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THE DRAGON

THE REGIMENTAL PAPER
OF THE BUFFS.



No. 549

August, 1945

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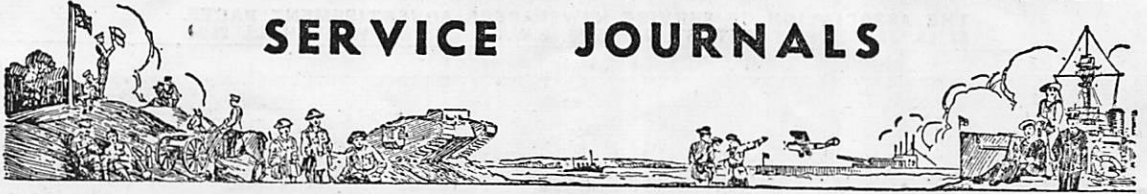
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You might have served in the Crimea, facing not only the hazards of war, but death by sheer starvation or exposure. More soldiers died through lack of proper food and shelter than from bullets. This was largely due to the failure of the supply system, but conditions were worsened by the absence of a canteen service, or even of organised sutlers. Levantine traders who set up their booths along the road from Balaclava to Sebastopol sold goods of indifferent quality at prices which only the wealthy could afford. It is recorded that these traders sold water at eight shillings a bucket.

Public indignation at these conditions, resulted in many reforms in the Army, and several canteen systems were tried and discarded, but the problem of bringing necessities and comforts to men serving at home or abroad was not finally solved until 1921, when Naafi was established as the official canteen service for the Forces, buying goods at wholesale prices, selling at competitive retail prices, and returning all profits to the Forces in rebate, discount and amenities.

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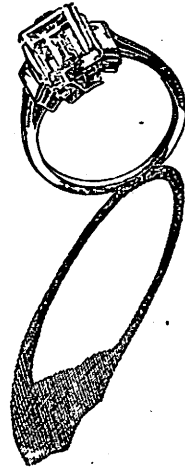
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The treasure house which Queen Elizabeth carried about on her person—the ropes of pearls and jangling pendants and the regiments of rings speak only too plainly. So do the pieces of intricate (and frequently abstruse) symbolism to be seen in rings of the period of the "New Learning."

We rather fancy that to-day's single stone diamond, claw set in platinum, writes an even greater page of history—a page of joy in simple beauty, a page of appreciation of worth rather than desire for ostentation.

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No 549

AUGUST, 1945.

Price: Sixpence

ONCE again we are at peace. We have celebrated V.J.-Day and given thanks that the blessings of peace are restored to us.

It now remains for us to rebuild the affairs of our Regiment, so disrupted by nigh on six years of war.

There is much to be done and I count on the support of all in the accomplishment of it.

G. SCARLETT, Major-General,

Colonel of The Buffs.

Personalia.

WE congratulate Colonel J. Body of Wittersham Court, Wittersham and Bt. Colonel E. B. Burns of Riverside, Yalding, on being appointed deputy Lieutenants of Kent.

Lt.-Colonel H. de L. Waters has recently been home on leave. He went to Guernsey to find that the Germans had not done very much damage to his house and was able to recover about three quarters of his furniture from various places. Unfortunately a lot of very valuable china had been stolen.

Major J. S. Blanford has been demobilised and is again with his old firm, Shell Oil, being employed with the overseas Supply Committee of the Petroleum Board. His work will be connected with the supply of petroleum products to liberated Europe. He sends his best wishes to all Buffs, past and present.

Capt. Critchley writes that the 1st Battalion is enjoying very good bathing. At the time of writing the second Summer Race Military (Corps) was about to be held in which Major Blaxland hopes to be successful.

Major E. G. Cox has recently been on leave staying at the home of one of his interpreters, a delightful villa. Colonel Oliver came over one night to dinner together with Major Blaxland and Critchley. The 1st Battalion is in good heart and expecting to move into the Trieste area.

When Major Cox was in the Udine area he went up into Austria to visit the 5th Battalion and stayed with them for two nights. They are in a very pleasant spot, beautifully green and cool, but are very scattered, some of the Companies being twenty-five miles apart.

When he arrived there a rifle meeting was in progress and the weather was good. One

of the chief pastimes is riding as the battalion has plenty of horses taken over from the Ukrainian Division which they had to disarm.

West, Dixon and Piper were on LIAP. Gabb has gone home on leave and a Company Commanders Course. C. S. M. Johnson was acting R.S.M. whilst R.S.M. Hurley was on leave.

Major G. L. Lushington, writing from Ceylon, reports the death of a Planter named G. N. Stockdale at the age of 51 years. He was in the 10th Battalion in the last war for a short time having obtained a commission in the West Kent Yeomanry and was wounded in the third battle of Gaza.

At the time of his death he was a Corporal in the Ceylon Planters Rifle Corps.

Major Lushington was very sorry not to have seen Colonel Airy when he was in Colombo.

Recent arrivals in this country from overseas include:—Captain D. G. Minnis, Captain N. D. Poulsen, Major G. R. D. Hews, Lieut. G. F. Partis, Lieut. H. S. Latimer, Lieut. A. C. Oughton, Lieut. J. Muldoon, Captain N. F. Gordon-Wilson, Major J. F. Straker, Lieut. D. G. Drysdale, Lieut. A. D. Broughton, Major J. H. Creaton, Major G. D. Gilbert-Smith, Major R. H. Parker, Captain W. H. Pitkin, Captain E. T. Rother, Major C. A. R. Schooley, Major C. Sessions, Lieut. E. V. Rockell, Lieut. C. R. Burn.

Captain George May is now living at East Sheen. He sends his best wishes to his old friends of the 4th Battalion.

Inspector C. A. Smith, War Department Constabulary, writes that Bernard Charles and Kathleen May Smith (twins) born in the Regiment at Canterbury, attain the age of 21 years on September 8th, 1945. Bernard joined the Regiment and is at present serving with the 5th Battalion.

His elder brother, Jack, born in India is serving with an Airborne Division overseas.

Sergeant F. Marsh who was Provost Corporal in the 2nd Battalion, and who was taken prisoner of war in May, 1940, wishes to be remembered to his old friends in the Regiment.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS.

BIRTH.

Taylor.—On July 23rd, 1945, at 5 The Grove, West Hartlepool, to Caroline, wife of

Anthony James Hannam Taylor, of Minster Thanet—a son.

MARRIAGE.

Bollon—Mount.—On July 7th, 1945, at Patricbourne, Kent, Captain Melville Charles Bollon, The Buffs, of Newport, Mon., to Marjorie Kathleen Mount, Junior Commander, A.T.S., of Canterbury, Kent.

DEATH.

Mairis.—On July 23rd, 1945, Lt.-Colonel Geoffrey Brouncker de Maries Mairis, D.S.O., Chevalier Legion of Honour, late The Buffs and Green Howards, of Waye, Bovey Tracey, son of the late General Mairis, dearly loved husband of Eileen.

ON ACTIVE SERVICE.

Noall.—Previously reported missing now officially reported killed in action, Italy, Easter Sunday, 1944, 2nd. Lieut. David Alexander Noall, The Buffs, serving with 1st Battalion, R.W.K. Regiment, previously wounded at El Alamein (K.R.R.C.) beloved youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. Noall "Koreela," Homestead Road, Chesfield, Kent.

OBITUARY.

Lieut.-Col. G. B. De M. Mairis.

Lieutenant-Colonel Geoffrey Brouncker de Maries Mairis, D.S.O., died at Bovey Tracey on July 23rd. Born on April 16th, 1870, eldest son of the late General Mairis, R.M., he joined The Buffs in 1893, became captain in 1900, and served as adjutant of the 2nd Battalion from 1902 to 1905. In 1911 he obtained his majority with The Green Howards, in 1913 was gazetted brevet Lieutenant-Colonel, reaching the substantive rank in 1919. He saw active service in the South African war and in the 1914—18 war, when he was wounded and twice mentioned in dispatches. He was a chevalier of the Legion of Honour, From 1919 to 1923 he commanded the 2nd Battalion, The Green Howards, and retired in 1924.

With acknowledgements to the Times.

COMMUNICATIONS.

14th July, 1945.

"Following for Colonel of The Buffs from Danish Officers of the Regiment who have been working with Resistance.

On the occasion of our farewell parade and dinner in Copenhagen, we wish to send to all ranks our best greetings and to say we are proud to have been able to serve as officers in the Regiment during the war.

We look forward to maintaining our connection with the Regiment in the future."

Reply Sent.

"On behalf of all Buffs, I thank you for your kind message. We are proud to have you to serve with us and wish you all luck in the future."

SCARLETT, Colonel, The Buffs.

THE BUFFS COMFORTS FUNDS.

AFTER consulting the Colonel of the Regiment and with his sanction, the Committee has decided to carry on for the duration of the War against Japan. The Battalion serving in S.E.A.C. has needs as great as any during the past six years. We also want to help those Units with the B.L.A. in fact, any Battalions overseas.

During the past years many thousands of garments have been sent away each year, also cigarettes, books and games. We wish therefore to appeal to all friends of Buffs to continue to support the Fund.

The Committee is most grateful for all the help and support received, which enables it to make this appeal confidently.

All donations should be sent to Lieut.-Colonel L. Howard Smith, White Oast, Wingham, Nr. Canterbury, and any who will knit socks can obtain wool, free of coupons, from Mrs. Crookenden, Green Bank, Barham.

ROUND AND ABOUT.

By the Tramp.

Peace.

BY the time these notes appear we shall have grown accustomed to Peace which, we are assured, hath her victories no less than war and, as we are beginning to realise, her problems too. Incidentally, the timing of the announcement of the two V.J. holidays caught a lot of people literally napping. And it was surely a little unimaginative to make the free days Wednesday and Thursday. Many people I have met have said that Thursday and Friday would have suited them better. Nevertheless, a good time was had by all, so the newspapers say, and a profound sense of relief was everywhere evident.

Commendable Restraint—and the reverse.

I propose to be one of the very few people who have not contributed to the spate of words about the New Weapon. The arguments about it will continue for long. I will, however, say that, even allowing for his sincerity, a certain Dean went beyond his very great local powers in refusing permission for a Thanksgiving Service in his Cathedral. The only result of his action is to present non-Churchmen with another stick for the chastisement of the Established Church.

Petaïn.

The proceedings at the State Trial of the aged Marshal have aroused a feeling of discomfort in the minds of English people accustomed to dignity and decorum in their Law Courts.

French judicial proceedings differ very much from ours. The rules of evidence, so strictly enforced by British judges, do not apply across the Channel. One cannot quarrel with that but the fact that the accused had to submit to the attentions of photographers who thrust cameras nearly into his face shocked me, for one. Petaïn was undoubtedly a defeatest and, in most ways, a collaborator. He was also obviously anti-British. Finally though senile he was consumed with vanity.

History will probably deal more fairly and kindly with his reputation than his infuriated countrymen are inclined to at present.

Canterbury.

A happy chance gave me a few days holiday in Kent early in August. I was able to revisit the Depot and find one or two, people to whom my face was not bafflingly unfamiliar. I was able to participate in a game of *stooka pooka* but my performance must have reminded several experts present of my early attempts to cope with the game.

Then on Bank Holiday all right minded people trekked to the St. Lawrence Ground. There was a surprisingly large crowd and hundreds of motor cars whose owners had doubtless set aside some of their precious "basic" for the occasion. The cricket was entertaining and not even two sharp rainstorms accompanied by thunder could damp the spirits of the spectators. My memory went back to my first visit, to this beautiful ground—way back in 1906—when Woolley was a slim and slightly gawky stripling. It was a disappointment to many that he didn't appear on this occasion. I particularly wanted

one young person who has patiently listened to my rhapsodies about the great Frank to "see Woolley plain."

But it was not to be. Another great player was on the ground in spirit. I mean Colin Blythe, that beautiful bowler and charming personality. He lies in a soldier's grave in front of Ypres. I remember on a visit to the Battlefields of 1914—1918, coming by chance on his resting place. He was a delicate man, no natural athlete, but when he bowled it was the nearest thing to poetry I have ever seen on a cricket ground.

But all that's shove behind me, long ago and far away, and raking up the past is rightly frowned on by the young who are busy building up their own past. Which is as it should be.

Margate.

I wrote some time ago about Brighton but Margate is the "Queen of Seaside Resorts" for me. Not the Margate of the luxury hotels of Cliftonville but the good old common Margate which lies between the Railway Station and the Jetty and Pier. I went there the other day and saw it at its natural best—a lovely clear day after a stormy night. There is very little visible damage on the waterfront, the principal wreck being an old favourite of mine, the Metropole Hotel where I enjoyed the hospitality of the Proprietor years ago when I was busy on a painting of the harbour. Little remains of it now but I saw my friend's name still over the doorway. The Metropole was not an architectural gem but it had grown into the picture. It is sad that it is no more.

REGIMENTAL GAZETTE.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE LONDON GAZETTE OF FRIDAY, JULY 13TH, 1945, DATED, TUESDAY, JULY 17TH, 1945.

REGULAR ARMY.

EMERGENCY COMMISSIONS.

THE BUFFS.—War Subs. Lt. N. Fisk (271706) from P. Corps to be War Subs. Lt., 2nd May, 1945, retaining his present seniority.

SECOND SUPPLEMENT TO THE LONDON GAZETTE OF TUESDAY, JULY 10TH, 1945, DATED FRIDAY, JULY 13TH, 1945.

REGULAR ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS.

