



THE DIE-HARDS

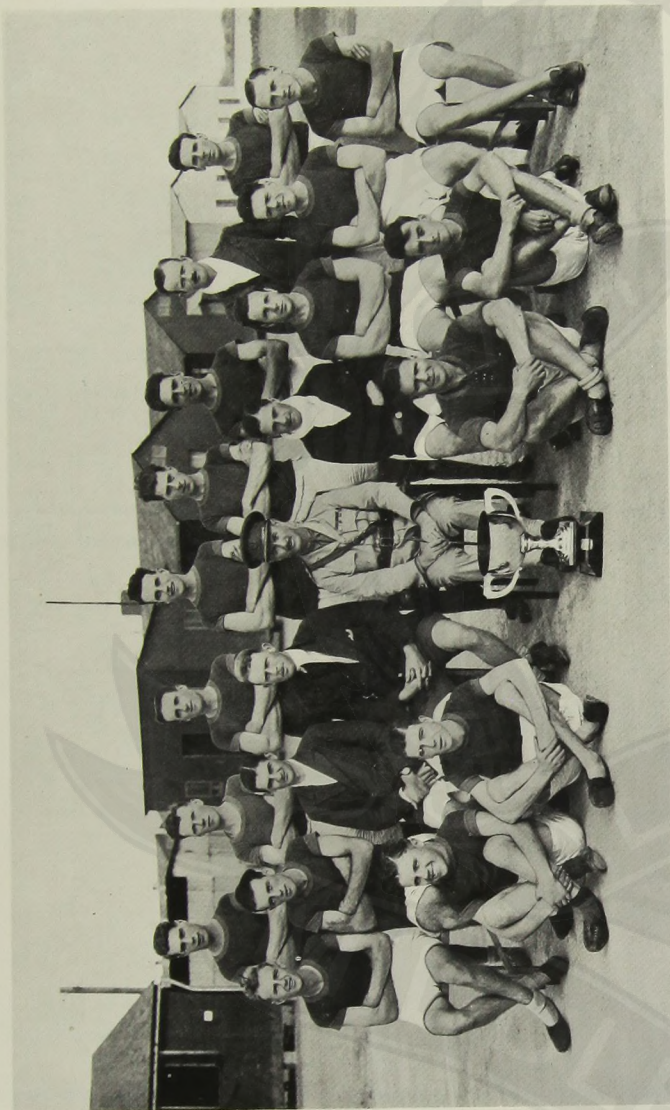
The Journal of

THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT

(Duke of Cambridge's Own)

February 1928

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[Photo: At Fong, Shanghai.
 Top Row (Standing)—L. Cpl. Oakman, L. Cpl. Patterson, Bism, Ward, Cpl. Riley, Pte. Mellish, L. Cpl. Fletcher, Lieut. Hudson, Pte. Heard.
 Second Row (Sitting on Chairs)—L. Cpl. Donavan, L. Cpl. Barton, Bism, Walker.
 Bottom Row (Sitting on Ground)—Pte. Smith, Dmr. Woodhead, Pte. Bartrop, Pte. Spicer.

1st BATTALION ATHLETIC TEAM.
 Winners 13th Infantry Brigade Sports, Shanghai, September, 1927.

THE DIE-HARDS

THE JOURNAL OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT

(Duke of Cambridge's Own)

VOL. II. No. 11. FEBRUARY, 1928. PRICE 9D.

THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE'S OWN).

[57]

Home Counties Area.

The Plume of the Prince of Wales. In each of the four corners the late Duke of Cambridge's Cypher and Coronet.

"Mysore," "Serangapatam," "Albuhara," "Ciudad Rodrigo," "Badajoz," "Vittoria," "Pyrenées," "Nivelle," "Nive," "Peninsula," "Alma," "Inkerman," "Sevastopol," "New Zealand," "South Africa, 1870," "Relief of Ladysmith," "South Africa, 1900-02," "Mons," "Marne, 1914," "Ypres, 1915," "Suvla," "Jerusalem," "Mesopotamia, 1917-18."

"Le Cateau," "Retreat from Mons," "Aisne, 1914, '18," "La Bassée, 1914," "Armentières, 1914," "Neuve Chapelle," "Gravenstapel," "St. Julien," "Frezenberg," "Bellevue," "Hooge, 1915," "Somme, 1916, '18," "Delville Wood," "Pozières," "Ginchy," "Fiers-Concelette," "Morval," "Thiepval," "Le Transloy," "Ancre Heights," "Ancre, 1916, '18," "Bapaume, 1917, '18," "Arras, 1917, '18," "Vimy, 1917," "Scarpe, 1917, '18," "Arleux," "Messines, 1914, '17, '18," "Pillclem," "Langemarck, 1917," "Menin Road," "Polygon Wood," "Broodseinde," "Poelcappelle," "Passchendaele," "St. Quentin," "Rosières," "Avre," "Villers Bretonneux," "Lys," "Estaires," "Hazebrouck," "Baillul," "Kemmel," "Scherpenberg," "Canal du Nord," "St. Quentin Canal," "Courtrai," "Selle," "Valenciennes," "Sambre," "France and Flanders, 1914-18," "Italy, 1917-18," "Struma," "Doiran, 1918," "Macedonia, 1915-18," "Landing at Suvla," "Scimitar Hill," "Gallipoli, 1915," "Rumani," "Egypt, 1915-16," "Gaza," "El Mughar," "Jericho," "Jordan," "Tell Asur," "Palestine, 1917-18," "Murman, 1919," "Dukhovskaya," "Siberia, 1918-19."

Agents—Lloyds Bank, Limited, Cox's & King's Branch.

- Regular and Militia Battalions.**

Uniform—Scarlet. *Facings*—Lemon Yellow.

1st Bn. (57th Foot) Caterick
 2nd Bn. (77th Foot) Ahmednagar
 5th Bn. (R. Elthorne Mil.) Mill Hill.
 6th Bn. (R. East Middlesex Mil.) Mill Hill.
 Depot—Mill Hill. Record Office—Hounslow.

Territorial Army Battalions.

7th Bn. Drill Hall, Priory Road, Hornsey, N.
 8th Bn. Drill Hall, Hanworth Road, Hounslow.
 9th Bn. Drill Hall, Pound Lane, Willesden, N.W.10.

Affiliated Territorial Army Battalions.

7th City of London Regiment 24, Sun Street, Finsbury Square, E.C.2.
 19th London Regiment (St. Pancras) 76, High Street, Camden Town, N.W.1.

Allied Regiments of Canadian Militia.

The Peterborough Rangers Peterborough, Ontario.
 The Wentworth Regiment Dundas, Ontario.

Allied Regiment of Dominion of New Zealand.

The Taranaki Regiment.

Colonel-in-Chief:

Col. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales and Duke of Cornwall, K.G., K.T., K.P., G.C.S.I., G.C.M.G., G.C.I.E., G.C.V.O., G.B.E., M.C., Col. W. Gds. Colonel-in-Chief 22th L., R. S. Fus., S. Wales' Bard., D.C.L.I., F.W. Vols., Seaforth, and R. Wilts Yeo., Personal A.D.C. to the King.

Colonel:

Gen. Sir Ivor Maxse, K.C.B., C.V.O., D.S.O.

CONTENTS

	PAGE		PAGE
1ST BATTALION ATHLETIC TEAM ...	Frontispiece	OFFICERS' CLUB NOTES ...	654
EDITORIAL ...	610	DEPOT NOTES ...	654
REGIMENTAL FIXTURES FOR 1928 ...	610	REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION NOTES (illustrated) ...	658
THE LATE SIR GEORGE CHARDIN DENTON, K.C.M.G. (Photo) ...	611	THE HISTORY OF THE 7TH BATTALION MIDDLESEX REGIMENT ...	659
A FORGOTTEN CHAPTER IN THE HISTORY OF THE 77TH REGIMENT OR MONTGOMERIE'S HIGHLANDERS ...	613	OLD CONTEMPTIBLES VISIT MONS ...	660
QUAINT CHINESE "NEWS" ...	615	OLD COMRADES' QUARTERLY CONCERT ...	661
1ST BATTALION NEWS (illustrated)—SEPTEMBER, 1927 ...	615	8TH BATTALION NOTES ...	661
DECEMBER, 1927 ...	631	9TH BATTALION NOTES (illustrated) ...	664
THE LAST TWO (illustrated) ...	640	THE SOUTH AND TENTH MIDDLESEX OFFICERS' CLUB ...	670
OLD COMRADES' ANNUAL DINNER ...	640	OBITUARY ...	671
2ND BATTALION NOTES ...	643	NOTICES ...	672
THE LATE COLONEL C. R. DYER (Photo) ...	653	LIST OF OFFICERS OF THE REGIMENT ...	673
ARMISTICE DAY MEMORIAL SERVICE ...	653	SENIORITY LIST OF WARRANT OFFICERS AND N.C.Os. ...	674

NOTICE TO CONTRIBUTORS, &c.

"The Die-Hards" is published early in February, May, August, and November, and copies may be obtained through all Messrs. W. H. Smith & Son's Bookshops and Bookstalls.

All Contributions intended for publication should reach the Editor not later than the 1st of the month previous to that of issue. Contributions must be written on one side of the paper only and signed, stating whether it is desired to publish contributor's name or not. Rejected manuscripts, &c., will only be returned if accompanied by a stamped and addressed envelope. The Editor will thankfully receive Contributions from past or present Members of the Regiment or others interested, but necessarily reserves to himself the right of publication. All communications concerning the paper, including Advertisements, should be addressed to the Editor, "The Die-Hards" Journal, Mill Hill Barracks, N.W. Telegrams: "Albuhera," London. Telephone: "Finchley," 1553.

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EDITORIAL



THIS being the first issue of THE DIE-HARDS for the year, we take the opportunity of wishing our readers every happiness and prosperity in 1928.

We welcome home the 1st Battalion on their return from service in China, and hope they will find the climate of Catterick more congenial than that of the Far East.

General Sir Charles Mansfield Clarke, who was on a visit to New Zealand, writes that he visited the Memorial at New Plymouth, to the Officers, Non-commissioned Officers and Men of the 57th Regiment who fell in the New Zealand War, and that it is in good condition and well looked after.

His many friends will be glad to learn that General Sir Charles Mansfield Clarke has returned safely to his villa at Hyeres after a very enjoyable time in New Zealand.

REGIMENTAL FIXTURES FOR 1928.

- January 7th.—Quarterly Concert, at the Masonic Rooms, "Goat and Compasses," 341, Euston Road, N.W., at 7.30 p.m.
- January 18th.—9th Battalion Branch: Annual General Meeting, Drill Hall, Pound Lane, Willesden, N.W.10, at 8.30 p.m.
- January 21st.—9th Battalion Branch: Concert at the Wealdstone Drill Hall, at 8 p.m.
- March 3rd.—9th Battalion Branch: Annual Dinner, 1st, 2nd and 3rd/9th Battalion, at the Drill Hall, Pound Lane, Willesden, N.W.10, at 8 p.m.
- March 3rd.—1st/10th Middlesex Sergeants' Mess Association: Annual Reunion Dinner.
- April 7th.—Quarterly Concert at the Masonic Rooms, "Goat and Compasses," 341, Euston Road, N.W., at 7.30 p.m.
- April 21st.—9th Battalion Branch: Concert at the Pound Lane Drill Hall, at 8 p.m.
- May 16th.—9th Battalion Branch: Albuhera Day Celebrations, at Pound Lane Drill Hall, at 8 p.m.
- June 25th.—Cricket: The Regiment v. East Surrey Regiment, at the Depot, Mill Hill, at 11.30 a.m.
- June 26th.—Cricket: The Regiment v. Free Foresters, at the Depot, Mill Hill, at 11.30 a.m.
- June 26th.—Officers' Club Dinner, at the Trocadero Restaurant, at 7.45 p.m.
- June 27th.—Cricket: The Regiment v. Capt. D. O. Lyon's XI, at the Depot, Mill Hill, at 11.30 a.m.
- June 27th.—Officers' Club "At Home," at the Depot, Mill Hill, at 2.30 p.m.
- June 28th.—Cricket: The Regiment v. Cryptics, at the Depot, Mill Hill, at 11.30 a.m.
- June 29th.—Annual Depot Sports, at the Depot, Mill Hill, at 2 p.m.

June 29th.—Old Comrades' Gathering, at the Depot, Mill Hill, at 2 p.m.

June 29th.—Officers' Club "At Home," at the Depot, Mill Hill, at 2 p.m.

October 6th.—Quarterly Concert, at the Masonic Rooms, "Goat and Compasses," 341, Euston Road, N.W., at 7.30 p.m.

October 19th.—1st/10th Middlesex Sergeants' Mess Association: Annual General Meeting.

November 3rd.—Regimental Association: Annual General Meeting, at the Great Central Hotel, Marylebone, N.W., at 7 p.m.

November 3rd.—Old Comrades' Annual Dinner, at the Great Central Hotel, Marylebone, N.W., at 7.30 p.m.

November 11th.—Armistice Day Service, at the Regimental Memorial, at the Depot, Mill Hill, at 10.45 a.m.

THE LATE
SIR GEORGE CHARDIN
DENTON, K.C.M.G.

GEORGE CHARDIN DENTON was born on June 22nd, 1851. He was the son of the Rev. R. A. Denton, Rector of Stower Provost, Dorset. He was educated at Rugby, and, passing into the Army by direct commission, was gazetted to the 57th Regiment as Ensign in 1869. He joined his Regiment at Devonport, and served with it there and in the South and West of Ireland, becoming a Lieutenant in 1871. Towards the end of 1873, he embarked with the 57th for Ceylon, landing at Colombo early in 1874. On Lieut. de Burgh's promotion to the rank of Captain, he succeeded that officer as Adjutant, and served as such during part of Col. Logan's and the whole of Col. Stewart's command of the Regiment, holding this appointment until promoted Captain in 1878. He was a smart, keen and popular Adjutant, always admirably turned out and mounted. Shortly after his promotion, to the great regret of his many friends he retired from the Army.

In 1880, he entered the Colonial Service as Chief of Police at St. Vincent. He was one of the Commissioners to inquire

into the Barbados Police Force, and represented St. Vincent at the Telegraphic Conference at Barbados in 1882.

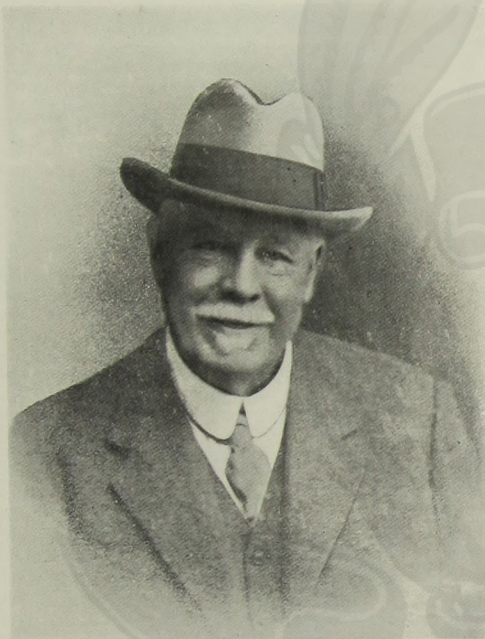
The following interesting extract from *The Times* obituary notice of January 10th, 1928, shows how eminent Capt. Denton's services as a Colonial administrator were:—

"He administered the government of St. Vincent on three occasions from 1885 to 1888, and was acting Colonial Secretary from 1886 to 1888. He was then appointed Colonial Secretary of Lagos, and administered the government there on many occasions, being appointed Lieutenant-Governor in 1900. He was created C.M.G. in 1891, and was promoted to K.C.M.G. in 1900, when he was appointed Governor of the Gambia. At that time trouble had arisen in the Gambia between certain Marabouts and Sonninkis—rival Moslem sects—over the ownership of rice-fields, and two travelling commissioners, Mr. Sitwell and Mr. Silva, with an escort of a police sergeant and ten constables, were sent to settle the dispute. Owing to the treachery of the headman, Dari Bana Dabu, both the commissioners, the sergeant, and five constables were killed. When Sir George Denton arrived in 1901, it was decided to send a punitive expedition under Col. H. E. Brake, which completely crushed the revolt. Some of the ringleaders fled and joined a marauding chief named Fodi Kabba, at Medina, in French territory, whither he had been driven some years before. Concerted action with the French Government of Senegal was now taken, Medina was demolished, Fodi Kabba killed, and three other ringleaders were handed over to the Government of the Gambia. They were tried, sentenced to death, and executed at a large village near the scene of the murder of the two commissioners. From that date peace reigned in the Gambia, and has remained unbroken since. Sir George Denton proved an able and popular Governor, and under him considerable progress was made, both in the condition of the people and in trade."

He also succeeded in raising the finances of the Colony from a very low level to a flourishing condition. During his time as Governor, the important trade in ground nuts was built up, and smallpox, a grave scourge to the natives, was

almost wiped out. Sir George finally left the Gambia after a severe attack of yellow fever in 1911.

Shortly after his retirement from the Army, and before entering the Colonial service, Sir George had, in 1879, married Jean Margaret Alan, the daughter of Mr. Alan Stevenson, C.E., F.R.S., of Edinburgh. Mrs. Denton, up to the time of her death, went with her husband everywhere during his service in the West



SIR GEORGE CHARDIN DENTON, K.C.M.G.

Indies, and on the West Coast of Africa. She died in 1900, of blackwater fever, leaving two children, a son and a daughter.

On his return to England at the end of his Colonial service in 1911, Sir George lived for several years at "The Firs," Headington Hill, Oxford, moving in 1915 to Laindon Hills, Essex, and in 1920 to Chigwell Row in the same county, where he permanently took up his residence. He

used to spend a great deal of time each year with his daughter and her family. She had married Mr. J. H. Morrell, of Headington Hill Hall, Oxford, and Sir George delighted in the company of his grandchildren.

He was a Justice of the Peace for the counties of both Oxford and Essex. His active nature did not permit him to be idle long, and he became director of the Narraguta Group of Tin Mining Companies, which gave him an office in London and as much employment as he wished. He was a Fellow of the Royal Geographical and Zoological Societies; his advice was now and then required at the Colonial Office. He belonged to the Naval and Military and the Windham Clubs, and, being very popular and well known, was in great request with his friends, so that his life was a very full one.

On the outbreak of war in 1914, he was placed in charge of the Oxfordshire Constabulary, under Col. the Hon. E. Holmes à Court. During the last years of the war, he took an active part in the work of the Blue Cross Society for Animals, going to France on several occasions to inspect the hospitals for horses and dogs used by the forces, and followed up this work as Chairman of the Executive Committee of our Dumb Friends' League.

In 1916, he suffered a terrible loss, from which, indeed, he never altogether recovered, by the death of his son. This gallant young officer, Major George Clarke Denton, of the "12th Pioneers" ("Khelat-i-Ghilzie" Regiment), was killed in action on October 9th, 1916, at Kissingeri, East Africa, while attached to the Jind Imperial Service Infantry.

During 1927, Sir George's health commenced to fail. He suffered a good deal from cardiac asthma, and gradually, as the year drew on, got worse, and he became weaker and weaker, until towards its end life became a weariness and burden to him. The New Year found him worse, and he became unconscious during the last day or two of his life: then his heart

giving out, he passed away quietly on January 9th, 1928, at his Chigwell Row residence, attended by his daughter, Mrs. Morrell, who had been with him during the greater part of his last illness.

Sir George Denton was a thorough sportsman in every sense. Himself a quick and good shot, he was a most generous, unselfish companion in the field. Fond of racing, he had in his young days a few horses in training which he sometimes rode himself as a light-weight, and was very successful in Ceylon, both at Colombo and up-country race meetings, being seen to much advantage on difficult horses. In later years, he had few opportunities for hunting, and increasing weight kept him out of the saddle, but he always retained his love for the sport.

His nature was a singularly bright and cheery one; his geniality made him popular with all who met him, and he had hosts of friends. The writer, who knew him well from early days when they served as subalterns together, does not remember to have ever seen him really out of temper, which can surely be said of but few.

To those who knew him well, "George's" kind, affectionate disposition and chivalrous character will always remain happy memories.



A FORGOTTEN CHAPTER IN THE HISTORY OF THE 77th REGIMENT OR MONT- GOMERIE'S HIGHLANDERS.

THIS interesting account was found amongst some old Regimental documents, the property of the late Lieut.-General H. Kent, a former Colonel of the 77th Regiment. There is no reference to the history of the Montgomery Highlands in the present records of the 77th Regiment, beyond the fact that such a regiment was raised as "The 77th (Montgomery) 1st Highland Battalion in 1757, during the Seven Years' War, and served in the American War from 1757 to 1763, and was present at the attack on Fort du Quesne, the attack on Cuba (1762), and the attack on Martinique (1762). At

the peace in 1763, the Regiment, with many others, was disbanded."

The document now referred to was sent to me inside a copy of the 77th Standing Orders, printed in Dublin in 1823, over a hundred years ago.

The 77th Regiment, or Montgomery's Highlanders, was raised in 1757 by Major the Hon. Archibald Montgomery (afterwards Earl of Eglintown), afterwards General and Colonel of the 2nd Dragoons, or Scots Greys. When Government had determined to raise Highland corps, letters of service were issued to Major the Hon. Archibald Montgomery, son of the Earl of Eglintown, to recruit a regiment in the North. From his connections and personal character, Major Montgomery was well qualified for the command of a Highland regiment. Having one sister, Lady Margaret, married to Sir Alec Macdonald of Sleate in the Northern, and another, Lady Christian, married to the Laird of Abercainey on the borders of the Southern Highlands, he mixed much with the people, and, being a high-spirited young man with a considerable dash of romantic enthusiasm in his composition, and with manners cheerful and affable, he made himself highly acceptable to the Highlanders; and, by the support which he met with and the judicious selection of officers of influence in the North, he soon completed an excellent body of men, who were formed into a regiment of thirteen companies of 105 rank and file, making in all, with 65 sergeants and 30 pipers and drummers, 1,460 effective men, and was numbered the 77th Regiment.

Col. Montgomery's commission was dated January 4th, 1757, and that of all the other officers each a day later than his senior in the same rank.

I can give the names of all the officers, but which are to [sic] tedious, but I must give the Lieut.-Col. the Hon. Archibald Montgomery (afterwards Earl of Eglintown), died 1776, General in the Army and Colonel of the Scots Greys.

This corps was embodied at Stirling, and embarked with the 78th, or Fraser's Highlanders, at Greenock for Halifax, without time being allowed for acquiring the use of arms in a uniform manner.

On the commencement of operations in 1758, the 77th was attached to the corps under Brig.-General Forbes in the

expedition against Fort du Quesne. But this and all the other movements of the 77th are in the narrative of the service of the 42nd Regiment.

Montgomery's Highlanders were often employed in small detached expeditions, traversing, to a very great extent, the most difficult countries. In these marches they had numberless skirmishes with the Indians and irregular troops of the enemy, a species of the most harassing kind, as it required the greatest personal exertion on the part of the soldiers, and demanded constant vigilance and presence of mind on that of the officers.

At the conclusion of the war in 1763, all the officers and men who chose to settle in America were permitted to do so, each receiving a part of land in proportion to his rank.

During one of the skirmishes with the Indians, several soldiers of this and other corps fell into their hands, being taken in an ambush. Allan Macpherson, one of these soldiers, witnessing the miserable fate of his fellow-prisoners who had been tortured to death by the Indians, and seeing them preparing to commence the same operations upon himself, made signs that he had something to communicate. An interpreter was brought. Macpherson told them that, provided his life was spared for a few minutes, he would communicate the secret of an extraordinary medicine, which, if applied to the skin, would cause it to resist the strongest blow of tomahawk or sword, and that, if they would allow him to go to the woods with a guard to collect the plants proper for the medicine, he would prepare it, and allow the experiment to be tried on his own neck by the strongest and most expert warrior amongst them. This story easily gained upon the superstitious credulity of the Indians, that the request of the Highlander was instantly complied with. Being sent into the woods, he soon returned with such plants as he chose to pick. Having boiled these herbs, he rubbed his neck with their juice and, laying his head upon a log of wood, desired the strongest man of them to strike at his neck with a tomahawk, when he would find he could not make the smallest impression. An Indian levelled a blow with all his might, but with such force that the head flew off to the distance of several yards. The Indians were fixed

in amazement at their own credulity, and the address with which the prisoner had escaped the lingering death prepared for him, but, instead of being enraged at this escape of the victim, they were so pleased at his ingenuity that they refrained from inflicting further cruelties on the remaining prisoners.

The following is a state of the killed and wounded of the 77th (or Montgomery's Highlanders) during the Seven Years' War in America:—

September 11th, 1758.—Fort du Quesne—Officers: killed, 7; wounded, 9; Sergeants: killed, 3; wounded, 7; Drummers and Pipers: killed, 2; wounded, 3; Rank and File: killed, 92; wounded, 201.

June 1st, 1760.—Little Keome: Rank and File: killed, 2.

June 27th, 1760.—Estatoe—Officers: wounded, 4; Sergeants: killed, 2; wounded, 1; Drummers and Pipers: wounded, 1; Rank and File: killed, 6; wounded, 24.

June, 1761.—Martinique—Officers: killed, 1; wounded, 1; Sergeants: wounded, 1; Rank and File: killed, 4; wounded, 26. 1762.—Havannah—Officers: killed, 1; Rank and File: killed, 2; wounded, 6. St. John, on passage to West Indies.—Officers: killed, 1; Rank and File: killed, 4; wounded, 2.

Totals.—Killed: 11 officers; 5 sergeants; 2 drummers and pipers; 110 rank and file. Wounded: 14 officers; 9 sergeants; 4 drummers and pipers; 259 rank and file.

G. W. W. S.

REMORSE.

It was in the married quarters. The setting sun shone through the kitchen windows, and, horrors! everywhere were pools of red, ugh! On the table; on the floor, and on the hearth. By the door was a bigger pool than any. Heavens! An unsheathed bayonet was lying in it, covered, too, with the horrible red stain. But, look! The door slowly opens, and a ghastly face splashed with the terrible stain looks in, and a voice mutters: "Oh, heavens! What can I do? Here comes my husband, and what will he say when he sees I've opened a tin of tomatoes with his bayonet!"

QUAINT CHINESE "NEWS."

BRITISH SOLDIERS WHO WANTED £100 EACH TO LEAVE SHANGHAI.

[British United Press message to "The Star," November 11th, 1927.]

THE departure of 1,300 British troops from Shanghai on October 15th, by the troopship *Karmala*, was hailed with pleasure by the Chinese Press, says the British United Press.

Some extraordinary reports have been published by the Chinese newspapers. One said: "Several tens of thousands of soldiers belonging to the army of the British General Dun-kang (Gen. Duncan), who have been disbanded by the Shanghai authorities, left here yesterday on the steamship *Karmala* and nine other transports.

"It is said that grave fears were entertained that the troops might loot the International Settlement, and therefore the British Chamber of Commerce and other organisations met and subscribed money to send them away.

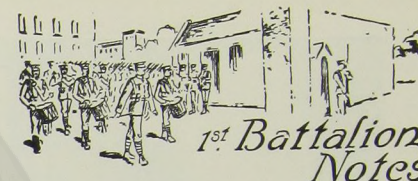
"At first the soldiers refused to go unless they were paid £100 each, but they finally agreed to leave for £30 each. The merchants of Shanghai voted many thousands of pounds, the balance of which was seized by the British officers of the departing troops.

"The men were marched down to the dock and were paid money and given cigarettes as they surrendered their arms.

"What will happen to these men when they reach their home is not known, but it is said that London merchants are fearful of their arrival, and are arranging to ship them to some distant island."

[It will be recalled that the ss. *Karmala* is the transport on which 9 officers and 300 men of the 1st Battalion sailed on the date mentioned.—Ed.]

According to Dame Melba, onions and raw carrots are good for voice production. Onions are certainly good for one physically, but, oh, how disastrous they are to you socially!



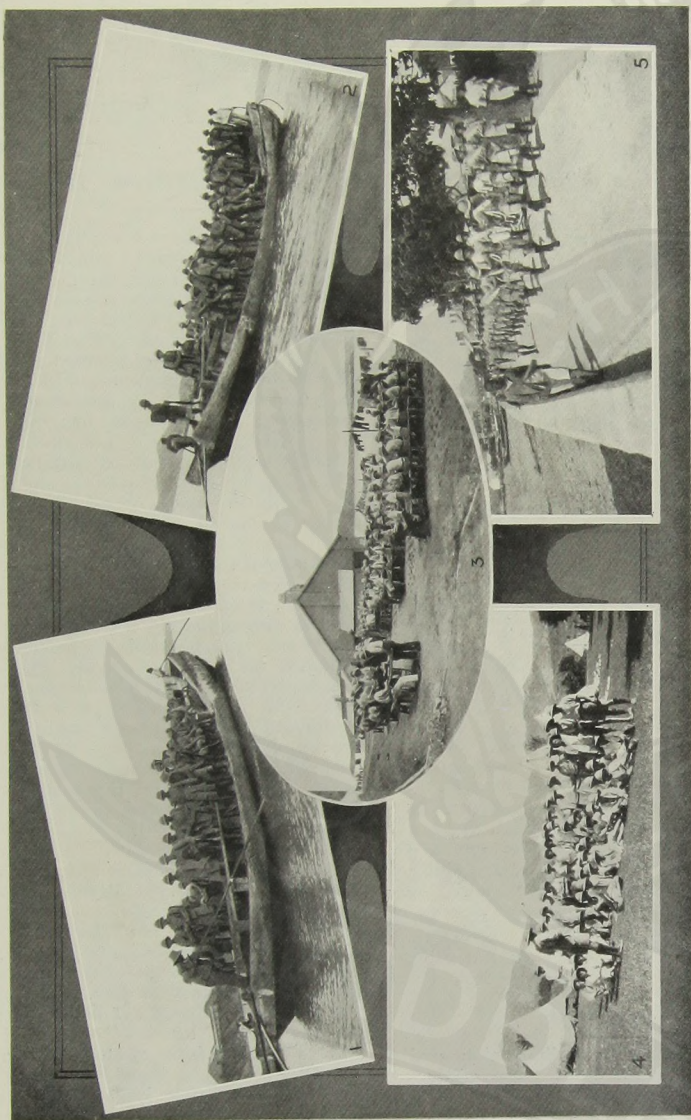
1st Battalion Notes
SEPTEMBER, 1927.*

IN a land where war is raging, and Generals and Armies are fluctuating from side to side, where the tael and the dollar are mightier than the sword, where Marshal Chang Tso Lin has for the moment outwitted Chiang Kai Shek, the 1st Battalion continues quietly to carry out peace-time training, like Galeo, caring for none of these things except the momentous but unknown date of our release from China.

Early in June, when the Battalion was still occupying forward posts in the slums of Shanghai, there came news that General Duncan had selected the 57th Foot, having the best efficiency record in the whole of the Shanghai Defence Force, to proceed to the seaside resort of Wei-Hai-Wei, thus relieving the military congestion during the hot weather. Shortly afterwards, the forward companies were brought back into reserve, and the remainder of our days in Shanghai were devoted to packing. This move brought us into the North China Command, and proved the correctness of that platitude concerning the world's dimensions, as we came once again under the command of our late Colonel, Col.-Cmdt. R. M. Heath, C.M.G., D.S.O.

On June 22nd, the Battalion embarked on H.M.T. *Herminius*, and, after a smooth passage of two days, arrived at Wei-Hai-Wei, to find a very difficult task awaiting it. The *Herminius* was unable to approach within half a mile of the shore. Wei-Hai-Wei, possessing no sort of dock or pier, disembarkation had to be carried out in "lighters." As the term "lighters" may call up visions of some form of steam or motor-propelled barge, it should be explained that they are merely large sampans pro-

* These notes should have appeared in our last issue, but they were delayed in the post.—(Ed.)



