

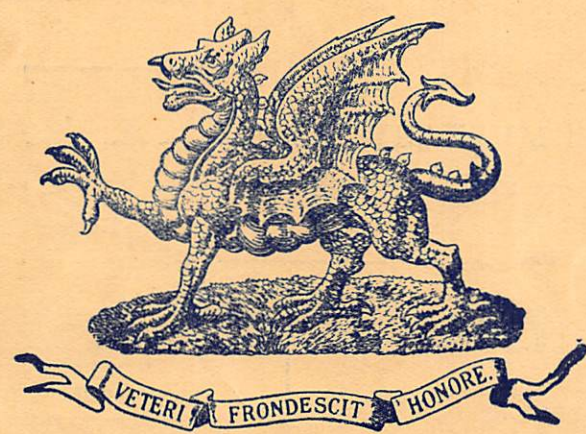
Albuhera Vittoria Pyrenees Nivelles Nive Orthes Toulouse Peninsula

Blenheim Ramillies Oudenarde Malplaquet Dettingen Guadeloupe 1759 Douro Talavera

Punniar Sevastopol Takur Forts South Africa 1879 Chitral Relief of Kimberley Paardeberg S. Africa 1900-02

THE DRAGON

THE REGIMENTAL PAPER
OF THE BUFFS.



No. 472 March 1939

Aisne 1914 Ypres 1915, 1917 Loos Somme 1916, 1918 Arras 1917
Amiens Hindenburg Line Struma Jerusalem Baghdad +

(Annual Subscription, 8/- post free)

REVOLVER BRAND

ALE and STOUT

brewed by

George Younger & Son

LIMITED

ALLOA SCOTLAND



Supplied in all MILITARY
STATIONS at Home and Overseas



122

YEARS

Since the days of George III

All this time have Vye and Son
been supplying fine groceries in
East Kent. To be known for
such a span of years is not mere
chance—it is the reward of con-
stant quality.

VYE & SON

THE EAST KENT GROCERS

40 Branches in East Kent

International Stores

Tea, Coffee, Groceries, Provisions,
Cake and Confectionery.

7 High Street, Canterbury.

Telephone No. 2429.

J. H. G. HAMILTON,

(Late FRENCH & SON)

WINE MERCHANT,

(ESTABLISHED 1739)

26 St. George's Street
CANTERBURY

Telephone: 2148 Canterbury.

A Name to Remember—

WHEN YOU REQUIRE
SPORTS AWARDS

• F. PHILLIPS •

As actual makers, we are able to quote exceptionally keen
prices for SPORTS MEDALS, CUPS, SHIELDS, etc.,
incorporating the Buffs Crest.

Lists and Quotations gladly forwarded.

F. PHILLIPS (H. Phillips &
R. A. Garratt)

WELLINGTON STREET, ALDERSHOT

FOR :: ::

ACCURACY IN DISPENSING

AND :: ::

RELIABILITY IN ALL MEDICAL
AND SURGICAL GOODS.

— : - o : —

WALKER & HARRIS, LTD

Sun Street and Northgate Street,
CANTERBURY.

A. J. WHITE

(HATTERS), LTD.

74 JERMYN STREET,
LONDON, S.W.

Hat and Cap Makers.

Offer their SPECIAL FLEXOLYTE
FIELD SERVICE CAP

as being light in weight, soft and pliable in texture as quite the best possible cap for foreign service, being quite rainproof and having a smart appearance, not a rag.

FLEXOLYTE

Reg. No. 327488.

A. J. WHITE,

(HATTERS), LTD.,

Hat and Cap Makers,

74 JERMYN STREET, LONDON, S.W.1.

Telephone 2107

Established 1818

GIBBS & SONS,

GENERAL PRINTERS,
16 Orange St., Canterbury.

ALL CLASSES OF MILITARY PRINTING
EXECUTED AT SHORT NOTICE.

BALANCE SHEETS, POSTERS,
PROGRAMMES,
SPORTS FIXTURE CARDS,
MENUS.

ESTIMATES GIVEN.

TYPEWRITERS

for Sale or Hire

Typewriters Repaired

H. J. Goulden, Ltd.

CANTERBURY AND DOVER

W. L. SILCOX & SON

Motor Engineers & Bus Proprietors

WATER STREET, PEMBROKE DOCKS

Private Cars for Hire Phone 43

Agents for Austin, Morris & Standard Cars

- - Any make of Car supplied - -

Good selection of Used Cars always in stock

- - Cash or deferred payments - -

HIRE OUR LUXURY COACHES FOR YOUR
PRIVATE OUTINGS

Quotations on request

HAWKES & Co.,

LIMITED.

ESTABLISHED 1771.

REGIMENTAL TAILORS

TO

THE BUFFS.

1 SAVILE ROW, W.1.
68 HIGH STREET, CAMBERLEY.

24 THE COMMON, WOOLWICH.

2-5 p.m., Wednesday.

Telephones :

REGENT { 0186
0187

CAMBERLEY 829.

Sports Gear Sports Outfitting



TROPHIES · CUPS · MEDALS & PRIZES



*The
Navy Army & Air Force
Institutes*

**SPORTS OUTFITTERS
TO THE SERVICES
AT HOME & OVERSEAS**



ADDRESS ENQUIRIES TO ANY OF THE
CORPORATION'S MANAGERS, OR TO:—
THE SECRETARY, IMPERIAL COURT,
KENNINGTON LANE, LONDON, S.E.11
CABLES: "NAAFI, LAMB, LONDON."



**Competitive Prices and Guaranteed Quality with
Efficient Service**



Allied Regiments.

Queen's Own Rifles of Canada.

3rd Battalion (Werrima Infantry) Australian Military Forces.

No. 472

MARCH, 1939

Price: Sixpence

Personalia.

MAJOR-GENERAL Sir John Kennedy proceeded to France during the latter part of February on behalf of the British Red Cross Society, to investigate and report upon the conditions governing the welfare of the Spanish Refugees.

We offer our sympathy to the relatives of Mrs. Ingouville-Williams, widow of Major-General Ingouville-Williams, who died on February 18th.

We congratulate Colonel L. H. Grant on his appointment on the Staff of the Commander-in-Chief, India, as Hon. A.D.C. Colonel Grant served in the Regiment during the Great War and went to India with the 4th Battalion, later transferring to the Indian Army. He has been for some years Secretary to the United Services Club, Simla.

We congratulate Lieut.-Colonel H. de R. Morgan on his appointment as Commander, 126th (East Lancashire and Border) Infantry Brigade, Territorial Army.

Miss Jean Macbean, daughter of Mrs. P. G. Scarlett, was married on February 21st, at Holy Trinity Church, Brompton, to Capt. Owen Williams Wynn, Royal Artillery. We offer her, on behalf of her many friends in the Regiment, our heartiest congratulations and very best wishes.

We congratulate Major G. H. Mount, Captain W. E. Williamson, Captain A. D. Mac I. Hilton and Lieut. G. R. D. Hews on their respective promotions.

Capt. L. M. S. Essell has been appointed Station Adjutant to a technical training school which is shortly being opened. He is moving to Hatherton House, Hatherton, Cannock, Staffordshire, where he hopes that any Buffs passing through will call in and look him up.

Mrs. George Boon, widow of Capt. G. Boon, D.S.O., late the Buffs, and mother of the late Capt. G. Boon, the Buffs, died in Guernsey on February 12th, 1939, in her 90th year. She was very proud of her connection with the Regiment and to the end took an immense interest in it. Latterly she was unable herself to read *The Dragon* but insisted that it should be read to her thoroughly, so that perhaps she might hear a name she remembered; and so passes another true old Buff, to whose relatives we extend our deep sympathy.

We congratulate Mr. C. Tuff on his election to the Aldermanic Bench of the Kent County Council.

Oscar Falk died on February 4th while playing golf in a club competition at Croham Hurst, near Croydon. We offer our deep sympathy to his relatives.

Capt. P. L. Roberts, who has resigned his commission, joined the 4th Battalion in 1932.

We congratulate Lieut. P. G. Clarke on his promotion and 2/Lieut. D. C. J. Manners on receiving a commission in the Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment.

Mr. H. A. Jones, late R.S.M., died recently in Canterbury. We offer our sympathy to his relatives.

Late 4472 Sergeant, The Buffs, William Thomas Harris died at Herne Bay on January 16th, 1939, aged 64 years. He enlisted in 1894, serving with the 1st and 2nd Battalions until taking his discharge in 1910. He re-enlisted in November, 1914, serving throughout the Great War, with the 7th, 8th and 9th Battalions and from 1919 to 1921 with the Chinese Labour Corps. We offer our sympathy to his wife in her loss.

3153 William Carver, well known to many of the old brigade of the Regiment, has been for some years living at Dunton Green, near Sevenoaks, where he has been frequently visited by Colonel Bradley Dyne, who has taken a constant and very kindly interest in him. A short time ago the Vicar of Dunton Green reported that Carver was seriously ill; unfortunately, Colonel Bradley Dyne and General Lynden-Bell, who visited Carver, found this to be only too true. In spite of his illness, however, Carver takes a keen interest in regimental matters and it is hoped that any Buffs living in the Sevenoaks area will go to see him. His address is 14 Station Road, Dunton Green.

The Depot, The Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment, are to be congratulated on winning the Hardy Boxing Cup by the decisive Margin of six fights to one.

Although defeated, our recruits put up a worthy performance and demonstrated that though inferior in skill, they amply possessed the fighting spirit.

The number of Regular Army recruits at the Depot on February 15th was 85, of which 33 had been obtained during the first quarter of the year; one was discharged during this period.

A change in the Administrative Staff of infantry depots is to take place during this year. An officer in receipt of retired pay will be employed to undertake the duties of administrative officer, and will be responsible to the O.C., Depot, for the welfare of the officers and men, thus replacing a serving officer in these duties.

Applications for such employment should be made to the O.C., Depot, from whom particulars of the contract can be obtained.

The nomination for the appointment will be made by the Colonel of the Regiment concerned.

Births, Marriages and Deaths.

BIRTH.

Willing.—6279583 C/Sgt. W. Willing, H.Q., a son, Lloyd Howard, born at Pembroke Dock, on 22/1/39.

ENGAGEMENTS.

Banks—Jones.—The engagement is announced between 6282236 Drum-Major A. J. Banks, 2nd Battalion, The Buffs, and Eva Eleanor Jones, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jones, Government Nursery, Aldershot.

Beale—Goodger.—6285272 L/Cpl. G. Beale, 2nd Battalion, The Buffs, and Diana Goodger, only daughter of Mrs. and the late Mr. Goodger, of Maidstone, Kent.

MARRIAGES.

Arnett—Penn.—6284994 Cpl. F. Arnett (1st Battalion, The Buffs), married to Florence Nellie Penn, at Ramsgate, on 26/12/38.

Bowling—Whittard.—787043 Cpl. F. Bowling married to Margaret Dorothy Whittard, at South Hackney, Middlesex, on 3/12/38.

Witts—Blackwood.—6607880 Pte. F. Witts married to Enid Elspeth Barton Blackwood, at Paddington, London, on 29/1/39.

DEATHS.

Ingouville-Williams.—On Feb. 18th, 1939, Florence Isabella, widow of Maj.-General Ingouville-Williams, C.B., D.S.O. Dearly loved.

McKay.—6285595 Pte. W. McKay, "D," killed in action as a result of a landmine explosion on the Lydda-Jerusalem Railway at Kilo 27, on 20/1/39.

Territorial Brigade Commands.

THE War Office announces that the following appointments have been approved by the King:—

Lieut.-Colonel H. de R. Morgan, D.S.O., The Royal Northumberland Fusiliers, to be Commander, 126th (East Lancashire and Border) Infantry Brigade, Territorial Army, with the temporary rank of Brigadier, *vice* Colonel (temporary Brigadier) G. Darwell, M.C., whose tenure expires on August 6th, 1939.

Obituary.

Mr. O. F. Falk.

We are indebted to Colonel Messel for the following notice.—*Editor.*

I had known Falk ever since he left school when he started his business career in my office. After some time there he left in order to start to train for accountancy, which had great attractions for his very precise and orderly mind.

When a fully-fledged accountant, he started a firm of his own and my firm gave him all their work. To see the notice of his death was a great shock to me as I had seen him only two or three days before and he seemed perfectly well.

He was a most unassuming and diffident man and one had to know him well to find out all his sterling qualities.

He came to us at Crowborough as a private soldier, but he soon gained a stripe and I recommended him, with full confidence, for a commission, which he eventually obtained.

As a soldier and an officer he was most painstaking and reliable. I think he got a "D" at Hythe and was a competent instructor in musketry.

He was always very shy, and I well remember telling him just before he went off on draft to France to try to bear in mind what I thought of him, which was that he was a far better officer in every way than he gave himself credit for being. Anyhow, he did very well both overseas and at home and was one who was a credit to the Regiment both while serving and afterwards. He could not have had an enemy.

He lived very quietly and went about his work with purpose and thoroughness. If he thought a thing wrong, nothing on earth would induce him to agree to it. In short, a man of the highest character who passed through this world clean and leaving nothing to regret. He was deeply interested in music, literature and games, and was a regular attendant at the Spring and Autumn Meetings of the Regimental Golfing Society.

Mr. Jones.

BUFFS the world over, and all who have in any way been connected with the old 4th Battalion (now the 4/5th) will learn with profound regret of the sudden death of ex-R.S.M. Jones, of 22 St. Martin's Road, Canterbury. Known affectionately to all by the nickname of "Dapper," R.S.M. Jones was an old Buff of the best type—a keen and knowledgeable soldier, proud of the high traditions of the Regiment, experienced alike in warfare and in administration. His acquaintance with the multiplicity of forms used in Army routine was unusual, and his services, long after his official retirement from the Regiment, were very much valued at the Canterbury Drill Hall.

Of a kindly and genial personality, Mr. Jones will be sadly missed by young and old soldiers alike. Once he knew that a man was a Buff, he extended to him and tried to make him conscious of, the fine spirit of regimental comradeship, and no-one ever applied to him for advice or guidance in vain. His conscientiousness was proverbial. Even in the face of increasing ill-health he "stuck it"—as he must have done many times before on long, heart-breaking marches in the heat of India and on campaigns which are now in the history books. No-one could sever him from his work, and all those who enjoyed his friendship will know that he has passed on, as he would have wished, "in harness," and doing a job of work for that British Army of which he was for so many years an exemplary member. Only the night before his death he left the 4/5th Battalion Office, taking some work home with him. Perhaps this was the only job he ever left uncompleted.

He enlisted in The Buffs on October 29th, 1889, and went to the 2nd Battalion from the Canterbury Depot. In 1891 he was promoted Corporal and in 1892 he left England for service in India, being stationed at Calcutta and in the Punjab. He took part in a march in which The Buffs made military history in India—682 miles along the Grand Trunk Road from Allahabad to Jullunder. In 1894, when he was promoted Sergeant, he was on duty at the Lahore Durbar attended by the Viceroy and the Indian Princes and next year was with the battalion in the famous march to the Relief of Chitral, at which, incidentally, The Buffs were the only white battalion to arrive. In that campaign he took part in the fighting at the Malakand Pass.

After the battalion had returned to Peshawar, it was not long before Sgt. Jones again saw active service, for in July, 1897, the Mahmands rising involved the battalion in operations on the North-West Frontier, during which they were in the severe fighting at Bajour, in which The Buffs gained a V.C. and four D.C.M.'s. By that time Sgt. Jones had become Colour-Sergeant Jones. When the fighting ended, the battalion was stationed at Kamptee, Central Province, and afterwards in Burma, where he was Acting R.S.M. of a detachment. Later The Buffs moved from Poona to Aden, where he was Acting R.S.M. of the battalion.

Eventually Sergeant-Major Jones returned to the Home Establishment with the 1st Battalion at Dover, and in 1906 was appointed R.S.M. of the 1st Volunteer Battalion (predecessors of the present 4/5th Territorial Battalion) and was so serving when the Great War broke out in 1914. In October of that year he sailed as R.S.M. with the 1/4th Battalion to India. Of the whole battalion, he was one of the only three who had ever set foot on Indian soil before. One of the others was his life-long friend, Major F. H. Keeler, the Quartermaster. With the battalion he took part in the Aden Hinterland operations against the Turks in 1915 and, after the Armistice, he preceded the battalion to England in order to represent them in the 1919 Victory March through London.

At the end of 1919, Sergeant-Major Jones retired on pension and for some years was employed at the Records Office in Canterbury, afterwards being appointed civilian clerk at the 4/5th Buffs Headquarters at the Drill Hall, Canterbury, where he continued to serve the Regiment until the end. He wore the India Medal, 1895, with clasps for Chitral and the Punjab, the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal in recognition of exceptional services during the war, the 1914-15 Star, British War and Victory Medals.

He worked devotedly in the interests of the 1/4th Buffs O.C.A. and was Major Keeler's right-hand man in the organisation of the annual dinner at Canterbury.

He was also a member of the Canterbury Branch of the Past and Present Association, The Buffs, and of the British Legion. In his spare time he was a keen gardener. Many a Past and Present Buff will remember his ever-popular singing of "On the Road to Mandalay"—a song which he sang as recently as the occasion of the Littlebourne Platoon social.

Mr. Jones, whose wife died in 1925, leaves a son, Mr. F. G. Jones, a member of the Canterbury City Police Force, and four daughters, Mrs. Connon, wife of the R.Q.M.S. of the Ulster Rifles, now at Rawalpindi, Mrs. Pine, wife of a former Blean schoolmaster, Miss G. Jones and Miss M. Jones.



"Dapper" Jones

The funeral of ex-R.S.M. H. A. Jones took place with semi-military honours on Friday, February 10th.

The coffin was draped with the Union Jack, and the pall-bearers, in charge of R.S.M. Burt, comprised C.S.M. Marsh, Sgt. Edwards, Sgt. Crouch, Sgt. Thorndycroft, Sgt. Gurney and Sgt. Moat, representing the four companies and Headquarters of the 4/5th Battalion.

The first part of the service was conducted at St. Paul's Church by the Rector (Rev. I. H. White-Thomson) and the interment followed at Canterbury Cemetery, where the Last Post and Reveille were sounded by a bugler of Depot The Buffs.

The chief mourners were: Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Jones (son and daughter-in-law), Mr. and Mrs. Pine (son-in-law and daughter), Miss G. M. Jones, Miss M. Jones (daughters), Mrs. Cudley and sister (aunts), Major and Mrs. F. H. Keeler, Mr. and Mrs. W. Stanger, Captain Corney, Mr. R. H. Mortimer, and Mr. R. Blake.

Among those present at the church and graveside were Brigadier-General R. McDouall, Colonel D. J. Dean (O.C., 4/5th Buffs), Colonel B. S. Collard, Major G. M. Kingsford (1/4th Bn.), Major G. R. Howe (O.C., Depot The Buffs), Major C. E. Wilson (Depot The Buffs), Major A. J. Peareth (Secretary, Past and Present Association), Captain F. G. Verlander, Captain W. T. Stone, Captain C. C. Read; Major T. Roscow Reid (Adjutant), Messrs. G. R. D. Hews, M. G. N. Moore, L. F. Parratt, L. H. Dismore and W. J. Tyrrell (4/5th Bn.); Mr. H. F. Whitfield, Mr. H. A. Newman, Mr.

A. E. Johnings (Canterbury Branch, Past and Present Association); Sgt. Maddison (385th Battery, R.A.); Sgt. Masters, C.S.M. Papworth, ex-Sgt. Pidduck (1/4th Bn.), Mr. W. G. Tutt (Permanent Staff, 4/5th Bn.), Mr. F. H. Mortimer (British Legion).

Mrs. Griffin, Mr. and Mrs. R. Atkinson, Mrs. Parren, Mrs. Holness (Littlebourne), ex-R.S.M. B. Couchman, Mrs. Burt, Mr. G. F. Tucker (1/4th Bn., Littlebourne), Mr. J. Long, Mr. H. G. Hopkins, Mr. W. J. Kidd (East Kent Road Car Co., Ltd.), Mr. F. E. Cackett, Mr. and Mrs. T. Gutteridge, Miss A. Robertson.

Beautiful wreaths were sent by: The Family; Aunts; Major and Mrs. Keeler and Lily; Mr. and Mrs. Stanger, Captain Corney, Mr. R. H. Mortimer, Messrs. R. Blake and Tritton; Bob and Doris; Nanny; Dorothy and Gert; Clara and Nell, Emily, Will and Don; Helen; Tut, Kit, Florrie and Eve; Gill, Brian and Barry; 1/4th Bn., The Buffs, 1914-19; Old Comrades of the 1/4th Battalion; Lieut.-Colonel J. D. Dean and All Ranks of the 4/5th Buffs; Officers and N.C.O.'s of "A" Company, 4/5th Buffs; Canterbury Detachment, 4/5th Buffs; Officers and Men of "D" Company, 4/5th Buffs; Officers, N.C.O.'s and Men of Littlebourne Detachment, 4/5th Buffs; Sittingbourne Platoon, "B" Company, 4/5th Buffs; Old Comrades of the 4/5th Buffs; "C" Company (The Weald), 4/5th Buffs; W.O.'s, Staff Sergeants and Sergeants, Depot The Buffs; The Chartham Boys; Sergeants' Mess, The Drill Hall; Territorial Social Club; Officers and Staff of the 40th and 60th Kent A.T.S.; Canterbury Branch, Past and Present Association, The Buffs; Old Comrades of the British Legion; The Chief Constable and Members of the Canterbury City Police Force; Major and Mrs. T. Roscow Reid; Captain H. L. Cremer; Captain G. H. Mount; Captain and Mrs. F. G. Verlander; Lieut. A. D. M. Hilton; Captain Antony Green; C.S.M. and Mrs. E. Marsh; Sangers (2139), 4/5th Buffs.

Mrs. Griffin and Family and Mr. and Mrs. Dowle; Mr. and Mrs. Bottle and Family; Mr. and Mrs. Dickins; Mr. and Mrs. G. B. Dickins and Family; Mr. and Mrs. H. Court; Mr. and Mrs. R. Parren; All at 23; Mr. and Mrs. Charles and Family; Alf Argrave; C. and M. Howse; Mr. and Mrs. Couchman and Family; Mr. and Mrs. Judge and Family; Mrs. Gibbs, Anthony and John; Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Baker; Mrs. Brown and Family; Mr. and Mrs. Gutteridge and Family; Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Baylis; Mr. and Mrs. Farmer, Terry and John; A Few Friends of St. Martin's Road; Mrs. Coombs and Will; Mr. and Mrs. Blissett; Mr. Phillips and Family.

At a social held by the Canterbury Branch of the Past and Present Association, at Headquarters at Rhodaus Town on Saturday, February 11th, when men of the 4/5th Battalion were guests, the company stood in silent tribute to the memory of Mr. Jones.

(With acknowledgments to the "Kent Herald.")

5471 Drummer J. Newton, 1st Battalion.

A "Son of the Regiment" was Jim Newton and there may be many who will remember his father, who died in 1892 whilst with the 1st Battalion in Julundah.

Enlisting from The Royal Hibernian School into The Buffs in 1898, Jim Newton joined the Drums of the 2nd Battalion and shortly afterwards was posted to the 1st Battalion in India. He served until 1906 when he was discharged as an invalid from the battalion at Aldershot. He was a Drummer the whole of his service. In 1907 he underwent an operation for internal ulcers but had been ill on and off ever since he left the battalion, and died from the same cause on Sunday, January 29th last. He leaves a widow to mourn his loss.

In writing this short obituary, it should be made clear that Jim had a brother "Tich," whose soldiering days were with the 2nd Battalion and who is alive and well.

J.E.E.

9150 Drummer G. May, 2nd Battalion.

The late Drummer May was better known under his nickname of "Danker," and was a very popular Drummer. He enlisted on May 25th, 1909 and was discharged on November 8th, 1917 as unfit for any further service. "Danker" served during the War in France from January 17th, 1915 to October 22nd, 1915, and with the Mediterranean Expeditionary Force from October 23rd, 1915 to January 10th, 1917. The late Drummer May enlisted into his father's Regiment from the Duke of York's School, and like all "Dukie" boys, he turned out a fine soldier. He leaves a widow, for whom we feel.

J.E.E.