THE BUFFS.—Lt. C. Haggard (27197) to be Bt. Maj., June 7th, 1945.

REGULAR ARMY.

EMERGENCY COMMISSIONS.

THE BUFFS.—War Subs. Lt. L. H. Clark (320528) from P. Corps to be War Subs. Lt., April 27th, 1945, retaining his present seniority.

THE BUFFS.—War. Subs. Lt. T. J. Winter (304801) from R.A. to be War Subs. Lt., March 3rd, 1945, retaining his present seniority.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE LONDON GAZETTE OF TUESDAY, JULY 17TH, 1945, DATED, THURSDAY, JULY 19TH, 1945.

The King has been graciously pleased to approve the following awards in recognition of gallant and distinguished services in Italy:—

Military Cross.

Major (temporary) Donald Frederick Bennett (184673) The Buffs (Royal East Kent Regiment) (Sittingbourne).

The Distinguished Conduct Medal.

No. 6102411, Sergeant (Acting) Thomas William Donald Whitbread, The Buffs (Royal East Kent Regiment) (London N.5.)

The Military Medal.

No. 1427847 Sergeant Peter Charles George Ward, The Buffs (Royal East Kent Regiment) (Wakefield).

No. 14359708, Lance-Corporal Donald Mackinnon, The Buffs (Royal East Kent Regiment) (Isle of Skye).

The King has been graciously pleased to approve that the following be Mentioned in recognition of gallant and distinguished services in Italy.

The Buffs.—Lt. Col. (temp.) G. E. F. Oliver (38710), Capt. (temp.) A. Marriott (301770), Capt. (temp.) L. P. Whatley (124126), Lt. G. S. Gabb (265687), 6285617 W.O. II F. C. Excell, 6293159 Sgt. G. E. Cole, 4980806 Sgt. J. E. Dickens, 6289502 Sgt. H. E. Hellis, 4982410 Sgt. A. E. King, 6289829 Cpl. G. H. Abbott, 6290414 Cpl. A. A. Blake, 6289331 Cpl. M. W. Down, 6290233 Cpl. F. E. Williams, 6288666 Cpl. W. F. Wright, 6300486 L/Cpl. F. W. Burton, 6288109 Pte. L. V. James, 6296372 Pte. W. F. Still, 6023843 Pte. R. G. Wyatt.

The King has been graciously pleased to approve that the following be Mentioned in recognition of gallant and distinguished services in Burma:—

The Buffs.—6282794 W.O.I. (actg.) W. H. Morgan (Attd. I.A.G.C.)

Order of The British Empire.

ERRATA.

The particulars of the following appointments are as now shown and not as shown in The London Gazette :—

No. 37119 dated the 14th June, 1945, Page 2942 :—

For Lieutenant Colonel (Temporary) John Geoffrey Atkinson (46509) The Buffs (Royal East Kent Regiment) read Lieut.-Colonel (temporary) John Godfrey Atkinson (47509) The Buffs, (Royal East Kent Regiment).

SECOND SUPPLEMENT TO THE LONDON GAZETTE OF TUESDAY, JULY 17TH, 1945, DATED FRIDAY, JULY 20TH, 1945.

REGULAR ARMY.

EMERGENCY COMMISSIONS.

THE BUFFS.—War. Subs. Lt. E. J. Head (233813) from R.A. to be War Subs. Lt. May 19th, 1945, retaining his present seniority.

P.R.—The undermentioned War Sub. Lt. to be War Subs. Lt. retaining his present seniority.

E. Ingram (327237) from The Buffs, March 28th, 1945.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE LONDON GAZETTE OF TUESDAY, JULY 24TH, 1945, DATED THURSDAY, JULY 26TH, 1945.

The King has been graciously pleased to approve that the following be Mentioned in recognition of gallant and distinguished services in the field :—

The Buffs.—6287073 L/Cpl. J. Genery.

SECOND SUPPLEMENT TO THE LONDON GAZETTE OF TUESDAY, JULY 24TH, 1945, DATED FRIDAY, JULY 27TH, 1945.

REGULAR ARMY.

EMERGENCY COMMISSIONS.

THE BUFFS.—War Subs. Lt. D. N. L. Welman (265472) from R.A. to be War Subs. Lt. September 19th, 1944, retaining his present seniority.

6355640 Cadet John Frederick Hodson (349546) to be 2nd Lt. June 23rd, 1945.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE LONDON GAZETTE OF FRIDAY, JULY 27TH, 1945, DATED, TUESDAY, JULY 31ST, 1945.

REGULAR ARMY.

THE BUFFS.—Capt. C. E. A. Terry (45657) to be Bt.-Maj. June 30th, 1945.

REGULAR ARMY.

EMERGENCY COMMISSIONS.

THE BUFFS.—7663262 Cadet George William

Linklater (349593) to be 2nd Lt. June 23rd, 1945, with precedence next below 2nd. Lt. J. F. Hodson (349546).

SUPPLEMENT TO THE LONDON GAZETTE OF TUESDAY, JULY 31ST, 1945, DATED THURSDAY, AUGUST 2ND, 1945.

The King has been graciously pleased to give orders for the following promotions in, and appointments to, the Most Excellent Order of The British Empire, in recognition of gallant and distinguished services in North-West Europe :—

To be additional Officers of the Military Division of the said Most Excellent Order :—

Lieut.-Colonel (temporary) Stanley Roy Pawley (27993) The Buffs (Royal East Kent Regiment).

Colonel (temporary) Trevor Hicks Spear (6710) The Buffs (Royal East Kent Regiment).

The King has been pleased to grant unrestricted permission for the wearing of the following decorations which have been conferred on the undermentioned personnel in recognition of distinguished services in the cause of the Allies :—

DECORATIONS CONFERRED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Legion of Merit, Degree of Officer.

Brigadier (temporary) John Gerald Nicholson, C.B.E. (33734), The Buffs (Royal East Kent Regiment).

SECOND SUPPLEMENT TO THE LONDON GAZETTE OF TUESDAY, JULY 31ST, 1945, DATED, FRIDAY, AUGUST 3RD, 1945.

REGULAR ARMY.

EMERGENCY COMMISSIONS.

THE BUFFS.—6462828 Actg. R.Q.M.S. John Raymond Perriman (350834) to be Lt. (Qr.-Mr.) May 26th, 1945.

The undermentioned Cadets to be 2nd Lts. June 3rd, 1945 :—

14584365 John Artur Hollis Claudet (352302), 14431312 Ian Murray Pewtress (352317), 14440642 Anthony Derek Hill (290838).

SUPPLEMENT TO THE LONDON GAZETTE OF TUESDAY, AUGUST 7TH, 1945, DATED, THURSDAY, AUGUST 9TH, 1945.

The King has been graciously pleased to approve that the following be Mentioned in recognition of gallant and distinguished service in North-West Europe :—

The Buffs.—Maj. W. R. H. Browne (110336), Maj. (temp) P. Simmons (105007).

The King has been graciously pleased to approve that the following be Mentioned in recognition of gallant and distinguished services in the field :—

The Buffs.—5616349 Sergt. C. C. Cloke.

SECOND SUPPLEMENT TO THE LONDON GAZETTE OF TUESDAY, AUGUST 7TH, 1945, DATED, FRIDAY, AUGUST 10TH, 1945.

REGULAR ARMY.

EMERGENCY COMMISSIONS.

THE BUFFS.—The undermentioned to be 2nd Lts. June 14th, 1945 :—

Ian Evan Gamble (350758), Leslie Gordon Gardner (350773), Owen Lethbridge Tingcombe (350774), Thomas Choules Trotter (350768), Guy Edward Wager (350769), Glendower Cedric James Wirth (350778).

SUPPLEMENT TO THE LONDON GAZETTE OF FRIDAY, AUGUST 10TH, 1945, DATED, TUESDAY, AUGUST 14TH, 1945.

REGULAR ARMY.

EMERGENCY COMMISSIONS.

THE BUFFS.—War. Subs. Lt. K. B. O'Sullivan (276716) from P. Corps, to be War Subs. Lt., May 2nd, 1945, retaining his present seniority. 14495683 Cadet Henry Ritchie Bridge (352052) to be 2nd Lt., July 14th, 1945.

THIRD SUPPLEMENT TO THE LONDON GAZETTE OF TUESDAY, AUGUST 14TH, 1945, DATED, FRIDAY, AUGUST 17TH, 1945.

REGULAR ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS.

THE BUFFS.—Maj. F. Whitaker, O.B.E., M.C., (1201), having exceeded the age limit of liability to recall, ceases to belong to the Res. of Offrs., August 17th, 1945.

REGULAR ARMY.

EMERGENCY COMMISSIONS.

THE BUFFS.—The undermentioned to be 2nd Lts. June 14th, 1945 :—

Donald James Beaton (350820), Griffith William Teck Brook (350816), Tom Darling (350791), Philip Roberts (350811), John Arthur Sullivan (350815), John Victor Wogan-Browne (350807).

WAR OFFICE ORDERS.

NO. 28 ISSUED ON JULY 12TH, 1945.

REGULAR ARMY.

THE BUFFS.—Lt. (T/Capt.) (now Capt.)

(A/Maj.) N. T. Bailey (221026) to be T/Maj. and War Subs. Capt. July 12th, 1945.

The undermentioned Capt. is re-granted T/Maj. :—

THE BUFFS.—B. J. Harris-St. John (50876), April 16th, 1945 (21 A. Gp.)

The notifi. regarding the undermentioned in W.O. Orders (1944) is cancelled.

THE BUFFS.—No. 35, War Subs. Lt.-Col. (T/Col.) (A/Brig.) V. Boucher, O.B.E. (30664).

The undermentioned has been granted T/Rank in India Orders :—

THE BUFFS.—War Subs. Lt.-Col. (T/Col.) (A/Brig.) V. Boucher, O.B.E. (30664), to be T/Brig. April 22nd, 1944.

EMERGENCY COMMISSIONS.

The undermentioned War Subs Lt. (A/Capt.) to be T/Capt. :—

THE BUFFS.—S. M. Parsons (277663) July 9th, 1945.

The undermentioned War Subs. Lts. (T/Capt.) relinquish T/Capt. :—

THE BUFFS.—E. B. B. Cuning (165595) May 16th, 1945. G. E. Brooker (321599) May 25th, 1945.

The undermentioned 2nd. Lts. to be War Subs. Lts. :—

THE BUFFS.—July 3rd, 1945 :—C. J. G. Shaw (343138). July 6th, 1945 :—J. J. Clugston (335739). July 11th, 1945 :—G. R. Breed (339150).

WAR OFFICE ORDERS.

NO. 29 ISSUED ON JULY 19TH, 1945.

REGULAR ARMY.

THE BUFFS.—War Subs. Maj. (T/Lt.-Col.) (A/Col.) E. A. Airy (31232) to be T/Col. and War Subs. Lt.-Col. June 6th, 1945. (Spec. empld). (Not remunerated from Army Funds).

EMERGENCY COMMISSIONS.

The undermentioned Lt. (T/Capt.) (A/Maj.) to be T/Maj. and War Subs. Capt. :—

THE BUFFS.—C. Sessions (137430) March 20th, 1945.

The undermentioned War Subs. Lt. (T/Capt.) (A/Maj.) to be T/Maj. and War Subs. Capt. :—

THE BUFFS.—J. E. Body (145017) March 1st, 1945.

The undermentioned War Subs. Lt. (T/Capt.) relinquishes T/Capt. :—

THE BUFFS.—R. B. Barstow (224614) April 19th, 1945, relinquishes T/Capt. :—

The undermentioned War Subs. Lt. is re-granted T/Capt. :—

THE BUFFS.—W. F. White (174147) May 17th, 1945.

The undermentioned 2nd Lts. to be War Subs. Lts. :—

THE BUFFS.—A. J. C. Fagg (339573), B. R. Wieland (339599). July 19th, 1945.

The undermentioned has been granted T/rank in A.F.M.T. Orders :—War Subs. Lt. (T/Capt.) (A/Maj.) to be T/Maj. and War Subs. Capt. :—

THE BUFFS.—C. Edwards, M.C. (243957) December 17th, 1944.

War Subs. Lt. (A/Capt.) to be T/Capt. :—

THE BUFFS.—J. F. Fakley (297243) December 20th, 1944.

The undermentioned have relinquished T/rank in A.F.M.T. Orders :—War Subs. Lts. (T/Capt.) relinquishes T/Capt. :—

THE BUFFS.—E. W. Jones (189958) January 1st, 1945, D. F. G. Sillick (200706) May 17th, 1945.

REGULAR ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS.

THE BUFFS.—War Subs. Lt. (A/Capt.) G. H. Mitchell (15337) to be T/Capt., December 1st, 1939.

WAR OFFICE ORDERS.

No. 30 ISSUED, JULY 26TH, 1945.

REGULAR ARMY.

EMERGENCY COMMISSIONS.

The undermentioned War Subs. Lt. (T/Capt.) (A/Maj.) to be T/Maj. and War Subs. Capt. :—

THE BUFFS.—A. C. Bridge (148839) July 21st, 1945.

The undermentioned War Subs. Lts. (T/Capt.) relinquish T/Capt. :—

THE BUFFS.—S. Stone (115155) March 16th, 1943. J. A. Kirby (259440), December 23rd, 1944. (Substituted for notfn. in W.O. Orders No. 37/1944).

The undermentioned War Subs. Capt. is re-granted T/Maj. :—

THE BUFFS.—H. R. Newman, M.C. (141531) April 23rd, 1945 (21. A. Gp.)

