



THE DIE-HARDS

The Journal of

THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT

(Duke of Cambridge's Own)

August 1937

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THE JOURNAL OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT

(Duke of Cambridge's Own)

VOL. VI. No. 2

NOVEMBER, 1937

PRICE 9D.

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

[57]

The Plume of the Prince of Wales. In each of the four corners the late Duke of Cambridge's Cypher and Coronet.
 "Mysore," "Seringapatam," "Albuhera," "Ciudad Rodrigo," "Badajoz," "Vittoria," "Pyrenees," "Nivelle," "Nive,"
 "Peninsula," "Alma," "Inkerman," "Sevastopol," "New Zealand," "South Africa, 1879," "Relief of Ladysmith," "South
 Africa, 1900-02."
 The Great War—46 Battalions—"Mons," "Le Cateau," "Retreat from Mons," "Marne, 1914," "Aisne 1914," "La Bassée,"
 1914," "Messines, 1914," "17," "18," "Armentières, 1914," "Neuve Chapelle," "Ypres, 1915," "17," "18," "Gravenstafel," "St. Julien,"
 "Frezenberg," "Bellewaarde," "Aubers," "Hooge, 1915," "Loos," "Somme, 1916," "18," "Albert, 1916," "18," "Bazentin,"
 "Delville Wood," "Pozières," "Ginchy," "Fiers-Courcellette," "Morval," "Thiepval," "Le Transloy," "Ancre Heights,"
 "Ancre, 1916," "18," "Bapaume, 1917," "18," "Arras, 1917," "18," "Vimy, 1917," "18," "Scarpe, 1917," "18," "Arleux," "Pillckem,"
 "Langemarck, 1917," "Menin Road," "Polygon Wood," "Broodseinde," "Poelcapelle," "Passchendaele," "Cambrai, 1917,"
 "18," "St. Quentin," "Rosières," "Aves," "Villers Bretonneux," "Lys," "Estaires," "Hazebrouck," "Bailleul," "Kemmel,"
 "Schepenberg," "Hindenburg Line," "Canal du Nord," "St. Quentin Canal," "Courtrai," "Selle," "Valenciennes,"
 "Sambre," "France and Flanders, 1914-18," "Italy, 1917-18," "Struma," "Doiran, 1918," "Macedonia, 1915-18," "Suvla,"
 "Landing at Suvla," "Scimitar Hill," "Gallipoli, 1915," "Rumani," "Egypt, 1915-17," "Gaza," "El Mughar," "Jerusalem,"
 "Jericho," "Jordan," "Tell 'Asur," "Palestine, 1917-18," "Mesopotamia, 1917-18," "Muran, 1919," "Dukhovskaya,"
 "Siberia, 1918-19."

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

Regular and Militia Battalions.

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <i>Uniform—Scarlet.</i> | <i>Facings—Lemon Yellow.</i> |
| 1st Bn. (57th Foot) | Hong Kong. |
| 2nd Bn. (77th Foot) | Portsmouth. |
| 5th Bn. (R. Elthorne Mil.) .. | Mill Hill. |
| 6th Bn. (R. East Middlesex Mil.) .. | Mill Hill. |
| Depot—Mill Hill. | Record and Pay Office—Hounslow. |

Territorial Army Battalions.

| | |
|------------|--|
| 7th Bn. .. | "The Elms," Priory Road, Hornsey, N.8. |
| 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 |
| (Post Office Rifles) | Square, E.C.2. |
| 19th London Regiment | 76, High Street, Camden |
| (St. Pancras) | Town, N.W.1. |

Allied Regiments of Canadian Militia.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|
| The Peterborough Rangers .. | Peterborough, Ontario. |
| The Wentworth Regiment .. | Dundas, Ontario. |
| The Middlesex & Huron Regiment .. | Strathroy, Ontario. |

Allied Battalion of Australian Infantry.

| | |
|------------------------|----------|
| 57th Battalion | Preston. |
|------------------------|----------|

Allied Regiment of New Zealand Military Forces.

| | |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| The Taranaki Regiment .. | New Plymouth. |
|--------------------------|---------------|

Colonel:

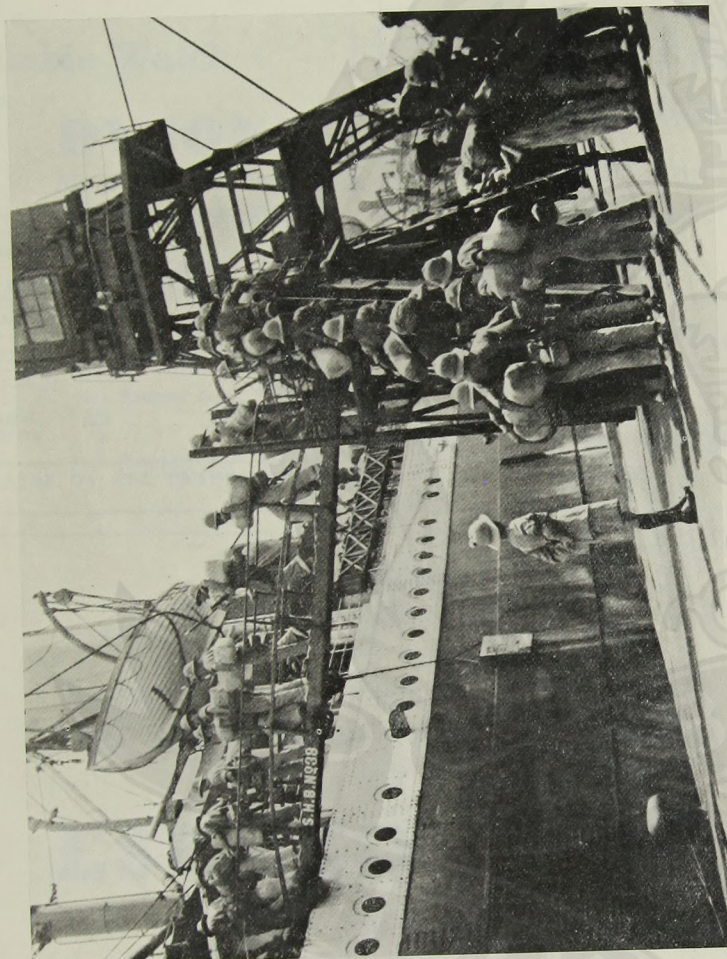
Hon. Brig.-General R. M. Heath, C.M.G., D.S.O.

Officer Commanding Depot:

Major N. H. B. Lyon, M.C.

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THE EMBARKATION FOR CHINA, FRIDAY, 20th AUGUST

NOTICE TO CONTRIBUTORS, &c.

"The Die-Hards" is published early in February, May, August, and November, and copies may be obtained by application to the Editor at the Depot, enclosing 6d. for each copy.

All Contributions intended for publication should reach the Editor not later than the 1st of the month previous to that of issue. Contributions should be typed, if possible, and be on one side of paper only and signed, stating whether it is desired to publish contributor's name or not. Rejected manuscripts, etc., 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. Telephone: "Finchley" 1553.

Subscriptions should be forwarded to the Editor, to whom all Cheques and Postal Orders should be made payable, and crossed "— 3 Co."

A limited stock of back numbers are available which can be obtained on application to the Editor, price 6d. post free.

A few covers for holding Volumes I and II are available as follows: whole cloth, leather back and corners, Vol. I only, 4s. 6d. each; whole cloth, yellow cloth sides, Vols. I and II, 2s. 6d. each. These will be sent post free.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION 3/- (Post Free).

EDITORIAL



WE take this opportunity to welcome our newly affiliated Regiment, Princess Louise's Own Kensington Regiment (Middlesex Regiment D.C.O.), and hope that an historical account of their distinguished Services will be available for publication in our Journal in the next edition.

Readers are reminded that the Old Comrades' Dinner takes place at the Drill Hall of the 1st City of London Regiment (Royal Fusiliers), Handel Street, W.C.1, on 6th November. Tickets can be obtained from the Secretary, Regimental Association, The Barracks, Mill Hill, N.W.7, price 3s. 6d.

Readers are also reminded of the Remembrance Day Service at the Regimental War Memorial on 11th November, at 10.45 a.m.

No answers have been received from readers about the proposed Battlefield Tour, mentioned at the end of the Regimental Association Notes in the August issue. If anyone has any suggestions regarding this tour will he please forward them to the Editor as soon as possible.

A few cards of admission are available on application to the Secretary, Regimental Association, The Barracks, Mill Hill, N.W.7, for the unveiling of the statue of the late Field-Marshal Earl Haig, K.T., G.C.B., O.M., etc., in Whitehall on Wednesday, 10th November, at 3.30 p.m. by H.R.H. The Duke of Gloucester, K.G. These will be available up to the morning of 7th November should anyone wish to apply for them. Applicants should not be members of the British Legion, Old Comptibles or British Empire Service League.

OFFICERS' CLUB NOTES

PROCEEDINGS OF AN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT THE CENTRAL LONDON RECRUITING ZONE, H.Q., ON 28TH JULY, 1937

PRESENT: Col. V. L. N. Pearson, D.S.O. (Chairman), Col. G. L. Brown, D.S.O., Col. E. E. F. Baker, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., Lieut.-Col. C. P. Rooke, D.S.O., Lieut.-Col. W. H. Samuel, Lieut.-Col. W. E. Pringle, M.C., Major N. H. B. Lyon, M.C., Capt. J. R. B. Worton, Capt. E. L. Heywood, Capt. H. E. Foster, Capt. C. T. Whinney, M.C.

1. MINUTES

The minutes of the last meeting were read and passed.

2. VENUE FOR THE "AT HOME"

It was proposed by Col. Brown and seconded by Col. Rooke, that the "At Home" be continued to be held at the Officers' Mess of the Depot. (Carried).

3. REVISION OF THE RULES OF THE CLUB

On the motion of Col. Brown and seconded by Major Lyon, it was decided that a sub-committee should be appointed to revise the rules of the Club, and in particular to determine the duties of the Secretary and Hon. Secretaries appointed by the Executive Committee to control the management and expenses of the various fixtures. The Secretary was instructed to write to Col. M. Browne to ask him if he would consent to act as chairman of the committee. The members of the committee to be Col. Samuel, the O.C., Depot, and a senior Officer of a Territorial Battalion. (Carried).

4. BALANCES OF THE SUB-ACCOUNTS

The balances of the sub-accounts were laid before the committee and were passed.



THE AUTUMN GOLF MEETING, LIPHOOK

- 1.—The winners of the "Cooper" Cup (2nd Battalion)
- 2.—A southerly drive
- 3.—At the first Tee on the second day
- 4.—The winner of the medal round, J. W. G. Ormiston

5. DATE OF CRICKET WEEK FOR 1938

The committee decided that the annual cricket week should be held in the week commencing 26th June, 1938.

PRESENTATION FROM THE OFFICERS OF THE MIDDLESEX AND HURON REGIMENT

The Officers of The Middlesex and Huron Regiment have very kindly presented to the Officers of the Regiment a mounted deer head, which has been hung in the Officers' Mess at the Depot.

CLOTHES AND RESULTS, OR THE AUTUMN MEETING

Twice a year the owners of golf clubs gather at Hendon, or a course in the neighbourhood of the Home Battalion and proceed, in military fashion, to hit golf balls into places where they know it is quite impossible to find them. Afterwards some poor fool is expected to write up the Regimental Spring (or Autumn, as the case may be) Meeting.

As the "poor fool" has seen no golf, except that of his partner or immediate opponents, and has probably been far too deep in the undergrowth to see much of that, the thing is really a farce and a matter of pure hearsay. Not so frightfully pure and true hearsay either, with the result that the account is, in actual fact, a pack of stuff and nonsense. Being the poor fool once more I propose on this occasion to confine myself to what is true and what I have really seen myself and to leave it to the Secretary to put in the answers to the various mental arithmetic sums called results.

I find that on considering things there is only one thing I did see that is worth recording. True, I saw quite a lot of gorse—prickly stuff—whilst the trees at Liphook do not seem to have decreased in numbers in the last twelve months. The greens, when I at length wanted to approach them, seemed very small and filled with heaps and heaps of people prowling north and south as though they had nothing else to do, and when one did arrive there the hole always seemed too far away or too much right or left, in fact, the greens were not worth considering. I noticed, too, the great bread queue and had hitherto thought that such

things were confined to dictated countries. But these things were as nothing to the diversity of costumes I saw, and this set me wondering as to what is the connection between dress and results in golf.

The week-end started with a Medal round on Saturday morning, and it was no sort of morning for medal play, wet and unpromising; but it did produce a dress parade.

There were at one end of the scale the plutocrats, who appeared in waterproof shoes, mackintosh trousers and jackets and gaudy umbrellas. At the other end there were those who, like the hardy member for Netheravon, scorned any protection and said he believed in getting wet and changing.

In between there were many variations.

The prize went neither to the spartan nor the molly-coddle, but to a humble young man in corduroys. Just plain corduroys without even a strap and so on at the knees. His only asset was a handicap of 30. (How the trousers must have rejoiced in later rounds, when the wearer really got down to some digging; the real stuff and none of this pansy 70 nett golf.) The afternoon was fairer and many players relieved themselves of their outer layer, burdening their caddies with their matched set coats and trousers.

Young Ormiston, however, stuck to his trousers (modesty and lack of forethought may have dictated this) and with his hardy Irish partner, who does not notice rain, once more swept the board which, on this occasion, included the "Cooper" Cup. This trophy now passes to the 2nd Battalion, and yet the holders were represented by a perfect outfit of blue mackintosh covering, the latest Ashridge blue suit and a well-known Sheringham camouflage.

Sunday morning started doubtfully but turned out magnificently warm. In consequence Col. Jefferd was quids in, in more senses than one. He, except in winter, believes in dressing the same for all golfing occasions, and so when rain held off and the sun came out, he was just right, and, glorying in his rightness, required little from his partner McIvor, who, not for the first time in these meetings, produced that little. If I could truthfully say that McIvor was wearing that notorious hat it might prolong its life, but, truth to tell, I fear it was in his car.

The runners-up were Wollocombe and Worton, and they probably deemed themselves unlucky to return 7 up and yet to be beaten. Personally I should say that their glorious failure was, in actual fact, a direct result of Wollocombe's lack of dress sense—wearing a leather jerkin on a boiling day is courting failure.

The afternoon was glorious but not so the golf, with, we beg to suggest, one exception.

After the battle for bread (and cheese) many may have started a little rattled, but the result went to clothing.

Coles, unostentatious in clothes as in golf, changed carefully from trousers needing supports to ones which bread and cheese would keep up on their own. His partner, accustomed to the semi-nudity of the R.P.D.D., threw off all that could in decency be discarded on a golf course. The results were as one would have expected, satisfactory.

But what of the rest? The workmanlike kit of yesterday was now merely digging ditches in the fairway. The waterproof coatings of the plutocrats were drowning their wearers in perspiration, whilst the steps of the leather jackets, such as Wollocombe, were beginning to flag.

Notes on a few other sartorial efforts may be of use as a guide to beginners. Last year, for instance, Hogg swept the board and as a result was, in the perfection of his dress and colour scheme, the synecure of all eyes—and the butt of jesting tongues. The obvious care, too, taken by Unwin on his turn out would have done credit to any star likely to be followed by a gallery of fans. Neither of these produced their quondam devastating form.

At the other end of the scale we have that well-known figure who needs no naming to be easily recognised. As ever he went around complaining bitterly of the good fortune of all other players and the vileness of his own. The balls were not round; the holes were unfair; the fairways too narrow and so on without end. It was no question of luck. Dress, pure and simple, was his downfall. We will omit the notorious hat, with brim that flaps at the wrong moment. We will ignore the infamous pipe, foul and bound with cotton. We will maintain a discreet silence on all the other well-known oddities but, when a man, the essence of whose whole game depends upon his pirouette, confesses that the waterproof trouserings he is

about to don are the ones he came by in boyhood's Victorian days, it is obvious that the man had no intention of being even a real starter.

One could go on for a long time producing the reasons why the clothing of each person was unsuitable for the occasion he failed, but it would need a volume. As the Secretary should have a report on the Annual Meeting and some results to add, those interested in the subject will have to wait until our proposed masterpiece "Dressing to Win" is written and published—if ever.

The unavoidable absence of one or two firm supporters, including Major Anderson and Lieut.-Col. Fox, was regretted. The latter was, unfortunately, prevented from defending his title with Major Hogg in the "Cooper" Cup by the martinets of the Senior Officers' School.

MEDAL ROUND

| | | |
|------------------------|-------|---------------|
| 2/Lieut. Ormiston | .. .. | 100 — 30 = 70 |
| Capt. McIvor | .. .. | 96 — 20 = 76 |
| Lieut.-Col. Wollocombe | .. .. | 106 — 30 = 76 |
| 2/Lieut. Symes | .. .. | 85 — 8 = 77 |
| Capt. Worton | .. .. | 87 — 10 = 77 |
| Major South | .. .. | 85 — 8 = 77 |
| Major Lyons | .. .. | 93 — 15 = 78 |
| E. W. Dillon | .. .. | 91 — 11 = 80 |
| Capt. Whinney | .. .. | 85 — 5 = 80 |
| Lieut.-Col. Jefferd | .. .. | 94 — 14 = 80 |
| C. P. Gliksten | .. .. | 98 — 17 = 81 |
| Major Heape | .. .. | 88 — 5 = 83 |
| Major Hogg | .. .. | 92 — 8 = 84 |
| Lieut.-Col. Samuel | .. .. | 100 — 14 = 86 |
| Capt. Else | .. .. | 98 — 8 = 90 |

"COOPER" CUP

2/Lieut. Ormiston and Lieut. Symes (2nd Battalion), 38 points; Capts. Whinney and Else (2nd Battalion), 37; Majors Heape and South (3rd Battalion), 34; Capt. Arnold and Lieut. Gliksten (7th Battalion), 31; Major Lyons and Capt. Worton (1st Battalion), 28; Major Hogg and E. W. Dillon (9th Battalion), 26; Major Phillips and Capt. Rackham (1st Battalion), 24; Lieut.-Col. Wollocombe and Capt. Cooper (4th Battalion), 24; Lieut.-Cols. Samuel and Coles (5th Battalion), 23; Lieut.-Col. Jefferd and Major Newnham (2nd Battalion), 23; Major Procter and Capt. McIvor (2/10th Battalion), 19.

FOUR BALL v. BOGEY

1, Lieut.-Col. Jefferd and Capt. McIvor, 8 up;
2, Lieut.-Col. Wollocombe and Capt. Worton, 7 up.

FOURSOMES v. BOGEY

1, Lieut.-Col. Coles and Major Procter, 1 down;
2 (tie), Major Phillips and Capt. Rackham, Capts. Arnold and Worton, Lieuts. Green and Symes and Major Lyons and Capt. Else, 6 down.

REGIMENTAL FIXTURES FOR 1938

April 7th and 8th.—Officers' Club Golf Meeting, Hendon.
 June 26th.—Cricket—v. Hampstead Heathens.
 June 27th.—Cricket—v. The Cryptics.
 June 28th.—Cricket—v. Metropolitan Police College.
 June 29th.—Cricket—v. The Free Foresters.
 June 30th.—Cricket—v. The I. Zingari.
 June 30th.—Officers' Club Dinner.
 July 1st.—Officers' Club "At Home."
 July 2nd.—Cricket—v. Hampstead Cricket Club.
 July 2nd and 3rd.—Tennis Tournament.
 October 6th and 7th.—Autumn Golf Meeting (subject to confirmation).
 November 11th.—Remembrance Day Service at the Regimental War Memorial.