6479 Corporal S. C. Wenham, 2nd Battalion.

Cpl. Wenham served in the 2nd Battalion and was in the Drums in 1902 at Dover. After returning to duty, he was appointed Lance-Corporal in 1904 and went out with the battalion to Harrismith. Promoted to Corporal, he was employed in the Officers' Mess as Steward and was so employed when the 2nd Battalion moved to China. Cliff Wenham—I prefer to call him "Cliff"—was a splendid example of a Christian soldier and a gentleman. He was a strict member of the I.O.G.T., the Army Temperance Association and kindred organisations, and he was admired by the barrack room because he lived up to what he professed with no two ways about him. He never missed attending the Remembrance Sunday Service and afterwards would search and find his old particular friends, who were Jimmy Jury, Reg Carter and the writer of these words. Cliff had been a great fellow all his life for the forty years I had the pleasure of knowing him. His passing recalls many happy days together in the Drums of the 2nd Battalion at Dover. He leaves a widow, to whom our deep sympathy goes out.

J.E.E.

The Regimental Museum.

WE must apologise for the absence of notes last month, due to the fact that the Keeper of the Museum had not returned from leave before the Editor was well advanced with the final proofs.

It is our first duty to record our thanks for recent donations. A cheque for £7 10s. 0d. was received during January from the Officer Commanding, 1st Battalion, The Buffs, on behalf of all ranks of that battalion.

On January 27th, the Sergeants' Mess at the Depot held a successful dance in aid of the Museum funds, as a result of which R.S.M. Fawcett was able to present £9. This included a donation of 10/- and 5/- from Col. Findlay and Major Balding, Commanding Herne Bay College O.T.C., both of whom were unfortunately unable to be present.

Colonel Crookenden, who supported the dance, accompanied by Mrs. Crookenden, gave a donation of 10/-.

Major A. E. Colley has once again contributed £1 1s. 0d.—a reminder to us all of the continual interest he takes in the historical work connected with the Regiment.

Finally, the last clearance of the Museum "Drum" produced 5/-.

The total donations for 1939 so far amount to £18 6s. 0d.

It is now with the greatest regret that we have to report a serious setback to our work. During January the War Office decided that the building in which the Museum was housed was required for other purposes and ordered it to be given up forthwith. As there were no other rooms suitable or available for use as a Museum, all the exhibits had to be put away in store.

When the Depot moves into the new barracks a room is provided as a Museum, but as it only measures 20 feet by 30 feet it will do little more than take the medal collection, if the medals are to be shown to advantage.

The problem of housing the Regimental Museum is therefore no nearer solution, in fact it has become more difficult since the accommodation in the new barracks will be exactly to schedule and there will be no chance of mis-appropriating accommodation as was the case in these old barracks in the old days. However, something may turn up and in the meantime every effort will be made to find a solution to the problem—especially as it is felt that it is now the definite wish of both Past and Present Buffs to have a Museum worthy of the Regiment and its famous history.

Notice.

The International Sportsmen's Club,
Upper Grosvenor Street,
London, W.1.

February 10th, 1939.

The Editor, "The Dragon."

Dear Mr. Editor,

Certain London social clubs give special terms to serving Officers of the Regular Forces, but I thought it would interest you and your readers to know that the International Sportsmen's Club has decided that these special terms should now be extended to serving Officers of the Territorial Army, Supplementary Reserve, and Auxiliary Air Force.

The special terms consist of admission to membership without Entrance Fee, and an annual subscription of £7 17s. 6d. instead of £15 15s. 0d.

Yours very truly,

H. W. SNOW, Lt.-Col.,

Secretary.

Our Contemporaries.

WE acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following journals:—

"Aldershot Command News." "The Hampshire Regimental Journal." "The Journal of the Royal Army Service Corps." "The Indian Army Ordnance Corps Gazette." "The South Lancashire Chronicle." "The Gunner." "The Men of Harlech." "The Tank." "The London Scottish Regimental Gazette." "The Sapper." "The Sprig of Shillelagh." "The Suffolk Regimental Gazette." "The Tiger and Rose." "The Lion and The Rose." "The Green Howards' Gazette." "Our Empire." "The Snapper." "Journal of The Honourable Artillery Company." "The Die-Hards." "The Iron Duke."

THE BUFFS GOLFING SOCIETY.

SPRING MEETING.

March 31st—April 2nd, 1939.

Thanks to the kindness of Sir G. M. M. Mallaby-Deeley, Bart., the Spring Meeting will be held at Prince's, Sandwich on the above dates, Thursday being a practice day.

The full programme will be :—

Friday, March 31st.—1st and 2nd rounds of the Brinckman Cup (Holder, Captain H. S. Greenwood).

Saturday, April 1st.—3rd and 4th rounds of the Brinckman Cup and first two rounds of the Foursomes Tournament.

Sunday, April 2nd.—Semi-finals and finals of the Brinckman Cup and Foursomes Tournament.

Other competitions, all of which will be open on Friday, Saturday and Sunday :—

- (a) The Lynden-Bell Trophy (18-holes bogey) (Holder, H. R. Grace).
- (b) The Dyne Salver (Holder, J. V. Hitchcock), to be awarded to the player returning the best 36-holes handicap aggregate score for the Spring and Autumn Meetings.
- (c) The Coupe des Lapins (Holder, Major A. J. Peareth): 18-holes medal open to those with a handicap of 20 and over.
- (d) Senior and Junior Medals.
- (e) Eclectic Competitions for the Baird and Trevor Cups. Cards 1/- each, the whole of the proceeds to be handed over to the Regimental Benevolent Fund. Cards for this competition may also be taken out on Thursday.

Entrance Fee and Green Fees.

The entrance fee to cover the cost of prizes, gratuities, etc., will be 10/-, payable in advance; the green fee covering the whole period of play, including Thursday, will be 15/-, payable to the Steward on arrival.

Closing Dates for Entries.

Entries will close on **Monday, March 27th**. The draw for the Brinckman Cup will be made on Tuesday.

The draw for the Foursomes Competition will be made after the 2nd round of the Brinckman Cup is concluded.

Accommodation.

A number of rooms have been provisionally reserved at the Guilford Hotel at a special rate of 17/6 per day. Members wishing to avail themselves are asked to notify me on the entry form as early as possible.

Autumn Meeting.

The Royal St. George's Golf Club, **September 26th—28th**.

How to get "The Dragon"

FOR those wishing to receive the Paper direct through the post each month, the rates of subscription are :—

1 year, 8/- 6 months, 4/- 3 months, 2/-

Remittances should be sent to the Editor Depot The Buffs, Canterbury.

Palestine Letter.

Sarafand.

IN the early part of 1936 Sarafand was a Company Camp. Now, just three years later, it has grown into a Brigade Camp and is still growing. Additional planning to increase the size of the camp from time to time has had a curious effect.

Buildings have been put up to accommodate units and vehicles as required, with the result that the main road through the camp twists and winds in a most confusing manner, and eventually, just to be annoying, divides into two. Numerous small and two large roads converge into the main one.

The whole place cries out that it has been put up in a hurry, and from the speed at which buildings are being erected at present, even the Americans might be envious. They are all the same—wood with tin roofs—but differ from the old barracks at Bordon in one respect; the need for speed in erection is apparently so great that there is no time for any levelling to be done, so when a slope is encountered, the building is pushed up on piles at one end. This procedure no doubt is learnt from the natives in the Congo, only they do at least have some sense of the beauty of varied architecture.

Here and there small squads of tents are to be seen growing like mushrooms amongst the buildings. On enquiring at two lots of these, I discovered R.A.S.C. in one and Palestine Survey in the other, and I leave to the imagination the comfort of a tent during the rainy season!!!

One would imagine that occupation of all these decorative buildings would equal the rate of their erection. This is not the case—take our new Mess-tobe, for example—it was built almost before the "Site Selecting Board" had blotted their names to the proceedings in quintuplicate—so fast in fact that all the windows opened inwards and no electric light was put in at all. The Quartermaster is making a special issue of "tin-hats" to prevent cases of concussion amongst those who nimbly leap up from a chair, forgetting an overhanging window, and the N.A.A.F.I. is indenting for an extra supply of candles, grease. To make matters more exciting, the site-selected is within 20 yards of the boundary wire, so now all the Mess Sergeant need do is to ring a bell to let our friendly neighbours outside the wire come along and read the menu.

Inside this wonderful camp of Sarafand is a very well-known place, visited at all hours by our neighbours. "Sarafand Hall" is the concentration camp, and, not to be outdone in the rush, it is expanding too!! Here foregather all those delightful souls who place bombs beneath railway lines as a playful joke, who unintentionally have "pot shots" at military, police and civilians, and who burn down houses, cut down orange trees and generally annoy the peace-loving soldier and civilian. They come in here and are taught to play leap-frog by Captain Reeves—some stay a few days and some—well, that would be telling.

The whole camp is surrounded by a high wire outer fence with electric lights every twenty yards or so. It is round this wire that our friend "the Prowler" proceeds on his lonely way at night, occasionally firing a Verey light to scare away the odd rabbit, to keep himself awake, and to annoy those trying to sleep.

There is an excellent cinema made of—well, how did you guess?—wood and tin. It goes a very long way towards brightening a somewhat trying existence, and in one respect certainly outdoes the cinema in England, for there is a different film every night. The acoustics are not very good, but what can one expect. There is

a stage on which occasionally we get a bumper show and in the afternoons the floor is used as a badminton court. On the other side of the building is an outdoor cinema for the hot weather.

We will say *au revoir* to Sarafand for the present ; to its tin roofs, odd tents, winding roads, miles of wire, and the concentration camp. The most popular buildings now going up are undoubtedly the married families' quarters and speculation is rife as to when they will be finished.

Let us go outside the wire on a short visit to Lydda Station, guarded by a platoon of The Buffs. We pass through the Ramle gate, and proceed about a quarter of a mile up a good tarred road with eucalyptus trees on either side. This road then joins the main Jerusalem—Jaffa Road, always crowded with traffic. Military lorries and trucks galore, Arab and Jew lorries loaded high with cases of oranges, carts and gharries overloaded with Arabs and usually drawn by one wretched pony, camels and donkeys—the owners of the latter always riding them seated near the tail—and finally the herdsman with his flock of sheep over which he seems to have an uncanny control. We pass all these, and make our way through a military control post, after which the road winds a little. On either side are cactus hedges, cut down here and there for purposes of safety, and the usual orange groves in profusion. The picking season is now on and the trees are laden with fruit.

We come to Lydda Station itself, where several "hold ups" in the past have taken place. A military post here on the platform behind a breastwork of sand-bags. Barbed wire between the pillars, and, most incongruous, is the sight of military trucks on the platform itself. Numerous trolley cars with their pushers can be seen. These precede all trains, and the men who ride in them are known as the "Suicide Squad." A little further over is the big engine shed and repair works, all of which have to be guarded. Our visit over, we pass the sentry on our return journey.

In my next letter I hope to describe Tel Aviv and Jaffa.

H. DE L.W.

Serves the Services.

WORK OF THE N.A.A.F.I. IN PEACE AND WAR.

What Happens on Mobilization.

(BY A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

SOLDIERS like smoked bacon ; sailors prefer their bacon "green" and mild ; a flavour of pork rather than smoke.

That is one of the interesting facts I learned during a visit to the London Headquarters of the Corporation of Navy, Army and Air Force Institutes, shortly known as the N.A.A.F.I. and more familiarly as "Naffy."

The establishment of the N.A.A.F.I., which is an integral part of Service life in the Royal Navy and Royal Marines, the Army and the Royal Air Force, is one of the few good things born of the Great War. But the general idea was conceived in the womb of constant warfare.

Sir John Fortescue, that pre-eminent military historian, wrote in his monograph, *Canteens in the British Army*: "The N.A.A.F.I. is the flower of a plant which has been tended and nurtured by generations of British officers, almost entirely regimental, since the days of Cromwell" and he goes on to add: "Nor, indeed, should any British Officer be ignorant

about it ; for it is the creation of his own brethren for the welfare of all ranks of Navy, Army and Air Force."

My first impression of the administrative side of N.A.A.F.I. was that like the geni in *Alf's Button*, it is "very wholesale." It does things in such a big way that breakfast does not mean a plate of eggs and bacon but thousands of sides of bacon and millions of eggs.

Rivers of milk, pyramids of sugar, plantations of tea !

My genial guide in the warehouse rattled off impressive totals in bewildering staccato : "570,000 lbs. of tea per annum, 2,886,000 dozens of eggs, 2,000 tons of butter, 22,000 cheeses, 20,000 cwts. of meat, 24,400 cases of salmon ; yearly value of issues of saleable goods, £1,560,000."

So it went on until I wilted under a rapid fire of facts and figures. But these facts and figures were competently assembled, disciplined and paraded by charming girls whose skilful and nimble fingers operate the keys of electric typewriters until the jumble of figures leap and dance into their proper columns, number themselves, dress from the left, and come to attention in a series of orderly sums.

A delicious smell of cooking pervades the huge bakery where cakes and buns and pies are taught to behave with a pat here, and a smack there, cream for this and spice for that, while even the modest penny cakes glow with the pride of prize pastry.

In the place where bacon is smoked an expert in pig lore talked learnedly of the effects of feed on flavour. "What the pig eats," he explained, "determines largely the extent of your enjoyment when eating the pig."

The cheese expert gravely presented me with morsels of various kinds of cheese and discussed the different values of pastures and winter feed on the milk product of cows. The specialist in eggs arranged his cases with the delicate nicety of a stamp enthusiast displaying his collection.

But the place I liked best was the light, airy room where, under the supervision of a pleasant and sympathetic manageress, men and youths from other callings were learning to cook. These men appeared to be keener and more engrossed in their task than were the girl pupils. I watched one man who had been a bricklayer's labourer devote much loving care to the assembling of a pink cone of confectionery. He reminded me of a boy presented with his first working model of a locomotive—there was the same absorbed interest, the same close attention to details, the same pride and satisfaction when it "worked."

These men when competent are sent to stations overseas, and some of the type are now in Palestine. The Overseas Service on a world-wide service into geographically convenient areas and districts, each of which is under a responsible official. The N.A.A.F.I. does not conduct the Institute Service in India, but one of its ex-officials is now in charge of the Indian Army Canteen Board.

The Army of to-day patronises the dry rather than the wet canteen ; and those of you who are apt to grouse occasionally at the cost and quality of your cakes and buns try to visualise that middle-aged man putting all he knew into the making of a perfect cone of confectionery.

The N.A.A.F.I. as a big distributing business has to move with the trade ; if it did not it would land itself into difficulties by raising all kinds of trade antagonism. There are also other difficulties in lowering prices. They

cannot be reduced fairly. While it might be possible to take a halfpenny off a glass of beer without actually making a loss, a cup of tea could not be reduced by a farthing, because our coinage does not admit of dealing easily in farthings; and the tea drinker would certainly have a grouse if prices were lowered in favour of the beer drinker.

After all, the N.A.A.F.I. secures to the Units a higher all round rate of rebate than any other organisation could achieve. It does not trade for profit, meaning that it does not and cannot trade to *retain* any profit. And it provides the machinery for organising a War Canteen Service, or a service in any emergency.

Remember, also, that soldiers before the Great War had none of the amenities and luxuries enjoyed by the men to-day; also that those of us who fought in that war were not so well served as men will be in any war that might come.

In event of mobilization the N.A.A.F.I. would throw off a subsidiary which would be known as the Expeditionary Force Institutes. This would work hand in hand with the parent Corporation. The N.A.A.F.I. is in a position, I was told, to do whatever is required of it in providing a field Institute Service for a theatre of war from the moment mobilization is ordered, and, at the same time to expand its service sufficiently to meet the requirements of an increased home army.

The N.A.A.F.I. staff of the E.F.I. would become, for instance, members of the R.A.S.C. Territorial Forces, and would thus become part of the Expeditionary Force in a position to carry on such services as the situation demanded. The N.A.A.F.I.'s peace-time organisation specially in the Middle and Far East, I was assured, would easily be placed on a war footing.

The N.A.A.F.I. as it exists to-day, and as it expands at the call of circumstances, is no static but a dynamic organisation. Rebates and discounts amounting to considerably over £400,000 per annum represent what the Service Community as a whole saves by using the Institute Service.

The whole of the capital of the N.A.A.F.I. was derived entirely from the money spent by the men of the three Services with the War-time canteen Services; and in this sense the N.A.A.F.I. belongs to the men of the Services.

Rifle Shooting in the Army.

NEW CONDITIONS FOR CHAMPIONSHIPS.

From our Bisley Correspondent.

CONSIDERABLE changes have been made in the programme of the Army Rifle Association for 1939, in order to bring the competitions for both individual and team championships in central and non-central competitions in line with the General Staff's policy as regards small arms. These changes were outlined at the Annual General Meeting of the Association, which was held at the War Office recently.

Shooting with the light machine gun is to be introduced into the competition for the King's Medal, hitherto a purely rifle event. A new light machine gun championship is to be included in the central meeting programme, in addition to the rifle championship, and for both of these A.R.A. jewels will be awarded. The King's Medal will be won by the individual having the highest aggregate in the rifle and L.M.G. championships. The Lewis gun will no longer be used, and all light machine gun competitions this year will be fired with the Bren gun.

The rifle championship course is to be altered considerably to bring it more into line with modern tactical ideas. The conditions for the pistol championship will be affected similarly.

Other Changes.

There will be changes also in the conditions for the Queen Victoria Trophy, which is the non-central team championship and is shot for in two separate series (for troops at home and for troops abroad). Light machine gun practices are to be introduced into four of the six separate competitions which make up the aggregate. The competitions, which have hitherto been contested by teams armed with the rifle, are those for the Squadron Shield, the King George Cup, the Royal Irish Cup, and the Young Soldiers' Cup. Respirators are to be worn in all the practices fired for the Squadron and Company Shields.

A number of men in each battalion are to fire a sniper's course, using the ordinary rifle and open sights. From these, eight men will be selected as battalion snipers and will be armed with the Pattern 1914 rifle fitted with telescopic sight. To encourage practice with these weapons, a new non-central competition for sniper teams of four will be introduced this year.

The report of the Chairman (Brigadier R. Gurney) indicated that the Association is in a flourishing condition. The number of unit subscriptions has increased and the total individual membership is only 50 short of the record during the Association's 45 years of existence.

Brigadier Gurney paid a tribute to the interest and enthusiasm shown by the retiring President (Lieut.-General Sir Henry Jackson), and announced that the President for this year was Lieut.-General Sir John Dill.

(With acknowledgments to "The Times.")



Opportunities for Promotion afforded to Any Man entering the Post Office Service as a Postman.

SPEAKING at the 53rd Annual General Meeting of the National Association, an ex-Saddler, Quarter-master-Sergeant, Royal Artillery, said he would like it to be known how much it means to ex-Regulars to realise that there are gentlemen who have severed their connection with the Services and others who have not served at all, who are willing to interest themselves in the welfare of Regular Ex-Service men. He continued:

"I should like to give you my own personal experience. Realising that my trade of saddler had practically ceased to exist, I was faced with the fact that I should have to enter some other occupation on re-entering civil life, which, as I was 41 years of age, was a difficult proposition. I visited the office of the National Association for Employment of Regular Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen at 62 Victoria Street, and, on the advice of the Employment Manager, I registered my name for employment in the Post Office. He informed me that entry was restricted to the appointment of postmen and porters, but that I could enter a limited competition for the appointment of sorter

(London), subject to an age limit of 45 years and with the proviso that I competed within the first three years of Post Office service.

Shortly after nomination I was instructed to appear for an interview with the Postmaster at Aldershot, after which I was medically examined by the Post Office Medical Officer. Within three months of registration I was asked to attend at Battersea on the 31st October, 1936, and from there I was sent to the London Postal School for instruction. Instruction is given in general postmen's duties in a class under the one instructor for a period of three weeks. It consists of sorting for London districts and primary sorting for the provinces, with a number of lectures and visits to the principal offices in London. Sorting instruction is given on a series of cards in groups, on which a standard pass for efficiency is set.

On completing the course and passing the sorting test, I was sent to my office at S.W.14, there to take up my duties as a postman, and I received further instruction in the local sorting and other duties in that area. I was granted a Civil Service Certificate in March, 1937. In the same month I entered the first examination and, in consequence of the position I obtained in the competition I was appointed a sorter, Inland Section, E.C.1. On appointment I again entered the London Postal School, on the 20th March of this year. Instruction is spread over a period of four weeks, in which instruction is given in the sorting of mail into districts and the general principles of despatch, visits are paid to the offices concerned, and practical instruction is given in all duties peculiar to the class. As in the case of a postman, it is essential to attain pass standards in sorting. On completing the course, I joined my office, where further instruction was given in duties peculiar to that office.

The points that I wish to emphasise are that the intending applicant for postal employment, whether he has a first or second class certificate of education, should make himself familiar with the geographical position of counties, principal towns, railways and packet routes, within the British Isles, and gain some knowledge of the London postal districts. These are important both for the preliminary interview and for assistance in the subsequent instruction at the London Postal School.

The Post Office offers the ex-Service man permanent employment and a chance of advancement on higher pay, with a pension and a gratuity, based on service, at 60 years of age.

I wish to thank, in the first place, the National Association for putting me into touch with the Post Office, the Instructors in the London Postal School for their interest in the advancement of their trainees, and the staff at S.W.14 for their help and guidance and the friendly co-operation afforded me in that office."

(From the General Secretary, National Association for Employment of Regular Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen, 14 Howick Place, London, S.W.1.)

Correspondence.

Greystone Lodge,
Sevenoaks.

February 18th, 1939.

The Editor, "The Dragon."

Dear Sir,

Looking through some old newspaper cuttings, I found the enclosed, which you may think of sufficient interest to reproduce.

Robert Blatchford was a remarkable man. Editor of the Socialist weekly, *The Clarion*, he nevertheless could never forget he had been a Sergeant in, I think, The Dublin Fusiliers. Anyway, one of the old Indian "Company" regiments, and he wrote a very interesting—and truthful—little book describing Army life fifty years ago. A big man with a wide sombrero hat and a flaming red tie, he was a familiar figure in pre-War Fleet Street and the Grand Bar, Charing Cross.

With all good wishes to The Buffs,

Yours faithfully,

FRANK GODWIN,

late Royal Fusiliers and Royal Berkshire Regiment.

The Big Drum.

The Buffs Good-bye.

BY ROBERT BLATCHFORD.

Salisbury, Saturday.

The Canadians had a fine send-off to-day from Dinton Station. The Duke of Connaught was on the platform, and the officers were presented to him. The London and South-Western Railway provided excellent accommodation, and the drums of the Buffs played a number of quicksteps with great spirit.

There is no more exhilarating music than the music of the fife and drum. It is of the very essence of soldiering. A band inspires and pleases, but we hear bands anywhere. The drum and fife belong to the Army. Only real soldiers can give the true speech to the drum and fife. No old soldier can hear the drums and fifes unmoved. A band inspires and pleases, but the drums and fifes thrill.

And the drums of the Buffs are as good as good can be, and they played "Old Mother Graygoose," which I have not heard for more than thirty years. And I forgot those thirty years and was a gay young sergeant stepping briskly along with the good old Ramchunders, a rifle on my shoulder and fine young comrades round me. I could see the swaggering drummer boys with their chins up and their shoulders, and the riflers prancing along with a glance now and again of their wicked eyes at some smiling girl by the wayside.

Then my wife said: "Look at the big drummer! Isn't it grand; so graceful and easy!" I looked at the big drummer of the Buffs and confirmed the lady's judgment. The big drummer of the Buffs is a fine specimen of the English soldier. Young and straight, smart and clean, with a saucy smile and blue eyes, bright and very keen. He beat his drum as though he loved it. He beat it as one who understood it. He beat it like a master. He beat it with a graceful ease. He beat it with reticence and with discretion and with the swiftest force and directness. A most excellent and accomplished drummer.

Music and Sunshine.

And the side drums throbbed and the fifes chirped and shrilled. And the music and the sunshine got into our blood.

Then a colour-sergeant of the Canadians got on a truck and conducted the orchestra like Strauss or Henry Wood. Then the Canadians laid hands upon the Buffs and robbed them of their badges and their buttons. Then there was much cheering and shaking of hands, and half the Canadians entrained.

But the best was yet to come. While the Duke of Connaught was good-naturedly chatting or submitting to the assaults of the camera or writing in officers' note-books the drums of the Buffs formed up again, and the big drummer hoisted the drum into the marching position and gave us a brilliant display of rococo drum-

ming. He swung the sticks, he flourished the sticks, he twirled and twiddled and crossed the sticks in the playful vagaries of Indian club dexterities.