The undermentioned 2nd Lts. to be War Subs. Lts. :—

THE BUFFS.—A. R. Dunlop (343089) May 13th, 1945. D. R. Hartey (272025) July 21st, 1945.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE OF OFFICERS.

THE BUFFS.—War Subs. Capt. (T/Maj.) J. P. Nash (78316) relinquishes T/Maj. December 24th, 1944.

THE BUFFS.—The notfn. regarding War Subs. Lt. J. P. Nash (78316) in W.O. Orders No. 52/1943, are cancelled.

The undermentioned War Subs. Lt. (A/Maj.) has been granted T/Maj. and War Subs. Capt. in India Orders :—

THE BUFFS.—J. P. Nash (78316) June 22nd, 1942.

The undermentioned War Subs. Capt. (T/Maj.) has relinquished T/Maj. in India Orders :—

THE BUFFS.—J. P. Nash (78316) July 7th, 1942 and January 1st, 1944.

The undermentioned War Subs. Capt. has been re-granted T/Maj. in India Orders :—

THE BUFFS.—J. P. Nash (78316) December 1st, 1945 and May 18th, 1944.

WAR OFFICE ORDERS.

No 31 ISSUED AUGUST 2ND, 1945.

REGULAR ARMY.

The undermentioned War Subs. Capt. (T/Maj.) relinquishes T/Maj. :—

EMERGENCY COMMISSIONS.

The undermentioned War Subs. Capt. (T/Maj.) (A/Lt.-Col.) to be T/Lt.-Col. and War Subs. Maj. :—

THE BUFFS.—J. H. M. Dawson (40632) July 27th, 1945.

The undermentioned War Subs. Capt. (T/Maj.) relinquishes T/Maj. :—

THE BUFFS.—J. E. Body (145017) May 29th, 1945.

The undermentioned Lt. (Qr.-Mr.) to be War Subs. Capt. (Qr.-Mr.) :—

THE BUFFS.—N. Senior (223149) October 15th, 1944.

The undermentioned 2nd Lt. to be War Subs. Lt. :—

THE BUFFS.—G. L. Gladman (339540) January 19th, 1945.

The notfn. regarding the undermentioned in W.O. Orders (1945) is cancelled :—

THE BUFFS.—No. 26, War Subs. Lt. (A/Capt.) W. T. Smithen (200145) (21 A. Gp.)

The undermentioned have relinquished T/rank in A.F.M.T. Orders :—War Subs. Cpts. (T/Majs.) relinquish T/Maj. :—

THE BUFFS.—D. F. Bennett, M.C. (184673) May 23rd, 1945. L. P. Critchley (145020) May 27th, 1945.

War Subs. Lt. (T/Capt.) relinquishes T/Capt. :—

THE BUFFS.—S. D. Millar (138691) April 14th, 1945.

The undermentioned has been re-granted T/rank in A.F.M.T. Orders :—War Subs. Lt. re-granted T/Capt. :—

THE BUFFS.—L. H. Lane (197330) March 8th, 1945.

WAR OFFICE ORDERS.

No 32 ISSUED ON AUGUST 9TH, 1945.

REGULAR ARMY.

The undermentioned Capt. (T/Maj.) (A/Lt.-Col.) to be T/Lt.-Col. and War Subs. Maj. (21 A. Gp.) :—

THE BUFFS.—E. S. Scott (50875) July 21st, 1945.

EMERGENCY COMMISSIONS.

The undermentioned 2nd Lts. to be War Subs. Lts. :—

THE BUFFS.—August 3rd, 1945 :—J. F. Allen (341084), H. M. Gregson (341125), R. E. Thomas (341081).

The undermentioned has relinquished T/rank in A.F.M.T. Orders :—War Subs. Capt. (T/Maj.) relinquishes T/Maj. :—

THE BUFFS.—I. A. Pearson (235658) May 7th, 1945.

War Subs Lt. (T/Capt.) relinquishes T/Capt. :—

THE BUFFS.—M. Leates (156124) June 8th, 1945.

The undermentioned has been re-granted T/rank in A.F.M.T. Orders :—War Subs. Lt. re-granted T/Capt. :—

THE BUFFS.—D. F. G. Sillick (200706) June 9th, 1945.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

SCHEMES.

With a view to assisting in the education and training of certain special cases of ex-service men and women of the Army and their dependants, the Army Benevolent Fund has allocated a sum of money to enable certain

Bodies to award scholarships, education and maintenance grants to approved candidates who would otherwise be unable to afford the full cost of, or to obtain such education or training.

The types of cases to be dealt with and the education and training available are described fully in the schemes hereunder, and Corps and Regimental Associations are invited to make application for vacancies direct to the Bodies concerned, as indicated in each scheme, and not to the Army Benevolent Fund.

Scheme A.

To assist boys of special ability between the ages of 17—20 to undergo an advanced course of training at an approved university or institution of university rank (including the Forces colleges) in Great Britain or Ireland.

The Lord Kitchener National Memorial Fund, 50 Pall Mall, London, S.W.1. will award scholarships annually to the sons of officers and men or women, or of ex-officers and men or women of H.M. Army who would otherwise be excluded from undergoing such training for financial reasons.

No examination requires to be passed, but candidates will be judged competitively on their school records and other attainments, which have to be set out on a form obtained from the Scholarship Committee of the Lord Kitchener Fund.

Those candidates are interviewed whom the Committee considers to have a chance of selection, but, to give a field of final selection, about twice as many are interviewed as can finally be chosen. These interviewed are normally at least of Higher School Certificate standard, and many have already further proved their educational ability by winning other Scholarships.

In making their selection the Committee of the Fund will have regard to :—

- (a) Evidence of exceptional ability.
- (b) The submission of a well thought out plan of training.
- (c) The military service of the applicant's father or mother.
- (d) The financial circumstances of the applicant's family.

The Committee aims at finding men who are likely to become leaders in their future spheres of action. Application forms, which can be obtained from the Secretary of the Lord Kitchener National Memorial Fund at the above address during January and February, must be duly completed and returned by the last day of February.

Note.

23 such boys have already been awarded scholarships.

Scheme B.

For the education of boys and girls between the ages of 9—17 whose parents or guardians are unable to pay the full fees at a school befitting their station of life.

The Royal Asylum of St. Anne's Society Parliament Mansions Abbey, Orchard Street, London, S.W.1. is prepared to assist in the education, maintenance and the provision of clothing of a limited number of children whose parents have seen better days, at schools where the religious instruction conforms with the tenets of the Church of England.

Applications can only be considered for those children :—

- (a) who are not less than 9 or over 17 years of age
- (b) whose parents have been lawfully married.
- (c) who can be shown to the satisfaction of the Committee to be mentally sound and in physical good health
- (d) whose parents are unable to afford the payment of full fees.

The Committee of the Society will determine whether the child is one who, under their Rules, is a suitable candidate, and in consultation with the parents will determine the school for which the child should be entered and the amount which the Society is prepared to contribute towards the child's education and maintenance.

The Ministry of Pensions, under their Warrants, are empowered to grant educational allowances to the children of deceased and disabled members of the Forces, up to the sum of £80 p.a. St. Anne's deals mainly with cases where no such award is made, but could, if necessary, supplement Ministry of Pensions awards where the Society considers additional help is required.

Application to be made to the Secretary of the Society at the above address.

Scheme C.

To assist promising boys and girls to become apprentices in any trade or to undergo training in any profession or trade for which the nominal wages paid are insufficient for their maintenance during training. The Ministry of Labour and National Service is prepared to help boys and girls to obtain apprenticeships

and will endeavour to place them in such apprenticeships with due regard to their individual aptitudes and fitness for employment. That Ministry will also be prepared to advise as to the amount of maintenance allowance which should be paid in any particular case and, if the boy or girl takes up an apprenticeship away from home, will assist in finding suitable lodgings and will undertake to keep the young worker under supervision until he or she has settled down.

The Regimental Association concerned may therefore apply to this Fund for a grant to assist in paying any necessary maintenance allowance advised by the Ministry of Labour and National Service. In making any such application, the following information should be submitted.

(1) the number of individuals with which the regiment is concerned for whom apprenticeships have been found by the Ministry of Labour, giving particulars of the trade etc. in each case.

(2) the total amount to be expended on each individual for the whole course of training and the proportion which the Regimental Fund can supply. The final arrangements for training of the individual should not, however, be made before any grant asked for from the Fund has been approved.

For the time being any approach made to the Ministry of Labour for advice should be to the Regional Office of that Ministry in the town nearest to the Headquarters of the Regimental Association. These Regional Offices are situated in London, Edinburgh, Cardiff, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Leeds, Manchester, Nottingham, Birmingham, Cambridge, Bristol, Reading.

Scheme D.

To place in schools and institutions such boys and girls, who, on account of their home environment, *i.e.* absence of parents, bad influences, etc. would benefit from a boarding school education.

By subscribing to such schools as the Gordon Boys Home, the Royal Caledonian Schools and similar institutions, the Army Benevolent Fund acquires the privilege of nominating the sons and daughters of soldiers as candidates for admission to some of these institutions. In cases where Regimental Associations cannot make their own arrangements for the upbringing and education of such cases, applications may be submitted to the Secretary of this Fund stating as fully as possible the

child's circumstances. Every effort to help will be made, but no guarantees are given.

Note.

Applications under the above schemes must be sent to the Secretary, Past and Present Association, The Buffs, Depot the Buffs, Canterbury (*Ed.*)

INFORMATION PRISONERS OF WAR.

THE following officer and other ranks have been reported from official sources as having returned home.

	LIEUT. A. A. M. RYVES.		
6285257	SGT. SPIKINGS, C.	6286138	PTE. TODD, F. L.
6023795	PTE. SPOOR, C.	6288206	PTE. TODD, K. J. R.
6097212	PTE. STANFORD, A. C.	6286575	PTE. TODD, L.
6290447	PTE. STANLEY, A. F.	6285222	L/CPL. TOLLEY, A. R.
6288265	CPL. STANLEY, T. E.	6286313	CPL. TOMKINS, T. W.
6288506	PTE. STANLEY, W. E.	6289310	PTE. TOWNSEND, F. V.
6285004	PTE. STEPNEY, M. J. J.	6288518	C.Q.M.S. TRIGGS, J. H.
5954651	PTE. STEVENS, E. A.	6290772	PTE. TROTTER, J. J.
6288510	PTE. STEVENS, V. D.	6286858	PTE. TRUELOVE, W. C.
6282223	PTE. STEVENSON, A. J.	6287050	PTE. TURNBULL, S.
6284902	CPL. STILGROVE, P.	6284922	PTE. TURNER, A. C. D.
6287862	PTE. STOCKBRIDGE, L.	6288657	PTE. TURNER, A. P.
6097732	PTE. STONE, F.	6283098	PTE. TURNER, W. J.
6289142	PTE. STONE, J. E.	6289721	PTE. TURNER, W. T.
6023800	L/CPL. STRATTON, J. F.	6297685	PTE. TUTSELL, T.
5784129	PTE. STRIBBLEY, H. E.	6286050	L/CPL. TUTT, J. R.
6290573	PTE. STRINGER, A. V.	6286566	PTE. TWYMAN, A. C. T.
6288741	PTE. STRINGER, F.	6287761	PTE. TWYMAN, A. L. G. J.
6288649	PTE. STRINGER, R. T.		
6097733	PTE. STRINGLE, A. J.	5622164	PTE. VANSTONE, E. D.
6284828	C.Q.M.S. STROUD, H. W.	6285536	L/SGT. VERNALL, C. A.
4394629	PTE. STUBBS, E.	6287946	PTE. VICARY, J. R.
6285457	PTE. STUPPLES, F.	6283396	PTE. VICE, G. W. S.
6282337	PTE. STYLES, H. A.	5836954	PTE. VINCENT, E.
14214941	PTE. SUMMERS, G. C.	6289277	PTE. VIDLER, R. L.
6023803	PTE. SUTCH, J. E.		
6097355	PTE. SUTTON, C. G.	6283375	SGT. WAITE, F. W.
6286754	PTE. SWAIN, F. G. E.	6289130	PTE. WALDROW, L. C.
6285296	L/CPL. SWAIN, J.	6290432	PTE. WALKER, H. C.
14215471	PTE. SWIFT, A. E.	6287610	PTE. WALKER, R. A. E.
6286183	PTE. SY, E. A.	6287792	PTE. WALLER, W. A.
		6288193	PTE. WARD, P. G.
		5949102	PTE. WARD, G.
		6289295	PTE. WARD, L. R. G.
		5959730	PTE. WARE, T. E.
		6284415	PTE. WATSON, D.
		6287181	PTE. WATSON, W.
		6284169	PTE. WATTS, C. S.
		6288230	L/CPL. WEATHERALL, G.
		6285971	PTE. WEBB, A. R.
		6289754	PTE. WEBB, S. V. C.
		6399646	PTE. WEDDLE, G. S.
		6286683	CPL. WEEKS, G.
		6283167	L/SGT. WEST, C. F.
		6288089	PTE. WEST, T. W.
		574422	L/CPL. WESTGATE, G. R.
		6285584	CPL. WHATFORD, G. A. J.
		6291218	PTE. WHEATLEY, A. V.
		6283977	L/SGT. WHISKIN, P. H.
		6459504	CPL. WHITE, C. J.
		883088	PTE. WHITE, H. J.
		6291986	PTE. WHITE, K. J.
		6285991	PTE. WHITEWOOD, G. E.
		6289740	PTE. WIGG, F. F.
		6288665	PTE. WILDER, A. L.
		6285890	SGT. WILKINSON, A.
		6287716	L/CPL. WILKINSON, C.
		6292368	PTE. WILLIAMS, B. R.
		6288260	PTE. WILLIAMS, K. P.
		7923012	PTE. WILLIAMS, W. D.
		6289354	PTE. WILLIAMSON, J. W. A.
		6289342	PTE. WILLIS, D. A. S.
		5954665	PTE. WILLIS, H. S.
		5954711	PTE. WILSHER, B. A.
		4391525	PTE. WILSON, J. W.
		6287955	PTE. WILSON, C. T. W.
		6288085	PTE. WILSON, P.
		6288527	PTE. WINCHESTER, G. E.
		6289017	L/CPL. WISE, J. W.
		6286528	PTE. WOOD, W.
		5954669	PTE. WOODWARD, C. C.
		6097298	PTE. WOOLNOUGH, D. F.
		6286609	PTE. WOOLNOUGH, J. H.