EXTRACTS FROM THE
"LONDON GAZETTE"

REGULAR ARMY

INFANTRY

Midd'x R.—The follg. is sec'd. for serv. with the R.A.O.C. (May 15): Capt. F. H. Else.
 The follg. Lt. to be Capt. (May 15): P. D. ff. Powell.

The follg. Sec. Lt. to be Lt. (Aug. 30): W. P. M. Allen.

The follg. from Supplementary Reserve to be Sec. Lts.: P. D. H. Marshall, *Midd'x R.*; F. S. C. Hancock, *Midd'x R.*

Lt. R. A. Gwyn is sec'd. whilst holding the appt. of A.D.C. to the Govr. and C.-in-C., Straits Settlements (Sept. 3).

COMMANDS AND STAFF

The follg. appt. is made: Lt. R. A. Gwyn, *Midd'x R.*, to be A.D.C. to the Govr. and C.-in-C., Straits Settlements (Sept. 3).

RESERVE OF OFFICERS

Midd'x R.—The follg. having attained the age limit of liability to recall, cease to belong to the Res. of

Off.: Lt.-Col. E. A. Ash, D.S.O. (July 15); Lt. A. C. Gray (Sept. 23).

TERRITORIAL ARMY

INFANTRY

7th Bn., Midd'x R.—Lt. A. D. Jefferson to be Capt. (May 30).

8th Bn., Midd'x R.—Pt. J. E. Pillivant, from 22nd (Lond.) Arm'd. Car Co., R. Tank Corps (late Cadet Lce.-Corpl., Aldenham Sch. Contgt., Jun. Div., O.T.C.), to be Sec. Lt. (July 31); Gnr. E. W. Kirby, from 66th (S. Midland) Fd. Bde., R.A. (late Cadet, Reading Sch. Contgt., Jun. Div., O.T.C.), to be Sec. Lt. (July 31); Lt. M. C. D. King to be Capt. (July 22).

9th Bn., Midd'x R.—The follg. to be Sec. Lts. (July 14): P. J. Cundy (late Cadet, Eastbourne Coll. Contgt., Jun. Div., O.T.C.); R. M. Cundy (late Cadet, Eastbourne Coll. Contgt., Jun. Div., O.T.C.). The follg. Capt. to be Maj. (Aug. 18): F. G. Hogg.

APPOINTMENTS

The War Office announces the follg. appt.: Maj. G. L. Fox, T.D., selected to command the 9th Bn. (Territorial) *Midd'x R.* (Duke of Cambridge's Own) in succession to Lt.-Col. J. N. Lamont, M.C., T.D., whose tenure expired on Aug. 17, 1937.

RESERVE OF OFFICERS

7th Bn., Midd'x R.—Capt. S. A. W. Brown, from Active List, to be Capt. (Aug. 4); Lt. C. P. Gliksten, from Active List, to be Lt. (Aug. 25).

9th Bn., Midd'x R.—Lt. A. M. Scales having attained the age limit relinquishes his commn. and retains his rank (Aug. 25).

Midd'x R.—The follg. having attained the age limit of liability to recall, ceases to belong to the Res. of Off.: Capt. W. H. Breadmore (Sept. 15).

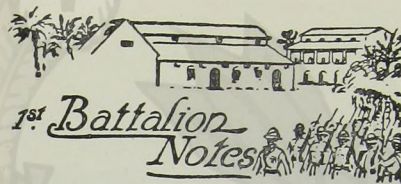
SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE OF OFFICERS

INFANTRY

Midd'x R.—Lt. R. W. H. Willoughby is rest'd. to the estab't. (Aug. 12).

O.T.C., JUNIOR DIVISION

Repton Sch. Contgt., Jun. Div.—Maj. H. A. Maynard, M.C., T.D., ceases to comd. the Contgt. (July 12); Maj. L. A. Cattley, M.C., T.D., to comd. the Contgt. (July 12).



THE arrangement of the Battalion's notes for the last quarter has been disorganised beyond all help by the extraordinary circumstances of our latest move, from Singapore to China. Not only were the editorial papers scattered to the winds in the bustle of departure, but events we had recorded as important have grown by comparison hardly worth mentioning, and most of our forecasts have been made to look ridiculous. These notes have been begun hurriedly at sea, and may be finished almost anywhere.

Before we begin our account of the Battalion's doings in the last three months, it will be best to describe the recent happenings, so that any apparent inconsistency in the notes may be understood.

On Monday, 16th August, we received warning orders to move to Hong Kong within ten days, to relieve the Royal Ulster Rifles, who had been sent to Shanghai to protect the International Settlement. During the next few days we heard that we might go from Hong Kong to Shanghai, but there was never any definite order to go further than Hong Kong.

All the Battalion's kit was packed with remarkable speed. Lieut. Hewitt supervised the loading in barracks, and Lieut. Bellers at the dock. Capt. Dobbs organised the ship, assisted by Lieut. Peal as baggage officer. They and their men are to be congratulated on the efficiency with which the work was done; as a result of their prolonged, almost incessant, activity the Battalion was ready to move, with time to spare, on Friday, 20th August.

The ship commandeered for our use was S.S. *Menelaus*, a Blue Funnel cargo steamer. The accommodation was not luxurious, but the best that could be provided in the time and with the means available, and everyone bore his little discomforts with patience.

About 150 details remained in Singapore, commanded by Major Stewart, with Capt. Ayscough and Lieut. Hewitt. The band stayed to take part in the Malaya Command Tattoo, in which the Battalion was to have performed several items.

On leaving Singapore, the following letter was received from H.E. the Governor:

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
SINGAPORE.

17th August, 1937.

DEAR COLONEL TIDBURY,

On the departure of the 1st Battalion, Middlesex Regiment for Hong Kong, I write to assure you of my regret that you should be leaving Singapore so soon and of my hearty good wishes for the welfare of all ranks.

I know that the public in general will share my regret. In the time since the Battalion arrived it has won our confidence and esteem, and both Officers and men have made many friends. We shall not forget you when you have gone, and we shall follow your future with interest and good will.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd.) T. SHENTON THOMAS, Governor.

The following was sent:

1ST BATTALION, MIDDLESEX REGT.,
GILLMAN BARRACKS,
SINGAPORE.

18th August, 1937.

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

I very much appreciate your Excellency's kind letter dated 17th August and wish to express on behalf of all ranks, 1st Battalion, Middlesex Regiment, our thanks for the good wishes therein contained.

We have met with much kindness in Singapore, which we shall not forget.

I have the honour to be,

Your Excellency's obedient servant,

(Sgd.) O. H. TIDBURY, Lieut.-Col.

After a smooth passage the Battalion reached Hong Kong on the afternoon of 24th August, and landed the same evening, at Holt's Wharf, moving by ferry to Nanking Barracks at Shamshuipo, Kowloon, where it took over the barracks recently vacated by the R.U.R., who had been sent to Shanghai.

After Singapore, the barrack blocks are not palatial, but we have cement floors and walls and hope shortly to make ourselves comfortable.

Owing to cholera locally, bathing has, unfortunately, been stopped in the harbour, and we now have parties who go out in a launch and bathe by Stonecutter Island, where, however, there are a good many large jelly fish.

On 26th August, the G.O.C., China Command, Major-Gen. Bartholomew, inspected the



Victoria and Kowloon from the Peak

Battalion "on arrival" and afterwards met the Officers in the Mess.

Brig. Bissett, Commanding the Hong Kong Brigade, was also present.

On arrival at Hong Kong, we were at once warned to be ready to proceed at twelve hours' notice to Shanghai.

Our efforts to settle down and clear up the barracks were suddenly interrupted by a typhoon on the night of 2nd-3rd September, which completely removed our dining halls and flooded out the area. The typhoon was regarded as one of the worst yet experienced, the rate of wind being gauged at 160 miles per hour. Some six big steamers were either beached or thrown on to rocks, while tidal waves and wrecks of smaller craft have taken a heavy and as yet an unknown toll of life.

To turn now to events before the move; the first activity in the quarter was the King's Birthday Parade, on 9th June, and as this was soon after the Coronation Parade, only the regular troops of the garrison paraded, without

the Volunteers. The Battalion found eight half-companies with one Officer for each, and the other regiments a corresponding number. We paraded in barracks at about six o'clock, and went in lorries to the Cricket Club "padang," where we were drawn up in two lines by about seven. H.E. The Governor arrived shortly after half-past seven; the troops marched past by half-companies, and fired a *feu de joie*.

Later, H.E. sent a message of congratulation on the turn-out and smartness of the troops; the local newspapers mentioned particularly our good lines in the march-past.

There have been some comings and goings among the Officers of the Battalion. Major Phillips left us to go home on leave, on 18th June; have now heard that he is to take command of the Depot on 12th October, and so shall not see him again out here in November. We wish him the best of luck. Lieut. Powell also went home on leave at the end of July. Lieut. Gudgeon went to New Zealand on 27th June; we regret that he will now find his return journey considerably lengthened, but

recent events have disturbed the affairs of many of us.

Lieut. Peel, who went home for a Signalling Course at Catterick last year, we have to congratulate on qualifying at the School, and welcome on his return during the latter part of July; hitherto his only opportunity of displaying his learning has been in the wireless cabin of S.S. *Menelaus*. Lieut. Chattey, C.S.M. Brockman and some members of the Battalion Intelligence Section, went up the east coast on H.M.S. *Laburnum*, from 14th-29th June, and visited Khota Bahru and several of the coast villages; among other interesting sights they witnessed a performance of the celebrated "wayang kulit" or Malayan shadow play.

During July, two cadets of the Malay Regiment, Cadet Taib and Cadet Abu Bakar, were attached to "A" (S.) Company for training. We hope they return to their regiment well instructed, and will have all possible success in the future.

Training for the Malaya Command Tattoo began on 28th June. The Battalion was to have performed a P.T. display, a torchlight procession and taken part in the "Crusader" item. It is a great pity that our work was wasted, particularly after the efforts of Capt. del Court and his assistant Officers and N.C.O.s who helped to produce what would have been a most successful spectacle.

Our sport has also been brought to an abrupt end. Luckily most of the football team remained with the details in Singapore, so that, after our success in the Garrison League, we were able to play several matches in the Singapore Amateur League, in which we scored altogether 20 points, our last match being played while the Battalion was actually in China.

To have to discontinue our boxing was a still greater disappointment, as we have won the Garrison Novices' Competition by a very wide margin, and hoped for more successes with the assistance of "Al" Rivers, whose training has improved the team's technique beyond expectation.

Our training this year, apart from the ordinary exercises in beach defence, has consisted largely in trying to determine a general method of operating in very difficult country to be found in Malaya. Roads are good, and in Singapore, at least, numerous; but in the country itself there is alternatively marsh, "beluker" or young jungle, and "lallang" or long grass, and only from the hilltops, which

are usually bare and stony, can one see for more than a few yards in any direction. Where roads exist the best method of progress would appear to be a combination of motor transport with troops lightly equipped (rifles and L.A.s), who move by bounds as quickly as possible in the M.T. and picket important localities or very high ground giving observation. As most roads in Malaya pass through constant bottlenecks of marsh, swamp, jungle or passes, an enemy will always have ample opportunity for ambushing and seriously delaying an advancing column. The most useful weapon for advancing in these conditions would probably be a fairly heavily armoured tank capable of overcoming and surmounting fairly formidable road blocks.

On 22nd June, "B" Company gave a demonstration of this method of movement as used by an advanced guard, and other lessons in its use were learnt in Battalion exercises which we shall describe later.

Battalion Training was seriously handicapped and curtailed by preparations for the Tattoo.

The first Battalion Exercise was on the night of 5th-6th July, and consisted of a most successful raid on part of the Fortress defences, mainly by "D" Company.

The second Battalion Exercise, on 9th July, was mainly in the form of a demonstration in the use of M.T. in advance and withdrawal, the occupation of a defensive position and the carrying out of a withdrawal.

On 22nd July, the Battalion carried out, with the assistance of M.T., an Exercise which emphasises the limitations in the size of a unit which can be "commanded" in this type of country. It may be said that the "unit" in Malaya in any form of mobile war is sometimes the Company, but more often the Platoon. In beach defence as in static trench warfare, Battalion control must be almost entirely dependent on ground cable communications.

Contrasting strongly with the last minutely organised scheme, all the Companies of the Battalion were, on 24th July, divided into bands of "brigands" and "tribesmen" and conveyed into the bush country, where the "tribesmen" were given the task of capturing the "brigands," individually, each band for itself at the expense of the others. To find their way through the "beluker," beset on every side by hostile tribes, demanded considerable resource and skill on the part of leaders both of the hunted and the hunters. The chief brigand, Wel Sam See, was in the

end captured by the leader of the White Tribe, Ras del Court.

During the training season the beach defences were several times reconnoitred by Officers and N.C.O.s, and on the night of 28th-29th July the Battalion manned the sector as part of a Fortress Scheme. The enemy landed on two different parts of the front and on the extreme left worked their way behind the flank defences, so that not only was our reserve Company called into action and fully employed, but in order to create a fresh reserve, troops were actually withdrawn from the forward defences on the right.

This Exercise was the last the Battalion had before its sudden move to China.

"A" (S.) COMPANY

"This last quarter has been, as usual, a repetition of all those that went before." This is very true of the first two months, but perhaps not so with the last one, which has been, to say the least of it, very hectic. The quarter opened with the Command Athletic Meeting, and we are very proud of the part taken by the Company in it. It is not possible to mention all the men who took part in the various events or to congratulate them singly on their efforts, but we can say that we very much appreciate the willing work and spirit they put into the teams in which they performed.

The Company football team has done remarkably well in the Command Small Units League, which, although not finished when we left Singapore, it has won. This is an excellent performance as some teams had still two games to play.

Pte. Baylis has again represented the Company in the Services' team, and as this is his second complete season we feel that he deserves to have the fact recorded here.

No. 3 Platoon has now played its way into the final of the Platoon Cricket Knock-out, but, owing to the move, this has not yet been played off, and, unfortunately, it is not possible to say when it will be played.

Every quarter brings its arrivals and departures and this one is no exception. We regret the loss of Capt. Crawford, who has left us for "H.Q." Wing, and our best wishes go with him. We tender a hearty welcome to Capt. Dobbs, who has taken on the job of Company Commander, and we hope that he will remain with us for a long time to come. Lieut. Langley and Lieut. Hewitt are also officially welcomed to the Company, and our best

wishes go with the latter to England, where he is to attend a Course in M.G.

Our very best wishes go with the N.C.O.s and men whom we left behind us in Singapore. These we will probably not see again as they are due for home on the first boat, and we will feel their loss very much. This party contains many of our best sportsmen and although we shall miss them we hope that their experience on the sports field will stand them in good stead in civil life.

We congratulate Cpl. Doyle on his promotion, and L/Cpls. Wyllie, Bond, Harris and Tarner on their appointment. May this be the start of a long and successful career.

The order to move to Hong Kong was the start of a period of hard work, which everyone enjoyed as much as it is possible to enjoy such things, and as we were ready to move on the word "go," we went! For once in a lifetime rumour was proved a friend, as the pre-embarkation tales of the terrible trip in store for us on the S.S. *Menelaus* had keyed everyone up for a very uncomfortable journey. In actual fact the reverse was the result, and a fairly enjoyable time was spent on board. The Company gained a good mark for having the cleanest mess deck and are very pleased in consequence.

Our first impression of Hong Kong, or rather Kowloon, where we eventually arrived was not too good and has not yet changed for the better. This may be because of the typhoons which live here and do not appear to like us too well. The first attack by one of these was to all of us a most thrilling but sad to say very uncomfortable experience, but as "It's an ill wind that blows nobody good" it has at least given us another story to spin in the years to come when we travel in fancy at our own fireside.

Can anyone tell us the correct steps to take when chased by half a corrugated iron shed at about 100 m.p.h.?

ACK EMMA GEE.

"B" COMPANY

In commencing these notes we ask that the sequence be overlooked as our late Press agent has been left behind with the Details in Singapore. We take this opportunity of thanking Cpl. Jacob for his efforts on our behalf in the past, and regret that he is not with us now.

Some of our time during the last quarter has been taken up by Company and Battalion Training, which, although not strenuous, was very instructive. We have come to the conclusion that we still have a lot to learn in the art of mechanised warfare. It would appear that we have come into another collective training period in this Command (Hong Kong).

The last few days in Singapore were very busy ones. One is surprised that the Battalion can accumulate so many "dumpable" trifles during such a short stay, judging by the bonfires and refuse littering the Company Blocks. The Battalion was packed and ready to move at very short notice, and there was not much time for tender farewells. We had a good send off from both the "Homegoers" and friends in other Units in Singapore.

On board, we had much better accommodation than we had expected, and we must thank the Cooks for the way in which they fed us under such trying circumstances. The chief "moan" of all seemed to be the Canteen Stores, and how to wangle one more bottle than their comrades, to say nothing of "Q." Branch and their efforts to frustrate these nefarious designs. A number of people, who lost some of their kit, still wonder how much the "Troop" put in the "cupboard" for the safe custody of "Davy Jones." We had a very warm time coming up and were thankful to the ship's company for the plunge bath on board, which helped to keep us cool. Our arrival in Hong Kong was carried out very smoothly, and at last we reached our destination in Nanking Barracks, Shamshuip. What a shock awaited us, after the airy rooms of Gillman Barracks we came to a series of bungalows very closely situated, without room to swing the proverbial cat, even if one wanted to ill-treat this much abused animal. We have, however, settled down at last and are making the best of it, but one considers that even a route march for a "cup of tea" has its consolations.

To have a typhoon during our first week in our new station was quite unlooked for, but we had one, and have gained much experience from it. We awoke to find the dining hall missing and nothing for breakfast, but again the Cooks came to the fore, and produced tea and sandwiches and kept the wolf from the door until the "continue" was sounded and we had dinners. Then came the job of clearing up after the storm. The whole Company was turned out to clear up the debris. The wind had reached a velocity of 160 m.p.h.,

which accounted for the heavy articles we found in unexpected places.

Our sports teams have been sadly depleted, owing to the fact that we have left a good proportion of our performers in Singapore, pending their departure to U.K. We take this opportunity to wish them every success in their new sphere and *bon voyage*.

We did not do so well in the Singapore Small Units League (Football), but we hope for better results in the similar competition we have entered for in our new station. We are building up a stronger cricket team for the coming season, and trust in our next issue to be able to record a series of successes in this direction. Since arrival in Hong Kong we have played the Details of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers, whom we beat by a large margin. The ground is very small and seems to suit our batsmen. Scores: "B" Company, 227 for 5 (declared) (Pte. Chatton 66, Cpl. Denham 49, 2/Lieut. Weedon 34); Royal Welsh Fusiliers, 123 (Sergt. Painter 4 for 53, Pte. Wright 5 for 36).

In conclusion, we welcome Sergt. Kruck, L/Sergt. Painter and Cpl. Phelan from "C" Company and wish them success in their new Company, whether their stay with us is long or short.