He hit the right side of the drum with his left and the left side of the drum with his right, and each side of the drum with both sticks. He stroked the drum, and patted the drum, and tickled the drum, and hit the drum, and banged and bashed and slogged the drum. He made the drum sigh and growl and bark and roar. He made the drum chatter and whimper and laugh and swear, and all the while the sticks were spinning and curling and twinkling and flashing like flying governor balls or winnowing wings or spokes of light. And he never lost the time nor bungled the phrasing; and he kept his heels closed and his knees straight, and seemed as cool and happy and self-possessed and easy as Cinquevalli seems, when he is juggling with an egg, a carving knife, a cannon ball, and a feather duster.

A Great Day.

My wife, who, although a soldier's bride, had never seen a big drum properly beaten in her life, was absolutely fascinated. She has accepted the greatness of her husband and William Shakespeare as an act of faith, but the transcendent genius of the big drummer of the Buffs was a thing palpably and visibly demonstrated to her eyesight and her appreciation. She will never lift an eyelash for a mere civilian drummer again.

So the Canadians entrained for Liverpool and for home, and the brave Buffs marched off to glory. It was a great day, and convinced my wife of the value of universal military service. Artemus Ward once said he knew a man without a tooth in his head, and yet that man could beat a drum as well as anybody. But Artemus had never been in the British Army. Artemus had never seen the big drummer of the Buffs.

The Canadians were enthusiastic on the subject of the British Army. They declared that they had had the time of their lives, and they went off cheering. Their visit has produced excellent results, and it is worth while considering the possibility of future visits of over-seas troops to the Mother-country.

As for the difficulty of recruiting for the Territorials, I can offer the Government a most valuable hint. Send the drums of the Buffs on tour with our wonderful big drummer at their head. The youths who will not follow such a drum as that are not meant by nature ever to carry arms.

Seriously, the people do not see enough of their soldiers. The better such men are known the greater will be the popularity of the service. The Army—officers and men—is all right. It cheers and refreshes one to see so much young English manhood. It makes one wish one might remain perennially young to march always with gallant and merry lads and listen often to the virile and sweet music of the fifes and drums. Instead of which men grow stout and elderly. And some of them become journalists. And others degenerate into politicians. All this is very sad.

(With acknowledgments to the "Daily Mail," September 26th, 1910.)

NOTE.—The Canadians referred to in Mr. Blatchford's article were our allied Regiment, The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada. *Ed.*

NOTICE.

FRIDAY, April 7th, being Good Friday, the April number of *The Dragon* will be issued on Thursday, April 6th.

Past and Present Association.

DONATIONS.

During the period 18/1/39 to 18/2/39 the following donations have been gratefully received:—

	£	s.	d.
1st Battalion, The Buffs, Charitable Fund	15	0	0
Sale of Work, Officers' Wives, Depot, The Buffs	1	10	0
L. E. S. Allom, Esq.	1	1	0

DISBURSEMENTS.

During the period 18/1/39 to 18/2/39 the following disbursements have been made:—

	£	s.	d.
Feb. 1. Grant	1	7	4
2. Grant	2	0	0
6. Grant	2	0	0
6. Grant	0	10	0
13. Grant	0	15	0
15. Grant	0	10	0
16. Grant	2	0	0

NEW MEMBERS.

Life Members.—Mr. W. H. S. Constable (Margate).

Annual Members.—2/Lieuts. J. B. Worts, J. P. Nash; Messrs. T. Baker, Webb (London).

Branch Meetings, March, 1939.

- Mar. 11. Ashford (Drill Hall).
- 18. London (Prince Alfred Restaurant).
- 10. Dover (Friendly Societies' Institute).
- 31. Medway (Drill Hall).
- 3. Sittingbourne (Drill Hall).
- 31. Ramsgate (Drill Hall).
- 13. Margate (Drill Hall).
- 25. Hythe (British Legion Hut).
- 3. Canterbury (Rhodaus Town).
- 14. Herne Bay Sub-Branch (Druid's Head and Drill Hall).
- 13. Folkestone (Drill Hall).
- 10. Sandwich (George and Dragon, Fisher Street).
- 7. Deal (Working Men's Club, West Street).

Fixtures, 1939.

- April 29. 2/5th Battalion Dinner, Carr's Restaurant, Victoria Station.
- May 6. London Branch Dinner, Thames House Restaurant.
- 27. Annual General Meeting, Canterbury.
- June 4. Cenotaph Service, London Branch.
- 14. Dragon Club Dinner.
- Aug. 13. Day of Remembrance, Canterbury.
- Sept. 9. 8th (S) Battalion Dinner (provisional).
- Oct 14. 6th (S) Battalion Dinner (provisional).
- Nov. 12. Visit to Field of Remembrance.

Ashford Branch.

At our branch meeting on Saturday, February 11th, the Chairman was Mr. F. Harrison and Vice-Chairman Mr. C. Brissenden. We had quite a good number present. The weather was good and dry, but some took the chance to get "wet inside" after not too much though, and I am sure with a little persuasion they could increase their capacity.

George Hopkins has been and gone and done it properly this time, and now his rations will get cut down again to normal. "Here's how," George, and let's all get together and wish you and Mrs. Hopkins all the very best for many years to come.

The branch were all very sorry to hear that the Ministry of Pensions had turned down Mr. J. W. Brooker's appeal for a pension, and it was carried unanimously that we should appeal again for him. His is a very sad and hard case. For a man who has done his bit and has still got enemy lead in him it is only right that his services should be recognised. J. W. Brooker, 1/5th Battalion, wounded in Mesopotamia, was made Band Storeman until he came home. Some of the old 1/5th may remember him.

Congratulations to our members who have recovered from their various bouts of sickness. Our Vice-Chairman is back again, but the sick visitor is still *hors de combat*.

We were all very pleased to see one of our old Secretaries with us. Mr. E. H. Chambers came down from Maidstone to see us and is looking and keeping very fit.

There are not many recruits for Ashford Platoon yet, but we have hopes that some young Buffs will soon come along.

WILKIE.

LADIES' GUILD.

The monthly meeting was held at the Drill Hall on February 8th. Mrs. King was in the Chair.

The Minutes were read and confirmed for December 14th. Correspondence from the Men's Branch was read.

Mrs. King gave a talk on her recent visit to Oxford. We also saw photographs of many places she had visited. All were interested and thanked her.

Mrs. Hopkins brought wedding cake, when all wished her and Mr. G. Hopkins every success and many years together.

Tea was served and thus ended the meeting.

L. H.

London Branch.

Notwithstanding many members were attending the 7th Battalion Dinner, there was a good muster, and a pleasant surprise was the unexpected visit of the Colonel of the Regiment. The Chair was taken by Captain E. A. Carter.

DECEASE.—Members stood in silence to the memory of the following old comrades who had recently passed over:—2954 R.S.M. (Dapper) Jones, Canterbury Branch; 5471 Drummer Jim Newton, London Branch; 9150 Drummer (Danker) May, London Branch; 6479 Corporal S. C. Wenham, London Branch.

MINUTES.—The Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Arising out of the Minutes, the Secretary stated that he had received a charming letter of thanks from Mrs. Talbot Harvey in which this lady expresses her sincere appreciation to the members for the cheque sent on behalf of her Douglas House Wireless Fund. A letter was also read from Mr. C. Bertram expressing the thanks of the patients.

CORRESPONDENCE.—Received and read from General Sir Arthur Lynden-Bell, who not only gave the information about the death of R.S.M. (Dapper) Jones but told us of his visit to 3153 Mr. W. Carver, lying seriously ill, and also making an enquiry about Mr. J. Leaver, D.C.M., who won his decoration with the 1st Battalion on the North-West Frontier of India.

4960 R.S.M. Jimmy Dray, sending his salaams to old friends.

4363 Cpl. A. E. Winch, 2nd Battalion, recalling the days of Paardeburg.

Of special interest was a letter from Major-General Hon. P. G. Scarlett urging the members to give their services in the cause of National Defence. From Major G. R. Howe giving best wishes and regretting the Museum has to find other quarters. From C.S.M. Reg Wallace of The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada enclosing a page of the *Toronto Globe and Mail* giving an account of the dinner General Sir Henry Pellatt on reaching his 80 birthday anniversary.

DANCE.—The Chairman expressed a wish that all who had not purchased tickets for the dance on February 25th should do so to-night.

ANNUAL DINNER.—Captain Enright pointed out the necessity for members to warn in early as by so doing the work of arranging for 500 or 600 diners is much facilitated. Mr. Cobb enquired if it would be possible to curtail the speeches and he would like to know if any toasts had yet been fixed. Captain Enright replied that there would be three toasts only and he and the Dinner Committee hoped that all would be on the dance floor by 9 p.m.

NEW MEMBERS.—The following attending for the first time were introduced to the Colonel of the Regiment and welcomed into the branch:—6734794 Dmr. W. Hogg, 1st Battalion; 803121 Pte. G. Dane, 2nd Battalion; Lieut. F. L. M. Fowler, 6th Battalion.

SICK MEMBERS.—We were sorry to hear that Messrs. A. E. Grant and G. Austin (Spud) were not well enough to be with us. It was, however, nice to see Mr. Billy Everitt back again after his spell in bed.

THE COLONEL OF THE REGIMENT.—Addressed the members, the Colonel mentioned that he was flying the next day to the South of France on behalf of the Red Cross to help in trying to do something to alleviate the very appalling conditions prevailing on the French Frontier. There were hundreds of thousands of refugees and Republican soldiers herded together wanting help and it mattered not the political opinions, it was a matter which concerned a helping hand to those who required it. With reference to The Queen's Own Rifles of Canada, he wrote to General Pellatt the congratulations of the Regiment and he had received a very nice reply. He felt that The Queen's Own were really very proud of their association with The Buffs. He felt the question of the Museum at Canterbury very much and he sympathised with Major Howe after the tremendous trouble he had gone to. The General said that he had been to the War Office, the outcome of which was that the Museums would form part of the schedule for all future barracks. The accommodation, however, he felt would not prove adequate, but we should have to do our best. He often heard from General Scarlett, and his great interest and support to the Association is as strong as ever. Colonel Wilkins writes frequently to him from Palestine and he is proud to say he has received many unsolicited testimonials from officers of high rank praising the work of the 1st Battalion. If he is back in time, he trusts to be present at the branch meeting on March 18th next.

The Chairman, Captain Carter, thanked General Kennedy for his address and said that we shall look forward to the next meeting when, no doubt, the General will tell us something about the conditions he found on the French frontier.

We were pleased to see up from the base, 19112 Mr. H. Pardon, late 2nd Battalion, who for the past year or two has not had the best of luck. We hope it has now turned.

Captain T. F. Harrington, late 1st Battalion, came along from North Harrow and brought with him a new member in Lieut. F. L. M. Fowler, late 6th Battalion.

We noticed Messrs. C. E. Vaughan, G. J. Emery, A. Petley and others chinwagging, possibly about Aldershot, Shorncliffe, Bordon, or it might have been mounting guard at Buckingham Palace.

It looks as if the majority of the W.O.'s and Sergeants from the battalions find their way to Tufton Street.

2890 Mr. Bob Knott travelled up from Dartford to be with his old pals. He was quite at home with Hughie Borland, Bill Elvey and Harry Foot.

Captain C. F. Bingham can be observed every meeting night going round the room giving a word of cheer to new members and making them feel at home.

Messrs. G. S. Cotton and Brinley (Taffy) Richards both missed their old friend J. Verney, who is on the sick list.

It is surprising the distances members travel to attend the meeting. Taffy Richards journeys from Romford, W. J. Field from Norwich, Captain T. O. Cook from Crawley—and so we could go on.

There was a nice party of old 8th Battalion members present in Messrs. Eddy Shute, Bob Waby, C. Webb and W. Cronk.

We hear that the son of Cronk won the Inter-Unit Flyweight Championship for London Territorial Units. We understand also that Mr. Cronk had two other brothers who served in the 8th Battalion.

The Bear's Den was almost vacant—bears were ill and remained in the jungle. When Tommy, Spud, Donkey and Molly are away, the old home is "To be Let."

Our thanks to Bert Tester for his "Paardeberg" wire and to all others who wrote about February 18th. On a show of hands there were ten members present at the meeting who took part in that battle 39 years ago. "Old soldiers never die" was sung with gusto.

J.E.E.

LADIES' GUILD.

The tea meeting was held at the Prince Alfred Restaurant, S.W.1 on February 1st and was well-attended. Generally at this time of the year there is always a poor attendance. Members were pleased to have Miss Harley (daughter of the late Colonel Harley, who commanded the 1st Battalion in Calcutta when General Sir Arthur Lynden-Bell was Adjutant) with us and she was given a very enthusiastic welcome. We also were delighted to enrol Mrs. Petley as a new member.

MINUTES.—The Minutes for the month of December were read and signed.

CORRESPONDENCE.—Letters were received from Mrs. Rennison, Mrs. Harris, Mrs. Odell, Mrs. Bell (Corsham), Mrs. Ricketts (Bordon) and Mrs. Barton (West Coast, Africa).

REGRETS.—Those regretting inability to attend were Mrs. Grant, Mrs. Vaughan, Mrs. Stewart and Mrs. Hukins.

SICK.—Regrets were again expressed to the family of Mrs. Manning, who is so ill again, also Mrs. Dixon and Mrs. Redman, but we were pleased to have Mrs. Potter (Medway) with us, looking much better after her operations.

BIRTH.—Our heartiest congratulations to Mrs. Willing on the birth of a son. The usual christening gift has been forwarded.

DANCE.—Members were requested to support the London Branch Dance on February 25th. Tickets 2/-.

DINNER.—It was announced that the London Branch Dinner was on May 6th at Thames House. Tickets 5/6, available now.

RETURN OF THANKS.—The Chairman expressed her sincere thanks to all who had contributed in money or kind for the New Year's Party and for their attendance. She read out the names of all who had given to it to make it the great success it was. She also expressed her thanks to all those who so loyally supported the Guild Dinner. Mrs. Lamb said she would like to express her thanks to Mrs. Cobb, Mrs. Grant and Mrs. Philpot for arranging the games for the children at the party and to the members for attending same, and she thought a vote of thanks should be accorded Mrs. Spinner, who had arranged the dinner and which was such a success. *Carried.* She also proposed the dinner be held at the same restaurant next year.

RAFFLES AND WHIST.—Our very grateful thanks to all who gave raffles and whist prizes.

Dover Branch.

I am sorry to have to start these notes by reporting a good deal of sickness amongst the members; also the death of one of our Ladies' Guild, Mrs. Newing. I know that the sympathy of all members goes to Mr. G. Newing over his sad loss.

Our late Secretary, Mr. C. Ashby, has been seriously ill, but I am pleased to say that our Vice-Chairman, Dr. E. E. Elliot, reports a slight improvement. We all wish Charlie a speedy recovery. The same applies to Mr. Barker and Mr. Steele, Sen., who have been fighting the 'flu.

Our February meeting was a little better in strength than the previous month, and it was a pleasant surprise to see Colonel Findlay walk into the Special Committee Meeting which was being held. The Colonel made a very suitable speech with regard to getting the younger members to come along, so as to be ready to relieve some of the older members when they have to hand over.

After business was finished, Colonel Findlay was asked to play off the winner of the Findlay Billiard Cup, Mr. A. Watts, the horse-radish king. It was a very good game, the Colonel making a break of 34, to finish a winner by 100 to 72. Colonel Findlay has promised to come along in the near future to present the Cup. The Dover Branch are always pleased to see him.

I have heard that if 'flu had not attacked our General Secretary, he would have been along at the February meeting. Still, never mind, we have that visit to look forward to now. We all hope that he had managed to give "Mr. 'Flu" a knock-out blow.

This week C.S.M. Marsh and "D" Company of the Territorials move to their new quarters at the Artillery Drill Hall, Liverpool Street, Dover, so by the time these notes are in print we expect them to be settled down. In the near future the Dover Branch are hoping to challenge them to a games tournament, so get in training for lights and heavies.

I am very pleased to be able to report further progress by the "Dragons," our shooting team, they having beaten the W.O.'s of The Royal Fusiliers by 88 points—fair William Tells they are! The following are the individual scores:—Hogben 98, Warren 97, Barker 95, Mead 95, Amos 94, Plater 91, total 571; W.O.'s, The Royal Fusiliers 483.

For the last month or so our branch boys have been assisting the Friendly Society in their various Cups and Shield games, and we are hoping to see one or two of the trophies finding a resting-place at our Headquarters. The games include billiards, snooker, euchre, whist, crib, darts and shove-halfpenny, The Buffs being pretty warm on the last-mentioned game, and no tight ones. Ask Jock and Tubby.

By the way, Rossy Boy has been holding his own very well lately at rummy. The Friendlies are thinking about handicapping him, or promoting him to a higher division. Dewberry looks like being relegated, although Sammy has been feeding him well.

DEWBERRY.

LADIES' GUILD.

Our meeting of January 19th was well-attended. The Chairman, Mrs. Crookenden, was unable to be present.

Another of our series of games was started. Some members are getting quite experts.

It was proposed to have an American tea at the next meeting. This consists of all members taking a parcel costing 2d. and after all being placed in a box, buying one. This causes lots of fun, besides adding to the funds.

A successful Whist Drive was held at the Friendly Society's Club, Biggin Street, in the evening of above date. The prizes were well worth winning. A new idea was introduced at this whist drive—ladies' and gents' travelling prizes. The undersigned was fortunate in winning this on the last two games. It is hoped to hold another shortly.

I am very sorry to report that one of our members, Mrs. Newing, has passed over after a very short and painful illness. The funeral took place on February 13th, nine members attending. The Guild also sent a wreath.

L.E.E.

Medway Branch.

The monthly meeting of the above branch was held at the Drill Hall, Boundary Road, Chatham, on Friday, January 27th, 1939. The Chair was occupied by Captain A. Barton, supported by Mr. F. Cox (Vice-Chairman), the Hon. Treasurer and the Hon. Secretary. Members in attendance were very few.

CORRESPONDENCE.—The Chairman read a letter from General Sir Arthur Lynden-Bell. Several interesting items concerning the 1st and 2nd Battalions were given; also the 2nd Battalion's new address.

The next letter was from Mr. Hutchings, informing the branch that he had sustained a nasty accident while at work, smashing two ribs. Mr. P. Hills was detailed to visit him.

OTHER BUSINESS.—It was decided to hold over the return invitation to the Chatham Branch of The Royal West Kents, it being suggested that a later date would be more suitable.

A formal discussion took place regarding the removal of the Branch Headquarters, it being suggested that by changing the meeting night to Saturday, and returning to the meeting place at the Unity Club, it would enable more members to attend. Mr. Shirley reported that he had had an informal talk with the Secretary of the Unity Club, and was told that it was not expected that any opposition would be offered when, or if, application should be made. It was therefore decided that the Secretary should approach the officials concerned re the removal of the branch as soon as convenient.

No further business arising, the collection was taken and realised 3/-, the meeting then being declared closed.

On the invitation of the Chatham Branch of The Royal West Kent Regiment, Medway met their comrades of The Queen's Own in a series of games, etc., on the 20th January. Previous to the convivialities commencing, the branch attended the monthly meeting of their hosts. Major Brothers, R.W.K., presided. On The Buffs side were our President (Alderman Osborn Taylor, Captain Barton (Chairman), Major Peareth (Secretary), Colonel Findlay, and a good gathering of members. Major Brothers gave an interesting speech, followed by our President, who said that these meetings of the two County Regiments produced and did an enormous amount of good, and more of them should take place. Captain Barton also gave one of his inimitable speeches. The games which followed ended slightly in favour of The Royal West Kents, but in the sing-song I think that honours were easy, everybody's lungs being in good trim. A very enjoyable evening in every way. A return invitation will be sent at a later date.

Several branch members attended the Ladies' Guild Annual Supper and Whist Drive on January 21st. A very good show in every way.

A.J.M.

LADIES' GUILD.

The fourth Annual Meeting was held on Wednesday, January 25th, when despite the inclement weather there was a good attendance.

Mrs. King Holt (Chairman) in her report said she had very little to add to what she had said at the supper, only to voice the feeling of all members—how disappointed they all are that none of the Presidents or Vice-Presidents visit us. She would ask Mrs. Sellens to read her report of the year's work.

Before doing so, Mrs. Sellens said she had an apology from Mrs. Potter, who they all trust will soon be restored to good health. The Secretary's report was then read and all present were very proud of the year's work. Their accounts had been audited and she was quite sure when they saw the balance sheet they would congratulate the Treasurer on her accounts. Mrs. Sellens said she would like to thank the Chairman and Committee for the help they had given her during the past year. The branch had worked hard to make things go.

Mrs. Rowlands then presented her balance sheet and all present said "Carry on for another year; we don't want any changes." So here we are, going to carry on for the good of the cause: Mrs. King Holt (Chairman), Mrs. Potter (Vice-Chairman), Mrs. Sellens (Secretary), Mrs. Rowlands (Treasurer), Committee—Mrs. French, Mrs. Skinner, Mrs. Birch, Mrs. Harmer.

Tea was served and the competition was won by Mrs. Rowlands.

M.S.

"Men are always proud of their ladies, especially when they are helping to keep the spirit of comradeship alive," declared Alderman Osborn Taylor, President of the Past and Present Buffs Association (Medway Branch), when speaking at the annual dinner of The Buffs Ladies' Guild, which was held at the Foresters' Hall, King Street, Gillingham, on Saturday.

Alderman Osborn Taylor, who was proposing the toast of "The Guild," declared that the success attained by the Ladies' Guild had made the Men's Branch look to their laurels. With the support of the Ladies' Guild, the Men's Branch had been strengthened in many ways. Mrs. W. King Holt (Chairman of the Guild), who

presided, said that they had had a very successful year, and thanks to the Treasurer, the funds were in a healthy conditions. She also paid a tribute to the work of the Secretary, and thanked the Committee who were responsible for all the "donkey work."

Their monthly meetings were always well supported, she said, and added the hope that they would continue to work together for the good of the cause.

Mrs. Sellens (Secretary) also outlined the work of the Guild, and spoke of the two outings they had enjoyed to Brighton and Folkestone. She explained that at Folkestone they visited the local Buffs Ladies' Guild.

Among others present (in addition to those already mentioned) were Mrs. Osborn Taylor, Captain A. S. Barton Chairman of the Men's Branch), and Mrs. Barton, Mr. A. Moorey (Secretary, Men's Branch), Mr. W. King Holt (Treasurer, Men's Branch), Mrs. Potter (Vice-Chairman of the Guild), Mrs. A. Rowlands (Treasurer of the Guild), and Lieut. and Mrs. R. Gilbert.

Following the dinner, there was a whist drive. Mr. W. French was the M.C., and prizes were handed by Mrs. Osborn Taylor to the following winners:—Mrs. Hill, Miss Gilbert, Mrs. Steptoe, junior, Mr. Potter, Mr. Rowlands, Mr. Hill, and Mr. Gilbert. Mrs. Hodges won a special prize.

The prizes were kindly given by Mrs. Skinner, Mrs. Holt, Mrs. Sellens and Mrs. Steptoe.

Sittingbourne Branch.

The tenth Annual Meeting was held at the Drill Hall on Friday evening, February 3rd, 1939.

A letter was received from Colonel D. J. Dean, our Chairman, apologising for his absence; and Lieut. J. E. Wills was elected to preside over the meeting.

The Minutes of the ninth Annual General Meeting were read and signed as correct.

The balance sheet was then read and was found to be most satisfactory. It was proposed, seconded and carried unanimously that the balance sheet be accepted.

In the absence of the Secretary, his report was read. It contained the work which had been done by the local branch British Legion Relief Committee for ex-members of The Buffs. His report was accepted and a hearty vote of thanks given to Mr. Saddleton and his Committee for the splendid work they had done.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.—In the absence of Colonel Dean, he was again elected as Chairman. A letter was received from Captain Bedelle apologising for his absence, together with his resignation. Owing to being Chairman of the Town Council, he cannot see his way to attend our meetings. His resignation was accepted with much regret, and it was unanimously decided to send a letter of thanks for the good work he had done for the Branch.

It was then proposed that Lieut. J. E. Wills be Vice-Chairman. Carried unanimously. In the Secretary's absence he was again sent back to his post. A proposal was made that Colonel Dean be asked to carry on the Treasurership and that the Secretary be empowered to work with him. The General Committee was re-elected *en bloc*. The Auditors are Mr. Godden and Lieut. Wills in the place of Captain A. J. Bedelle. The Secretary was again elected Sub-Committee Representative, and also our representative on the local British Legion Relief Committee. Mr. T. Stevens was re-elected Sports Secretary and Mr. Russell Assistant Branch Secretary.