1.—Disembarkation from H.M.T. *Herminius* on Arrival.
 2.—Disembarkation from H.M.T. *Herminius* on Arrival, Wei-Hai-Wei.
 3.—Dining Hall, Albuhera Barracks, Wei-Hai-Wei.
 4.—"A" Company's March, Wei-Hai-Wei. The Camp.
 5.—Route March. The Drums.

pelled by two perspiring Chinamen, each wielding a kind of oar, in a waggly motion, to the side and the rear of the sampan. This form of propulsion is known as "yuloing," and, as more than one adventurous spirit has discovered whilst he drifted helplessly with the tide, it is not as easy as it looks. Each of these could carry only fifty men, with the result that the disembarkation of the whole Battalion and stores took four days to complete, and it might have been longer, had not assistance, in the form of a naval tug, come to tow the sampans when, disliking the rough sea, the Chinamen had struck work.

It was known before we left Shanghai that, whilst the Convalescent Depot would be accommodated in barracks, the Battalion would inhabit the "Coolie" Camp. Needless to say, there were many conjectures as to what a coolie camp was like. The occupation of a camp built for coolies collected for work in the mines of Africa and again to fill the Chinese Labour Corps in the war, did not sound very enchanting. Actually, the camp is far less unpleasant than it might have been. It consists of several long concrete huts, holding about a hundred men each, with two wide shelves down each wall, and a double row down the centre of the hut. Presumably, the coolies slept on the top and the bottom, but, as the top shelf gets all the air and the bottom one all the dust from above, it was decided to use the top one for living in, and the bottom one for equipment and kit. Even during the hottest weather, these huts were not unduly hot, and, compared with the suffocating heat in the officers' tents on a hill a mile away, they were even cool. The Coolie Camp has since been renamed Albuhera Barracks.

On arrival at Wei-Hai-Wei, Lieut.-Col. W. A. Stewart was appointed O.C. Troops, which brought the large and newly-formed Convalescent Depot under his command. Lieut. I. D. S. Gordon was appointed Garrison Adjutant, and Lieut. J. E. Dobbs, M.C., and Lieut. J. H. Clowes became Camp Adjutant and Sports Officer respectively of the Convalescent Depot.

There is a very mixed consensus of opinion concerning the popularity as a station of Wei-Hai-Wei; the fine bathing and complete peacefulness of this corner

of paradise being counter-balanced by the barrenness and the lack of more material comforts such as pavements and cinemas. However, the Y.M.C.A., nobly aided by the British civilian population, produces weekly concerts and dances, and it is generally realized that, dull or not, Wei-Hai-Wei is a far, far better place than Shanghai in July, as a comparison between our own browned persons and the pallid arrivals from Shanghai easily proves. In addition, the canteen, both in efficiency and reasonableness, is far in advance of the average.

As soon as we had settled down, a route march, at full strength, was undertaken to impress the local Chinese, who had never seen British troops in any numbers before. H.H. the Commissioner had arranged to take the salute in the centre of the town, but unfortunately his pony had not been trained for parade duties. At the approach of the drums, the pony shied and bolted, and the Commissioner was forced to take the salute of the leading companies from a recumbent position in the gutter. British prestige, however, did not suffer, as the yellow spectators, whose brains invariably work backwards, understood this evolution to be the normal procedure. H.H. the Commissioner still remains one of our best friends.

The month of July was marred by the outbreak of sixteen cases of enteric fever among the Battalion, as a result of which, to the regret of all ranks, No. 6195719 Pte. S. Sewell, of "B" Company, died on July 24th. The remainder, we are glad to say, are well on the way to recovery.

The arrival of H.M.T. *Assaye* on July 23rd with the first batch of convalescents caused a rift within the lute, as "B" and "C" Companies and the Drums had, at two days' notice, to return to the sweltering heat of Shanghai, in order to allow all regiments to send up small "change-of-air" parties.

From this detachment, we have received the bad news of the deaths of No. 6447217 Pte. A. Gosling and No. 5563216 L./Cpl. A. Cleal from sleeping sickness and pneumonia.

Capt. G. H. C. Pennycook, O.B.E., has left us, on accelerated promotion, for the Cheshire Regiment. Whilst offering him our heartiest congratulations, we feel that

his departure is a heavy loss to the Battalion. It was largely due to his energy, enterprise and organizing powers that our unique sports record at Aldershot was set up and maintained. In the difficult period to come on our return to the wastes of Catterick, with only the smallest nucleus of our teams available to build upon, we can ill afford to be without his experience and enthusiasm. We realize that our loss is the Cheshire Regiment's very material gain.

We congratulate Capt. W. L. Roberts, M.C., on his promotion: he is at present seconded on the staff of the Shanghai Defence Force.

Apart from the loss of Capt. Pennycook, the Battalion has, during the last two months, lost an enormous amount of weight. Firstly, 2/Lieut. J. D. Clinch left us on the dockside at Shanghai to return to old Ireland and the more stationary occupation of civilian life. With him departed thirteen Rugby international caps, and 14 stone of muscular sportsman. Secondly, Lieut. J. Tait and Lieut. F. E. Bostock, soon after our arrival in Wei-Hai-Wei, attempted to board a local coasting steamer, with a view to return, via Shanghai, to England and a less roving existence. A book might be written upon the departure of these two, but we have only space to say that, after many vicissitudes, Lieut. Tait arrived, dripping but determined, on board the ss. *Fausang*, and ensconced himself firmly thereon in the small hours of the night; whilst Lieut. Bostock—the prospect of so much additional weight presumably being too much for the master of the ship—returned to shore in a jumble of innovation trunks, hat-boxes, and presents for people at home from various members of the Battalion, to pass the remainder of the night as best he could, and away by the next steamer. Another thirty stone! In our reduced state, we wish them all the best of luck, and that their shadows may never grow less.

2/Lieut. Clinch, who is probably one of the finest water-polo players in the world, won, with great ease, the hundred yards international swimming race at the Shanghai Swimming Club on his last night with the Battalion.

Just before these notes leave on their 12,000-mile journey to the Editor, the bulk of the 1st Bedfordshire and Hert-

fordshire Regiment arrived to swell the garrison of Wei-Hai-Wei. Like ourselves, they seem to be accompanied by torrents of rain when changing station. For lack of space, they are camping in ridges round our lines, and are to use our messes and institutes. The 16th Foot lay near us at Aldershot in 1924 and 1925, and are therefore old friends. We hope that in spite of a somewhat uncomfortable perch on the hill-side they will find Wei-Hai-Wei as pleasant as those of us who are not cinema "fans" do.

Life ahead of us appears uncertain, as have been the movements of the 57th since August, 1924. We seem to be copying the Wandering Jew, who complained:

"Endless I tread my weary way
For aye, for aye."

At any rate, we cannot complain that the authorities allow us to grow stale by too long a sojourn in a station. We expect to be at Wei-Hai-Wei until late in October—and then—where? "England," says the optimist. "Two years in China, with a visit to Nanking," retorts the pessimist.

Your correspondent has just seen the Commanding Officer, but found him in a non-committal mood—so that's that!

Major Pargiter, D.S.O., who met with a very distressing accident in a lift at a Hong-Kong hotel, has, after several months in hospital there, been invalided to England. He has suffered a partial fracture of the spine, but will, we are glad to hear, be able to rejoin in six months' time.

Major Bennett, M.C., has vacated the staff appointment of G.S.O.2, North China, after four years. He has been posted to the 1st Battalion, but, as he has been granted eight months' leave, we shall not see him for some time.

Major Sloane-Stanley, who has been on sick leave for over a year, has now been attached for duty at the Depot, and will, we hope, join the Battalion in the autumn. Lieut.-Col. Pearson, D.S.O., has been the only substantive Major to serve with the Battalion since the retirement of Major Dundas, O.B.E., in 1926.

C.S.M. Cook, D.C.M., is now Acting Regimental Sergeant-Major at the Convalescent Depot, Wei-Hai-Wei, where he has met many of the young officers who,

as gentlemen cadets at the Royal Military College, benefited from his drill "dressings down." To judge from the excellent manner in which they renewed his acquaintance, they bear him no ill-will.

A number of our old friends of the 2nd Bn. Coldstream Guards have been attached to the Battalion for "fresh air" at Wei-Hai-Wei. With the memory of Aldershot days still strong, we are glad to hear that they feel the attachment is like a home from home.

Our church parade services, held in a glade of trees running down to the sea, are immensely popular with the small civilian population of Wei-Hai-Wei. The oldest inhabitant has been heard to declare that people who never went to church before attended every service since the soldiers came.

For some time, there have been rumours of children being carried off by wolves from the neighbourhood of Wei-Hai-Wei. The presence of wolves in summer being unheard of before, many sportsmen were sceptical. However, the doubt has been ended by the killing of a wolf in the act of attacking a pig. This particular wolf is of an unusual character, being small and not unlike a large jackal. It is said to be one of eight which are now disturbing the villages near Wei-Hai-Wei.

CRICKET.

Very few games could be played in Shanghai, owing to the great lack of even passable grounds available. As far as we were concerned, this was doubly unfortunate, as we had probably the strongest team we have had for many a long year, Capt. Lyon, Lieut. Hudson, Sergt.-Dmr. Palmer, Cpl. Flint, and L./Cpl. Read having joined the Battalion since last season, the two last named being reservists from the 2nd Battalion and the Essex Regiment respectively.

A few scratch games were played on very indifferent grounds and dangerous wickets, which are not worth recording, the only games of note being those against the Police and the Recreation Club.

The following played in friendly games for the Shanghai Defence Force against the Shanghai Cricket Club:—

Capt. Lyons, M.C., Capt. Phillips, M.C., Lieut. J. H. Clowes, Lieut.

E. V. H. Hudson, and Lieut. J. R. B. Worton.

Sergt.-Dmr. Palmer also played some useful innings for the Shanghai Recreation Club.

1ST BN. MIDDLESEX REGIMENT v.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

On May 22nd, we played the Police on their ground, and easily defeated them. Baker of the Police played a splendid innings for his 64 not out, but very little trouble was experienced in dismissing the others. We were all very pleased to see Sergt. Boddy again, who left us in Cologne (Lance-Corporal of "A" Company), and to hear he has done so extremely well in his new career, having got accelerated promotion to Sergeant in three years. Sergt. Kennett, however, had no mercy on his late "companion-in-crime," and widely shattered his hopes and wicket with his second ball.

Scores:—

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

Barton c Kennett b Hudson	...	...	...	1
Stephenson lbw b Hudson	...	...	...	10
Baker not out	...	...	...	64
Crookdale b Kennett	...	...	...	1
Boddy b Kennett	...	...	...	3
Ford b Kennett	...	...	...	9
Watson c O'Brien b Kennett	...	...	...	7
Bastin c Hudson b O'Brien	...	...	...	1
Samson c Goulden b Hudson	...	...	...	8
Powell b Hudson	...	...	...	0
Hurry st b Hudson	...	...	...	0
Extras	...	...	...	9

Total 113

Bowling.—Kennett 4 for 34; Hudson 5 for 31; O'Brien 1 for 27.

1ST BN. MIDDLESEX REGIMENT.

Sergt. Northcott c Watson b Boddy	...	...	...	7
Lieut. Worton c Samson b Baker	...	...	...	77
Cpl. Flint run out	...	...	...	28
Lieut. Hudson c Watson b Ford	...	...	...	3
Sergt.-Dmr. Palmer c Boddy b Barton	...	...	...	29
Capt. Phillips run out	...	...	...	21
Lieut. Clowes not out	...	...	...	32
Lieut. Goulden not out	...	...	...	10
Extras	...	...	...	27

Total (for six wickets) 234

Capt. Procter, Sergt. Kennett and Sergt. O'Brien did not bat.

1ST BN. MIDDLESEX REGIMENT v.

SHANGHAI RECREATION CLUB.

On June 11th, we played the Recreation Club on their ground. Batting first, we compiled the moderate score of 152, and at one time, when the "Recs" had scored 70 for the loss of only one wicket, and

with H. B. Ollendessen, who is considered to be one of the best, if not the best, bats in Shanghai, still at the wicket, the situation did not appear too cheerful. However, a rising ball from Kennett and a good catch in the slips by Lyon completely altered the outlook, and the remainder of the side were dismissed for the addition of 50 runs. Kennett bowled splendidly, getting 6 wickets for 18. Hudson, although his figures were not so good, also bowled well. L./Cpl. Read was good behind the wicket—16 of the 20 byes being the result of swinging balls from Kennett, all of which grazed to leg after pitching well outside the off stump, and, "keeping" to Kennett for the first time, he was beaten as completely as the batsmen.

Thus the Recreation Club suffered their first defeat of the season, and, as they are considered the best club in Shanghai, having got the better of the Shanghai Cricket Club for the last few years, we were especially pleased.

Scores:—

1ST BN. MIDDLESEX REGIMENT.	
Lieut. Worton c Wilson b Thompson	13
Lieut. Clowes c Smith b Wilson	31
Lieut. Hudson b C. Ollendessen	45
Sergt.-Dmr. Palmer c C. Ollendessen b Wilson	16
Capt. Lyon c Madon b C. Ollendessen	9
Sergt. Northcott b C. Ollendessen	1
Capt. Phillips c Brandt b Thompson	7
L./Cpl. Read st b Thompson	25
Capt. Paul c Madon b C. Ollendessen	1
Sergt. Kennett c Madon b C. Ollendessen	0
Sergt. O'Brien not out	0
Extras	4
Total	152

SHANGHAI RECREATION CLUB.	
H. B. Ollendessen c Lyon b Kennett	53
P. Madon b Hudson	3
Smith b Kennett	11
T. Madon b Kennett	22
G. Madon b Kennett	0
Manley b Kennett	2
Wilson b Kennett	7
Brandt c Paul b Hudson	0
C. Ollendessen c Paul b Kennett	5
Mansell c Read b Hudson	0
Thompson not out	0
Extras	21
Total	124

Bowling.—Kennett 6 for 18; Hudson 4 for 57.

OFFICERS, MIDDLESEX REGIMENT v.

OFFICERS, H.M.S. "AMBROSE."

This match between two teams of officers was played on the Officers' Cricket

Ground at Wei-Hai-Wei on July 4th, and, after a very pleasant game, the soldiers won. The outstanding feature of the Middlesex innings was a bright first-wicket partnership by Lieuts. Worton and Clowes, 138 being put on the board before they were separated. Hard hitting and very fast scoring resulted in 299 being put on the board in two hours. For the Navy team, Lieut. Palairret and the Rev. Venn were the outstanding batsmen, the latter putting up a stubborn resistance to the bowling.

Scores:—

OFFICERS, MIDDLESEX REGIMENT.	
Lieut. J. R. B. Worton c Venn b Norris	59
Lieut. J. H. Clowes b Love	79
Lieut. E. V. H. Hudson c Venn b Love	21
Capt. N. H. B. Lyon c Love b Waters	4
Capt. H. R. Phillips b Palairret	38
Capt. H. W. M. Paul c Venn b Duff	9
Capt. S. F. W. M. del Court b Palairret	16
Lieut. M. Crawford st Venn b Palairret	2
Capt. J. English b Palairret	0
Lieut. G. A. Goulden not out	28
Capt. E. F. Lyons b Palairret	19
Extras	24
Total	299

OFFICERS, H.M.S. "AMBROSE."	
Lieut. Palairret b Hudson	38
Lieut. Love b Phillips	14
Lieut. Charsley b Phillips	1
Rev. Venn not out	92
Lieut. Spencer c Paul b Hudson	19
Cmdr. Herbert run out	2
Lieut. Gordon Duff c Lyon b Hudson	26
Lieut. Cmdr. Tanner c Goulden b Phillips	0
Cmdr. Poland st Lyon b Hudson	12
Lieut. Waters b Phillips	1
Lieut. Lushington b Phillips	2
Extras	18
Total	228

1ST BN. MIDDLESEX REGIMENT v. ROYAL NAVY (FIRST MATCH).

This match was played on July 9th under a very hot sun; nevertheless, a fast-scoring and enjoyable game was witnessed. The Army team won the toss, and batted first. Runs came slowly at first, three wickets being lost for 53 runs. Sergt.-Dmr. Palmer and Capt. Lyon then mastered the bowling, which had been very good for some time. Palmer was bowled by a "freak" ball, but Capt. Lyon went on to complete a very hard-hit innings of 91 before being bowled by Norris. Capt. Paul hit a useful 26 towards the close of the innings, including a fine drive over the boundary

over mid-off's head. The innings closed for 226.

Lieut. MacNair and Lieut. Palairret opened the Navy's innings, but the former was soon bowled by Lieut. Hudson. The latter, however, batted right through his side's innings for 69, being eventually run out. Lieut.-Cmdr. Armitage played a very bright innings of 35, which included some fine hits. The Rev. Venn and Lieuts. St. Quentin and Majindie put up a resistance at the latter part of the innings, which caused a certain anxiety to the Army supporters, but eventually the end came, leaving the Regiment winners by 31 runs.

The Band of the Battalion played an excellent programme of popular music during the afternoon, thereby helping to make the occasion a very enjoyable one for the several spectators who had arrived to support their respective Services.

Scores:—

1ST BN. MIDDLESEX REGIMENT.	
Lieut. J. R. B. Worton b Thompson	27
Lieut. J. H. Clowes c Cecil b Norris	11
Lieut. E. V. Hudson b Norris	6
Sergt.-Dmr. Palmer b Pugh	25
Capt. N. H. B. Lyon b Norris	91
Cpl. Flint c Venn b Pugh	0
Capt. H. Phillips c Venn b Armitage	7
Capt. N. P. Procter b Norris	2
Capt. H. W. M. Paul b Thompson	26
Sergt. Kennett b Norris	6
Sergt. O'Brien not out	2
Extras	23
Total	226

ROYAL NAVY.	
Lieut. MacNair b Hudson	9
Lieut. Palairret run out	69
Lieut. Pugh b Kennett	14
Lieut. Love c and b Hudson	1
Lieut.-Cmdr. Armitage b Kennett	35
Rev. Venn b Hudson	18
Lieut. Cecil lbw b Kennett	1
Lieut. Majindie st Flint b Hudson	12
Lieut.-Cmdr. Thompson c O'Brien b Hudson	0
Lieut. St. Quentin not out	14
Lieut. Norris b Kennett	1
Extras	21
Total	195

1ST BN MIDDLESEX REGIMENT v. ROYAL NAVY (SECOND MATCH).

On July 16th, the Navy tried to wipe out the defeat of the previous week, but again the Regiment was just too strong. The weather on this occasion was very different, a high wind and a light drizzle continuing all day. This did not, however, damp the spirits of the teams, who played from 11.30 in the morning till 6.15

in the evening, during which time 522 runs were scored.

The Regiment again won the toss, and elected to bat first. They collected 300 runs in three hours before the last wicket fell. For this they were chiefly indebted to Sergt.-Dmr. Palmer and Capt. Lyon, who, during the course of a fine partnership, put on 115 runs before Palmer was bowled for 81. Lieut. Hudson made a quick 42, and Capt. Phillips and Lieut. Goulden also made a useful stand.

For the Navy, Thompson bowled almost without a change, and his five wickets were well deserved.

The Navy started badly, losing Chevallier almost at once, but their next three batsmen carried their score into three figures. Lieut. Palairret played another useful innings of 40, and Mr. Bayldon gave him good support with a score of 30. Later in the innings, the Rev. Venn and Mr. Price were associated in a partnership that carried the Naval total on far towards the formidable score put up by the soldiers, but Mr. Price's dismissal off Palmer's first ball saw the end of the Navy's hopes.

It was a fine match, played with great keenness. The weather prevented the Middlesex Band from crossing the water, and also caused a total lack of spectators, which was unfortunate.

Scores:—

1ST BN. MIDDLESEX REGIMENT.	
Lieut. J. R. B. Worton b Thompson	4
Lieut. J. H. Clowes c Armitage b Norris	5
Lieut. E. V. Hudson c Armitage b Thompson	42
Sergt.-Dmr. Palmer b Thompson	81
Capt. N. H. B. Lyon lbw b Pugh	79
Capt. H. Phillips b Hull	34
Lieut. G. A. Goulden b Thompson	28
Capt. N. P. Procter c Venn b Hull	0
L./Cpl. Ward c Armitage b Thompson	4
Sergt. Kennett b Hull	12
Sergt. O'Brien not out	4
Extras	7
Total	300

ROYAL NAVY.	
Lieut. Chevallier c Lyon b Kennett	1
Mr. Bayldon b O'Brien	30
Lieut. Pugh b Hudson	11
Lieut. Palairret c Goulden b O'Brien	40
Lieut.-Cmdr. Armitage c Hudson b O'Brien	13
Cmdr. Hull b Hudson	1
Rev. Venn not out	43
Mr. Price c Lyon b Palmer	33
Mr. Villiers b O'Brien	1
Lieut. Norris b Palmer	0
Lieut.-Cmdr. Thompson lbw b O'Brien	4
Extras	45
Total	222

HOCKEY.

1ST BN. THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT *v.*
ROYAL NAVY.

On July 6th, a very fast match was played on the Officers' Hockey Ground between these two teams representing their respective Services. The Middlesex led by 3-1 in the first half, and increased their lead to 4-1 early in the second half. From this point, the Navy steadily became superior, their forward line becoming very much more effective when Lieut. Fleet came in from the wing position to inside left. They gradually reduced the Army lead, and scored their fourth goal to equalize on the stroke of time. The Middlesex goals were scored by Lieut. Hudson (2), Sergt.-Dmr. Palmer and Cpl. Flint. Lieuts. Fleet and Cecil scored the Navy's goals.

Result: Draw, 4-4.

1ST BN. MIDDLESEX REGIMENT *v.*
H.M.S. "ARGUS."

Played on July 13th; this proved a very fast and good game. The Navy scored two goals before half-time, through their centre and inside forwards, Lieuts. Majindie and Cecil. The Middlesex equalized in the second half, Lieut. Hudson scoring twice, and Sergt. O'Brien put the Regiment ahead with a third. In the last minute, however, the Navy scored the equalizing goal, making a very fine result, three-all.

1ST BN. MIDDLESEX REGIMENT *v.*
ATTACHED DETAILS.

On August 17th, the Battalion, less its representatives from "B" and "C" Companies and the Drums, played the Attached Details. The latter had quite a strong team, and a good game ended in a narrow victory for them. Lieut. Senior, who has played for the Army at home, was a tower of strength, and was well supported both at back and by his inside forwards. The Battalion was a little disjointed, as might be expected from an entirely new combination. This was chiefly noticeable in the forward line. Pte. Churchill at back and L./Cpl. Atteridge at right half got through a great deal of work.

1ST BN. MIDDLESEX REGIMENT *v.*
H.M.S. "AMBROSE."

On August 19th, the Battalion played H.M.S. *Ambrose*. The team was to have been a combined one of the Battalion and the Details, but the unexpectedly early embarkation of the latter necessitated a hurried change, and in the end the team to take the field was practically the same as for the previous game. Having benefited by the experience of that game, they were much more together, and, although the *Ambrose* were at full strength, the Battalion had most of a fast game, and it was only a short while before the end that their lead of a goal was lost, the game ending in a draw. Again the defence was the real strength of the Battalion side and, working well together, gave few chances to the opposing forwards.

SERGEANTS' MESS.

"Pale hands I loved," runs a very fine lyric, and certainly they have been loved, but—beneath the Shanghai moon. At any rate, this is the information I have been given.

We are now well accustomed to the "glamour" of the East, and so do not now take a great deal of interest in the local happenings. Our Mess was broken up whilst we were in Shanghai, and each company had its own little show. On account of this, very few remarks can be made. There is every opportunity for enjoyment in Shanghai—at all hours—and so no Mess functions were run.

At the time of writing, we are in Wei-Hai-Wei, and things are, from the Mess point of view, more general. Here we have all the companies together.

Several good times have been spent at the tennis courts and on the island. On the 23rd of this month (August) we are holding a dance, and the "news" of this will be in the next issue.

We live, at present, on rumours (*Note by members.*—Bring this to the notice of the Messing Committee) as to how and when we are going to return to England. I believe the Band are two in hand and one to play.

Even since these notes were commenced an alteration has taken place, and the members of "B" and "C" Companies have gone to Shanghai again.

We have now a number of Sergeants of other units with us for short periods. In fact, we are a very cosmopolitan crowd.

Picnics have been the order of the day for several of the members, and *moon-light bathing* (?) is quite common.

Although we are pleased to be out East with the 1st Battalion, yet we shall be very glad to return home and become settled again.

Best wishes to all "Middies" of the Sergeants' Mess, whether at home or abroad.

BAND.

Soon after our last notes were published, we took part in the Tattoo, which was held at Shanghai on June 3rd and 4th. It was a great success, as nothing like it had been seen in that city before, and, speaking for ourselves, we enjoyed it as much as the spectators.

For the next fortnight, we carried on with playing out at several places, including a massed farewell programme with the 1st Bn. Border Regiment's band at the Carlton Theatre.

As the move to Wei-Hai-Wei will be recorded elsewhere, we will skip that, and give a short account of our doings here.

Being so near the sea has afforded splendid opportunities to improve our swimming. Already several non-swimmers of a few weeks ago have gained their caps. We hope for more before we leave. In the Aquatic Sports, we put up creditable shows, and, at the time of writing, a water-polo league is in progress. Our team is very young at the game, but enthusiastic, so we expect great things of them.

Since our arrival here, we have played at the Governor's House twice, and to the troops very often. Of course, we miss our Shanghai engagements a great deal.

In closing, we would like to offer our deepest sympathy to the relatives and friends of the late Dmr. Gosling in their very sad bereavement.

"A" COMPANY.

The beginning of June found us billeted under canvas in Hongkew Park, a delightful spot in the Japanese Settlement. Needless to say, everyone fully

appreciated the change in our surroundings, after doing a month's tour of duty in the dirty Soochow Creek area.

Whilst in our new billet, we made full use of the local swimming baths, also of the football field in Hongkew Park. We met and defeated a team from H.M.S. *Hawkins*, afterwards entertaining them to tea, and finally having to show them the way to go home. Everybody agreed that the sailors were a jolly good sort, and that they were ably led by "Young Buzz," he being the brother of the "Old Buzz." But, alas, these joys were not to last, as the middle of June found us, with the rest of the Battalion, on board the *Herminius*, sailing for Wei-Hai-Wei.

On our arrival at Wei-Hai-Wei, the Sports Committee was immediately formed, and it was not long before competitions were running in various forms of sport. A quoit competition was played off, and won by Pte. Gooch, with Pte. Jeans a close runner-up. Our Swimming Sports were held successfully in the cool of the evening, under the able guidance of our O.C. and C.S.M. Darby.

Various races were swum off, the winners being:—

Plunging.—Cpl. Hull.

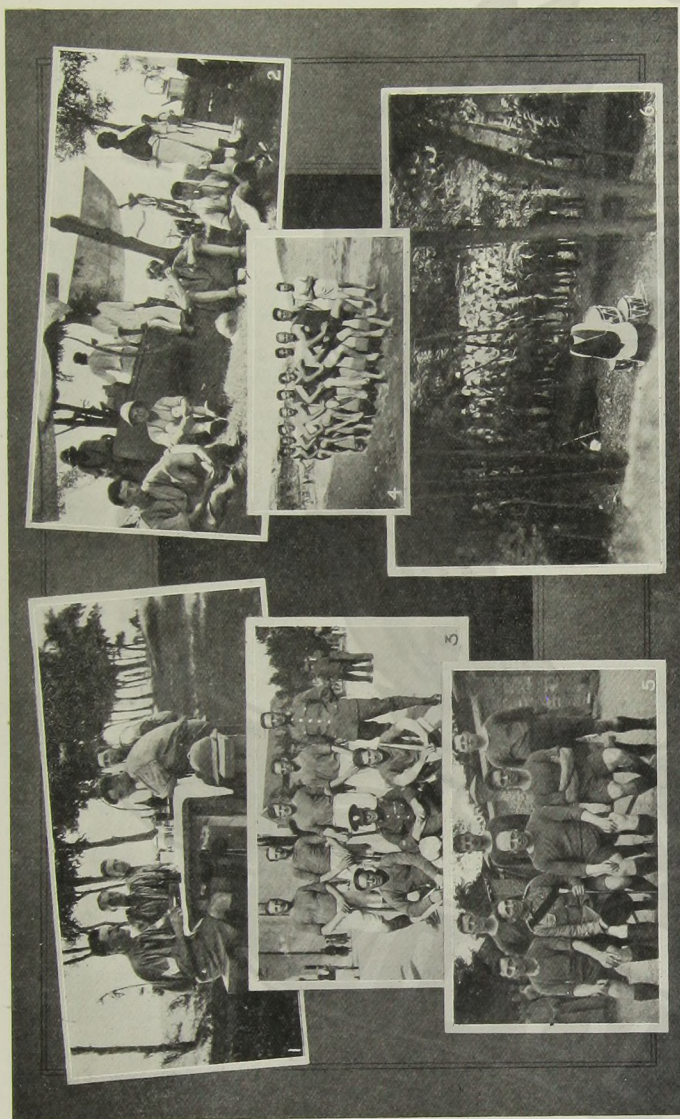
Quarter-mile.—Pte. Cox 93.

Life Saving.—Ptes. Parrish and Dorey.

No. 4 Platoon won the Inter-Platoon Relay, with No. 3 Platoon a close second. A very pleasant evening was passed, although at one period the judges and umpire thought they were booked for a wet shirt, when "Busty" dived off a sampan.

The middle of July found "B" and "C" Companies on board the *Herminius*, making their way back to Shanghai, while our Company did a four days' march through British territory. The weather was very hot when we did our march, and, of course, it made things very trying, and, although nobody fell out, we were very glad when it was over. We are still at Wei-Hai-Wei, and, although life is very monotonous here, we prefer to be here than in Shanghai, where the health reports seem very bad.

In conclusion, we wish to congratulate T./C.S.M. Darby on his promotion, and wish him the best of luck. We regret to say that we have lost the services of 2/Lieut. J. D. Clinch, who has gone to



1.—"A" Company's March, Wei-Hai-Wei. The Cantec.

2.—"A" Company's March, Wei-Hai-Wei, 1927.

3.—No. 14 Platoon, "D" Company Team.

4.—M.G. Follies, Wei-Hai-Wei, 1927.

5.—"D" Company Team.

6.—Church Parade. The Glade, Wei-Hai-Wei.

7.—"D" Company Team.

8.—"D" Company Team.

civilian life. We wish him the best of luck. No more will we hear that stirring battle-cry of "Come on, Joe!" He was a great sportsman, and his loss is keenly felt.

We send out our greetings to all other companies of the Middlesex Regiment, and wish them the best of luck.

"B" COMPANY.

Yet another move has to be recorded in our diaries, for, on June 20th, we embarked on the transport *Herminius* for Wei-Hai-Wei. After three days' uneventful journey, we steamed in and anchored some eight hundred yards from the shore. Our thoughts at once turned to how we were going to land, but these were soon put at rest by the arrival of the now famous sampans, which carried us and our baggage to the sandy beach. A score of small carts became busy on the baggage, and we were soon settled down in our new station at the Coolie Camp.

Fishing tackle by the mile and bathing costumes in many varying hues were a daily sight, although it must not be thought by this that our training was being neglected. P.T., route marches, and the proverbial "T.O.E.T." came before breakfast.

Sport also had its place in the daily routine, water polo and football being well to the fore, the Navy being more than once our opponents.

Alas, our stay came to a speedy end, for, after five weeks, orders were received that "B" and "C" Companies and the Drums were to return to Shanghai on the transport *Assaye*, which had brought the first batch of convalescents to the Convalescent Depot.

Since our return to Shanghai, we have taken up our quarters in the Public School for Boys at Hongkew, where we are still busily training. Football and water polo still hold the premier place in sports, matches having been played with "C" Company and the Navy, a team visiting us from H.M.S. *Kiavo*.