"C" COMPANY

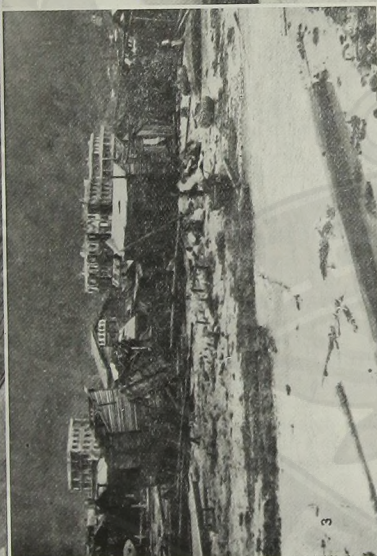
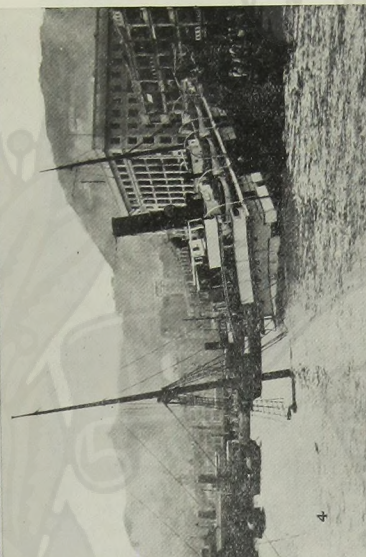
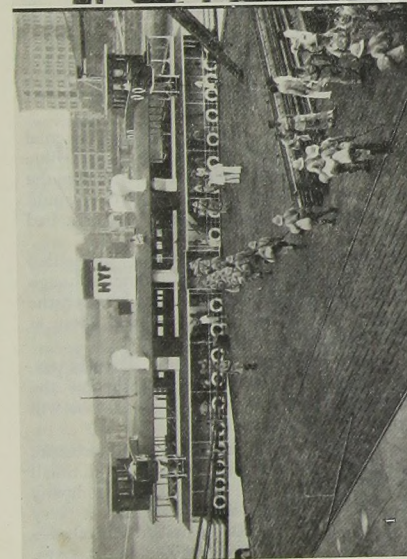
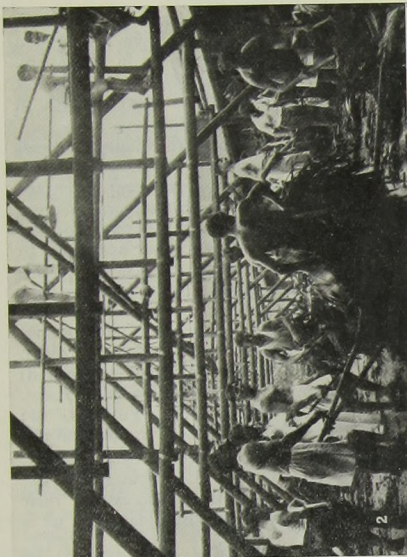
Owing to the Battalion's premature move from Singapore, the Company notes this quarter will not be of the usual length.

There is little to relate concerning the actual trip to this Colony. We came by the Blue Funnel boat S.S. *Menelaus*, and, although the accommodation was not all that one would desire, the Company made the best of a bad job.

Arriving at Nanking Barracks, we settled down in a very short space of time, although it must be said that the difference between the barracks that we have just left and these at Hong Kong is considerable.

It was unfortunate that C.S.M. Thomas was, through illness, unable to accompany the Company, but we sincerely hope that he will join us in the near future.

Turning to sport, we were very fortunate that the move did not interfere with the Small Units League fixtures, as far as this Company was concerned anyway, and after a very mediocre start—we lost the first five matches—we "shocked" everybody, including ourselves, incidentally, by finishing third in this League.



2.—Setting up house after the typhoon
4.—S.S. Ann Lee; ashore is Hong Kong

1.—Boarding the Ferry at Holt's Wharf, Hong Kong
3.—Part of the town after the typhoon

The season's complete record shows that "C" Company at least held their own with civilian and military teams alike.

The athletic team was a disappointment. Up to the time of the Battalion Sports Meeting, the Company appeared to have a very good chance of taking the Athletic Shield, but, unfortunately, the team did not give the same performance as the trials suggested, and we finished second from the bottom.

Sergt. Kruck, L/Sergt. Painter and Cpl. Phelan were recently transferred to "B" Company, and although we were indeed sorry to lose these N.C.O.s we wish them every success in their new Company. The cricket team will miss the services of L/Sergt. Painter, and our only hope is that we will be able to flog his bowling in the same manner as he will flog ours.

To our friends the "Homegoers," whom we left in Singapore, we wish *bon voyage* and all the very best in "civvy."

"D" COMPANY

In our last notes we were able to state that our next move would be to Hong Kong in December of this year. That statement was perfectly true in every respect, yet, here we are in Hong Kong and the month is August. Not only are we at Hong Kong so unexpectedly but the air also is full of tension as to the likelihood of moving elsewhere at any moment.

However, no matter where we are, or where we may be going, these notes have to be rendered by a certain date and already they are two days overdue.

When we left Singapore at such short notice, we left behind many friends whom we may never see again. Included among these friends are several members of the Company who are due to proceed to the U.K. on discharge, t.a.r., etc. Our best wishes go to C.S.M. Anderson, L/Sergt. Game and all the other N.C.O.s and men, and we hope that one day we shall meet them all as prosperous business men.

One usually finds that a great deal of the notes in the Journal are of sporting results and prospects for the future, but in this case we can only say that we congratulate Ptes. McGrady, Thompson and Cutts on winning their respective weights in the Command Novices' Boxing Tournament, and also Ptes. Watson and Geist for putting up such good shows in the fights which they lost. We sympathise with Pte. Fox, who was selected

to box, but was barred from doing so by the medical officer. The football team recovered from a bad start in the Small Units League and finished in the first five.

Sergts. Priddy and Donovan, Cpl. Shaw and L/Cpl. Sturdy are off to England on Courses, and we wish them success. Maybe the first named three will have their own cars when they return.

Several interesting schemes were carried out during Battalion Training, but as most of these were carried out with the aid of lorries, we suffered from other than sore feet. One scheme was outstanding as a lesson in leadership through swamp-laden areas. One platoon sergeant led his men knee deep through a particularly nasty swamp, in fact they almost swam for it. Well done, Ginger!

When news was received of our move to Hong Kong and it was known that we would be travelling in a cargo boat, everybody had visions of a very uncomfortable voyage; it was the general idea of all concerned that we were to be packed like sardines. We were disillusioned when we embarked and found that the food and accommodation were far superior to any we had expected. The speed with which we travelled was also a revelation, and I think that I have the support of the whole Company when I offer our thanks and congratulations to everyone concerned in the conversion of the S.S. *Menelaus* to a troopship.

At present we can say little about Hong Kong, apart from the fact that we are stationed on the mainland and the picture of Hong Kong itself, when illuminated at night, is one which many tourists have spent hundreds of pounds to see, and it really is a magnificent spectacle.

To conclude these notes, we wish all other Companies, Messes, etc., a very happy Christmas and a successful New Year.

DON.

SIGNALS

This quarter finds us at the latter part of our stay in Singapore, and the beginning of that in Hong Kong.

At the time of writing we look back to the period of our extensive punching up for classification and the interruptions due to our participation in the Military Tattoo, Battalion Training and, finally, the emergency move to Hong Kong, all of which have retarded our annual brain test.

At sports we have fared rather well. But at cricket—perhaps “A” (S.) Company had best be asked to recount their defeats in Platoon cricket.

After all other eliminations, we had to meet No. 4 Platoon in the semi-final and then No. 3 Platoon in the final. The former sturdy eleven became soothsayers and predicted without fear of contradiction a crushing defeat for the Signals. After they had made a formidable score, which seemed hardly beatable in Platoon cricket, our stalwarts, under a spate of witticism, faced their adversaries and knocked No. 4 Platoon virtually off the field.

Then the final against No. 3 Platoon. Such mediocre bats, too! We skittled the much-boasted champions 49 for 8. Positive of a win, we were unfortunately interrupted by the move to Hong Kong. So at this stage, with the battle not yet done, we must congratulate L/Cpl. King, Ptes. Borton, Connor and Rogers and also the remainder of the team, for their sterling efforts.

Our trip to Hong Kong was very uneventful, and now that we are here, everyone seems to have settled down in their new station. This, if not as comfortable as Singapore, is very pleasant, judging by the enthusiasm shown by those who have visited the town.

At present we have one regret. We had to leave behind five of our old signallers who are time-expired, namely, L/Cpl. King, Ptes. Rogers, Scribbins, Lockyer and Kent. They all did much to the Section sport as well as duty, and those who are here in Hong Kong carry on the good work and wish them all the very best of luck. Soon others will follow, and so the round goes on.

We welcome the new class Signallers to our group and hope that in the near future they will compensate us for our losses.

A. R.

DETAILS

Hello, everybody! Owing to the sudden move from Singapore, our notes were not called in until a later date. Thus we are able to give you a little more information than we originally intended.

With only four days' notice we were put out of our “flats” at Singapore and dumped aboard the lugger commonly known as the *Menelaus*, which was chartered in the emergency for our move, owing to the trouble at Shanghai. Although only a cargo boat, capable of carrying a few passengers, it was

quickly converted into a troopship. In my opinion, the men enjoyed the trip more so than if it was a regular troopship.

We always give credit where it is due, So just a few words of “Dunc and his crew”; Those gallant men slaved from morn till night, And made of our rations a delicious delight.

WELL DONE, THE COOKS! WELL DONE!

Having only just arrived in Hong Kong, we cannot tell you anything about the place. So we will leave that until the next quarter.

We were unfortunate enough in the Inter-Platoon cricket to meet the celebrated “A” (S.) Company's No. 3 Platoon in the third round, and were we mortified? I'll say.

New blood is welcomed to the group in Cpl. Cain. We heartily congratulate him on his promotion to Corporal and wish that we could share his back pay. Also L/Cpls. Tostevin and “Iodine” Manning on their appointments.

Erny is still crooning as well as ever, but there is keen competition in “Swire” as a tenor. Beetle Brow is looking better than ever after his rest in “dock.”

The lads of the Orderly Room (Luscious, Lank & Co.) are still “cracking the lay” about the amount of work they do, although no one seems to catch them at it.

Postie is chasing around barracks and is going to have the Air Mail changed for our benefit (so he says), and, in future, when the mail boat docks late, he is going to see the Captain personally about it.

Hatfield has done particularly well in the Battalion cricket team this year and has represented the Services on some occasions.

The pioneers, under “Tosso,” do not find Hong Kong quite so much of a palace in comparison with Singapore, especially after the recent typhoon.

Some of the “old timers” will shortly be leaving us (the old Palestine originals), Howard, Tarrant, “Tosso,” Jones, Steadman, Rodell and “Simmo” (or Ken to his friends).

We conclude these notes by wishing all the scroungers of the 2nd Battalion “Details” a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

P. J. C.

DRUMS

Hear ye! Hear ye! Hear ye!

Whilst the “drums of war” are calling in China and Japan, the Drums of Ye Olde 57th are calling the world from Singapore. Some

say, good old Singapore. Others say —; I will let you guess that part. After all, this is a respectable journal.

Now to get down to “tin-tacks.” (I am sorry I could not make it “brass-tacks,” but, you see, one of our film fans has pinched all of them to hang some photos of Myrna Beery and Greta Gable around his bed-cot.)

The first item on the programme is the Coronation celebrations. There is no need to give a detailed description of the “Big Parade,” as no doubt someone else has done that for me. So I will confine myself to the part that we took on this great occasion.

We were very pleased to lend our able assistance to the Massed Bands and Pipes of the Malayan Command, and I am sure that they were very glad to have us with them to help in the struggle through. Mind you, they didn't exactly say so, but we could see it in their eyes. (Modest fellows.)

We also helped them in a Massed Retreat Beating on the Padang. This parade was the last that Drum-Major Drew officiated at, before leaving us to take up an appointment on the Malayan Prison Staff. We wish him all the best of luck and hope to meet him again some day. (Outside a prison, of course.)

In his place we have L/Sergt. Jeffree of the Band. It is, at present, only a temporary appointment as A/Drum-Major, but we sincerely hope that it will be made permanent. Welcome to the old Corps!

Two of our members have found their Field Marshal's baton in their packs and have started on the right road. We congratulate L/Cpls. Goodge and Staley on their appointment.

Five of our bright lads in the Intelligence Section were fortunate enough to have a fortnight's trip up the east coast of Malaya. Officially it was called a reconnaissance, but between you and me, it should have been called a holiday. Judging by their tanned appearance and the stories that they have since told us, I am sure that they had a good time. The story of the wristlet watch, told by “Spud,” is still causing much amusement.

We congratulate L/Cpl. Holdford on winning his weight in the Command Novices' Boxing and also Dmr. Murray (03) as runner-up.

In the Inter-Platoon cricket we have so far only played two matches, but are still in the running, having won both of them.

Owing to the fact that the list of homegoers has been published and many of our members are on it, the phrases “When is that boat”

and “Roll on that boat” are heard many times a day.

All good things must come to an end. So, in conclusion, we send our very best wishes to the 2nd Battalion Drums and old members of our Corps. We wish them all a happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

LIGHTS OUT.

SERGEANTS' MESS

“In few they hurried us aboard a bark,
Bore us some leagues to sea”

and dumped us at Hong Kong, bag and baggage. The journey from Singapore by S.S. *Menelaus* (“Many Laws” or “Many Layers,” call it what you will) proved to be less uncomfortable than was anticipated, and the Mess was in many ways better off than on a troopship.

Since all good notes congratulate somebody or other, let us pass over the journey with bouquets to those who arranged the Mess on board; he of the iron constitution who did not sleep on deck; the gentleman with an open razor; and the information bureau for sports news and war rumours.

We left at Singapore: Bandmaster Judge and Sergt. Edwards for the Malaya Tattoo, C.S.M.s Thomas and Anderson, Sergt. Tiller and L/Sergt. Hopwood on the sick list, Sergts. Priddy, Donovan and Bean and L/Sergt. Castle for courses in England, L/Sergts. Clark and Game (homegoers), and, lastly, the “McEwen” Cup which the tennis team failed to win purely owing to the move (?).

S/Sergt. Harvey, R.A.O.C., joined us just in time to pack his kit (if any), in relief of Armr./L/Sergt. Walker. We welcome him to the Mess and also Armr./L/Sergt. Jordan, R.A.O.C., on appointment.

Of the pre-move days we have to record a football match, in which we drew 2—2 with the R.E.s. Widgery's (Depot Mess) failed in their attempt to gain a revenge on the 30-yards range. Incidentally, the range had to be repaired shortly after our last meeting—bad shooting or bad construction on the part of the R.E.s?

The Mess had several visits from an old-timer, Mr. H. Haydon, late of the 2nd and 3rd Battalions. A fine upstanding old fellow, he deserves (and is given) a paragraph to himself.

Your scribe now takes a swig and sits back whilst the Mess poet bursts forth into verse

(or worse) in sympathy with the members who travelled the "other way" by P. & O. liner for Machine Gun Courses.

SCRIBE.

LUCKY OLD "A"

To travel second on a liner must be awfully hard,
One cannot even pass the time on duty or on guard;
The deck space, too, is something that everyone despairs,
For every little bit of it is filled up with deck chairs.

Poor old Tom.

To have to wake up early when the tea is brought to you;
To have the steward tell you that your bath is ready, too;
To have to rise for breakfast which finishes at nine,
While at seven you'd have busted on the Blue Funnel line.

Poor old Bill.

The food on board is scanty, six courses every night,
And two in every cabin, that doesn't seem quite right;
You walk about in mufti while your uniform goes waste,
Your ammos lie just where they're put, you never find them laced.

Poor old Tom.

There's deck games and there's dancing, each day and every night,
To be the hero on the boat you strive with all your might;
You tire yourself out trying and in a chair you sink,
Then up comes some poor tourist with the words "What will you drink?"

Poor old Bill.

To go ashore at every port is an awful bore no doubt,
It means you have to waste your time in making passes out;
And when you get to England in a kind of semi-stupor,
You gaze with horror at the bloke who asks of you "Which Trooper?"

Lucky old Tom, Lucky old Bill,
Lucky old "A."

BIRTH

Bandmaster A. E. Judge—son, Kenneth Ernest, born at Singapore General Hospital on 8th July, 1937.

AN OLD "DIE-HARD"

Mr. H. Haydon, late of the 2nd and 3rd Battalions, now a steward on board the South African boat S.S. *Dalia*, paid several visits to the Sergeants' Mess of the 1st Battalion, whilst his ship was recently in Singapore. A fine upstanding man, he bears the unmistakable stamp of a "Die-Hard" and carries his years well. The Mess was extremely glad to get in touch with him.

His record of service is as follows:
Enlisted in 1898; 3rd class certificate of education, 31/8/99; 2nd class certificate, 5/3/02; served in South Africa and gained the Queen's and King's medals; discharged in the rank of sergeant, 31/12/05, on payment, after 7 years 122 days' service; served in German South-West Africa, 1917-1919, and gained G.S. and Victory medals.

The following letter was received shortly after his departure:

S.S. *Dalia*,
Keppel Harbour,
Singapore.
18th August, 1937.

H. Farrow, Esq.,
R.S.M., 1st Bn., Middlesex Regt.

Dear Sir,

I shall esteem it a favour if, through you, and on behalf of the Officers and myself, we be allowed the privilege of expressing, in some small measure, our appreciation of the hospitality and genuine friendship extended to us by the Sergeants' Mess.

As an old "Die-Hard" it touched me deeply to witness this splendid gesture, on the part of all, in my wholehearted and unquestioned acceptance as still being one of yourselves. Believe me, I have not taken it lightly and shall treasure the memory of my old Regiment the more.

I noticed with gratitude that the upholding of traditions and loyalty of a high degree are still present as in the old days, and my only regret is that I am not still with the Regiment. We one and all thank you, wish you God speed on your travels and a safe return.

Yours till I "Die-Hard,"

H. H. HAYDON, G.S.

The world is big, the world is round,
Strange people in strange places found.
And ships that sail, their crews declare,
They're all unlike, some foul, some fair.
But those we've met in the Sergeants' Den,
Believe me, Sir, we found them men.
What fun was had, those men and we,
Mem'ries pleasant for us at sea.
The hours with you meant such a lot,
In spite of some getting horribly hot.
We thank you all and wish you well,
For happy thoughts Memorial.

BOXING

Our season opened this year with an Individual Novices' Competition on 15th, 16th and 17th June.

This did not count toward the Albuhera Shield, and was only for the purpose of finding talent for the Command Inter-Unit Novices' Boxing Competition.

The meeting showed some quite good spirit although there was little doubt that it was a "Novices" competition.

The results were:

Heavy-weight.—Winner, Pte. Izzard ("C"); runner-up, Dmr. Murray ("H.Q.").

Light Heavy-weight.—Winner, Pte. Fox ("D"); runner-up, Pte. Adams ("C").

Middle-weight.—Winner, Pte. McGrady ("D"); runner-up, L/Cpl. Harris ("A").

Welter-weight.—Winner, Pte. Eaton ("C"); runner-up, Pte. Watson ("D").

Light-weight.—Winner, Pte. Chacksfield ("D"); runner-up, Pte. Chatton ("B").

Feather-weight.—Winner, Pte. Phillips ("C"); runner-up, Pte. Winkworth ("B").

Bantam-weight.—Winner, Pte. Thompson ("D"); runner-up, Pte. Panting ("D").

Good losers: Ptes. Mayzes ("D") and Manning (26) ("B").

Three boys' fights were included and gave us good entertainment.

Middle-weight.—Winner, Boy Goddard; runner-up, Boy Abercrombie.

Welter-weight.—Winner, Boy Rookes; runner-up, Boy Russell.

Bantam-weight.—Winner, Boy Grossmith; runner-up, Boy Witty.

Our next task was to train a team for the Command Inter-Unit Novices' Competition, which we were fully determined to win. To this end we obtained the services of Al Rivers, as professional trainer and instructor. It is hardly necessary to state here the huge improvement he has made to our Novices in such a

short time. It is sufficient to say that we won the Cup with the substantial margin of ten points, and that our team gave an excellent exhibition of good boxing and very clean hitting.