The usual monthly meeting followed. The Minutes of the January meetings were read and signed as correct. A matter arising from the Minutes was the Dart Club; owing to all details not being on hand, it was left over to the March meeting.

Lieut. Wills informed the members that their Annual Camp will be at Wannock, near Eastbourne. Mr. Apps reported that he had quite a lot of names down and hoped to visit the Camp.

After the next meeting in March the Co-op Sports Club will be entertained to a shoot and games.

The mystery prize was won by Mr. Apps and was given by Mr. Saddleton, the winner of January, and is still a mystery.

All members of the branch are very sorry to hear of the death of ex-R.S.M. Jones, and our deepest sympathy goes out to his relations and friends.

SIN BAD.

Margate Branch.

The branch spent a very pleasant evening on Monday last. Finishing the business early, we prepared to do battle with the George and Dragon Sports Club, who were our visitors. Mr. Harry Jones brought a very representative company, and we were soon doing our stuff on the dart board, billiard table and the range. We lost at darts by seven games to five, but of course we won on the range with 255 against 130. It was very good sportsmanship on our visitors' part as some, of course, hadn't touched a rifle since they left the crowd, and we thank Mr. H. V. Jordan for getting a team together. The return match takes place at the George and Dragon Club Room on the second Monday in March, so will members make a note of this and help to make a bumper evening?

We were sorry to hear about our old R.S.M. to all of the old 4th Battalion. He was more like a father and he will be greatly missed at the Re-union Dinners, and no more shall we hear "Markers Sta-ay!" May he rest in peace!

PEARLY.

Canterbury Branch.

I have been asked to take over *Dragon* notes again, and nobody is more sorry than I am that Monty has asked for a rest. He has been doing splendid work on the Committee for a good many years and has well-earned the vote of thanks that was passed at the last monthly meeting.

About a dozen or so of our "dartists" went over to the Granville Inn for a return darts match which our Chairman, Captain Whitfield, arranged; the dart match being a good enough excuse for a really wet evening. Transport was also fixed up by our Chairman and his friends, and nobody had a moan about that.

The monthly meetings are still held on the first Friday in the month and we still have a few more seats going spare for members who can't get in more often. We have not been doing quite so well with our league darts, but still keep pegging away.

It seems a long time since Christmas, but I must congratulate our Sports Secretary and all who helped with the evening's entertainment for the kiddies' party, and also all the members who put their hand down towards the expenses; they still manage to find a little bit in the corner for anything of this kind.

We had another very nice evening on Saturday, February 11th, when some members of the 4/5th Battalion came up from the Drill Hall to give us a few

tips about darts and crib, etc., and we have several good return matches to look forward to, besides the branch dinner at Herne Bay.

W.C.

LADIES' GUILD.

The Annual General Meeting of the branch will take place on Wednesday, March 15th, at Rhodaus Town, commencing at 3 p.m. It is hoped as many members as possible will attend. The election of officers for the ensuing year will take place.

HERNE BAY SUB-BRANCH.

The Annual Meeting was held at the Druid's Head in January.

The Secretary gave his report for the past year and said that the numbers of the branch were now forty and that this was a decrease of five on the previous year. Three new annual and two new life members had joined during the year. The average attendance at the monthly meetings was twelve. The financial position had strengthened. We are very grateful to those whose efforts have helped us and Dusty Miller in particular, who organised the money-making devices.

The following officers were elected for 1939:—
Chairman: Mr. J. Miller. *Vice-Chairman*: Mr. W. F. Stannard. *Hon. Secretary and Treasurer*: Mr. H. F. Whitfield. *Committee*: Messrs. W. M. W. Iggulden, G. V. Hammond, A. S. Ells, W. Thundow. Mr. G. V. Hammond was appointed to sign cheques with the Treasurer.

The shoot for the Lloyd Cup (presented by Captain L. H. Lloyd) took place on Friday, February 17th, at the Drill Hall, and ten members competed. It was expected that nothing less than an earthquake could prevent Sergeant-Major Trice from winning and this forecast proved correct, although he was run pretty close.

	Group	Applic.	Snap	Total
Possible	25	20	20	65
Sgt.-Major Trice ...	25	20	20	65
Lieut. H. P. Roberts ...	25	19	20	64
H. F. Whitfield ...	25	18	20	63
R. Bryant ...	25	13	20	58
F. Foad ...	20	15	20	55
Lieut. Blackburn ...	20	17	16	53
Sgt. W. Thundow ...	15	18	20	53
H. Pellett ...	20	17	16	53

Folkestone Branch.

LADIES' GUILD.

The January meeting took place on the fourth Wednesday instead of the second owing to the Annual Buffs Club Children's Party being held on that date. The meeting was a very happy and enjoyable one and the members were entertained to a New Year tea by Mrs. Barry Walford, who sent all the cakes, sponges, and a wonderful New Year cake iced in The Buffs colours, from the Cocker Tea Rooms. Mrs. Barry Walford also most kindly sent all the prizes for the whist drive, and the winners of the really beautiful gifts were very fortunate.

Mrs. R. G. Wood, J.P. (Chairman) asked Miss Evans to convey the thanks of all the members present to Mrs. Walford for her kindness in giving them such a delightful tea and gifts.

The branch has adopted an ivy leaf for their emblem, and these have been made and supplied by the Disabled

Ex-Service Men at 1/- each. Many of the members have purchased them and it is hoped that all will in time wear the emblem with their badge.

The first of the fortnightly meetings was held on February 8th and was very well-attended.

Mrs. R. G. Wood, J.P. (Chairman) expressed the deep sympathy of the branch to Mrs. Eaton and family on the sudden and tragic loss of Mr. Eaton. He will be greatly missed by us all for his valuable help at our Sale of Work each year, and in many ways will be irreplaceable.

A.L.F.

Sandwich Branch.

The Annual General Meeting was held at the George and Dragon, Fisher Street, on Friday, February 10th, at 8 p.m. In the absence of our Chairman (Major F. W. Tomlinson), who has not yet returned from his trip to New Zealand, our Vice-Chairman (Mr. C. Marshall) presided. Considering this was an Annual Meeting, their was a very poor attendance.

The meeting opened with a moment's silence in respect of our late member, Mr. H. S. Hambrook, 4004 late 1st and 2nd Battalions, who passed away on December 22nd, after a long and painful illness. The Association was represented at the funeral by Mr. C. Marshall, Vice-Chairman of the branch. The Union Jack was placed on the coffin and a wreath was sent from the branch; the Exhortation was given at the graveside. We offer our deepest sympathy to Mrs. Hambrook and family.

MINUTES.—The Minutes of the last Annual Meeting were taken as read in order to save time.

SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT.—MEMBERSHIP.—Strength of branch 67; Life 36, Annual 31. Four new members were enrolled during the year. One life member (Mr. A. Sawyer, ex-1st Battalion) rejoined the Colours (South Staffordshire Regiment), and two life members (Mr. R. C. Crouch and Mr. H. Wakerell) have joined the Palestine Police Force; both are ex-1st Battalion men.

BRANCH PARADES.—The branch were represented at the following parades:—March to Cenotaph, London; Day of Remembrance, Canterbury; Group Rally, Margate; British Legion Day of Remembrance, Sandwich; Civic Sunday, Sandwich.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS.—The balance sheet showed a very satisfactory bank balance.

BRANCH HEADQUARTERS.—A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. T. Fellows for the use of his room, free of charge, for the past twelve months. Mr. Fellows, in reply, said it was a pleasure to him to help the branch all he could, and suggested the branch play a dart match with the members of the House on our next meeting night, March 10th. The suggestion was adopted.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.—With the exception of Mr. G. Kemp, who has left the district, all Officers and Committee were re-elected, viz., *Chairman*: Major F. W. Tomlinson; *Vice-Chairman*: Mr. C. Marshall; *Hon. Secretary*: Mr. H. Taylor; *Treasurer*: Mr. B. Crouch; *Committee*: Messrs. A. Bennett, S. Daniels, P. Harlow, H. Phillips, T. Fellows, with power to add to their number.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Officers and Committee for their good work during the past year.

This concluded the business of the meeting. The remainder of the evening was spent in "Do you remember," etc.

Deal, Walmer and District Branch.

Our usual monthly meeting was held at Headquarters, West Street, Deal, on Tuesday, February 7th. The Chair was taken by Captain J. V. Hitchcock, who was supported by Messrs. Maxted, Conway, Orchard, A. Blown, Collins, Hunt, Piddington, Oram (Hon. Secretary) and a fair number of members.

The Minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed. Apologies were received from Captain R. M. Bourne. The correspondence was read and received.

It was unanimously agreed that the 1938 Meritorious Bar be awarded to Mr. E. S. Hunt. In making the presentation, the Chairman remarked on the interest that Mr. Hunt has shown in the welfare of the branch, especially in the Walmer district. These remarks were received with applause from the meeting.

During the meeting, the Chairman was called upon to perform yet another presentation. This was the medal that had been won by Mr. Dunster for the shoot held just before Christmas. It is now up to the other members of the rifle team to see if they can win one, as I have much pleasure in stating that a very kind member who wishes to remain anonymous has offered a medal for a shoot to be held at the end of each quarter.

We are very pleased to report that the Association has been successful in obtaining a Campaign Pension for one of our members and for their kindness in so doing we say "Thank you." Our thanks are also due to the two gentlemen who so very kindly audited our books for 1938.

Mr. Hewitt, who has been very ill for several weeks, is, I am glad to say, making good progress, and we all hope to see him at our next meeting.

The usual collection was taken at the meeting, which amounted to 5/-.

THINGS WE SHOULD LIKE TO KNOW.—Is golfing an aid to snooker? because it has been noticed that one of our members pots a very nice ball. Who was it when playing darts wanted to know where Annie's room was? Does a certain member practice pokey die all day?

We have held another dance and social which proved quite a success. There was a very good company present and the time for the last waltz came all too quickly. We had quite a number of useful prizes which were given by the following kind donors:—B. H. Russell, Esq., S. W. Job and Son, and N. Hogden. The members of the Ladies' Guild came to the fore again with a bountiful supply of refreshments. We really cannot thank them enough for their valuable help. It is most kind and generous of them. Thanks a lot, ladies!

I am very sorry to say that Mrs. L. B. Hulke (Chairman of the Ladies' Guild) has been unable to attend the Guild meetings owing to illness, but I understand that she hopes to be about again soon. We of the Men's branch send her our wishes for a speedy recovery to good health and a return to her many social activities.

Mrs. Taylor (Hon. Secretary of the Ladies' Guild) is now out of hospital and is, I understand, making satisfactory progress.

We thank Mr. G. Marsh for the Zulu Medal he gave us; this has been accepted for the Regimental Museum at Canterbury.

Does anybody know the address of Sgt. Wally Beasley (late 2nd Battalion)? If so, would they kindly send it to me?

W.F.O.

The 1st Battalion.



WE are extremely sorry to have to announce the death of Private McKay, who was killed in action whilst travelling in a rail-car on the Jerusalem-Jaffa line at Kilometre 27, on January 20th. A mine exploded under the car killing him instantly, seriously injuring Lance-Corporal Carson and causing minor injuries and shock to the rest of the crew. We hasten to offer our deepest sympathy to Pte. McKay's mother in her sad loss.

Since writing last month, the polo ground has been converted into hockey and football grounds, and the parade ground opposite Brigade Headquarters into a hockey pitch; with the result that there have been many more games. Major Rice is president of the Games Committee in Sarafand, and has the arduous job of trying to appease every unit clamouring for games. Our thanks are due to the R.A.F. Hospital, who kindly allowed us to use their ground very often during the first few months here.

The F.A.F. at Ramleh gave a most enjoyable dance at the beginning of the month. Those of us from Sarafand—Capt. and Mrs. Williams, Cpts. Walters, Reeves and Martin—went in a convoy, escorted by an armoured R.A.F. car. The dance went on until about half past two in the early hours.

There was only one shooting trip to Yibna this month. Lewis, Reeves and Dendy had quite a good bag of duck and pigeons. It is very difficult to get cartridges now, as some bright fellow in the cavalry bought up nearly the whole of the N.A.A.F.I. stock.

A minor epidemic of influenza started, chiefly amongst the officers. Williams, Lynden-Bell, Lewis and Clarke were all down at the same time. However, they are all back now after their enforced rest, and there have been no further cases.

We were very pleased to see Chris Hill the other day, who came and stayed a night with us. He has come to this area to do an attachment to the R.A.F. at Ramleh. It was also a very kind thought that prompted Scott to do a Mediterranean cruise at this time of the year, and to trouble to come down here and

look us up. We hope that he has left us full of pleasant memories of the week he spent in Palestine.

On January 27th, General Haining paid us a visit and went out to Kafr Sirkin. On February 2nd, General O'Connor came down on a tour of inspection to Lydda and afterwards had lunch in the Mess at Sarafand. Unfortunately, the weather broke, so the drive to various posts over bad mud tracks was by no means pleasant.

Major Spear and Captain and Mrs. Williams went out riding the other day. The Police at Rehovat very kindly supplied the ponies.

Our hearty congratulations to Colonel Leslie, who is getting command of the Canal Zone. He was commanding the 1st Battalion of the Royal Berkshire Regiment in Lucknow.

We are pleased to report that the Arabs have made some further donations to Major Sandiland's museum, which is growing rapidly.

A zoo, which started in a small way at Yibna, a few months ago, is now reaching a respectable size and includes hens, turkeys, pigeons and rabbits. One of the latter, which had the temerity to eat Major Rice's garden, was caught after an exciting chase at Sarafand and exported there at once.

Badminton has become quite popular, and the court in the cinema is used several times every week. Padre Williams is the moving spirit, and Major Rice, Captains Walters and Reeves and Lewis, Rawlings and Horley all play.

The Commanding Officer has taken over the duties of Chairman of the P.A.D. Committee, Sarafand Area. The Regimental representative on the board is Captain Lynden-Bell.

Congratulations to Clarke on his promotion and to Captain Reeves on earning an increment to his pay.



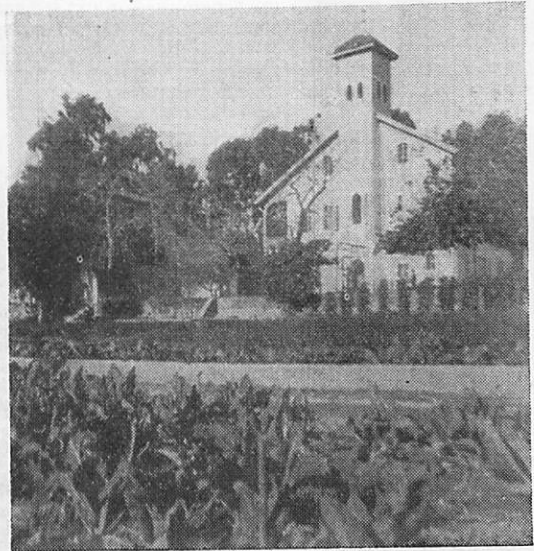
On Lydda Station.

The Late Pte. W. McKay.

Pte. McKay will be greatly missed by all who have come in contact with him. He was a good all-round sportsman, having represented both the 1st and 2nd Battalions in football and boxing, and was a great asset to his company, both in willingness and ability.

His funeral took place at the Ramleh War Cemetery with full military honours, his own company supplying the pall-bearers. The chief mourners were the Commanding Officer, Second-in-Command, Company Commander, Adjutant (represented by Captain H. de L. Walters), and the Brigade Commander (represented by the Staff Captain). Other mourners were N.C.O.'s and men of his company, a detachment of the 8th Railway Company, Royal Engineers, Mr. Willan, Mr. Sergeant and Mr. Taylor (representing the Palestine Railways). The funeral was conducted by the Royal Air Force Presbyterian Chaplain from Ramleh. Many wreaths were placed on the grave, among which were one from Mr. and Mrs. McKay (parents), all companies of the battalion, Sergeants' and Corporals' Messes, Detachment 8th Railway Company, Royal Engineers, 3rd Battalion The Coldstream Guards, Palestine Railways, and many others.

H.A.P.



Bir Salem.

Sergeants' Mess.

Early in the month we bade farewell and good luck to C/Sgt. Hicks, Sgts. Miles, Stone and L/Sgt. Kiley. At the farewell gathering, at which George took the opportunity to remind us of his long service, and Jimmy so far forgot to-morrow and its regrets for to-day's indiscretions that he gave away secrets of a life of crime and luck unparalleled, whilst Killer brought a spot of the dramatic to the occasion with his rendering of "Gunga Din." There were present several members of The H.L.I. Sergeants' Mess, who seemed to thoroughly enjoy their last night in Palestine. Rather a pity that they gave us the low-down on the activities of one of our W.O.'s who, it seems, in spite of his tales of roughing it on the North-West Frontier, was in reality playing the very mild part of spectator to the strenuous climbing of The H.L.I. For the enlightenment of others of his dupes, we thought this the opportunity to

make the information general. Methinks I had better dodge the owner of the little red moustache forthwith, but even so, the truth must be served.

New arrivals in the Mess are L/Sgts. Cole, Wells and McKay. Mac does not stay with us long, for, like Kiley, he prefers an English climate and goes home in a day or two, though in his case, it is on transfer to the Home Establishment, we believe for the purpose of taking unto himself a wife—if he's lucky, and his looks hold out in the frost of a few March mornings at home. Good hunting Mac!

The remainder of the batch, including the present writer, have all, when opportunity offered, made themselves at home, though we see little of Bomber (pardon, wee fella!) and Sid, since with Tom Sivers they lead a life a Chicago gangster might envy. One cannot help but remark on the number of members who are succumbing to the attractions of Tel Aviv, blonde, brunette and numerous suicidal varieties, who find their way into this fascinating town and return to whisper, or loudly proclaim, the merits of this or that particular lovely. Some have made wonderful headway in the matter of acquaintances. For telephone numbers or addresses *ad lib.*, refer to 'Orace; not for nothing does this gay old gink parade the sidewalks of Petah Tiquvah, and one can bet a two bob bit that the W.O.'s table is not exactly interested in town planning or architecture, as might be supposed from those feats of gesticulation indulged in by this gay Lothario. How can we account for the heavy mirth and suppressed chuckles from such sources as C.S.M.'s Duffy and Wickham.



Group taken at the Rishon Range.

The latter stalwart of the dart board took the R.S.M. in hand and showed him the way a dart should be thrown, but was rather put out one night when his partner got out in three darts. That was all right in itself, but the feat upset all subsequent play in that having astounded both himself and all others present with such a wonderful performance, the R.S.M. seemed to lose all interest in following games, in fact didn't seem to care what the result was in the self-satisfaction of having done the "possible." The man from "down under" is rather disgusted with Tiny, who, considering himself a cut above the superior, finds it beneath his



After Pistol Practice at Sarafand.
With the Range Warden.

dignity to play with novices (not that even such poor fry as Drummie—congratulations, Vic, Toms, Speedie or Hoppo, without his glasses—couldn't beat him) and insists that he play the S.M. left-handed. The S.M. has since offered to play with a boomerang, but Bricky vetoed that, having in mind an occasion when Trinky threw a dart that almost tore the wall apart and did indeed succeed in dislodging a picture in the adjoining room.

Brabon and Goodsell arrived amongst us from the United Kingdom, the former to take up residence in the local hospital and the latter, after a few days of sight-seeing and acclimatisation, to join a detachment of "B" at Lydda. To them both we extend a hearty welcome, and hope they soon settled in. At the same time we bid farewell to Billy Beal, for many years a figure in the battalion, and wish him luck in his life in the Home Battalion. Tiny feels somewhat peeved, Billy. His gunfire fails to materialise and he's not the same man since you left; perhaps because you let him down in the trifling matter of sweeping the bunk out for the last time.

An individual of some notoriety in the Mess these days, is our Unit Armourer. To see him and Ben the C/Sgt. of H.Q. together, is a sure sign of trouble ahead for someone. It's all on account of a day in Tel Aviv, on which auspicious occasion our Tiffy became sworn guardian to the offspring of a ravishing Jewess—not, we regret to say, from any love for the youngster. A man who will hold the baby in front of his comrades for something approaching an hour is brave in the extreme, or has some strong motive. One does not doubt Tiffy's courage, but neither do we believe in this love of children. We note that when she visited Sarafand, the baby was conspicuous by its absence, and that the aforementioned Armourer showed no real signs of regret that this was so. In fact all his conversation on the subject is confined exclusively to the mother and is not in the least concerned with Bobby. Poor Bobby!

FYVEDUN.

Corporals' Room.

The law of libel carrying such heavy penalties, and satire being disliked by most of the members, it will be a difficult task to make the notes this month of any interest.

To all who have been fortunate to obtain an extra couple of bob a day we wish, collectively, all the best and a continued rise. To those members who have left us for the U.K. we wish the best of luck in their new sphere, whether it be with the 2nd Battalion or in civilian life.

With the change over of "C" Company and "B" Company we have managed to augment the Mess by two members, namely Finch and Gammon, which brings our attendance roll nightly up to seven. One evening a stranger did appear, but found he had lost his way and should have been at the pictures.

The wordy battles between our two Ishmalian friends, who both strongly deny Jewish origin, cause much merriment. Stoshie Brittain is slightly in the lead at the moment, but, to offset it, Tom Carr told a brilliant one the other night. We are eagerly looking forward to viewing his bullet proof waistcoat, and to examining in detail the many shot indentations which it must contain. No wonder they call him Butcher Carr!

With this nightly battle to prepare for, Stoshie has had no time yet to train the antlers, and they present a somewhat dejected attitude at the moment. Working in conjunction with Drage O'Keefe who, on the fuel and light account, seems to be able to convert anything to coal at a proper pro rata; we should have thought that one pool rifle would have fetched an inexhaustable supply of beeswax. There seems to be a lack of co-operation here.

We can only draw Stoshie's attention to the very interesting cartoon in the *Daily Mirror*, and point out that Mr. Reilly Foully keeps his moustache properly cleaned and oiled at all times, and that he will never be able to keep up his pretence of the bold and bad young man, unless his face drapery is properly looked after daily.

Richardson continues his nightly ablution, but has changed the ingredient and now has porter stout from the barrel.

George Tolhurst, having been duly elected President, has taken over the job with his usual thoroughness. Having listened to a learned discussion from the President on how to keep and maintain darts, I am inclined to think that, on the expiration of his colour service, he will qualify for the job of barman at the local inn easily. At the moment our consumption of darts runs out at one per month. George, having obtained a supply some months ago, locked these securely in his bunk. Daily he visits the Mess armed with a brush and comb, and he can be seen brushing the flights industriously, and scraping the wordwork with a knife. The points also receive attention. Last month, however, despite these little attentions, one dart became so dilapidated that it was necessary for some more drastic measure to be taken. Going to the bunk, which contained the darts so securely, George, after serious misgivings, withdrew one from the greased paper in which he keeps them, and, with all due ritual produced it in the Mess. It is unfortunate, however, that the two darts which have received such loving attention, now weigh quite a lot less than the new one. We sincerely hope that George will give this matter his expert attention, for, if he ever does take over a barman's job, we know that some fiery-blooded farm labourer will impale him if he is given darts of a different weight to play with.

It is rumoured that O'Keefe has become a film fan, but I can state quite definitely that his only reason for going to the "flicks" was to indulge in a good couple of hours' sleep to the tune of "Where is my wandering boy to-night."

Consternation was caused in the camp for a few days by the fact that one or two men were admitted to hospital suffering from influenza. This produced drastic measures. Daily at the crack of dawn long files could be seen debouching from all sorts of odd corners, carrying a mess utensil, mugs drinking, and in the dim light

wending their way to their group rooms. Here they were met usually by the stentorian yells of a couple of N.C.O.'s, and with a lot of gusto and with assumed expressions of pleasure proceeded to gargle. The evolutions one had to perform to get into bed, too, were rather annoying. With this outbreak, an order appeared whereby every man had to sleep head to foot. After sleeping in a bed for several months, and always getting into it the one way, it is embarrassing to wake up in the morning to find your feet gracefully adorning the pillow and your head lying on a barrack room box.

P.S.—No news ever reaches us from detachments, so it is assumed that such fellows as Watts, Cullen, etc., are really behaving themselves. The last time I asked about these persons I met with a frigid stare and was politely informed that these front liners were "Quate well."

Signal Section.

The year has started well, and the Signal Section has settled down to an existence of routine work. From all stations occupied by members of the Signal Section reports have reached the base congratulating the efforts of the above.

The young hands are doing well, and their sporting abilities will greatly improve the Signals' prestige. We have gained a battalion footballer in Purger Sudderdean, a promising young boxer in Doc Foster, and, last but not least, our famed film critic, "Colonel" Leftly.

