

33 RETURN

Grenadier Clouted Guard, Took Sword

His daughter was born while he was away in the last war and arriving home Sunday evening from this one. Staff Sgt. H. B. McNaughton, 200 Nassau st., was welcomed by her and her children.

Sgt. McNaughton was one of 19 liberated Japanese prisoners of war who came in over C.P.R. lines Sunday evening. Another 14 Winnipeg Grenadiers arrived at the C.N.R. station.

With her daughter, Loreen, Mrs. Lawrence Bothan, ste. 25, St. Julien apts., greeted her father, Sgt. McNaughton.

"I brought no souvenirs back last time," said Sgt. McNaughton who went overseas with the 1st Division and came back in 1919, "but this time I brought a Jap. sword."

He pulled the sword out of its case to show it to his relatives.

"It's not a hara kiri sword," he reported. "I took it from the Jap

guard when we took over the camp.

"I just gave him a good clout on the jaw and took it," he added.

Sgt. McNaughton was in the prison camp at Hong Kong until his liberation. He was with the R.C.O.C., attached to the Grenadiers.

At the station to meet Pte. Albert J. Fontaine, 631 Toronto st., was his father, Charles, a veteran of the last war with the 107th Battalion.

Among others at the C.P.R. station were: Lt. F. V. Dennis, 1933 Dorchester ave.; CQMS. A. H. McKinnon, ste. 20, Vingolf apts.; Pte. O. J. Rannels, 730 Jefferson ave., West Kildonan; Pte. A. R. J. Remillard, 175 Harvard ave.; Pte. W. J. Treemeer, 173 Bannerman ave.; L. Cpl. W. S. Robertson, Pine Falls.

At the C.N.R. station were: Lieut. R. A. H. Campbell, 201 Niagara st.; Pte. Patrick Campbell, Gehre River, Man.; Pte. J. A. Mour, Crane River, Man.; Pte. R. H. Smithson, Eden, Man.; Pte. Herbert Bowman, Swan River; Pte. Shealt, Pte. L. C. Patterson, Plumas; Pte. R. J. Zane, Portage la Prairie; P.C.Q.M.S. Albert Seymour, Ericisdale, Man.; Pte. G. Plant, 280 Smith st.; Sgt. R. W. Maybury, 93 Harriet st.; Pte. W. Schirumech, Toronto; Sgt. James Murray Thom, Transcona, Man., and Cpl. Wilfrid H. Sheidow, 626 Elgin ave.

There was much confusion and hubbub at the C.N.R. station as relatives of the Grenadiers didn't know when they were coming home.

To add to the confusion they were told that there was a special Grenadier train at 6.45 p.m. which failed to carry any.

Some of the boys scheduled to come home stopped off at Calgary and Edmonton and others stopped at Vancouver.

Many of the relatives were very disappointed. One family group were down at the station about an hour earlier than the train was due to arrive to make sure that they could see and hug their boy without any pushing and shoving around.

When the train came in at 7.45 p.m. their Grenadier was not on the train. Officials checking lists said that he was bound to be on this train, but if not he would probably be at the C.P.R. station.

Hundreds of people lined the C.N.R. rotunde to get a peek at the boys, who for nearly four long years had been at the mercy of the Japs.

When they finally did arrive the crowd all started talking at once. Some said, "He couldn't have been a prisoner of war—see how good he looks." Or, "That's him, that's him!"

Sgt. R. W. Maybury, 93 Harriet st., was met at the station by his wife and grandson, Edwin Frost, 13, Mr. and Mrs. Swalles and Mr. and Mrs. Williams.

Sgt. Maybury was a police constable prior to joining the Winnipeg Grenadiers.

Pte. W. Schirumech, Toronto, stopped off in Winnipeg for a few

days before leaving for his home. Schirumech joined the Winnipeg Grenadiers in Winnipeg. "I'm damn proud to be in the outfit," he declared.

Sgt. James Murray Thom, Transcona, was met at the depot by his father. He was in Tokyo and Camp Ohasi, where he worked in the iron mines.

He lost 60 pounds while at the camp but has regained 50 pounds. Thom, who is a big man, six feet four and a half inches, shrank a half an inch. "We all seemed to shrink a little," he said.

C.Q.M.S. Albert Seymour, Ericisdale, Man., was met at the station by his wife and his two children, Alex, 17, and Georgina, 12, whom he held one in each arm.

Also to meet him were two sisters, three brothers-in-law and one brother.

The homecoming of Pte. G. Plant, 280 Smith st., was a surprise to his relatives. No one knew that he was coming in.

Members of the Canadian Legion promptly got in touch with some of his relatives and they were down at the station in no time.

Cpl. Wilfred H. Sheidow, 626 Elgin ave., was met at the station by his wife and daughter, Sandra, 6, his mother and father, of 433 Lansdowne ave., and a group of cousins.

He spent two and a half years in the hospital because of diphtheria. He dropped from 134 pounds to 96 pounds.

Winnipeg Grenadier auxiliaries were at both stations to welcome the boys home. They were also given cigarettes, life savers and matches, coffee and biscuits.