The meeting was held at Gillman Barracks, and the results were as follows:

Bantam-weight.—Pte. Thomson won on points.

Feather-weight.—First string: Pte. Phillips won on points. Second string: Pte. Hutchings lost in the first series.

Light-weight.—First string: Pte. Zelly k.o. first round. Second string: Pte. Geist lost in the second series. Third string: Pte. Styles won on points.

Welter-weight.—First string: L/Cpl. Holdford won on points. Second string: Pte. Watson lost in the first series. Third string: L/Cpl. McCarthy won on points.

Middle-weight.—First string: Pte. Cutts k.o. first round. Second string: Pte. McGrady k.o. first round.

Light Heavy-weight.—Pte. Fox was, unfortunately, not passed fit and was unable to box.

Heavy-weight.—Dmr. Murray lost k.o. in the final.

FINAL PLACINGS OF UNITS

| | Pts. |
|--|------|
| 1 1st Middlesex Regiment | 52 |
| 2 2nd Gordon Highlanders | 42 |
| 3 Royal Artillery | 41 |
| 4 Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers | 33 |
| 5 Royal Engineers | 27 |

Pte. Zelly and L/Cpl. Holdford were particularly outstanding in style, and showed the greatest improvement in a very improved team.

Al Rivers then started work on our "open" team, which progressed well and looked like winning the Inter-Unit Open Competition and the Middlesex Cup, presented by Col. Tidbury. Unfortunately we were ordered to carry out a premature move to Hong Kong only a week before the competition, which was a great disappointment to all concerned with boxing.

We were particularly sorry to lose the services of Al Rivers, who, apart from being a most efficient instructor, made himself, with his cheerfulness and untiring enthusiasm, a real friend to the Battalion.

We have now finally lost his able assistant, Sergt. Clarke, who has done so much for Battalion boxing. Both he and Rivers seemed to make the drudgery of training really interesting and enjoyable. But we are not finished with Singapore yet. Rivers and Clarke are busy collecting a team from those left behind and hope at least to reach the finals of the Inter-Unit Competition. We wish them the best of luck.

In conclusion we must benefit from the lesson so ably demonstrated by Rivers. There

is only one way to "hit correctly" in boxing in order to score a point and obtain the maximum "hitting power," and we must remember what he taught in this respect.

SWIMMING

The delay in the construction of the swimming pool in Gillman Barracks has been a big disappointment to our swimmers this year. Months ago now the site was chosen and marked, and a large hole of the right size and fine looking changing rooms around it appeared with remarkable rapidity before the admiring gaze of all passing up and down the hill.

Alas for hopes of a speedy finish and opening ceremony in August! Springs appeared on the bottom surface, necessitating driving in large piles and, despite noble efforts and much hard thought on the part of the "Sappers," we appear unlikely to get a swim for months yet.

Our life-saving classes have been continued in Singapore and 40 awards obtained up to date for men of the Battalion and 14 certificates obtained for children of married families in Alexandria. L/Cpl. Butt, Hon. Associate of the R.L.S.S., L/Cpls. Ure and Holdford and Pte. Tarrant have been the chief instructors, while Ptes. Miller ("H.Q.") and Draper ("C.") obtained their 1st Class Instructors certificates.

Our water polo team have maintained their high standard this year and have shown themselves the best military team in Singapore. Results in the Inter-Unit League won by us were as follows:

| | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|----|----|----|------|------|
| v. Departmentals | .. | .. | .. | Won | 7-0 |
| v. R.A.F. | .. | .. | .. | Drew | 2-2 |
| v. R.E. | .. | .. | .. | Won | 11-0 |
| v. R.A. | .. | .. | .. | Won | 9-0 |
| v. Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers | .. | .. | .. | Won | 7-0 |
| v. 1st Gordon Highlanders | .. | .. | .. | Won | 10-0 |
| Total | .. | .. | .. | | 46-2 |

Many friendly matches have been held throughout the season, including some against the Naval Base and Singapore Swimming Club. Regular players have been: Ptes. Berry ("D"), Tarrant ("H.Q."), Buckle ("D"), Stemp ("B"), Haigh ("H.Q."), Hymas ("H.Q.") and Bdmn. Lloyd. Reserve: L/Cpl. Ure ("H.Q."). Ptes. Berry, Tarrant and Stemp were chosen to represent the Combined Services in matches in Singapore.

There has been no difficulty in raising a second team, who have shown most promising

results in their matches. The following are regular players: Cpl. Hoskins ("A"), L/Cpls. Ure and Tostevin ("H.Q."), Ptes. Goodair ("A"), Pike ("B"), Davies and Jennings ("D"). Reserves: Cpls. Jordon and Burkitt ("H.Q.").

These notes are being finished in Hong Kong after the sudden move of the Battalion. Our main disappointment on arrival is to find that bathing in the harbour is not allowed, owing to cholera, but launch parties proceed daily further down the coast, where bathing is excellent, despite the jelly fish.

When the situation becomes more "normal" the swimmers will be in their element, as we are on the edge of the harbour and conditions will be excellent.

POLO, 1936-37

The Battalion left Egypt with pleasant memories of polo; several Officers keen at the game, Lieuts. Powell, Hall, Gwyn and Chattey, finished the season by going to Alexandria with their ponies to play for the Subaltern's Cup. They did themselves great credit in this tournament, but were handicapped very largely by inexperience but more by old ponies.

From Moascar they all wished to take their ponies to Singapore, but most refrained on the principle that it is better to have a few pounds in one's pocket than to take a first-class passage for one's horse, which might never reach its destination. Hall insisted on "Thistledown," a grey Arab stallion, going to Singapore; since its arrival it has done a fair amount of work. He was possibly wise; the pony might be bought for breeding, which is only being experimented with in this country, or to make a first-class pony for the younger generation to learn on.

Thus we arrived in Singapore with only one horse, and found there were no stables, no Government chargers, in fact nothing but several keen Officers who commenced to search a country where there are very few horses to buy. These Officers also frequented the race course in the early morning and the sales after the races, and eventually bought "Ricebird," "Baccarat" and "Little 'Un." These racehorses have now been transformed into polo ponies, and one of them has sold at a good price. At the same time, Major Phillips purchased "Star" from Western Australia; this pony had already played in tournaments and was first class.

We were told that we could not have Government chargers until our stables were built (the Government stables were not finished until July, 1937); instead we were promised that if we guaranteed to stable the ponies they would be ordered from Australia.

Our private stable was built and the horses duly arrived in July, 1936. They certainly appeared very docile. Some people said that they would be useful to pull the mower; others thought differently. The Officers and grooms, under the direction of Sergt. (now C.Q.M.S.) Christie, began work on them almost at once. We soon found that some had not been bitted nor backed, and there were many doubts after school on some days whether so-and-so would be passed fit for duty or the "C.O." certify that he was on duty when he came to fill in the requisite A.F. However, the grooms usually returned to the stables without serious damage.

The school was just in front of the Officers' Mess, so that the idler Officers were able to watch the entertainment every day at 6.45 a.m. and 5 p.m.

But the result can be seen in at least five Officers playing polo and getting as many chukkers as they want, within reason, three times a week.

The stable is organised rather differently from most military stables. The polo club has taken complete control, with the kind consent of the nominal owners of Government chargers. The horses are exercised and play only under the orders of the secretary of the Regimental Polo Club.

However, during the training of the new ponies, at the latter end of the season 1936, Powell, Hall and Chattey were playing fairly regularly. Hall was selected to play No. 2 for a Singapore club team in the "Spooners" Cup at Kuala Lumpur. Unfortunately they lost to Iskandar. Chattey played No. 1 for the garrison in the final of the K.O.R. Cup and in the same place for the Services v. Civilians. Both matches were lost. Ponies for these games were very kindly lent to Chattey by the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. "Star" also played in these matches.

These games finished our activities for the 1936 season. We then got down to training the new ponies in earnest. Very few mornings and evenings were missed.

When the 1937 season commenced in March, six out of the nine chargers were ready to play, as well as all the private ponies. At the commencement of the season, Fishbourne joined

Powell, Hall, Gwyn and Chattey (The Four Musketeers from Egypt). Unfortunately a sprained muscle put him out of the game, soon after the season started.

In May, the Singapore Races were including two polo pony scurries. We had four entries in the two races and secured two firsts and one second. Major Phillips' "Star," ridden by Chattey, and Chattey's "Ricebird," ridden by Powell, were first and second respectively in Class B race, while Hall, riding his own "Dracula," was first in Class A. A very successful meeting, as the odds were long. Our stable was commencing to show its form.

Gwyn having gone on leave, the Battalion could not find a regimental side for the K.O.R. Cup in June, but Powell, Hall and Chattey, with Butler of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, represented the garrison. They played in the final against the Civilians and did very well; they were beaten through lack of experience, the score being 9-3. Chattey, Hall and Butler scoring one each for the garrison. The young first-year ponies from the race course and Australia were better than the more experienced ponies of the Civilians; great credit must be given to those who have worked morning and evening training them.

The remainder of June saw the team playing practice chukkers together. For July, the Battalion won its first cup—The Sussex Cup. The team consisted of Powell, No. 1; Hall, No. 2; Chattey, No. 3; and Wilberforce, R.A., No. 4. Everyone played very well. We conceded 1½ goals to the Civilians in the first round and won 4-3½. In the final, we had a very hard game against the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and won 2-1, having given one goal. Our new chargers were now getting into their best form.

Pullman started playing in July and showed great promise. Powell left us to go on leave, prior to joining the 2nd Battalion.

Early in August, Hall and Chattey with Major Cox and Lowry-Corrie, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, represented the Singapore Club at Kuala Lumpur in the "Macdonugal" Cup. They were beaten 5½-2 by Pahang. Our ponies were not accustomed to the large ground. Later in August, Hall No. 2, Chattey No. 3, Major Cox (Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers) No. 4 and Elliott (R.A.) No. 1 went up-country to Kuala Kangsar, as guests of the Sultan of Perak, to play in the Sultan of Perak Cup, an open tournament. This was a very strong team and great hopes were entertained of bringing back the cup. The ponies were sent

up four days in advance, in order to get used to the surroundings, which proved to be a great benefit.

Unfortunately, soon after our arrival, Hall and Chattey were recalled to Singapore, in order to proceed to Hong Kong with the Battalion. This was a great disappointment but the Sultan of Pahang very sportingly agreed to play the first match at 7.30 a.m., in order to give us a game before we left at mid-day. We played Pahang and won 5-0. Both ponies and players were at the top of their form. The scorers were Chattey 3, Elliott 1 and Cox 1.

This game brought our polo to an end in Malaya. The private ponies were immediately sold and the chargers were brought back to Singapore.

Great credit must be given to L/Sergt. O'Neil and the grooms, whose enthusiasm for their ponies and the game was very encouraging.

The polo played in Malaya was most enjoyable, especially as we had brought up and made our own ponies. After all our efforts, it was a great pity that we were unable to finish the season, but Hong Kong at first sight seems very promising.

ATHLETICS

This year the running track was marked out before the end of March, and all Companies managed to hold a two-days' sports meeting, in spite of the weather and other distractions. These took place at the end of April and the beginning of May. "H.Q." Wing runners were most prominent practising in the evenings, both in April and May, and some very sound work was accomplished.

The Inter-Company Team Championship was postponed until 19th, 21st and 22nd May, on account of the Coronation celebrations, and "H.Q." Wing reaped the reward of their hard work by scoring a comfortable win. This was the first time since 1935 that the meeting has been held, and some good performances were put up, both in the field and track events.

Many newcomers did very well and Lieut. Powell (the Battalion Athletic Officer) felt that he had some very sound material to work on for the Battalion team in the Command Athletic Meeting, due to take place on 23rd, 24th and 26th June.

About a week after the Company Relays, the Open Individuals in the sprints, middle

distances and the hurdles were held. Pte. Steadman proved himself the best short distance man, Bdmn. Clubb the best middle distance man, and Pte. Berryman won both the one mile and three miles.

In the field events, Sergt. Bullock showed a welcome return to form, and was largely responsible for the good standard our men showed in the Command Sports.

On the whole the training went very well and we were very fortunate in the weather. Our hurdles team were also fortunate in getting the help of Mr. Milner on one or two evenings, and they managed to improve themselves considerably.

The Command Meeting was again held at Gillman Barracks this year. From the first day it appeared that the ultimate winners would be either ourselves or the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Unfortunately we spoil our chances by being disqualified in the 440 yards relay by a faulty take-over, after returning the fastest time in the heats. In the final of the hurdles our leading man fell, which gave the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers second place in that event, after we had beaten them with considerable ease in the heats.

Undoubtedly the standard was much higher than last year, and our team showed improved form all round. If fortune had smiled on us we might have been placed first, instead of second again.

Battalion teams and placings in each event were as follows:

Pole Vault.—Dmrs. Salmon and Bolinbroke, tied second place.

880 Yards Relay.—2/Lieut. Gudgeon and L/Cpl. Watson, Dmr. Salmon and Pte. Steadman, first place.

Throwing the Hammer.—Sergt. Bullock and Bdmn. Baker, second place.

440 Yards Relay.—2/Lieut. Gudgeon, L/Cpl. Watson, Sergt. West and Pte. Steadman, first place.

One Mile Relay.—L/Cpl. Bowker, Bdmn. Clubb and Ptes. McGrady and Cox, disqualified.

Three Miles Team Race.—L/Cpl. Ellis and Ptes. Murray, Adams and Berryman, third place.

High Jump.—Ptes. Sheehan and Bindon, second place.

Throwing the Discus.—Ptes. Saunders and Cox, fifth place.

480 Yards Hurdles Relay.—L/Cpl. Martin, Bdmn. Hymas and Ptes. Watson and Perrin, third place.

Two Miles Relay.—Sergt. Clark, Bdmn. Clubb and Ptes. Tarrant and Hobson, third place.

Long Jump.—L/Cpl. Freshwater and Bdmn. Hymas, fifth place.

Putting the Weight.—Sergt. Bullock and Pte. Berry, fourth place.

One Mile Team Race.—Ptes. Berryman, Tarrant and Hobson and Bdmn. Clubb, second place.

Throwing the Javelin.—Ptes. Crowhurst and Lever, third place.

FINAL PLACINGS

| | Pts. |
|--|------|
| 1 Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers | 141 |
| 2 1st Battalion The Middlesex Regiment | 121½ |
| 3 Royal Artillery | 107 |
| 4 1st Battalion 2nd Punjab Regiment | 102½ |
| 5 2nd Battalion The Gordon Highlanders | 74 |
| 6 Royal Air Force | 71 |
| 7 Royal Engineers | 62 |
| 8 The Malay Regiment | 51 |

SINGAPORE A.A.A. CHAMPIONSHIPS

Several of our runners did very well in the local meeting this year.

In spite of the heavy going, about four records were broken on the final day, 10th July.

Pte. Steadman did very well to finish a good third in the 220 yards final, which was won in the very good time of 22.8 seconds. Pte. Berryman ran well to gain second place to Fus. Heron in the mile race. Bdmn. Clubb, running for the first time in an open competition, was just beaten into second place in the 440 yards; the winning time was 52.1/5th seconds. He was unfortunate in having his two most serious rivals drawn inside to him, and might easily beat the winner when they next meet.

Once again the Battalion won the Open Mile Medley Relay (220 yards, 220 yards, 440 yards and 880 yards). We were unlucky to draw the fifth lane this year. Our 220 yards men ran well after L/Cpl. Watson was left at the start, but Pte. Cox had a very rough passage in the 440 yards, just managing to hold his own; Bdmn. Clubb, however, made no mistake, and running with confidence, saw his opponents come back to him one by one, as only a really good runner, who is well trained, can make them do so. The final result was a seven or eight yards' win in just over three minutes fifty seconds.

The team consisted of L/Cpl. Watson, Bdmn. Clubb, Pte. Steadman and Pte. Cox.

For our collective successes this year we owe a great deal to Lieut. Powell, who was indefatigable in his personal efforts and coaching. Having completed his tour of six years abroad, he leaves us this trooping season for a spot of home service, and we shall miss him very much in the athletic world. He was ably assisted by Sergt. Clarke, who will also be leaving us for the U.K., and to whom our athletes likewise owe much.

THE SOLDIER'S PARADISE

In Singapore, in thirty-seven,
The place they call the soldier's heaven;
But I find that is not true,
So this story I will write for you.

When to the pictures you do go,
Be sure your money is not low;
For if it is, you will find, alas,
Not many minutes it will last.

Seventy cents, the taxi fare,
Another fifty, when you're there;
Your supper costs about a dollar,
For your fare back, you have to holler.

If you smoke, you have to seek
Money for them through the week.
Clothes are cheap, I do agree,
But not much good are they, you see.

So in the end, worse off are we,
Because so many we use you see;
On the square, we sweat and swear,
For more clothes we have to wear.

Off parade, we have a shower,
Back again, within the hour;
And dry clothes we have to use,
We can't afford to pick and choose.

So our money we do spend
Buying clothes, until the end;
So now, dear folks, you will agree,
It is not so good on shillings three.

One shilling increase they do promise,
We deserve it, yes, we're honest.
Now my story I have printed,
But at the truth I have only hinted.

G. E. R.

"A VICTORIAN DIE-HARD"

(Continued)

THE following morning saw me up early. This was fortunate, as the Adjutant came to my room at 6.30 a.m. and warned me that I was to report myself officially to the C.O. at the Orderly Room at 10 a.m. This ordeal entailed the wearing, for the first time, of my scarlet patrol jacket with white collar and cuffs (it was not until a year or two later that the Regiment was permitted to revert to its old lemon yellow facings). In the fashion of old-

time barracks, the Orderly Room was placed at the barracks entrance immediately opposite the guard room. Outside it I had to return the salute of the Provost Sergeant in charge of a considerable number of soldiers awaiting disposal. The Regiment has always held a deservedly high reputation for the excellency of its conduct, but at the time of which I write had recently returned from foreign service, and, being quartered near London, there were a number of minor offences—mainly overstaying passes.

Feeling incredibly self-conscious and insignificant, I duly presented myself before the Commanding Officer. He again asked me my age, and being assured that I was 18, expressed the hope I had still time in which to grow. Of this the Adjutant appeared very doubtful.

At my subsequent interview with him, he told me that I was posted to "H" Company, but that I was to be "on the square". I would be doing very little with the Company for some months. He then detailed me to count coppers at the wet canteen. This was an odd practice which existed before the coming of the N.A.A.F.I. Canteens were run directly by the Second-in-Command, with a Sergeant, struck off all duties, to act as canteen Steward. A subaltern was detailed daily to check the overnight takings in the canteen. With beer of a strength unknown in these degenerate days at twopence a pint, it was natural that practically all the takings consisted of coppers. These, for some reason, were generally exceptionally greasy. After reaching agreement with the canteen Sergeant as to the total and entering this in the canteen book, it was the duty of the Subaltern Officer to convey the money to the bank. My journey to the bank took me through some of the worst streets of a town which has by this year of grace probably been town-planned into fairy land, but was forty years ago exceedingly drab. The walk, therefore, did little to make for gaiety.

Very much to my disappointment I found that "on the square" no allowances were made for the fact that gentlemen cadets had done little else but be drilled into the imitation of Privates of the Guards Brigade during the whole of their stay at Sandhurst. I, who had been a cadet N.C.O. of the Company which had won the championship shield for drill at the Royal Military College, found myself delegated to drill without arms under a Lance-Corporal. These evolutions took place

in what was called the gun shed. It contained, mounted on a carriage to be drawn by a mule, the single machine gun allotted to the Battalion.