6289190	PTE. WRATTEN, J. T.	7343012	PTE. BRYENT, A. C.
6289374	PTE. WYLES, S. C.	3716238	PTE. BUCKLEY, G. A.
6286946	PTE. WYLIE, J. R.	6096725	L/CPL. BUNKER, T.
		6289147	PTE. BUNTING, V.
6290490	PTE. YARD, C. H.	6290468	PTE. BURDEN, C. C.
6290261	PTE. YOUNG, E. J. P.	6288553	PTE. BURTON, C. H.
14510039	PTE. YOUNG, R.	6287832	PTE. BUSHFORD, R. F.
2688533	PTE. YOUNG, T. G. H.	6285178	PTE. BUTCHER, L.
		6285704	L/CPL. BUTCHER, V.
6291268	PTE. ABBOTT, J. W.	6289687	PTE. BUTLER, W. C.
5954485	PTE. ADAMS, F. T.	6288413	CPL. BYRNE, P. J.
6293857	PTE. ADAMS, H. T.		
5507894	L/CPL. ADAMS, L. J.	6285856	PTE. CARE, P.
6012391	PTE. AKEHURST, C. H.	5954674	CPL. CARMICHAEL, I. T.
825526	CPL. ALCHIN, W. P.	6096452	L/CPL. CARPENTER, R. N.
5954486	PTE. ALLEN, S.	6287949	PTE. CARR, J. A.
6288941	PTE. ALZAPIEDI, A. N.	5954518	PTE. CARR, W.
6288534	L/CPL. AMISS, F. J.	6096653	PTE. CARTER, G.
6287450	PTE. ANDERSON, R. L.	6145091	PTE. CHAMBERLAIN, F. B.
6286671	PTE. ANDREWS, J.	6286741	PTE. CHAPMAN, E. C.
6289372	PTE. ARMSTRONG, L. G.	6284978	P.S.M. CHAPMAN, G. W.
6290337	L/CPL. ATKINS, S.	6286623	PTE. CHAPMAN, R. W.
6287664	PTE. AYLIFFE, W. E.	6288560	PTE. CHECKSFIELD, A. G. T.
		6096455	PTE. CHEESMAN, F. G.
5954455	PTE. BACON, J. H.	6466518	L/SGT. CHEETHAM, J. L.
817261	L/SGT. BAILEY, F. A.	6887310	L/SGT. CHURCH, S.
5954489	L/CPL. BAINES, F.	6288417	CPL. CLACKETT, R. C.
5954492	PTE. BAKER, D. J.	6284405	PTE. CLARINGBOULD, E. J. R.
6095138	L/CPL. BAKER, J. R.	399752	L/CPL. CLARK, W. G.
6016828	PTE. BAKER, L. H.	6286617	PTE. CLARKE, J. H.
6096611	CPL. BAKER, R. G.	5831430	PTE. CLEARY, P. J.
6285221	DRM. BALKHAM, J. C.	6289042	PTE. CLEMENS, E. G.
6407387	PTE. BALL, H.	6286869	PTE. CLEMENTS, F. J.
5954494	PTE. BARKER, G. G.	4392609	PTE. CLIFFORD, H.
6286830	PTE. BARNES, W. S.	6289339	PTE. COCKS, G. A.
7617335	PTE. BARNETT, J. A.	6292537	PTE. CODY, D.
5951089	PTE. BARNSFIELD, G. W.	6288796	PTE. COLEMAN, E.
6528130	PTE. BARRETT, F. A.	5954521	PTE. COLLINS, C.
6287778	PTE. BATCHELOR, B. E.	6287370	PTE. COLLINS, R.
6294387	CPL. BATES, L.	6292393	PTE. COOK, F. W.
6288404	PTE. BATT, F. R.	6286626	L/CPL. COOK, G. D.
5954456	CPL. BAUER, T.	6284949	SGT. COOK, L. J.
5830008	PTE. BAXTER, R. B.	6285982	L/CPL. COOKE, D. T.
6288405	PTE. BEAN, E.	4391365	PTE. COOMER, C. L.
6096647	PTE. BENNETT, H.	6288382	SGT. CORK, H. S.
4185950	PTE. BENSON, H.	6290470	PTE. COSTEN, J. H.
6288363	PTE. BENSTEAD, G. V.	6287866	L/CPL. COVENTRY, L. G. H.
6294567	CPL. BENTLEY, A. H.	6289391	PTE. COX, J. T.
6466499	PTE. BENTLEY, H. J.	5954529	PTE. CRICK, C. A.
6096648	PTE. BERIN, A.	6290583	PTE. CRITENDEN, A. A.
6285207	PTE. BEST, F. D.	5989657	PTE. CROCKETT, A. R.
6283459	PTE. BISHENDEN, S. W.	6284790	PTE. CROOKNORTH, G. A. F.
6287753	SGT. BISHOP, J. E. P.	6099622	PTE. CROOKS, W. S.
6286951	PTE. BLAKE, K.	6290259	L/CPL. CROUCH, J. E.
6282331	L/CPL. BLAKE, W.	6284929	PTE. CROWDER, J. F.
5954457	CPL. BLOOMFIELD, F. D.	6289385	PTE. CUMMINGS, A. W.
6289063	L/CPL. BOND, R. P.	6096458	PTE. CURTIS, A. T.
6289255	PTE. BONIFACE, F. J.	6284753	CPL. CURTIS, L. J.
6286731	CPL. BOURNER, L. L.		
6292246	PTE. BOXALL, W. J. J.	5112315	PTE. DALY, G. J.
5954459	PTE. BOYDEN, W. A.	6288070	PTE. DANIELS, L. E. A.
6288976	PTE. BRADLEY, R. L.	6288366	PTE. DAVIS, W. H.
6287226	CPL. BRETT, G.	6096616	PTE. DAY, J. N.
5954509	PTE. BREWER, B. W.	5954678	PTE. DEAN, P. S.
6292776	L/CPL. BRIGDEN, R. F.	6288157	CPL. DE'ATH, H. D. J.
6287245	CPL. BRIGHAM, J.	619919	PTE. DENT, G. F.
6295023	CPL. BRIGHTWELL, W.	6096461	CPL. DOBDINSON, S.
5954461	PTE. BRIXEY, H. W.	6395043	CPL. DOBSON, G. M.
4390011	CPL. BROOKE, S.	5959627	PTE. DOGGETT, L. W. J.
6279264	R.S.M. BROPHY, G.	6287431	PTE. DOHERTY, C.
6290512	PTE. BROWN, A. F.	6287645	PTE. DOLAN, P.
6286176	BDN. BROWN, E.	6288743	PTE. DONERGAN, N. H.
6288298	PTE. BROWN, H. J.	6334705	CPL. DORN, C.
6289363	PTE. BRUNSKILL, E. V.	6022927	PTE. DOUGHTY, W. C.

5957799	CPL. DRAPER, D. J.	6283064	L/CPL. HISTED, F.
6285053	S/SGT. DUNBAR, D.	6287911	PTE. HOBBS, J. W.
6284947	PTE. DUNCAN, A. M.	6288590	PTE. HODGES, R. T.
6083928	PTE. DURKIN, J. P.	2041733	PTE. HOLDER, S.
6299863	PTE. DYER, T. A.	4395782	PTE. HOLLIDAY, J.
		6286540	PTE. HOLLINGSBEE, H. B.
5954541	PTE. EAMES, R. J.	6289547	PTE. HOLMES, F. G.
5954680	L/CPL. EDWARDS, J. R.	6284322	PTE. HOLNESS, N. L.
6289003	PTE. ELLIS, W. H.	6287229	CPL. HOLNESS, R. A.
6343424	PTE. ENNIS, L.	6283068	C.S.M. HOLNESS, R. J.
		6284880	SGT. HOLNESS, V. F. G.
6286418	PTE. FAIRWEATHER, E. G.	6286168	PTE. HOPPER, R. A.
6147907	PTE. FARRIS, L.	6288150	PTE. HORAN, R.
6288839	PTE. FENTON, J.	6290299	CPL. HERRIGAN, K. P.
6288439	SGT. FILMER, E. O.	6097269	PTE. HOUSTON, W. A.
6290462	PTE. FINN, E. S. L.	5954569	PTE. HOWARD, W. G.
5954546	PTE. FLETCHER, C. S.	6289718	PTE. HOWSE, W. J.
6287351	PTE. FOAD, F. G. H.	6281620	C.Q.M.S. HOY, D. J.
6297281	PTE. FOGARTY, M. P.	6298088	PTE. HUDSON-PARKER, H. E.
6287489	PTE. FORD, A. J.	6285950	PTE. HURKETT, W. G.
6288175	PTE. FORWARD, L.	6290048	L/CPL. HUSK, F. W.
6286179	CPL. FOWLER, A.		
6287350	PTE. FOWLER, A. S. J.	6239707	PTE. INGLIS, B. H.
6096660	PTE. FOX, R. A.	6280742	P.S.M. IRELAND, G. W.
6285106	PTE. FOXLEY, P.		
6288053	PTE. FRIDLINGTON, M. C.	6287429	PTE. JACKSON, J. E.
2050011	CPL. FULLER, L.	6287000	PTE. JEAL, W. G.
6289301	PTE. FUNNELL, H. R.	6023708	PTE. JEFF, A.
5954549	PTE. FURLONG, E. A.	5346723	PTE. JEFFRIES, C. J.
		5954429	PTE. JEFFRIES, H.
1751513	PTE. GAMBA, J.	4398311	PTE. JEFFRIES, J.
6283794	CPL. GARDNER, E. F.	6290052	PTE. JENKINS, A. T.
13021243	PTE. GARIBALDI, H.	6288024	PTE. JOHNSON, J. B.
6291141	PTE. GATES, A. E.	6285719	PTE. JOHNSON, N. L.
6287495	SGT. GAWLER, T. M.	4397860	PTE. JOHNSON, T. R.
6096483	L/CPL. GIBB, J. F.	5954571	PTE. JONES, R. S.
6282978	PTE. GILBERT, C. W.	6285338	PTE. JORDAN, J. B.
6289117	L/CPL. GILHAM, C. F.	6285906	PTE. JOYNSON, J. F.
6285862	PTE. GLEN, P. H.		
6286784	PTE. GODFREY, H. S. J.	6283868	PTE. KEAN, H.
5954682	L/CPL. GOMM, P. W.	6287354	PTE. KILKICK, A. L. J.
5954552	PTE. GOODMAN, A. E.	6294137	PTE. KILKICK, D. H.
6284936	SGT. GREEN, F. J.	6287355	PTE. KILKICK, W. H. G.
6289219	PTE. GREENO, J.	6288213	PTE. KING, A. E.
5954554	PTE. GRIZZELL, C.	6290284	PTE. KING, E.
6287330	PTE. GUERTIN, J. N.	6284531	PTE. KING, J. A.
6288112	PTE. GURR, H. G.	6284397	SGT. KIRBY, E.
		6285624	SGT. KIRBY, F. T.
5672379	PTE. HACKER, D. A.	5954575	PTE. KIRBY, H.
761007	PTE. HADLEY G. A. R.	5954021	PTE. KIRKBY, W. J. P.
5829734	PTE. HAGUE, W. V.	6290056	L/CPL. KITCHINGHAM, L. T.
6287749	L/CPL. HALEY, G. S. W.	5379313	PTE. KYTE, A.
6403380	PTE. HALL, G. E.		
5391241	PTE. HAMILTON, W. A.	6286383	CPL. LARKINS, J. P.
5391241	PTE. HAMILTON, W. A.	5954702	PTE. LARMAN, D. J.
6286387	PTE. HARDING, J. A.	6279711	PTE. LARMAN, S. R.
4394296	PTE. HARKER, W. H.	6288703	PTE. LAVENDER, S. W.
6286850	L/CPL. HARRIS, A. V.	6286012	PTE. LAW, F. G.
6011526	PTE. HARRIS, W. R.	6287817	CPL. LAWRENCE, A. W.
5833943	PTE. HARRIS, G. C. G.	4389924	PTE. LAWSON, J. W. A.
6287768	PTE. HART, R. W. J.	7615992	PTE. LEE, C.
6296431	PTE. HATCHER, H. P.	6397115	PTE. LEVETT, W. P.
6287791	PTE. HAWKINS, A.	4389289	PTE. LEWIS, G. R.
6288130	CPL. HAY, L. A. G.	5954578	PTE. LINDSEY, W.
5954562	PTE. HAYES, S. A.	6288471	SGT. LING, E. M.
2060592	PTE. HAYES, W.	6288945	PTE. LONIE, O.
6286892	CPL. HEAVER, C. P. W.	6289324	PTE. LOVETT, E.
4604493	L/CPL. HENSON, A.	6287166	PTE. LUCAS, W. J.
5954564	PTE. HEWITT, G. H.	6288472	SGT. LUKEHURST, A. H.
4395366	PTE. HIGHAM, M.		
6289362	PTE. HILLIER, J.	6288609	PTE. MABBOTT, L. G.
6287825	SGT. HILLS, W. J.	6097181	L/CPL. MARDELL, E. W.
6288209	PTE. HINDS, H. G.	5955459	PTE. MARKHAM, C. H.

