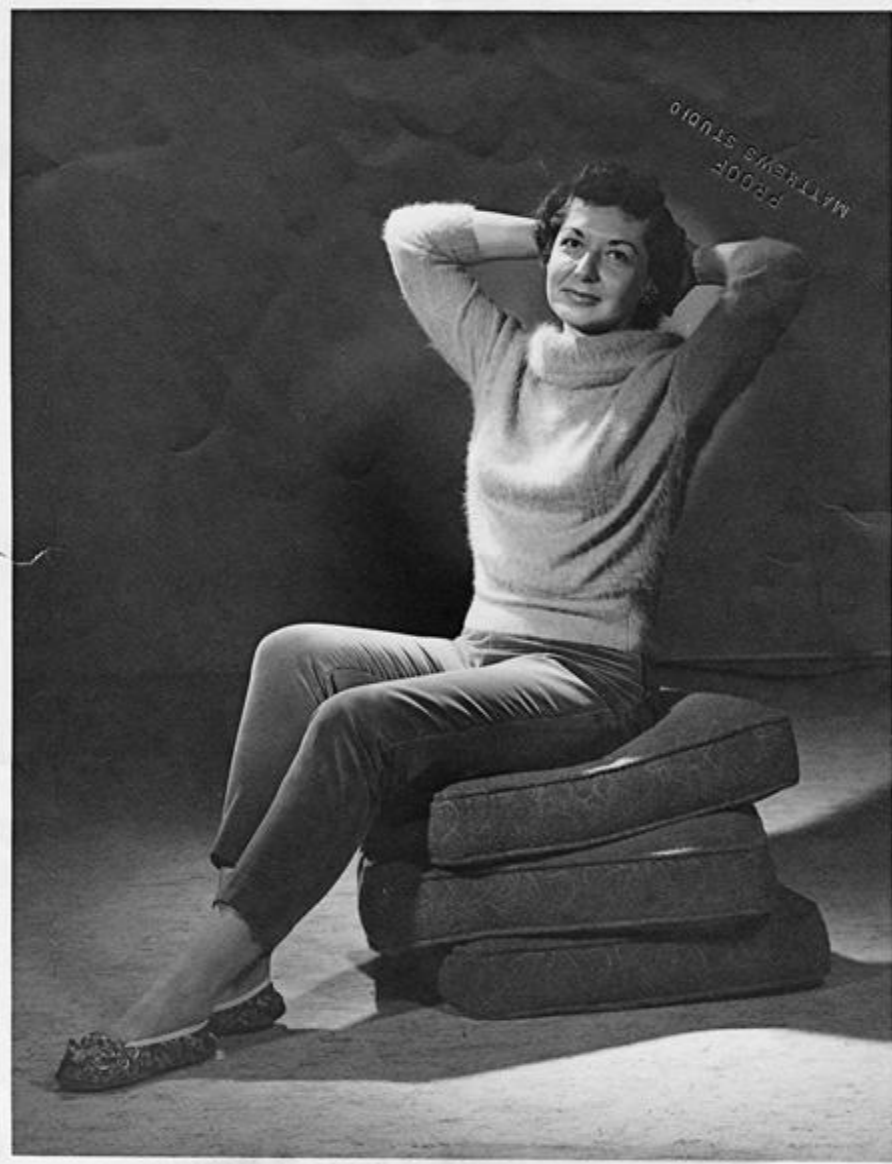


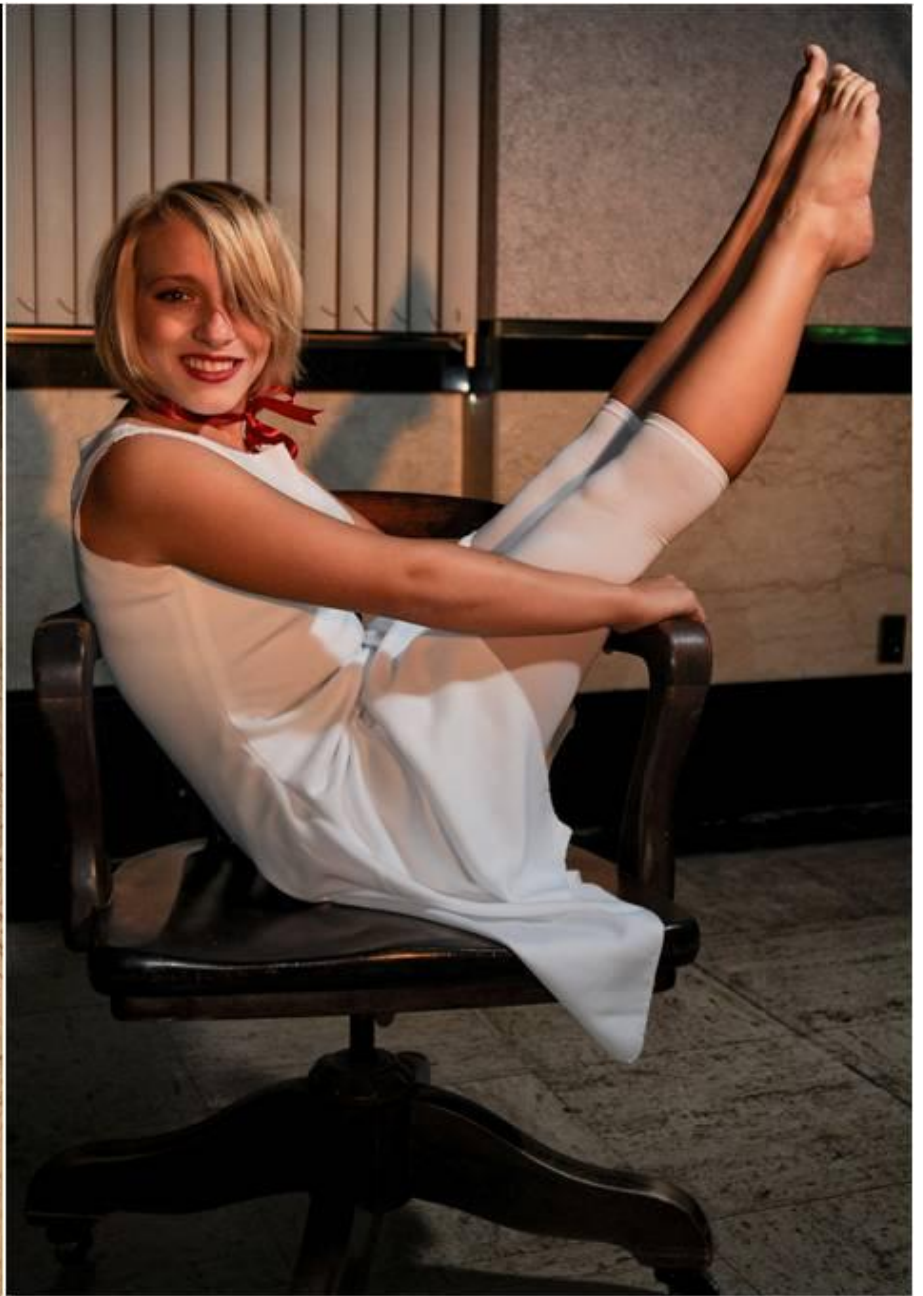














Public Utility Building



Edna's Public Utility

90 King
Street
West



**140 King
Street West**



Edna
says:

“Take
a
break.”



What is Site-Specific Performance?



Animation based on site as resource; performance is conceived for, mounted within, and conditioned by the particular qualities of the site. Animation may illuminate historical, archaeological, cultural detail of site; combining memory, myth, and dream.



Trinity of Creation: Host / Ghost / Witness (McLucas / Pearson).



Site-Specific Art: Certain conditions of reception create a perception in viewer of own effort to view, and thereby locate or place work.

Challenge of Found to Artist and Audience





- 🏠 Historical, political, cultural, and economic factors.
- 🏠 Built-in associations: between host and witness.
- 🏠 Active environment: a place where sensory conditions can come under question – climate, smells, surfaces, etc
- 🏠 Indeterminacy: scale, actuals vs. animation, everyday vs. exotic.

The background image shows a room where the walls are densely covered with many small, rectangular photographs of various subjects. In the foreground, a table is cluttered with more photographs, some loose papers, and a few books or folders. The overall atmosphere is one of a personal archive or a workspace dedicated to visual documentation.

The Found and the Fabricated of Site-Specific Performance

The Demand on the Audience-Archivist & Performance Remains

***Consider how the audience is sensorially-engaged by the performance:
walking and navigating via the senses in a performance of place.***

-  Audience is looking = piecing together, speculating
-  Audience is Feeling (Felt-Semiotics): Haptics, proxemics, kinaesthetics in experience of event. Challenge of ocular knowledge
-  Consider the sensory response to memory and emotion, and for each audience member: a unique experience and response to performance
-  Being an Audience-Witness means performing the archive of place; that is, engaging with the ineffable rituals of work and the residue of flesh