After several weeks thus employed I was passed out of drill "without arms" and promoted to a rifle, being at the same time permitted to emerge from the gloom of the gun shed into the light of the barrack square. After a further three weeks of this commendable but somewhat monotonous form of instruction I was promoted to drill in a squad of recruits. Here my advancement hung fire and it was only the fact that the Battalion was ordered on active service two months later that saved me from spending the next six months as right-hand man of the same squad. Indeed, I was told that it was not unusual for young Officers to be kept nine months "on the square."

At intervals the Officers were taken in sword exercise by the Second-in-Command—at least the Second-in-Command was responsible, but, as the Battalion possessed an unusually fine swordsman in one of the senior subalterns, the duties of instruction were not infrequently delegated to him.

During the whole of this period the only time I can remember being permitted to take charge of men was on church parade and on one so-called field manoeuvre. This had something to do with a test of tactical fitness for one of the senior Officers. The Battalion carried out a night advance on a local common. The enemy's position, marked by two flags, was finally carried by the Battalion marching on to it in line and shoulder to shoulder. The band then appeared out of the darkness and marched us back to barracks. I never heard whether the Officer under trial was adjudged tactically fit or not, but the tactics employed were those accepted at the time and I fancy based on, and very little in advance of, those used by Julius Caesar in the conquest of Britain.

I was beginning to get rather more acclimatised to life in the Officers' Mess, although, in conformity with the idea of teaching young Officers humility, conversation was mainly confined to the two or three "ensigns" immediately senior to me.

The neighbourhood in which we were quartered offered singularly few distractions, being near London and mainly built over. There were, however, riding establishments of

the Royal Artillery and the Army Service Corps, at which Officers were allowed to take continuous courses in horsemanship. Several of our younger Officers availed themselves of the opportunities thus offered for exercise.

Owing to the paucity of playing grounds and their great distance from the Infantry barracks, organised games for the men were practically non-existent. Having played Rugby (then quite an unknown game in the Regiment) and rowed at school, I was singularly ill equipped to take part in the few games which were played. I have since frequently regretted that I was not brought up on Association football and cricket—then almost the only games known in the Army and playable almost anywhere in the world where a soldier was likely to find himself. The attractions of London kept the Officers' Mess somewhat depleted of Officers after duty, except on guest nights, when the band was always a delight to me. Marsala was perhaps the wine most generally drunk. This always accompanied Port round the table. A great deal of claret was also drunk, whilst sherry was almost the only pre-dinner drink. Such modern innovations as vermouths and gin had not arrived and I do not remember to have seen beer drunk even at lunch. The Queen's health was drunk every week-night, but Officers only stood to the toast on guest nights. The food standard was higher then than now. Billiards was a very popular game. Whist was also played. As to costs of living, I think the monthly mess bill of even the junior subaltern exceeded his total pay by £6 to £8.

Just when I was becoming thoroughly weary of life "on the square" it was ended for me by our mobilisation for the South African War. Reservists began to arrive. As it was decided that only serving soldiers over twenty years of age were to proceed overseas, I found myself the youngest member of the Regiment to go on active service. The barracks became a hive of industry. Regiments possessed so much more regimental property than at present that the packing up was immensely more involved. Each Officer's furniture (described in the first instalment of this article) must have weighed several hundredweights. Officers and Sergeants' Messes also owned all their own furniture, china and glass. Fortunately a very zealous Officer had recently been appointed to the mess committee, who superintended the packing of the mess property with scrupulous care. He was, however, one of the first Officers

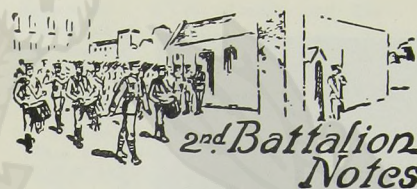
to be killed in the war and when the Battalion returned to England some four years later the receipts from the storage agents for the Mess glass being not forthcoming, much of this was never recovered. If it be not out of place, I should like to emphasise the importance of the duty which devolves on Mess committees to ensure that the Mess irreplaceable property is carefully packed when the Regiment moves. I can still remember the horror I felt at a discovery I made when moving with the Regiment to Cologne in 1921—shortly after rejoining after nearly ten years' absence whilst seconded. Hearing a rattling from a case which had evidently been made for large pictures belonging to the Officers' Mess, I had this opened. It contained a particularly beautiful silver salver and a large axe—with no packing matter of any description whatever. The condition of the salver can well be imagined. At the same move much of the very beautiful mess china was broken through bad packing. When I subsequently commanded this Battalion I went into the question of replacing the breakages with modern copies. As the cost of this worked out at nearly two guineas a plate, I decided not to do so. I have been told that a few years later all the remaining china was irreparably smashed in another move. I trust this is not a fact. If it is china of great beauty and value which had been treasured by many generations of "Die-Hards" has been lost by the failure of certain members of the Officers' Mess committee to recognise their responsibilities towards their past, present and future brother-Officers.

To go back to the mobilisation after this digression, for which I apologise. All ranks were medically inspected for fitness for active service. In my own case the medical officer merely asked me whether I was "fit," and on my replying in the affirmative, marked me so. Officers' swords were sent to the Armourer for sharpening. We bought uniforms of a curious khaki serge and a conical khaki helmet resembling that in which Lord Roberts is depicted in the Afghan War. These were soon afterwards replaced by Wolseley pattern helmets. Other ranks were issued with a khaki cover to be placed over their ordinary blue full dress helmets from which the spikes and badges were removed, but not the chain chinstrap. Their equipment was the home service white buff. Fortunately some genius realised that this made the wearer somewhat conspicuous to the Boer marksmen. One of our first actions on arrival in South Africa was to dye the

straps in a concoction of boiled tamarisk leaves. Amongst the reservists to rejoin was my late Sandhurst servant. My first batman was too young to proceed with the Battalion. I was very glad to replace him by my former mentor. I think this must be a unique experience. To me it was one which gave great pleasure. The reservists were physically a very fine lot of

men. Quite a number of them had been serving with the London Police.

It was thus a very well set up Battalion which embarked for South Africa in November, 1899, and it is here that I may end this brief account of my joining the Regiment in which I was destined to spend thirty exceedingly happy years.
W.A.S.



BY the time these notes are read we shall be within a few weeks of our move to Gosport, which takes place on 30th November. Few of us leaving Portsmouth will do so without feeling that we are leaving a station which has much to commend it, and where we have spent two very pleasant years. The merits and demerits of Gosport have been discussed many times, and at great length, because they are already well known to us, but only as spectators viewing Gosport through the smoke of Portsmouth Harbour, which is indeed a depressing medium through which to view anything. No doubt when we arrive there and settle down we shall find that Gosport has much to offer us.

At all events its very proximity alone will ensure one thing, and that is that we shall not lose the many friends we have made here, which would be an inevitable result of a normal change of stations.

In the meantime we are now settled down here for our last few months after our return from Camp. The first part of training consisted of the Machine Gun Concentration at Warminster, which now affects three Companies instead of just the Support Company, as in former years. This somewhat busy period concluded in the firing of the usual A.R.A. competition by a team from each Company, with excellent results, which gives some indication of the progress in training in the Battalion.

From Warminster we moved to Wimborne St. Giles to join the rest of the Brigade. Battalion and Brigade training with our new vehicles, proved most interesting, but perhaps slightly more energetic than anticipated by some who, for instance, marched to Studland Bay last year. However, without doubt everyone enjoyed the time at Camp, the weather being on the whole excellent, especially at night time, which was important to us, out on various night exercises.

While in Camp we received two machine gun carriers, which were the centre of interest for some time. Soon we hope we shall see these in strength and be training drivers for

this new breed of vehicle, which is a cross between a light tank and motor car. From what we have seen, they seem capable of considerable speed, and their cross-country performance is very good.

Turning to sport, a full account of cricket results appear elsewhere, and it will be seen that the cricket XI have had a successful season, reaching the semi-final of the United Services' Knock-out Competition.

We start off the rugby season this year without 2/Lieut. Chiverall, who is on his way to Hong Kong, as are also many N.C.O.s and men, and by the time these notes are in print 2/Lieuts. Man and Dawson will also have gone. Another very noticeable loss to our rugby team, and others, is Lieut. Unwin, who has gone to the Depot. However, we hope that he will be available for Army Cup matches and other important sporting events.

The last event of note was the Army "At Home," on 18th September, which was run by ourselves and the Gunners. This was a great success, a large number of guests being entertained.

"A" COMPANY

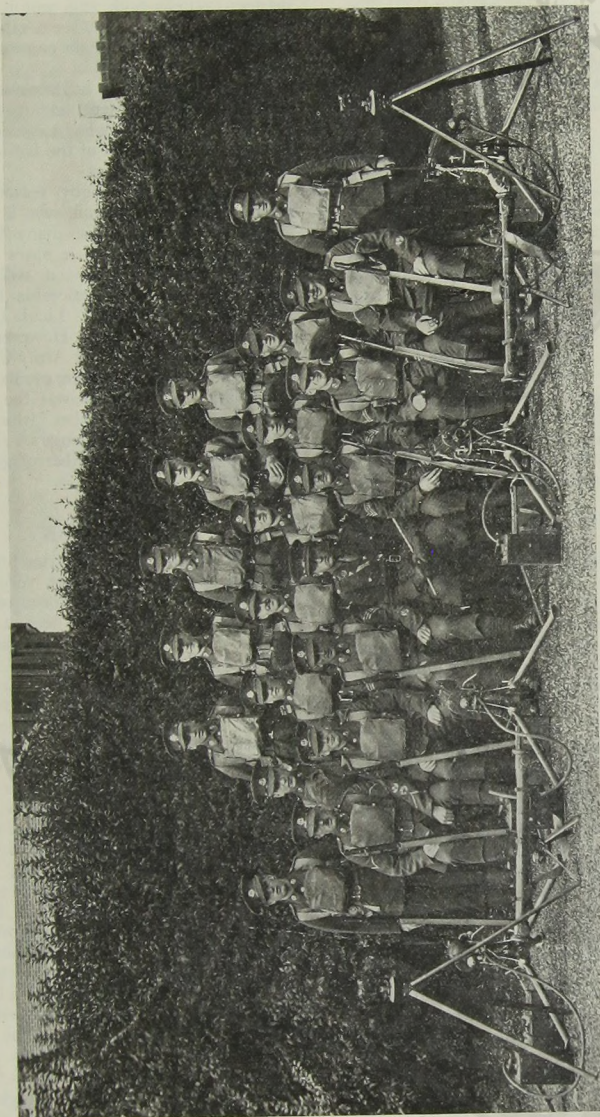
As the majority of the quarter under review has been spent under canvas, very little of a purely Company interest has occurred. Activities in the field of sport have been at a standstill and we have had to concern ourselves more with the fields of training.

We have undergone our first Machine Gun Concentration as a Company, and feel that we can say, with all due respect to our natural modesty, that we have acquitted ourselves well. Our lack of experience was soon overcome, and the majority of the men were soon able to adapt themselves to the new conditions and to carry on in the best manner of gunners of old standing. Our Fire Control Cup team, in particular, excelled themselves, creating a Battalion record with a score of 745 points, which is 75 points better than last year's winners. Unfortunately, our scores in the Direct and Indirect shoots were not reflected in our score for the Night shoot, otherwise we would undoubtedly have attained a high place in the competition. Our actual position is not known at the time of writing. The team was as follows:

Platoon Commander : 2/Lieut. T. G. Symes.

Platoon Sergeant : L/Sergt. Knights.

Section Commanders : L/Sergt. Overy and Cpl. Cummins.



[Photo: Russell & Sons, Southsea]

"A" COMPANY A.R.A. TEAM, 1937

Rangetakers: L/Cpl. Tanner and Pte. Jones (21).

Gun Numbers:

L/Cpl. White, Ptes. Jones (20), King and Chapman (06).

L/Cpl. Stebbing, Ptes. McClenahan, Jones (17) and Revell.

Ptes. Fenn, Fisher, Sprules and Tyler.

L/Cpl. Hinch, Ptes. Samuels, Theed and Brown.

The period of training spent at Wimborne St. Giles proved, as was anticipated, to be much more comfortable than previous camps, owing to mechanisation. Those of our number who had not experienced the somewhat doubtful joys of marching, were not able to appreciate the benefits of riding to the full, but were afforded adequate descriptions of previous feats of "footslogging," which served to point out how much better off they now were.

Our numbers, which were weakened by the draft to China, have now been strengthened by the addition of a number of Reservists. Amongst these are only one or two old faces, but we take this opportunity of extending a welcome to all of them. With that adaptability which previous service must have given them, they should soon settle down with their new Regiment, and become as "Middlesex" as the rest of us.

Amongst those who have left us for foreign climes are 2/Lieut. Man, C.Q.M.S. Colbourne and Sergt. Cooper, and to them and to the others of the draft we wish a pleasant voyage and a happy time in their new surroundings.

Cpl. Kenny has joined us from the Depot, and to him and to Cpl. Hinch we extend congratulations on their second "tape." Congratulations also to those of our Company who have attended Courses during the last quarter, and who came home with such good qualifications.

"B" COMPANY

A wave of depression is again over us, for we are faced with the task of writing our Journal notes. What is it that makes the task of writing so difficult? We seem to have had a very busy quarter and our lives have been more full of interest than usual. We all have our numerous memories of the last few months, some pleasant, some best forgotten, but the usual topics of news are lacking. We have little to say about sport, and we have no Battalion functions to report upon. What is it

that overclouds our news—we have been in Camp.

The summer quarter is the busiest period of a soldier's yearly life. This year has marked a new stage in the history of the Regiment. Something has been different to anything that we have done before. We have heard nothing of the old harsh tread of a regiment marching to training. Instead, a sudden "whirr" of engines, the mechanical monsters of the Battalion have leapt into life and we slide off to our camp area. It seems like a dream, but here we are, back again after eight weeks in Camp without anyone having marched a mile, and no complaints of sore feet.

We went first to Warminster from 19th July to 11th August. Here we carried out what was, for most of us, our first concentration and first taste of training as "gunners." During the concentration, the A.R.A. competition was fired, and the result was most satisfactory, as we finished up second in the Battalion; a good result for our first attempt.

Our Camp at Wimborne St. Giles was most interesting. St. Giles is a small village in Dorset and very typical of the area. One small "pub," which on week-ends was well crowded, gallant attempts being made by the experts to play darts over the heads of the other customers, to their great danger. There were many interesting places in the vicinity of the Camp and throughout the training area; the whole of it being dotted with the remains of old British villages, Roman roads and tumuli.

Next year we are looking forward to riding in armoured carriers in addition to our trucks.

Congratulations are due to L/Sergt. Parnell on obtaining a Pass in Driving and Maintenance at Bovington, to L/Sergt. Riches and Cpl. Trotobas in obtaining a Q.I., and L/Cpl. Sheen a Q.II at the S.A.S. (M.G. Wing), Netheravon.

The season of arrivals and departures is upon us once again and already several members of the Company have left us. 2/Lieut. J. G. Chiverall has left to join the 1st Battalion and Capt. E. T. Pain is leaving in the near future to take up the appointment of Adjutant to the 8th Battalion (T.A.). L/Sergt. Parnell (whom we mentioned earlier) and family, Sergt. Bedward and family, Cpl. Clark and 16 other ranks have recently left the Company, also to join the 1st Battalion in Hong Kong. We hope they enjoyed the sea journey and that they have settled down to their new life by the time these notes reach them.

In their place we welcome 2/Lieuts. Lane and Marshall, and the freshly re-joined Reservists, whom we hope will all enjoy their stay with us.

In conclusion, we wish a merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year to all our comrades in the 1st Battalion and to those in the 7th, 8th and 9th Battalions of the T.A. and all affiliated units.

"C" COMPANY

Since our last Journal notes went in, only four short months ago, so much has happened in the Company that, if time and space (in the Journal) were not so precious, we could easily fill the whole Journal with our doings. But as we have only been asked for our "notes," and the dictionary describes "notes" as being only a "brief record of facts," notes they will have to be.

On 19th July, the Battalion moved to Warminster for its first M.G. Concentration; a new experience for most of the Battalion, but not, of course, for the old machine gunners who have been wont to regard it as being all in the year's work. But even to the veterans this Concentration was unique in so much as no longer had they to foot-slog up that long steep hill to the Imber ranges every day, as they had had to do in years past. Great must have been the satisfaction of certain of the old H.T. drivers as their trucks glided smoothly up the awful hill, whereas only the year before they had had to make an extra early start on a certain cold and frosty morning in order to get the limbers to the top of the hill in time for the firing. In previous years the M.G. Concentration was always held in the early spring, but this year it was held in the middle of the summer and so, on the whole, the weather was much kinder to us.

After spending a few days out on the ranges, everybody became very weather-beaten and as brown as the proverbial berry. The Concentration wound up, as usual, by Companies firing for the M.G. Fire Control Cup. The Company team, having put up the magnificent score of 614 points in the M.G. Cup at Brown-down, went into this competition full of confidence and with hopes running high. Very promising results were obtained in practice, but on the actual day, as luck would have it, they proved most disappointing. However, we are not downhearted or discouraged, and will have another good try next year. Con-

gratulations to "A" and "B" Companies on their fine scores in their A.R.A. shoots.

The August Bank Holiday came as a very welcome break after all our hard work up on the ranges, and all those who had not been too extravagant in Warminster were able to get away for a few days' leave. Before we left Warminster the overseas draft left us and went away on a month's embarkation leave. But by the time these notes appear in print they will have joined the 1st Battalion in Hong Kong, so we now take this opportunity of wishing them the best of luck and a happy and interesting foreign tour.

On 12th August the Battalion moved from Warminster to the 11th Infantry Brigade Camp at Wimborne St. Giles, a little old Dorsetshire village situated some three miles from the nearest petrol pump. Here we carried out our Company, Battalion and Higher Formation Training. In last year's summer number of the Journal certain well-known landmarks in the New Forest were said to be indelibly marked on the soles of our feet. But as we went everywhere in trucks this year, it is rather difficult to say, without being accused of indelicacy, where such names as the Duck's Nest, Bokerly Ditch and Tidpit are for ever imprinted. It was amazing how soon we all became acquainted with every corner of the training area this year. Every road, track, corner and hill soon became familiar; it was almost uncanny the way we could move from A to B without consulting maps and on the darkest of nights without any lights. In years gone by the Training area has always seemed much too big, especially when the "Cease Fire" has blown and the long march back to Camp had begun. But not so this year, for even if the battle ended up in the farthest corner of the training area, we could always count on being in Camp in well under the hour.

Turning to sport for one moment; we managed to play the final round of the Inter-Company cricket one Saturday afternoon on the lovely ground belonging to St. Giles House in the village. It was an exciting match, but the scores were not very high, "C" Company scoring 68 runs and "H.Q." Company 56 runs.

Camp was due to end on 12th September, but on the morning of 11th September we received the welcome news that we would be returning to Portsmouth that very afternoon. The scene that followed the reception of this news had to be seen to be believed, so intense was the activity; one can only liken it to a

peaceful ants' nest that has been suddenly disturbed. Before one could say Jack Robinson, willing hands were striking tents and marquees to right and left. In actual fact, it would have been far more correct to say "This is St. Giles Camp—that was," so fast did those tents come down. "C" Company, who had been the unlucky ones when drawing lots for the Company to stay behind to strike the tents still unstruck, worked with such frantic energy that they were quite ready to move off in their allotted place in the Battalion convoy when the signal to move was given.

Since our return to Portsmouth the Company has been a hive of industry. First of all it was the Army "At Home," in which we gave two machine gun displays, and now it is the preparation for the Annual Administrative Inspection, which takes place on 12th October.