"Sarah" Simmonds has left us for the Real Promised Land, where we wish him success in the 2nd Battalion.

Before we bring these notes to a close, we offer our deepest condolences to all relations and friends of the late Pte. McKay. He will be greatly missed by the sporting circles of the battalion, in which he played a prominent part.

JOE.

M.T. Section.

First we must congratulate L/Sgt. McCormack and L/Cpl. Rawle on their recent promotion, the latter leaving us immediately to take over Lydda Detachment; our Chinnny finds some attraction in the Lydda district.

Ike is still going great guns at Al Majdal, and often dashes in to see us and, as the old proverbial saying is, "kills two birds with one stone" by testing the beer at the Brigade Canteen.

Bogey Knight is in charge of the Bir Salem gang, and occasionally we get a glimpse of his cheery countenance. We hope to have all these stout fellows in Sarafand by the end of the month, to enjoy for a spell the delights (? see our Sarafand Letter) of the cantonment.

Our young hand drivers are doing fine. They have yet three weeks to complete their course, and are eagerly waiting to take over a vehicle. Green, who will eventually pilot the Adjutant's new car—he has almost worn it out already in his dreams—doesn't take kindly to cross-country driving, at least not on the Kfir Sirkin track; it makes him seasick, or, probably through spending so much time in the air, it may be air sickness.

We hear that Lieut. Scott is going to "Blighty" to attend a M.T. Course. Our M.T. Sergeant's face has fallen a couple of inches since he heard the news; he thought that he was to have been the first to attend a "pukka" course. Never mind, Sergeant, the summer is much nicer than the spring in England, and perhaps your motor cycle will be repaired by the time you return.

King wants to know how one may draw oil from the sump without having to drink half of it, whilst Thomas is still quite certain that there should be a channel between the sump and the gearbox (probably the English Channel).

Someone borrowed the M.T. Sergeants' motor cycle the other day and returned to barracks with it in a wheel barrow. Who could it have been? Probably algebra would find the "Unknown Quantity." Tug went orange picking the other day, and took his bike with him up the orange tree. Finally, if anyone wants to know how to perform a ground-loop, ask Spencley.

A.B. 5 (L).

No. 3 Group.

As was stated in last month's notes by my predecessor, a full account of the Christmas festivities is included in this number. I do not for a second think that anyone would be interested in the battalion menu (which was very good indeed under the present circumstances). All arrangements this year, or rather last year, were run under a battalion scheme, which of course did not please everyone, owing to the fact that in India each group used to run its own show, and one of the things which upsets a British soldier is a change of routine.

There is very little news from this station. We have played a few games of hockey and football this month, the results of which have been in our favour, thanks to Baldy's able management!!!

Dan Snelling is gradually learning the local lingo. This is probably due to conversing daily with his Arab retainers.

It has been noticed that dear old Stoshie has got rid of an unsightly bump in the region of his optics. I should imagine that the invigorating climate of this country may have something to do with it.

Although everybody has settled down (as far as the exigencies of the service permit), India is still in the minds of those who soldiered in that sunny clime. Reminiscences of those "Bareilly Days" (very few of us have any claim to have served in that station) still crop up in conversations. I really wonder what did happen in the ancient city!

During the first week in January the magic words "Promotions and Appointments" appeared in orders, with the result that not enough copies of B.O.'s were available to cope with the rush which ensued. We congratulate "Brushy" Broom on attaining full rank and L/Cpls. Phillips, Spice, Constable and Richardson on obtaining their pay.

We welcome to the group the following, who have recently joined us from home:—Ptes. Anderson and Ward, who have been incorporated in that able body of men who answer to the call of "Garcon." Pte. Ratcliff has been left to the tender care and mercy of our Group Commander.

With the departure of L/Cpl. Eustace, Ptes. Matfin, Dutton, Dodson and Harris to that far-away land, England, the group is gradually working down to skeleton strength. We all miss the cheery Tynesides atmosphere which emanated from Dick Matfin. Still, at one time or other the best of friends must part. Anyway, we wish them all the best of luck in their new ventures.

"Pony" Moore is anxiously waiting to change into the blue uniform of the Palestine Police. In order not to be unprepared for his new job, he takes up a position in the centre of the room, and directs the passage of

certain missiles which occasionally come his way. In this he is ably assisted by Dan Snelling, who does not only direct but also stops them.

RENE.

Carrier Platoon.

The task of compiling notes this month are, as before, accompanied by many obstacles. The foremost being 90% of the platoon are still away on detachment with the duty companies. Those remaining at Sarafand find their time fully occupied by nipping from M.C.C. Guard to H.Q. Guard, doing the usual two on and four off, not to mention a few escorts thrown in to fill up spare time.

Our Platoon Commander, Lieut. Lewis, is at present in hospital with the "flu." We wish him a speedy recovery and hope to have him back with us soon.

Congratulations to Cpls. Cole and McKay on their promotion to the Senior Mess. Also to L/Cpl. Sage on his promotion to full rank. L/Sgt. McKay is, however, leaving us for the Home Establishment. We are sorry to lose you, Mac, and we all wish you *bon voyage* and the best of luck at home.

We offer our respectful condolences to the relations of the late Pte. McKay, who was killed in action. He will be missed by all his comrades.

WHANG HO (2nd).

The Band.

The four sole survivors of the Band to date, namely Sgt. Ireland, L/Cpl. Phillipson, Bdmn. Woolnough, and last but not least, our dear one and only Nobby Southwick, commonly known as Killer, are doing extremely well at Guards and Garrison Inlying Picquets. Well done, lads! Keep the name of the Band going.

We are very sorry to lose Bdmn. Judd, who is going to the R.A.O.C. Taffy Morgan is thinking of transferring to the R.A.S.C., but I wonder what his half-section, Jones, thinks about it. Never mind, Jonah, as soon as you can stretch yourself to 5 ft. 8 ins. you might be able to get your transfer.

A message has just arrived concerning our friend Judd. He is going to the Home Establishment. In any case we wish him luck. I know for certain he will be welcomed by the 2nd Battalion Band.

Our best wishes to the 2nd Battalion Band and Boys, 1st and 2nd Battalion. We (the Band) would very much appreciate a few notes from the Boys of the 1st Battalion, that is, of course, providing they can spare the time from practise.

W.E.W.

The Drums.

We commence this month by congratulating Drum-Major Toms on his promotion to full Sergeant and appointment to Drum-Major. It has been said that he was formally presented with a "Bergee" Sandwich, "Quaker Oats" too, how tasty! Ovations, garlands, etc., to L/Cpl. B. Powell on his promotion by dint of his most industrial efforts. Lofty Breach can now be seen proceeding to the Young Hands' Class with a F Flute tucked under his chin and a smirk upon his face which is supposed to register deep concentration.

Messrs. Hogg and Butcher have left this world-famed "Corp" for the hard toil of civvy street. We wish them the best of "Situations Vacant" and trust that Professor will have better luck at acquiring suitable "Bonce Covers" than he had at the Quartermaster's Stores."

"Gardner of the Greasy Species" has reached the zenith of his ambitions and can now be seen hopping off the beat midst "B" Company's sturdy ranks.

Madness personified has again imposed his presence upon us; in fact, Drummer Young arrived at the same time that morning gargling parades were enforced and the combination of gargles and Young leaves much to be desired.

He of the round rosy cheeks has left us to become a Ration Clerk. Imagine Riley as a full-fledged office boy! It's nearly as amusing as Crossley as a Regimental Policeman. Rosy has only eight years to do, so he is "Mossing up" prior to his return to civvy street.

Never take off to-morrow what you can't take off to-day is Gardner's motto when he takes his ablutions. Half Section Green has indented for some new towels, having used all ours, and Lofty Breach has actually considered buying a bar of soap. Who knows, we may all be able to claim a full kit if somebody buys the toothpaste.

We've played extraordinary football lately, and haven't lost a match. The Signals and M.T. have suffered heavy defeats, and the Group—well, ask the referee!

CHOTA HAZRI.

"A" Company.

Since our last notes went to press we have said farewell to yet another draft bound for that foreign country of England. They were great favourites amongst the remainder of the company, and we are very sorry to lose them. They are:—L/Sgt. T. Kiley (congratulations are due to him on his appointment to Lance-Sergeant before sailing); Sgt. Miles (England seems to keep calling as he has just returned from leave there); L/Cpl. Lind, who thinks there are greater opportunities in civilian life; Ptes. Ellner and Blaskett. We wish them all the best of luck.

We have had a draft arrive from England to swell the ranks and replace those lost. They will soon have a chance to prove themselves and we wish them luck in the "land of milk and honey."

We hear that Bob has succumbed to the glance of a female in England and is now tasting a spot of matrimonial bliss. Good luck to you and your wife.

The other day the men at No. 7 Post thought that the year had either jumped forward or gone backward to November 5th, because a truck-load of sleepers—not the type that are found in bed during the afternoon but railway sleepers, was burning merrily when we came from the dining hall.

The dining-hall makes a good room for the cinema, as we have discovered since the visits of the travelling one. This is our second picture and we hope to have more in the near future.

Smudge and Joey keep asking when their boat is "going to appear in Orders." I can tell them. Ledgerton (a R.C. Sigs. fellow) is making same now, and it should be finished by 1940, you chaps!!

By the way, who was the driver who, seeing a nail protruding from his front tyre, started to pull it out, but when the air started escaping, calmly pushed it back? Who?

We welcome to the company P.S.M. Sirett and C/Sgt. Sovico. They, at least, seem to have grown stouter since their arrival at Al Majdal.

Heard in the Stores at Al Majdal between two of "A" Company:

1ST MAN: "Can you let me have a high-power lamp?"

STOREMAN: "There are none available."

1ST MAN: "We can't see a hand in front of us with an oil lamp."

2ND MAN: "You're lucky, what about us? We can't see to change our minds!"

Well, what with patrols, escorts and guards we have our hands full, but I notice that there is still time for a quick one before the Canteen closes.

EASY.

"B" Company.

The main body of the company is at present on detachment with platoons at Yibna, Bir Salem and Lydda. Nothing of note has occurred at any of these places, and Jackie, at Bir Salim, is finding plenty of time to write novels which he considers will be best sellers when, or if, they are published.

We take this opportunity of welcoming the members of the last draft.

To those returning home we wish *un bon voyage*, and the best of luck to those who will soon be in civvy street.

Blower has left us for the group, while Bragg and Ginger are now privileged to drink their "char" in the Corporals' Club. To these two and to Cpl. Wells, who has been appointed Lance-Sergeant, we offer our congratulations.

Owing to the scattered position of the platoons, the company has not been able to take part in any sport. We have therefore to commentaries this month.

The officers and men of the company sympathise with the relations and friends of the late Pte. William McKay, who was killed in action. He was in "B" Company until October of last year. A keen sportsman, he was a member of the company football team and a credit to the company.

A.H.T.

"C" Company.

Early in the New Year the company left the railway and returned by platoons to Sarafand, leaving two sections at Lydda Station to help out "B" Company, who relieved us. We have been scattered far and wide—some employed, some attached to other companies and small remnants of about 25 left to find guards and escorts. It may interest some of the old members of this company to know that we now get an average of one night in bed between guards, and the day in between we do escorts to M.T. convoys going down as far as Gaza and returning at 6 p.m. with two hours to get cleaned up for next day's guard.

So everyone is occupied and we have only one sports event to record. We played Headquarter Company in the Sarafand League and were beaten 4—0. This was not such a bad defeat as it sounds.

We have suffered several losses during the past month due to homeward drafts. Firstly, our old friend and Quarter Bloke, Daddy Hicks, who goes home after eighteen years' service in the East for a well-earned change of scenery. Then Sgt. Beal, who went home to finished the last few months of his long service in the United Kingdom. Both of these will be greatly missed. We wish them the very best of good fortune at home. We also lost three men as invalids—Ptes. Donovan, Marshal and Hurkett—and with them we send our best wishes for their rapid recovery.

Cpl. Gammon has gone home for a short leave of two months, during which time he plans to get married. We wish him and Mrs. Gammon all the best, and one of the new quarters at Lone Tree Camp.

A welcome to the newcomers to the company—L/Cpl. Carson, Ptes. Fox, Russell, Truelove, L/Cpl. Finnigan, Ptes. Little, Fitness and Gibson. L/Cpl. Carson had a lucky escape from death the other day when the armoured trolley in which he was preceding a train was blown up by a landmine. He got away with a broken arm and shoulder and many cuts and bruises. We extend our sympathy to "D" Company and Pte. McKay's relatives.

We are looking forward to seeing our Company Commander, Major King, who joins us in a few days from England, and we hope he will soon settled down to this wired-in-existence.

"D" Company.

Life out in the "Front Line" is just jogging along as usual. I heard it mentioned that Freddie (Sgt.) Faulkner is thinking of doing a couple of sentry guards to save working his duty roster out in algebra.

Most of the company by now have had a tour of Tel Aviv, both by day and night. Our C.S.M., on his arrival back from three days at this "Rest Camp," said it wasn't worth going there, but just watch him make an excuse to get down there to buy games gear, etc., once a week. Still, he must have something to occupy his mind since with the help of Mr. Sands and the table boys we disposed of his turkeys. Which reminds me that we must congratulate Mr. Sands and Pte. King, the Company Chefs, on the fine dinner they produced on Christmas Day. I thought at first that we were going to lose all hope of our ever getting a stove after that, but luckily we just managed to get one in time for Sands to hand over to McLeavy.

Talking of handing over jogs my memory back to last month's notes, and here I wish to offer apologies for not mentioning certain of the company in Despatches, for which I will now compensate. We offer the best of luck to all ranks of the company who have just left us for a tour in Civvy Street and hope that you will all get fixed up in jobs at a very early date. We also send our best wishes to Sgt. Woods at the Depot and Pte. McDonald, who has joined the 2nd Battalion on Home Establishment. I hope, Lackery, that you will be able to earmark some recruits for your old company, between the times of looking for a "better half." Don't forget the date and the cake.

This month we welcome to the company C/Sgt. Pattenden from H.Q. (he has been wangling our credits for quite a time now, so he is far from being a stranger). Also Cpl. Hurley and Pte. Woolley, again from H.Q. Company. Cpl. Hurley is busy trying to get the fifteenth shell to leave the mortar before the first one gets to the ground, even if it is only in an orange grove at night where the fairies play.

Pte. Woolley is fast becoming a railway man on the Jaffa Run and the Sarafand Shunt. We hope you all soon get settled down in your present surroundings for a long stay.

I am sorry to announce that Mr. Harbord is in hospital with, I think, a touch of the 'flu; and Sgt. Bridgeman is feeling very lonely at the Air Port, but we must congratulate him on being a father. Mr. Bell has just had a short stay in Tel Aviv, while our Company Commander has to be content with a day off now and then.

Just before going to press, I should like to offer the sympathy of the Company Commander, officers and other ranks of "D" Company, to Mr. and Mrs. McKay, parents of the late Pte. W. McKay, in their great loss.

H.A.P.

The 2nd Battalion.

THE BUFFS



Officer 1891

NOTES seem to have come in more promptly than usual this month. Possibly the change of air has stimulated the correspondence.

On our departure from Bordon on January 17th, our friends the Duke of Wellington's Regiment played us down to the station with their band and The Sherwood Foresters very kindly sent their Drums down. Major-Gen. the Hon. H. R. Alexander, Brigadier and Mrs. Curtis, Brigade Staff and many others came down to see us off. Eventually the Band struck up the usual refrain and we started on our journey to the West.

The train journey was uneventful and not uncomfortable as there was plenty of accommodation. On arrival at Cardiff we found that Major Hewitt, Commanding Depot, The Welch Regiment, and his Adjutant and R.S.M. had come to the station to welcome us to Wales. A very courteous and kindly act and a good omen for the future.

On arrival at Pembroke Dock we were greeted by the Mayor and townspeople who had turned out to see us in spite of darkness and rain.

The weather plays a very important part in our lives now and it brings itself to our notice in no uncertain manner. When it is fine there is a lovely view from the barracks across the harbour and away towards Milford Haven. The great flying boats moored below look like silver birds lying at rest on the calm waters, but when the wind blows, especially a Westerly wind, it is very much more pleasant to be indoors than out. On some days the wind is so strong that it is difficult to get out of the door at all.

The barracks are old but solid, as they need to be. The married quarters are dilapidated like the rest of the place, which has not yet had time to recover from the long financial drought of post war years.

The Commanding Officer has moved into his house but most of the other married officers have found themselves temporary abodes pending the completion of married officers' quarters. These quarters are only a few hundred yards from barracks and should be

very nice when finished. We hope this will be in March.

Major and Mrs. Hammond-Davies have just joined us and we hope that they will enjoy their stay with the battalion. They have taken a house in Pembroke Dock.

The process of settling in was interrupted by the hurried departure of a large detachment under the Command of Captain F. W. B. Parry to guard a Government factory in Lancashire. The detachment was only away for a week and we were able to begin Individual Training shortly after its return.

As for sports, the grounds are not really sufficient for a battalion and the cross-country runners have not yet found a suitable course. Once, however, we get to know the country and the weather improves there should be no lack of pastimes such as cycling, hiking, bathing, fishing and boating. There is lovely country and coast-line round Pembroke Dock and also many places of interest.

Captains F. W. B. Parry, Bruce and Craddock and Lieuts. Edlmann and Anderson have been out hunting and have had some very good sport. Some officers have also had some shooting.

On the whole, Pembroke Dock is not a bad place, but it is at its best on a fine day.

Cross-Country Running.

I must apologise for having to make a rush job of these notes, but to me this month has been so full of outstanding events that even now I am still trying to recover my breath.

Our activities have unfortunately been interfered with so much that now we have got to work really hard to get ourselves fit for the Army Run.

The first setback was the move to Pembroke Dock. In this we found that with some on the advanced party, and those left behind apparently too busy on baggage fatigues to get much time for serious training, our work was more or less at a standstill.

On Monday, February 21st we all turned up really keen to get down to work and get in one good run, but, alas! short-lived were our hopes, for on Tuesday we found practically all the team bound for Chorley, and as men during their short stay there had their time fully occupied, nothing could be done as far as training was concerned.

This last few days has seen us out regularly, but how long we shall be able to keep together as a team I certainly wouldn't like to say.

Our difficulties of finding a course have to a certain extent been overcome, but the course we have had to select is not the kind we should have liked. We have had to keep to the roads quite a lot, and as the course at Windsor is entirely grassland, we might find the difference not quite to our liking. Still, if those in the team this year only keep to time on training days, there is no reason why we should feel the difference.

The fixture list at the moment is very short, but that, under the circumstances, will probably be to the good. Our first fixture is the Mumbles—Swansea Race organised by the *Swansea Evening Post*. This is followed by a friendly fixture with Lampeter College on March 11th, and finally our journey to Windsor.

T.C.H.

Sergeants' Mess.

Pembroke Dock is no longer a myth—a "place" somewhere out West. Its reality was forcefully brought home to us on the evening of January 17th through some particularly damp rain and blustery breezes, having regard to which it was all the more gratifying at Pembroke Dock Station to receive a real civic welcome headed by the Mayor. A happy augury, we feel sure, for our stay in the West.

Contrary to opinions freely expressed during the past four years, many were most reluctant to say good-bye to Bordon, and we realise that such a state of affairs is largely due to all those good friends that we left behind to carry on as usual. Of course, by some of us Bordon was held in greater esteem than by others, notably Messrs. Catt, Bloomer and A. N. Other (aha! no prizes for the answer). As the number of days shortened, so it was observed that the aforementioned gentlemen filed discreetly away at dusk and filed not so discreetly back into barracks at sunrise. These nocturnal visitations naturally caused no little stir, but as was pointed out: "Can't a chap say good-bye to his friends without a notice in Part I Orders?" even if it *does* take seven nightly visits of eight hours duration? To all those goodly folk who saw us off at Bordon Station, salaams, and may the spirit of "the old Buffs" long permeate the air of Bordon and (we hope) result in pleasant memories mutually shared.

To the majority, the size of Pembroke Dock came as a pleasant surprise, and if it is a bit dull at this time of the year we are certain that summer will show the place to better advantage. However, "doing the rounds" has already become a popular pastime, the pace being set by Drummy Banks, John Taylor and Darkie Corps, although it must be added that John Taylor has retired from active participation through his entry into the realms of respectability via the bosom of his family, and Darkie Corps thinks that no-one knows of his nefarious sallies forth into questionable haunts! Huh! But more anon of this dark customer. Needless to say, the pace is well set by Drummy, whom we wish to remind became "half-hitched" during the Christmas vac., from which vulgar term you, gentle reader, are to assume that he is now in full pursuit of the E.C.A. queue—nothing less than engaged. This fact only just misses special mention in the Regimental History, but we heartily commend Drummy on his courage and—ahem!—foresight. Had he delayed the event until after the wearing of his £40 sash, we are certain that competition would have been so hectic for his heart and hand that the good lady of his choice may now have been, lone and forlorn, but for the delay caused at Potter's of Aldershot! William will be the first to acknowledge that his leg is being well and truly pulled, and that really we do wish him all the very best and a happy conclusion to the engagement.

No sooner had we become used to the view of the Haven than a strong detachment was ordered to proceed (at seven hours' notice) to a spot in Lancashire—Chorley by name—there to perform guard duties over a paltry six million pound munition establishment. Events have since proved that it was not a precaution against General Franco making it his next objective, as was hazarded by the historian of the detachment. We had almost resigned ourselves to a "disunited" battalion

for some time, when back they came, and the process of settling in proceeded afresh. C.S.M. Watson and Brickly West bore the brunt of the work, ably assisted by P.S.M.'s Hurley and Yates, Sgts. Message, Martin, Blake and MacDonnell. Some of the descriptions in the newspapers of the strength, armament, etc., of this detachment made amusing reading, the greatest laugh being the tale of the dart board; a pity a billiard table was not thrown in just to make up weight! The general opinion of this little "show" was that it was a good experience, and that was about all.

Joe Pointer has been appointed Garrison Provost Sergeant with the princely remuneration of 6d. per diem (lucky dog!). His onerous duties are being performed right nobly, with one weather eye, no doubt, on the "ackers" and the other, well, fully employed! Quite a lot of activity again in Part II Orders. After his pleasant little trip to Palestine, Ned Bartlett has handed over to another G.O.C. and, like the Prodigal Son, returned home. Welcome back, Ned, and heartiest congratulations on appointment as P.S.M. (W.O. III). That also goes for Bill Ingram and Jack Dawson, on their respective appointments as Paid Lance-Sergeant and Temporary Paid Lance-Sergeant. Also home from the Holy Land are Billy Beal (to lend more punch to the Palestine Conference?), L/Sgt. McKay and C/Sgt. Hicks, to each of whom we extend a hearty welcome to the 2nd Battalion.

On February 23rd C/Sgt. Farrell departed for Palestine in the *Etrick*. We trust the ship and the weather were good and his reception hearty.

At a right noble age, Sid Harris has been sent on a P.T. Course, a tribute to his energy and "youthfulness." Don't forget to remove the old "molars," Sid, when performing on the wall-bars or doing ground work, and put a suitable guard over them—Spink and Sons want all your old gold! On April 5th we expect to see the living counterpart of Mr. Kruschen tripping blithely up the hill (but mind the grating half-way up!).

Buck Paramour, having borne the burden on his broad shoulders of moving the Mess, has gracefully retired and left "Wicko" to carry on the good work. We feel sure that the Mess will quickly reflect the renowned personality of its new "landlord"—a "land" free of all "shop" and the ideal bill of fare always available! At the moment, our Mess is more or less bare, although the President and his staff have done overtime to get the place ship-shape, but we have been assured that the long-awaited new furniture, etc., will arrive any day now, when the Mess should be a very habitable spot.

A word of unstinted praise is due to the Boys' Soccer XI which, under the expert tuition of the Bandmaster, has fought its way to the fifth round of the Army Cup (Boys), defeating the Boys of the 2nd Warwickshire Regiment at Bordon by three goals to one. A really "Buffy" cheer was raised by the Sergeants on the advance party when they heard the news via the radio at 10 p.m. the same day. Good luck to the boys for the future. Have you heard the story about "To My Dear Drum-Major"? No? And you won't from me, either!