It is with sincerest regret we record the loss of one of our number at Wei-Hai-Wei, Pte. S. E. Sewell, who died in hospital from enteric fever. Our deepest sympathy is expressed to his relatives in their sad bereavement.

"C" COMPANY.

Since our last appearance in print, the pending move to Wei-Hai-Wei has materialized. In boxes marked with lashings of red paint, all our goods and chattels were transferred to the S. & H. Wharf, and from thence to H.M.T. *Herminius*. Our departure took place in the usual fashion, accompanied by rain, and in consequence the quayside was nearly deserted. Our journey was uneventful, and was much more comfortable than our cramped quarters on the *Karmala*, but landing provided events more than sufficient. The mainland at Wei-Hai-Wei had no facilities for docking, so that we anchored out in the bay, and arrangements were made for unloading into large barge-like sampans. By this time, we had fully prepared for the loss of C.Q.M.S. Goodall and Sergt. Horrex, who, together with a few other ranks, were going to the staff of the Convalescent Depot as Company Quartermaster-Sergeant and Provost Sergeant respectively.

"C" Company were detailed to remain behind for unloading. The unloading party recommenced the following day (most of the light baggage having gone ashore), and we started on the holds with gusto. Everything seemed to be going along all right, when it was noticed that the first sampan to leave—on board which was L./Cpl. Hammerton as guard (and with \$5 of the boys' money for "gaspers")—had drifted dangerously near the rocks, and only heavy anchors saved it from going farther. Fortunately, we were assured that the flat-bottomed sampans very rarely overturn, and heavy seas only rock them; nevertheless, our erstwhile mariner told us (after he had fully recovered) that he stood by with his boots round his neck for nearly two hours. This, coupled with the heavy buffeting the sampans were getting whilst alongside, stopped loading for the day. The tide also prevented soldiers' friends from coming aboard, so that the Wei-Hai-Wei waters started on the debit side.

Eventually, on the following day, we cleared the ship, and went ashore in little parties to our new quarters. An hour after our arrival, the Acting Company Quartermaster-Sergeant (Sergt. Sadler) started his duties in that sorely-tried rank

by issuing mosquito curtains (a much-needed want), palliasses, bowls, lamps, etc. Eventually, we settled down to a definite training scheme, of which the route march was the most pleasant issue; in fact, it would have been most enjoyable if Wei-Hai-Wei's only road had not passed through that "Valley of Smells."

The mainland, on investigation, proved to be just that—"Mainlyland"—consisting of a Chinese walled city and a few shops on the water-front near the ferry. The island, which was run by the Navy, was quite a decent place, with a number of sports grounds, and it was not long before we had some sports fixtures with the various ships. Owing to enteric, however, the island became out of bounds, and so curtailed our programme. Fishing and competitions for hundred yards' certificates began to attract attention, but the coming of water polo overshadowed these.

The re-forming of "H.Q." Wing, so that the serving soldiers might be the main factor in the Signals and Machine Gunners, took quite a number of our young soldiers and some of the last draft. We believe they are happy in their new callings, but many were the sighs of relief when some went, because the wagging of flags and the hum of the buzzer, although denoting enthusiasm, also kept many a blinking eyelid open in the small hours of the afternoon, and caused one Lance-Corporal to be vocally confined to a hotter place than Wei-Hai-Wei.

Sudden move orders had us packing to Shanghai just as we were preparing for a four days' trek across country. "B" and "C" Companies were chosen with the Drums for detachment, and, after some paddling round in marching order, we managed to board the sampans, and we tugged across to H.M.T. Assaye. The boat was not due to leave until the next morning, and, whilst all on board were watching with envy the efforts of the remainder of the Battalion in the water near the shore, an order came through that we could swim from the ship's side at 6 p.m., and many were the good dives from the boat deck. However, all good things come to an end, and we retired to our new quarters. The Assaye was certainly very comfortable,

and the journey was the most pleasant we have yet experienced. During the journey, arrangements had to be made for the detachment staff, which further depleted our ranks, Lieut. Hudson and C.S.M. Goodall being appointed Adjutant and Acting Regimental Sergeant-Major of the Detachment respectively, so that the duties of the Acting Company Sergeant-Major fell on Sergt. Kennett.

On our arrival in Shanghai, our new billets proved to be quite as good as our previous Shanghai billets, only in a different area. Whilst the beds are still of the collapsible type, they are not quite so anæmic in appearance, and, up to the present, we have had no cases of collapse.

The Company are once again training, and, although the opportunities for sport have been few, we are braving the waters of vaseline and Hongkew ears in an attempt to prove that "C" really can play water polo.

SPORT.

At cricket, our most important fixture with H.M.S. *Carlisle* resulted in a win for "C." Scores: "C" Company, 158 (Anderson 37, L./Cpl. Ward 28); H.M.S. *Carlisle*, 85 (L./Sergt. O'Brien 6 for 14).

A fishing competition was held for the largest fish, and the most fish caught. Sergt. O'Brien caught the largest, whilst, just when it looked as if No. 10 Platoon had won the largest-number prize, two members of No. 9 (unchaperoned) strolled in, to give No. 9 Platoon the victory. It was a Chinese defeat.

At football, our efforts against "D" Company (draw, 2—2) were not assisted by the new ball, which was undecided whether to be a soccer or rugby ball, and finished half-way. But it was an enjoyable game, and gave us the chance to try out our latest arrivals from "H.Q." Wing.

Water polo has been the chief attraction. "B" Company "dived" before us, 3—0; whilst "D" Company (1—1) and "H.Q." Wing (2—2) shared honours. The result of the inter-platoon competition resulted in a win for No. 10 Platoon by 5 goals to 0.

Scores:—

No. 9 Platoon, 0; No. 10 Platoon, 3.
No. 11 Platoon, 4; No. 12 Platoon, 1.

Final:—

No. 10 Platoon, 5; No. 11 Platoon, 0.

"D" COMPANY.

As far as one can remember, our previous notes concluded just before the King's Birthday Parade at Shanghai; therefore, before making any reference to our last move, it would be impossible to allow that auspicious occasion to pass without congratulating the representatives of "D" Company on their excellent turn-out and drill which thrilled the inhabitants east of Suez. No. 2 Company was found from "C" and "D" Companies, under Capt. Paul.

After spending many happy days at Shanghai, mostly at the Ellis Kadoorie School, we were ordered to proceed to Wei-Hai-Wei, a small seaside resort in North China. (Please do not compare it with Southend.)

On June 20th, we embarked on H.M.T. *Herminius* in a heavy downpour of rain. It is interesting to note that, during every move to a new station or billets, Dame Fortune has not once considered the "Dons." The arrival at Wei-Hai-Wei completed our fourteenth move. The morning of June 23rd brought us in sight of Wei-Hai-Wei, which in all probability will be described in detail in the Battalion notes. It is a very pretty little place. Disembarking on rudely-built lighters, popularly known as sampans, we quickly came to the conclusion that Shanghai, with all its trials and troubles, was the better station. However, what is to be will be.

Swimming is the one redeeming feature of Wei-Hai-Wei; the sea is close at hand, therefore bathing is taken with the same regularity as that daily dose of "Kruschens." In fact, it is hoped that every member of the Battalion will pass the swimming test. Should this be the case, it would in all probability create an Army record. Drinking is occasionally indulged in.

Not many weeks had passed before Collective Training commenced. The Company began with a march to Wu Chuang Tang, camping for the night at Chang Feng. This proved to be very interesting, not only from a physical point of view, but also from sight-seeing. Such things as sulphur springs were seen, and, needless to say, greatly indulged in.

A Chinese theatrical display caused much amusement at Chang Feng. The

inhabitants of the small villages were somewhat nervous and surprised to see the troops pass through with some strategical importance. The Commissioner of Police, together with his staff, did their utmost to add to the comfort of the troops, which was greatly appreciated by all.

We also visited Wu Shang Ti on the frontier.

The return to camp was completed in two days. It was a pleasing sight to see the Company enter the camp with their swinging strides and excellent march discipline, after covering sixteen miles in the sweltering heat. This march reflected great credit on the Company.

Another week's training took place near camp. One night's training was carried out successfully. The concluding day of training was a combination of sports and tactics. One platoon represented armed robbers who had looted the town of Wei-Hai-Wei, their loot consisting of beer, lemonade, and buns, and were concealed in small groups on the hills. The remainder of the platoons were detailed to surround and capture them, the reward being the loot. As the attackers approached, they were fired upon by the robbers; they were not allowed to move from their hiding-place. Two of the groups were captured, but it is left to our readers to draw their own conclusions whether the interest of the remainder was concentrated on the tactics or on the beer, as they failed to attract the attackers by fire. Nevertheless, the stunt was appreciated by the Company, and they are keenly looking forward to the great training period.

We are sorry to lose the services of Lieut. J. Tait, who has left us for civilian life. His good humour and splendid personality will not be easily forgotten. He carried with him the best wishes of all ranks in his new sphere of life.

Our congratulations are extended to Sergt. Wilcockson on his appointment to Company Quartermaster-Sergeant.

It is hoped that the next issue of notes will include some definite news as to our disposal. Lack of information is unsatisfactory at any time.

Sport as usual has taken up most of our spare time. Cricket has been played between the Regulars and the Reservists, in order to unearth some new talent,

which, as will be seen by the results, was very profitable. The Reservists have a great many sportsmen.

Played on July 3rd.—Regulars, 99; Reservists, 63. Batting: Pte. Keep, 47 not out. Bowling: C.S.M. Walker, 4 for 25; Sergt. Northcott, 5 for 19; Pte. Williamson, 4 for 48; L./Cpl. Pollard, 5 for 25.

Played on July 6th, and won.—"D" Company, 74 (for 3); H.M.S. Carlisle, 72. Batting: Lieut. Goulden, 34; C.S.M. Walker, 21 not out. Bowling: Pte. Winterburn, 6 for 19.

Return Match, played on July 14th, and won.—H.M.S. Carlisle, 61; "D" Company, 178. Batting: Sergt. Northcott, 55; Pte. Winterburn, 27. Bowling: Sergt. Northcott, 5 for 27; L./Cpl. Pollard, 5 for 18.

Some football has also been played.

"H.Q." WING.

The Wing have been having a rather busy time of late. Men have been coming and going with a wonderful regularity, and it is a wonder that the "Quarter" ever lasts out.

At times, the strength of the Wing has reached 400 men. Some pay roll!

However, all has run very smoothly, and during one period even smoother than that.

Many games have been played with the Navy teams from the ships that have visited the town of Wei-Hai-Wei, and on the whole we have had an enjoyable time.

Water galas have been run with a great deal of success.

The reservists have nearly all been returned to companies, and just at present the Machine Gunners and Signallers are trying to make gunners and signallers out of raw material.

Notes from the Groups have been forwarded with these, so naturally there is little to speak of in addition.

SIGNAL SECTION.

Since our last notes, several events of importance have happened. To our regret, almost all the reservist signallers were sent to duty shortly after our arrival at Wei-Hai-Wei. We wish them all happiness in their respective companies until "The Day."

A new class has been formed and transferred to "H.Q." Wing, making the Section about 60 strong. Under the able guidance of our leaders, they appear to be coming on by leaps and bounds. We certainly have had rather bad luck in the past eighteen months in the way of signal classes. The work of training has been greatly hampered by the events of the past year. The present class, however, should do well.

At last we have occasion to "blow our trumpet." To wit, at the "H.Q." Wing Swimming Gala, we did well, bringing home several first, second and third prizes. The new class, although possessing several excellent swimmers, did not entirely eclipse the "old 'uns." Pte. Cattle ("Frankie"), a member of the above-mentioned "old 'uns," won the first prize for the half-mile, making a close finish of a hard tussle for first place with Pte. Endersby of the class. Several others are worthy of mention, if space would permit.

We also did rather well the following week at the Inter-Group Gala, which was a repetition of the previous week's event. It appears that we have, hitherto, been hiding our light under a night-screen.

Spurred on by success in this direction, we are casting our eyes towards other branches of sport, in which we hope to make a stir when the Battalion abandons its nomadic habits of the past few months, and decides to settle down.

The football season starts shortly. 'Nuff said!

In conclusion, it is perhaps worthy of mention that we have had an interesting exchange of messages per lamp with H.M.S. *Argus*, which, up to a week ago, lay in the offing, and we were rather struck with the efficiency of the "Silent Service."

MACHINE GUNNERS.

Since the last notes went to press, we have had two moves. Firstly, we left Fan Ling Camp in a hurry, owing to the fact that it rained so hard that we thought it was a second flood. We stayed at the Peninsular Hotel until April 8th, when we left for Shanghai, arriving there on the 11th. We had an excellent billet, probably the best to be had, and eventually the gunners got a billet to themselves. All

our civilian neighbours were very good to us, our guard being provided with a good supper every night. During our stay in Shanghai, the Brigade Commander held an inspection of the Brigade Machine Gun Platoons on Hongkew Rifle Range. This necessitated a great deal of work during the Albuhera holiday, owing to the short notice given us.

At Shanghai, our No. 3 Section really came into being, and, considering the little inconveniences we had to cope with (such as going up to the barriers for periods lasting from days and upwards), their progress was satisfactory. A certain number of the machine gunners were chosen for the King's Birthday Parade, and also the G.O.C.'s guard.

A six-a-side football competition was held in the Battalion, "G" Company coming out winners. Three of the team were machine gunners (Sergt. Farrow, and L./Cpls. Anson and Hutson). Then came the move to Wei-Hai-Wei on June 20th. Here we are in—well—bungalows, we would suppose, called Albuhera Barracks. There are no places of amusement except the Y.M.C.A. (and here again we have to thank the ladies for the trouble they take, ably assisted by our Padre). Many competitions have been organized, such as fishing, photography, water polo, and swimming. All these have been successful, some more than others.

Since our arrival here, all our reservists except five have been returned to duty, and in their place we have forty serving soldiers; consequently, we are engaged in intensive training in preparation for our return to England. (*When, oh, when, will it be!*)

Nearly all the Platoon can now swim, and many have passed the test. In a non-swimmers' competition, some of our non-swimmers swam nearly 400 yards, and it was only the rocks at the other side of the bay that prevented them going on to Tientsin. Various photographs are reproduced in another part of the Journal.

RESULTS OF SPORT AND COMPETITIONS.

Football.—v. H.M.S. *Argus*; result, o—o. This was a very fine and sporty game, the "Matloes" proving a tough proposition.

Fishing.—An inter-section competition was held, No. 3 being the winners, with

14 fish. Individual winner, Pte. Sims, with 6 fish.

Photography.—A platoon competition was held. Won the first week by L./Cpl. Hutson, with M.G. Follies. Won the second week by Pte. Doe, with views of Wei-Hai-Wei. After this, it was discontinued, owing to insufficient entries.

Water Polo.—v. Drums, won 2—1; v. Band, won 3—1; v. "A" Company, won 4—0.

An inter-section competition was held. Result: No. 3 Section, 2; No. 1 Section, o. No. 2 Section, 2; No. 3 Section, o. Winners, No. 2 Section.

We have also had representatives in Company and Battalion teams.

Aquatic.—A splendid afternoon was spent by the Platoon, and we had excellent weather. Results:—

Inter-Section Relay (50 yards).—1, No. 1 Section (L./Cpl. Russell, Ptes. Neal, Drake, and Humphrey); 2, No. 3 Section (L./Cpls. Hutson, Brown and Brudenall, and Pte. Kemp).

Half-mile.—1, L./Cpl. Russell; equal 2, Ptes. Green and Kemp, dead heat; 4, L./Cpl. Brown.

Plate Diving.—Pte. Drake, with 9 plates.

Life Saving.—1, L./Cpls. Hutson and Brown; 2, Ptes. Young and Webb.

Non(?)swimmers.—1, Pte. Dean; 2, Pte. Baker; 3, Pte. Jackson.

50 Yards Back Stroke.—1, Pte. Smith; 2, Pte. Green; 3, Pte. Young.

Non-swimmers' Plate Diving.—1, Pte. Dean; 2, Pte. Sharman.

SWIMMING.

Although an attempt to produce a water-polo team and hold our own in aquatic sports has been made whenever the facilities exist, we have never had such an opportunity of continuous swimming as we have had at Wei-Hai-Wei, and it is only natural that all forms of water sports have come to the fore. Battalion, company and even smaller unit teams have been constantly fighting out duels with other teams, and some footballers, accustomed to "45 each way," have found at water polo quite as much as they wanted.

The departure of "B" and "C" Companies with the Drums has upset all sport, and, though an inter-company water-polo match is in being, and

Battalion sport in the background, they can have no bearing on the company championships. This will help us to spot the swimmers for the future.

With the Navy here to play against, we have been able to get valuable experience. Although the Battalion team is largely composed of reservists who have had a lot of experience, a pretty useful number of serving soldiers is being found who have played for the Battalion. The Battalion has played H.M.S. *Carlisle*, the result being a loss of 3-0 and a draw of 0-0; whilst a third game against them had to be abandoned owing to the strength of the current.

On the resumption of communication with the island after our isolation, the team of L.7 came and played us, and the result was a highly-gratifying draw of 3-3. As the task was heavier than it may sound, it may be mentioned that L.7 have accumulated a very good team by hook and crook, and have beaten all the cruisers and other ships whilst at Hong-Kong.

On August 18th, a match versus H.M.S. *Danae* produced a set-back, as superior tactics, with quicker and more accurate shooting, led to the ship defeating the Battalion by 4-1. This was followed on Sunday, the 21st, by a game against the *Frobisher*, in which the Battalion was once more defeated (3-0) after a good game. However, *nil desperandum!* More swimming will improve the form, strengthen the team, and practice will improve the shooting.

The following have played for the Battalion in one or all of the matches:—

L./Cpls. Russell, Young, Heath and White, and Ptes. Hills, Young and Boniface.

The Company League has only just started, and, in addition to "A," "D" and "G" Companies, the Machine Gunners play as one company, Band and Signallers as another, and Transport and Details as a third. The results so far have been two victories for the Machine Gun Platoon at the expense of "A" and "D" Companies by 4-0 in each case, and two victories for the Transport and Signals versus "D" (6-0) and Band and Signals (2-1), and a victory for the Band and Signals at the expense of "D" Company by 5-1.

Our feelings on the departure of the reservist gunners is rather like the old-time song, "We don't want to lose you, but we think you ought to go," for, although we realize that for the future efficiency of the Platoon we must look ahead and get ready fresh blood, yet the time since the reservists joined us has given us an opportunity to get to know them and appreciate what good sportsmen and soldiers most of them are, and this is partly proved by the fact that, though no longer in the Platoon, many are still retained in "H.Q." Wing. All may perhaps have gone by the time these notes appear, but, even so, we should like to place on record here our appreciation of what they have done. As a matter of historical record, we give the names and regiments of our gunner reservists, and, when one considers the number of regiments represented, it is a wonderful testimonial to the Army at large that such a mixed bag should have got on so well with practically no exceptions worth mentioning, and yet maintained their own regimental *esprit de corps*.

The Buffs.—L./Cpl. Brudenell and Pte. Powell.

Bedfs. and Herts.—L./Cpl. Howson, Ptes. Cullip, Cook, Tomlin and Bull.

Queen's.—Ptes. Roberts, Taylor and Newbold.

Essex.—Ptes. Shorts and Denham.

Northants.—Ptes. Ambler, Olive and Cunningham.

Somerset's.—Pte. Lovell.

Norfolks.—L./Cpl. Parker, Ptes. Osborn, Peak and Webster.

Suffolks.—Ptes. Porter and Rodway.

Middlesex.—Ptes. Dolman, Pank and Kyberd.

Royal Fusiliers.—L./Cpl. Heath, Ptes. Ellesmore and Deary.

Devons.—Ptes. Dunston and Blannin.

Royal West Kents.—Pte. Impett.

Dorsets.—Ptes. Stevenson and Taylor.

D.C.L.I.—Pte. Cuckow.

Wilts.—Pte. Butler.

Royal Sussex.—L./Cpl. Fish and Pte. Stillwell.

WEAPON TRAINING.

Owing to the move from England, we are sorry to say that up to the present it has not been possible to hold our annual musketry course or the Battalion

rifle meeting. The Bisley meeting is one which is always eagerly looked forward to, especially since our teams have gained so many successes.

Since our arrival at our present Eastern station, Wei-Hai-Wei, we have had some rifle matches with the Royal Navy. In all, two shoots have taken place, of which we won one.

The teams were as follows:—

First.—Capt. E. F. Lyons, R.S.M. Beaman, Sergt. Green, L./Sergts. Thomas, Northcote, O'Brien, and Jones, Cpls. Priddy and Westney, L./Cpls. Stains and Harrison, and Pte. Tyler.

Second.—Capt. E. F. Lyons, Capt. English, R.S.M. Beaman, Sergts. Green and Brockman, L./Sergts. Thomas, Northcote, O'Brien and Jones, L./Cpls. Stains and Brudenell, and Pte. Warren.

The distances were 200, 500 and 600 yards, one "sighter" and seven rounds slow at each range. The Bisley method of scoring was used, but 10 out of 12 to count.

The scores in both matches were:—

First Match.—Battalion, 740; Royal Navy, 796.

Second Match.—Battalion, 820; Royal Navy, 747.

Although not desiring to excuse ourselves about the first shoot, we would like to point out that, on leaving England, nearly every man in the Battalion was issued with a new rifle, with which practice had been impossible.

A final match was arranged with the Navy, but, owing to their area being placed out of bounds to us, this had to be cancelled.

The Battalion congratulated Mr. Chandler, of the Navy, on scoring 96 out of a possible 105, and presented him with a silver spoon as a memento of the occasion.

R.S.M. Beaman was also congratulated on his score of 94 out of a possible 105. The Navy team made him a presentation of a silver spoon.

OBITUARY.

"If I should die, think only this of me—
There is some corner of a foreign land
That is forever England."

—Rupert Brooke.

No. 6195719 Pte. S. Sewell ("B" Company), died at Wei-Hai-Wei from enteric fever on July 24th, 1927. Home address:

Hall Cottage, Plumstead, near Aldeborough, Norfolk.

No. 6447217 Dmr. A. Gosling ("H.Q." Wing), died at Shanghai of sleeping sickness on August 13th, 1927. Home address: 28c, Polygon Buildings, St. Pancras.

No. 5563216 L./Cpl. A. Cleal ("H.Q." Wing), died at Shanghai from pneumonia on August 15th, 1927. Home address: Norwood House, Coutanchez, St. Peter Port, Guernsey, Channel Isles.

BIRTHS.

MORGAN.—On January 20th, 1927, at Ashstead, Surrey, to the wife of 738146 Bdsn. A. Morgan—a daughter (Leonora Evelyn).

BROCKMAN.—On March 24th, 1927, at Aldershot, to the wife of 6192072 Sergt. B. Brockman—a son (Benjamin).

FREEMAN.—On April 25th, 1927, at Hornsey, to the wife of 6193887 L./Cpl. E. Freeman—a daughter (Joan Rosina).

GREEN.—On June 17th, 1927, at Aldershot, to the wife of 6188482 Sergt. W. Green—a son (William Charles Henry).

MIDDLETON.—On April 1st, 1927, at Horwich, to the wife of 6189272 Bdsn. C. Middleton—a daughter (Beryl Jean).

GLOVER.—On May 9th, 1927, at Catterick, to the wife of 6189450 Cpl. R. Glover—a son (David George).



1st BATTALION NOTES, DECEMBER, 1927.

The recent quarter has been notable for a series of inspections and moves which have taken place practically simultaneously. These ordeals borne separately come and go smoothly enough, but when they take place within a few days of each other, life becomes hectic, and the war in China ceases to be amusing.

Our first inspection occurred at Wei-Hai-Wei, and consisted of a friendly visit from Col.-Cmdt. R. M. Heath, C.M.G., D.S.O., and his Staff Lieutenant, Capt. G. H. C. Pennycook, M.B.E. These two

old friends stayed with us for a week, and Col. Heath witnessed "A" and "D" Companies at work in the field. In the meanwhile, "B" and "C" Companies, perspiring in the humid atmosphere of Shanghai, were undergoing a ceremonial inspection at the hands of our Brigade Commander.

The next move in the game was the arrival of the G.O.C. and several members of his staff upon a so-called holiday to Wei-Hai-Wei. Although we did not actually suffer any formal investigation from his hands, the threat of its possibility hung over our heads for three weeks, and Col. Stewart was held in constant attendance at conferences.

"Change-of-air" parties, which consisted of small groups of N.C.Os. and men from every regiment and unit in Shanghai, had now taken the place of "B" and "C" Companies in Albuhera Barracks. These parties were changed every three weeks, and undoubtedly were instrumental in improving the health of the Shanghai Defence Force. So the extra work thrown on our Orderly Room and Quartermaster's department in organizing, housing and feeding these semi-invalids was not in vain.

On October 3rd, the last of the 1st Battalion left Wei-Hai-Wei, "H.Q." Wing, "A" Company, and the staff from the Convalescent Depot embarking with great difficulty on H.M.T. *Assaye*, owing to the high seas. That our stay in this delightful little summer resort was appreciated will be seen from the letter sent by H.H. the Commissioner to General Duncan, published elsewhere in the Journal. On returning to Shanghai, we had hoped to be reunited as a battalion, but this was not to be fulfilled. "B" and "C" Companies remained in their billets in Hongkew Park, whilst Yangtzepoo, which we remembered bitterly from our previous stay, was reserved for the returning seafarers.

Within a week of our return, and within five days of the departure of our reservists and a large draft for India, the Brigade Commander held his annual inspection. This lasted for three days, and the Battalion undoubtedly emerged from a very thorough examination with flying colours.

The *Karmala* sailed for England on October 15th, taking our reservists back

to civil life. Besides carrying with them our best wishes for the future, the loyal way that they have stood by new traditions through a trying year will never be forgotten. Capt. N. P. Procter, M.C., with 140 of our younger members, accompanied them as far as Bombay, en route for the 2nd Battalion.

What was left of "B" and "C" Companies and the Drums now came to rejoin us at Yangtzepoo and help us to prepare for a further inspection—this time a ceremonial parade before the G.O.C. This was overcome with clockwork precision, and General Duncan said many pleasing things about us in his ultimate report.

The delayed arrival of H.M.T. *Somersetshire*, which had been destined to take us back to our own shores, caused many palpitations, but we finally left China with very few regrets, on November 18th.

At Singapore, we were met by Capt. H. A. A. Howell, of the 2nd Battalion. He had hoped to arrange a football match versus the Duke of Wellington's Regiment, in order to raise funds for a newly-organized "Malayan" branch of the Regimental Association, which already numbers 63 members. However, the short time we stayed prohibited this.

With our arrival at Catterick, timed for early dawn on December 29th, this Shanghai episode in our Regimental history should be brought to an end, eleven months after it opened, in the worst snowstorm of January, 1927.

If we get our usual weather for moving, it will end in a similar snowstorm.

We cannot pretend that we are not a little disappointed that the adventure has been so little productive of war's excitement, especially those of us who left home at the beginning of the year "dreaming of vain V.Cs." and field-marshal's batons. However, to them be the comfort that a live private is better than a dead major-general.

We have travelled some 25,000 miles, and seen half the world, or near it, and that in itself is an asset. The Battalion has been particularly lucky, as it saw not only Hong-Kong and Shanghai, but was able to spend the great heat of the summer in a station which, except for its lack of playing grounds, must be nearly ideal for a summer station.

Wei-Hai-Wei, with its glorious views, calm seas, golden sands, bordered by pine trees, and all-embracing sunshine, will linger in our memory for many months when the chill of Catterick makes us crowd to inadequate R.E. fireplaces.

We left over nine hundred strong, and return three hundred. The work of reconstruction, which is always the lot of the home battalion, will be particularly heavy in 1928, since sixty-six of these three hundred leave us for civil life shortly after we reach home. It is unnecessary to tell them that we shall miss them.

As regards what we have accomplished—well—everywhere we are told that if we had not come (with others), Shanghai would have fallen. Very many pleasant things have been said by the "powers that be" of our work and appearance.

Elsewhere, our sports correspondent has chronicled our victories in sport, culminating in the winning of the one (and a very handsome one it is) challenge cup which was opened to us.

Not a bad record, and not an uninteresting year. What is 1928 going to hold for us? More wanderings on pioneer work on the Aldershot of the North! It doesn't make very much difference, so long as the "Die-Hards" are the "Die-Hards."

OFFICERS.

Capt. H. W. M. Paul, O.B.E., M.C., has been appointed as an instructor at the R.M.C., Sandhurst.

Capt. C. W. Haydon, M.C., and Lieut. J. H. Clowes have been posted to the Depot for a tour of duty.

Capt. N. P. Procter, M.C., has left us on posting to the 2nd Battalion.

Capt. W. L. Roberts, M.C., has been left behind in Shanghai on Intelligence duties.

Lieut. G. H. Stephenson has been posted to the Battalion on completion of his appointment as Adjutant, Singapore Volunteers.

2/Lieuts. L. K. J. de la M. Herapath and P. Watson have been posted to the Battalion on first appointment, from the Royal Military College.

OTHER RANKS.

Sergt.-Dmr. Palmer has obtained a post in the Revenue Department of the

Shanghai Customs, and was discharged in China. Probably the best all-round athlete in the Battalion, he will be much missed.

Dmr. Barling has also elected to try his fortune in the East, and has joined the Shanghai Municipal Police. As this force deals with an average of some six murders per week, not to mention innumerable other unpleasant crimes, his future life is not likely to be devoid of excitement.

In this same force, we renewed the acquaintance of another old "Die-Hard" in Cpl. Boddy, late of "A" Company. We were glad to find him looking as fit and well, especially as he was severely wounded in a fracas with armed robbers some time ago. We congratulate him on being awarded the Shanghai Police Force Medal for Gallantry.

13TH BRIGADE SPORTS.

These sports were held on October 12th at Hongkew Park, Shanghai, in cold weather, with a strong wind blowing up the track.

After a close struggle with the Green Howards, which kept the issue in doubt nearly up to the last race, the Battalion emerged victorious by 6 points. The result reflects great credit on the runners owing to the difficulties of training, as half the Battalion was in Wei-Hai-Wei until a week before the meeting.

The Battalion gained firsts in the following events: 100 yards, long jump, putting the weight, hurdles, 440 yards, and 880 yards; was second in the 220 yards, three miles, and high jump; and third in the mile.

Where every member of the team gave of his best, it is difficult to pick out individuals, but some of the performances stood out above others during the meeting. L./Cpl. Harrison, by his fine efforts in the high jump, putting the weight and the long jump, was largely responsible for the Battalion's win. Unfortunately, he is due for discharge, and will undoubtedly be a great loss to the Battalion sports team. Dmr. Woodward was the individual winner of the three miles by a large margin. In the quarter-mile, Cpl. Sewell, running second, put up the best performance at this distance. In this race, L./Cpl. Fletcher ran last, and was not

extended, but he has greatly improved since Aldershot, and should do well in future. L./Cpl. Donovan deserves particular credit for winning the half-mile relay. Running last, he took over about 30 yards behind the first man, but managed to beat him on the tape in a fine finish, and from what looked like an impossible position ten yards from the end.

Lieut.-Col. Stewart, on behalf of the Battalion, received a handsome challenge cup, presented by the Brigade Commander, 13th Infantry Brigade, and each member of the winning team received a small replica.

The teams were as follows, and ran in the order stated:—

100 Yards.—L./Cpl. Burton, L./Cpl. Harrison, Capt. Procter, L./Cpl. Painter.

220 Yards.—L./Cpl. Burton, L./Cpl. Ward, Lieut. Hudson, L./Cpl. Painter.

Three Miles.—Dmr. Woodward, Pte. Smith, Pte. Mellish, Pte. Milton.

One Mile.—L./Cpl. Donovan; Dmr. Woodward; Pte. Mellish; Pte. Spicer.

Putting the Weight.—Capt. Haydon, L./Cpl. Harrison.

440 Yards.—Lieut. Worton, Cpl. Sewell, Lieut. Crawford, L./Cpl. Fletcher.

Long Jump.—L./Cpl. Harrison, L./Cpl. Cartwright.