It was only in our last notes that we welcomed Capt. Haydon to the Company, and now in these we have to record the sad news of his departure from the Company to take over the duties of Battalion Training Officer, but we hope that in that capacity he will be paying us frequent visits during our Individual Training period. We have suffered yet another great loss quite recently, for Lieut. Unwin has now left us and gone to the Depot. We now take this opportunity of wishing him the best of luck and also expressing our appreciation of all he did for the Company during the three years he was with us.

Congratulations to Sergt. Kemp on getting a well-earned "D," and to L/Sergt. Day and L/Cpl. Clenshaw on getting "Q.1's" at Netheravon. We also congratulate L/Cpl. Davidson on his "Special Mention" on a M.T. Course at Bovington. We wish the best of luck to Lieut. Beath and L/Cpl. Rae, who are now both on Courses at Bovington.

The whole Company extend a hearty welcome to all the Army Reservists and Albuhera Squad from the Depot who have recently joined us.

"D" COMPANY

There is very little to write about this quarter. Most of the time has been spent under canvas. An enjoyable time was spent at Warminster by the Company, and the Anti-Tank Cadre proved valuable to the N.C.O.s in the Battalion and Brigade Exercises. During this period several of the trained gunners had "Employed" jobs and "Crash" got so used to walking round the Camp that he had no

genuine excuse for mistaking the swill pit for a concrete seat.

The A.T. Platoon came into the picture of events for the first time in an exercise against two Battalions of tanks and in the bottle-neck around Bowls Barrow committed fearful slaughter, with the aid of many smoke grenades and the deadly signalling lamp. On the second exercise against the Tank Corps on the same "battlefield" we managed to hold our own again, despite the rain.

The first appearance of our mock guns caused endless amusement to the Battalion, and the wag who wrote "Stop me and buy one" on one gun evidently thought the gun should be used some other way.

An active time was spent by the Company at Wimborne St. Giles and we were out on every stunt.

Much energy was put into the obtaining of food by he of the Falstaff appearance, and the Company was well fed. Apologies to him for the long walks across fields heavily laden because of a hurried move of the Company. (He arrived very hot and wrathful.)

Special mention must be made of our A/C.S.M., who drove his Austin round in small circles until someone asked him where he was going to "take off." The excuse of faulty steering gear was quite possible.

The M.T. drivers deserve a word of praise for their good work in taking the trucks over very rough ground, especially at night; only once was a truck ditched, and as that was D.H.Q. we did not lose any fighting power.

One G.D.C. is still indignant at having his gun called a pompom, on the occasion of the Farmers' "At Home."

The Company's part of the Army "At Home" this year was the displaying of our Company Stores. We are fortunate in having a new floor in the Stores, but great credit is due to our storeman, Pte. Kent, who made the store look a picture. We also gave displays at Anti-Tank Gun Drill to an interested audience.

It is amusing to see ourselves having the most up-to-date weapon and at the same time to be issued with the dear old Hotchkiss Gun for the purpose of firing a one-fifth scale shoot on the ordinary range.

We were all very sorry to lose C.S.M. Stacey and C.Q.M.S. Tibble in one fell swoop. The Company Commander was very surprised when he returned from a T.A. Camp to find both his C.S.M. and C.Q.M.S. on embarkation leave! We all wish them both the best of luck. We must not forget Pte. White, who has

also left us for the 1st Battalion; the best of luck to him.

We have just returned from Larkhill (Home of the Gunners), where we have been for three days firing live shells. The results were highly satisfactory. Everyone shot very well and many were the tanks we put out of action. The Gunner Major was getting perturbed at the deadliness of the "D" Battery, Middlesex Artillery, and threatened to send in a big bill for replacement of running tanks.

The great lesson we have learned from it is that not only have we an interesting weapon in the Company, but we know it to be a deadly and accurate one.

The Company is little and good and are very keen on their new job. We have two anti-tank guns of our own and we are anxiously waiting for more.

SIGNALS

Once more the trying ordeal of Annual Classification is over, and only one unfortunate failed. The Silver Flags were won by Pte. Parker, since appointed Lance-Corporal, with Pte. Forsyth a close second. Well done, both. While we were loafing (oh, yeah!) L/Cpl. Jennings was striving valiantly to obtain a good result at the Chamber of Horrors at Catterick, which he did by bringing off a Q.I. Congratulations, Harry!

We are rather hazy as to the success of mechanisation on this year's training, but we do know that to our great relief sore feet are things of the past, as far as we are concerned. Instead of hearing "Oh, death, where is thy sting?" we hear "Where the — is my truck."

Owing to the turnover, some old faces have gone, never to be forgotten; we sincerely hope that their sojourn in the Signals leaves them with pleasant memories, and wish them all the best in their new spheres. Also, welcome to our ranks the new class, who we trust will enjoy their stay with us, and keep up our traditions under their instructors, Sergt. Sargent and L/Cpl. Jennings.

Congratulations to the three stalwarts recently appointed N.C.O.s, Ginger, Dodger and Harry (not the one with the big feet). We hope that visions of Catterick are looming in front of them.

Lastly we send our regards to the dots and dashes in the land of the lotus flowers, and, as this is my first attempt at journalism, I will close by saying "Don't blame me for this poor effort."

ACK ARE.

BAND

Well, here we are again, endeavouring to fill up space or to assist the Editor (we often wonder which).

Tattoos have been rather more in our line than anything else this year, some of which will be forgotten, but we doubt if Tidworth will be for some of our members. For Tidworth has given us another new character, known as "Shepherd Erkit."

Rumour hath it that a certain person missed his bus at Amesbury and walked six miles to find what? Why the village in which "Shepherd Erkit" lives.

Some of our stalwarts will remember Tidworth for their unexpected march of 21 miles to Portsmouth during the early hours of the morning. During their tramp two other members passed them on iron steeds, and took the rise out of them. We wonder if the owner of Ebenezer remembers having a rest on his return to Tidworth, then that certain person had to walk. But never mind, where there is a will there is a way (a d— long way when you are walking!).

Training this year was to us the dawn of a new era, as we are now mechanised. No doubt this is being dealt with more fully in another part of the Journal. We must beg the Editor's and the readers' pardon when we say that the Army slogan should now read "Men who like thrills, join the Army and be on wheels."

Having returned from Camp we now start on the normal routine. The objects to which we now turn are the cadres and the Annual Inspection. Of course, we must not forget the dance fiends who steal out in the stilly part of the night, for the purpose of money-making, or merry-making, of which we are very doubtful.

Bolam has now joined our ranks, and we hope that he feels happy, because we can always recommend carrying a tripod as a weight-reducing pastime.

We all congratulate L/Cpl. White upon putting his foot on the first rung of the ladder of promotion, and hope that he does well.

The football season has just started, and by the time these notes appear in print we will, we hope, have Bdmn. Brown back from the Hall to strengthen our side.

In mentioning sport, we must not omit the fact that we still have the Inter-Group Hockey Shield in our possession. We are looking forward to keeping it for another season, under the guidance of the old stagers. So let us see the shield hanging up in the Practice Room for another year again.

At this time of the year there are always a great number of anticipations, a prominent one being the one to Gosport (one penny across the water); the other is, of course, our annual furlough.

Well, we must now conclude by wishing our brother Bandsmen a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

I've concluded.

CON SLANCIO.

EMPLOYED GROUP

During the past quarter, nothing much to note has happened, that is to say, as far as our Group is concerned.

Like everybody else, we went to Camp, and, as far as can be ascertained, all enjoyed themselves.

The task of driving the M.G. Carriers, of course, fell upon our expert drivers of the Group, and we are sure that everybody adds their congratulations to those of the Brigade Commander for the excellent display that they gave to the locals at Wimborne, who were invited to an "At Home" in Camp.

Trucks may come and trucks may go, but the age of mechanisation is getting various Groups down. Our C.Q.M.S. gets jealous if he sees an outsider cleaning his lorry. The Orderly Room staff seem to be the most effective group. They wish to make out their own traffic accident reports, and our rival, the Drum-Major, always desires to move the Battalion H.Q. lorries through fire and water on his 5½ horse-power Norton.

The Army "At Home," directed by our Company Commander, was a great success, but it appears that the chief concern of the part of our Group laid in keeping the smaller spectators in order.

L/Cpl. Rimmer, Ptes. Haines and Irons have left us for "A" Company. Ptes. Eyles and Martin to the Regimental Depot. We wish them the best of luck with their new units.

Lastly, we congratulate C.Q.M.S. Poulter on the addition to his family.

EMPLOYED.

DRUMS

Well, here we are again, full of life, full of health, and full of vitamin R (rissoles).

The Reservists have been asked to come back to the colours, and at present we dare not start "geeing" up the rookies in case they suddenly show us their best tunics with two

G.C.s up. We have four old drummers added to the Company now. They are Drms. Woolcott, Wallace, Drury and Thompson. Only the first named was in the Regiment before, the others having served in the "Bufs." Woolcott did seven years in this Corps, and we soon found out that he hadn't forgotten any of the tricks. We look like having a few more, too, if more Reservists enlist.

The Drums were the A.A. Section, as usual, at Camp, and how those enemy bombers regretted it. Dmr. Lewin was putting notches in the butt of his gun, vowing that he had shot down his second plane. When we told him that he had just been firing at one of our own aircraft he opened his mouth, and nearly dropped his teeth (all two of them).

Manœuvres were not half as hard this year, as they have been on previous occasions, since we did all our travelling on trucks.

L/Cpl. Tarr has just returned from a Bren Gun Course, and received a creditable report. We congratulate him, and hope that L/Cpl. Jones, who shortly goes on the same Course, will keep the flag flying.

Our two drummers for the 1st Battalion are still waiting to go. They were warned for draft leave at short notice and had handed in all their kit, when they were told that the orders concerning the move were cancelled. How happy those two innocent drummers were. "What a beautiful day it is," we heard them remarking to one another in sweet mellow tones.

Tidworth Tattoo went off without anything of great interest cropping up, although we were obviously the smartest Corps in the show. We also took part in the Portsmouth Searchlight Tattoo at Fratton Park, which also contained a display by Portsmouth Girl Dancers. Yes, we enjoyed taking part in the Tattoo, thank you.

We are all "beeing up" now for the Bugle Competition, which takes place shortly. We look set for some keen competition from the drummers from the Reserve.

We congratulate Dmr. Cox at the Depot on his taking upon himself a "squaw." We wondered why he had been keeping quiet lately.

The Battalion will shortly be moving to Gosport, and we are hoping that it will turn out to be as good a station as Portsmouth.

Thus ends our contribution to THE DIE-HARDS, and we hope the 1st Battalion drummers will drop us a line from their new station, Hong Kong.

PARADIDDLE.

CRICKET

Several enjoyable matches have been played since the last issue of the Journal, four being won and two lost.

On 26th June a weak side visited Gosport and defeated the Royal Engineers by eight wickets. The R.E.s batted first and were dismissed for 76 (Sergt. Kennett taking 6 for 36). Most of our recognised batsmen were at Mill Hill for the cricket week, but after L/Cpl. Pullen had once again placed a pad in front of a straight ball (he was eight times lbw. in thirteen innings for the Battalion this year), Cpl. Blackman and Cpl. Delaney added 50 for the second wicket before the latter was bowled. Lieut. Beath, who joined Cpl. Blackman, put the issue beyond doubt by hitting a couple of quick sixes.

The next match was the semi-final of the United Services Knock-out Competition. Our opponents were the R.A.F., Gosport, winners of the Competition for three consecutive years. We won the toss, but our batting broke down badly, only Lieut. Ormiston (34) showing any confidence, and we were all out for the meagre total of 85. The R.A.F. had little difficulty in knocking off the runs, which they did for the loss of five wickets. They found Sergt. Kennett hard to get away, however, and he bowled thirteen overs for only sixteen runs.

The match against the Hampshire Hogs, on 3rd July, was one of the best of the season. Capt. Whinney, Capt. Worton, Capt. Stephenson and Lieut. Weston kindly assisted us on this occasion, and it was a great blow when Capt. Stephenson twisted his ankle after bowling only six overs. The Hogs declared their innings closed at 226 for 8, Sergt. Kennett taking half the wickets for 38 runs, a good effort out of such a large total. We were left roughly two hours to get the runs and, with the help of the excellent start given us by Capt. Worton (48) and Lieut. Man, and innings of 59 and 72 not out by Lieuts. Ormiston and Unwin respectively, we succeeded in avenging last year's defeat, and won the match by six wickets with ten minutes to spare.

The return match against Hurstbourne Priors was played in dismal weather, but was a most exciting game, which we eventually lost by three runs. Sergt. Elcome with a hard-hit 44 and Pte. Allen with 30 not out were the chief scorers in our total of 163. Pte. Allen also bowled well with 6 for 60, and the last Hurstbourne batsman came in when they still had 15 to make to win. His bat was all edges, however, and he steered the ball through the

slips with uncanny skill. Having scored the necessary runs he was bowled next ball. It was a most enjoyable day.

During our sojourn at Warminster for the Machine Gun Concentration, Sutton Veny were twice defeated. The wicket was perhaps a little perilous and if we did not succeed in improving our stroke play, we learnt a good deal about darts, skittles and "tip it" after the game.

At St. Giles, Lord Shaftesbury very kindly allowed us to play the Inter-Company Final on his charming private ground. In this game, "C" Company were unexpectedly dismissed for under the hundred, but "H.Q." never recovered from an early batting collapse and eventually just failed by eight runs, in spite of a superhuman effort by their last pair, one of whom was unfortunately run out.

Some new bowlers will have to be found next year, particularly a right-arm fast bowler and a right-arm spinner. The fielding improved enormously towards the end of the season, Dmr. Ceaton being the most notable case in point. Though little new talent was found, the 1937 season was an excellent one, nearly all the matches being most interesting and exciting.

SERGEANTS' MESS

In our last notes we prophesied that these notes would be sent in from Camp, but that has proved to be incorrect, as here we are back in barracks, settled down again, or rather settled down again for a little while, as, after the Brigade Commander's Annual Inspection, we shall be bustling around again packing up to go to Gosport, which we are due to do on 30th November next.

We are not quite sure whether we are glad or not to be back from Camp; the weather was very kind to us indeed during the whole of the two Camps at Warminster and St. Giles, Dorset (we only had two really wet days throughout the whole time), and so were the powers that be, who regulated the training periods, in as much as there were not *very* many nights when the members were absent from the Camp on training. The time passed very pleasantly, very pleasantly indeed, and the chief recreation of the Mess was "phat." This created a distinctly "stock exchange" atmosphere most evenings, and the price of beer fluctuated considerably, very marked slumps occurring on Thursday evenings.

We managed one darts tournament, which was won by Sergt. Etheridge, the Officers' Mess

Sergeant, with Sergt. Boen as the runner-up. We had the pleasure of entertaining a few of the ladies in Camp on quite a few Sundays, and a very memorable evening was spent on the eve of the departure for Singapore and Hong Kong of the members of the Mess and their families who embarked on the *Dunera* on 7th September. Arrangements were made for them to be taken out to Camp by bus from Portsmouth, with many other sundry friends, etc., and we gave them a right hearty evening as a farewell party.

Now for the casualty list, which is again very heavy, as usual.

Sergt. Makewell has proceeded to the Regimental Depot with his family and we wish him the best of luck.

C.Q.M.S. Franklin is back again with us, but we fear it is only a temporary stay, as there are distinct rumours that he will be returning to the Depot again very shortly. We are very pleased to have him with us again, even though it be only for a little while, and we are making good use of his entertainment abilities while we have the chance.

Sergt. Maloney has left us for a couple of years, perhaps (we hope not so long), to take a world cruise at the Government's expense; in other words, he has gone trooping in the *Lancashire*, which sailed on 14th September, as Orderly Room Sergeant. We hope he thoroughly enjoys his Cook's tour(s).

Now we come to the sad and sorry part of our casualty list, to wit, the serious depletion of our Mess members by the departure of the following for the 1st Battalion: C.S.M. Stacey with family, C.Q.M.S. Colbourne, C.Q.M.S. Tibble with family, Sergts. Quick (Pioneer Sergeant) with wife, Bond (Cook Sergeant) with family, Bedward with family, Parnell with family, Marshall with family, and Cooper (he left his behind).

They were due, in the first place, to go on 15th October, but had to pack up in a hurry and proceed on 7th September, those in Camp leaving at a day or so's notice. We are very sorry to lose them, but, however, our loss is the 1st Battalion's gain, and we wish them every happiness with the 1st Battalion and very much hope the situation in China will soon ease down to enable them to rejoin their families, from which they will be separated for the time being. We should just like to take this opportunity of extending a premature welcome to the reliefs of the above, who are shortly due to join us from the 1st Battalion.

C.S.M. Goodall has left us, with a view to joining shortly the ranks of the "civilian army," and we wish him and his family every success and happiness in the same.

We extend a very hearty welcome to the Mess to L/Sergt. Knights on his entry on appointment to Lance-Sergeant.

Our heartiest congratulations to the following on bringing much-needed (?) "recruits" into the Battalion:

C.S.M. Simmonds, a daughter, on 6th August.

C.Q.M.S. Poulter, a son, on 30th July.

Sergt. Boen, a son, on 29th July.

We don't know why we always congratulate the *husbands* on this achievement, because they don't have very much to do with it; it should be the *wives* who should receive the kudos, and we do here and now congratulate them.

We have not been doing "nothink" on the social side since return from Camp, and we should like to take this opportunity of heartily congratulating our recreation committee on getting up the first whist drive and dance of the season within a week of our return to barracks. The affair was very successful and we believe we are right in claiming it to be the opening dance of the season in the Garrison. We hope to squeeze in a couple more before we go over to Gosport, from which station our next notes will be submitted.

CORPORALS' CLUB

The quarter has been rather an uneventful one with the exception of the usual spot of Company, Battalion and Brigade Training at Warminster and Wimborne St. Giles. Doubtless this "pleasant" period has been commented on at length elsewhere, and so, beyond remarking upon the variety of the various stunts, originated for our amusement, and increase of knowledge, and the enjoyment of the Wiltshire and Dorset countryside as seen from a truck or lorry, we will leave the subject alone.

Whilst at Wimborne Camp a Mess outing was arranged to Bournemouth, chiefly comprised of a dinner and tea. It appears that this was appreciated, especially the part dealing with the "inner man." The only blemish to the proceedings was the fact that one certain member, yclept "Sprazy," in consequence of missing the bus back to Camp, was forced to walk the distance to the ruination of his temper and his feet.

We welcome L/Cpls. Duggan, Skinner, Baggett, Blacknell, Budd, Philipps, Thompson, Green, Parker and White to the Mess on first appointment and renew acquaintance with Cpl. Kenny, who has joined us from the Depot.

Congratulations to Cpls. West and Hinch on their steps up the ladder of fame.

Cpl. Soden has left for the Depot for a tour of duty and we shall all miss his organising ability, and the thorough way he carried out the various projects for our entertainment and enjoyment.

In conclusion, we tender our best wishes to the members of the Corporals' Club of the 1st Battalion and the Territorial Battalions.

MACHINE GUNS IN THE BRITISH ARMY

The "Mitrailleuse" or machine gun was used in the Franco-German War of 1870, but was not greatly successful in its embryo stage. The introduction of smokeless powder gave it a better chance of success. To the 12th London Regiment (The Rangers) belongs the proud distinction of being the first unit of the British Army to possess machine guns—two Nordenfeldts having been bought by the Regiment in 1882. These guns (which were private property of the Battalion and not an "official issue") may now be seen in the Royal United Services Museum in Whitehall. The Rangers were eager to try their new weapons under war conditions in the Egyptian campaigns against Arabi Pasha and the Mahdi, but were not permitted to do so—the Government had not yet got to the stage of allowing Volunteers to enter the firing line. So the K.O.Y.L.I., in one of the many now-forgotten scrimmages on the North-West frontier, had the honour of being the first to use the new weapon on active service.

