Versatile Entertainers Give Performance on Britain - Bound Troopship.

(Since the war started, halfa-million Canadians in the forces have journeyed to Britain under a cloak of censorship regulations. This story tells the folks at home how the boys and girls spend their time at sea and maintain their interest in everyday living. The reporter (stone deaf). writes about a ship concertthe first he attended in 20 years; best he ever htard.

By CHARLES BRUCE Canadian Press Staff Writer

ABOARD A BRITAIN-BOUND TROOPSHIP, April 22, 9-The concert star came onstage in a floor-length gown of cinnamon red, bowed to polite applauses

and followed the piano into "Ciribiribin." It might have been Carnegie Hall, but there were differences.

The stage brushed by the star's gown was a hatch-cover laid on trestles. The auditorium was the main mess hall of a troopship, and the audience were young Canadians, Britons, Australians and New Zealanders in khaki and blue. The notes of "Comin' Thro' The Rye" and "Sweetheart" were oddly accompanied by the creak of a ship shouldering into Atlantic

The concert star was Ishbel Mutch of Regima, a lyric sopiano of international reputation. She now Section Officer Mutch the R.C.A.F. (Women's Divsion), and happened to be makaling the trip on this particular ship to assume her job in Britof singing at R.C.A.F. and R.A.F. stations.

> However, this is not Miss Mutch's story. It is really the story of a bunch of youngsters who must have been somewhat bared by spending their time in the troopship hammocks, at the mess-hall tables and punching each other vigo custy in their ife-preservers during their hours on the open decks. They got together and produced a ship concert.

> It started when Lieut. Phii. Hooper of Ottawa went investigating what was being provided in the way of entertainment. The orderly room promptly appointed him entertainment officer and left it up to him. He proved a good talent scout. The show went on five times so that every one aboard had a chance

> > Plenty of Talent

Miss Mutch shared stardom with LAC. Hugo Linden, formerly a violinist with the London Philharmonic. The things he did with "Hungarian Dance," "Songs My Mother Taught Me" and "The Canary," had the boys pounding the tables.

But the amateurs came in for their share of applause. Sgts. Merrill Bowen of Halifax, Joe Campbell of Montreal, Joe Mc-Mullen of Sydney, N.S., and LAC. Bill Whitt of Derbyspire did a nice swing job with guitar, ac4 cordion, harmonica and voice on ! "Shanty Town," "Five Feet Two." "Eyes of Blue," and other old favorites. And AC1. Len Stan-Ley of (1094 St. Clair Ave West) Toronto, was a hit with his Hawaiian guitar.

Vocalists of more than ordinary ability included LAC. Emlyn Hughes, a Welsh tenor and onetime steel-tester at Port Talbot who sang Scottish and Irish medleys, and LAC. Colin Cuthbert, once a shop-keeper at Margate, an effective baritone who sang "Wandering the King's Highway," "God Keep You in My

There was variety, too. One of the most popular turns was a card-trick program by Maj. Morris of Owen Sound, Ont., a medical officer.

Prayer," and "Old Man River."

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