Hurdles.—Cpl. Riley, L./Cpl. Oskinat, L./Cpl. Painter, Bdsn. Walker.

880 Yards.—Lieut. Cubitt, L./Cpl. Patterson, Pte. Heard, L./Cpl. Donovan.

High Jump.—Bdsn. Walker, L./Cpl. Harrison.

"B" Company's tug-of-war team pulled for the Battalion, and won the Brigade Cup fairly easy. This event did not count towards the challenge cup.

AQUATIC SPORTS.

On August 9th, the Battalion Aquatic Sports were held in Half-Moon Bay, and it was a great pity that two companies should have been away at Shanghai, and so prevent the result affecting the Company Championships. However, the primary object was amusement, and amusement we had. This began with the heats in the morning. The competitors for the first heat of 50 yards were lined up on a sampan, and the starter, complete in Palm Beach suiting, stood behind them, one hand on the mast. On the command

"Go," the swimmers left in the direction of the winning post, and the sampan lurched dangerously forward. All might have been well with the resulting rebound had not the starter been embracing the mast; as it was, "over went baby, basket, and all"—all including the two sampan men and all their possessions. For the remaining heats, it was necessary to find a new starter whilst the original retired to hang out to dry and await a fresh consignment of garbs from the officers' camp.

Some of the races were extremely close and most interesting, but it would have been more interesting to see which of two competitors could win the 100 yards, and not which one failed to make it a dead-heat.

The race for Company Sergeant-Majors and two assistants caused considerable amusement. A sampan was provided for each team, and anchored fifty yards out. Teams had to swim out and "yulo" the sampan to the shore. At first, this looked a gift for "A" Company, but, after a brilliant start, they faded entirely, and could only go in circles. The Machine Gunners "yuloed" in magnificent style—out to sea—and showed good seamanship in their tacking, but sacrificed style to speed. "D" Company nearly left their skipper behind altogether, and never recovered from this mutiny, and in consequence O.R.C.S. Baldwin and the details had small difficulty in demonstrating that brain is better than brawn, and, by having one of the team concentrating and keeping the oar on the peg, crept quickly home with an unruffled passage.

The 100 yards open to the Bedfords and "Fresh Air" Details was most appropriately won by Pte. Batt of the Bedfords, a brother of our own L./Cpl. Batt.

Teas were served on the beach, and the weather could not have been better, whilst the presence of Col.-Cmdt. R. M. Heath and Capt. Pennycook made it quite like old times.

Col. Heath very kindly presented the prizes for the all ranks' relay, and we had little difficulty in persuading Capt. Pennycook to do a job of work.

Altogether, it was a very successful afternoon, and the Committee in charge of the sampans are to be congratulated on manoeuvring them and keeping them so successfully in position, and so saving any amount of time.

BATTALION WATER POLO LEAGUE.

We congratulate the Transport on winning the Battalion Water Polo League and on not losing a single game. They were fortunate in having Pte. Hill and other reservists with a lot of experience, and they brought on the serving soldiers, most of whom had never played before.

The majority of all the teams were reservists, as amongst them were to be found practically the only ones with previous experience, but it is a point worth noticing that the Machine Gunners had only two reservists, and here possibly will be found the members of a team for the Battalion in the future. In fact, there were at the time more men in the Machine Gunners playing water polo than in any company some of whom had practically only learnt to swim at Wei-Hai-Wei.

The Band, who began quietly, ended by being a very big combination, and if they had got going earlier, might have threatened the Transport very seriously.

	Goals									
	P.	W.	L.	D.	F.	A.	Pts.			
Transport ...	8	8	0	0	24	2	16			
Machine Guns ...	8	5	3	0	18	9	10			
Band and Sigs. ...	8	4	4	0	16	12	8			
"D" Company ...	8	3	5	0	14	20	6			
"A" Company ...	8	0	8	0	2	26	0			

BATTALION 2. 1ST BEDFS. AND HERTS REGIMENT.

After the departure of "B" and "C" Companies with the Drums to Shanghai, two companies and the major portion of the "H.Q." of the Bedfords came to Wei-Hai-Wei, and a certain amount of very enjoyable struggles were held with them in various games—first by representative teams, and by inter-company and inter-group teams. Some of them are doubtless mentioned in other places, and probably at greater length.

The biggest event was when the two battalions opposed each other at cricket and hockey on the same day on the Officers' Club ground on the island, whilst on the best football ground the two signal sections tried conclusions. The last count ended in a rout of our signallers, who, for various reasons, had to turn out a particularly bad team, and the scores in the first-named will show that once again we came off second-best, but it must be borne in mind that all the Battalion bowlers were away in Shanghai,

and, in addition, two Battalion batsmen, whilst the Bedfords had all their bowlers at Wei-Hai-Wei, and practically a full team.

At hockey, we succeeded in making a draw of it, after a very enjoyable game, which was a far better game of hockey proper than any we had had up to then.

A return match at hockey just before we left ended in a loss by 3—1, and another very good game it was, though we had lost some of our team, whilst Lieut. Senior, who, at centre half-back, was a tower of strength for them, was also away.

At water polo, the Battalion lost 2—1, and in most cases our opponents' experience from Malta gave them the advantage over our teams, although our Machine Gun Platoon, contrary to expectations, defeated their platoon, which was regarded as one of their strongest teams, by 4 goals to 3.

A quite elaborate swimming match was arranged, but, owing to the comings and goings, embarkation, and various other incidents, the only match to take place was that between our "A" and "D" Companies and their "B" and "C" Companies, and here they won the relay races, and the half-mile team race was a tie.

The Machine Gunners avenged the Signallers at football by gaining a very easy victory over our opponents' platoon.

Comparisons are odious, and, as neither battalion could turn out full teams at anything, they cannot be drawn. All that we need say is that we were very glad to meet the Bedfords, and whether we won or lost we can safely guarantee that all concerned enjoyed the most sporting and pleasant games.

"A" COMPANY.

Since our last notes were rendered, we have returned from Wei-Hai-Wei to Shanghai, and thence to Catterick.

On the voyage home, between Singapore and Colombo an open boxing tournament was held, the Battalion winning three out of five events.

"A" Company had a great share in this victory, L./Cpls. Pratt and O'Connor winning their weights, with L./Cpl. Foulger runner-up after a splendid show

Colombo, reached and passed on December 2nd, the longest stretch to Aden was commenced, and so far has passed without incident, but, owing to the Sub-Editor calling, I'm afraid these notes will have to be continued in our next.

Before closing, we wish all old comrades who are leaving us the best of luck in their new sphere. In one or two instances, our wish would seem superfluous, as these most fortunate people are in the happy circumstances of having well-paid appointments to return to.

One word in passing: we trust that they won't forget old comrades when they are perched on the dizzy pinnacle of their new affluence.

"B" COMPANY.

It is seldom that one is called upon to write Journal notes in the Red Sea, but such is now the case, for we are at last homeward bound after many mythical rumours. Early in October, the reservists left us, accompanied by a draft for India to join the 2nd Battalion, both of whom we wish *bon voyage* and the best of luck.

A week later, we were to leave Hongkew Park, to join the Battalion at Yangtsepoo Camp, but not before we had completed quite a good sporting record, the first item of which to mention being the achievements of our tug-of-war team. Entering for the Command Championship, they met many comers, whom they beat, until the semi-final was drawn, when their opponents proved to be the Queen's Own Sappers and Miners, a team from India with an unbroken record of having never been pulled over. The first pull came as a great surprise to our opponents, for their record was broken, although in the last two pulls we were not so successful against these veterans.

Shortly after the Command Tug-of-War, followed the Brigade Sports, in which the Battalion came out top, and once again the tug-of-war team shone brilliantly, this time sweeping all before them, beating the Borders and the 13th Infantry Brigade Headquarters in the final.

On reaching Yangtsepoo, an inter-company football and hockey competition was started. In the latter, we were not

very successful, but in the former we beat "Q" in the final.

Well, Christmas is drawing close, and we are wondering "Is it to be?" or "not to be" in the "Bay."

We very much regret losing our O.C. Company, Capt. C. W. Haydon, M.C., who is leaving us for the Depot; also Lieut. J. H. Clowes. Both these officers will be a great loss to the Company all round. We wish them the best of luck at Mill Hill.

"C" COMPANY.

Events have passed quickly since the last notes were written; at least, they seem so now, as these notes are being written whilst crossing the Red Sea *en route* for home.

We hoped to be in "Blighty" for Christmas. Even if we do drop anchor on Christmas Day, we shall just "bust" spending Christmas at our own homes.

To get back to our doings. We proceeded to Wei-Hai-Wei towards the end of June, once again sailing on the *Herminius*. This was only a short journey, but necessitated the packing and moving of our goods and chattels. We disembarked on lighters, another new experience for many of us, as it was not possible to pull in to walk the plank. After disembarking on the beach, we proceeded to our new quarters, then called "Coolie Camp," but afterwards more appropriately named "Albuhera Barracks," which consisted of hutments used during the war for accommodating natives for the Chinese Labour Corps. The Battalion was now quartered together again, after being split up by companies for duty whilst at Shanghai.

Being situated quite close to the sea, full advantage was taken of bathing, and swimming became the rage. Among our reservists were some very fine swimmers, especially L./Cpl. Mizen, and it was not long before many of the non-swimmers passed the swimming test. Another favourite pastime was hill-climbing, the hills also being close to the camp: of flat country there was very little. A fishing competition was also held, the winners being No. 9 Platoon. Largest fish caught by L./Sergt. Kennett.

The village of Wei-Hai-Wei was a considerable distance away; to reach it, one

had to "foot" it, or travel by gharry or rickshaw. The village consisted of a few shops, with the usual odours peculiar to Chinese; there was also a walled city, but this was out of bounds to us.

Situated in the village was a small church, St. John's; near by was Ma Tou Barracks, which were originally built for the Chinese Regiment when part of the British forces, the regiment being led by British officers and N.C.Os. This regiment was long ago disbanded. Behind the doors of the barrack rooms are a few inventory boards, bearing date 1902, the writing being still legible. These barracks, which during June had been repaired to accommodate convalescents of the Shanghai Defence Force, became known as the Convalescent Depot. Our Company Quartermaster-Sergeant was posted to this Depot for duty directly on arrival, Sergt. Sadler performing the duties of Company Quartermaster-Sergeant in his absence. Sergt. Horrex was also posted to this Depot, as Provost Sergeant.

Our stay at Wei-Hai-Wei was marred by an outbreak of enteric fever, which caused the admission to hospital at the Convalescent Depot of some of our comrades who, after a serious illness, happily all recovered, though we very much regretted the death of L./Cpl. Sewell, of "B" Company.

Our stay at Wei-Hai-Wei was destined to be only a short one. At the end of July, we once again embarked for return to Shanghai. On arrival there, we proceeded to Hongkew, our billets consisting of some large houses, where we soon made ourselves fairly comfortable. The heat began to get very trying, and we envied those at Wei-Hai-Wei.

Our time was spent in early-morning route marches and weapon training. We also had a fair share of sports. We took part in the Tug-of-War Inter-Company Competition, Shanghai Defence Force, and won the first round, but lost to "E" Company, Royal Marines in the second round, who eventually were the winners of the competition. At cricket we must not forget to mention Lieut. Hudson, L./Sergts. Kennett and O'Brien, and L./Cpl. Ward. We played some very good games. We also had a cross-

country run, an inter-platoon competition, the winners being No. 10 Platoon, Cpl. Freeman doing some very good work, especially in going back and bringing in his team.

Further changes in the Company now took place as a temporary measure, Lieut. Hudson taking over the duties of Detachment Adjutant, and our Company Sergeant-Major as Detachment Sergeant-Major. Sergt. Kennett became Acting Company Sergeant-Major, and Cpls. Denyer, Freeman, Wallace and Fowler became Platoon Sergeants. They proved themselves equal to the occasions.

We take this opportunity of welcoming Lieut. Musselwhite amongst us on his joining from "D" Company.

"D" COMPANY.

It is surprising what wonderful things can happen in so short a space of time. For instance, it is barely three months ago that I wrote the last notes at the seaside resort of Wei-Hai-Wei, whereas these I pen on the deck of the *Somersetshire* passing through the Red Sea *en route* for England, home, and Catterick mud.

Since the date of our last notes, things have moved with great rapidity. The Company moved from Wei-Hai-Wei on September 24th, arriving at Shanghai on the 26th. After settling down in Yangtsepoo Camp, they got busy preparing the way for the remainder of the Battalion, who followed on October 3rd.

We are very sorry to lose our Company Commander, Capt. H. W. M. Paul, O.B.E., M.C., who has been appointed an instructor at the Royal Military College, Sandhurst. His untiring energy will always be remembered by those whose fortune it was to be under his command.

Before leaving, the command of the Company was handed over to Lieut. I. D. S. Gordon, to whom we extend a hearty welcome.

On our arrival in England, L./Sergt. "Ginty" MacMurdie, Cpl. Skeats, L./Cpl. Johnson, Pte. Greenfield, and our old friend, Pte. Davey, the "Packboard King" leave us for civilian life. They carry with them the best wishes of us all.

The Depot claims the services of L./Sergt. Northcott, Cpl. Turner, and L./Cpl. Bean. Our loss, their gain.

Congratulations to Ptes. Bean, Lawrence, Simmons and Davey on their appointments to Lance-Corporal; also to those who have succeeded in obtaining their 2nd Class Certificate of Education.

BAND.

After a very speedy year spent in China, we are all very happy to be once more *en route* for England, home and—Catterick. (I nearly said beauty.)

Sitting lazily in a deck-chair writing these notes, with a beautiful sun streaming down, it is almost heart-breaking to think under what different conditions we will be reading them in print.

It is necessary to go back to China for a short space.

In the Company and Battalion aquatic sports meetings held at Wei-Hai-Wei, we did very well by winning two relays out of the four at each meeting, besides several individual successes. The water polo was not such a success as we had hoped it to be; of course, from our point of view. We only managed to finish third.

As it is expected that quite a few of these magazines will find their way to a good many of the reservists, we heartily wish them the best of luck on their return to civil life, and hope they will always remember the good times they spent as our guests. It may interest any ex-bandsmen to know that we did several guards after they left Shanghai.

At the time of writing, we are helping to make the long hours on board ship less monotonous by playing day about with the Borders' Band, with occasional dances in the evening.

One of our fraternity, Bdsn. Arnold, had a rather bad breakdown at Shanghai, and went into hospital with a tubercular thigh, the outcome of an operation earlier in the year. We all thought we would be losing him when we arrived in England. He is in hospital on board, and already looking much better. We wish him a speedy and complete recovery.

The twenty boys we left in England have been at the School of Music during our absence. Good reports have reached us concerning them, so we hope for big

things from them. An account of Boy Chillery's prowess as an athlete has also been winged to us. He is credited with having won the long jump at the Kneller Hall sports with 19 ft. 1 in., and being second in the high jump with 5 ft. 2 in. We congratulate him, and wish him many further successes.

DRUMS.

When our last notes were submitted to the Editor, we were at Fan Ling under canvas (or rather mud), but were fortunate to move to the Peninsular Hotel shortly afterwards, only to remain there but a few days, when we embarked on H.M.T. *Herminius* for Shanghai. Other notes will undoubtedly inform readers as to how the Battalion took over outposts from the Durham Light Infantry. However, we still remained with Battalion "H.Q." at Garden Buildings the whole time, during which we beat the Machine Gunners at football, also the Borders' Drums; various minor matches were also played.

Shortly afterwards, we were on our way to Wei-Hai-Wei, where bathing was our chief hobby. Our stay there was shortened when we were ordered to Shanghai again—this time on detachment with "B" and "C" Companies in Hongkew Park School, where we practically melted away with the heat. "Retreat" beating was a regularity there, and thousands crowded the gates and barbed-wire fences to watch us. Even Cantonese troops were tempted to cross the barriers to see us, and a "Yanky" once remarked that he would bring his whole "outfit" down to watch us. Eventually, we returned to Yangtsepoo Camp, where all battalions concentrate prior to embarking for the United Kingdom. Here it was that Sergt.-Dmr. Palmer was discharged (after completing his term of service), to be employed by the Shanghai Municipal Council. We wish him success in his new turn of office.

Whilst waiting for our boat, we held some inter-company sports. The Drums, who practically represented "Q" Company, were fortunate to be in the final of the football and hockey. The football was finally won by "B" Company, who beat us by 1 goal to 0, but in hockey there was more excitement. In the semi-

final, we played "A" Company, and, after extra time, there was no score; but when we reappeared a few days hence, we "saw them off" by 3—0. We lost in the final to "G" Company by 2 goals to 0.

We would like to congratulate Sergt.-Dmr. Bray on his promotion, and also on the most complimentary remarks passed to him by Major-General Duncan, Commander-in-Chief, North China Command, on his farewell inspection to the Battalion, and once again we proved to be the best corps of drums in Shanghai. A few days before we embarked for the United Kingdom, Dmr. Barling obtained his discharge by purchase, and is to be a policeman in Shanghai. We wish him also success and luck.

So much for our news. We will conclude by wishing the 77th Snake Charmers and all who knew us the best of luck.

MACHINE GUNNERS.

There will be no groans in this edition of the Journal, we are thinking. That which we have waited for has come to pass—we are homeward bound.

The strength of the Platoon has decreased by 50 per cent. during the last two months, due to the very large draft sent to the 2nd Battalion, our contribution being Capt. Procter and about fifty men. We were very sorry to lose Capt. Procter; we wish him and all those who went with him the very best of luck.

We welcome Lieut. Dobbs, M.C., who has taken over the command of the Platoon.

We were very busy during our second stay in Shanghai. Five days after our arrival from Wei-Hai-Wei, all Nos. 1 and 2 and certain N.C.Os. joined the Brigade Machine Gun Concentration Camp at Hongkew Park, to fire a revolver course and undergo scout training. At the conclusion of the revolver course, a G.D.C.'s course was commenced. The camp eventually broke up on November 10th. Training is being carried out on the journey home, and it certainly helps to pass the time away.

We congratulate L./Cpls. Ayres, Andrews, Boiling and Green on their appointments to that "dizzy" rank, and hope they will prosper.

It is regretted that on arrival in "Blighty," L./Sergt. Lewis and L./Cpl. Banham will leave us for "civvie" life. We wish them the best of luck and hopes for a bright future.

We wish all our brother-gunners in the 2nd, 7th, 8th and 9th Battalions the best of luck during 1928.

SIGNALS.

These notes perhaps could have been more interesting but for the fact that our former scribe has left us for a spell with the Details and we (?) have been taken by surprise in being asked to supply this quarter's Signal notes.

Where he (our ex-scribe) finished his last manuscript we haven't an "earthly," but we shall start from November 18th, that happy day at Shanghai when we embarked on the good ship *Somersetshire* for the United Kingdom. Although the boat was delayed four days, strong rumours were current which led us firmly to believe that we should spend our Christmas at home. But now, as the days slowly pass away (and also the miles, the winning "sweep" usually being in the vicinity of 300 miles per twenty-four hours), we greatly fear that all our hopes and arrangements made via Siberia will come to nought. The terrible truth is gradually dawning upon us that we shall spend the happy festival most probably in the "Bay." How cruel fate is!

Our reservists have been more fortunate, having preceded us by almost a month.

We must not forget to congratulate our eight new additions to the Section, who classified with us at Shanghai a few days prior to our departure.

To conclude we wish all our brother-signallers of the Regiment a prosperous New Year.



LUCID.

"Now," said Sergt. Doolan, impressively, "I want yez to take notice iv me and watch closely what I till yez. There's going to be a noight attack to-day, and we don't want no talking or smokin'. There's no orders to be given by word iv mouth verbilly, but ye'll get yez instructions by mutual understanding. If yez want to spake, do so so that no wan will hear yez, and if yez do light yez pipe, keep it dark."

THE LAST TWO.

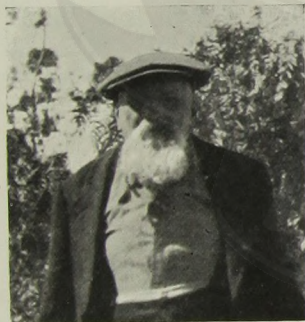
ESPRIT DE CORPS: THE DIE-HARD TOUCH.

IN the Parke Island Home, Napier, there is a fine old soldier named Michael Gill, who is ninety years of age.



SERGEANT-MAJOR E. BEZAR, of Wellington, one of the two last survivors in New Zealand of the 57th Regiment of the Imperial Army.

In Wellington lives his comrade-in-arms of more than sixty years ago, Mr. E. Bezar, who, too, is in his ninetieth year. These two venerable fighting men of the old Imperial red-coats are the last survivors in New Zealand of that splendid



PRIVATE MICHAEL GILL, of Napier, who is Sergeant-Major Bezar's comrade-in-arms.

regiment, the 57th, otherwise known as the "Die-Hards."

* * *

They came to New Zealand from India sixty-six years ago, and they served in many an engagement and stormed more than one Maori stockade in the stirring, troublous times of the 1860's—Bezar as sergeant, Gill as private. Gill, too, is one of the heroes of the defence of Turuturua-Mokai Redoubt, near Hawera, in 1868, when half the little garrison were killed, and half the survivors wounded. Gill, it is said, is an invalid now; not so his fellow "Die-Hard" Bezar, whose straight military figure is well-known in Wellington. The veteran sergeant-major has all the makings of a good centenarian and should reach his hundredth year with colours flying!



OLD COMRADES' ANNUAL DINNER.

NOVEMBER 5TH saw the Old Comrades once again assembled at the Wharnclyffe Rooms, Great Central Hotel, Marylebone Road, London, for the Annual Reunion Dinner.

An appeal had been issued by the Entertainment Committee of the Regimental Association, asking all those members who could possibly attend to do so, as, owing to both the Regular battalions being abroad, there was a risk that the number guaranteed to the hotel might not be reached, and this would result in a loss to the Entertainment Fund.

So well was the appeal responded to, that not only was the required number of tickets quickly taken, but all previous records for attendance were broken.

The gathering was indeed a great one, 57 officers and over 300 Old Comrades putting in an appearance, many coming long distances to ensure that this popular Regimental function was kept flourishing during the absence of their Regular serving comrades in India and China.

General Sir Ivor Maxse, K.C.B., C.V.O., D.S.O., presided, and was supported by Brig.-General F. W. Rowley, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., Col. A. M. O. Anwyl Passingham, O.B.E., D.L., Chairman of the Regimental Association

Executive Committee, Col. J. L. Blumfeld, T.D., Col. G. Beach, O.B.E., T.D., Lieut.-Col. J. K. Maitland, M.C., Lieut.-Col. W. H. Samuel, and Lieut.-Col. C. R. Johnson.

The following guests were invited to be present: Lord Revelstoke, Lord-Lieutenant of the County of Middlesex; Mr. Cecil de Salis, Chairman of the Middlesex Territorial Association; Col. C. Pinkham, O.B.E., D.L., Chairman of the Middlesex County Council; Sir Benjamin Gott, M.A., Middlesex Education Committee; and Mr. E. S. W. Hart, O.B.E., Middlesex County Council.

Lord Revelstoke was unfortunately unable to accept the invitation, owing to an important engagement, but hopes to be present next year.

Telegrams were received during the evening, as under:—

"General Maxse, Great Central Hotel, Marylebone,—I am commanded to express the sincere thanks of the King to the Old Comrades of the Middlesex Regiment for their loyal message on the occasion of their Annual Dinner. His Majesty trusts that they are spending an enjoyable evening together.—Stamfordham."

"General Maxse, Middlesex Regimental Dinner, Great Central Hotel, Marylebone,—My grateful thanks to Old Comrades, Middlesex Regiment, for their good wishes, which I sincerely reciprocate.—Edward P., Colonel-in-Chief."

"Middlesex Regiment, Wharnclyffe Rooms, Great Central Hotel,—Major-General Sir John Longley and Old Comrades, East Surrey Regiment, send greetings to Old Comrades, Middlesex Regiment, and best wishes for pleasant evening.—East Surrey."

"Middlesex Regiment, Great Central Hotel, Marylebone,—Old Comrades, Royal Fusiliers, send greetings to Old Comrades, Middlesex Regiment.—Cannon Street Hotel."

The Band of the 8th Battalion, under the direction of Bandmaster E. S. Coleman, rendered an excellent programme of music which was much appreciated, and greatly added to the enjoyment of the evening.

After the Royal toasts had been proposed and received in the usual enthusiastic and loyal manner, General Sir Ivor Maxse proposed the toast of the evening, "The Regiment." He congratulated the

Committee on the excellent attendance, and said that the large number present went to prove that the "Die-Hard" spirit is kept alive by all ranks, even after they have finished with official soldiering. He said he was sure that everyone was pleased to see Brig.-General Rowley back with them again, and he also welcomed Sergt. Ryder, V.C., who won his decoration while serving with the 18th Division in France, when he, the General, commanded it.

In the course of his remarks, he mentioned the work of the Association, particularly with regard to finding employment for ex-members of the Regiment, emphasizing that this was considered by the Committee the most important part of the Association's policy. He said he was pleased to know, and thanked God for it, that many Old Comrades present who were once employees were now employers, and all were anxious to help the less fortunate ones. Such functions as the present, and also the quarterly concerts, all indirectly assist in helping one another to obtain, and keep, good regular employment. He wished to issue a word of warning to those members who registered for employment, pointing out that a large number had been notified of vacancies which they had neither attempted to take up nor signified their intention of not wanting. This attitude brings discredit on the Association, for no employer who wrote to the Secretary for a man, and having been informed that a number of men were being sent for interview, would, if everyone failed to turn up, ever offer another vacancy.

These men let the Committee down badly, but what is worse they do serious injury to their comrades, as other members lose the billets they were offered, and which they failed to take up.

If we are to assist one another, it is up to everyone to play the game, and think, not only of himself, but also of the name of the Regiment and the interests of his comrades.

Mr. E. Warren proposed the toast of "The Officers," and in doing so said: "This toast includes all officers, both past and present, of all battalions, especially those present here this evening. We have in the chair our Colonel, Sir Ivor Maxse, who has honoured us by occupying that position at a number of our

dinners. He is supported by a large number of other gentlemen, all of whom show by their presence year after year the very great interest they take in you, comrades all. There are among them a number of new faces, which shows that the new generation are keeping up the spirit of the old Corps, and following in the footsteps of our beloved older friends, 'Our Officers,' and once more I repeat, and I am sure you all back me up in saying, 'Our officers are second to none.' I now ask you to rise and drink to the toast of 'The Colonel and Officers of the Regiment.'

The guests were also toasted by the Chairman, which brought forth a reply from Mr. Cecil de Salis. Col. Pinkham was unable to speak owing to his suffering from throat trouble.

The following officers and Old Comrades were amongst those present:—

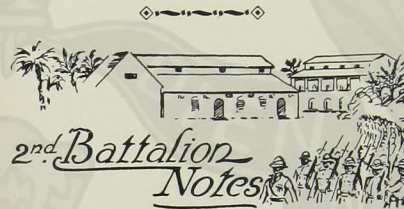
General Sir Ivor Maxse.
Brig.-General F. G. M. Rowley.
Colonels G. Beach, J. L. Blumfeld,
A. M. O. Anwyl Passingham.
Lieut.-Cols. C. R. Johnson, J. K. Maitland, W. H. Samuel, G. Rapson.
Majors Sloane-Stanley, F. S. Steed,
R. A. Slee, E. H. Amor, L. L. Mills.
Sqdn.-Ldr. J. S. Goggin.
Capt. H. E. Foster, T. J. Smith, A. V. Weller, G. Johnson, C. S. Burdon, F. Measor, S. Mirams, H. A. Murray, L. Bettinson, E. L. O. Baddeley, J. H. King, A. Dobner, E. D. Lindow, V. E. Stock, W. H. Parmeter, H. Dymore, S. F. Hedgecoe, H. Sherwood, Lloyd-Williams, B. G. Horrocks.
Lieuts. Wheeler, E. F. James, G. A. Stephenson, W. E. Pringle, F. G. Hogg, D. McDonald.
2/Lieuts. S. A. W. Brown, E. G. W. Amor, E. H. Smith.
R.S.M. Mantell, R.Q.M.S. Purcell, C.S. (O.R.S.) Finch, C.S.M. Sperry, C.Q.M.S. Crook.
Messrs. J. W. Holwell, J. Goodall, E. Pullen, A. J. White, E. Morris, F. E. Holmes, A. C. Chidley, A. G. Meayers, H. Willmer, T. W. Bailey, J. H. Cattell, E. J. Warren, W. A. Meachen, P. R. Meachen, H. S. Hames, W. White, E. Coe, W. J. Stafford, H. Jackman, H. J. Jackman, B. G. Watkins, J. Boothby, J. F. Boothby, H. Wells, H. Gregory, D. Sanders, W. G. Dines, A. Safferty, J. G.

Peacock, J. Morgan, A. Sando, A. Weston, J. Mulcahy, C. E. Burt, Mabb, F. F. Cox, W. R. Bishop, E. King, H. Sergeant, H. J. Ormiston, G. Shaw, H. A. Clelland, G. W. Hanks, E. Jones, J. H. Dennis, V. F. Garleb, J. Ryan, S. Silvester, A. J. Morey, G. Reed, G. Wallace, W. T. Martin, A. Davis, G. H. E. Duffield, In-Pensioner S. Connolly, F. J. Meadows, G. Stevens, G. Palmer, W. A. Percy, G. E. Meadows, G. W. Brooks, E. G. Tulley, W. A. Smith, W. Clarke, J. B. Forbes, H. Hewitt, M. Hunt, C. R. Reed, H. E. B. Rose, W. Cuthbert, H. E. Walmsley, F. G. Godbold, W. A. Ellis, W. A. A. Bishop, J. H. Westlake, H. J. Wells, F. C. Pilgrim, J. A. Curtis, H. E. Cross, W. Rouse, B. J. Buxton, T. A. Capel, A. C. Furse, J. M. Weddell, W. Percy, W. H. Westlake, J. N. March, G. Smith, W. J. Downes, T. Martin Muir, H. Lowen, W. E. Pasby, W. Cook, A. B. Coldicott, H. L. Shawcross, T. Adkins, F. Harrigan, R. T. Guscott, C. C. Baldry, W. Butters, C. Lowen, F. Butt, H. A. Edwards, C. B. Dellow, G. E. Munday, S. F. Turner, H. Turner, W. Bush, R. H. Maule, H. G. Purdue, O. G. Johnson, W. J. Hall, G. Nethercott, A. W. Knight, G. Crow, F. Ryder, W. G. Sams, S. C. Bodden, W. Buxton, W. E. Cutler, J. M. Lewis, C. Gibson, C. Berry, A. E. Thompson, T. Johnson, G. W. Kerswill, L. Vivian, Barry Sullivan, F. Tabersham, W. Stannard, A. C. Froud, A. J. Parker, W. Creedon, W. H. Morrison, O. L. Ryan, E. Ash, G. T. Skinner, W. Clarke, J. R. Carter, J. W. Middleton, R. E. Ryder, V.C., Ldg.-Aircraftsman Best.
7th Battalion.—Ptes. Ballis, E. Wemm, Atkins.

8th Battalion.—H. W. Smith, J. G. Quelch, F. R. Borton, A. Seaward, W. J. Rogers, Sergt. L. Perrin, W. G. Tiller, H. W. Hart, C.S.M. Manders, S. Tibbs, S. Tripp, A. Reeves, G. F. Moore, H. Gower, Sergt. E. Smith, E. L. Pead, C.Q.M.S. Mears, T. Brown, H. C. Miles.
9th Battalion.—Sergt. Beattie, C.S.M. Fitzgerald, J. Stacey, Patrick, Sergt.-Dmr. Inkster, J. Colley, H. W. Bentley, J. Fry, W. Burns, J. Conroy, A. Johnston, G. P. Denton, J. Donoghue, W. C. Hewlett, G. C. B. Windsor, D. H. Whitton, W. S. Solman, C. S. Windsor, J. W. Adams, C.S.M. Denton, J. Lavender, H. Avrail, J. Dunbar, A.