Tom Gambrill has fallen into one of those "dream" jobs, nothing less than a P.S.I. to the Artists' Rifles T.A. in London (cries of envious anguish from certain Londoners). Now, Thomas, show your gratitude by forging ahead and you're made for life, and from what I have heard will be able to buy up shares in the City, cultivate a large "tummy" and rest it upon saloon bars for the rest of your natural life (I cannot vouch for the hereafter!). Now for an introduction to Lloyd

Howard Willing, born January 22nd, 1939 and still going strong, we are glad to say. Well, Willum, you saucy old fox, you certainly worked us a flanker, but hearty congratulations to you and the missus.

"I think that's all that I dare say,
For fear I soon will draw no pay!"

We take this opportunity to most heartily congratulate, on behalf of all members of the Sergeants' Mess, Major and Mrs. Dare on celebrating the Silver Anniversary of their wedding, and would respectfully express the hope that their Golden Wedding will find them equally hale and active.

A week after our arrival at Pembroke Dock, the Warrant Officers and Sergeants of the Royal Air Force most kindly invited us to their Mess for a series of games, dancing, etc., by way of a welcoming gesture. This evening's entertainment passed off most enjoyably, and we are sure the foundations of very cordial relations between our two Messes have been laid. It is intended to return the compliment as soon as circumstances permit. "Uckers," a game for gentlemen of genteel disposition, roused the curiosity of all "us Buffs," but later we found that gentility was not required as much as skill and endurance in order to play this game of enlarged ludo for long, but it was good fun. One of our darkest complexioned members, who "scrounges" daily in the Quartermaster's Stores, was noted to lose little time in impressing *des femmes* and with that "gaucherie" renowned in the young gentleman, soon had a mental book full of appointments. Oh, you saucy old man, and to think we understood all your spare time was occupied in counting "Tables, Barracks, 6 ft. and 4 ft." Philanderer! We await future repercussions with the greatest of interest.

W.O. Killick of the R.A.F. served with this battalion during the War and will be known by the old stagers. Major Andrews, Captain Martin and C.S.M. (Cabby) Sandeufs are some that he knows, and he wishes us to convey his regards.

Ex-Bandsman Fray, now a Police Sergeant in the Swansea Borough Police, visited the Mess on Wednesday, February 8th and spent a thoroughly enjoyable evening.

WHANG HO.

Corporals' Room.

Although we have only been here a fortnight, we already find that this Welsh station is the single man's Paradise. According to the Club's first arrivals (Messrs. Cowley, Steward and Winterbottom) everything was favourable, including the beer!

Alas! we had only been here a week when one cold morning rumours were going round that a draft was to be sent to Palestine. After what seemed hours of mental torture, we got somewhere near the truth. A party of picked N.C.O's and men under the very able command of Captain F. W. B. Parry, assisted by Mr. Edlmann, Mr. Anderson and Mr. Ravenhill, also Company Sergeant-Major Watson and our very gallant Company Quartermaster-Sergeant West (the latter supplying our wants), were to proceed to an unknown destination up North. Leaving Pembroke Dock at about 17.30 hours that same afternoon, January 24th, 1939, they arrived with the milk after spending a fairly comfortable night in the train, on the morning of the 25th. According to the reports which we have heard, their unknown destination proved to be Chorley in Lancashire. After breakfasting on the station, under the able care of Company Quartermaster-Sergeant West, they proceeded to Euston, and to everybody's surprise they were accommodated in the "Hotel de Luxe," i.e.

a central heated canteen, where a cup of tea was procured by all on arrival.

In the afternoon the C.S.M. and the N.C.O.'s formed a Reconnaissance Party under Captain F. W. B. Parry, after being informed they were there to guard the Ordnance Depot.

It was decided that seventy N.C.O.'s and men would be needed for duty each day. Owing to the shortage of men, many unfortunate ones dismounted at 0.900 hours and mounted guard at 16.00 hours the same evening. Out of those who were not on duty, twenty-five were allowed out each night, and needless to say, George and Jerry returned by taxi in the early hours of the morning, minus nine shillings!. (Did you think you had bought the taxi?) That well-known and up-standing N.C.O. Taffy Williams was put under the instruction of a very charming and efficient young lady who knew all there was to know about exchange operating, who taught him to handle the switch board. (You must not talk about her in your sleep, Taffy.) Cpl. Church went out on his usual reconnaissance and returned with glowing reports of the Lancashire beer.

After being there for nearly a week, they were told they would return to Pembroke Dock on January 31st, 1939. On the last night of their duty they were very kindly invited to the Police Mess by the Police Inspector of the War Department Police, where they spent a very enjoyable evening drinking and dancing to the strains of some very fine music under the very able leadership of that Millionaire of Melody, B.M. Rawcliffe. Well done, the Band, we (the Corporals) thank you for your very fine efforts.

After a very hard and tiring week they arrived back at Pembroke Dock at 21.30 hours and were welcomed on the station by the Adjutant and R.S.M.

Cpl. Dudley and L/Cpl. Steward have left us for civilian life. Let's hope they have good fortune and the very best of luck in the future.

P.E.P.

P.S.—A wire has been received from Chorley that they are 14 tons of mud deficient since we left. Some that we lifted, no doubt!

The Drums.

After an absence of nearly three months of Drums notes and noting also that our opposite numbers in the 1st Battalion have started writing notes, we feel that we must send our monthly contribution regularly in the future.

Since returning from leave, the move to Pembroke Dock (hereafter known as P.D.) took up most of our time.

L/Cpl. Galloway, Drummers Webster and Miles came in the advance party to make all the arrangements for the Drums. Judging by the solitary figure left in the Drums' block at night, they must have made all arrangements for the Drummers outside as well.

We had hardly got settled in P.D. when, lo and behold! a quick move to Chorley and nearly all the Drummers went. Only our one and only Nobby remained behind to hold the fort and blow "Cookhouse" on time.

Troopers Weatherley and Grant were taken to Chorley and we hear that they were continually being lost in the mud, and the whole detachment spent most of their time rescuing them just like the St. Bernard monks and their dogs.

Dmr. Webster has decided that the battalion needs vitamins A, B, C, D H.Q., and has therefore left the Drums and entered into feeding the troops as No. 1 Cook.

I have had several reports of his "wonderful" cooking abilities (did I hear someone say it makes "58" varieties?).

Pte. Wesley has been taken to hospital and we hear that he is not too well at present. At any rate, we hope so see you out and amongst us very shortly.

The Band of the battalion presented the Drums with two silverine bugles, suitably inscribed, and the Regimental badge in repousse. We thank Bandmaster Foster and his Band for their very kind presentation and hope that when we are old and grey we and the Band can come back occasionally and see them still being carried by the Drummers in 19—. The two bugles that the Band so very kindly presented to us brings our tally of silverine bugles up to six. Soon we hope to have them for the whole of the Drums.

After a couple of days at P.D., two herald's trumpets were sent to the battalion for the purpose of heralding in the Chief Justice at the Pembrokeshire Assizes. L/Cpl. Taber and Boy Keeler were selected for this job and carried out the duty so well that they were complimented on their effort.

Dart throwing has produced a bevy of talent in the Drums and a series of matches are being arranged with local teams (I nearly said "pubs") and we start our fixture list off with a match against the Greyhounds. I hope to be able to say in next month's notes that many a "nifty" dart thrower has been produced.

We should like to congratulate the Boys' football team on their wonderful display given just prior to leaving Bordon in the third round of the Boys' Army Cup. We only hope that they will not have the misfortune to be drawn away from home in the next round and that they continue to play as they did in the previous round and so find themselves at Aldershot in the final.

Dmr. Terry has started on a Range-finder's Course, so don't forget, Leggie, on the next J.D. Test, do your stuff.

The Drummers congratulate our Quartermaster-Sergeant and Mrs. Willing on the recent arrival of a son.

Now we send our best wishes to the Drummers of the 1st Battalion, hoping that they are enjoying nice weather in the Holy Land, for if not they want to have a "spoonful" of P.D. Monsoons are not in it!

236.

Signal Section.

Before commencing this month's *Dragon* notes, we must extend a welcome to Lieut. Grace, our new Signal Officer from the 1st Battalion. We wish him a happy and successful tour of duty with us.

Our return from leave was quickly followed by the move to Pembroke Dock, which was carried out with the utmost exactness and thoroughness. Our arrival at the station was greeted by cheering ladies and crashing hailstones. Our initial reconnaissance of the town proved that many available opportunities might be examined, but only a preliminary inspection could be carried out before we were ordered to guard the Royal Ordnance factory at Chorley, Lancashire. The Signal Section was well represented under the able command of the one and only Taffy, assisted by Streak and Frog. After travelling all night by train, we arrived at this million dollar factory and quartered in a huge central heated canteen. The Palestine heroes soon settled down and during a preliminary reconnaissance I was reminded of Paschendale—mud reaching over boots and puttees and many unprintable Welsh phrases filling the "peaceful" air.

Ptes. Lee and Finis were soon engaged manning the telephone at our own H.Q. Lieut. E. L. C. Edlmann gave Taffy his dream assignment when he ordered him to report to H.M.O.W. and place himself under a Miss Barber's cultured tuition on the theoretical considerations of a Telephone Exchange. Thanks to Miss Barber's patience and tuition the intricacies of this wonderful machine were soon mastered.

Meanwhile our young hands were mounting, at incredibly short intervals, guards of the most peculiar nature. They undertook those guards like old soldiers and the way Galvin and Billington kept awake during the small hours was utterly amazing!

The Detachment Commander allowed twenty-five men out each night to explore Preston and the Jazz Bar. The older members of the section took complete advantage of this. The night before we returned the N.C.O.'s were entertained at the Police Mess, and the section was represented by Cpls. Taff and Tate. After travelling all day we arrived safe and sound to find that our exceptionally good-mannered Garrison Groundsman had been able to spare a moment to light a fire for us. We thank you!

Ray Holmes is back with us and has settled down to "snooping" around the low haunts of Pembroke Dock. In his sleep he has been heard to mention a blonde barmaid—Tondalayo.

We congratulate Henery on his "appointment," and Sgt. Paine on his promotion to understudy in the Q. Branch. For the first time in my experience, Sgt. Martin failed to accompany a Signal Expeditionary Force, but he did useful work at Pembroke trying to knock signal knowledge into Chuff's thick head. I understand that this stupefied N.C.O. failed to respond to his superb eloquence.

We congratulate L/Cpl. Woolnough on his working out the "voltage" of the 7+3.

We close by wishing Sgt. Kennedy and his section bon-signalling and happy dreams of Palestine.

CYMORE AND EIRE.

M.T. Section.

Well, here we are at Pembroke, and it is a much better place than Bordon. I think on the whole everyone likes Pembroke Dock. The M.T. Section travelled by road and I understand there were no accidents to speak of, which I think is a very creditable performance as some of the drivers had only short driving experience.

Since our arrival, life has been like a game of draughts—all moves. No sooner had we arrived than almost everyone went to Chorley to keep an eye on an Ordnance Factory. This was rather a blow as they had hardly time to introduce themselves to the "Houris." However, in the short time some did manage to cause a few tears at their hurried departure. The section as a whole has quite a few horse-power to turn loose on Pembroke, so stand by, girls!

The "Dook" has become enamoured of a wench, and can be seen any evening slinking down the hill to a rendezvous. And *en passant*, Cross knows a thing or two.

Congratulations, L/Cpl. Spinner, the section ups and congratulates you on your promotion. I sincerely hope the Stores will be intact in future.

Press has not been known to work for some months now. I did hear he did potato peeling the other day, but let me add that I do not believe it. By the time these notes appear in print, Press will be on his "Voca," and I hope a job will soon be his. Good luck, Press!

Driving Courses are to the fore just now. Cpl. Friedman is lecturing on the eccentricities of trucks in general. The recipients of this knowledge should be better men in future.

The author of these notes is extremely grateful to the W.D. for installing an electric petrol pump at Pembroke. After pumping 388 gallons by hand before leaving Bordon, he now lounges in a nonchalant attitude by the pump on Petrol Issue.

The section has been enriched by two permanent fitters at Pembroke and have commenced overhauling trucks already.

Sgt. Belson still has his wrist in plaster, but I understand it is "coming out" in February.

In conclusion, I hope the M.T.O. finds time to have his car sprayed.

STINKER.

"A" Company.

Here I am trying to write these notes while around me are Noakes, Fountain and Saxby diligently bumping the floor with Cle-Pol; there is no place like home!

We welcome to the company the Blenheim Squad, who are training under the able hands of P.S.M. Selway, Cpl. Livemore and L/Cpl. King.

Our new station, Pembroke Dock ("Little England beyond Wales," the locals call it) is quite a windy place. Our first drill parade was of short duration owing to the elements taking advantage of the fact that we were strangers. One fellow had to have anchors on his ears to keep him on the ground. S.D. caps, stiff were seen rolling along the parade ground, much to the disgust of their owners, who had not visited the barber for a long time, who after parade were seen waiting for a shingle.

Despite its drawbacks, Pembroke Dock is full of interest in the right places. Several fellows have already made a name for themselves and can be seen escorting the local belles along the High Street with that "Won't be long now" expression on their faces.

Noakes is going quite gay, even at the tender age of thirty. One fair maid says he reminds her of Clark Gable. That may be, but not when he is bumping the floor, as he is doing at the moment.

Telephone numbers are not used here. Laundry numbers are sufficient for making dates. Ask Saxby.

One hundred and fifty men went to Preston recently to take over duties at the Munitions Factory. Rumours flew like wildfire, and by the time they had marched off, war appeared to be raging in Preston.

Their hopes of a spot of bother somewhat diminished on arrival. They took duties as sentries inside a place as safe as the Bank of England. During their spare time they had plenty of excitement, by all accounts, in "Wine, Women and Song." The papers say they had a dart board and football with them. Maybe the football was a challenge to Preston and the dartboard a challenge to the lads of the "Pig and Whistle."

Another incident has just come to light. Johnno was marching a sentry to his post and suddenly the sentry disappeared into the bowels of the earth. Johnno kept on walking, like Felix, when he heard shouting behind him—the sentry wanted help to get out of an 'ole. After extricating the unfortunate sentry, he was found to be minus his rifle, so down the 'hole went the sentry again, digging in mud and water for his rifle. Did you enjoy it, Dingers?

This party returned to barracks last week and now the battalion have settled down to individual training. Some are getting cut up with barbed wire on a Field Works Course. They are so interested in it that they are doing overtime. Even the married men are knocking off at 4.30 p.m.

"B" Company.

"Here we are again; happy as can be," or are we? This being the first issue from our new station, it will no doubt consist of our move from Bordon. The journey was quite a pleasant one, the chief pleasure being that there was heaps of room; in fact there were actually empty carriages going begging.

We arrived here about 6 p.m., and it seemed that all the population turned out to welcome us. I fear that there will be some more added to the married establishment before long, as everybody seems to have hitched themselves on to a partner. One "sheik" actually made a date during the march into barracks.

The barracks are not quite so good as expected, and the majority were quite disappointed in them. However, we are getting down to it gradually, and making ourselves as comfortable as possible. At least, we were for the first week, and then came that sudden move of the detachment to Chorley to assist in guarding the munition works. Seventeen of the company went, and according to reports since their return, they enjoyed it. The only snag being that guards came a little too frequently. Apparently it was too much for our "Wiggitt" as he has landed himself in hospital again. Look sharp and get well, "Wiggitt," as we have a nice little Field Works Course planned for you. In fact, all the N.C.O.'s of the company are for it, which means a spell of real hard work with the pick and shovel, and no doubt there will be complaints of having blisters on the hands instead of the elbows.

We have had no chance of playing games of any sort, except for one or two battalion games. P.E. tests seem to be the chief sport at the moment. Twice a week the lads try their hand at running the hundred and putting the shot, etc. Some very fast times are being put up in the hundred. Lofty breasted the tape in 10 seconds dead. I mean, of course, that Lofty breasted the tape and was dead in 10 seconds. The over thirties are to be encouraged to take part in these tests, but so far I haven't seen any of those hearties in P.T. shorts. What about it, Lack?

I cannot tell you in this issue just what Pembroke Dock is like, as I haven't had time to go the rounds yet, but they do say "It's a nice place in the summer."

UMP.

"C" Company.

Tuesdays will, I am sure, be remembered by a considerable number of Buffs as the only day that any changing of stations takes place. Moves to date have been as follows:—

Tuesday, 17-1-39. Bordon—Pembroke Dock.
 Tuesday, 24-1-39. Pembroke Dock—Chorley, Lancs.
 Tuesday, 31-1-39. Chorley, Lancs.—Pembroke Dock.

As these notes are being typed there is a fear that to-morrow, Tuesday, 7-2-39, will witness another move. It is hoped not.

On Tuesday, January 24th, at about 11.00 hours, all C.S.M.'s were sent for by the R.S.M. Being the last to arrive, I was greeted by the chorus: "Move at 18.30 hours to Chorley, Lancs. with 140 others." What a move! No one was certain where the place was,

what we were going for or for how long. The afternoon was spent in drawing up stores and packing kit. The detachment (as it was to be known in future) entrained about 18.00 hours, consisting of the following:— Captain F. W. B. Parry, Lieuts. Anderson and Ravenhill, C.S.M. Watson, C/Sgt. West, P.S.M.'s Hurley and Yates. Others brought the strength up to 4 and 140. Lieut. Edlmann proceeded by road to arrange accommodation.

The detachment arrived at Chorley at 07.10 hours on Wednesday, January 25th, and proceeded to unload kit and have breakfast on the platform—a sight for the natives. We were then taken by 'bus to the Chorley Ordnance Factory near the town of Leyland, noted for Leyland motors, a distance of about four miles from Chorley. There we were housed in a large central heated canteen. The upstairs portion was used as sleeping quarters and the downstairs as a dining-hall and parade ground. Cooking was done by gas. Tea was served and we proceeded to make ourselves as comfortable as circumstances permitted. Coir and bed boards arrived and things began to look like barrack life. In the afternoon officers and full N.C.O.'s were taken for a tour round the factory, to be able to find where their Guard Rooms were likely to be. Before the afternoon was over, everyone thought that the thing that was made there was mud, mud and more mud. Practically all workmen wore gum boots and before long cries were going up for an issue of these to us (40 pairs did arrive later). After the tour, the number of sentries needed were worked out and 90 was arrived at. This number being impossible, a cutting down process eventually arrived at rock bottom level 70 by night and 35 by day.

However, during the week-end rumours began to get round that we might move home at short notice in the near future. This was confirmed on Sunday, January 29th that the detachment would return on Tuesday, January 31st. Eventually the detachment entrained at Chorley on January 31st at 10.00 hours, arriving at Pembroke Dock at 21.12 hours, after being away one week.

It was hard work for all those concerned, but it gave some idea of what might be expected during an emergency.

Whilst there the following Buffs were met:— Major E. Hudson Allen, who gave us great assistance, and Mr. Howard (late "Buffy," C.S.M.). Both Major Allen and Mr. Howard are looking exceedingly well. Mr. Howard is a Sergeant on the W.D. Constabulary. He reports that it is an excellent job and advises N.C.O.'s who go out on pension to try it.

On Monday night, January 30th, several members of the Sergeants' Mess and Corporals' Club visited the Mess of the W.D. Constabulary. (A point that has been missed. As there were several Bandsmen in the detachment, a number of instruments were taken with us.) The small Band accompanied the N.C.O.'s to the Police Mess and proceeded to give an excellent selection. The party broke up about 12 midnight.

These notes have been included in the company notes as there were only four N.C.O.'s and men left behind at Pembroke Dock.

I'm afraid that it will be a long time before there will be so much copy available for company notes.

SUBSTITUTE.

"D" Company.

Ah! at last I have managed to take command of *The Dragon* notes, and by the look on many faces, I am

sure that the majority wish that I was at any other place than Pembroke Dock.

This being my first attempt, please refrain from criticizing my feeble effort, but remember that it may be your turn next month.

One thing that I must mention before delving into other people's past, and that is the "Chorley Campaign." Many young soldiers are still under the impression that they will be issued with a Chorley Medal, or that they will wear something to denote the fact that they guarded £10,000,000 worth of property. Many in fact have suggested that they should be given "Crossed Knives," as they say that there was not much else for them at Chorley.

We must take this opportunity of welcoming P.S.M. Hurley to the company, and sincerely hope that he will remain with us, as I am sure that he will endeavour to put that little extra effort behind us and assist us in getting together a good sporting company.

We are sorry to lose C/Sgt. Farrell and family, who leave us this month to join the 1st Battalion. To them we extend best wishes for the future and *bon voyage*. At the same time we must not forget to welcome C/Sgt. Hicks, who joins us in relief of C/Sgt. Farrell.

Many of the company are on a M.T. Course, and as the individual training season has once more got us working, many others will be "swotting up" some course or other. Still, we hope that they all finish as well as they started.

Our sporting activities will soon be able to get moving once again, and I hope that next month we shall have some good reports, so please hurry to your nearest agent and order your *Dragon* before you are too late.

R.O.N.

1st Bn. "D" Coy.—continued from p. 90.

He will always be remembered by those who knew him as a fine fellow, and was an enthusiast at sport—football in particular, at which he represented the battalion many times. What makes it harder, is that he was due home in the near future. We also wish a speedy recovery to L/Cpl. Carson of "C" Company and Pte. Mullen of "D" Company, also Sapper Hinchcliffe of the 8th Railway Company, Royal Engineers, who were in the same trolley and who are now in hospital, suffering from injuries. This was rather a rude welcome to L/Cpl. Carson and Pte. Mullen, who have only been with this battalion for about six days.

STOP PRESS—LATE NEWS.

IMPORTANT.—Sands and Thirst to U.K. Stop. ... Per Montcalm. Stop. Details later. Stop.

KNOW-ALL.

Many, including the writer, envy you seeing the wife and "kids," Nobby. *Bon voyage* and good luck to you both.

STOP PRESS.

ON Saturday, February 25th, Major D. S. Lister broadcast a most interesting talk on boxing in the Army.

We hope that amongst his unseen audience were many Buffs and that they derived pleasure from his talk.—Ed.

Beneath Bell Harry.



SINCE our last notes little has occurred to disturb life at the Depot. Major Rowe has left us to join the 2nd Battalion at Pembroke Docks and Capt. G. E. F. Oliver has taken over his duties at the Depot. Capt. Alexander has not yet reappeared from his Christmas leave! He is doing a two months' attachment at Headquarters,

Home Counties Area, at Woolwich. We received a visit from Lieutenant and Mrs. E. S. Scott. Lieut. Scott has returned for a M.T. course at Aldershot from the 1st Battalion in Palestine. Lieut. Harris St. John has visited us and put himself well into the picture prior to reporting for duty to take over from Captain Atkinson, who leaves the Depot in April.

Since our last issue the Regimental Museum has had to change its home. The decision to move the Royal Tank Corps Pay and Record Office to Canterbury has necessitated the evacuation of the block previously occupied by the Regimental Museum and the Recruits' Reception Room.

'Flu has attacked the Depot. Captain Oliver, Major Howe, Major Peareth and Major Andrews having had it in turn.

No doubt a full description of his holiday to Egypt will be contributed by Major Howe. It only remains for us to welcome him back, looking very fit and well.

The Recruits' Boxing Competition took place at the end of January. There was a big entry and great keenness was displayed by all competitors. The standard was satisfactory if, perhaps, not quite so high as last year. Detailed reports of the final fights and list of medal winners is given below. At the moment a selected party is undergoing special training for the Hardy Cup Competition which takes place annually between recruits of the Depot and those of the Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment. The competition this year takes place on Wednesday, 15th February, at Canterbury.

The Ramillies Squad left Canterbury for Pembroke Dock on Tuesday, 7th February.

We are sorry to have to record an accident in which Army Recruiter Osborne was involved. Mr. Osborne is at present in the Kent and Canterbury Hospital with five fractured ribs. We trust that he will make a complete and rapid recovery.

Boxing.

During the last few days of January our Annual Individual Boxing Competition took place, and I am pleased to record that it was a great success. Although the actual boxing was not of a high standard, this was made up for by the keenness and energy displayed by the competitors. An entry of 104 will give readers an idea of how well the recruits went in for it.

The whole competition was under the direction of Major A. W. Andrews, who was ably assisted by C.S.M.I. Soper Dyer of the A.P.T. Staff and R.S.M. Fawcett. As Major Andrews and C.S.M.I. Soper Dyer will have left us by the time our next show is arranged, it was certainly a fitting finish.

Space forbids a description of all the fights, but I will do my best for the finals.

FLYWEIGHT.—A keenly contested fight with two midgets nipping round the ring and going at it from start to finish. Pte. Greenslade of Malplaquet Squad was the winner on points, Pte. Duffy being a good runner-up.