6283878	PTE. MARKS, L.	6289377	PTE. RUSSELL.
6286844	PTE. MARKWICK, H. G.	6289302	PTE. RUST, R. H.
711869	SGT. MARSH, F. A.		
14284917	PTE. MARTIN, I. B.	6291358	PTE. SADLER, T.
6288953	PTE. MARTIN, P. H.	813883	L/CPL. SAINT, A. H.
6288055	PTE. MARTIN, S. W.	4396883	PTE. SANKEY, J. B.
6097473	PTE. MASON, H. J.	6288197	PTE. SAUNDERS, E. G.
6298822	PTE. MASTERS, J. A.	6150506	PTE. SAUNDERS, J. L.
5954707	PTE. MAUD, C.	6289389	PTE. SAUNDERS, J. T.
6097183	L/CPL. MAXWELL, A. W.	6287478	PTE. SAVAGE, A. G.
6288036	PTE. MAY, J. D.	6284298	L/CPL. SAVAGE, H. W.
6292479	PTE. MEACHAM, L.	6300355	PTE. SCOTT, H. J.
6288099	PTE. MERCER, J. C.	5956370	PTE. SCOTT, J. H.
6286921	PTE. MILLES, L. H.	6097351	CPL. SEAMAN, W.
6290489	PTE. MILLGATE, R. J.	6291362	PTE. SERGEANT, J.
6292124	PTE. MILLIS, J. W.	6287225	PTE. SETTERFIELD, F. R.
6283166	PTE. MILLS, S. W.	6023982	PTE. SHARKEY, H.
6289319	PTE. MILLSTED, A. W.	14394277	PTE. SHARP, H.
6297760	PTE. MITCHELL, J. C.	6287871	PTE. SHARPE, C. V.
782081	PTE. MOODY, A. E.	6290941	L/CPL. SHERINGTON, L. A.
6286136	PTE. MOODY, E. J. F.	6286305	PTE. SILK, J. E.
4387630	SGT. MUERS, A.	4392505	PTE. SIMS, R.
5682365	PTE. McDERMOTT, V. J.	6289120	PTE. SKELHAM, V. L.
6288083	PTE. McGILLEY, A.	6097229	PTE. SLOMAN, S. G.
		6291081	PTE. SMITH, A. D.
6290282	L/CPL. NEEVES, L. F.	6287636	L/CPL. SMITH, A. R.
6285518	PTE. NEWMAN, C. E.	6282206	CPL. SMITH, E. S.
6280031	PTE. NOYCE, F. E.	5443916	PTE. SMITH, G. D. G.
		6287919	PTE. SMITH, J.
6289768	PTE. OGG, I. G.	6287069	PTE. SMITH, S. F.
6284217	SGT. O'KEEFE, J. C.	6286338	PTE. SMITHERS, S.
6286377	PTE. OLVER, R.	6289370	PTE. SOLLEY, B.
5954440	CPL. OVENS, A. F.	6289308	PTE. SPIERS, P.
6288077	PTE. OWEN, E.	6288310	PTE. STAINES, S. R.
6286702	L/CPL. OWEN, P. E.	4397943	PTE. STAINSBY, C.
		6289099	PTE. STEVENS, G. J.
6287922	PTE. PALMER, J. E.	14306214	PTE. STOCK, S. A.
6289337	PTE. PANTER, L.	6286038	PTE. STRINGER, F. F.
5950965	PTE. PARKER, E. C. A.	6290258	PTE. STUBBERFIELD, F.
6097195	PTE. PARKER, L. J.	6284341	C.Q.M.S. STUPPLES, J. A.
14571936	PTE. PARSONS, C.	6286290	CPL. SUDDERDEAN, C.
6097196	PTE. PARSONS, W. H.		
6287863	PTE. PATON, R.	6287462	SGT. TAYLOR, F. G.
6097200	PTE. PEACOCK, W.	6286718	PTE. TAYLOR, G. H.
6287953	PTE. PECK, S. H.	4398281	PTE. TAYLOR, J.
6287702	CPL. PENDLE, C. L.	6288005	CPL. TAYLOR, J. L. C.
5957911	PTE. PERRY, E. W.	6286964	PTE. TAYLOR, P. A. J.
6097201	PTE. PETTIIT, G. R.	6286798	PTE. TAYLOR, S. G.
6292487	PTE. PILSON, S.	6294691	CPL. TEAL, J. A. W.
6289105	PTE. PIPER, T.	6285653	L/CPL. TERRY, G. F.
6289245	PTE. PITTOCK, R. G.	6296953	PTE. THATCHER, W. E.
6290286	PTE. PRICE, C. S.	6289675	PTE. THOMAS, A. E.
6284797	SGT. PRICE, J. A. C.	6284575	PTE. THOMAS, H. G. W.
6288635	PTE. PUDDY, A. L.	5989661	PTE. THOMAS, R. L. G.
5954619	PTE. PUTMAN, A. G.	6290417	PTE. THOMPSON, E. H.
		6290575	CPL. THOMPSON, W. G.
6023760	L/CPL. RAE, W.	6288779	PTE. THORNTON, J. T.
5954620	PTE. RALPH, A.	6283137	CPL. THORPE, G. R.
832181	CPL. RATCLIFF, E. W.	6288220	L/CPL. TBBETTS, E. J.
6286643	PTE. RATCLIFF, J. T.	6022619	PTE. TITTERELL, C. A.
6097208	PTE. REDMAN, F.	5190012	L/CPL. TOWNSEND, W. G.
6289006	PTE. REDMAN, S. J. D.	6290771	PTE. TREACHER, F. S.
6631119	L/CPL. REVE, W. B.	6288296	PTE. TRIMMER, F.
832602	L/CPL. REVELLE, J. J.	6284355	S/SGT. TUCKER, C. A. R.
5954697	PTE. REYNOLDS, S. G.	6285019	PTE. TUHILL, T.
6288723	PTE. RICH, E. R.	6290615	PTE. TULETT, A. T. J.
6097290	L/CPL. RICHARDS, D. J.	6283629	C.S.M. TURMAINE, F. A.
6291183	PTE. RICHARDSON, J. W.	6286126	PTE. TURRELL, W. J.
6022688	PTE. ROBERTS, D.		
6097291	PTE. ROBERTS, T. C.	6093608	PTE. UNSWORTH, P.
6289182	PTE. ROSE, E. W.	6287788	L/CPL. VENUS, R. E.
6288277	PTE. ROSE, S. J.	6023817	PTE. VINES, G. H.
5954630	PTE. ROSENDALE, C. H.		
6287049	PTE. ROYAN, R. H. G.	6288521	PTE. WADE, C.

6288905	PTE. WALLIS, T. C. E.
6287648	PTE. WARD, J. C.
6289765	PTE. WARDELL, G. D.
6097244	L/CPL. WARMAN, C. A.
6289368	PTE. WARNER, A.
5954661	PTE. WARNER, C. H.
6287031	PTE. WATSON, T. W.
6287844	PTE. WEEKS, C. H.
6287704	L/CPL. WEEKS, S. J.
6291216	PTE. WELLS, A. J.
5954452	PTE. WELLS, G. T.
6283434	PTE. WHITE, H.
6287917	PTE. WHITE, J.
4397975	PTE. WHITEHEAD, G. W.
6286200	PTE. WHITEHEAD, T. G.
6395007	C.Q.M.S. WHITEMAN, H.
6284873	SGT. WICKHAM, F.
6097363	PTE. WILKINSON, J. H.
6291219	PTE. WILLIS, C. T.
6288146	PTE. WILSON, E. G. D.
6288683	PTE. WISCOMBE, B. H.
6097365	PTE. WOLFE, J. E.
6394554	SGT. WOLVEY, C.
6292471	PTE. WOOD, A. C.
6292472	PTE. WOOD, A. G.
6289694	PTE. WOOD, T. A.
6288751	PTE. WOOD, W. C.
6288261	PTE. WOODS, S. W.
6285045	L/CPL. WOOLNER, E. J.
6288720	L/CPL. WRATTEN, V.
14651238	PTE. YATES, E. W.
LIEUT. R. B. TREDGER.	
6287745	PTE. BATSFORD, H.
6288960	PTE. BROWN, J. R.
6290321	PTE. CALE, E.
6288166	CPL. GRIGGS, E. C.
6287722	L/CPL. HODGMAN, E. G. E.
6285891	PTE. JONES, W. R.

FIRST TURN OF THE GERMAN TIDE BRITAIN'S EIGHTH ARMY

By Major John North.

ON the eve of victory in Italy I saw, at Allied Force Headquarters, the hand of the Supreme Allied Commander, Field-Marshal Sir Harold Alexander, trace the course of the battle then moving to its climax. The movement of the hand across the map expressed assurance, knowledge, divination; the hand might have been that of a musician engaged in the interpretation of a musical score.

The towns marked on that map of northern Italy on which his hand rested have, in the military sense, already slipped back into history; and even while their names were on the lips of the Field-Marshal I was thinking of those other names on earlier maps—sometimes little more than place-names, such as Knightsbridge, Sidi Resegh and even El Alemein itself—on which his hand had rested during a series of victorious advances, through a succession of countries, over a distance of some three thousand miles. Fourteen hundred miles from El Alamein to Tripoli; another

five hundred to Tunis; a sea-crossing to Sicily, and, after Sicily, another sea-crossing to the mainland of Italy; and, thereafter, an unremitting battle from Italy's farthest south to farthest north, over eight hundred miles of as formidable a terrain as ever confronted an army in the attack.

And I was thinking, in particular, of one British army that had remained under the Field-Marshal's direction throughout these episodes of war, through two and a half years' campaigning; I was thinking of that British Eighth Army of which it could be said at the ebb-tide of Allied fortunes, "The bright gleam of victory has at last caught the helmets of our soldiers and warmed and cheered all our hearts." These words of the British Prime Minister were written on 10th November, 1942; and, in the hour of a larger victory, we do well to recall them.

For El Alamein was the first turning-point of the war. Until the autumn of 1942 the tide of German conquest had rolled unchallenged to the shores of the North Sea, to the Black Sea, and to the Mediterranean; and it must for ever remain the peculiar glory of the British Eighth Army that it was first to register a victory for Allied arms in the war against Germany. It was a victory vital to the whole future of the war in the west. The mounting of the battle of Europe was primarily a question of transportation, and only the freeing of the Mediterranean could secure the release of the necessary shipping. The first successful blow in the battle for the Mediterranean was struck by the Eighth Army.

That army was born in the Western Desert, in the autumn of 1941. Its soldiers came together from England and Scotland, from Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, and India. It was the child of the Army of the Nile which, under General Wavell, 30,000 strong, had completely eliminated an Italian Army ten times its own size and, as early as 6th February, 1941, entered Benghazi, mid-way point to Tripoli. In this same month Britain undertook to send an expeditionary force to Greece, in honour of a promise to aid that country if Germany threatened its independence. The promise could be honoured only at the expense of the British forces in Libya; and on 3rd April they were compelled to evacuate Benghazi.

When, in December of this same year, British forces again occupied the town, the Eighth Army registered its first success against German armour; but again the port was

evacuated because the army had over-reached that administrative "point of balance" in time and space which, under conditions of desert warfare, set definite logistic limits to the extent of an advance. Twice the German and Italian armies were to appear on the frontiers of Egypt—in April, 1941, and June, 1942—and on each occasion they were compelled to fall back and shorten their lines of communication. But when, on 29th November, 1942, British forces again occupied the port, the Eighth Army was able to continue its pursuit of the German Afrika Korps because superb organisation, based on experience, on the part of the Army, of the Royal Navy, and the Royal Air Force, had solved the administrative problem of the "point of balance." "This time," said General Sir Bernard Montgomery, then commanding the Eighth Army, "having reached Benghazi and beyond, we shall not come back."

"And beyond"—indeed! The Eighth Army was only at the beginning of its travels; nor was General Montgomery to accompany his gallant soldiers all the way. On 23rd January, 1943, the Eighth Army entered Tripoli—three months to the day after the attack was opened at El Alamein. Within these three months, after twelve days of close fighting over a few square miles of desert on the fringe of Egypt, it had advanced 1,400 miles and accomplished its independent mission. Egypt was secure; and the German dream of a "drive to the east" had been finally extinguished. The Eighth Army had yet to fight the battles of Mareth and the Wadi Akarit; but these battles it fought as part of the 18th Army Group, under command of General Alexander, who in the August before El Alamein, had become Commander-in-Chief, Middle East and, as such, responsible for the fortunes of the Eighth Army.

Thus it was that the Eighth Army fought the battle of Tunisia alongside the British First Army, and the U.S. 2 Corps, and the French 19 Corps. Tunis was to fall on 7th May; and five days later the count of enemy prisoners amounted to 340,000 men. The battle had proved to be of that rare and perfect type which ends in the complete encirclement and elimination of the enemy; and the hand of the general who directed its tactical co-ordination was that of the future Field-Marshal Alexander.