Hodman, C.S.M. Backway, B. L. Sutcliffe, R.S.M. Beasley, Lynch, Arnaboldi, G. Lidington, C. J. Walker, J. Fennimore, C.S.M. H. Tisdale, R. Wright, Hollingworth, G. Goodwin, G. Howard, Sergt. T. Martin, C.S.M. Kelly, Sergt. Smith, Linton.

7th London Regiment.—Sergt. Carvell.
19th London Regiment.—Sergt. L. Clarke, and two others.



OFFICERS.

ARRIVALS.

CAPT. N. P. PROCTER, M.C., disembarked at Bombay, ex H.T. *Karmala*, on November 2nd, 1927, and joined the Battalion, on being posted, on November 3rd, 1927.

Lieut. A. H. L. Sugden, New Zealand Staff Corps, disembarked at Colombo, ex s.s. *Moldavia*, on September 28th, 1927, and joined the Battalion, for attachment for a tour of duty for two years, on October 2nd, 1927.

Lieut. F. C. A. Kerin, The King's Regiment, disembarked at Karachi, ex H.T. *Dorsetshire*, on October 20th, 1927, and joined the Battalion, for attachment pending transfer to the Indian Army, on October 23rd, 1927.

LEAVE—REJOINING FROM.

The undermentioned officers rejoined the Battalion, from eight months' leave in the United Kingdom, on the dates stated:—

Capt. (Bt. Major) T. S. Wollocombe, M.C.—September 17th, 1927.

Capt. V. J. Garrow.—September 17th, 1927.

Capt. F. A. L. Lawrence.—October 14th, 1927.

Lieut. S. J. Clark.—October 14th, 1927.

Lieut. A. N. Overell.—October 15th, 1927.

Lieut. and Qmr. R. T. Douthet.—November 5th, 1927.

DEPARTURES.

Capt. F. A. L. Lawrence proceeded to Kirkee for attachment to the 16th Field Brigade, R.A., for a period of two months, on October 18th, 1927.

Lieut. E. L. Heywood embarked at Bombay per s.s. *Mooltan*, for New Zealand, for attachment to the New Zealand Military Forces at Wellington, for a tour of duty for two years, on October 13th, 1927.

2/Lieut. S. P. Thorat ceased to be attached to the Battalion, and proceeded to Manzai, Waziristan, on November 5th, 1927, to join the 1st/14th Punjab Regiment, on being posted.

COURSES OF INSTRUCTION.

2/Lieut. C. M. Baldwin qualified at the Third Class in Animal Management held at the Army Veterinary School (India), Poona, on September 15th, 1927.

LANGUAGE EXAMINATIONS.

Lieut. G. A. N. Chisholm passed the "British Service Officers' Urdu Test," at Poona, on October 3rd, 1927.

GOLF.

The first and final round of the All-Ahmednagar Inter-Unit Team Championship was played at Ahmednagar on November 12th and 13th, between teams representing the Machine Gun School and the 2nd Bn. The Middlesex Regiment.

The struggle which ensued was worthy of the occasion, and, although the School team eventually emerged victorious, the Battalion team drove off with heads "muddy but unbowed," having lost by the odd match, not so much from lack of skill as from a Washingtonian spirit which forbade them to meet guile with guile.

The match was to be decided by a singles six-a-side, and four-ball foursomes. The former were played on Saturday, and ended in a tie, 3 matches all.

The top match, in which Whinney and Cassels were opposed, left first, and, both removing the ball with apparent ease to some distant portion of the course, they were gone before the remainder had decided whether a 1924 Dunlop or a brand-new "Swallowflite" was the more suitable spheroid to launch.

The remainder set out as and when they found their opponent and had mutually decided that they were ready, and thus it fell to Major Wollocombe to follow with the record drive of the day, as, with a fine, free swing, he imparted considerable top-spin to the ball, and enabled it to run at least 10 feet. Though gaining full marks for the day, this effort was overshadowed the next day. Unable to recover from the shock of this start-off, Major Wollocombe was forced to acknowledge defeat at about the 16th hole, when Capt. Whinney, after a good struggle with Cassels, was forced to agree that the latter had had his revenge for a match played a few days before.

Gilbert produced ample reasons for surrendering; in fact, if what he and his opponent said is to be taken as gospel, his opponent is a wolf in sheep's clothing, and would be better employed assisting the Walker Cup team than playing fourth for the Machine Gun School. However, we believe personally that Gilbert's careless habit of leaving his clubs lying about in the tree-tops, which naturally, after a time, restricts the choice of clubs left in the bag, had a good deal to do with his defeat; and even his ready knowledge of local rules to meet all emergencies (which no one else can find on the board) failed to enable him to stave it off.

Procter, Douthet and Garrow balanced the score with a win each; the first-named won because his opponent, after too much cricket "cracking," forgot that it was not necessary to keep the ball on the ground at golf. The second won because he has been on leave, and, there, has been studying under a professional and has the encouraging knowledge that that same professional coached the runner-up of the Ladies' Championship. The last-named won because his opponent told him he had won, which everyone will agree was jolly decent of him. After more rain in the night, the course on Sunday was at its best, and the spear-grass was playing wonderfully, whilst a few new nullahs and rocky outcrops on the "browns" helped many a bad putt.

The leading four-ball between Whinney, Procter, Cassels and Neilson was not very interesting as a match, as the last-named still tried to reach the green with a series of off-drives, which left his partner to play the best ball of Whinney and Procter

whilst he was touring away on the off-flank.

Here comes the guile.

Major Wollocombe and Gilbert went prepared to be slaughtered, but with the comforting thought that Douthet and Garrow had beaten their pair separately the day before and should do again when in partnership; but, to the horror of those concerned, the slaughterer of Gilbert descended to the lowest pair, and, not only did Wollocombe and Gilbert lose, but Douthet and Garrow were equally eclipsed. In fact, Douthet was so staggered that, by the time he reached the fifth hole, he had all the teachings of his professional mentor mixed up with the theories of Kilner and Leyland on the way out, and the result was a top-spinning "googly" with pulled break-back, which travelled one yard on its own, and some more owing to the slope of the nullah in front of the tee.

It was unfortunate that the one spectator should have happened to be close to that particular hole, as he had the ill manners of the uninitiated and laughed, but this was nothing to his behaviour when the next shot only made a large hole in the air. Apparently, he does not realize that these accidents may happen to anyone, and in consequence he had to be sent off on an urgent job of work at the clubhouse. And so ended the championship. Scores:—

Whinney	...	0	Cassels (3 & 1)	...	1
Procter (3 & 1)	...	1	Neilson	...	0
Wollocombe	...	0	Howlett	...	1
Gilbert	...	0	Farquharson	...	1
Douthet	...	1	Byers	...	0
Garrow (4 & 2)	...	1	White	...	0

Whinney and	3	Cassels and	3
Procter (3 & 2)	1	Neilson	0
Wollocombe and		Howlett and	
Gilbert	0	White	1
Douthet and		Farquharson and	
Garrow	0	Byers	1
	1		2

CRICKET.

Once more the Battalion cricket team has gone through a season without losing a match.

Our last two matches were easily our hardest. We were opposed by a team on both occasions captained by Lieut. Howlett, of the Royal West Kents, a

quadrangular player; his team was composed of officers on the course at the Machine Gun School, and Royal Tank Corps School. We knew that to win these matches we should have to be on the top of our form. In the first match, the scores were as follows:—

Lieut. Howlett's XI.—143 and 124 (Whinney 5 for 43, 1st innings; Glover 4 for 44, 2nd innings).

Battalion Team.—144 and 156 (Wilson 49 not out, Sugden 39).

In the second match:—

Battalion Team.—122 and 89 (Else 31 not out).

Lieut. Howlett's XI.—88 and 93 (Glover 3 for 22, 1st innings; Worger 5 for 17, 2nd innings).

The result of the Quadrangular Cricket Tournament was as follows:—

	W.	D.	L.	Pts.
Privates	...	2	0	1
Officers	...	1	1	1
Corporals	...	1	1	1
Sergeants	...	1	0	2

RETURN MATCH.

MIDDLESEX REGIMENT V. ROYAL ULSTER RIFLES.

The return match between the Battalion and the 2nd Royal Ulster Rifles, from Poona, took place at Ahmednagar on Saturday, September 3rd.

The match was originally scheduled for two days, but, with the Ulsters' batting collapsing rather badly in each innings, all was over before stumps were drawn on the first day; and, although the match proved to be somewhat one-sided, it was most evenly contested up to the end.

Our opponents won the toss, and elected to bat; Capt. Whinney and Sergt. Glover starting our bowling. The latter proved ineffective in this innings, but all the earlier batsmen were in difficulties with Capt. Whinney, and the first four wickets fell in quick succession to his bowling, catches in the slips being responsible for two of these.

Capt. Godson and Lieut. Cole then made a stand. This ended disastrously in the former, who was shaping well, being run out owing to a misunderstanding. Addinall had by this time replaced Glover, and Quirke was stumped off his bowling; the ball rebounding on to the stumps from the wicket-keeper's pads.

The remaining wickets began to fall quickly after this, and the innings finally closed for 45 runs. Lieut. Cole, who had shown good defence, whilst unable to get the ball away to any extent, was finally stumped off a ball from Addinall, which completely defeated him. Capt. Whinney came out with the analysis of 6 wickets for 17 runs.

Our innings also began badly, Butterfield being bowled out by the first ball he received, while Wilson played a ball into his own wicket at 14.

Capt. Whinney and Lieut. Gilbert then made a stand, during which our opponents' total was passed; the latter, after a bad start, made some good hits before being caught off a slice to short leg, while Capt. Whinney drove well in an innings of 22, which was ended by a catch at cover-point. The fourth wicket fell at 68, but a mild collapse then ensued, five more wickets falling for an addition of only 36 runs. Glover and Worger were caught at the wicket before they had settled down, Kemp and Bish were both l.b.w., and Lieut. Chisholm was bowled by a ball which came in from the off, and kept very low. Addinall had meanwhile started confidently, and, on his being joined by Trendell, an excellent last-wicket partnership took place; Trendell kept his end up steadily, while Addinall delighted the spectators with some fine hitting, showing good judgment in choosing the right ball to hit. The pair were still together at the tea interval, but the innings ended in the second over after, the partnership having added fifty-four runs. Addinall hit two sixes, one five, and eight fours in his innings of 74.

The Ulsters' bowling, while not presenting any great difficulties, kept steady, and needed careful watching. The Ulsters went in to bat again just before five o'clock, and the innings was all over in an hour, their batsmen being quite unable to cope with the bowling of Capt. Whinney and Sergt. Glover, who bowled unchanged; the former was again most effective, his 6 wickets costing only 13 runs, while Glover took 4 for 9 runs. The accurate bowling was backed by good fielding, Bish in particular making a fine catch at point to dismiss Lieut. Cole.

The Middlesex Regiment thus won the match by an innings and 85 runs. During

the match, Capt. Whinney took 12 wickets for 30 runs.

Scores:—

ROYAL ULSTER RIFLES.	
1st Innings.	
Rfn. Sibley b Whinney	1
Rfn. McQuade lbw b Whinney	0
Rfn. Hyndman c Kemp b Whinney	1
Lieut. Croft c Addinall b Whinney	5
Capt. Godson run out	6
Lieut. Cole st Butterfield b Addinall	17
Rfn. Quirk st Butterfield b Addinall	1
Rfn. Hamilton lbw b Whinney	1
Rfn. Highway b Addinall	0
Rfn. Faulkner not out	7
L./Cpl. Craig c Gilbert b Whinney	1
Extras	5
Total	45
Bowling.—Whinney 6 for 17; Addinall 3 for 9.	

2nd Innings.	
Rfn. Sibley b Glover	2
Rfn. Hyndman c Worger b Whinney	1
Rfn. Quirk st Butterfield b Glover	0
Rfn. McQuade b Whinney	1
Capt. Godson b Whinney	10
Lieut. Cole c Bish b Whinney	6
Lieut. Croft b Whinney	2
Rfn. Hamilton b Glover	0
Rfn. Faulkner c and b Whinney	0
L./Cpl. Craig not out	0
Rfn. Highway c Butterfield b Glover	0
Extras	8
Total	30
Bowling.—Whinney 6 for 13; Glover 4 for 9.	

MIDDLESEX REGIMENT.	
C.S.M. Wilson b Hyndman	5
Pte. Butterfield b Quirk	0
Lieut. Gilbert c Sibley b Hyndman	28
Capt. Whinney c Hamilton b Cole	22
Sergt. Glover c Godson b Faulkner	2
Pte. Worger c Godson b Cole	10
Cpl. Addinall b Quirk	74
L./Cpl. Kemp lbw b Cole	0
Pte. Bish lbw b Faulkner	4
Lieut. Chisholm b Faulkner	0
Pte. Trendall not out	7
Extras	8
Total	160
Bowling.—Quirk 2 for 52; Hyndman 2 for 26; Cole 3 for 38; Faulkner 3 for 30.	

FOOTBALL.

At last the Battalion has lost the Rovers Cup. We were beaten by the Cheshire Regiment, after extra time, and they then went on to win the tournament.

The following is an extract from the *Times of India*:—

"HOLDERS BEATEN.

"CHESHIRE WIN AFTER EXTRA TIME.

"The Middlesex are not going to set up a Rovers Cup record by winning the trophy four years in succession, as they went under to the Cheshires on Tuesday, after a hard struggle, by the only goal of the match, scored in the extra time. The game was one of the best we have seen in the tournament, and the teams were very evenly matched. It was up and down all the time, with the Cheshires slightly the better of the two teams. They finished their advances better than the cup-holders, and Arnold had a busy afternoon. It was their defence which really won the match for them; it was as steady as a rock, and though Westcott and Co. were held fairly tightly by the 'Die-Hards,' the Middlesex defenders were apt to get rattled and were unsteady under pressure. A player who caught the eye in the match was Hewett, the Middlesex right winger, who was fast and elusive, frequently beating his man by his swerve alone, but the inside forwards were singularly ineffective. They wanted time in which to shoot, and this they never got. On the Cheshires' side, Parkin was the most effective forward, Westcott being well watched, and most of the Poona team's attacks were initiated by him. Price and Vipond were very safe and sure, and all three halves good stoppers.

"THE GAME.

"The game opened quietly, but after the Cheshires had forced a corner, things got lively, and a stern tussle ensued. The first shot of the match was sent in by Parkin, and some midfield play followed, both defences being sound. Lees had an opportunity, but finished weakly, and then Hewett, by a fine run and great shot, which was tipped over the bar by Woods for a corner, raised the hopes of the Middlesex. The Cheshires had more method about their play, but the Middlesex were dangerous every time they advanced. Wood was penalized for carrying, but the free kick was cleared. Westcott tried a long shot, which was out in direction, then a sweeping advance by the holders placed the Cheshires' goal in jeopardy. The danger was averted, however, and the Cheshires in turn forced a

corner. Barton hit the side-net, and Shaw had a good attempt stopped by Arnold. The Poona inside left got too much elevation on his next shot. Both ends were visited, and play was fast and interesting with an occasional thrill. Westcott headed into Arnold's arms, and Shaw tried to force his way through, but was eventually robbed. At half-time, neither side had scored.

"The second half opened in a similar manner to the first, midfield play being the rule. The holders were the first to attack, and Lees shot over, while Rutland headed outside. The Middlesex for a bit remained on the offensive, but Barton eventually took play up to the other end, where the Harwood League champions forced a corner. Vipond pulled up Hewett, and, setting Barton in motion, Westcott, from the latter's centre, drove in a good shot, which was equally well saved by Arnold. Corners to both sides followed, and, from one to the Cheshires, Shaw headed in, but Arnold was not to be beaten.

"FREQUENT RAIDS.

"Hewett was frequently raiding on the Middlesex right, but Rutland was given no rope, and his centres were generally cleared by the Cheshires' defenders. Butterfield tried a shot, but was too high, and the Cheshires began to have the better of the game, the Middlesex backs getting flurried on occasions and kicking wildly. Just before time, the Cheshires' goal had a narrow escape, but the ball was kept out, and the allotted time arrived with the score-sheet still blank.

"The teams commenced the extra time, and both teams had their turn on the offensive. Just before the expiration of the first portion of the extra time, Parkin started a movement which won the match for the Cheshires. He drew a defender, and put Westcott in possession; he repeated the process and transferred to Shaw, who, deceiving the defence, went on to beat Arnold with a shot which, it appeared, he should have stopped.

"The last ten minutes were embarked upon with the Middlesex striving for the equalizer which did not come, and the holders retired beaten. But they had lived up to the nickname of the regiment, and 'Died Hard.'

"Result: Cheshires, 1; Middlesex, 0.

"Teams:—

"Cheshires.—Woods; Price, Vipond; Herd, Cuniff, Dale; Allsop, Parkin, Westcott, Shaw, and Barton.

"Middlesex.—Arnold; Pickess, Loom; Bugden, Butterfield, Makewell; Hewett, Lees, Rutland, Cissell, and Worger."

The Battalion still retains the District Football Cup. We beat the Loyal North Lancashire Regiment in the final by three clear goals. The play was perhaps rather scrappy, but there is no doubt that the better team won. The following represented the Battalion:—

Pte. Arnold; Pte. Pickess, L./Cpl. Loom; R.Q.M.S. Pilley, Sergt. Neighbour, Cpl. Makewell; Sergt. Hewett, Pte. Butterfield, Dmr. Bugden, Pte. Cissell, and Pte. Hamer.

SERGEANTS' MESS.

R.S.M. Cox rejoined us from leave in the United Kingdom on October 22nd last, looking very fit and well.

The Bandmaster is on his way, and should be here within the next two or three days.

There are as yet no signs of Sergt. Capel returning from leave. We suppose he is being retained to bring out a draft from England.

Sergt. Hall purchased his discharge before the expiration of his furlough, and remained in England. We are very sorry to lose him, as he was thought very highly of in the Mess.

We extend our congratulations to Sergts. Harwood and Bishop on their promotion to substantive rank, and to L./Sergts. Denchfield and Buckle on their entry to the Mess.

C.S.M.I.M. Davis, C.Q.M.S. Steadman and Sergt. Colbourne proceeded to Bangalore in September with the Battalion team for the S.I.R.A. Meeting. We believe they had a good time, but, unfortunately, the conditions were not the ideal ones to produce good shooting. Anyhow, it was bad luck—they did their best.

We must congratulate Sergt. Banfield on being presented with his Long Service and Good Conduct Medal. Mentioning Sergt. Banfield calls for a few comments on our shikaris, namely Sergt. Banfield (head shikari), C.S.M. Wilson, Armr.-S./Sergt. Price, and Sergt. Colbourne. They have of late been missing on Thursdays and Sundays, and have not

shown up until late in the evening, when they have come home laden with the dust and spoils of their day's shooting. It invariably means a nice feed of buck the next day.

A little story of one of their adventures is worth recounting. It appears that, during one of their outings, they met with an old native shikari, who carried a very old-fashioned sporting gun. This native, who could not speak a word of English, beckoned them to follow him towards a thicket. Naturally expecting nothing less than a lion, they crept behind him, guns cocked, and everything. When, however, they reached a clearing in this thicket, instead of the expected lion, a fat old doe slowly got up and waddled away from them. All the same, it tasted very nice the next morning, and not a bit "doey."

The officers were "At Home" to the Mess on the occasion of the last cricket match of the season—Officers versus Sergeants, in the Quadrangular Tournament. Everyone had a very enjoyable time, and one member had to go and see the doctor the next morning, to be treated for "toothache." It was rather a pity that the tooth did not ache sufficiently to stop him going to camp.

During August and September, the Tank Corps School Mess and ourselves indulged in a little friendly rivalry. Three hockey matches were arranged—two on their ground, and one on ours. Two matches were won by the Mess, and the third was a drawn game. These games, and the aftermaths, were very enjoyable, and greatly increased the friendly spirit between the two messes.

We have, of course, had the usual tournaments, and these, together with a dance, have helped to pass the time pleasantly.

On November 19th, the Battalion proceeded to camp, and consequently most of the members are now at Vilad.

"B" COMPANY.

Once again "B" Company welcome a new Company Commander, and we hope we will not have another change for a long time to come. Major Wollocombe has come to us from the Small Arms School, Pachmari, and we extend to him a very hearty welcome indeed.

Lieut. Wray has left us, after a very long stay with the Company. He has been with No. 7 Platoon off and on for seven years. He has gone to take up a staff appointment at the Machine Gun School. We will all miss him, especially in the sports field, where his play and advice have always been invaluable. We all wish him the best of luck.

The Platoon cricket provided some very exciting matches. No. 5 Platoon eventually headed the league, closely followed by Nos. 7, 8 and 6. Had it not been for sundry individual efforts, the results of three or four of the matches might have been reversed.

No. 5 Platoon represented the Company in the Battalion Knock-out, but were beaten by No. 16 Platoon, after a very exciting match.

With Major Wollocombe joining us, and Capt. Garrow back from leave, we had high hopes of doing well at cricket, but our aspirations proved to be rather rash, and we had to content ourselves with fourth place.

C.S.M. Burns hit up a brilliant 61 against "A" Company, and, with his new bat, there is absolutely no holding him.

Boxing has been in full swing in the Company, and it is a great pleasure to see so many younger members taking such a great interest. The Company carried off no less than seven out of the thirteen medals in the Novices' Competition. The undermentioned distinguished themselves, and are to be congratulated on their splendid efforts.

Class "A."—*Light-weights*: winner, Pte. Waddilove; runner-up, L./Cpl. Cooper. *Welter-weights*: runner-up, Pte. Aylett.

Class "B."—*Feather-weights*: winner, Pte. Matthews. *Light-weights*: winner, Pte. Bampton. *Welter-weights*: winner, Pte. Barnard. *Middle-weights*: winner, Pte. Wright.

After the tournament, the boxers were entertained to dinner, and, thanks to Sergt. Banfield and our worthy Quartermaster-Sergeant, a first-rate feed was forthcoming. Speeches were made, with the exception of Cpl. Readings, who said he was too full for words. However, he made off with the menu, as he had always wanted to learn French.

In the Novices' Team Competition, we were beaten in the preliminary round by "D" Company. All the fights were very well contested, but we lost eventually by the small margin of 17 points to 15.

We managed to gain second place in the Open Team Championship, being beaten in the final by "D" Company again. At first, great fears were entertained as to whether the Company would be able to enter a complete team, but at the last moment Sergt. Aird and Cpl. Readings came forward and filled the fly-weight and heavy-weight vacancies respectively. Cpl. Readings fought an extremely plucky fight with the "D" Company heavy-weight, while he was fighting welter, and we all congratulate him on the fine show he put up.

Finally, we welcome 38 men from the 1st Battalion who have come to us from China, and we hope they will keep up the standard of the "old hands."

"C" COMPANY.

CRICKET.

Sport in the Battalion during this quarter has been confined to cricket, with two exceptions. We lost our usual place in the Inter-Company League, and tied with two other companies for third place. Things are looking up on the cricket field.

Let us congratulate "D" Company on winning the league. They were obviously the best all-round side, and deserved to win.

No. 10 Platoon were again the winners of the Inter-Platoon League, and were awarded 20 points towards the challenge shield. The remaining three platoons were awarded points as under:—

No. 9 Platoon, 15 points; No. 11 Platoon, 10 points; No. 12 Platoon, 5 points.

CROSS-COUNTRY RUNNING.

The Battalion held its half-yearly run in November, in which we finished third. L./Cpl. Harris was again the individual winner, and was selected, with Pte. Brown (26), to represent the Battalion in the District Run, which was held at Secunderabad. In this race, L./Cpl. Harris was the first man home, with a lead of about 350 yards. We congratulate him on his performance. Pte. Brown finished eighth.

Harris is proceeding to Bombay, to compete in a ten-mile run during December. We wish him luck.

BOXING.

We were beaten, but not disgraced, in both the Novices' and the Open Team Championships. In the Novices', Pte. Whitford had his ribs fractured early in the second round, but continued throughout the bout of three rounds, and lost on points. A very plucky effort! It was during this competition that we found our "White Hope" (Pte. Smith 07). He won his fights in both Novices' and Open Team Championships, and we hope for big things from him in the future.

In the Opens, we could not find the fly-weights and light heavy-weights, which gave the Company we were competing against an advantage over us. The following were winners of their weights:

Pte. Berks.—Bantam-weights.
L./Cpl. Cook.—Feather-weights.
Pte. Smith 07.—Middle-weights.

HOCKEY.

We are at present in camp, and, although we are kept fairly busy with training, we hope to get a few games of hockey played in preparation for the league, which commences on our return to Ahmednagar.

The ground we have to play upon is half-moon shape, and the two goalkeepers cannot see each other during the game. We warn them before the game commences that they are not to lose interest, and go to sleep.

Sergt. Harwood has joined us from the Band, and will be useful in our concerts later on. Sergts. Tiller and Bishop have left us for "Blighty," and we hope they are having a good time.

We welcome Capt. Procter, M.C., and the draft that are posted to us from the 1st Battalion.

The draft are fond of relating their experiences in China, which, in a good many cases do not go down very well with the men of the Battalion who have served in Singapore.

"D" COMPANY.

The cricket season is over, and we finished up winners of the Company Cricket League, beating all companies.

Our closest match was against "A" Company, whom we just managed to defeat on the first innings, rain preventing play on the second day. "H.Q." Wing, who were runners-up in the league, we defeated by an innings and 15 runs. Our successes in the league were mainly due to the batting of Cpl. Addinall, Lieut. Heywood and Capt. Whinney, and to the bowling of Cpl. Addinall, Capt. Whinney, and Ptes. Trendall and Squires. Good fielding and great keenness were also responsible for our success.

In the Novices' Boxing Team Competition, we got into the final, but were beaten by "A" Company, who were just too good for us. Those who won their fights were Ptes. Fletcher and Still, L./Cpl. Tear, and Pte. Sweeting; and Pte. Hawker walked over. The result was very close, as can be seen by the deciding points: "A" Company, 16; "D" Company, 15. Some very good fighting was seen.

Having lost the Novices', we were all the more determined to win the Open Team Championship, *i.e.*, Shaboodeens Cup, which we won last year. In the first round, we met "A" Company, and this time we managed to win. In the second round, we beat "H.Q." Wing, and in the final we beat "B" Company. Some excellent fighting was seen during this competition; Ptes. Brown and Still, Pte. Hamer, L./Cpl. Page, and Pte. Sculpher winning all their fights. L./Cpl. Green and Ptes. Trayhorne and Bull also showed what they were worth, and their opponents found them hard to beat. A special word of praise is due to Pte. Trayhorne, who, although he has not managed to win a fight, has always put up an excellent show, and the result is always a close one. An idea of what the Company's opinion of Trayhorne's fighting spirit is like was shown when they selected him to receive the cup from the Commanding Officer.

In the Individual Boxing, Cpl. School-edge was the only prize-winner; the remainder showed good form, but need more practice and training. We hope to see more entries and better results next time.

We did badly in the Battalion Cross-Country Run through some of our better runners being unable to compete. Pte. Adams came second, Higgins and Webb

fourteenth and fifteenth. We wish them the best of luck when they run for the Battalion.

Our strength has been increased by a draft from the 1st Battalion from Shanghai. We welcome them all, and hope they will enjoy our picnic at Vilad, where we go shortly for six weeks. We are all looking forward to camp and those pleasant days in the country out in the glorious sunshine!

Lieut. Heywood has left us for two years on a tour of duty in New Zealand. We wish him the best of luck.

Lieut. Sugden, N.Z.S.C., has taken his place, and has already distinguished himself on the cricket and hockey fields. We hope he will enjoy his stay with us.

Congratulations to all those who have won prizes at the voluntary shoots. The list of names would be too long to put here.

Congratulations to Pte. Lloyd, L./Cpl. Smithers, L./Cpl. Tear, and L./Cpl. Watson on getting their 2nd Class Certificates of Education, and Ptes. Cosgrove 50, Baker, Heath and Luckett on their "Thirds."

Sergt. Howard joined us for a short time from "H.Q." Wing, and has now gone home. May the best of luck go with him.

Much might be said about those who have left us during the last month. We miss them a lot in every branch of work and sport, but we hope to see some of them again on a later date at the Old Comrades' dinner. We wish them the best of luck in their new sphere of life.

MACHINE GUNNERS.

Since our last issue, the Platoon Cricket Knock-out and the Inter-Platoon Cross-Country Run have taken place. Cricket is not our strong point, and neither Nos. 1 nor 2 Sections did anything great, although we gave our opponents some very close games. "M.G.1" again won the cross-country run, with "M.G.2" a good second; the Gunners do not mean to let the clock go to another group this year. The leading twelve of "M.G.1's" team were: Pte. Copelin, Cpl. Jenkin, Ptes. Smith 86, Burgess, Maggs, Holland, L./Cpl. Nash, L./Cpl. Jackson, Pte. Luff, Cpl. Boen, Ptes. O'Shea and Cole. Mention must be made of the per-

formance of Lieut. Jacob, who ran for "M.G.2," and was placed second in the Company—a very fine effort. We congratulate Lieut. Jacob, Cpl. Jenkin and Pte. Copelin on gaining their places in the Battalion cross-country team. This is now competing at Secunderabad.

Several Gunners represented the Company in the Battalion Novices' Boxing Competition, and we must congratulate Pte. Wilder for putting up such a good fight against a much more experienced opponent. Sergt. Hewett and Pte. Cole both won their fights, although the team unluckily lost.

One section of the Gunners is demonstrating at the Machine Gun School, and we are confident of keeping up the traditions of the Platoon. Another section is going to Vilad Camp with the Battalion, and, to make this up to full strength, we have called in the reserve Gunners from the companies.

It is now the trooping season, and once again we lose a lot of our comrades who have left us for civilian life. We wish them every success in their new venture.

Lieut. Heywood, our late Company Commander, has left us for a tour of duty in the New Zealand Forces; this is our loss and the New Zealand Forces' gain. Lieut. Overell has returned from furlough in the United Kingdom, and has taken over Company Commander. We welcome him back, and hope he had an enjoyable time in "Blighty."

We welcome our Section Sergeant, Sergt. Palmer, back; he has just returned from Belgaum, and we wish him every success in his recent educational venture.

Congratulations to L./Sergt. Webb, Cpl. Boen, L./Cpl. Orton, and L./Cpl. Freeman on their promotions; the first two named have left us for a six-month furlough in "Blighty," and we sincerely hope they have an enjoyable time with Mann and Crossmans.

The Gunners are eagerly looking forward to Christmas, and we wish the season's greetings to our friends of the 1st Battalion.

SIGNAL SECTION.

Annual Classification has just been completed, and it is with much pride that we announce that, out of fifty who put in for the test, forty-four passed. We congratu-

late them, and wish the failures better luck next time.

We are now awaiting Southern Command's comments on our efforts. The percentage was 95.08, and the remarks of the Classifying Officer were, "Highly efficient." This has been our best effort since arriving in India, and we are hoping to live up to it in future.

Lieut. Heywood has gone to New Zealand, and it was with many regrets we said good-bye. He had quite a spell with the Signals, roughly six years. Lieut. Clark has now joined us, after eight months' leave in the United Kingdom, and is very keen on maintaining the same high standard which we have always enjoyed.

In regard to sport, the Cricket League has just finished, and we had the honour of occupying first place, together with the Band and the Drums and Employed. Each group lost one match. In the cross-country run, we did not do so well, and had to be content with last place. The Hockey League is about to commence, and we are very optimistic about the result. The Signals and the Drums and Employed are now running level for the Group Championship, so it will be a hard fight.

We have just lost eight Signallers, who have left for the United Kingdom. We wish them the very best of luck. Among them was Pte. Rochester, who came top in the classification, with 98.8 per cent.