BANTAMWEIGHT.—Here we had Ptes. Holbrook and Murphy, both of Ramillies Squad, and again we saw a good fight. Holbrook was certainly the better boxer of the two but did not get all his own way, for Murphy was at him all the time. Holbrook was the eventual winner, but Murphy was certainly not disgraced.

FEATHERWEIGHT.—In this fight King of Ramillies Squad received a walk-over from Ayres, also of the same squad, on account of an injury to the arm. On account of only having six fights, Quinto of Dettingen volunteered to take Ayres place so that our spectators would not be disappointed. They certainly were not, for he put up an excellent show although he did not get the verdict.

LIGHTWEIGHT.—Stokes of Ramillies Squad was, I am afraid, too good for Hammond, whom he knocked out in the second round. Hammond is quite a nice fighter but must learn to punch a good deal harder if he hopes to win.

WELTERWEIGHT.—Again in this fight the winner, Honesberg of Ramillies Squad, was too good for his opponent, Smith of Malplaquet, and the verdict was gained by a knock-out. Smith was in no way disgraced for he was without a doubt pitted against a good man and incidentally put up a good show.

MIDDLEWEIGHT.—A keenly contested fight in which Johnson out-reached his opponent, a really good hard-hitter, Doggett. Both fought well and showed plenty of spirit.

Ramillies Squad emerged the winners of the Shield for the year. They are the senior squad and were expected to do well, and they certainly did.

The holder of the George Barrett Cup for the year was Pte King of Ramillies Squad. This cup is given for the most promising boxer in the competition and King certainly deserved to win. The hardest-earned medal, *i.e.* the Best Loser's, was won by Pte. May. He had put up a good show throughout the competition and was unlucky not to get the verdict in his last fight.

After the fighting on the final night, Major C. E. Wilson, who was acting Commanding Officer during the absence of Major G. R. Howe, on leave, presented the prizes. He complimented the boxers on the very good show that they had put up, which I am sure we all feel they fully deserved.

From this competition the team will be chosen to represent the Depot *v* Q.O.R. West Kent's Depot in the fight for the Hardy Cup, for which both Depots compete every year. They have been in good hard training and we are expecting great things from them on the 15th. We all wish them the best of luck and know that if they don't win they will not disgrace themselves.

Before closing these notes, we should all like to thank C.S.M.I. Soper Dyer of the A.P.T. Staff for all the hard work he has put in with our boxers during the time he has been attached to us as our P.T. Instructor. He is leaving us in the near future and we wish him and his wife the best of luck in his new station.

HARDY BOXING COMPETITION.

The competition for this trophy took place at Canterbury on February 15th, at 7 p.m. We were pleased to welcome the visitors and their supporters from Maidstone, and we congratulate them on winning.

Thanks are due to the following for kindly giving their services as officials:—*Referee*: Lieut.-Colonel Procter, The South Lancashire Regiment, Commanding No. 1 R.P.D.D. *Judges*: Major Bowden, No. 1 R.P.D.D., and Captain E. E. Calderbank, The King's Own Royal Regiment, attached No. 1 R.P.D.D.

The victory gained by The Queen's Own was a very decisive one, for we only managed to win one fight out of seven. Our team was certainly outclassed by what I think was one of the best teams that has ever competed for this trophy. Great credit is due to the C.S.M.I. of the A.P.T.S. attached to The Queen's Own Depot, in turning out such a formidable team.

Although it was such a decisive victory for our opponents, our boxers were not in any way disgraced, for right to the last, and even when it was seen that they could not win the Cup, they fought themselves to a standstill. It was very pleasing to note that throughout the fights the referee had no occasion to caution any competitor. This point was brought out by Lieut.-Colonel Procter after he had presented the Cup and Shields, as a good example to all and a thing which also spoke of good training not only in technique but also in sportsmanship.

The following is a short description of each fight in the order in which they came:—

BANTAMWEIGHT.—Rct. Wallace (R.W.K.) beat Rct. King (The Buffs) on points. A very evenly matched pair and a real good fight. Wallace scored very nicely with his left on a number of occasions and this gave him the points required for a win.

FEATHERWEIGHT.—Rct. Wallace (R.W.K.) beat Rct. Quinton on a technical knock-out. Wallace was too good for Quinton. In the closing stages of the first round he dropped his man and Quinton failed to come up for round two.

LIGHTWEIGHT (1st String).—Rct. Lee (R.W.K.) beat Rct. Stokes on points. This was a very hard fought fight, with plenty of give and take on both sides. Lee had a big advantage in reach, and towards the end he wore his man down.

LIGHTWEIGHT (2nd String).—Rct. Hance (R.W.K.) beat Rct. Smith on points. Another hard fight, with Hance obtaining a slight lead on points at the finish.

RAMILLIES SQUAD



Seated—Ptes. F. Dancer, H. Walters, W. Holbrook, L/Sgt. H. Hall, Cpl. E. Austin, Sgt. F. Hobson, Ptes. R. Gould, E. Callaway, W. Murphy.
1st Row—L/Cpl. D. Doyle, Ptes. E. Startup, W. Young, F. Rigden, W. King, T. Langley, A. Stokes, J. Perrin, L/Cpl. J. Blake.
2nd Row—Ptes. T. Hodgson, B. Honesberg, R. Jarvis, E. Welsh, V. May, E. Moore, L. Rowan, E. Cookman.
3rd Row—Ptes. W. Marshall, L. Johnson, S. Smith, L/Cpl. W. Decent, L/Cpl. P. Scott, Ptes. Bemmer, H. Wood.

WELTERWEIGHT (1st String).—Rct. Honesburg beat Rct. Street (R.W.K.) on points, the only victory we gained in the competition. A good fight which went the full distance, Honesburg gaining his lead on points only in the last round.

WELTERWEIGHT (2nd String).—Rct. Marchant (R.W.K.) beat Rct. L/Cpl. Scott. Both were tough customers who went at each other from the start. Scott fought well but must learn the art of defence. In the second round, Marchant dropped his man, who was saved by the gong. He came out for the last round, but it was plain to see that he could not last long and the fight was awarded to Marchant.

MIDDLEWEIGHT.—Rct. Iddenden (R.W.K.) beat Rct. Donovan on points. From the first gong it was seen that Iddenden had the measure of his man and Donovan can be congratulated on lasting the full time. Both men put up a good show and it was a fitting fight to finish off the evening.

Before asking Lieut.-Colonel Procter to present the prizes, the Commanding Officer, Major G. R. Howe, said a few well-chosen and appropriate words on the

competition. He thanked all the officials for kindly coming along and conducting such a good show, and also the competitors for giving us such a good evening's entertainment.

The cup and shields were then presented. Each of the winning team received a silver shield and the runners-up a bronze one. After the presentation, Colonel Procter had a few words to say and as mentioned previously he drew attention to the fine sporting way in which all the competitors had conducted themselves.

So ended the thirteenth competition that has taken place for this trophy. The results to date are:—Depot The Buffs won 8 times, Depot Q.O.R.W. Kent Regiment won 5 times.

The result was a big disappointment to both Major A. W. Andrews and C.S.M.I. Soper Dyer, for this is the last competition they will see as active members, as Major Andrews will have retired and C.S.M.I. Soper Dyer will have left for his new station before next year. Still, both of them have given valuable assistance during the time they had have anything to do with the teams, and the thanks of the Depot are due to them both for all the hard work that they have put in.

Sergeants' Mess.

Life goes along in its nice quiet way here at the Depot and nothing of very great importance happens. Of late a few old faces have been seen passing through as some of the 1st Battalion members seem to be getting fed up with Palestine and are trying Civvy Street. C.S.M. Field, Sgts. Miles, Stone and Kiley have passed through looking very fit and well and are now tasting the joys of being called "Mr." Sgt. Miles has returned to the fold and has taken up employment as Mobilization Storeman here at the Depot in place of Mr. Mould, who is still here as Garrison Clerk. No more can we call this dear old man George now that he holds such a high position. Keep batting Geor—sorry, Mr. Mould, I mean, we are pleased to see that you are staying with us and wish you the best of luck in your new job. Don't let the old hair turn too grey over it.

As mentioned in our last month's notes, a dance was given on the 28th in aid of the Museum Funds. This was a great success, and although the attendance was not as good as we expected, on account of the weather, we managed to hand over the sum of £9 to the Officer i/c Museum Funds. I should like to mention here that apart from being in charge of the Museum this officer has during this past year put in very many hours of his own time in completely rearranging the lay-out of it all. There is no need for me to mention who this officer is. We were very pleased to see at the dance such old and well-liked faces as the following:—Colonel and Mrs. Crookenden, Colonel and Mrs. Morgan, Major and Mrs. Reid, all our Officers and ladies, and Mr. Toby Farrow. The dancing lasted till the goodly hours of the morning, 3 a.m. to be exact, and I feel sure that all thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Our thanks are due to all those who helped to make it a success, especially those in the bar, who, I feel sure, by the size of the takings, had a busy time. It is hoped that we shall be able to give another big dance in May to celebrate Albuhera, so if any members of either battalion are around this part of the world, we shall be pleased to see them.

The R.S.M., acting as conducting W.O., took a draft to the 2nd Battalion on Tuesday last, February 7th, and spent a few days with them. His report on Pembroke Docks is not too glowing, but he was heard to remark that all in the Mess are looking fit and well, but their euchre requires brushing up. Too many police inspectors round the table, I guess!

On the 15th we have the Hardy Boxing Match with The Queen's Own Depot, so hope to see a good crowd of our friends over with the team. Supper has been arranged for them, so I hope to be able to report a successful evening in my next month's notes.

STOP GAP.

STOP PRESS.—It is with much regret that I have to record the death of Mr. "Dapper" Jones, who passed away last week. The Mess was represented at the funeral by C.S.M. Papworth and Sgt. Patterson. Better pens than mine will recall "Dapper's" life in the Regiment. I will therefore on behalf of the Mess offer our deepest sympathy to all his relatives and say how much we shall miss his cheerful face in the Depot.

Corporals' Room.

Another month has sped quickly by and once again we are due to go to press. With a great improvement in the weather and everything going smoothly, a very happy atmosphere prevails within the City walls.

With no arrivals, no departures, no romances or broken same, I find myself scratching my head, as always, for some fragrant fragments with which to fill our column.

The Inter-Squad Boxing Tournament took place during the month and a fair amount of talent was discovered. It was a pleasing sight to see our "Non-Coms" flapping the towel and giving the "odd-spot" to spur their lads on. We congratulate our recruits on their very plucky efforts.

We listened a week or two ago to a very interesting lecture on "Passive Air Defence," given by the O.C. Troops, and he successfully allayed the fears that a lot of people had for their welfare in the event of war.

We went to Maidstone to play the Corporals of the R.W.K.D. at football and won very easily, the final score being 8—1. Howard played very valiantly to bag a hat-trick; Harverson eliminated "Nodding 'em in Jimmy Brown" by pile-driving two beauties; Clarke had two presented to him and the "Brummingen Flier Tom Bowling" got the other. Everybody played exceptionally well, but special mention must be made of "Old Man Crockwell" (that's what our rivals were calling him), who played a magnificent game.

After the match we spent a very entertaining evening in their Mess with the aid of the local "Farmers" (that's the brew at Maidstone), and though no records were kept of the various games we played, it was voted that we finished about all square and also that an enjoyable evening was spent by all.

It is with regret that I have to announce the closing down of Buffy Howard's puppet show mentioned last month. He has no more time to run it owing to more important business. A fair lady has won his heart and e'er these notes are published our Buffy will be in the unsaddling enclosure after having run and won the "Matrimonial Stakes." We offer our heartiest congratulations and wish both he and his "to-be" a very happy and prosperous future.

NEWS FROM ALL QUARTERS.

Tift has been to New Cross,
Harverson to Deal,
Ellis caught the Elham train
Three nights off the reel;
Wellstead's drinking ginger ale,
Krailing tea and milk,
Brown is just beyond the pale,
Smithy deals in silk.
Bowling's getting sun-tanned,
Pepper's learning art,
Clarkie's got his marriage planned,
That'll make 'em start.
Jury's cooking caviarre,
Hooker's weeds grow fast,
Austen—furlough—not a care,
Stokie's "naps" run last.
Crockwell's looking fit and well,
Ashby's getting fat,
Buffy's drawn into his shell—
I'll give it up at that!

RIGDEN.

Regimental Gazette—continued from p. 104.

PERMANENT STAFF.

6280253 Sgt. A. Thornycroft, "P.S." awarded Long Service and Good Conduct Medal, with Gratuity, Army Order 231 of October, 1938.

TRANSFER.

6280884 Pte. E. Fennell, "D" (D), transferred to Cinque Ports (F), R.E.s, 28-12-38.

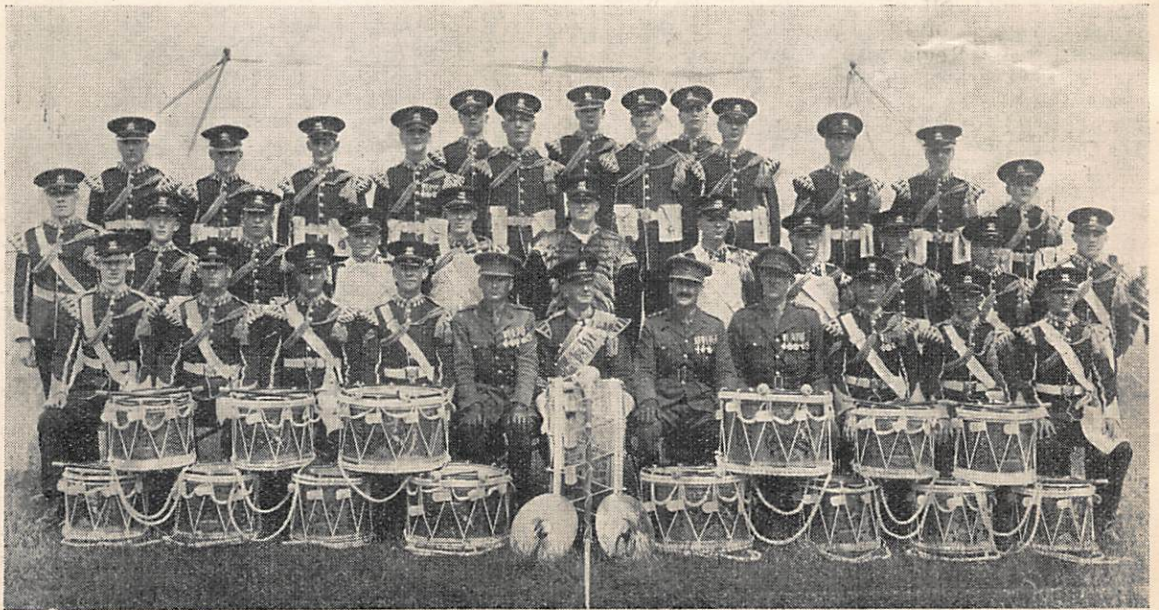
DISCHARGES.

The undermentioned are discharged:—
5478 Pte. W. Hughes, "A" (M), 13-12-38; 6285877 Pte. F. Roberts, "A" (M), 13-12-38; 6280769 Cpl. W. Wakefield, "D" (D), 19-12-38; 6286486 Pte. R. Robins, "B" (CH), 19-12-38; 4906258 Sgt. J. Winstanley, "D" (F), 20-12-38; 6287269 Pte. T. Waters, "B" (S), on joining Royal Air Force, 19-12-38; 6286293 Pte. J. Worth, "B" (HB), on joining Royal Navy, 7-11-38; 6286744 Pte. F. Metcalf, "A" (M), 29-12-38; 6287212 Pte. E. Brown, "B" (S), on joining Supplementary Reserve (The Buffs), 6-1-39; 6279482 L/Cpl. E. Kelson, "D" (F), 24-1-39; 6280913 Cpl. G. Greenhead, "B," (HB), 26-1-39; 6285883 Pte. R. Cornelious "A" (M), 17-1-39; 6283064 Sgt. W. Coombes, "B" (L), 26-1-39.



BATTALION CROSS COUNTRY TEAM.

[Gale & Polden



DRUMS. 4/5th BATTALION THE BUFFS.

[Gale & Polden

The 4/5th Battalion



WE very much regret the passing of ex-R.S.M. Jones, better known as "Dapper." He died quite suddenly at his home in Canterbury just before coming down to his work in the Battalion Orderly Room at the Drill Hall on Tuesday, 7th February. He had had a bad attack of bronchitis and had been away from his work for a short time, and was told not to start work again until he was fit, but he could not bear to leave anything undone and came back much too soon. All members of the battalion will miss him very much and he will be missed intensely by everyone who knew him. A most loyal and conscientious and lovable man with a remarkable record of service to the Regiment and country. His funeral on Friday, 10th February, at St. Paul's Church, was attended by all sections of the community of Canterbury. Many officers of the battalion and Regiment, past and present, attended. The many wreaths bore testimony to his many friends all over Kent. He was buried near the grave of Colonel Trevor in the Canterbury Cemetery, in a corner with many other Buffs. Major-General Sir Arthur Lynden-Bell writes: "The passing of "Dapper" Jones is a bad blow to the Regiment and especially to the 4/5th Battalion with which in recent years he has been so closely identified. I have known "Dapper" for more than forty years and the longer I knew him, the more I admired him. He got his name "Dapper" when serving with the 1st Battalion, because it didn't matter what the circumstances might be, he was always the picture of smartness. I would add that he was always the picture of cheeriness. I can remember an occasion when everyone was wet through and things were thoroughly unpleasant—there was naturally some grouching—which "Dapper" turned into laughter by remarking, 'It's all right, the feather beds are coming along for you fellows.' It was typical of him. In saying 'Au Revoir' to 'Dapper,' I feel a suitable epitaph for him would be 'We wish there were more like you'."

This month has been a full one as far as the battalion has been concerned. On 15th January a Brigade T.E.W.T. was held near Lewes for the battalion H.Q. Staff. On 16th "D" Company held their Prize Distribution and

Annual Dinner at Dover in the Seaplane Shed Drill Hall. We say "Good-bye" to this Drill Hall almost at once since by 19th February we shall be installed at the Liverpool Street Drill Hall, where we hope we shall be more comfortable. We hand the Seaplane Shed over to the A/A.R.A. Since the new A/A. Guns are too tall to get them into Liverpool Street Hall they are taking over the Seaplane Shed.

On 17th Jan. the C.O., Second-in-Command, and Adjutant were privileged to meet the C-in-C. Eastern Command at Bulverhythe. On 19th January the Canterbury Platoon held their Prize Distribution and Dinner. On 22nd January the T.E.W.T. in the Lewes area was repeated for the benefit of all Company Commanders and one subaltern per Company. The Brigadier, Brigade Major (Brigadier Whitty and Major Marshall), Colonel Collard, Colonel Burns, Colonel Howard Smith and Major Wilson were the guests at the Officers and Sergeants' Dinner held at Gaywood's Rooms, Canterbury, on 28th January. This was preceded by a lecture by the Adjutant on the year's training. An interesting Passive Air Defence Test was carried out at Canterbury Drill Hall on 31st January. The Zone Recruiting Officer visited Battalion Headquarters on 2nd February.

Three courses have been held at the Depot for the benefit of officers and N.C.O.s of the battalion. Ten N.C.O.s on 27th and 28th January, another ten N.C.O.s on 3rd and 4th February, and six officers and fifteen N.C.O.s on 10th February. The first two courses were "General courses," the last one was on the Bren Gun. We much appreciated the hard work put in by the Depot, in their spare time, on this work which is so essential to us.

On 9th February Herne Bay Platoon held their annual Prize Distribution and Dinner, followed by a dance. This was a most awfully well organised affair and 2/Lieut. Blackburne, who has just taken over this platoon, deserves great credit for his efforts.

Major D. P. Iggulden and Capt. G. H. Mount attended the Territorial Commanders' Course at Colchester on 10th February. 2/Lts. Tyrrell and Walker attended an excellent Physical Training Demonstration held at Richmond under Major Lister. We are sorry to hear that Mr. Walker has succumbed to influenza since.

The Boxing Team were sent to Bromley to represent the battalion in the Kent Group Competition (to find a team to represent the

44th Division), on 28th January. Although several men selected were unable to go to Bromley, and the seconds had to fight, we won the competition by one point. We entered one man in each weight, and the following were successful in winning in the final round: Pte. Ashby (Canterbury), flyweight; Pte. P. Smith (Margate), bantamweight; Pte. D. Smith (Canterbury), welterweight; Pte. Pilcher (Margate) was runner-up in the middleweight. Pte. Ashby and the two Smiths have been selected to represent the Kent Group in the 44th Divisional Championships which are to be held at Bromley Drill Hall on 18th February. The generous response of the local people of the county to an appeal for funds for sports, at Christmas time, alone made it possible for us to enter this team. Many congratulations to the team for their great effort. A fine cup was presented as a challenge cup for the Kent Group winners, which we now have in the Officers' Room at Canterbury. Some notes on the boxing are supplied by R.S.M. Burt, who took the team to Bromley.

Pte. Morford received a cut over his eye in his first fight. He was winning easily, but the referee stopped the fight.

Pte. Pilcher had to fight three times and was runner-up in the final.

Pte. D. Smith had two fights. Fought excellently in the welterweights when he was really a lightweight. Has been selected for the Divisional Championships.

Pte. P. Smith had two fights, and put his man out easily in both fights. Has been chosen for the Divisional Championships.

Pte. Ashby has just come on Man's Service otherwise he would not have been able to compete. Has been chosen for the Divisional Championships.

Pte. White fought a good fight against a much heavier and experienced man.

Pte. Johnstone fought a much heavier man in the heavyweight class and did very well against such an experienced fighter.

Pte. Carter has been a clever boxer, but his age was against him. He had to take a man's place at the last moment.

It was unfortunate that no officers were able to accompany the team, as the Officers and Sergeants' Dinner had been arranged for that night before we knew the date of the competition, but R.S.M. Burt took the team up and looked after them like a father, and was prepared to get in the ring if necessary. He was very much responsible for the result by his hard work and good organisation.

We welcome 2/Lieut. E. S. L. Macaskie to the battalion, who was gazetted on 18th

January. We hope he has a long and enjoyable stay with us.

The strength of the battalion is now only 39 below the limit to which we are allowed to go. We are allowed 20% above Peace Establishment. Peace Establishment is 25 officers and 581 other ranks, and we are now 30 officers and 658 other ranks. We have a long waiting list for officers, and shortly will be starting a waiting list for men. When we reach the limit men wishing to enlist fill in a form which states that they will come up for service when called upon to do so, and so we will be able to fill in the gaps as they occur. These men are not allowed to join any other form of service while they are waiting. The limit to which we are allowed to go in actual figures is 30 officers and 697 other ranks. There is, however, a wastage of about 150 per year, which has to be made up; and so we must get 150 recruits per year to keep our numbers up. It is unlikely, therefore, that anyone will be kept waiting very long.

The following officers will be attending the course at the R.M.C., Sandhurst, this summer. Captain Parish, 2/Lieuts. Bourne, Taylor and Knowles.

The following officers attended their initial attachment at the Depot from 8th to 21st January: 2/Lieuts. Tyrrell, Wilson, Dismore and Blackburne.

Captain Verlander has gone up to London to receive his medal from the King, and we hope to see him back shortly.

The Long Service and Good Conduct Medal has been awarded to Sgt. A. Thorndycroft, P.S.I. of "C" Company.

The Efficiency Medal, "T," has been awarded to the following: Sgt. H. Butchers, "C" Company, Sgt. A. H. Moat, "B" Company, Sgt. L. Reynolds, "B" Company, Pte. F. Osborne, "D" Company. We congratulate the recipients on the honours conferred on them.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

- Feb. 16. Margate Prize Distribution and Dinner.
- 19. Inter-Company Cross-Country Run, Depot, Canterbury.
- 21. P.A.D. Test, Sittingbourne Drill Hall.
- 22. Sandwich Prize Distribution and Dinner.
- 25. Sittingbourne Prize Distribution and Dinner.
- 26. "Z" Examination for 2/Lieutenants to Lieutenants.
- Mar. 11. Lecture, Signals' Brigade Headquarters, Tunbridge Wells.
- 18. Whitstable Dinner and Prize Distribution.
- Apr. 1 and 2. Signal Exercise.

"A" Company.

Congratulations to the men of the company that put up such a wonderful show in the boxing competition held at Canterbury and Bromley. Also to Pte. Smith of Margate on being chosen to fight for the Division.

Well, nothing very exciting has happened during the last month, so we are afraid that these notes will not be up to the mark; but we would like to know if Margate have really found out the meaning of the Boys Rifle, and that they are convinced that it cannot be got from Woolworth's for 4d.