Two months later, on 9th July, 1943, the Eighth Army landed in Sicily; on 3rd September, now part of the 15th Army Group under General Alexander, it crossed to the

Italian mainland at Reggio; on 9th September its 10 Corps, alongside the U.S. 6 Corps, landed at Salerno. Together these two corps composed the U.S. Fifth Army under General Mark Clark. It was the three United Kingdom divisions and one United armoured brigade of the British 10 Corps that finally forced the passes through the mountains north of Salerno.

At the beginning of 1944 British troops in Italy outnumbered the Americans by three to one; and at the Anzio landing, on 22nd January, 1944, the U.S. 6 Corps consisted of three American and two United Kingdom divisions. Throughout four tempestuous months, from January to May, these Allied troops, steadfast in their comradeship, held on to their beachhead. Every square inch of it was under fire of the equivalent of no fewer than ten German divisions.

It was during this phase of the campaign that four American and three British divisions were withdrawn to assist the build-up for the Normandy landings; but the Eighth Army, with a Canadian Corps, a Polish Corps, and two British Corps under command, was secretly switched from the east coast to the Cassino front; and it was the terrific pressure exerted by this army that assisted the break-out from Anzio on the 23rd May, after the outflanking of the Gustav Line by the French Expeditionary Corps. The march on Rome could now begin.

One hundred and seventy miles to the north stretched the Gothic Line—the chosen German positions for the defence of northern Italy. These positions ran from coast to coast, north of Leghorn, south of Rimini, through the Appenines, between Bologna and Florence. In default of landing craft for amphibious "turning" operations, each successive enemy defensive line had to be pierced by frontal attack; the valleys lying across the axis of advance were seamed with rivers flowing through deep gorges; every road was mined, every bridge blown; and there were now twenty-eight German divisions in Italy as against the Allied twenty-five.

Again the Eighth Army was secretly switched—this time to the Adriatic coast. In the autumn it pierced the Gothic Line; and Field-Marshal Alexander was able to launch the U.S. Fifth Army at the enemy's centre when it had been weakened to deal with the threat in the east. Not for the first time in this campaign a simultaneous attack at two "points of sensitivity" had put the enemy off-balance and achieved surprise. It was a tactic to be successfully repeated in the drive

on the key communications centre of Bologna in the April of 1945—a drive that would certainly have been successfully completed in the previous autumn had not seven Allied divisions and 40% of the Allied air strength been withdrawn from Italy in order to mount the invasion of southern France.

One last task remained to the Eighth Army in Italy—to break into the valley of the Po, to cross the river, and to join hands with the Yugoslav forces of Marshal Tito at the head of the Adriatic. This meeting-point was destined to be Trieste; and as many of the original Eighth Army as survived the “savage versatility” of Italian weather and terrain were to exchange, en route, the waterless expanse of the Western Desert for the waterways of Venice. They had marched some three thousand miles; and behind every battle they had fought, from August, 1942 onwards, the same directing mind had been inflexibly at work—the mind of that Field-Marshal whose hand on the map could at last encompass that once almost mythical and alleged military paradise—the plain of Lombardy.

* * *

The names of battles have no poignancy unless they serve to recall, not merely the memory of great feats of arms, but of the men who fought them; and anybody who has had, as I have had, the good fortune to meet these men of the desert will curiously detect a certain nostalgia for those great days when the British Eighth Army was the only Allied Army in the field against the monstrous might of Germany. For them the dust of Italy almost pleasantly evokes the sandstorms of Libya. The desert was their peculiar kingdom, and they look back on it as their true military home. Characteristically enough, those R.A.F. squadrons working in support of the Eighth Army retained their old title of Desert Air Force even when based among the foothills of the Brenner!

The knocking-out of the German *Wehrmacht* was to prove so stern a task that only selfless Allied co-operation could have achieved it. Nevertheless, perhaps no one will begrudge the British Eighth Army its proud insistence on its desert ancestry; nor forget that it was the men of this army, however widely dispersed in the later stages of the war—and the original “Desert Rats” were afterwards to find themselves bogged in the morasses of Holland—who first held out to a submerged European continent the hope of deliverance.

123 DET. MILITARY GOVERNMENT.

BY MAJOR P. T. E. LYNDEN-BELL

MY little unit of four officers and six O.Rs moved into Hameln on April 7th in the wake of the 30th U.S. Division; we actually waited on the west bank of the Weser until the other half of the town was cleared and crossed over during the night of April 7th/8th when the fires started by the enemy were raging unchecked. Since then we have had the most interesting time trying to reconstruct the life of the community on democratic lines. Our city of 30,000 had an additional 5,000 evacuees and 15,000 displaced persons—Russians, Poles French and Italians mainly—and the surrounding Landkreis (county) had its pre-war population of 50,000 swollen by evacuees to 80,000 plus more D.P's. To rebuild the administration, purge the Nazis, clear up the debris, restore power, gas and water, restart industry and agriculture—these are some of the jobs our little team of four have had to undertake, without any professional knowledge to speak of. Add to our difficulties the total lack of telecommunications, posts or railways, a shortage of transport and the resultant work can be imagined.

However now, three months to the day since we walked in one can see some concrete results that “amply repay all the wearisome days” we have been through.

If there are still any vacancies in M.G. when the article appears, I should strongly recommend the job to anyone who wants a complete change of work and environment. One has enormous power for one's rank—even the O.R's who are attached only for administration of the detachment, have opportunities to take an active part in the work by interviewing visitors, checking up on observance of ordinances and acting as Military Court officials. Our detachment's motto during the early days, when we had to act on initiative only, was “No backing but our own effrontery”—a pun the author of which some may recognise. Now when things are in better shape and one can decentralise the work of the Germans themselves, a better one would be “Non columba mea” (not my pigeon!)

There is a never-ending stream of visitors of all ranks and nationalities (and both sexes!)—mostly wanting something. The Reichsbank wants a cool five million to enable it to stave off a run on the bank; a D.P. camp of several

thousand is looting and demanding more rations; troops have occupied the Burgo-master's house and turned him out; there is an outbreak of meningitis at B.P.; a Nazi leader is reported holding meetings in a house at X; gas works must have 500 tons of coal or it will close down; and so it goes on all day, and between it all is a fearful load of paper, mostly consisting of demands from above for information on every conceivable subject; school books, meat stocks, war criminals, potato bugs, telephone subscribers, vaccines and breweries and so on. "Never a dull moment" as the theatre handbills say. On the other hand the job has its compensations or one would go off one's head, despite a sense of humour. One lives well and there is no "Muzzling of the ox that treads the corn." We have three houses—two for officers and one for O.R.'s in the pleasantest part of the town. Rations can be supplemented by local purchase and we were fortunate enough to save a cellar from being looted in the early days. We each have a civilian car (mine is an eight cyl. sports "Horch"). There is a steamer, a small paddle-boat, which we have taken over and had done up. With our AMG Flag at the bow, a Union Jack on the stern and the name "Belinda" on the paddle-box she makes a fine sight as she steams up the Weser on Saturday afternoons with a load of M.G. personnel and friends. Tea is served aboard and an Italian D.P. orchestra plays light music.

There is bathing and riding, wild boar shooting and fishing (for those who can spare the time) and doubtless all these will be enjoyed to the full when there are a few more officers to swell our numbers (We have now risen to seven and need at least another eight to do the job properly).

The only thing missing, that is a very big one, is human company other than our own, in other words "fraternisation" (usually abbreviated to the first syllable). One day perhaps we shall get our wives and families out but in the meanwhile the ban on conversation of any kind with any German remains in force. It seems hard but is no doubt wise in the long run. No one amongst us is likely to forget the German's guilt but there will come a time when the stony stare must give place to a reasonably human glance and the hand be shaken in politeness if not in friendship. Most of us are looking forward to that day if only to be able to tell the Germans what we have been thinking of them all this time.

"And so" as the film commentator would say "we say goodbye to picturesque Hameln on the Weser River, famed city of the Pied Piper, now rising anew from the ashes of Nazi Germany."

PIONEER SERVICE CLUB TO EXPAND.

A PIONEER in Service Clubs, the Union Jack, Waterloo Road, S.E.1., is appealing for £250,000 to expand its activities.

Conceived in 1903 as a memorial to men of the fighting Services who lost their lives in the South African War, it was opened in 1907, providing single bedrooms, meals and other club facilities for fighting men below commissioned rank. From an original capacity of 208, the club has expanded to 1010 beds. In addition it has a hostel where wives and families of Service men can wait for their menfolk to come on leave and spend their leave with them.

Since the outbreak of this war more than a million and a half men have slept in the Club, more than three million meals have been served to them. In the hostel a quarter of a million men, women and children have been accommodated and they have eaten more than half a million meals.

The Club has everything a tired soldier, sailor or airman needs when he gets to London on leave. After booking in—at 1s. 9d. the first night and 1s. 6d. for succeeding nights or 10s. for a week—he can go and have a hot bath, with soap and towels provided and a shave and haircut at the barber's shop. He can clean his boots and brass, with free materials provided in the cleaning room, or pay a boot-black twopence to do his boots. He can go and wash his dirty clothes and dry them in a specially heated drying room or he can arrange for a laundry to collect them.

Feeling clean and spry again, he can go to one of the big lounges and, if it is in licensed hours, buy himself a drink. Like all licensed places, the Club's supplies of spirits and some beers are limited, but there is a fair ration.

His appetite stimulated, he can then go along to the dining room where cheerful young waitresses will serve him. After his meal, he can play on one of the eight tables in the billiards room, borrow draughts, chess, dominoes or some other indoor game in one of the lounges, use writing material provided free in the writing rooms, or just relax in an armchair and listen to a radio.

continued on p. 147

BRITISH WORLD WAR CASUALTIES.

THE figures of casualties suffered by the British Commonwealth of Nations in the period of the second World War from September 3rd, 1939 to May 31st, 1945—that is, the whole period covering the war with Germany and Italy as well as the war in the Far East from December 7th, 1941 to May 31st, 1945—have now been issued. They are divided under three heads (1) losses among the Armed Forces, (2) mercantile marine losses, (3) civilian casualties, including the Home Guard. The grand total is 1,427,634, of which 1,233,796 fell under category (1), 45,315 under category (2), and 148,523 under category (3).

(1) The full table of losses in the Armed Forces is as follows:—

Country	Killed	Missing	Wounded	Prisoners of War	Total
United Kingdom ...	233,042	57,472	275,975	188,849	750,338
Canada	36,018	2,866	53,073	9,051	101,008
Australia	21,451	6,519	37,477	26,800	92,211
New Zealand	9,844	2,201	19,253	8,485	39,783
South Africa	6,417	1,980	13,773	14,595	36,765
India	23,295	12,264	62,064	79,692	177,315
Colonies	6,741	14,811	6,773	8,051	36,376
Total	366,772	98,113	468,388	330,523	1,233,796

Many of the prisoners of war have of course already returned home and the bulk of the rest will, no doubt, do so on the victorious conclusion of the war against Japan.

It is noteworthy that under all categories the United Kingdom suffered more than half the total losses, and under the category "killed" more than two-thirds of the total, and that its total losses were more than four times that of the next highest figures, India's, and more than twenty times that of the lowest of all, that of the Colonies. This is the complete answer to the oft-repeated legend, so sedulously fostered by enemy propaganda in the past, that the United Kingdom never takes its fair share of the burden of any war but leaves it to the Dominions and Colonies.

Comparison with the corresponding figures of the last war shows that the total of killed, 947,106 was nearly three times the figure for this war, and that this, added to the number of wounded and missing, gives a total figure of 3,069,012 more than double the grand total for 1939—1945, even including in the latter case the casualties among merchant seamen and civilians, which were much higher than in the first World War.

It is also of interest to note that the normally accepted ratio of one killed to 2½ to 3 wounded, which held good for 1914—1918 as for more previous wars, has now been upset—exactly why is not clear. It is now more like three killed to four wounded, and in some cases, as the above figures show, closely approaches parity. Thus in the case of the United Kingdom it was more like eight to nine, and in the case of the Colonies was almost exactly fifty-fifty.

(2) The mercantile marine losses, which include all British-born crews serving in British-owned vessels, but not those serving in Foreign-owned ships, were as follows:—

Deaths	Missing	Wounded	Interned	Total
30,867	4,690	4,252	5,506	45,315

Here, as was only to be expected the figures of dead and missing make up the major proportion of the total, but that they form a full three-quarters of it gives some measure of the terrible nature of the merchant seamen's ordeal, and the heroism with which they faced it.

(3) Civilian casualties were as under:—

Killed	Injured and detained in Hospital	Total
60,585	86,175	146,760

Of these, 67,556 were men, 63,208 women, 15,539 children and 537 "unidentified."

To these must be added the losses attributable to service suffered by Home Guard personnel, which were 1,206 killed and 557 wounded, a total of 1,763 giving a total of Civilian casualties of 148,523.

Some figures have also been given by the Admiralty of our merchant ship losses and of German U-boats sunk over the period. Convoys numbered 2,200 on the Atlantic route, 75 on the Arctic route to Russia, and 7,700 in coastal areas of Britain. The respective figures of vessels escorted in these three categories of convoy were 75,000 on the

Atlantic, 1,500 on the Arctic, and 17,300 on the coastal routes. Figures of losses are given only for the Atlantic route, in which 574 ships were lost, about 1 in 131 of the number convoyed.