Before closing, we must congratulate Ptes. Boothby and Horsman on their being appointed Lance-Corporals.

BAND.

Long before these notes appear in print the training season will be finished with, and everybody will be happy and settled down again.

Since our last venture into journalism, the strength of the Band has been sadly diminished. The first to leave us was "Zouch," "Skibs" and the unredoubtable "Sandy," with more to follow, including "Ben," the "Banjo King." Among the last to leave us is "Binks," who will be sadly missed, as he is the Band's mainstay on the sports field.

To counteract this, we have the Bandmaster returning from leave, and we are given to understand that he is bringing

a number of boys with him. We hope they will quickly settle down to their new station, and prove their worth in the Band.

Before we go any further, we must mention the Inter-Group Cricket, of which the last match of the season is most worthy of note. In this memorable match, we met our old rivals, the Drums and Employed. The first innings left the Band with a narrow margin of five runs on the right side. Going in for the second knock, the "D. and Es." collapsed in unaccountable fashion, the score board at close of play showing the astounding figures of 13 runs for 9 wickets, whereupon they wisely consented to give us the match. This victory, by the way, enabled the Band to share the leadership of the league with the Signals and "D. and Es."

The next item is the inevitable hockey. This league is now in progress, and, up to date, we have beaten the Signals 3-0, and we shared two goals with the "D. and Es." May success bring further success.

Our ranks have still further been depleted by the absence of Sergt. Harwood and L./Cpl. Kemp, the former of whom is transferred to "C" Company, whilst the latter is attending a P.T. course up country.

Just at the moment, we are preparing for our annual visit to Vilad Camp, which for the present we will overlook.

In the Company Cross-Country Run, we managed to annex third place, which was highly praiseworthy, considering our limited entrants. We also congratulate "H.Q." Wing on winning the Battalion Cross-Country Run.

Returning to the military side of affairs, we must congratulate Sergt. Harwood on his promotion, and L./Cpls. Simmons and Smith on their appointments as such.

We will now bring our epistle to a close by wishing everyone a prosperous New Year.

EMPLOYED.

Very little space is required to record the doings of the Employed during the last quarter.

In the Inter-Platoon Cricket League, we beat "M.G.1," "M.G.2," and the Signals, but, on meeting the Band, the

tables were turned. The termination of the league found us tying for first place with the Band and Signals.

Company Team Boxing took place in October, and it fell to "H.Q." to oppose "D" Company (who eventually emerged winners). Entrants from the Drums and Employed comprised L./Cpl. Gribble, Dmrs. Bull and Porter, and Ptes. Pile and Bumpus, and, though knock-outs were handed out to three of them, all put up a show worthy of note. Dmr. Bull, although matched against the heavy-weight champion of the Battalion, treated the spectators to a plucky and spirited display, and it is considered that his was a creditable performance in seeing the three rounds through. Pte. Pile had rather a stubborn opponent, and thus a gruelling fight ensued. However, as the fight progressed, it was perceptibly noticed that our man was superior, and gradually he wore his opponent out to eventually win on points.

The Battalion Cross-Country Run came off recently, and Lieut. F. Walden and Ptes. Pile and Bowers ran very well over a very rough course; helping to contribute the points which gave "H.Q." Wing the lead. Consequent on his performance, Pte. Pile has been selected to accompany the Battalion team competing in the Poona District Cross-Country Run. We did not have many entrants for this strenuous form of sport.

The very inclement weather which we are at present enduring has effectively delayed the playing off of the Hockey League. Therefore, the chronicle of that must be held over till next quarter.

Trooping season commenced in November, with the sailing of the *Karmala* and *Nevasa*, and, among those of our small gathering who dared to venture to try their luck at bread-winning in civilian life, were Cpl. Moss and Ptes. Baynham, Downer, Poulson, Collins, and Stapleton. We all hope that good fortune favours them.

Marriage is like a signpost. When you see a pretty girl you stop, then you look, and after you are wed you listen.

* * *

The man who says that modern feminine fashions are shocking, always seems ready to be a shock-absorber.

THE LATE COLONEL C. R. DYER.

CHARLES ROBERT DYER joined the 77th Regiment (with five other subalterns) in Rangoon, Burma, in 1881, being one of the last to join the Regiment under its old title.



COLONEL C. R. DYER.

Most of his service was spent with the 2nd Battalion, and in 1892 he succeeded the late Brig.-General F. D. Lumley, C.B., C.B.E., as Adjutant of the 4th Middlesex Regiment (Militia).

In 1899, Capt. Dyer proceeded with the 2nd Middlesex Regiment to the South African War, and was present at the Battle of Spion Kop, on January 24th, 1900, in command of "C" Company, when he showed great coolness and

gallantry. The records of the Battalion have the following entry: "A trench had been evacuated in a panic by a large number of men belonging to another brigade who were holding it before the arrival of the Coy ('C' Company), while the latter was advancing and preparing to rush over the top of the hill they were met by a crowd of fugitives who were running down the hill shouting, 'Retire, the Boers are on us.' Capt. Dyer endeavoured to stop them, but they were panic-stricken, so, calling out, 'Come on, 'C' Company,' while 2/Lieut. (now Lieut.-Colonel H. B. F. Bricknell, D.S.O.) also shouted out, 'Come on, Die-Hards,'" he led his company through them, and occupied the trench which they had left."

He returned to England in May, 1900, on promotion as Major in the newly-raised 4th Middlesex Regiment, which battalion he afterwards commanded. In 1912, Col. Dyer retired from the Army, being in bad health, and settled down in Southsea. His health prevented him taking any part in the Great War.

He married whilst the 2nd Battalion was stationed at Mhow, and leaves a widow, a son (now a Captain in the Royal Engineers), and a daughter, to whom we offer our deepest sympathy at their great loss.

G. W. W. S.

ARMISTICE DAY MEMORIAL SERVICE.

THE Armistice Day Service was held as usual at the Regimental Memorial, Mill Hill Barracks, on November 11th, 1927.

All ranks at the Depot paraded at full strength, and representatives from the Territorial Association and all Territorial battalions and Cadet units attended.

Relatives of the fallen, and many Old Comrades were present to honour the memory of those they remembered with pride.

The service opened with a hymn, after which the Rev. E. Howard Cobb, Vicar of St. Paul's Parish Church, who officiated, gave a short address. The Two Minutes' Silence and the sounding of the "Last Post" and "Réveillé" by the buglers brought the proceedings to a close.

Amongst those who attended were the following:—

Col. and Mrs. Anwyl Passingham, Major F. S. Steed, Capt. H. E. Foster, Major E. H. Amor, Mr. and Mrs. de Salis, Mr. F. Saltmarsh, Sqdn.-Leader Goggin, Lieut.-Col. W. J. Walters, Mr. R. E. Ryder, V.C., Mrs. Stapley, Mr. E. Morris, Mr. A. J. Hailey, Mr. E. J. Warren, Mr. Allen, Mr. T. R. Mackenzie, the Matron, Drapers' Cottage Homes; Sister Abel, Drapers' Cottage Homes; Mrs. Downing, Mrs. and Miss Bewshear, Mrs. Sparks, Mr. H. Lowen, Mrs. Cobbett, Mr. H. Hewitt, C.S.M. and Mrs. Elliott, Mr. W. Clarke, Mrs. Mantell, Mr. and Mrs. Kerswill, Mrs. Soper, Mrs. Baldry, Mrs. Raindle, Mr. Patient, Mrs. Russell, Mrs. Lambourne, Mrs. Fordham.

At the conclusion, the following wreaths were placed at the base of the Memorial on behalf of the undernamed. Mr. Cecil de Salis, Chairman, placed the wreath on behalf of the Territorial Association, and ex-Sergt. Ryder, V.C., placed the one in the name of the Regimental Association. All Ranks, 1st Battalion; All Ranks, 2nd Battalion; All Ranks, 7th Battalion; All Ranks, 8th Battalion; All Ranks, 9th Battalion; Cadets, Christ's College; Officers, Depot; Sergeants, Depot; Corporals, Depot; Privates, Training Company and Staff; Privates, D.F.A. Company; Regimental Association; Chairman and Members, Territorial Association; Mr. E. Morris; Mr. H. Lowen; Mr. and Mrs. Bowshall; Mrs. Downing; Mrs. Fordham; 7th City of London Regiment (Post Office Rifles); All Ranks, 12th Battalion.

In the evening, a detachment of ex-members of the 12th Battalion, headed by Capt. E. J. Garstin, visited the Memorial, and at the sounding of the "Last Post," placed a wreath in memory of their comrades of that battalion.

OFFICERS' CLUB NOTES.

THE Quarterly Meeting of the Officers' Club took place at the Central London Recruiting Depot, Whitehall, on Saturday, September 10th, 1927.

Present: Col. A. M. O. Anwyl Passingham, O.B.E., D.L. (in the chair); Col. G. Beach, O.B.E., T.D., Col. E. E. F. Baker, D.S.O., M.C., Lieut.-Col. W. H. Samuel, Major A. C. Dundas, O.B.E., Capt. E. P. Manson, M.C., Capt. V. E. Stock, M.C., Major F. S. Steed, D.C.M. (Hon. Secretary and Treasury).

The accounts for the Annual Dinner and Cricket Week were submitted by the Hon. Secretary, and were passed.

Fixtures for 1928 events were approved. They were as follows:—

Cricket Week.—June 25th to 28th.

Annual Dinner.—June 26th.

Club "At Homes."—June 27th and also 29th, for members wishing to attend the Old Comrades' Gathering and the Depot Sports.



DEPOT NOTES.

MAJOR L. F. SLOANE-STANLEY, Lieut. F. J. Nunn, M.C., 2/Lieut. P. Watson and 2/Lieut. L. H. J. de la M. Herapath have left the Depot to join the 1st Battalion at Catterick.

Capt. Haydon, M.C., has joined the Depot for a tour of duty, in relief of Bt. Major G. C. Bucknall, M.C., who has gone to the Staff College.

Lieut. J. H. Clowes has joined the Depot for a tour of duty in relief of Lieut. F. Gordon Parker, who has taken up the appointment of Adjutant of the 10th City of London Regiment.

The extra "Draft Finding" Company, formed at the Depot after the departure of the 1st Battalion to China, has now ceased to exist, the personnel of this company having been dispatched to join the 1st Battalion at Catterick.

There still remain at the Depot, however, fifty men who have completed their recruits' training, and ten boys.

These are to remain here until they embark for India in March, to join the 2nd Battalion.

SPORTS.

Our activities on the sports field have been greatly hampered by the elements.

Rain, fog, frost and snow have combined to make our grounds unplayable for weeks on end.

The draining of the lower ground has not made the improvement that we hoped for, and it remains waterlogged for long periods.

FOOTBALL.

Considering the little practice which our football team has been able to get, they have given a good account of themselves. Their record so far is:—

v. 9th Bn. Middlesex Regt., drew 2—2.

v. Whitbread's Breweries, lost 2—4.

v. Depot East Surrey Regt., won 2—1.

v. 9th Bn. Middlesex Regt., drew 0—0.

v. Whitbread's Breweries, drew 2—2.

v. Depot Royal Fusiliers, drew 2—2.

We have been lucky to have the help of Sergt. Capel, who was attached to the Depot after his leave expired. He was also a great asset to our hockey team. He has now left for a warm climate.

Our usual team has been:—

Sergt. Raindle; Sergt. Bearne, Pte. Pilgrim; Pte. Dyer, Sergt. Capel, Pte. Gillett; Pte. Brooks, Pte. Sears, Sergt. Warren, Sergt. Mewett, Sergt. Cobbett.

The following have also played:—

Cpl. Short, L./Cpl. Goodall, L./Cpl. Scott, Pte. Saunders, Pte. Marshall, Pte. Benningfield, and Pte. Hicks.

The Inter-Platoon and Squad League could not be completed, owing to insufficient time, before most of the Draft-finding Company left us for Catterick.

A Six-a-Side League has been started, but this has not progressed far, owing to weather conditions.

The Depot Staff have a strong team in the Inter-Mess League, and have started off well.

HOCKEY.

Although we have sustained some severe defeats, we have not been disgraced. The East Surrey Regiment's Depot and the R.A.F. at Stanmore have some real hockey players, and in our last match with the latter we could only field a scratch and untrained team.

Our record so far is:—

v. Depot Royal Fusiliers, won 6—4.

v. R.A.F., Stanmore, lost 4—6.

v. Depot Royal Fusiliers, won 2—1.
v. Depot East Surrey Regt., lost 1—2.
v. Depot East Surrey Regt., lost 3—9.
v. R.A.F., Stanmore, lost 0—6.

Our usual team has been:—

Pte. Smith 79; Lieut. Clayden, 2/Lieut. Herapath; Cpl. Painter, Sergt. Capel, 2/Lieut. Watson; Sergt. Raindle, Cpl. Short, C.Q.M.S. West, Sergt. Mewett, Cpl. Soper.

The following have also played:—

Major Bucknall, Lieut. Stephenson, Lieut. Lambert, C.Q.M.S. Cook, Sergt. Warren, Sergt. Cobbett, Sergt. Bearne, L./Cpl. Scott, L./Cpl. Miller, and Pte. Knox.

LADDERS.

The officers have worked their way up to the top of the pass-ball ladder, otherwise there has not been much activity here.

The officers have also moved up on the shooting ladder.

BOXING.

Some good "scrapping" was seen in the Inter-Squad Competition held in October and November. There were seventy-eight entries from four squads, a very creditable proportion.

The results of the semi-final and final rounds were as under:—

Bantam-weights.—*Semi-finals:* Pte. Brettell knocked out Pte. Crabb; Pte. Benham beat L./Cpl. Tutte on points. *Final:* Pte. Brettell beat Pte. Benham.

Feather-weights.—*Semi-finals:* Pte. Litchfield beat Pte. Blow on points; Pte. Gibbs knocked out Pte. Lambert. *Final:* Pte. Litchfield beat Pte. Gibbs on points.

Light-weights.—*Semi-finals:* Pte. Taylor beat L./Cpl. Sneesby, after an extra round; Pte. Westgarth w.o., opponent in hospital. *Final:* Pte. Taylor beat Pte. Westgarth on points.

Welter-weights.—*Final:* Pte. White beat Pte. Bayly on points.

Middle-weights.—*Final:* Pte. May knocked out Pte. Andrews.

Boys' Contests.—Boy Pope beat Boy Risely on points; Boy Merrett beat Boy Sewell on points.

Ypres Squad (Sergt. Bearne) won the shield with 102½ points.

Other squads as follows:—

Somme, 73 points; Albuhera, 67 points; Mons, 35 points.

Good losers' prizes were awarded to Pte. Isaacs, Pte. Knight, Pte. Roberts, Boy Pope, Pte. Stannard, and Pte. Hope.

Another boxing competition was held in December, to assist in finding a recruits' team for the Command Tournament.

The boxing was not of a very high standard.

The results were as under:—

Bantam-weights.—Pte. Alger beat Pte. Padgett.

Feather-weights.—Pte. Millett beat Pte. Stroud.

Light-weights.—Pte. Denegar beat Pte. Hinds.

Welter-weights.—Pte. Atkinson beat Pte. Yetton.

Middle-weights.—Pte. Tatte beat Pte. Earls.

Points for Shield.—Ladysmith (Sergt. Trapp), 77½ points; Somme, 55 points; Nivelles, 34 points.

SERGEANTS' MESS.

Our recollections of the last quarter of the old year will ever remain vivid in our memories, owing to the social round of festivities which we encountered.

We opened the quarter with a dance, which was well patronized. Minor injuries and other casualties caused Mist. Alba to be in great demand the following morning.

Sergts. Raindle and Robbins spent another week's holiday at Purfleet with the casuals of the "D.F.A." Company, who are shortly due for drafting to one of the battalions.

Congratulations to Sergts. Mewett and Russell, who, during the quarter, have qualified in different branches of warfare; the former in Gas, and the latter in Musketry.

A very successful whist drive was held in the Mess during November. Eleven tables were occupied, the winners being:

Ladies.—1, Mrs. West; 2, Mrs. Seffe.

Gents.—1, Sergt. Steward; 2, R.Q.M.S. Purcell; Booby, Mr. Choules.

The monthly billiards tournament was won by Sergt. Mewett, who is going "great guns," this being his second victory in succession.

Sergt. Griffin is at present attached to the 7th Bn. Middlesex Regiment (T.A.). Will members please note, when address-

ing any correspondence, that this should read: Sergt. Griffin, T.A., etc., etc.?

We also take this opportunity to congratulate Sergt. Griffin on the birth of a daughter on November 11th, 1927. The members of the Mess were "proxy God-fathers," and named her "Poppy."

On December 5th, we entertained the members of the Golders Green Police Force to a billiards match in the Mess. The result was a win for the Mess by 78 points. This was mainly due to the brilliant play of "Tiddler" Mewett, who beat his opponent by 73 in 100. The return match takes place on January 12th.

Owing to the inconvenience of New Year's Day falling on a Sunday, the New Year Dance was held on December 30th. This was a great success, although little use was made of the mistletoe, in spite of its prominence in the centre of the hall.

The dinner, which was held in the Mess, was the outstanding feature of the year, and was attended by twenty-one members of the Mess, a guest from the 10th London Regiment, Sergt. Wilson, C.S.M. Fitzgerald of the 9th Battalion, and Mr. George Munday. The Finchley Catering Company again very ably carried out the catering arrangements. The success of the evening was considerably enhanced by the attendance of the Commanding Officer and the Adjutant. In responding to the toast of "The Commanding Officer and Officers," the C.O. congratulated the members on their splendid efforts during the trying period of the last twelve months, when everybody was called upon to work at fever-heat, owing to the 1st Battalion being in China, and the Depot at double strength, with a normal staff. We were then honoured with the presence of the ladies, the amusements taking the form of dancing, and "round games."

We take this opportunity of congratulating the ladies on their whole-hearted participation in these games, and their cordial efforts to make the evening such a huge success.

Thanks are also due to the members of the Committee for their labours in decorating and the arrangements generally.

Congratulations to Sergts. Trapp, Robbins and Cobbett, and to L./Sergts. Bearne, Steward and Soper on their respective promotions.

Further congratulations to Sergt. Trapp on gaining the 1st Class Certificate of Education at the October examination.

We also welcome Sergt. Tiller to the Depot from the 2nd Battalion. We hope he will have a very successful tour.

CORPORALS' MESS.

As it is now too late to wish all other messes of the British Army a happy Christmas, we will just hope that they had one, and take this opportunity of wishing everyone a bright and prosperous New Year.

In our last notes, I mentioned that we had managed to win a cup and a shield, but I owe an apology to our worthy brother, Cpl. Short, as I failed to mention the fact that he had bagged the shooting cup, for best individual shot, and I now take the greatest of pleasure, on behalf of the Mess, in congratulating him on his success.

We held a very successful dance during the past quarter in the Recreation Hall, and once more "Eric" obliged us by performing the duties of M.C., at which duty he is by now an expert.

Cpl. Donaldson, who has been staying with us prior to embarking for the 2nd Battalion, seems to be quite enjoying his stay at Mill Hill. Although during the time he has been here he has had an argument with a bar of iron, he does not seem at all willing to leave.

L./Cpl. Reid has left us for "Civvy Street," and we wish him the greatest success.

Our old associate, Dick Aldridge, is in "dock" at present, and we wish him a speedy recovery.

We are getting out of practice at billiards, and will welcome him back, as he is sure to show us some new shots.

Our ranks are gradually weakening, as several of our junior lance-corporals have been drafted to Catterick to the 1st Battalion.

COURSES OF INSTRUCTION.

No. 7352 L./Cpl. J. Dodgson: Passed Class II at 36th Education Course, Shorncliffe, 8/7/27 to 16/9/27.

No. 7387 Pte. J. Harmer: Passed Class I at 36th Education Course, Shorncliffe, 8/7/27 to 16/9/27.

No. 1748 Sergt. (I.M.) A. Russell: Qualified "Q1" at L.Q. Course 14, 15/8/27 to 21/10/27.

BIRTHS.

GRIFFIN.—On November 11th, 1927, at Aldershot, the wife of Sergt. J. Griffin—a daughter (Jean Margaret Poppy).

CERTIFICATES OF EDUCATION.

The undermentioned were awarded 1st Class Certificates of Education during the past quarter:—

1494 Sergt. J. Trapp, 7687 Pte. W. Tulloch.

The undermentioned were awarded 2nd Class Certificates of Education during the past quarter:—

7786 Pte. R. Benningfield, 2889 Pte. F. Goodall, 7942 Pte. H. Lovell, 7909 Pte. T. McDavitt, 7916 Pte. W. Pinkney, 7763 Pte. A. Tutte, 7787 Pte. A. Wray, 7666 Pte. A. Hazell, 7643 Pte. A. Alexander, 7342 Pte. A. Bickel, 7911 Pte. R. Dyson, 7667 Pte. G. Herbert, 7757 Pte. J. Hood, 6907199 Pte. F. Housden, 7347 Pte. L. Image, 7912 Pte. G. Knowles, 7774 Pte. W. Millar, 7915 Pte. W. Murcott, 6082682 Pte. W. Reeves, 7478 Pte. E. Swadling, 7751 Pte. R. Smalldridge, 3222 Pte. T. Warren, 7776 Pte. D. Cater, 6949 Pte. A. Greene, 7390 Pte. J. Walker.

The undermentioned were awarded 3rd Class Certificates of Education during the past quarter:—

7955 Pte. A. Blow, 7762 Pte. G. Chessun, 7922 Pte. J. Delaney, 7767 Pte. Gibbs, 7958 Boy M. Goulding, 7701 Pte. H. Gower, 8003 Pte. F. Harris, 7962 Pte. C. Ives, 7910 Pte. W. Lichfield, 7968 Pte. C. Martini, 7785 Pte. J. Molloy, 8001 Pte. N. Raczynski, 8006 Boy J. Riseley, 7703 Pte. J. Spittle, 7791 Pte. W. Spurrier, 5946394 Pte. C. Smith, 8010 Pte. G. Stone, 7943 Pte. A. Veares, 6007167 Pte. W. Witney, 8033 Pte. R. Atkins, 7664 Pte. R. Brown, 8024 Pte. C. Birthright, 8031 Pte. T. Bayly, 7756 Pte. J. Barnes, 8062 Pte. A. Cummings, 8018 Pte. H. Collier, 7779 Pte. A. Dalton, 7730 Pte. E. Frost, 8020 Pte. A. Hopper, 8032 Pte. A. Horne, 8013 Pte. J. Jones, 7739 Pte. A. Munden, 8025 Pte. F. Payne, 7933 Pte. J. Sprules, 8021 Pte. J. Westgarth, 8036 Pte. G. Wellman, 7712 Pte. G. Murphy, 6005684 Pte. A. Burgess, 7952 Pte. A. Brettell.

7926 Pte. C. Corbin, 7941 Pte. F. Hutchins, 6711337 Pte. G. Knight, 7653 Pte. T. Kirby, 8016 Pte. W. Lambert, 8052 Pte. A. Murray, 8062 Pte. R. Pake-man, 8050 Pte. H. Southern, 8028 Pte. M. Taylor, 8004 Pte. J. Urquhart, 7673 Pte. D. Dale.

PROMOTIONS.

1994 L./Sergt. J. Trapp: Promoted Sergeant, 9/2/27.
1726 L./Sergt. E. Robbins: Promoted Sergeant, 21/2/27.
7810296 L./Sergt. W. Cobbett: Promoted Sergeant, 15/2/27.

MEDALS.

The undermentioned have been awarded the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal during the past quarter:—

88566 C.S.M. E. Green, 88587 C.S.M. E. Tyler, 88676 C.Q.M.S. W. Gray, 89095 Sergt. L. Clarke, 88528 Sergt. G. Clift, 88522 Sergt. T. Page, 88578 Sergt. E. Walsh, 2304 Pte. B. Bish, 92881 Pte. G. Jones, 1974 Pte. A. Sparkes.

DEPOT ESTABLISHMENT.

0826 Sergt. T. Tiller: Posted to Depot from 2nd Battalion for tour of duty, 27/11/27.

REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION NOTES.

SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR THE QUARTER ENDED DECEMBER 31st, 1927:—

Amount of grants and loans made: £123 12s.
Number of cases dealt with: 165.
Number of cases assisted: 65.
Number of men registered for employment: 105.
Number of men offered employment: 37.
Number of men found permanent employment: 16.
Number of parcels sent out from Ladies' Guild: 10.

MALAYAN BRANCH.

Minutes of a meeting of past and present members of the Middlesex Regiment, held at the Drill Hall, Singapore, at 6.30 p.m. on September 1st, 1927.

Seven members were present.

Proposed by Lieut.-Col. B. A. Thompson, seconded by Capt. H. A. A. Howell, that—

"A branch of the Association be formed, and be called the Malayan Branch."—*Carried.*

Proposed by Mr. W. H. Follenfant, seconded by Mr. F. Deason, that—

"Lieut.-Col. B. A. Thompson be elected President."—*Carried.*

Proposed by Lieut.-Col. B. A. Thompson, seconded by Mr. F. Deason, that—

"Capt. H. A. A. Howell be elected Hon. Secretary."—*Carried.*

Proposed by Lieut.-Col. B. A. Thompson, seconded by R.S.M. A. J. Pharaoh, that—

"Five members should form the Committee—two in Singapore, one in Penang, and two in the F.M.S."—*Carried.*

The following members were proposed and seconded:—

Mr. F. Deason and Mr. A. E. Lickfold. —Singapore.

Mr. C. Nixon, D.C.M., M.M.—Penang.

Mr. A. Preston and Capt. C. Darby, J.P.—F.M.S.

—*Carried.*

Proposed by Capt. H. A. A. Howell, seconded by Mr. G. C. Champ, that—

"R.S.M. A. J. Pharaoh be elected Hon. Treasurer."—*Carried.*

Proposed by Lieut.-Col. B. A. Thompson, seconded by Mr. F. Deason, that—

"Three form a quorum."—*Carried.*

Proposed by Lieut.-Col. B. A. Thompson, seconded by Capt. H. A. A. Howell, that—

"It is suggested that all members be asked to subscribe to the Association one day's salary per year, this amount to be paid to the Hon. Treasurer monthly, quarterly or yearly. If members are unable to afford this, any smaller amount will be gratefully accepted."—*Carried.*

Proposed by Lieut.-Col. B. A. Thompson, seconded by Capt. H. A. A. Howell, that—

"Many men during the war were attached to the Regiment, and that they be asked to join the Association. That the Committee be asked to send home a copy of the minutes of all meetings."—*Carried.*

Proposed by Lieut.-Col. B. A. Thompson, seconded by Capt. H. A. A. Howell, that—

"The General Meeting be held half an hour before the Annual Dinner."—*Carried.*

Official address.—Capt. H. A. A. Howell, Fort Canning, Singapore, S.S.

Telegraphic address.—This was left to the Committee to decide.

Proposed by Mr. G. C. Miller, seconded by Mr. W. H. Follenfant, that—

"A vote of thanks be accorded Lieut.-Col. B. A. Thompson for kindly taking the chair."—*Carried.*

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Secretary, Old Comrades Association, Middlesex Regiment.

DEAR SIR,

The following would interest you, as it shows the kindly thought and acts of our Prince are not often noticed.

After the Albert Hall meeting on Armistice Night, our party of limbless men went in torchlight procession by charabanc to Whitehall, and, by the aid of the police, got through the crowd.

When we arrived, the Prince, who was some yards away, saw three of us limping, and left his friends and came over to us by himself. He very kindly inquired how we had managed to get through the crowd, and how we proposed to get back. Before he left us, I had the pleasure of shaking hands with His Royal Highness, and for me this was the end of a perfect day.

Yours truly,
W. G. DINES.

31, KINGFISHER STREET,
DEEPDALE,
PRESTON.
LANCS.

SIR,

I hope you will excuse me troubling you, but on October 10th, 1867, I enlisted in the 77th East Middlesex Regiment, the Depot of which was at Gosport, where I got my photo taken, a copy of which I enclose and hope you will accept. You can do what you please with it, but it will let you see the difference in dress of then and now. If you care, I will send you one of recent date, so that you can compare the two. I am a couple of months short of 79 years, and able to work at my trade still.



PRIVATE C. AIREY,
77th Regiment, Gosport, 1867.

Hoping I have not troubled you too much,

I remain,
Yours truly,
C. AIREY.

THE HISTORY OF THE 7th BATTALION MIDDLESEX REGIMENT.

By COL. E. J. KING, C.M.G.

WITH the possible exception of the Honourable Artillery Company, it is hard to believe that any Territorial unit of the British Army can have a more interesting history than our 7th Battalion; certainly none can hope to have its story told by an historian better qualified or more enthusiastic than Col. King.

Precedence in the Territorial infantry being governed by date of formation, the fact that the Middlesex battalions take third place owing to the seniority of the Hampstead Detachment of what is now the 7th Middlesex, is sufficient proof of its antiquity; moreover, it was the earliest bearer of the proud description "Imperial Service Battalion," and for several years

before the Great War, the Army List used to show an unrivalled record of professional qualifications against the names of its officers.

All this is fully set forth in the earlier chapters of Col. King's book, which carry the story up to the outbreak of war in 1914, showing, not without humour, the strange difficulties with which Commanding Officers often had to contend, and how they were overcome. There were among these C.Os. men of exceptional capacity and force of character, to whom full justice is done, and the resulting story of how an efficient battalion was hammered out of half a dozen disconnected and sometimes even slightly antagonistic units is interesting from many points of view.

The latter part of the book shows vividly the Battalion in war, generally under command of Col. King himself, fully justifying the foresight of those who made it an integral part of the Middlesex Regiment. It suffered very heavy casualties in gaining innumerable honours and was rarely unable to carry out its allotted task, even when once and again it lost all its company commanders. There is a very interesting foreword by Sir Ivor Maxse, and also appendices, portraits, maps and index, all good.

The volume matches in appearance "The 'Die-Hards' in the Great War," and the books should stand together on the shelves of true lovers of the Regiment.

Price to officers and others interested in the Battalion, 25s. Specially reduced prices to W.Os., N.C.Os. and men who served in the Battalion, 10s. Applications for copies should be made to Lieut.-Col. S. Cedric Smith, 23, St. Swithin's Lane, E.C.4.

OLD CONTEMPTIBLES VISIT MONS.

WE are indebted to Mr. A. W. Havard for the following account of a visit to Mons by members of the Old Contemptibles' Association on November 11th, 1927:—

The Regiment was represented by the following Old Comrades:—

Cpl. W. E. Cousins (9937), "B" Company, 4th Battalion.

Cpl. G. Mole (10323), "B" Company, 4th Battalion.

L./Cpl. A. W. Havard (12418), "A" Company, 1st Battalion.

Pte. R. Dunne (721), "D" Company, 4th Battalion.

Pte. S. H. Simmonds (6541), "A" Company, 1st Battalion.

Pte. D. Connor (7366), "D" Company, 1st Battalion.

Pte. G. F. Smith (8064), "A" Company, 1st Battalion.

Pte. G. Collett (9416), "C" Company, 1st Battalion.

The party assembled at Victoria Station on November 10th, and proceeded via Dover and Ostend to Brussels, where they stayed the night. Early on Armistice Day, we left for Mons, where we were received by the Burgomaster in the Hotel de Ville. This was followed by a short religious service at the Town's War Memorial, after which the party proceeded to the cemetery, where the Two Minutes' Silence was observed amongst the graves of the men who gave their lives for King and Country in the Great War. After the service, we dispersed, and had a little leisure to ourselves, visiting the graves of the fallen. The party then returned to Brussels.

The following day, a short service, with two minutes' silence, was held at the Unknown Warrior's Grave in Brussels.

On Sunday, November 13th, the party proceeded, in a snowstorm, to Mons, where Divine service, conducted by the Rev. Owen Spencer Watkins, Deputy Chaplain-General to the Forces, was held at the Mons War Memorial.