We are pleased to note that all detachments have made an improvement in the recruiting line, particularly Sandwich—three in a week is going some. They are badly needed there, and we hope that it will continue.

Welcome to Sandwich, Mr. Macaskie. We hope that his stay with us will be for a long time. Being posted to Sandwich could not be a better fit.

Before closing, all officers, N.C.O.'s and men of the company express their deepest sympathy to the relations of the late ex-R.S.M. Jones.

X.X.K.

"B" Company.**SITTINGBOURNE DETACHMENT.**

Here we are again! Sittingbourne calling, after missing last month's issue of *The Dragon* we are once more in circulation.

Congratulations to Pte. White on the excellent performance that he put up in the boxing finals at Bromley. Congratulations also to the host of new recruits that have joined us. The platoon is now stronger than it has been for years. Keep it up, Sittingbourne.

We hope that the N.C.O.'s who have just been on week-end courses have added to their already overtaxed store of knowledge. During one of these week-ends the Annual Sergeants' and Officers' Dinner was held at Canterbury. The platoon was represented by Lieut. J. E. Wills and L/Sgt. Martin. Unfortunately our C.S.M. could not attend—probably another cold.

AS YOU WERE.

6th and 40th Kent Companies A.T.S.

TRAINING has been progressing steadily, with parades every Wednesday. The last parade before the Christmas vacation we were honoured by a visit from the Senior Commandant (County of Kent), Miss M. Machin, who expressed herself satisfied with the progress made during the first month of training. Miss Machin gave a very interesting lecture on the "Employment of Women in H.M. Forces," with some amusing episodes from her own experience in the W.R.A.F. in the last war.

We are grateful to Dr. Hamerton for his interesting lectures on Military Hygiene, Sanitation and First Aid. Apart from these lectures some of our Volunteers have been taking the St. John's First Aid Course in their own villages.

The 40th Kent Company on mobilisation go to the Depot and a scheme of training is being organised by which members go to the Depot for the number of hours equivalent to a week's camp training. The Clerical, Q.M. and Storewomen personnel are being taken first, and a course for Cooks will be held later in the spring. Members have volunteered for their training in their spare time and many of them are giving up their free afternoons and in some cases part of their annual holiday.

A number of drills in the year are being held at the Drill Hall, Ashford, in order to assist members who live in that district to get in a number of drills outside their Company Headquarters at Canterbury.

In order that N.C.O.'s may have the advantage of additional training, meetings are being held for them. The first meeting was in January when the Company Commander of the 40th Kent Company gave a lecture on A.T.S. Organisation, and explained in detail the organisation of the Service, and the service that would be required of our personnel and the training that was laid down by the War Office. At the next N.C.O.'s meeting Major Reid has kindly consented to lecture.

Recruits are coming along well, and we have received many applications for enrolment in both companies, and hope soon to be up to strength. At the end of December the 40th Kent Company headed the lists of the monthly strength return for the A.T.S. Companies in the County. Last month we were left behind but still hope to realise our ambition to be the first company in the County to get up to strength.

On February 8th, both companies were greatly honoured by an inspection by Lieut.-Colonel Dean, and hope that he was pleased with what he saw. We were disappointed not to have received our uniforms, but armllets and A.T.S. badges we felt were better than nothing. Colonel Dean gave a very interesting lecture on the Territorial Army and both companies and several recruits turned out in full force for his inspection parade.

It is with very deep regret that we learn of the sudden death of ex-R.S.M. Jones, and offer our sympathy to his relatives. Ex-R.S.M. Jones gave the most willing and useful assistance to the officers and clerical personnel of the A.T.S. Companies and will be sadly missed by all of us in the Orderly Room of the 4/5th Buffs.

N. H. SWIFT, Company Commander,
40th Kent Company, A.T.S.

L. MEAD, Company Assistant,
6th Kent Company, A.T.S.

43rd Kent Coy. A.T.S. Folkestone.

UP-TO-DATE the company has enrolled over forty women and hopes to be up to strength very soon. It is concentrating for the moment on "Chemical Warfare Agents," and has been fortunate enough to obtain, through the good offices of the Chief Constable of Folkestone, an expert lecturer on this subject.

Two other interesting lectures, one by Lieut. J. Tyrrell, 4/5th Battalion, are being given during the coming month.

A course of first aid lectures given by Major A. Pain, R.A.M.C. (T.A.) has just been completed.

10th Kent Coy. A.T.S. Cranbrook.

THE company has enrolled seven women and has recently started drills.

The Regimental Gazette.**Officers.****REGULAR ARMY.**

The following Sec. Lt. from Supp. Res. of Off., to be Sec. Lt. (January 27th):—

R.W.K.—D. C. J. Manners, The Buffs.

THE BUFFS.—Sec. Lt. P. G. Clarke to be Lt. (January 30th).

REGULAR ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS.

THE BUFFS—Lt. I. H. Griffiths resigns his commn. (Feb. 22).

TERRITORIAL ARMY.

4/5TH BN., THE BUFFS.—J. R. Fraser (late Cadet, Tonbridge Sch. Contgt., Jun. Div., O.T.C.) to be Sec. Lt. (February 15th).
4/5TH BN., THE BUFFS.—Capt. G. H. Mount to be Maj. (November 22nd, 1938); Capt. P. L. Roberts resigns his commn. (January 10th); Lt. W. E. Williamson to be Capt. (Resigner November 22nd, 1938).
4/5TH BN., THE BUFFS.—Lt. A. D. Macl. Hilton to be Capt. (Jan. 10); Sec. Lt. G. R. D. Hews to be Lt. (Feb. 22).

The 1st Battalion.

APPOINTMENTS.

The undermentioned are appointed Unpaid Lance-Corporal:—
6286258 Pte. W. Knight, H.Q., 5-12-38; 6285785 Pte. F. Bolt, H.Q., 16-12-38; 6285574 Pte. S. Harrison, "D," 26-12-38; 6286188 Pte. C. Williams, "D," 26-12-38; 6286104 Pte. L. Rawle, H.Q., 5-1-39; 6286679 Pte. R. Carson, "C," 30-12-38; 6286859 Pte. J. Jarman, "D," 30-12-38; 6285017 Pte. P. P. Harman, "B," 21-1-39; 6286118 Pte. A. Bellhouse, "B," 25-1-39; 6285645 Pte. B. Powell, H.Q., 25-1-39.
6283262 Sgt. V. Toms, H.Q., appointed Drum-Major, 10-10-38.

EMBARCATION.

The undermentioned en route to Haifa for embarkation on the S.S. *Montcalm* sailing for the United Kingdom on 28-1-39, for reasons as stated:—

For Vocational Training.

6283582 Pte. G. Sands, "D."

For Posting to the H.E.

6279041 Sgt. W. Beal, "C"; 6285017 L/Cpl. P. Harman, "B"; 6284439 L/Cpl. G. Cox, "A"; 6278663 Pte. J. Thirst, "D"; 6284696 L/Sgt. C. McKay, H.Q.; 6285419 Bdmn. G. Judd, H.Q.; 6284404 Pte. R. Cropton, "A"; 6285275 Pte. R. Birt, H.Q.

Class "B" Invalid.

6284546 Pte. R. Donovan, "C."

TRANSFER—INTER-UNIT.

6282981 Cpl. W. Spence (Attached 2/Royal Berkshire Regiment), "C," transferred to the 2nd Battalion, The Royal Berkshire Regiment, Lucknow, 27-10-38.

STRENGTH—DECREASE.

6278727 C.S.M. A. Field, "B," discharged, 17-1-39.

The 2nd Battalion.

APPOINTMENTS.

6285300 T/L/Cpl. D. Miles, H.Q., appointed Paid Lance-Corporal, 17-1-39.

6283746 L/Cpl. W. Eggleton, H.Q., appointed Temporary Paid Lance-Corporal, 17-1-39.

The undermentioned are appointed Unpaid Lance-Corporal:—

6285416 Pte. R. Wallace, "C," 28-1-39; 6287180 Pte. E. Parish, "A," 3-2-39; 2037976 Pte. S. Neill, "D," 13-2-39; 6287051 Pte. L. Williams, "D," 13-2-39.

POSTINGS.

The undermentioned disembarked ex-H.T. *Nevasa* at Southampton on 23-1-39, and are taken on strength of Home Establishment from 24-1-39:—

6280922 C/Sgt. A. Hicks, "D"; 6284450 Pte. R. Simmonds, "D."
The undermentioned other ranks disembarked ex-S.S. *Montcalm* on 7-2-39, and are taken on strength of Home Establishment on 8-2-39:—

6285017 L/Cpl. P. Harman; 6281577 P.S.M. A. Bartlett; 6284696 L/Sgt. C. McKay; 6284439 L/Cpl. G. Cox; 6285419 Bdmn. G. Judd; 6285275 Pte. R. Birt; 6284404 Pte. R. Cropton; 6279041 Sgt. W. Beal; 6278663 Pte. J. Thirst.

TRANSFERS TO ARMY RESERVE.

The undermentioned are transferred to Army Reserve:—

6285043 Pte. G. Skinner (G.T.C., Slough), H.Q., 11-1-39; 6285029 Pte. A. Veale (G.T.C., Waddon), H.Q., 3-1-39; 6285065 Pte. A. Perry, "D," 24-1-39; 6285188 Pte. L. McKenzie, "C," 29-1-39; 6285086 L/Cpl. A. Hobbins, "D," 1-2-39; 6009451 Pte. H. Edmonds, H.Q., 1-2-39.

DISCHARGES.

The undermentioned are discharged:—

6283558 Pte. J. Grieves (A.V.T.C., Chisleton), "B," 3-1-39; 6285761 L/Cpl. R. Wilson, "B," 25-1-39, on being appointed to a commission, 26-1-39; 6279514 Sgt. J. Wass, H.Q., 31-1-39.

The Depot.

RECRUITS.

Attested as shewn:—

6287348 Pte. W. J. H. Cockell, 9-1-39; 6286917 Pte. G. A. Laker, 9-1-39; Pte. V. T. Bailey, 16-1-39; 6287350 Pte. S. J. Fowler, 18-1-39; 6287351 Pte. F. G. H. Foad, 17-1-39; Pte. A. Smith, 18-1-39; Pte. R. E. Nobrega, 19-1-39; 2054211 Pte. E. Baker, 26-1-39; 5383549 Pte. D. J. Branigan, 27-1-39; 5384017 Pte. P. H. Holdom, 27-1-39; Pte. A. L. J. Killick, 25-1-39; Pte. W. H. G. Killick, 30-1-39; 6287356 Pte. J. P. Lander, 30-1-39; Pte. J. Carter, 6-2-39; Pte. W. W. Hollands, 4-2-39; Pte. R. S. Bailey, 6-2-39; Pte. J. H. Rodgers, 6-2-39; 2054214 Pte. S. C. Ford, 9-2-39; 6287360 Pte. J. S. Hill, 9-2-39; Pte. W. T. Jarvis, 6-2-39; Pte. J. W. Foulkes, 14-2-39; Pte. E. J. Pope, 15-2-39.

The undermentioned enlisted into the Regular Army (The Buffs) from Supplementary Reserve:—

6287068 Pte. L. Rowan, 18-1-39; 6287054 Pte. W. H. Young, 27-1-39.

POSTINGS—DECREASE.

The undermentioned are posted to the 2nd Battalion, The Buffs, 20-1-39:—

6285016 Pte. T. Berry; 6287175 Pte. C. Corbin; 6287188 Pte. W. Crew; 6287170 Pte. J. Culligan; 6287177 Pte. G. Gathercole; 6287174 Pte. A. Holland; 6286974 Pte. L. Meldrum; 6287180 Pte. E. Parish; 6287173 Pte. W. Penn; 6287186 Pte. P. Phillips; 6287172 Pte. K. Raines; 6287182 Pte. F. Smith; 6287181 Pte. W. Watson; 6287171 Pte. A. Wills.

6285236 Pte. E. Sheppard, posted to 2nd Battalion, The Buffs, 27-1-39.

The undermentioned are posted to 2nd Battalion, The Buffs, Pembroke Dock, 7-2-39:—

6287190 Pte. J. Blake; 6204302 Pte. F. Dancer; 6285834 Pte. W. Decent; 2057092 Pte. T. Hodgson; 6287192 Pte. E. Startup; 6287183 Pte. H. Walters; 881116 Pte. H. Wood.

POSTINGS.

The undermentioned disembarked at Southampton ex-H.T. *Somersetshire* and proceeded to R.V. Hospital, Netley, 3-1-39. Posted to Depot from 1st Battalion, The Buffs, 4-1-39:—

6285721 Pte. L. Blackman; 6286625 Pte. G. Culverhouse.

The undermentioned from 1st Battalion, The Buffs, Palestine, disembarked at Southampton ex-H.T. *Nevasa* on 24-1-39; joined Depot, 24-1-39:—

6278666 Sgt. H. Miles; 2559926 L/Cpl. J. Lind; 6285054 Pte. C. Mason; 6285061 Pte. S. Hockley; 6283173 Bdmn. F. Parker; 6285082 Pte. H. Elliott; 6285093 Pte. S. Haslett; 6285095 Pte. F. Adams; 6285157 Pte. R. Miles; 6734794 Pte. W. Hogg; 6285175 Pte. W. Dutton; 6285181 Pte. F. Smith; 6282986 Sgt. J. Stone; 6283541 Pte. R. Matfin; 6285056 U/L/Cpl. S. Shrubbs; 6285074 Pte. F. Stockwell; 6285076 P/L/Cpl. C. Baker; 6285083 Pte. J. Elmer; 6285094 L/Sgt. T. Kiley; 6285098 Pte. A. Taplin; 6285160 Pte. W. Dodson; 6285174 Pte. F. Harris; 6285178 Pte. L. Butcher; 6285185 Pte. W. Blaskett.

The undermentioned from 1st Battalion, The Buffs, Palestine, disembarked at Southampton ex-H.T. *Nevasa*, on 24-1-39, and proceeded to Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley, the same date:—

6285950 Pte. W. Hurkett; 6286286 Pte. J. Marshall.

The undermentioned from 1st Battalion, The Buffs, Palestine, disembarked at Southampton ex-H.T. *Nevasa*, on 24-1-39, and joined Depot the same date; posted to 2nd Battalion, The Buffs, 25-1-39, and attached to Depot:—

6285223 Pte. W. Colbran; 6285229 Pte. V. Fuller; 6285226 Pte. F. Hayter; 6285237 Pte. R. Collins.

6284791 Pte. W. Consitt, posted to Depot for a tour of duty, 27-1-39.

6287187 Pte. J. Samson, posted to this Depot from No. 1 R.P.D.D., Canterbury, 28-1-39.

TRANSFERS TO ARMY RESERVE.

The undermentioned are transferred to Army Reserve:—

6285038 Pte. C. Killick, 10-1-39; 6285067 Pte. W. Spoon, 7-2-39; 6285027 Pte. A. Quinn, 9-2-39; 6285010 Pte. S. Grimes, 9-2-39; 6283173 Bdmn. F. J. Parker, 14-2-39.

DISCHARGES.

The undermentioned are discharged:—

6282986 Sgt. J. Stone, 25-1-39; 2559926 Pte. J. Lind, 25-1-39; 6287327 Pte. G. F. Smith, 31-1-39; 6278666 Sgt. H. Miles, 7-2-39.

The 4/5th Battalion.

ENLISTMENTS.

The undermentioned recruits have been attested and posted to companies as shewn:—

Pte. R. Blythe, "D" (D), 13-12-38; Pte. G. Starling, "B" (HB), 14-12-38; Pte. F. Stover, "C" (C), 14-12-38; Pte. J. Turner, "A" (R), 16-12-38; Pte. C. Dorn, "D" (F), 19-12-38 (Trained Man on enlistment); Pte. W. Clutton, "D" (D), 6-12-38; Pte. A. Fisher, "B" (W), 15-12-38; Pte. A. Moore, "B" (W), 14-12-38; Pte. E. Baddley, "B" (HB), 11-1-39; Pte. J. James, "B" (W), 18-1-39; Pte. W. Castle, "D" (F), 9-1-39; Pte. C. Carter, "A" (R), 17-1-39; Pte. E. Hammond, "B" (W), 18-1-39; Boy F. Redman, "A" (R), 19-1-39; Pte. R. Stroud, "A" (R), 5-1-39; Pte. G. Fuller, "A" (R), 24-1-39; Pte. F. Kidder, "B" (C), 17-1-39; Pte. J. Jackson, "B" (C), 26-1-39; Pte. W. Marsden, "B" (L), 20-1-39.

PROMOTION.

6283918 L/Cpl. S. Underdown, "B" (CH), promoted Corporal, 24-1-39.

EFFICIENCY MEDALS (T.).

The undermentioned were awarded Efficiency Medals (T.), Army Orders, November, 1938:—

6282857 Sgt. H. Butchers, "C"; 6283204 Sgt. N. Reynolds, "B"; 6282714 Dmr. F. Osborne, "D"; 6283292 Sgt. A. Moat, "B"; 6282734 Cpl. J. Blake, "A."

Continued on page 99

LLOYDS BANK LIMITED

6 PALL MALL, S.W.1.

This Branch of Lloyds Bank, in which is incorporated the business of Messrs. COX & Co., Army and Royal Air Force Agents, is specially adapted to meet the banking requirements of Officers and Cadets.

RETIRED PAY AND PENSIONS.

All classes of Retired Pay & Pensions collected and credited to customers' accounts.

SPECIAL DEPARTMENTS ARE OPEN AT THIS OFFICE

which deal particularly with the following classes of business

1. Colonial and Foreign.
2. Stock Exchange.
3. Insurance: Life, Fire, Accident, &c.
4. Preparation of returns and recovery of Income Tax.

HEAD OFFICE: LONDON, E.C.3.

McEwan-Younger Ltd Edinburgh

ALSO LONDON, ALDERSHOT, COLCHESTER, SHORNCLIFFE,
TIDWORTH, PORTSMOUTH, CATTERICK AND BELFAST.

AGENTS

GIBRALTAR, Saccone & Speed Ltd., GIBRALTAR
MALTA, Captain A. Caruana, Valetta, MALTA
CYPRUS, Spinney's Ltd., NICOSIA
PALESTINE, Spinney's Ltd., HAIFA
EGYPT, McEwan-Younger Ltd., CAIRO
SUDAN, Buildmore Co. (Sudan) Ltd., KHARTOUM
ADEN, Pallonjee Dinshaw & Co., ADEN
INDIA and CEYLON, Cutler Palmer & Co.,
CALCUTTA, MADRAS, LAHORE, BOMBAY, COLOMBO
Forbes Forbes Campbell & Co., Ltd., KARACHI
BURMA, Barnes & Co. Ltd., RANGOON
F. M. S., Wm. Jacks & Co. (Malaya) Ltd.,
SINGAPORE and PENANG
CHINA, Jardine Matheson & Co. Ltd., SHANGHAI
Dodwell & Co. Ltd., HONG KONG
MAURITIUS, Scott & Co., PORT LOUIS
JAMAICA, Bryden & Evelyn Ltd., KINGSTON
BERMUDA, Gosling Bros., HAMILTON



Established 1799

J. H. & J. BROOKE Ltd.

Wine Merchants

LONDON

— 27 CLEMENTS LANE, E.C.4

Telephone: MANSion House, 5301 (3 lines)

FOLKESTONE

— 134 SANDGATE ROAD

Telephone: Folkestone 3123 (2 lines)

HYPHE

— 78 HIGH STREET

Telephone: Hythe 6301

Samples
and
Price Lists
on
Application

LEFEVRES

are

FURNISHING SPECIALISTS

● *Experienced Advice on
Every Phase of Modern Furnishing.*

● *We Take Pride in The
Efficiency and Completeness of
Our Service which Covers Every
Problem likely to arise In The
Furnishing or Replenishing of
The Home*

GUILDHALL ST., CANTERBURY



BY APPOINTMENT

THOMAS WHITE & Co.

LIMITED

*Military Tailors and Boot Makers
Breeches Specialists*

COMPLETE REGULATION OUTFITS
ON THE SHORTEST NOTICE

THE NEWEST IN MUFTI WEAR

UNION STREET, ALDERSHOT

Phone: ALDERSHOT 550.
Extension 6.

Wires: "WHITES"

JUST PUBLISHED

THE COMPLETE GUIDE TO MILITARY MAP READING

10th EDITION

RE-WRITTEN AND ENLARGED

With numerous exercises and fully
illustrated

This book has been written specially to meet the needs of those who have to pass examinations in Map Reading.

Many diagrams illustrate the text, and the most difficult parts of the subject are fully treated. A special feature is the number of worked examples, while the exercises at the ends of the chapters give very useful practice.

The examination test papers at the end are invaluable both for students who have to work on their own, and busy instructors who will here find suitable work for their candidates.

Printed and Published by

GALE & POLDEN, LTD.

WILLINGTON WORKS, ALDERSHOT

AND AT LONDON AND PORTSMOUTH

PRICE FOUR SHILLINGS & SIXPENCE (Net)

(Per Post, 4s. 10d.)

How to get "The Dragon."

FOR those wishing to receive the Paper direct through the post each month, the rates of subscription are:—

1 year, 8/- 6 months, 4/- 3 months, 2/-

Remittances should be sent to the Editor, Depot The Buffs, Canterbury.

B. & W. FISK-MOORE

VII St. George's Place } Canterbury
IV St. George's Gate }

For Picture Framing and Photography.

Tel. 3637

Best Beef (English and Chilled)

English Pork (Only)

Appetizing Sausages (Fresh daily)

New Season's Lamb and Mutton

Electrical Refrigeration

You should give us a trial

22a MILITARY RD, CANTERBURY

Phone 2827

**PERIODICALS BY POST TO ALL
PARTS OF THE WORLD.**

Richardson & Co.

26 KING STREET,
ST. JAMES'S, LONDON, S.W.1.

**NEWSAGENTS
TO
THE MAJORITY OF BRITISH REGIMENTS
ON
FOREIGN SERVICE**

A copy of our price list of subscriptions to News-
papers and Magazines, including postage, will be
sent on application.

BOOKS

We supply books of all kinds at published prices.
If you are interested send for a copy of our issue
"Current Literature" which is published monthly
and gives a classified list of all books published
during the month. We send this free and post free
to customers.

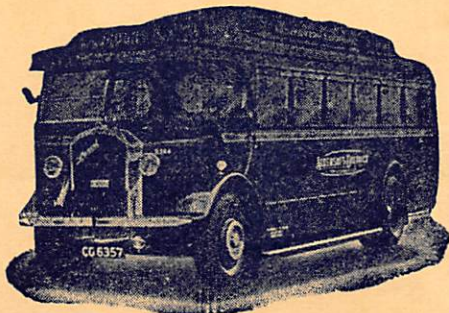
RICHARDSON & CO. Established
200 Years

ALDERSHOT & DISTRICT TRACTION CO LTD

**PROVIDES
THE MOST LUXURIOUS
PRIVATE HIRE SERVICE
IN
THE ALDERSHOT COMMAND**

HEATED COACHES

**VERY MODERATE TERMS.
HALIMOTE ROAD - ALDERSHOT
(PHONE 330)**



HAMMERTON

Celebrated

PRIZE MEDAL

ALES and STOUT

ESTABLISHED OVER 200 YEARS

As Supplied to

THE BUFFS DEPÔT

CONWAY WILLIAMS,

THE MAYFAIR TAILOR

**REGIMENTAL TAILOR
TO
THE BUFFS**

**SWEATERS, SCARVES & TIES
always in stock.**

**EVENING CLOTHES & BREECHES
A SPECIALITY**

48 BROOK ST., W.,

Telephone Mayfair 0945.

AND AT

39 London Road, Camberley.

After the Events —THE PRIZES!



Sterling Silver
Height 7 $\frac{3}{8}$ inches £7.0.0
" 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ " £10.0.0
" 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ " £15.0.0

Sterling Silver
Height 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches £6.0.0
" 9 " £7.0.0
" 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ " £10.0.0

Sterling Silver
Height 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches £5.5.0
" 8 " £6.15.0
" 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ " £9.5.0

TROPHIES by The Goldsmiths & Silversmiths Company are an abiding source of happiness to the winner in commemorating the occasion.

May we have an opportunity of submitting a selection of Prizes for your inspection?

**THE
GOLDSMITHS &
SILVERSMITHS
COMPANY LTD**

112 Regent Street, London, W.1

NO OTHER ADDRESS

*Illustrated
Catalogue
will also gladly
be sent.*