When the British Expeditionary Force crossed to France in August, 1914, the allocation of machine guns was two per battalion. In his book, *Memories of Forty-eight Years' Service*, Gen. Sir Horace Smith Dorrien tells how he lunched one day with a Cabinet Minister and tried to impress on him that £100,000 would adequately re-equip the six divisions of the expeditionary force with machine guns. The Cabinet Minister (a

civilian with no military service whatever) jeered at the General for "being afraid of the Germans," and ridiculed the idea of spending money on this vital form of preparation for war. Such was the attitude of far too many pre-war politicians.

As long ago as 1768 Frederick the Great wrote in his *Military Testament* that "Battles are won by fire superiority." Napoleon said, "Fire is everything—the rest is of no account." These principles were thoroughly understood by those responsible for training the B.E.F. which crossed the Channel in August, 1914; they also knew that they must make up for the shortage of machine guns by bringing the marksmanship of every rifleman up to a standard of efficiency hitherto undreamed of. In other words, as sufficient money was not forthcoming for military purposes, poor old Thomas Atkins had once again to attempt the task of "making bricks without straw." The wonderful way in which the troops rose to the occasion and achieved the seemingly impossible will stand everlastingly to the credit of the British soldier, and of the "Madmen of Hythe," the School of Musketry experts, who trained him. Yet that same fact which brought so much credit to the soldiers whose straight shooting earned so many tributes of unwilling admiration from their enemies must also stand to the eternal discredit of the politicians whose parsimony caused the "Old Contemptibles" to have to fight at such a disadvantage.

In August, 1915, the allotment of machine guns per infantry battalion was increased to four per battalion, and by an Army Order dated 22nd October, 1915, the Machine Gun Corps was formed by taking over the machine gun detachments en bloc, and by forming a depot at home (at Belton Park, Grantham) for training drafts of machine gunners. From that time forward machine guns of the Vickers pattern ceased to form part of the armament of infantry battalions, who received a proportion of Lewis guns instead. Besides its "infantry" branch (one company attached to each infantry brigade on active service) the Machine Gun Corps had a "cavalry" branch, formed in a similar manner to the infantry branch, by abstracting the machine gun detachments from the cavalry and yeomanry units. There was also a Motor Machine Gun Corps, and later a "Heavy Branch" of the M.G.C. was formed, for the purpose of manning the new war weapon, the tank; this branch soon blossomed forth as a separate corps under the title of "The Tank Corps." In March, 1917, a new unit

was formed from the machine gunners of the Foot Guards, known as the Machine Gun Guards. In May, 1918, this was re-organised and given the title of "The Sixth or Machine Gun Regiment of Foot Guards," but, despite the reference to Foot Guards in the title, it was largely formed of men from the Household Cavalry, its four battalions on service in France being the 1st (1st Life Guards) Battalion, 2nd (2nd Life Guards) Battalion, 3rd (Royal Horse Guards) Battalion, and 4th Battalion, the latter being the only battalion drawing its personnel from the Foot Guards. Meanwhile, in February, 1918, the infantry branch of the Machine Gun Corps had undergone another re-organisation, the companies being amalgamated into battalions, which were numbered according to their division, i.e., the machine gun companies of the three brigades of the 38th Welsh Division were amalgamated as the 38th Battalion, M.G.C.

The badge of the Machine Gun Corps was a crown above two machine gun barrels crossed saltire-wise; those battalions of the corps attached to purely Scottish divisions wore the tam-o'-shanter, all others the usual infantry uniform. No corps did more valuable work in the heaviest fighting on the Western front. The work of the 33rd Battalion, M.G.C., under Lieut.-Col. G. S. Hutchinson (who was recommended for the V.C., but, unfortunately, did not receive it), in the "backs to the wall" period during the retreat of 1918 was an epic in itself. The work of the 30th Battalion, M.G.C., during the same period was likewise deserving of the highest praise. An account of their work mentions that they had twenty-four guns (Vickers) well posted. "They suffered little from casualties during the bombardment; and their turn came when the foe, after pushing patrols forward, assailed the battle zone, coming on in waves sometimes, and sometimes in small columns that bunched. Into these large moving targets our machine gunners fired, one gun using in all about twelve thousand rounds, and two others about thirty-five thousand. Attack after attack was shattered and the many Germans who clustered into the quarry on the north-east of Rouppe had terrible experiences, bullets ripping through them and strewn the ground with many dead and wounded. Yet the German attack did not give in. It went below ground into trenches, or sought shelter behind ridges, and rallied itself for another grapple."

In 1921 the Machine Gun Corps was disbanded, and it was announced that in future

each infantry battalion would have a separate machine gun platoon with two Vickers guns, in addition to the Lewis gun establishment, which would remain at eight per company. Afterwards each battalion had a Machine Gun company. Then the latest re-organisation scheme made provision for machine gun battalions, but instead of these forming part of the Machine Gun Corps, certain selected infantry regiments (e.g., The Middlesex Regiment) will be converted from ordinary infantry into machine gun battalions. So the wheel turns full circle again; in the Great War we had first of all machine gun detachments, then machine gun companies, and finally machine gun battalions. Since the war we have had machine gun platoons, then machine gun companies, and now we return once more to machine gun battalions. In connection with the war-time organisation of machine gun battalions I have before me as I write a copy of a contemporary note from First Army Headquarters, B.E.F., France, which says: "The organisation of the M.G.C. into battalions has proved even more successful than was anticipated. The discipline, training, standard of interior economy, and general fighting efficiency of the M.G.C. units has increased enormously since the re-organisation, and the work of the corps during the recent fighting has been of the highest order. The organisation is still young, and requires every help from commanders of all arms to enable it to develop its full efficiency in the shortest possible time. It is certain that any assistance given will be amply repaid in future operations, and the Army Commander feels confident that Corps Commanders will give their personal attention to the system of training, employment and interior economy of Divisional Machine Gun Battalions, so as to get the full value from an organisation which has already proved its worth."

The new organisation of the infantry of the line into rifle battalions and machine gun battalions will be watched with much interest, and, the British soldier being the most adaptable warrior on the face of the earth, there is no reason to doubt that the new machine gun units of the present day, converted as they are from some of the most famous old fighting regiments in the British Army, will prove themselves, when the time comes, just as staunch fighters as the men who manned the machine guns in the Great War.

R. MAURICE HILL.

DEPOT NOTES

THE chronicle of events for these notes consists largely of regrets and welcomes. Changes of staff take place in every department and we have first to record a change of command.

From 1st October Major H. Phillips, M.C., became Commanding Officer of the Depot, and it is to be hoped that he will enjoy his stay at Mill Hill. The good wishes of all ranks in the Depot accompany Major N. H. B. Lyon, M.C., the retiring C.O. and Mrs. Lyon.

Lieut. J. P. Hall is to be our next Adjutant, but he has not yet arrived from Hong Kong. Although his stay here will not be so exciting as his last station, it is hoped that he will find Mill Hill an enjoyable spot. It is hoped that Lieut. A. E. Green will be permitted to stay with us as Adjutant until his arrival.

A hearty welcome is extended to Lieut. E. J. Unwin, who is relieving Capt. J. W. A. Stephenson. As there is plenty of "rugger" in London, we are all hoping to see the Middlesex Regiment again actively interested in the International games.

In saying *au revoir* to Capt. Stephenson, we are praying that Cricket Week and Test Matches do not coincide, for it is surely certain that he must be selected against Australia in 1938. At any rate, Sir "Plum" Warner, writing as a Selector, was of the opinion that "The season . . . has not been an easy one for the Selection Committee because of the large number of injuries to bowlers." Among the list that follows is the "live wire" of previous issues.

R.Q.M.S. E. Crouch leaves us on pension and we wish him, and his family, all the best in his new post. It is to be hoped that he will pass on the secret of the transformation of the Gymnasium into a ballroom. He is to be relieved by R.Q.M.S. C. Goodall, who has not yet arrived from Hong Kong.

The Annual Inspection was carried out on 20th September by Major-Gen. R. M. Luckock, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., with no undue incident and every apparent satisfaction.

The cricket team had a successful season, the highlight being successive knocks by the skipper, Capt. J. B. Worton, of 100, 98 and 93.

The football team has entered for the Hendon and District Football League, and after a bad defeat would seem to be settling down. The

new ground is not yet ready but is rapidly taking shape.

Finally, we would like to wish the best of luck to 2/Lieuts. Hancock, Marshall, Passy and Lyon, who were with us for a short time on being gazetted to the Regiment.

SPORTS

ALL-ROUND SHIELD COMPETITION

The competition for the quarter ending September has proved very interesting. It was the most "open" since the competition began last year.

The following Squads took part in the events mentioned below: Vittoria (Sergt. Wilson), Mysore (Sergt. Chasney), Inkerman (Sergt. Beaveridge), Ladysmith (Sergt. Mason). We take this opportunity to congratulate Inkerman Squad on being very worthy winners.

CRICKET

Some interesting and close games were played during the summer months. Pte. Masters (Inkerman) has proved himself a useful and promising bowler, his best performance to date being 8 for 12 runs.

PASS-BALL

After some exciting matches played in the Gymnasium, Vittoria Squad beat Inkerman in the final, after a great struggle. The recruits are beginning to understand and realise the value of this game, and some excellent team work was witnessed throughout the series. Steps are being taken to erect an outdoor pass-ball court as the recruits give the impression that a little more space is required. Judging by the performances in the competition for this quarter, more space is needed. Mysore Squad would have found themselves in a much more favourable position in the final order had they taken advantage of the opportunities afforded them.

Final order of placing: 1, Vittoria; 2, Inkerman; 3, Mysore; 4, Ladysmith.

OBSTACLE RACE

We think that the obstacle race devised by Capt. J. W. A. Stephenson last quarter is perhaps the most exciting event during the summer months. The rules and conditions governing this were printed in the notes last month. Before proceeding with the Inter-Squad Competition we would like to mention that all recruits take part in an obstacle course every Saturday. These are very popular. A

small prize is given to the recruit who sets up the fastest time during the morning. The previous record was held by Pte. Appleby (Albuhara) who returned 43 2/5 secs. for the course. We must congratulate Pte. Gaffney (Mysore) on beating this, to return 40 2/5 secs. A very fine effort. Well done! The race on Saturday, 25th September, was easily the most exciting yet. It will be seen from the times printed below that very little time separated the second, third and fourth.

The feature of this race is that if any recruit surmounts an obstacle incorrectly, or fails to surmount one, his Squad is penalised 30 secs., i.e., 30 secs. is added to the time taken by the whole Squad. In the excitement to return fast times, quite a few 30 secs. are unfortunately added.

Final order of placing: 1, Inkerman, 9 mins. 42 1/5 secs.; 2, Mysore, 10 mins. 33 2/5 secs.; 3, Vittoria, 10 mins. 35 secs.; 4, Ladysmith, 10 mins. 35 2/5 secs.

TABLOID SPORTS

The Tabloid Sports Competition again produced some very good results and keen running. The standards for the various events for this quarter are as follows:

100 Yards: High Standard, 12 secs.; Low Standard, 12 4/5 secs.

High Jump: High Standard, 4 ft. 3 ins.; Low Standard, 3 ft. 10 ins.

Long Jump: High Standard, 16 ft. 6 ins.; Low Standard, 13 ft. 6 ins.

Shot: High Standard, 21 ft.; Low Standard, 18 ft.

Although the above standards in some events are rather high, we are happy to record that a number of recruits gain a high standard in all events. The Relay Race, which is run on the shuttle system, always produces something very exciting. Several promising sprinters in Mysore and Inkerman Squads produced some good running.

Final order of placing: 1, Inkerman and Vittoria (tie); 3, Mysore; 4, Ladysmith.

PHYSICAL TRAINING—GENERAL

We are sorry to have to record the departure to the 2nd Battalion of Capt. J. W. A. Stephenson. During his tour at the Depot as P.T. Officer he was largely responsible for the very sound methods on which the Physical Training and sport are now working. His personal interest in the welfare and training of the recruit was always placed first. We feel sure that all who had the pleasure of listening to

his expert advice on different forms of sport will join us in wishing him still further success with the 2nd Battalion. We welcome Lieut. E. J. Unwin in his stead, and hope that he will enjoy his tour at the Depot.

Visits by the Inspector and G.S.O.s of Physical Training have been made since our last notes. Very satisfactory reports have been given on each occasion.

We are looking forward to the coming boxing season, when a large and varied programme has been arranged. Further details and results will be published in our next issue of notes.

CRICKET

In spite of the fact that we were scarcely ever at full strength during the latter part of the season, we won more matches than we lost, and the side was going great guns at the end.

In a recently-arrived recruit, Pte. Masters, the makings of a good bowler was discovered and our latter successes were mainly due to him and to Capt. Worton, who made 100, 94 and 98 in consecutive matches. Another bowler who had been hiding his light under a bushel, was discovered in Capt. Heywood, whose slow bowling confounded many batsmen. We are hoping for great things from him next season, now that his captain has at last realised his true worth.

Our two wicket-keepers, Sergt. Duncan and Sergt. Wilson, kept wicket alternately, and very well. The former made runs consistently, and the latter on occasions restrained his natural tendencies with marked success.

Mention should also be made of Pte. Bridge and Sergt. Williams, who were the backbone of our bowling, and whose fielding, especially that of the latter, reached a high standard.

Lieut. Green, when he eventually found out which way the ball was going to swing, bowled successfully to his "leg trap."

RESULTS

v. Colney Hatch M.H. Colney Hatch M.H., 104 for 3 (dec.); Depot The Middlesex Regiment, 171 for 7 (Duncan 59).

v. Shenley M.H. Shenley M.H., 213 for 5 (dec.) (W. Nicholls 104 not out); Depot The Middlesex Regiment, 143.

v. London Fire Brigade. London Fire Brigade, 182 for 6 (dec.); Depot The Middlesex Regiment, 92.

v. Harrow Police. Harrow Police, 89 (Wollock 5 for 7); Depot The Middlesex Regiment, 41 (Phillips 6 for 16).

v. Col. McGregor Grier's XI. Depot The Middlesex Regiment, 234 for 9 (dec.) (Worton 100); Col. McGregor Grier's XI, 70 (Masters 8 for 14).

v. Enfield Post Office. Depot The Middlesex Regiment, 228 for 6 (dec.) (Worton 94); Enfield Post Office, 108.

v. Staff, Metropolitan Police College. Depot The Middlesex Regiment, 211 (Worton 98); Staff, Metropolitan Police College, 174 (Masters 6 for 39).

v. Hampstead Police. Hampstead Police, 85 (Heywood 5 for 9); Depot The Middlesex Regiment, 200 (Unwin 68, Heywood 48).

v. Southwark Police. Depot The Middlesex Regiment, 158 for 7 (dec.); Southwark Police, 134 (Williams 5 for 27).

v. Depot The East Surrey Regiment. Depot The East Surrey Regiment, 129 (Unwin 6 for 24); Depot The Middlesex Regiment, 122 for 7 (Wilson 43).

AVERAGES FOR 1937

| | Batting | | | Runs | Aver. |
|---------------|---------|---------|---------------|------|-------|
| | Inns. | Not Out | Highest Score | | |
| Duncan .. | 10 | 2 | 74* | 289 | 36.12 |
| Worton .. | 16 | 1 | 100 | 521 | 34.73 |
| Heywood .. | 13 | — | 59 | 291 | 22.38 |
| Wilson .. | 19 | 2 | 43 | 287 | 16.88 |
| Williams .. | 17 | 2 | 55 | 179 | 11.93 |
| Wollocombe .. | 13 | — | 58 | 132 | 10.15 |
| Makewell .. | 7 | — | 26 | 63 | 9.00 |
| Masters .. | 9 | 3 | 13* | 49 | 8.16 |
| Bridge .. | 10 | — | 23 | 81 | 8.10 |
| Green .. | 10 | 1 | 21* | 72 | 8.00 |
| Daly .. | 17 | — | 22 | 131 | 7.70 |
| Spittles .. | 10 | 3 | 29 | 50 | 7.14 |
| Bromley .. | 13 | 3 | 20* | 68 | 6.80 |
| Kidby .. | 6 | 1 | 15 | 33 | 6.60 |
| Nelson .. | 9 | 3 | 11* | 36 | 6.00 |

* Not out.

| | Bowling | | | Wkts. | Aver. |
|---------------|---------|-------|------|-------|-------|
| | Overs | Mdns. | Runs | | |
| Heywood .. | 11.2 | — | 27 | 11 | 2.45 |
| Unwin .. | 19 | 4 | 45 | 8 | 5.62 |
| Masters .. | 73.1 | 17 | 166 | 27 | 6.14 |
| Spittles .. | 11 | 2 | 40 | 6 | 6.66 |
| Stephenson .. | 24 | 7 | 32 | 3 | 10.66 |
| Wollocombe .. | 49 | 3 | 245 | 20 | 12.25 |
| Green .. | 108 | 23 | 309 | 23 | 13.43 |
| Bridge .. | 71.1 | 5 | 297 | 21 | 14.14 |
| Daly .. | 94.4 | 8 | 346 | 20 | 17.30 |
| Williams .. | 115.5 | 25 | 369 | 20 | 18.45 |
| Nelson .. | 14 | — | 77 | 4 | 19.25 |
| Kidby .. | 20 | 3 | 94 | 3 | 31.33 |
| Worton .. | 14 | — | 63 | 2 | 31.50 |

INTER-SQUAD ALL-ROUND ATHLETIC SHIELD

Final marks and placings for quarter ending 30th September:

| Squad. | Cricket Pts. | Tablett Sports Pts. | Pass-Ball Pts. | Obstacle Race Pts. | Total Marks. | Final Placings. |
|------------|--------------|---------------------|----------------|--------------------|--------------|-----------------|
| | | | | | | |
| Victoria | 3 | 3½ | 4 | 2 | 12½ | 2nd. |
| Inkerman | 4 | 3½ | 3 | 4 | 14½ | 1st. |
| Mysore | 1 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 8 | 3rd. |
| Lady Smith | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 4th. |

Points are allotted as follows: Winner, 4 pts.; Runner-up, 3 pts.; 3rd, 2 pts.; 4th, 1 pt.

SERGEANTS' MESS

It is with great regret that we have to say good-bye to Major N. H. B. Lyon, M.C. It is to be hoped that we should have said au

revoir, for, in common with the rest of the Depot, we have much for which to thank our late C.O. Very sincerely we offer him our best wishes for the future.

To Major H. Phillips, M.C., who relieves Major Lyon, we give a hearty welcome, and our loyal support in the task of turning out hundreds of fully-fledged "Die-Hards."

The summer is a hard taskmaster for Mess amusements, and regular meetings were cancelled. Impromptu arrangements, as is usually the case, were highly successful.

A Games Tournament was held, with fierce competition in darts, cribbage, rummy, pokey die and table skittles. Two points were awarded to the winner and one to the loser of each game. The ladies' champion was Mrs. Newman, while Sergt. Beaveridge won the men's affair.

The latter was also the hero of our cricket match against the East Surreys from Kingston. Scoring 39 in Jessopian fashion and taking six wickets for 18 runs in a sly manner, he routed our opponents and forced his way into the Depot cricket team. In the Mess match, however, the others all pulled their weights. (This has no bearing on girth.) We had a chatty, competitive evening, sending our friends away at 11.15 in their cabs, well protected against the possible rigours of night driving. We are to be their guests in a similar event, when our hockey side hopes to be as effective as the cricketers.

