

# DECORATE GRAVES OF R.A.F. HEROES

With the combined choirs of five rural churches of the district, personnel of the R.C.A.F. station at Mount Hope, and with Wentworth county boys who have served in the armed forces taking part, the graves of 14 members of the Royal Air Force — who lost their lives while training in Canada and rest in St. Paul's Anglican Church Cemetery, at Mount Hope — were decorated yesterday at the annual decoration service of the Wentworth Junior Farmers.

"Much of the credit for the defeat of the German military machine," Flying Officer D. E. Gage, R.C.A.F., of Glanford, said in his address, "is due to the proud and praiseworthy 'Gentlemen of the Royal Air Force.' These men sacrificed their lives that the free peoples of the earth might remain free, and that the millions of people already oppressed might know freedom once more. These men of the R.A.F. were members of a fighting team that stemmed the enemy onrush, then brought it crashing to its knees. They did not hesitate nor falter when the lives of their loved ones were in danger. Half a world away from battle, these Britons lost their lives on the training fields of Canada. They paid the same price in their devotion to duty as did many of the men of the R.A.F. who returned to carry combat to the foe. In grateful remembrance of the sacrifice made by the men of the R.A.F. who lost their lives in Canada, and honouring their comrades on land, at sea, and in the air, we pay tribute to their memory. They died as gallantly and proudly as they served."

## Impressive Service

Headed by the trumpet band of the R.C.A.F., Mount Hope, a guard of honour marched into the cemetery in slow time and took up its place beside the row of 14 graves. The massed choirs were placed at one end of the row and Wentworth county boys of the armed services carried flowers to the graves. Girl Guides of the district were lined up opposite the airmen.

The hymn, O God Our Help in Ages Past, and the anthem, In Sacred Memory, were sung by the massed choirs, the accompaniment being played by a violinist, Mrs. Harold Smith, Mount Hope. The lesson was read by Rev. E. M. Caldwell and a prayer was given by Rev. G. T. Simpson. Last Post was sounded by the R.C.A.F. trumpeters and the benediction was given by Rev. E. M. Caldwell. Opening remarks of the ceremony were by Robert Logan, president of the Junior Farmers' Association.

The choirs taking part in the ceremony were from St. Paul's Anglican Church, Mount Hope; Case United, Mount Hope United, Barton Stone United and Bowman United.

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