The men of the Middlesex Regiment were then taken for a drive in a motor-car by a Belgian gentleman named Niser Gustave, a great friend to the Middlesex on their arrival at Obourg in August, 1914, where the 4th Battalion made such a gallant fight.

The whole party entrained for Boulogne at 1 p.m.—a rather long journey through the battlefields of France, Lille, La Bassée and other famous places.

On arrival at Boulogne, the party embarked for Folkestone, and arrived in London at 11 p.m., thus ending the tour of the Old Contemptibles' Association, which was a very great success.

OLD COMRADES' QUARTERLY CONCERT.

ABOUT one hundred Old Comrades, with their wives and friends, assembled at the Masonic Rooms, Euston Road, on Saturday, January 7th, for the second concert of the season.

The party was a very representative one, members from nearly all battalions, Regular, Territorial and Service, being present.

Several old faces appear at these functions for the first time, and it was very gratifying to those members of the Committee present, to see how much they appreciated renewing old acquaintances, and making new ones.

Madame Ghita Corri provided a clever and versatile party of artistes named "The Curiosities," who gave a lively and amusing entertainment, which kept the assembly in good spirits throughout the evening.

Our worthy and genial Chairman, Mr. E. Morris, presided, and was supported by Lieut.-Col. W. H. Samuel, Major W. W. Jefferd, Major Whittaker, and Capt. H. E. Foster.

The following were also present:—

Madame G. Corri, Lieut. H. P. Lambert, Capt. J. Smith, Major F. S. Steed, Major Mills, Lieut. Stephenson, Lieut. D. McDonald, R.Q.M.S. A. Purcell, Mr. and Mrs. Coustin, Mr. E. Warren, Mr. and Mrs. Beasley, Mr. and Mrs. Edwards, Mr. A. J. Helps, Mr. and Mrs. Johnstone, Mr. and Mrs. Fitzgerald, R.S.M. and Mrs. Mantell, Mr. and Mrs. Meachen and sons, etc. (5), Mr. and Mrs. Jones, Mr. Cattell and friend, Mr. Keys, Mr. and Mrs. Whiting, Mr. Gibbons, Mr. Bishop, Mr. Berry, Mr. and Mrs. Coe, Mr. W. G. Quick, Mr. and Mrs. Saunders and party (8), Mr. Coldicott, Mrs. Morgan, Mrs. Adkins, Mr. Hunt, Mr. Turner, Mr. E. Jones, Mr., Mrs. and Miss Safferty, Mr. and Mrs. Harrington, Mr. and Mrs. Baldry, Mr. Manders, Mr. Stone, Mr. and Mrs. Fayers, Mr. Wendon, Mr. Reece, Mr. Mayo, Mr. and Mrs. Lawson, Mr. Payne, Mr. Clarke, Mr. and Mrs. Waite, Mr. and Mrs. Hyde, Mr. White, Mr. and Mrs. Sanders, Mr. B. Sullivan and daughters (2), Mr. and Mrs. Holmes, Mr. T. Bailey, Mr. and Mrs. Furniss, Mr. and Mrs. Clelland.

8th BATTALION NOTES.

SINCE our last notes, we have been doing a number of tactical exercises. Four exercises have been held on recent Sundays—one for the officers of the Battalion, one for the N.C.Os., and two for the companies. The same ground was used on each occasion—an interesting piece of country near Chalfont St. Peter in Buckinghamshire. The schemes varied slightly, but were all planned to give instruction in the principles of outposts, and to enable commanders of whatever rank to form clear mental pictures of the situations likely to arise, and the most suitable methods of dealing with them.

"B" Company accomplished a fine performance in being first in the Brigade in Weapon Training. (Well done, "B"!) It was bad luck, and no fault of theirs, that we did not win the shield.

The Battalion Prize Distribution took place at Hounslow on December 26th, when there was a large attendance of all ranks and their friends. It was certainly the biggest gathering for some years. Col. W. Garner, C.M.G., T.D., gave away the prizes. We were very glad that he was able to do so. In an excellent speech, Col. Garner expressed his pleasure at being again with his comrades, old and new, and took us back to the days at the outbreak of war when he commanded the Battalion, and took it overseas. He appealed for more recruits, so that the Battalion should be up to strength as it was in 1914. We can only hope that those who were present will realize how much the continued efficiency of the 8th is dependent on a steady increase in numbers.

The Brigade Commander, Col. Worham, very kindly came down and spoke. His speech should encourage all who are working for the success of the Battalion.

After the prizes had been presented, a very enjoyable dance was held, which continued with great success until a late (or early) hour.

"A" Company also adopted the policy of giving a dance at their prize presentation at Hampton on November 30th. The hall was crowded, and the evening was a great success. The prizes were given away by Mrs. O'Hagan, who has been so very kind to the Battalion in the past.

Col. Dams, a former Commanding Officer, and at one time O.C. Hampton Company, was also present.

"B" Company prize-giving was at Ealing on December 20th, when Mr. T. W. White, the Mayor of Ealing, gave away the prizes. Many old friends and supporters of "B" Company were present, and an excellent concert was given. No account of the evening would be complete without a reference to Cpl. Tripp, who must have established a record by the number of prizes and cups he carried away.

Congratulations to "B" Company on the turn-out of so many of all ranks in "blue." The effect was extremely smart and soldierly.

The Officers' Dinner was held at the Trocadero Restaurant on November 24th. There was a good attendance, though the numbers were rather less than last year. The Commanding Officer was in the chair, and made a short report of the Battalion's achievements during the year, for the information of former serving officers. We were very glad to see so many of them present, and we go on hoping for more and more each year. There is one certain way in which they can ensure an enjoyable evening. Let them make up little parties of those who served with them and come in a batch; we shall then have not only satisfactory numbers, but the real reunion spirit, which is an essential part of such dinners.

Among well-known former officers present were Col. Garner, Col. Peake, Major Chipp, and Capt. Levy.

We have to congratulate our Medical Officer, Capt. Summers, on his recent marriage, and wish him good luck and happiness.

Finally, a really happy and successful New Year to everyone.

"H.Q." WING.

The Battalion Annual Prize Distribution was held in our drill hall on December 16th. There was a considerably larger attendance than last year. The arrangements were different from those in the past. On this occasion, the concert was dispensed with, and the evening opened with selections played by the Band. The prizes were then distributed by Col. W. Garner, our Honorary Colonel. We were

successful in carrying off the Montgomery Memorial Cup, held by the company having the highest attendance at Annual Training, which was won by "Q" Company. The evening ended up with a dance for all ranks, which was most successful. We were pleased to see a good number of representatives from all companies in our drill hall. Judging by the crowd in the bar, they certainly seem to admire our taste in liquid refreshments.

The Signallers and Machine Gunners attended a tactical exercise with "B" and "D" Companies at Amersham on Sunday, December 18th. In spite of the cold weather, it was a very enjoyable day, and we believe they have learned something about how companies occupy an outpost position.

"A" COMPANY.

We held a very successful Company Annual Prize-giving and Dance on November 30th, an account of which has already appeared in the *Surrey Comet* of December 3rd last. We were very glad that the Commanding Officer and Mrs. Baker and several officers, N.C.O.s, and men from Headquarters and other companies were able to be present. It was also very pleasant to be able to welcome a large number of relations and friends of the Company, including representatives of the Hampton Branch of the British Legion and the police. We hope that the many friends who were present at the prize-giving will continue to give us their help and support in the future.

Our thanks are due to Mrs. O'Hagan for so kindly coming to present the cups and prizes, and to C.S.M. and Mrs. Manders for their really hard work and the admirable arrangements which they made for the occasion. We also thank other members of the Company, and those ladies who gave valuable help.

The winners of cups and prizes were as follows:—

Montgomery Memorial Cup, and 1st Prize.—Cpl. Seymour; 2nd Prize, L./Cpl. Webb; 3rd Prize, Sergt. Huggins.

Major West's Cup, and 1st Prize.—Sergt. Hillier; 2nd Prize, Cpl. Raynsford; 3rd Prize, Sergt. Williams; 4th Prize, Pte. Hayward.

Capt. Watson's Cup, and Prize.—L./Cpl. Holden.

Brodie Memorial Cup, and Prize.—Pte. Lovett.

Capt. Brodie's Cup, and 1st Prize.—Pte. Walker; 2nd Prize, Pte. Barnes.

O.C. Company's Prize.—L./Cpl. Holden.

N.C.O.s' Classes were in progress for the last three months of the year, and those N.C.O.s. who attended regularly—and we are glad to say there were several—have undoubtedly benefited by their instruction.

We are sorry to say that Sergt. Williams was taken seriously ill at the beginning of November, but he is now on the road to recovery, and, at the time of writing these notes, he is at a convalescent home at Folkestone.

Mr. Maddex underwent a Certificate "A" course at the London District School of Instruction last November, and obtained a satisfactory report.

In the first round of the Inter-Company Football Competition, we hope to meet "H.Q." Wing ("G") on Saturday, January 7th, but we shall not be able to announce the result until our next issue.

We hope that as many members of the Company as possible will enter for the Battalion Boxing Competition. Mr. Maddex has kindly offered to present a silver medal to any member of the Company who wins the final of his weight, and a bronze medal to any runner-up in this year's Battalion Competition.

The Winter Weapon Training Competition begins on January 3rd (our first parade in the New Year), and we hope that all members of the Company will turn up to put in their fifteen drills before the end of March, and to pass their tests, as we mean to do our very best to win the competition this year. If we may be allowed to paraphrase a motto which is now being posted up extensively on the walls of London tube stations, we would say, "A fair average conduct helps the Company."

"B" COMPANY.

The last months have not been ones of great activity in the drill hall. On both drill nights during the week N.C.O.s' Classes have been held, but we are sorry to say they have not been very well attended. A faithful band of younger members turned up well, but the senior

N.C.O.s. seem to have found great difficulty in attending.

On Sunday, November 6th, we held a well-attended parade for the Armistice service at St. Mary's Church, Ealing. The Drums played us to and from the church, and provided buglers to sound the "Last Post" and "Réveillé."

On Sunday, December 18th, the N.C.O.s. went to Amersham for a tactical exercise in conjunction with "D" Company. The weather, though cold, was ideal, bright and frosty, but with none of the bitter winds we have lately felt so much.

The dances this year, we must frankly admit, have not been the success we had hoped. The trouble again is local opposition. We know you can dance near-by for a trifle less in cost, but the Committee did hope to get more response from members of the Company when the season opened this year.

On Tuesday, December 20th, we held the Company Prize Distribution and Smoking Concert. The attendance was smaller than last year, owing, no doubt, to the vile weather. Perhaps, too, some who came last year did not realize that since then the Borough Council has provided a new system of hot-water radiation, and those few chinks in the windows at the stage end of the hall are mostly filled up now.

Mrs. Baker kindly presented the Battalion trophies—the Winter Weapon Training Cup and the Battalion Efficiency Cup—and the Mayor of Ealing, in addition to honouring us with his company, gave away the Company prizes. The Commanding Officer made a most encouraging speech, to which Capt. Parmeter replied, and the Mayor and Mr. Willoughby Garner also spoke.

We have to thank very much indeed Mr. Willoughby Garner for presenting the Company with a very handsome shield for Inter-Platoon efficiency, and Capt. Summers, R.A.M.C., late of the Company, for a very beautiful cup for Lewis gun competition. We assure them of the Company's deep appreciation of their generosity.

We congratulate all prize-winners, and more especially Cpl. Tripp, who, we understand, hired a small pantechinon in which to take away his prizes.

"C" COMPANY.

At the Battalion Prize Distribution at Hounslow on December 16th, we were presented with the Col. Bott Cup, which is given for the company whose team scores the highest number of points in the Lewis Gun Competition at the Brigade Rifle Meeting, and the Battalion Challenge Cup for the company gaining the highest points in the Annual Weapon Training Course. Both of these cups are for shooting. Next year we must try to pull off one or two others. At present, our weak strength is against us; so, buck up, "C" Company, and get some more recruits, and we can then hope to see a few more Battalion trophies marked up to us. Those we have recently won are being exhibited in a shop in Staines, so that may draw the attention of the local "lads of the village" to us and set them thinking about coming along to join.

We have just finished a Company Dart Competition, which was won by our P.S. Instructor, C.S.M. Rogers, and we are now holding a Spoon Shoot on the miniature range for all ranks. On December 31st, it is hoped to hold a children's party for the wives and children of the members of the Company. On October 1st, we held a very successful Company Supper, at which about thirty-five members were present. This was followed by a sing-song.

On Armistice Sunday, church parades were held at Ashford in the morning, and at Hampton, with "A" Company, in the afternoon. Considering the fact that the whole day had to be given up, the turn-out was very encouraging. A light lunch was served at Company Headquarters between the two parades, and we have to thank "A" Company for giving us tea after the afternoon parade.

We attended a very interesting tactical exercise at Amersham on November 20th, and we hope everyone who was there came away with some knowledge about platoons on outpost duty.

"D" COMPANY.

Despite the large amount of work that has been accomplished by the members of "D" Company at Uxbridge and elsewhere since the last issue of the Journal, there seems to be very little to be said about it all. However, we must comment

upon the efficient manner in which fire orders are now delivered in the drill hall, upon the discrimination displayed in the recognition of targets on canvas landscapes, and upon the inside knowledge of the Lewis gun with which many besides the N.C.Os. appear to be familiar.

There has been ample opportunity afforded us to demonstrate, in that excellent country ground, Amersham, that our practical indoor work has not benefited at the expense of tactics, and no more mistakes should be made about outposts or mobile defence.

Recruiting ought not to be slow after the way in which the Company aroused Uxbridge and the neighbourhood on the occasion of the "Somme" film at the Savoy Theatre.

We are able to look back upon the Battalion Prize Distribution with some satisfaction, since it brought to us trophies for our efforts at Bisley, on the miniature range, and for football. Congratulations are due to Cpl. Juggins, the Battalion Shot, and to all those who were, in their various ways, responsible for our success in the firing line; also to our footballers.

We hope that the new period of Winter Weapon Training will entail further success, and that we shall not crush our laurels by leaning upon them too heavily.

9th BATTALION NOTES.

THE past few months have been so busy for the 9th Battalion that most of us are probably looking forward to the comparatively quiet period of Winter Weapon Training. During October and November, tactical exercises and N.C.Os.' Classes were the order of the day. Princes Risboro' and Chipperfield were visited several times, and most people seemed to enjoy their day's outing, though the tea provided by the "George and Dragon" left much to be desired.

The Chipperfield scheme for officers was rather spoilt by the weather, but was otherwise a great success. No names no pack drill, but one young officer will not forget in a hurry the surprising similarity of the bridges over the River Chess.

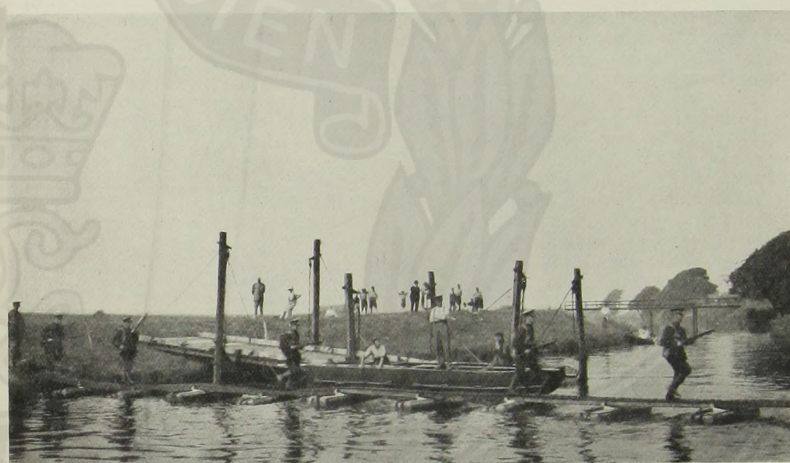
The problem of providing amusement in the different drill halls during the dark

winter evenings has been fairly successfully overcome. All companies now play Badminton, and, with the exception of parade hours, the courts are filled from 6.30 till 10.30 p.m. every night.

Although we lost two out of the three matches we have played, there is no need to despair, as we are all comparatively new to the game; in fact, several members of the Battalion have "come on" in the most remarkable way.

We have been lucky enough to secure the services of some first-class boxing instructors, and we need have no fear

The 9th Battalion football team are making quite a name for themselves in local football circles, and their best effort to date was the defeat of the Wembley B.O.B. by 2 goals to 1 in the second round of the Regent's Park Cup. Luckily the match was played at home, and anyone who has rolled on the Anson Road mud-patch will appreciate what an advantage that is to the home side who understands its peculiar intricacies. It is not proposed to deal with the match in detail, as it was not the type of game which would be held up as a shining example of



DEMONSTRATION OF ASSAULT BRIDGING BY 9th BN. MIDDLESEX REGIMENT.

for the pugilistic capabilities of those members of the Battalion who are training under Baxter, of Harrow, and our old friend, Jimmy Dunmow, of Hendon. The Battalion Boxing Championships will take place on the 19th, and we are looking forward to a first-class "scrap" between Pte. Conisbee and L. H. Townes, of the Old Hendon Boxing Club.

Dancing appears to become more popular each year, and the Battalion dances are going "great guns." We hope that their success may help to lessen the heavy burden which rests on the shoulders of the P.R.I.

football. Suffice to say that the extremely rough tactics of our larger and heavier opponents (amongst whom were five county players) did not produce the desired results.

The Battalion Armistice Day celebrations, which consisted of a short service at the War Memorial, followed by the Battalion Prize-giving, were most successful. The Rev. Macassey, senior Chaplain to the 44th H.C. Division, officiated at the service, and Mrs. Anwyl Passingham kindly consented to give away the prizes. It was most gratifying to note that the large crowd of over seven hundred, who

collected in the drill hall, were all connected in some way with the Middlesex Regiment, and, as one distinguished visitor put it, "it was a real family evening."

At the Armistice Day church parade, the Battalion was supported by the Willesden Special Constables, the British Legion, and the Old Comrades. On completion of the service at the Parish Church, the parade marched with Band and Drums round the Clock Tower at Harlesden.

Before closing these notes, our Christmas Shoot must not be forgotten. Over ninety prizes were contributed by different friends of the Battalion in the neighbourhood of Willesden, as well as large numbers at both Wealdstone and Hendon. The prizes ranged from turkeys and clocks down to cigarettes and chocolates, not forgetting the large assortment of port, whiskey, and sherry. There was a prize for every man who shot, and it is hoped that the arrival of husbands, complete with Christmas dinners, may have compensated the wives in some small measure for many lonely evenings caused by the demands of the Territorial Army.

FOOTBALL.

Since the last account of the Football Club appeared in these notes, the Battalion team has been gradually settling down and getting to know each other's play. The team had a bad patch in October, and failed to win a match. However, in the first round of the W.H. Cup, they showed distinct promise, and were unlucky to lose. In the Middlesex Junior Cup, the much-needed encouragement came in the shape of St. Stephen's, Shepherds Bush, whom we defeated 4-2, and then in the Regent's Park Cup we met an unbeaten team from Wembley, who played on the principle that might was right. However, the team cared nothing for free fights and steel hooks instead of arms, and came out winners by 2-1.

After these stern struggles, the team returned to the humdrum of the league, and defeated Harlesden United 2-1. The next match was a reverse—North Middlesex Gas Company beating us by 2-1 on a ground frozen hard. Our opponents had an old 1st Battalion man in the team, and he was almost as surprised as the

Adjutant was himself when the Adjutant scored a brilliant goal with his head.

On Saturday next, the Battalion meet the 4th Royal Sussex in the Divisional Finals of the T.A. Cup. Great excitement prevails over this match. Generals will be as numerous as flies among the spectators, Colonels will be present in hordes, and are all going to tell the Generals how the T.A. should be run.

Several promising footballers have been discovered, particularly Pte. Wilkins, who from the comparative obscurity of being a not very regular attendant on parade has flashed into the arena of Battalion life as a spectacular goalkeeper. L./Cpl. Boston and Cpl. Renyard are trustworthy backs, but Pte. Macdonald at left half plays better every time he turns out; the other two halves are supplied by "C" Company in Sergt. Horrod and Pte. Iredale. Sergt. Carrol leads the forwards with great dash, and Cpl. Patterson is surprisingly speedy at inside left. Ptes. Parker and Graham constitute the left wing, and Sergt. Miller plays outside right. May this team go on to win the T.A. Cup.

TERRITORIAL ARMY CUP.

The 44th H.C. Divisional Final was played at Anson Road, Cricklewood, between the 9th Middlesex and the 4th Royal Sussex Regiment, resulting in a win for the former by 4 goals to 1. The Regimental Band was in attendance, and the large crowd of spectators witnessed some excellent football.

The conditions of play were difficult, as the ground, which had been recently flooded, was very heavy indeed. The Middlesex team found their feet first, and attacked virtually throughout the match, and had it not been for the splendid defence of the Sussex goalkeeper, the score might easily have been 10-1.

The team produced the best football that they have played this year. Carroll kept his forward line well together, and Horrod at centre-half was untiring, while Boston and Renyard were safe at back. The accurate kicking of the former under such difficult conditions was particularly praiseworthy.

The 9th Middlesex now go on to meet the winners of the East Anglian Division in the next round, and hopes run high that the Territorial Army Cup may be

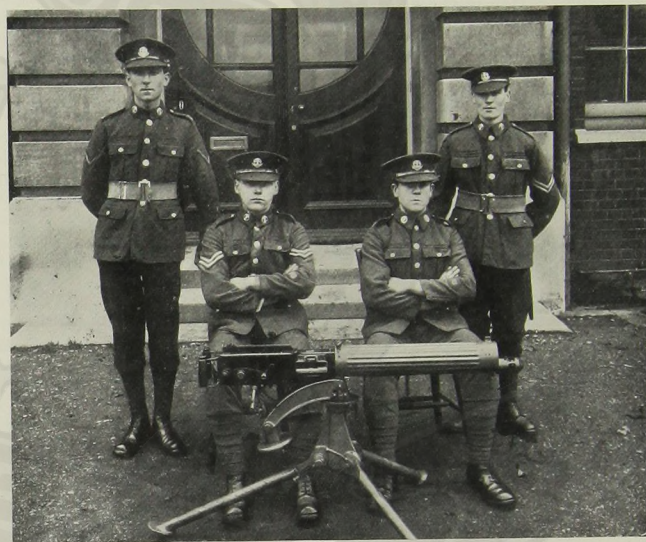
brought back to Willesden. Whether this is achieved or not, the team are heartily to be congratulated on winning the Football Championship of the 44th H.C. Division in their first year as a team.

MACHINE GUNNERS.

Since winning the Brigade Machine Gun Trophy, the Platoon has been resting on its oars, but the slack time has now passed, and the Winter Weapon Training is upon us. The Platoon have decided to make every effort to win this

"A" COMPANY.

Whoever wrote "The pen is mightier than the sword" has never had the doubtful pleasure at the end of the flat season that exists after camp until Christmas of writing notes for a company bursting with martial fervour at the prospect of beginning the Weapon Training Competition. It is especially difficult, too, to write about military matters, for the drill hall, since camp, with bunting round the walls and streamers obscuring the lights, has had that nice home-from-



9th BATTALION MACHINE GUN TEAM.
Winners of the Brigade Trophy.

championship for the Battalion. Like Alexander, we are always searching for fresh fields to conquer.

A very successful tactical exercise was held at Princes Risborough, the whistle on the charabanc making the day for some members of the Platoon.

Congratulations to L./Cpl. Jones on passing his promotion examination, and we wish him the best of luck in the Battalion Boxing Competition; may he go on to win a Territorial Army championship.

home look about it that spells a period of social activity; in fact, "A" Company now largely spend their time in the drill hall, either playing Badminton (by the way, we do like shuttlecocks with feathers) or else, in the cold weather, sitting on the radiators (Cpl. Cassidy, please note we prefer these hot), and tender inquiries are now often received by the Regimental Sergeant-Major at any hour of the night from some fond mother or newly-wed wife as to whether "Bill" or "George," having missed his supper, is ever coming home to bed.

N.C.Os. and officers, however, have been seen doing sand-table schemes, and special musketry classes have also been held, while the range has been fully employed to such good effect that the Company won two good shoots against "B" and "Q" Companies, especially good scores being achieved by L./Cpls. Aves and Parker and Pte. Newton, who, as a recruit, shows great promise. With any luck, we should do well in this competition.

A very enjoyable evening was spent when the Company were "At Home" to "D" Company, for, after watching the Battalion football match in the afternoon, both companies returned to a large tea in the drill hall, followed by games and then a dance, which continued until 11 p.m. "A" Company, by the way, intends to have its revenge from "D" Company over the games.

We should like to express our congratulations to L./Cpl. Parker and Pte. Macdonald on having been selected to play regularly for the Battalion team. L./Cpl. Ward is reported to be a very promising goalkeeper, although not quite good enough yet for the first eleven. Our congratulations to Ward should be included on his having passed the promotion examination.

Another great success has been the Christmas Shoot, otherwise the Christmas Share-out, and, although the writer unfortunately failed to meet any of the winners, he understands that the Company maintained its reputation.

An enjoyable and most instructive tactical exercise of the usual advance-guard type was held in October at Princes Risborough, and the Company can now add this battle honour to the other well-earned ones of Dorking and Chipperfield. The enemy's position was situated at the top of Pink Hill, a position dominated by an inn known as the "Pink and Lily," and we should imagine, when making out the scheme, the country was viewed probably from the enemy's point of view, for all the officers seemed to know "The Pink," although we ourselves never actually reached this delectable spot. Perhaps in the summer, if our Sunday school treats or Bands of Hope outings do not go in this direction, we will "push-bike" there ourselves, the more wealthy of us on motor-bikes, and so extend our

acquaintance with this very pleasant bit of country.

Finally, if not too late, a happy and prosperous New Year to all ranks in the Company, and, with the Weapon Training period now well started, may the pious hope be expressed not only that the best company will win, but that every man will make a New Year's resolution that he will do his best to help his company do well.

"B" COMPANY.

By the time these notes appear, the New Year will be new no longer; however, we wish everyone a happy and successful year. We are glad to say that we have been doing our bit for the Battalion in the way of sport. We have two regular members of the Battalion football team in Sergt. Miller and L./Cpl. Boston, and one regular member of the Badminton team in Cpl. Littlefield, whilst other members of the team have been known to make up numbers occasionally when casualties have occurred. Congratulations to these N.C.Os.

The outstanding event since the last magazine was published was our visit to "C" Company. Twelve lusty "Beer-ites" ventured into the wilds of Wealdstone, and, after taking many wrong turnings, found their way to "C" Company's drill hall, where we had a hearty welcome. A match, or rather a series of matches, took place. We had to admit defeat, but it may be some consolation to our billiards representatives to know that it is said that excellence at billiards is a sign of misspent youth.

We are looking forward to "C" Company's return visit on January 7th, and hope that they will enjoy themselves as much as we did.

We congratulate Cpls. Littlefield and Lewis, L./Cpl. Spicer, and Ptes. H. Brookes and T. Sangwine on passing their promotion examination on December 14th, especially Cpl. Littlefield, who was the only candidate to obtain a "Distinguished." Candidates from "B" Company were first, third and fourth. Well done, "B"!

We had our fair share of the wonderful prizes given by friends of the Battalion for the Christmas Shoot. We went home inwardly and outwardly laden with good things. Our most hearty thanks are due

to the organizers of this shoot. "They did us proud."

We are looking forward to a hard tussle in the Battalion Winter Weapon Training Competition. That the best company may win is our wish. Need we say more?

"D" COMPANY.

The period since the last notes appeared has been very quiet with regard to training for the Company as a whole, and the only people who have really been doing anything are the N.C.Os. The younger ones especially have put in a lot of work in preparation for the promotion examination, which was held at Pound Lane on December 14th, and the following are congratulated on having got through:—

Corporal to Sergeant.—Cpl. E. Patterson.

Lance-Corporal to Corporal.—L./Cpl. R. Deveraux, L./Cpl. W. Laver, Pte. E. Erwood.

L./Cpl. Philpot failed, but we hope he has gained a lot of experience, and will get through next time.

We have been very busy in the social line. Dances have been held regularly every Friday, and we were very pleased to welcome several officers and friends from Headquarters at one of them. These dances are becoming very popular, but we would like to see still more of the Company attending them.

On November 26th, we held our Annual Prize Distribution and Carnival Dance, and a huge success it was. The fog, after threatening all day to spoil the whole thing, cleared off in the evening, and a good crowd of the Company and their friends turned up.

During the evening, a splendid physical training and gymnastic display was given by recruits from the Depot, Mill Hill, under the direction of C.S.M.I. Elliott. This was the tit-bit of the evening, and was generally voted as the best show we had seen at Hendon, and we are greatly indebted to all concerned for giving us this show.

A list of the prize-winners for 1927 is shown at the end.

On December 3rd, "A" Company entertained us to a social evening at Pound Lane. After watching the Battalion beat Wembley Brigade Old Boys at football in the afternoon, we all adjourned to tea at Pound Lane, and were

given a real good spread. Badminton, shooting and indoor games followed, and, "as usual," the Company won easily. Some good vocal items and dancing went to make up a very pleasant evening, which was thoroughly enjoyed by us all, and we wish to thank the officers, W.Os., N.C.Os. and men of "A" Company for a jolly, cheery evening. We hope to give them as good a show when we have them over with us on January 7th.

Badminton is going strong here, and on Sunday, December 4th, we entertained a team of "A" Company of the 7th Battalion from Highgate. This was a very keen and pleasant affair, and the result was decided on a game of 21 aces, which we just won. The return was played at Highgate on Sunday, December 18th, but they were too good for us on their own "ground," and beat us fairly easily. The individual results have been mislaid, so I cannot publish them. We hope this is the start of a series of inter-battalion meetings, and will be pleased to hear from any other company who would like a home and away match.

We held a Christmas Shoot this year, and, thanks to the generosity of our local tradesmen (and the Company funds), this was a huge success. The list of prize-winners is too large to publish, but everybody who shot got a prize. The table looked very "Christmassy," when set out, as the prizes included a turkey, goose, chicken, beef, lamb, pork, ham, whiskey, cigars, etc., etc. The winner of the whiskey must have been Scotch, as he was handed a corkscrew and took it home with him, and said he thought it was part of the prize.

LIST OF PRIZE-WINNERS, 1927.

The Musketry Cup (for the highest score in the Annual Musketry Course).—Pte. G. Edwards.

The Recruits' Cup (for the best attendance at drills and highest score at musketry amongst recruits).—Pte. Howell.

The Burgess Cup (for the best attendance at drills and the highest score in Musketry amongst trained men).—Sergt. S. Breed.

The Section Challenge Cup (for best average attendance at drills and camp, and the highest average scores in Annual Musketry Course).—No. 8 Section (Cpl. Fenner, Ptes. Attwood, Edwards, Lake, and Perry).

MINIATURE RIFLE COMPETITION.

The Bell Medal.—Pte. A. Harrison.

The Roberts Medal.—Sergt. A. Deveraux.

"The Times" Certificate.—Cpl. H. Fenner.

The "Sunday Times" Certificate.—Pte. A. Bell.

The "Telegraph" Certificate.—Cpl. H. Fenner.

The "Daily Mail" Certificate.—Pte. A. Bell.

SOLDIERS' MESSING COMPETITION.

As winners of this competition for 1926, the team proceeded to Holland Park Rink on November 19th to maintain and uphold the culinary prestige of the Battalion for 1927.

As this is being written before any results are known, it is equally impossible to "buck" about winning or to moan at having lost; far better to relate where we did exceptionally well, and where we might have done better.

The moral of the team, in spite of two changes to that of last year, was admirable on leaving Pound Lane. Sergt. Brooks, L./Cpl. Boston, Cassidy, Davie and Root left the drill hall with an air of confidence which would have frozen the All-Highest of Chefs, whether from Claridge's, the Cecil, Ketner's, or Sam Isaacs's, but a long journey by bus in a thick fog is capable of shaking the confidence of a Gene Tunney.