During the period 460 German and 65 Italian Ocean-going submarines were sunk and about 120 German midget submarines sunk or captured, mostly in the North Sea. These were the losses inflicted by our naval and air forces, but in addition about 120 other German submarines were lost at sea from causes not finally assessed.

Pioneer Service Club to Expand—*Con. from page 145*

Other facilities of which he can avail himself include the Club shop, where he can buy smokes, regimental brooches for his wife and mother, toilet articles and—when clothes rationing stops—articles of clothing. There are baggage-rooms, bicycle stores, facilities for sending and receiving mail.

The Club is thoroughly "Service" in atmosphere. Most of the men employed there are ex-Servicemen wearing war-ribbons. Near the entrance are vast panels recording the names of every V.C.; ornaments, clocks and furniture presented by distinguished Servicemen, by units, messes and regimental associations have neat plaques naming their donors; stones laid by Royalty and the great are suitably inscribed; others record that subscriptions were given in memory of men who died in action; rooms are dedicated to units which have subscribed to them.

At the hostel, which was the first to be opened in London for Service wives and families, there are similar comforts with special facilities for looking after babies—a nursery, places to wash their clothes, cots. The hostel can accommodate about 200 men, women and children.

Expansions over the Club's 38 years of service culminated in 1940 with a permanent annexe to the Club proper and two extra stories to the hostel from the Nuffield Fund for the Fighting Forces in 1940. But still the Club can do more. That is why the new appeal for £250,000 is being made.

PAST AND PRESENT ASSOCIATION.

London Branch.

THE Prince Alfred appears to be permanently closed on Saturday evenings until supplies are available. However, all members will be notified as soon as more permanent arrangements can be made. In the interim, the landlord of the "Two Chairman", Queen Anne's Gate, is helping us over the stile. A small party met at this house on Saturday 21st July last and thanks to the kindness of our host a pleasant evening was spent.

It was indeed a real treat to meet Colonel C. Vaughan, whom we are informed was looking very tough and fit. The Colonel considers that we should have our own premises—A Buffs London Club—for the benefit of All Buffs resident in London and also for Serving Buffs etc. passing through London. We agree.

We also have recollections of inspecting suitable premises for this very purpose some 17 years back and reporting to Canterbury but the reply did not encourage us to pursue the matter further.

It was a pleasure to have with us our Chairman, Captain Erny Carter now back from Wales. He is still not very fit and undergoing a special treatment which just gives him "Jip." We hear that he will be very shortly moving permanently to Herne Bay. Chelsea will lose a great supporter; I suppose he will become a Ramsgate, or 12th I.T.C. Fan?

Another great surprise was the turning up of Major Sidwell—which must have made Colonel Vaughan feel proud—looking every bit the fine soldier he is.

He brought along his father-in-law, Tommy Tutt, who will be well remembered by the old brigade. Tommy and the writer of these notes served as Corporals together, and the last time they met was at Dover, after the Boer War.

Jock Clayton came along looking very fit. Many still remember Jock as the smart Bandmaster at Canterbury and—what a band it was.

Spud Austin never misses; we are seriously perturbed about Spud's welfare; his eyes are really bad and in addition he suffers badly from "Dhingie" at times.

Joe Richards, of Folkestone Branch, came along and spent a happy evening; Since he has been in London, he has missed few gatherings.

Edmund Gould is keeping in good health and is just as keen and smart as ever.

Mr. E. Skene was present and appeared to be looking a little better than we saw him last.

One of the finest sights was to meet Frank O'Dell, looking no older than we last met five years ago. His son "Ken" whom we remember from a small child, is overseas somewhere in the Pacific.

We were also pleased to see Billy Everett, who was just as spruce as when he was soldiering.

Also Albert Dabling who enquired about Eddy Shute.

Chelsea Pensioners, Marsh and Hammond trotted along from Chelsea and had a good evening.

In the last war we think there were four other ranks who left England with the 1st battalion in 1914, and serving right through, returned home with it. They are C.S.M. Mc Walter, C.S.M. J. Poole, C.S.M. George Barrell and one other. Each was awarded the D.C.M. also the M.M. for gallantry in action.

It will be of interest to see if this war can produce anything similar.

Captain George Johnson writes "Just remembered 63 years a Buff and very fit at 84½ years—one to beat it?"

This causes the thinking cap to be worn; we are of opinion the following, all alive and very fit, might be interested:—Colonel Sparrow, Colonel Bradley Dyne, Sailor Cooper, Jock Izard, Nobby Clarke, Bill Coveney, Bill Elvey and Ted Lamb are a few who can claim 60 years a Buff. There are many more in the London Branch no doubt.

We recently heard from Colonel J. F. Whitacre Allen, who sends best wishes to all members; he tells us that Colonel Rose, Colonel Atkinson and Colonel Craddock are all in London, whilst Colonel Williams is now in Civil life. We trust to see them all on one third Saturday.

We recently heard that fine old Buff, Bob Knott, who has been staying with his name-sake at Ramsgate; He tells us that the Ramsgate Branch is going strong, and are out to make their numbers equal to London. That is the spirit, and if all try their best to make our Association "Mightier Still" it will be a great work done.

Unfortunately in London we lost 750 on the outbreak of the war, many of whom I fear, we shall not see again.

Nobby Clarke has been on holiday to Boscombe and feels the better for it.

Members of the Branch will have heard of the recent death of Mr. J. J. Beall, the father of Billy Beall. One of the nicest and kindest type of gentlemen one ever met. In reply to our message of sympathy, we have received a nice letter from Billy and the family.

Mr. S. Philcox writes sending good wishes to all old friends.

Mr. R. H. Blaker writes "Now things are getting better in the travelling, I hope to come along to a meeting very soon. Remember me to all my old friends."

Our best wishes to Captain T. O. Cook and family and trust all are enjoying good health.

May we remind members that annual subscriptions are due and payable on the 1st January each year and we shall be glad to receive any subscriptions now outstanding.

Our attention was recently drawn to the fact that nearly all the W.O's and Sergeants who served in the 2nd Battalion under R.S.M. (now Colonel) Vaughan, have gained Commissions in this war, several reaching Field Rank. Our congratulations to all of them.

We hear that Captain Bob Waby will shortly be proceeding overseas.

Our kind regards and best wishes to Mr. and Mrs. Talbot Harvey and trust that both are much improved in health during these quieter times.

J.E.E.

LADIES GUILD.

The following members gathered together at the "Two Chairmen" on Saturday the 21st July last:—

Mrs. D. E. Spinner, Mrs. Sidwell, Mrs. Carter, Mrs. Coley and Miss Jean Coley Mrs. Everett and Mrs. Debling.

Mrs. Lamb sent her good wishes and tells us she had received a letter from Mrs. Ongley who sends greetings.

Mrs. Chichester also sends best wishes to all her guild friends.

Also Mrs. Stunt, who in a telephone message says "Remember me to old friends and I look forward to meeting you all again in the near future.

Mrs. Bobbie Wittering has returned to Barnes; she is hoping that her daughter "Bobbie" will soon get her release.

Our best wishes to all other Guilds.

D.E.S.

Dover Branch.

Since my last notes we have held several meetings which have been well attended with the exception of the last, which, to give members living outside Dover a chance to get to a meeting, was held at the "Fox Inn," Temple Ewell, kept by the widow of that good old Buff, Dave Saunders, who many will remember as a member of that wonderful Rugby team of the 1st Battalion. I am sorry to say that this meeting was a disappointment to the writer and members present, but it was decided to have another go and hold our next meeting at the same place.

Members of the branch send their deepest sympathy to the London Branch at their sad story of trying to hold meetings at a place that, by *Dragon* Notes, is always sold out of that wonderful stuff called Beer. We think that they had better have a good summer holiday and come to the Good Old County and help with the hop-picking.

It was reported at our last meeting that two of our Old Warriors, Duberry Evans and Recruiter Stroud, had been seen in Dover lately and both were reported to be in the best of health. If any Past and Present members are visiting Dover at any time after this month (August) they will always be welcome at our meetings that are held at the "Eagle Hotel," London Road, on the First and Third Thursday in each month. We thank Ramsgate Branch for their kind remark in *The Dragon* and wish them and all branches the best of luck.

C.C.

Ramsgate Branch.

It is quite a pleasant feature to see other Branch Notes, several old names appearing which revive happy memories.

We had another nice monthly meeting; Ted Swendell, our Chairman, was in his 'Glory.' He likes a big muster, so do I; it gives the Officers satisfaction for their time and work that these stalwarts give to the Ramsgate Branch.

Dick Durrant attends every meeting. Dick is verging on eighty years; he needs, these days, two sticks to get about on, but he is like Old Father Thames, he gets there.

Charlie Taylor, of "The Coach and Horses," High Street, has had a good many Buff visitors to see him—(mostly thirsty) when they come to Ramsgate.

Bob Goldsmith is much better and in his line of business. He is an inspector in the Bus Company. Bob always wears his Life Badge and he comes in contact with many Buffs. He tells me he hardly recognised Ex-Sergeant Bill Crocker, who is a Captain in the Indian Army. Bob and Bill served together in the Great War and they had an interesting chat.

Our young returned P.O.W.'s are taking a great interest in our Branch and I received several interesting letters from them, and when they return to Civvy Street we shall be glad of their assistance and support.

Donald Side, B. Jones, C. Shepherd, all wish to be remembered to Old Comrades.

Bill Jeffreys, Ted Swendell, Joe Elson, Fred Elliss, Jack Powles and Ernie Birch send their best wishes to the London Branch.

By the way, I am pleased to say Ernie Birch is much better now, but the M.O. tells him he must take life steadily, and this is punishment as Ernie has got such an energetic spirit.

Now for the report of the July meeting:—

Sixty-three members of the Past and Present Association The Buffs (Ramsgate Branch) attended the monthly meeting held at the "Woodman Inn," Hardres Street, on Friday evening.

The Chairman, Mr. E. H. Swendell, presided, supported by Captain A. J. H. Taylor (President), Captain N. G. H. Taylor, Lieut. W. A. Wotton and Mr. B. E. Knott (Hon. Secretary).

A warm welcome was extended by the Chairman to Captain Taylor, who is on leave from overseas, and Lieut. Wotton, recently returned from Germany where he has been a prisoner of war since the Dunkirk operations.

Letters of apology for non-attendance were read from Messrs. S. Willmoth, J. Blake, B. Jones, D. Side, E. Birch, C. Shepherd, S. Blackburn, A. Walker, Captain J. G. Smith and Major H. D. Rose.

The meeting decided that the Hon. Secretary should write to Mr. E. Birch, conveying the sympathy of the Branch with him in his illness and expressing the hope that he would soon be well and able to attend their meetings again.

Captain N. G. H. Taylor gave an interesting

resume of the exploits of the 1st Battalion The Buffs during the European war, giving details of the Buffs' service in North Africa and Italy.

Lieut. Wotton also addressed the members, and gave an account of events during his captivity. He spoke of the raids by the R.A.F. on Germany and stated that, despite the discomfort, the leaflets dropped by our men helped to keep up the morale of the prisoners.

Repatriation was the thought uppermost in the mind of every prisoner of war, said Lieut. Wotton, and he himself was thankful to be home again, and wished to thank everyone for the splendid welcome he and his fellow-prisoners had received.

Both these officers were thanked by the chairman for their interesting contributions.

Twenty-four new members were enrolled, which brought the strength of the Ramsgate Branch up to 140 members. The Chairman stated that this was an achievement of which to be proud and he looked forward to future progress. A visiting member from the Medway Branch, Mr. Anthony Richards, expressed his amazement at the enthusiasm and strength of the local association, and stated that he should report to his own branch of the activities in Ramsgate upon his return.

Mr. Knott made mention of the debt which the Ramsgate Branch owed to Captain A. J. H. Taylor, who as President, was a big asset; always ready to give his time and assistance for the advancement of the branch.

B.E.K.

TRAINING CENTRE.

THIS month very little has occurred worthy of report in our notes and so they will be rather brief.

One of the outstanding features of the month's sport news was the inter-company sports competition which was held on the New Barracks playing field. All companies keenly competed in the many events which gave the afternoon a very full and enjoyable programme. "B" Company were the victors, though if onlookers cheering had decided the winner I think a draw could have been the only result. Incidentally the organisation was terrific, the officials assembled in the judges enclosure put the Potsdam Meeting in the shade. The release programme is taking away many old and familiar faces, we have recently said "goodbye" to Major Jack Crozier, as P.M.C. we shall miss his cheery

signature, the only bright spot on the Mess bill.

The Bowls competition which we discussed in last month's edition has come to a sticky end. The finals have still to be played off and it is reported from official circles that the likelihood of this taking place in the near future is remote. A considered opinion from a local expert is that the unusual texture of the ground is mainly the cause for the hold-up—a high casualty list in the chrysanthemum world may also be contributory.

Amongst those who have visited us during the month have been Brig. J. G. Nicholson, Col. C. R. B. Knight, Lieut.-Col. J. F. Connolly and Major B. J. Harris St. John.

"B" Company.

We open this month's notes enjoying a very warm spell of weather, which is making the training problem more enjoyable for everyong concerned.

We have just said cheerio to Squads 25, 26 and 27 who did really well during their short stay. Congratulations to No. 27 Squad under "Curly" Ingram for winning their Syndicate Drill Competition.

The Depot Sports Meeting, mentioned in last month's notes, proved a great success and all Companies were well represented and great enthusiasm was shown by all the many onlookers. We are very proud to announce that our Company won the Depot Sports Shield. May we take this opportunity of thanking all those who helped to achieve this success. Well done, "B" Company, good show!

Another Drill Competition is in the air; Sgts. Austin, Lazarus and Blake are competing this week. This should be a very close fight as all squads have reached a very high standard in Drill.

We would like to extend a very warm welcome to Nos. 34, 35 and 36 Squads who have just joined us. We hope their stay with us will be a long and pleasant one. The way this graded intake has settled down so quickly is outstanding. We believe they are going to call them the "Belsen" syndicate; some of the recruits are only 4 ft. 5 ins. and weigh as little as 97 lbs; anyhow; they couldn't find a keener crowd anywhere.

Owing to a change of staff we regret very much losing L/Cpls. Bascomb and Scott who have just left us for "C" and "A" Companies respectively. We shall miss these two outstanding instructors very much, but as they are going to get their second tape soon we would like to wish them all the very best in their new Companies and add that one company's loss is another company's gain.

We welcome to the company some new instructors including Sgts. Churchward and Bourne and L/Cpls. Moore, Flaherty, Melody and Mallinson; we hope they will soon settle down and join the Happy Family.

We understand that Sgt. Swain's crochet circle is now turning out bedspreads as well as duchess sets. Will platoon sergeants please order early as cotton is running short. Cheap quotations for a complete squad can be had on application to "A" Block Office.



Photo. by Thain

Back Row (Reading Left to Right)—Lt. P. L. Chatterton, Lt. A. A. Elliott, Lt. W. Jones, Lt. I. M. Sciortino, Lt. D. C. G. Lewis, Lt. T. A. Moss, Lt. H. Stringer.

Third Row.—Lt. J. A. Kirby, Lt. H. J. Shears, Lt. O. V. Large, Lt. A. J. C. Fagg, Lt. J. J. Clugston, Capt. H. E. Thomas, R.A.M.C., Lt. J. T. Riches, Lt. J. H. Boveham, Lt. C. R. Mayow, Capt. L. H. Hutchinson, Capt. J. Tilleard, Lt. W. R. Griffith, Lt. R. W. Chisholm, Lt. C. H. T. Garner, Capt. D. W. Davis.

Second Row.—Lt. A. A. Godwin, Lt. A. F. Hobby, Lt. D. U. Prentice, Capt. G. A. Scott, Lt. L. E. G. Hawkins, Capt. L. Forbes, Capt. E. E. T. Meyrick-Jones, Sub. A. Lewis, A.T.S., 2nd Sub., M. Chadwell, A.T.S., Sub. B. C. M. Puleston, A.T.S., Jun. Cmdr. M. Drayson, A.T.S., Lt. H. C. H. Carter, Lt. J. W. F. Maxwell, Lt. R. T. S. Morgan, M.C., Lt. G. L. Gladman.

Front Row.—Rev. F. W. K. Griffin, D.S.O., O.B.E., Major A. J. Peareth, Capt. L. G. Farrer, Major F. H. Smith, R.A.M.C., Major (Q.M.) H. J. Martin, M.B.E., Major C. E. A. Terry, Major P. H. B. Holt, Lt.-Col. C. E. Wilson, M.B.E., Major H. W. Jackson, Jun. Cmdr. M. K. Lewis, A.T.S., Major L. J. Williams, Major J. C. T. Crozier, Capt. J. C. Moore, Major P. Dare, M.B.E., Capt. R. B. Holman, M.C. (Garrison Adjt.)

Our Company Commander, Captain Meyrick-Jones, is leaving us this month, in order to take up an important appointment in civilian life. The officers, W.O.'s and staff have been invited to a party at the "Seven Stars" this week for a farewell get-together on this auspicious occasion. We hope to give a full report in our next edition.

Our C.S.M. (C.S.M. Gawler) has recently returned from leave looking very fit. His place was ably taken by Sgt. (Wobbler) Fox, who, after a very worrying week, was glad to see the C.S.M. back.

Lieut. Ingram paid the company a surprise visit recently; it will be remembered that he left this company to join an Airborne Regiment. We gather that his return was well and truly celebrated—too bad the midnight chase after the elusive red and white lantern should prove a hindrance to the night scheme—but how were they to know.

We are afraid that, in order to make the press, we shall have to conclude, wishing all the old staff and Buffs wherever you may be, a speedy return home.

"C" Company.

This month we have seen the going of 40 and 41 Squads. Sgt. Forster's somewhat extreme methods, which we mentioned last month, have proved themselves to be satisfactory. We congratulate him on winning the drill competition with his first Squad, No. 41. Well done, Sheriff.

We welcome Lieut. Lewis and 2nd Lieut. Johnson to the Company this month; also Sgt. Bangs, Sgt. Chapman and Cpl. Redman, who have been recently transferred from the 2nd Battalion. Needless to say, they have been kept pretty busy answering questions—most of which start with "Here, is that right that so and so, and so and so" but unfortunately, we can learn nothing.

Our old friend, Cpl. Tillett, is at the moment trying to decide whether his taste is for a Blue-pin-stripe or a nice Grey tweed. Anyway, which ever way he decides we all wish him well and trust that the noise and bustle of "Civvy Street" won't prove too much for him.

Sgt. Croucher, our Cricket Star (he is opening batsman for the Depot now), is taking a little larger size in Caps, G.S. these days.

Sgt. "Fraz" Newell, who at one time enjoyed an occasional wander around town in search of rich widows, is, unfortunately, far too busy to go out these days. He is now engaged in making a "Range Finder" for the Company.

Sgt. Robinson who went on seven days' leave last April has, we are pleased to say, returned and looking none the worse. His long absence has not affected his drill. He is still able to slope arms quite well. As he himself says, his trouble is straightening it.

That is about the limit of "C" Company's news for the month. In signing off we wish all old friends, wherever they may be, all the very best of luck.

"D" Company.

This being the Company's first effort in the Regimental Journal, seems to demand far more than my unworthy pen could possibly aspire to. As the complete record of happenings in the Company may be undertaken by someone far more competent, I shall try to summarise recent events—mainly changes of staff.

First, we must say goodbye to Major Crozier who

has gone to civil life. He was our Company Commander almost from its commencement and we cannot help regretting his departure. Good Luck to you, Sir, and every best wish from us all in "D" Company.

Lieut. Godwin and Lieut. Maxwell having also left us, occasionally smile benignly as they gaze down upon us from their new positions of Assistant Adjutant and W.T.O. respectively. Lieut. Allen also gazes down upon us, but his height is from the New Barracks where he is now attempting new records in the "Reculver Gallop."

L/Cpl. Palmer has gone to "R" Company. Pte. Hall (A.T.S.) has left us for civil life. May your Maple Leaf never wither, Mrs. Hall.

Captain Tilleard is now our Company Commander and we hope that his stay with us will be a long one.

Lieut. Griffiths has taken on the duties of Adm.; but we are afraid that we shall not long enjoy his presence as he is shortly to put in his indent for a bowler. Still, we shall enjoy his being with us if only for a short time.

Lieut. Pocock and Lieut. Gladman have swollen the staff of Training Officers and are receiving assistance from Lieut. Woods and Lieut. Burgess who are attached to us from the R.A.

C.S.M. Williams has taken over the reins and miniature earthquakes are occasionally heard in the Company Office area.

Sgt. Ridley has come to us from "R" Company and Cpl. Savage from "I" Company. L/Cpl. Coward has also joined us from "I" Company.

Pte. Crichton (A.T.S.) is now filling the seat of "Dizzy" and seems to have the correct "Pen-Slope."

Training is flowing along in the usual smooth channels and there seems little worthy of note in that direction.

The Depot Sports brought out several budding athletes and we finished the day in fourth place. L/Cpl. Thornton assisting the Company team to win both High and Long Jumps.

In the Inter-Company Cricket League we finished in third place—sharing with "C" and "S" Companies.

The news now seems to be complete for this month, so I will lay down my pen in the hopes that another and more worthy scribe will take over from me in future editions.

"I" Company.

"Change and decay in all around I see," quoth the Sage. As applied to "I" Company at present, the truth of the remark is beyond all possible doubt—one only wonders when the decay is likely to set in! We have dwindled and dwindled, until now the form-up of four Platoons merely basks in the reflected glory of former days. The square then resounded to the marching feet of no less than twelve Platoons. To-day it is but a thing of the past.

Many Officers and N.C.O.'s have gone, some to other companies in the I.T.C.; many more to nearby units. We wish them the very best of luck in their new jobs and sincerely hope they will visit us from time to time, to pass on the griff and let us know how things are going.

Congratulations to Captain J. Tilleard on assuming command of "D" Company. The intricate maze of coloured discs and "New Maps for old," together with the rest of the training expedients is being administered by Lieut. Morgan from now on.

Recently we were privileged to have the Band and Drums beat Retreat on "I" Company Square. A very polished performance and greatly appreciated by all.

The month's notes cannot be complete without mention of the tragic affair of the steam-roller. That the driver of the machine was on a forty-eight was disastrous, for every attempt at moving it was thus thwarted. For forty-eight hours the "flap" reigned supreme until the arrival of the driver solved our problem. Only just in time too—and there were no resulting "speaks."

The Company Sports was a grand success from start to finish. Inter-platoon rivalry was at its height and there were some very close events. Amongst the runners Tompsett (11 Platoon), Knight (12 Platoon) and Barrago (13 Platoon) put up a very good show. Two novelty events caused much amusement, and the coaching of the Tug of War team by O'Sullivan was perhaps, the high-light of the afternoon. Congratulations to all the competitors and we must not forget our thanks to Major Williams for the initial spade-work that made the meeting so successful. C/S. Butler did an excellent job of registering the points scored and the host of whips, judges, watchers for bumping and boring, etc., played their part with great zest. The inter-platoon competition was won by 12 Platoon with 42½ points, with 9 Platoon (35½ points) and 13 Platoon (34½ points) next in order of merit.

It was bad luck that the Company was unable to romp home in the Depot Sports. The standard was high and we fell rather short of the mark. Let's see what can be done next time.

Cricket shews the Company well in the lead in the League competition. Cpl. Waters is doing his stuff at the wicket alright and the bowling of Cpl. Sharman is finding its mark. Keep it up.

Training, by the way, still continues (this must be placed on record in case some of the friends imagine "I" Company to be having a good scrounge!!) 11 and 12 Platoons are enjoying (?) Exercise 72 and they will soon be leaving us. 9 and 10 passed out with flying colours, whilst 13 and 14 platoons have now got down to the steady grind of range-work.

Finally, that steam-roller obviously annoyed the moles inhabiting the grass verge—they are now burrowing about as fast as they can. Company Detail will surely shew "Pte Smith—to remove mole-hills as fast as they appear."

ARMY CADET OFFICERS OFF PARADE.

FOR the first time since the 1st Cadet Battalion, The Buffs was reconstituted in February, 1942, thirty or more Cadet Officers of the Battalion assembled at the ancient hostelry, The Falstaff, Canterbury, to partake of a meal and exchange views on the work of the Battalion. A good time was had by one and all, thanks to the excellent arrangements made previously by Captain R. C. Bickerton and Captain A. Rothery.

Lieutenant-Colonel H. L. Cremer, presided over the gathering. In response to a toast proposed by the second-in-command, Major S. G. Brealy, the Battalion Commander, in

a reminiscent mood, reviewed the activities of the Battalion over the past three years. In that time, the Battalion had grown from comparatively small beginnings to a force of 500 cadets, comprising companies with headquarters at Canterbury, Bekesbourne, Herne Bay, Whitstable, Sandwich, Aylesham, Dover and Deal. Although the background of the war was receding, the good work continued.

Other points from the speeches were, that the Army Cadet movement had two main objects in view. First, the movement was designed to teach a boy to be a good soldier, trained to play an effective part in the service of his country, and in particular, prove worthy of the high traditions of his Regiment, The Buffs, to which the Battalion was affiliated. Second, it was concerned with the mental and physical fitness of cadets and it assumed a measure of responsibility for their moral welfare. Cadets acquired a sense of discipline, responsibility, leadership and character, the essential qualities of a good citizen. The future of the Army Cadet Force was a little obscure at present, but it would be a national calamity if this excellent service of youth was allowed to peter out once again through lack of public support and encouragement from local education authorities. It was certain that the experiences of the various pre-service units, including the G.T.C. would prove invaluable in developing post-war youth organisations on broad and progressive lines.

Captain H. C. Bickerton, called upon to propose the toast of the guest, Major P. Dare, referred to the indefatigable work of Major Dare in promoting the interests of the Battalion. He has been a tower of strength. In reply, Major Dare referred to the pleasure he had derived in helping to bring cadets up to a standard of proficiency that would be in keeping with the prestige of his regiment, The Buffs. He regarded the cadets and young people generally, as the real wealth of the nation and anything one could do to further their interests would be a real service to the nation. It was evident that Major Dare has lost none of his enthusiasm for the cadet movement.



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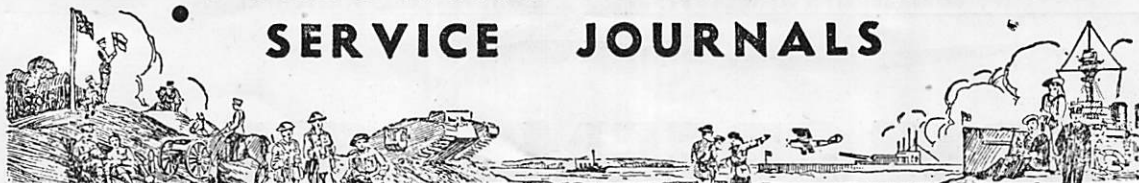
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