Can you, my readers, imagine the nervous tension of any experienced Sergeant-Major-Lady-Cook undertaking such a journey, to be met at the doors by a highly-decorated commissionaire, escorted through the stately portals, and immediately start cooking jam-roll in a skating rink?

This was L./Cpl. Boston's experience. As a loyal "Terrier" and a middle-weight at that, he carried on.

He invariably wins his bouts in the first round, but the jam-roll had him guessing from the sound of the gong. However he punished it, it would still run and defy him. Boston, full of resource, gave it a right hook into the oven, and patiently waited for "time." When the longed-for word was given, the jam had escaped, but the roll was there; it could have rolled for hours without fear of damaging itself.

Cassidy, after a publicity in the *Evening News* which would have been the envy of the late Rudolph Valentino, was in charge of the Browned-Stewed-Steak. The said steak stewed, stewed and stewed until it was exhausted, but it would not brown. It finished the course the colour of a Lewis gun. Had Cassidy's task been wallop-coloured stewed steak, the shield was ours.

The cabbage and potatoes were fittingly left to Pte. Root. One of the judges remarked that the potatoes tasted of potatoes, and, as I know of no A.C.I. against that, I think Root was in the right. The cabbage was not sufficiently strained. It is a libel: it was still weeping for the loss of Boston's jam.

The pea-soup and tomato sauce were in the hands of Pte. Davie. Well done, Davie. Sauce and soup are the most difficult dishes to cook, because in many cases one cannot tell the difference without reading the menu, and menus are written in a foreign language, and Territorials on an average, not being linguists, the plot thickens concurrently with the soup; now you will realize the predicament of the judge-in-chief, who, being an old Guards officer now forbidden to stamp his feet, awarded Davie nearly full marks.

Now you will understand why the shield should be ours.

THE SOUTH AND TENTH MIDDLESEX OFFICERS' CLUB.

THE members of this club and their friends met at the Constitutional Club, London, for their Annual Dinner on December 9th last, and spent a very enjoyable evening, during which a "lodge" of the Pernugative Order of Sedoodleizers provided much merriment. The sword of the order was on the table, and on this occasion the donor of the sword, Mr. Latham, was present as a guest.

Amongst the officers present were Cols. Cheesewright, Dimond, Bull, Grey, and Johnson; Majors Forster, Hart, Jarrett, Lewey, Overbury, and Wells; Capts. Bramall, Jeans, McIvor, Munford, Rayner, Starley, Wallis, and Watson; Messrs. Bennett, Garside, Goodban, and Topham.

The club consists of former officers of

the South Middlesex Volunteer Rifle Corps and the four battalions of the 10th Middlesex. The Hon. Secretary is Major C. Jarrett, of 440, Strand, London, and a nominal subscription of 5s. a year includes the delivery by post of THE DIE-HARDS.

OBITUARY.

DENTON.—On January 9th, 1928, at Chigwell Row, Essex, Sir George Chardin Denton, formerly 57th Regiment and Governor of the Gambia, in his 77th year.

The funeral took place at St. Clement's Church, Oxford, on January 12th, and was attended by a large number of relatives and friends, including Brig.-General A. A. Garstin, C.M.G., and Lieut. H. P. Lambert, who represented the Regiment. (See page 611.)

DYER.—On January 8th, 1928, at 11, Helena Road, Southsea, Charles Robert, late Colonel 4th Middlesex Regiment, beloved husband of Marion Dyer, aged 66 years, after a very short illness.

The funeral took place at St. Margaret's Church, Southsea, on January 11th, and was largely attended. Born at Great Waltham, Essex, Colonel Dyer was educated at Uppingham and Sandhurst, receiving his Commission and being appointed to the 77th Regiment in 1880. It was a matter of the very keenest disappointment to the deceased that he was unable to serve in the Great War, owing to ill health. He rejoined at Southampton on the first day of mobilization, but was found medically unfit. (See page 653.)

THE LATE SERGT. W. GLENIE, D.C.M.

We regret to announce the death of Sergt. W. Glenie, who passed away on December 28th, 1927, at Rochester Hospital.

On December 5th, 1927, he was lopping a tree on his allotment, when the branch on which he was sitting gave way, and he fell 25 feet to the ground, fracturing his spine.

He joined the Regiment in November, 1904, and served with the 1st and 2nd

Battalions and was transferred to the Army Reserve in November, 1911.

He obtained permission to reside in Australia, and proceeded there in 1912, and whilst there he joined the Legion of Frontiersmen.

On the outbreak of the Great War, he proceeded to England, and joined the 1st Battalion. He was wounded and gassed at Loos in 1915, and returned to England, and in 1916 he was posted to the 17th Battalion. He was wounded and captured in December, 1917, and, owing to the treatment he received as a prisoner of war, he lost the use of his right arm.

On being discharged in 1919, he proceeded to Australia, but returned again in 1920, and settled in Sittingbourne.

He leaves a widow and one daughter aged 6.

The funeral took place at Sittingbourne on January 3rd, and was attended by the widow and her family, R.S.M. T. Mann (Depot The Border Regiment), and R.Q.M.S. A. Purcell.

Among the floral contribution were wreaths from Edward Lloyds, Ltd. (his late employers), Regimental Association, his chums Tom and Bert, and a good many others.

MR. J. R. GRIMWOOD.

The death took place on October 21st, 1927, of Mr. J. R. Grimwood, late Middlesex Regiment, at Whipps Cross Hospital, after an illness of five days, from pleurisy and pneumonia. Although only in his 24th year, the deceased had seen considerable service, having served as a boy with the B.E.F. in Germany and Silesia, also in Ireland during the recent unrest.

The funeral took place at Woodgrange Cemetery on October 25th. The coffin was draped with the Union Jack, and was drawn from 24, St. Stephen's Road, Upton Park, on a gun carriage by six horses, and manned by a sergeant, two gunners, and three drivers. It was an impressive ceremony. Mr. H. J. Grimwood (father) was chief mourner, himself an ex-sergeant-major, who enlisted in 1890 and served until invalided in 1918. Other mourners were: mother, grandmother, brother (a Royal Engineer), five sisters, and other relatives. The numerous wreaths included tokens from members of the Noble Order of Winklers and the Good Intent Hospital Aid Society.

<i>Lieutenants.</i>		<i>Lt.-Colonel.</i>																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
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SENIORITY ROLL OF WARRANT OFFICERS AND N.C.O'S.

Rank.	Name.	Battalion.	Date of present promotion.
R.S.M.	R. Mantell	Depot	26/9/24
R.S.M.	S. Cox	2nd	20/1/26
R.S.M.	W. Beaman	1st	15/8/26
Bdmr.	J. Clarke	1st	26/6/16
Bdmr.	H. Cribbens	2nd	22/2/24
R.Q.M.S.	A. Clark	1st	21/6/17
R.Q.M.S.	A. Parcell	Depot	15/7/24
R.Q.M.S.	W. Pilley	2nd	7/3/26
C.S.M.	W. Beasley	9th	30/1/15
C.S.M.	J. Walker	1st	3/7/16
C.S.M.	H. Gray, D.C.M.	Depot	4/9/18
C.S.M.	E. Crouch	1st	1/9/24
C.S.M. (I.M.)	C. Davis	2nd	13/10/24
C.S.M.	E. Burns	2nd	28/1/25
C.S.M.	H. Rand	2nd	28/1/25
C.S.M.	C. Denton	9th	26/3/25
C.S.M.	E. Green, M.M.	19th Lond.	26/5/25
C.S.M.	C. Goodall	1st	4/6/25
C.S.M.	J. Tugate, D.C.M.	7th	19/8/25
C.S.M.	F. Pelly	1st	28/10/25
C.S.M.	T. Hart	2nd	20/1/26
C.S.M.	C. Cook	1st	15/8/26
C.S.M.	S. Wilson	2nd	21/12/26
C.Q.M.S.	J. Cook	Depot	12/10/22
C.Q.M.S.	S. Steadman	2nd	23/7/23
C.Q.M.S.	T. Smith	1st	13/10/24
C.Q.M.S.	C. Kent	2nd	4/2/25
C.Q.M.S.	W. O'Brien	2nd	27/2/25
C.Q.M.S.	C. King	2nd	26/5/25
C.S. (O.R.S.)	A. Finch	Depot	13/6/25
C.Q.M.S.	J. Goldstraw	1st	28/10/25
C.Q.M.S.	L. Hills	2nd	2/11/26
Sgt.	F. Sparkes	8th	25/9/14
Sgt.	W. Sperry, M.C.	Depot	23/12/14
Sgt.	F. Rose	8th	2/5/15
Sgt.	A. Baynham	1st	13/10/15
Sgt.	W. Green, D.C.M.	1st	18/2/17
Sgt.	H. Manders	8th	28/2/17
Sgt.	W. West	Depot	10/9/17
Sgt.	E. Kelly	9th	20/11/17
Sgt.	C. Goodall	1st	5/7/18
Sgt.	E. Pain	1st	26/10/18
Sgt.	C. Mabb	1st	19/9/19
Sgt.	H. Glover	2nd	1/5/20
Sgt.	A. Walker	2nd	1/5/20
Sgt.	W. Palmer	2nd	1/5/20
Sgt.	E. Margrave	2nd	15/5/20
Sgt.-Dmr.	E. Heath	2nd	20/11/20
Sgt.	J. Wilcockson	1st	30/11/20
Sgt.	J. Cook	2nd	30/11/20
Sgt.	W. Saddler	1st	10/2/21
Sgt.	H. Darby	1st	25/8/21
Sgt.	E. Walsh	7th	25/8/21
Sgt.	H. Hart	Depot	25/8/21
Sgt.	F. Stevenson	1st	25/8/21
Sgt.	W. Thompson	2nd	9/1/22
Sgt.	G. Capel	2nd	9/1/22
Sgt.	H. Tisdale	9th	22/1/22
Sgt.	C. Stuart	1st	23/4/22
Sgt.	F. Hill	2nd	22/8/23
Sgt.	S. Colbourne	2nd	6/10/23
Sgt.	V. Osterholme	1st	10/10/23
Sgt.	R. Mewett	Depot	12/12/23
Sgt.	W. Connors	2nd	12/12/23
Sgt.	H. Hewett	2nd	10/1/24
Sgt.	T. Massey	2nd	12/1/24
Sgt.	F. Peck	2nd	12/1/24
Sgt.	E. Shaw	Depot	19/1/24
Sgt.	P. Newman	1st	16/2/24
Sgt.	G. Anderson	1st	20/2/24
Sgt.	G. Cullen	1st	20/2/24
Sgt.	H. Farrow	1st	7/5/24
Sgt. (I.M.)	J. Griffen	Depot	11/6/24
Sgt. (O.R.S.)	B. Baldwin	1st	2/7/24
Sgt. (I.M.)	V. Brockman	1st	15/7/24
Sgt.	L. Simmonds	2nd	24/8/24
Sgt.	L. Clarke	19th Lond.	1/9/24
Sgt.	W. Clements	2nd	10/11/24
Sgt.	J. Beaveridge	2nd	28/1/25
Sgt.-Dmr.	W. Palmer	1st	4/2/25
Sgt.	A. Russell	Depot	19/2/25
Sgt.	S. Ingle	2nd	27/2/25
Sgt.	E. Jones	1st	1/3/25
Sgt.	E. Burt	1st	26/3/25
Sgt.	G. Flemming	1st	16/4/25
Sgt.	G. Lambert	2nd	26/5/25
Sgt.	W. Rogers	1st	26/5/25
Sgt.	S. Tibbs	8th	1/6/25
Sgt.	W. Raindle	Depot	16/8/25
Sgt.	L. Fairchild	2nd	20/1/26
Sgt.	S. Mason	2nd	2/2/26
Sgt.	C. Banfield	2nd	13/2/26
Sgt. (O.R.S.)	W. Fletcher	2nd	7/3/26

Rank.	Name.	Battalion.	Date of present promotion.	Rank.	Name.	Battalion.	Date of present promotion.
Sgt.	G. Bone	2nd	19/3/26	Cpl.	E. Wright	2nd	26/4/26
Sgt.	E. Hazledene	2nd	5/4/26	Cpl. (O.R.C.)	W. Baker	2nd	30/4/26
Sgt.	T. Tiller	2nd	1/7/26	Cpl.	W. Hathaway	2nd	28/8/26
Sgt.	T. Page	19th Lond.	20/5/26	Cpl.	G. Skeats	1st	20/5/26
Sgt.	W. Bennett	7th	19/6/26	Cpl.	J. Painter	Depot	23/5/26
Sgt.	W. Bratby	2nd	21/2/26	Cpl.	H. Short	Depot	19/6/26
Sgt.	A. Wright	2nd	10/2/27	Cpl.	G. Sewell	1st	3/7/26
Sgt.	J. Trapp	Depot	9/2/27	Cpl.	A. Wallace	1st	9/7/26
Sgt.	Robbins	Depot	20/2/27	Cpl.	J. Frost	1st	12/6/26
Sgt.	G. Horrex	1st	11/2/27	Cpl.	G. Knock	1st	28/7/26
Sgt.	W. Cobbett	Depot	14/2/27	Cpl.	H. Riley	1st	20/5/26
Sgt.	J. Bray	1st		Cpl.	G. Theobald	1st	5/8/26
Sgt.	W. Harwood	2nd	17/8/27	Cpl.	E. Pinder	Depot	6/8/26
Sgt.	S. Bishop	2nd	24/11/27	Cpl.	R. Baldwin	2nd	25/9/26
Sgt.	C. Olden	2nd	2/10/27	Cpl.	F. Towell	2nd	1/10/26
L./Sgt.	G. Clift	1st	1/9/24	Cpl.	J. Hames	1st	1/10/26
L./Sgt.	H. Warren	Depot	26/3/25	Cpl.	H. Wilson	1st	13/10/26
L./Sgt.	H. Thomas	1st	*8/6/25	Cpl.	W. Smith	2nd	2/11/26
L./Sgt.	F. Stacey	1st	*28/10/25	Cpl.	J. Simmonds	2nd	2/11/26
L./Sgt.	E. Aird	2nd	*20/1/26	Cpl.	A. Jones	2nd	16/12/26
L./Sgt.	C. Misso	1st	*22/1/26	Cpl.	C. Champion	2nd	16/12/26
L./Sgt.	A. Jones	1st	20/5/26	Cpl.	L. Westney	1st	26/10/26
L./Sgt.	A. Stenning	1st	*29/1/26	Cpl.	W. Schooledge	2nd	21/12/26
L./Sgt.	W. Northcott, M.M.	1st	*19/6/26	Cpl.	J. Frost	1st	4/11/26
L./Sgt.	W. Grace	2nd	*2/11/26	Cpl.	S. Jackson	1st	14/1/27
L./Sgt.	J. Brown	2nd	*21/12/26	Cpl.	G. Reed	2nd	22/1/27
L./Sgt.	S. Copelin	2nd	*1/1/27	Cpl.	W. Budd	2nd	27/1/27
L./Sgt.	R. Challis	1st	*14/1/27	Cpl.	G. Matthews	2nd	4/2/27
L./Sgt.	L. Johnson	2nd	*27/1/27	Cpl.	C. Turner	1st	22/1/27
L./Sgt.	R. Neighbour	2nd	*10/2/27	Cpl.	E. Addinall	2nd	21/2/27
L./Sgt.	Ecclestone	1st	1/7/27	Cpl.	T. Sibley	2nd	1/4/27
L./Sgt.	J. Steward	Depot		Cpl.	D. Williams	2nd	1/4/27
L./Sgt.	C. Mardle	1st	*12/10/27	Cpl.	A. Boen	2nd	11/4/27
L./Sgt.	F. Denchfield	2nd	*17/8/27	Cpl.	L. Stagg	3rd	19/4/27
L./Sgt.	A. Webb	2nd	*2/10/27	Cpl.	R. Glover	1st	11/2/27
L./Sgt.	S. Buckle	2nd	*24/11/27	Cpl.	A. Case	1st	11/2/27
Cpl.	W. Overton	1st	1/5/20	Cpl.	W. Makewell	2nd	17/8/27
Cpl.	J. Sharman	2nd	1/5/20	Cpl.	W. Kemp	2nd	24/11/27
Cpl.	H. Wilson	2nd	1/5/20	Cpl.	F. Gribble	2nd	24/11/27
Cpl.	R. Wood	2nd	13/5/20	Cpl.	F. Gray	2nd	24/11/27
Cpl.	G. Hatfield	2nd	12/12/23	Cpl.	A. Fowler	2nd	24/11/27
Cpl.	J. West	1st	11/1/24	Cpl.	J. May	2nd	24/11/27
Cpl.	C. Egan, M.M.	Depot	16/2/24	Cpl.	A. Loom	2nd	24/11/27
Cpl.	W. Tibble	1st	11/6/24	Cpl.	G. Sherriff	2nd	24/11/27
Cpl.	C. Lewis	1st	16/7/24	Cpl.	H. Adams	2nd	24/11/27
Cpl.	W. Patterson	2nd	28/7/24	Cpl.	F. Nash	2nd	24/11/27
Cpl.	C. Soper	Depot	16/7/24	Cpl.	W. Green	2nd	24/11/27
Cpl.	G. Goss	1st	1/9/24	Cpl.	A. Miller	2nd	24/11/27
Cpl.	S. Burgess	2nd	11/11/24	Cpl.	G. Blackman	2nd	24/11/27
Cpl.	W. Swindon	1st	25/11/24	L./Cpl.	J. Murphy	1st	*20/8/20
Cpl.	G. Blake	1st	13/12/24	L./Cpl.	F. Clarke	1st	*1/4/21
Cpl.	R. King	1st	30/12/24	L./Cpl.	F. Carter	1st	*6/4/21
Cpl.	Kennett	1st	1/3/25	L./Cpl.	H. Channon	2nd	*21/11/21
Cpl.	A. Williams	1st	26/3/25	L./Cpl.	A. Reed	1st	*1/4/23
Cpl.	J. O'Brien	1st	16/4/25	L./Cpl.	W. Tomkins	1st	*13/7/23
Cpl.	L. Honeybun	1st	26/5/25	L./Cpl.	G. Staines	1st	*27/7/23
Cpl.	T. Ballard	2nd	13/5/25	L./Cpl.	G. Green	1st	*27/7/23
Cpl.	W. Eldrett	1st	1/6/25	L./Cpl.	L. Yesterley	1st	*30/8/23
Cpl.	W. McMurdie	1st	4/6/25	L./Cpl.	G. Mills	1st	*8/10/23
Cpl.	E. Bearne	Depot	15/6/25	L./Cpl.	Goodall	1st	*22/1/24
Cpl.	H. Poulter	2nd	20/1/26	L./Cpl.	P. Edwards	1st	*15/2/24
Cpl.	C. Donaldson	2nd	2/2/26	L./Cpl.	G. Stagpoole	1st	*15/2/24
Cpl.	H. Reading	2nd	2/2/26	L./Cpl.	J. Henderson	1st	*21/5/24
Cpl.	W. Milberry	2nd	2/2/26	L./Cpl.	R. Aldridge	Depot	*18/5/24
Cpl.	E. Jenkin	2nd	2/2/26	L./Cpl.	H. Batt	1st	*21/5/24
Cpl.	A. Fowler	1st	6/2/26	L./Cpl.	A. Hows	1st	*28/5/24
Cpl.	E. Denyer	1st	17/2/26	L./Cpl.	A. Anson	1st	*28/5/24
Cpl.	H. Hull	1st	18/2/26	L./Cpl.	C. Pestell	2nd	*3/6/24
Cpl. (O.R.C.)	L. Priddy	1st	13/3/26	L./Cpl.	G. O'Connor	1st	*11/6/24
Cpl.	R. Wingrove	2nd	13/2/26	L./Cpl.	L. West	Depot	*14/7/24

Rank.	Name.	Battalion.	Date of present promotion.	Rank.	Name.	Battalion.	Date of present promotion.
L./Cpl.	Bayles ...	1st	*13/8/24	L./Cpl.	A. Russell ...	1st	*5/5/26
L./Cpl.	W. Banham ...	1st	*19/8/24	L./Cpl.	T. Rowbottom ...	1st	*12/5/26
L./Cpl.	C. Pettitt ...	1st	*19/8/24	L./Cpl.	C. Freeman ...	1st	*20/5/26
L./Cpl.	Barley ...	1st	*8/9/24	L./Cpl.	E. Hows ...	1st	*31/5/26
L./Cpl.	O'Neill ...	1st	*25/9/24	L./Cpl.	E. Kent ...	1st	*31/5/26
L./Cpl.	A. Thompson ...	Depot	*11/10/24	L./Cpl.	W. Wray ...	1st	*7/7/26
L./Cpl.	P. Phillipson ...	1st	*17/10/24	L./Cpl.	W. Holt ...	1st	*13/7/26
L./Cpl.	Fletcher ...	1st	*1/12/24	L./Cpl.	J. Thompson ...	1st	*14/7/26
L./Cpl.	Hammond ...	1st	*1/12/24	L./Cpl.	W. Higgins ...	1st	*15/7/26
L./Cpl.	Woodroff ...	Depot	*1/12/24	L./Cpl.	H. Meakins ...	1st	*15/7/26
L./Cpl.	Wheatley ...	1st	*10/12/24	L./Cpl.	A. Canning ...	1st	*16/8/26
L./Cpl.	Chasney ...	1st	*1/1/25	L./Cpl.	C. Brown ...	1st	*14/8/26
L./Cpl.	Carnoll ...	1st	*1/1/25	L./Cpl.	E. Freeman ...	1st	*24/8/26
L./Cpl.	C. Painter ...	1st	*1/1/25	L./Cpl.	L. Williams ...	1st	*6/9/26
L./Cpl.	Balls ...	1st	*4/3/25	L./Cpl.	P. Bermingham ...	1st	*26/9/26
L./Cpl.	P. Palmer ...	1st	*13/3/25	L./Cpl.	A. Gilbert ...	2nd	*6/9/26
L./Cpl.	S. Hunt ...	2nd	*11/7/21	L./Cpl.	J. Merry ...	2nd	*7/9/26
L./Cpl.	A. Rowell ...	2nd	*22/12/22	L./Cpl.	E. Honnor ...	2nd	*7/9/26
L./Cpl.	S. Simpson ...	2nd	*14/3/23	L./Cpl.	L. Brown ...	2nd	*28/9/26
L./Cpl.	W. Potter ...	2nd	*15/6/23	L./Cpl.	H. Chambers ...	2nd	*28/9/26
L./Cpl.	H. Crawley ...	2nd	*27/7/23	L./Cpl.	F. Howlett ...	2nd	*28/9/26
L./Cpl.	J. Fowler ...	2nd	*15/8/23	L./Cpl.	H. Ison ...	2nd	*23/10/26
L./Cpl.	T. Levett ...	2nd	*29/10/23	L./Cpl.	G. Slate ...	2nd	*23/10/26
L./Cpl.	F. Fisher ...	2nd	*4/1/24	L./Cpl.	W. Jones ...	1st	*18/10/26
L./Cpl.	E. Barker ...	2nd	*4/1/24	L./Cpl.	F. Paris ...	1st	*28/10/26
L./Cpl.	E. Noakes ...	2nd	*24/6/24	L./Cpl.	W. Hill ...	1st	*4/11/26
L./Cpl.	B. Carroll ...	1st	*2/3/25	L./Cpl.	J. Baulch ...	1st	*4/11/26
L./Cpl.	A. Lee ...	2nd	*11/3/25	L./Cpl.	W. Chalkley ...	2nd	*13/12/26
L./Cpl.	A. Johnson ...	1st	*17/4/25	L./Cpl.	E. Ormes ...	2nd	*13/12/26
L./Cpl.	E. Foulger ...	1st	*18/4/25	L./Cpl.	W. Pike ...	2nd	*14/12/26
L./Cpl.	Chalkley ...	1st	*26/5/25	L./Cpl.	P. Sones, D.C.M. ...	1st	*17/12/26
L./Cpl.	F. Jaffery ...	2nd	*2/5/25	L./Cpl.	A. Zebedee ...	2nd	*23/1/27
L./Cpl.	F. Sparkes ...	2nd	*30/5/25	L./Cpl.	H. Cartwright ...	1st	*28/1/27
L./Cpl.	T. Fletcher ...	1st	*4/6/25	L./Cpl.	H. Lowry ...	2nd	*18/2/27
L./Cpl.	T. Martin ...	2nd	*9/6/25	L./Cpl.	E. Halverson ...	2nd	*18/2/27
L./Cpl.	Pike ...	1st	*17/6/25	L./Cpl.	P. Palmer ...	2nd	*18/2/27
L./Cpl.	A. Lazarus ...	1st	*22/6/25	L./Cpl.	J. Cann ...	2nd	*3/3/27
L./Cpl.	D. Glew ...	2nd	*7/7/25	L./Cpl.	G. Attridge ...	1st	*16/4/27
L./Cpl.	L. Timson ...	1st	*24/7/25	L./Cpl.	S. Hutson ...	1st	*16/4/27
L./Cpl.	A. Sargent ...	Depot	*29/7/23	L./Cpl.	T. Skinner ...	1st	*16/4/27
L./Cpl.	F. Wood ...	1st	*5/8/26	L./Cpl.	E. Boggella ...	1st	*28/4/27
L./Cpl.	J. Nicholls ...	1st	*6/8/25	L./Cpl.	G. Coxall ...	1st	*25/4/27
L./Cpl.	Pratt ...	1st	*10/8/25	L./Cpl.	E. Page ...	2nd	*28/3/27
L./Cpl.	W. Skull ...	2nd	*10/8/25	L./Cpl.	S. Andrews ...	2nd	*1/4/27
L./Cpl.	Donovan ...	1st	*14/8/25	L./Cpl.	J. Chester ...	2nd	*5/4/27
L./Cpl.	M. Horton ...	1st	*14/8/25	L./Cpl.	G. Endersby ...	2nd	*6/4/27
L./Cpl.	E. Patterson ...	1st	*15/8/25	L./Cpl.	E. Wilby ...	2nd	*11/4/27
L./Cpl.	H. Dallimore ...	1st	*1/9/25	L./Cpl.	H. Lane ...	2nd	*12/4/27
L./Cpl.	P. Hale ...	1st	*16/9/25	L./Cpl.	F. Grainger ...	2nd	*12/4/27
L./Cpl.	F. Blackburn ...	1st	*29/9/25	L./Cpl.	C. Baynham ...	2nd	*13/4/27
L./Cpl.	W. Smith ...	Depot	*3/6/24	L./Cpl.	H. Sandle ...	2nd	*13/4/27
L./Cpl.	A. Mason ...	1st	*3/10/25	L./Cpl.	A. Smith ...	2nd	*13/4/27
L./Cpl.	Evans ...	1st	*15/10/25	L./Cpl.	W. Ray ...	2nd	*13/4/27
L./Cpl.	T. Little ...	1st	*17/10/25	L./Cpl.	J. Jackson ...	2nd	*16/4/27
L./Cpl.	F. Bowden ...	1st	*28/10/25	L./Cpl.	C. Trestain ...	2nd	*16/4/27
L./Cpl.	R. Sage ...	1st	*2/11/25	L./Cpl.	P. Ower ...	2nd	*18/4/27
L./Cpl.	A. Ball ...	1st	*10/11/25	L./Cpl.	G. Rolph ...	2nd	*20/4/27
L./Cpl.	R. Wilson ...	2nd	*10/11/25	L./Cpl.	E. Clifton ...	2nd	*22/4/27
L./Cpl.	George ...	1st	*9/12/25	L./Cpl.	D. Lyons ...	2nd	*25/4/27
L./Cpl.	E. Roscoe ...	1st	*11/12/25	L./Cpl.	W. Knighton ...	2nd	*4/5/27
L./Cpl.	S. Harris ...	2nd	*14/12/25	L./Cpl.	R. Hannam ...	2nd	*7/5/27
L./Cpl.	E. Rochester ...	1st	*12/1/26	L./Cpl.	G. Kellier ...	2nd	*4/6/27
L./Cpl.	W. Webster ...	1st	*12/1/26	L./Cpl.	F. Hounsden ...	Depot	*28/4/27
L./Cpl.	S. Statham ...	1st	*4/3/26	L./Cpl.	A. Connell ...	1st	*18/5/27
L./Cpl.	J. Quick ...	1st	*13/3/26	L./Cpl.	E. Rous ...	1st	*6/6/27
L./Cpl.	T. Lowe ...	1st	*2/4/26	L./Cpl.	R. Carter ...	1st	*13/6/27
L./Cpl.	F. Rumens ...	Depot	*24/4/26	L./Cpl.	T. Robinson ...	2nd	*18/6/27
L./Cpl.	H. Channon ...	2nd	*6/1/26	L./Cpl.	G. Brown ...	2nd	*18/6/27
L./Cpl.	A. White ...	2nd	*23/4/26	L./Cpl.	P. Gorman ...	2nd	*20/6/27
L./Cpl.	E. Jennings ...	2nd	*29/5/26	L./Cpl.	C. Pestell ...	2nd	*20/6/27

Rank.	Name.	Battalion.	Date of present promotion.	Rank.	Name.	Battalion.	Date of present promotion.
L./Cpl.	W. Blunt ...	1st	*25/6/27	L./Cpl.	W. Bootby ...	2nd	*25/10/27
L./Cpl.	J. Lane ...	2nd	*29/6/27	L./Cpl.	F. Williams ...	2nd	*26/10/27
L./Cpl.	E. Neal ...	1st	*1/7/27	L./Cpl.	C. Watson ...	2nd	*31/10/27
L./Cpl.	R. Brudnell ...	1st	*6/7/27	L./Cpl.	C. Thompson ...	2nd	*1/7/27
L./Cpl.	G. Lee ...	2nd	*6/7/27	L./Cpl.	F. Cook ...	2nd	*19/10/27
L./Cpl.	J. Ramsey ...	2nd	*12/7/27	L./Cpl.	H. Parnell ...	2nd	*19/10/27
L./Cpl.	F. Scovell ...	1st	*13/7/27	L./Cpl.	R. Smith ...	2nd	*24/10/27
L./Cpl.	J. Bennett ...	2nd	*29/7/27	L./Cpl.	C. Simmons ...	2nd	*15/10/27
L./Cpl.	D. Green ...	2nd	*8/8/27	L./Cpl.	H. Freeman ...	2nd	*15/10/27
L./Cpl.	F. Crawshaw ...	2nd	*24/8/27	L./Cpl.	J. Harper ...	2nd	*
L./Cpl.	H. Hastings ...	2nd	*30/11/27	L./Cpl.	W. Ilett ...	2nd	*7/10/27
L./Cpl.	T. Sayers ...	2nd	*30/11/27	L./Cpl.	F. Horton ...	2nd	*8/10/27
L./Cpl.	E. Hillier ...	2nd	*24/11/27	L./Cpl.	G. Willis ...	2nd	*28/9/27
L./Cpl.	F. Cook ...	2nd	*24/11/27	L./Cpl.	C. Cooper ...	2nd	*28/9/27
L./Cpl.	J. Perry ...	2nd	*28/11/27	L./Cpl.	J. Smithers ...	2nd	*30/9/27
L./Cpl.	A. Brett ...	2nd	*18/11/27	L./Cpl.	F. Hayes ...	2nd	*3/10/27
L./Cpl.	W. Fox ...	2nd	*18/11/27	L./Cpl.	F. Atkins ...	2nd	*3/10/27
L./Cpl.	J. Dearman ...	2nd	*12/11/27	L./Cpl.	S. Cudmore ...	2nd	*28/9/27
L./Cpl.	H. Holland ...	2nd	*12/11/27	L./Cpl.	A. Tear ...	2nd	*28/9/27
L./Cpl.	D. Horsman ...	2nd	*2/11/27	L./Cpl.	C. Deacon ...	2nd	*28/9/27
L./Cpl.	F. Higgins ...	2nd	*7/11/27				

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† Unpaid.

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