Regular tournaments are to start from 1st October. A weekly games tournament will take place, a silver spoon being awarded to the scorer of the highest monthly aggregate. Monthly whist drives will also begin in October. Our many friends should note that the 1918 Armistice Day frenzy will be repeated in the Gymnasium on 11th November, 1937.

It is a pleasant duty to congratulate and welcome L/Sergts. Burgess, Knight and Bromley to "The house at the bottom of the hill," and to hope that their tours will be happy and successful.

We are sorry to lose R.Q.M.S. Crouch, who, for more years than most of us can remember, has been a ubiquitous member of the Mess. To glance through past magazines is to see the story of his activities. They have been told before and he needs no second thanks. He

goes to Mill Hill School and we hope that he and Mrs. Crouch will enjoy a happy future.

CORPORALS' CLUB

Once again there is a call for news regarding the Corporals' Club. In the first place changes are rife, as we bid farewell to Cpl. Lomax and wife, who have left us for the scene of conflict, namely, Shanghai. Also to Cpls. Fuller and Kenny on their return to the Battalion, and we offer our congratulations to the latter on his promotion. We hope that corns have not developed on places other than their feet.

We welcome the arrival of Cpls. Soden, O'Doherty and Burgess, but we regret the loss of the latter, on his rapid promotion to the "higher circles." His reputation as a billiards and snooker player preceded him, but, unfortunately, we cannot watch him in action.

The Battalion is being officially mechanised, and the same is happening here, only in a more amateurish way. Cpls. Powell and Frost, with their trusty steeds, have been augmented by L/Cpls. Chambers and Robins. Decarbonising is already in progress, and it is hoped by a certain member of the Mess that there will be enough remains to make at least one more machine, which might well be named "Gussy's Snorter." It is notified for information that the fair sex do not now walk home after dances. (Remember cads, your old school tie?)

The dancing season commenced on 25th September, with an all-ranks dance in the Gymnasium, and although the weather was very unkind, we had a very good attendance. We hope to hold a dance on 13th November, and we trust that the success of the past season will be maintained.

The Depot football team has already played three games in the Hendon and District League, and although they were severely trounced 7-1 in their first game, they have won the remaining two games 5-1 and 4-0. Much credit is due to Sergt. Williams for the training of the team, whilst Sergt. Beaveridge stands by to answer queries relating to the rules.

We close with hearty wishes to the Corporals of both Battalions for a very happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

LONGFELLOW.

R.P.D.D.

THE START OF THE RECRUIT PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT DEPOT

AS is now commonly known, the original experiment with "sub-standard recruits" was carried out at the A.S.P.T. a year ago, and that experiment has been fully dealt with by Capt. P. J. L. Capon, R.A.M.C. ("The Experiment on Sub-standard Recruits," in the *Journal of the R.A.M.C.*, May, 1937). As a result of that experiment, it was decided to open a special Depot, beginning at Aldershot and moving later to the more peaceful atmosphere of Canterbury.

This was in April, and five months ago today, a piece of paper on a barrack-room door in Badajos Barracks announced that this was the Orderly Room of the R.P.D.D., whilst inside were the Adjutant, Capt. F. C. Papworth, M.C., the Orderly Room Colour-Sergeant, myself, one private portable typewriter and about 50 sheets of foolscap (private).

The story of the next three weeks might, in the hands of "A.A.," make suitable copy for *Punch*, but the present is not the moment to expand upon them, and I will only mention here that the great day arrived on 3rd May, when we decided that we could cut adrift from the hospitality of the Bays and start our own messing, thereby experimenting first upon the Staff by testing out the capabilities of the most vital people, the cooks, upon them before any recruits arrived. Frankly, I was not optimistic but, as it turned out, my fears were groundless and the results really excellent.

On 19th May the first two recruits arrived, and after that a fairly steady stream arrived of about two a day.

It must be admitted that at this period there was some apparent justification for the criticisms made that it was a shame that units should be deprived of a number of N.C.O.s to look after 23 miserably small recruits: one C.S.M.I., four S/Sergts. Instructors and 16 A.I.s did seem rather to overwhelm them, but this state of things only lasted for a very short time; very soon two a day became four or five a day; and at the present time this instructional staff is far from being too large and the business of making both ends meet is not the least of our problems.

The growth of the Depot and the rapidity of the incoming and outgoing has produced a variety of problems and a very great deal of paper and routine work, which, like weeds

in the garden, are very apt to hide the real object of our labours, or perhaps I should say that the rank growth of the weeds of routine paper work take up so much time that there is all too little left for watching the various individuals in our charge.

The following figures for the period 19th May to 19th September may be of interest :

| | |
|--------------------------|-----|
| Total intake | 368 |
| Posted to Depots | 123 |
| Wastage, various | 16 |
| At Depot | 229 |

The recruits dealt with come under five categories :

- (a) The sub-standard recruit.
- (b) The border-line case.
- (c) Recruits who are considered by their Depots to be in need of a course of remedial training after they have been seen at work there.
- (d) Backward recruits from Depots, *i.e.*, lacking co-ordination, etc.
- (e) Supplementary Reserve men who on wishing to transfer to the Regular Army are found to come under (a).

Our aim may be said to be two-fold ; to make the man fit for entry into the Army and to try him out and see if he is fit ; in other words, the last thing we want to be is a mere fattening factory.

We expect that recruits will put on weight faster when they leave us than they do here, and the very meagre evidence available at the moment proves that we are right, and that by setting the man up here we are laying the foundations for a rapid increase later ; although it would appear quite common for recruits to lose weight immediately on arrival at their new Depot.

I think it should be made quite clear at once that we are all opposed to any form of artificial fattening. The greatest care is taken over the diet sheet and for a certain period every man is treated as normal. We are now experimenting with men who do not re-act normally in order to form some idea as to the relationship between weight increase with the arrangements of programmes and the amount of physical work various types thrive under best, and so on. How great the importance of diet is has been amply demonstrated to us by results. Owing to the absence of the Adjutant and Quartermaster a diet sheet was drawn up for a week, and I think it fair to say it would have passed muster in most units. Nevertheless, the week's weighings showed a sad falling off

in increases. Similarly, a diet sheet which included a good deal of pastry "duff" was equally bad.

The mental aspect is one which has to be watched, too, as the mere fear of not reaching the standard may undo all the work one is putting in. Two excellent examples of this are two men mentally well above the average, very hardworking and as fit as the proverbial fiddle, but terrified of being cast out. As soon as they were told that they had reached the basic 112 lbs. and could go on they went up rapidly.

Again, Gunner X put on no weight, and wild horses wouldn't make him do a front roll. He was always sick. Gunner X was to be discharged as unlikely to be fit, but as a final effort he was brought up for a last talk. We threatened expulsion from the school or private tuition under Capt. Calderbank. The latter was decided on as a final experiment ; and then a period was ordered which, for the sake of brevity, I can only describe as a sporting hunt, with Gunner X as the hare. The hounds won, and X did his front roll. He did many more front rolls and then fear left him and since then he has never been sick and his weight has gone up steadily.

The question of height in conjunction with weight is one which has been watched for some time past.

Height we cannot pretend to increase, and to send a man to us who is under height only is a waste of time. We do, however, get a number of men who are $\frac{1}{2}$ in. under height, or about 5 ft. 2 in. and as much as 14 and even 18 lbs. under weight. One man 5 ft. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. high and 16 lbs. under weight has got up to the 109-110 lbs. scale, a very considerable increase when one realises his state on arrival.

Another, just over 5 ft. 2 in. had 18 lbs. to make and has made 14.

These are young men and as it is probable that they have not yet stopped growing it is safe to assume that as they have put on so much whilst being strenuously exercised they will, in the near future, fill out still more, but I think it can be safely said that an increase of more than 8 lbs. in a man of 5 ft. 2 in.—5 ft. 3 in. is as much as can be expected in the time, normally.

Our programme is a complex business, but the basis is :

Morning.

- 1 hour P.T., Normal.
- 1 hour education.
- $\frac{1}{2}$ hour drill.

$\frac{1}{2}$ hour P.T. games.

A break of 15 minutes for milk and fruit.

A shower bath.

Afternoon.

1 hour P.T., Remedial.

1 hour games. (Football, boxing, hockey, swimming, cross-country running.)

Tea.

Evening.

Education for special classes and examination class.

Map Reading for 2nd Class candidates.

Remainder—barrack room discipline.

Supper.

Free till 9.30 p.m. on working days.

Education is one of our official functions. For it we have three A.E.C. Instructors and can now run an examination every fortnight for 3rd Class Certificates of Education, with a result that about 202 certificates have been gained. But these instructors have been proved to be sadly inadequate and we could well do with more ; in fact, it speaks volumes for the three instructors that results have been as good as they have been. Education above 3rd Class standard has to be on the Dalton plan, and Map Reading depends on the time an Officer can spare to run it, but as most men are keen to help themselves the progress made is satisfactory and few should have any difficulty in obtaining their 2nd Class Certificate at their Depot.

It is our aim that recruits leaving us should, whatever their stage of training, be able to stand out when they reach their Depots and, in consequence, we run a course specially for those leaving. This would have been impossible but for the enthusiasm of the Provost Sergeant. This course, which takes place in their last week, consists of a revision of their drill and various lectures on subjects which will be useful to them when they arrive at their Depots.

Occasionally, squads are shown films of themselves at their daily work. Apart from causing a good deal of good-humoured laughter at their mistakes, these have the advantage of letting men see what they do wrongly, which we hope will be more instructive to them than any amount of talking.

As regards the type of recruit and where they come from.

Most people think they are under age, and undoubtedly some are, but it would be safer to bet on dog racing than on their ages. I append the numbers received in recruiting areas :

| | |
|-------------------------|-----|
| Scotland | 24 |
| Ireland | 23 |
| Wales | 11 |
| England : North | 129 |
| Midlands | 92 |
| South | 59 |
| London | 30 |

Many are from mines or mills and, unfortunately, too, many have relations relying on allowances from them, but the variety of employment is infinite. We have a "Wall of Death" expert, who not surprisingly is under weight. We have a trapeze-cum-weight lifting expert sent to us for round shoulders, and who, despite the fact that Capt. Capon failed to produce a strap from his waist when asked, picked up a 28 lb. weight in his teeth ! Apart from curiosities, the majority are cases of neglect in early youth and/or since the victims of bad times and consequently insufficient nourishment recently, or the victims again of being put to work in unhealthy surroundings too young.

The great thing, as far as we are concerned, is that 99 per cent. flourish and, as far as we can ascertain, many are doing particularly well at their Depot.

N. P. P.

REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION NOTES

PROCEEDINGS OF AN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

HELD AT THE LIBRARY, CENTRAL LONDON
RECRUITING ZONE, WHITEHALL

On 28th July, 1937

Present. Brig.-Gen. V. L. N. Pearson, D.S.O., in the Chair, Col. G. L. Brown, D.S.O., Col. E. E. F. Baker, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., Lieut.-Col. C. W. Rooke, D.S.O., Lieut.-Col. W. M. Samuel, Lieut.-Col. W. E. Pringle, M.C., Major N. H. B. Lyon, M.C., Capt. J. R. B. Worton, Capt. E. L. Heywood, Capt. H. E. Foster, Capt. C. T. Whinney, M.C., R.S.M. W. Ward, M.M., R.S.M. P. Newman, Mr. E. Morris and Mr. A. G. Hutchins.

1. *Minutes of last meeting.* The minutes of the last meeting were read and passed.

2. *The Secretary's Report* for the past quarter was considered and it was proposed by Col. Samuel and seconded by Capt. Foster

that a sum of £125 be allocated for the relief of necessitous cases during the quarter ending 30th September, 1937. (Carried.)

3. *Old Comrades' Dinner.*

(a) The Secretary reported difficulty in finding a catering firm to provide a suitable dinner for 3s., owing to the rise in the cost of commodities. He was therefore instructed, on the motion of Col. Brown, seconded by Capt. Worton, to do his best to arrange a suitable dinner for 3s. 6d., if necessary cutting out the fish course, and to report what arrangements he had made to the next meeting. He was also instructed to obtain a type of canvas chair for the dinner. (Carried.)

(b) It was proposed by Col. Samuel and seconded by Major Lyon that owing to the high travelling expenses a band, other than the Home Battalion band, should be engaged for the dinner. (Carried.)

It was then proposed by R.S.M. Newman and seconded by R.S.M. Ward that the 7th Battalion be asked to lend their band for the occasion, and that in future years the Territorial Battalions should be asked to do so in turn. (Carried.)

(c) It was proposed by Major Lyon and seconded by Col. Brown that the following guests be asked to the Dinner:

- (i) The Lord Lieutenant of the County of Middlesex.
- (ii) Sir Howard Button, High Sheriff for the County of Middlesex.
- (iii) The General Secretary of the National Association for Employment of Ex-Regulars. (Carried.)

4. *Rules of the Association as redrafted by Sub-Committee.* On the motion of Col. Samuel, seconded by Col. Rooke, the Rules of the Association, as redrafted by the Sub-Committee appointed for the purpose at the last meeting, were passed with two amendments as under:

(a) Proposed by Col. Rooke, seconded by Col. Samuel. Rule IX, Duties of Secretary, para. 7, to remain as in old rules; Rule XI, para. 7, with the substitution of "Association Fund" for "General Fund" in line 2. (Carried.)

(b) Proposed in writing by Col. M. Browne, seconded by Col. Samuel, that in Appendix A the lines in brackets should be printed immediately under the words "Appendix A" and should

EMPLOYMENT

The REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION pay the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION for EMPLOYMENT OF EX-REGULAR SAILORS, SOLDIERS AND AIRMEN £100 A YEAR

to act as their Agents for finding
Employment for ex-N.C.Os. and
Men of the Regiment.

If you are unemployed, therefore,
you should register, *at once*, with
the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
at one of its Branches and follow
carefully the instructions they give
you.

London Branches:

62 Victoria Street, S.W.1

Gipsy Corner, Victoria Road,
Acton, W.3

143 Bow Road, E.3

52a Deptford Bridge, S.E.8

48-56 Station Road, Wood Green,
N.22

read: "Two Cottages were built by Public and Regimental subscription as a Memorial to all ranks of the Regiment who fell in the South African War, 1899-1902. Two Cottages were built by Public subscription and accumulated funds of the Regimental Association and Cottage Homes Fund in 1936-37." (Carried.)

5. *Subscriptions to Charities.* It was proposed by Col. Baker and seconded by Major Lyon that subscriptions to the following charities be renewed for another twelve months:

Alexandra Orphanage, £2 2s. od. British Legion (affiliation fee), £1 1s. od. Charity Organisation Society, £4 4s. od. Do., do. (registration), £1 1s. od. Hospital for Sick Children, £2 2s. od. Gordon Boys' Home, £2 2s. od. Imperial Ex-Service Association of Australia, £1 1s. od. Netley Charitable Fund, £2 2s. od. Royal Female Orphanage, £1 1s. od. Royal Victoria Patriotic School, £1 1s. od. Royal Soldiers' Daughters' Home, £2 2s. od. Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Families Association, £2 2s. od. Soldiers' and Sailors' Help Society, £2 2s. od. St. Dunstons, £1 1s. od. Special Fund for the Blind (National Institution), £1 1s. od. (Carried.)

6. *Weekly Allowance.* Proposed by Mr. Morris and seconded by Major Lyon that the Allowance made to Mr. — of 5s. weekly be continued for another 12 months. (Carried.)

7. *Journal Advertisements.* A letter from Combined Service Publications, Ltd., asking to be allowed to print some of the advertisements in the body of the text was read. On the motion of Capt. Foster, seconded by Col. Samuel, the Secretary was instructed to refuse this suggestion.

8. *Apologies for non-attendance* were received from the following: Col. M. Browne, Col. A. M. O. Anwyl Passingham, Major R. A. Slee and Capt. F. A. L. Lawrence.

COTTAGE HOMES

The two new Cottage Homes have been occupied since our last issue and we have to thank the Red Cross Society for generously

helping us with the cost of removal of one of the tenants from a long distance, thus saving any further charge against the Cottage Homes Fund.

The two new tenants are as under:

No. 3 Cottage Home: Mr. H. Bird.

No. 4 Cottage Home: Mr. H. R. Bagnall.

4TH BATTALION REUNION DINNER

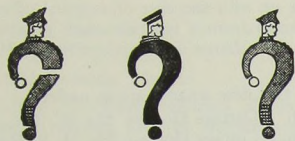
The Second Annual Reunion of the 4th Battalion, O.C.A., was held on 18th September, 1937, at Allenby (Services) Club, 2, Hand Court, Holborn, W.C.

A meeting was held before the Dinner, presided over by the Chairman, Mr. J. Donoghue, and very well attended. Amongst the propositions carried was that a vote of thanks be sent to Lady Hull, for her very kind wishes, sent through Mr. Smith. Also passed was the election of Lieut.-Col. T. S. Wollocombe, as our Vice-President. A letter was received from our President, Col. Anwyl Passingham, regretting his inability to attend, owing to absence abroad. A number of Old Comrades' badges were purchased by members, and as a result of our appeal, we hope to see a large number of our members at the Regimental Dinner this year.

Following the meeting, a very jolly company of 56 sat down to an excellent dinner, and the toast of "The King" was proposed by our Vice-President; this was followed by a toast to the 4th Battalion, Middlesex Regiment, proposed by our Chairman, Mr. J. Donoghue, and responded to by our Vice-President; the final toast was given by the Secretary, Mr. A. T. Farrow, to the ladies and guests, and responded to by Mrs. Atkins.

After the dinner, a very successful dance was held. The old-fashioned dances were greatly appreciated by the ladies and members present. It was nearing midnight when a very successful evening was brought to a close.

It is hoped that more members of the 4th Battalion will be able to attend these functions. The Secretary's address is: Mr. A. T. Farrow, 79, Finchley Lane, Hendon, N.W.4.



NOTES ON CIVILIAN EMPLOYMENT BY AN EX-R.S.M., THE DEVONSHIRE REGIMENT

AS I was attached to a Territorial Army unit for the last five years of my Colour Service, with its Headquarters at Plymouth, I considered myself much more fortunate, *re* the possibility of obtaining civilian employment, than my fellow men serving overseas, as my duties were of such a nature to get "personal touch" with many business men in a wide area. In thinking this I was correct, as several of these men gave me references; moreover, I had a good insight of "civilian life."

During the last three months of my service I registered for employment with the local branch of the N.A.E.R.S.S.A., my Regimental Old Comrades' Association and the Employment Exchange through O.C., Infantry Records, Exeter. Whilst on furlough pending discharge I made personal touch with these three organisations.

Within three weeks of my discharge I was offered a temporary post as Part-time Deliverer in the G.P.O., Plymstock, through the National Association. Although the salary was small I accepted this job; by so doing I thought it may lead to something better, although I was not promised anything, and as I had three weeks' experience of being "out of work" after an active and busy life for twenty-two years, I was delighted to have something to do.

After about fourteen days in the Post Office I received a card from the National Association to call for interview *re* another post; this I found to be a full-time and probably a permanent position. My name was submitted to the managing director, with whom I had an interview, who explained that the job was as Service Representative of his firm (wine and spirit merchants) and he was wanting a man with naval or military experience *re* the calling on Officers' Wardrooms and Messes. Before this interview the Secretary of the Association "tipped" me with reference to the attitude

and method of replying to questions, and this I found most useful.

The managing director informed me that he had about fifty applicants for the post and that he had more to interview after me; this did not seem very hopeful for me as I thought men with "sales" experience would stand a much better chance than myself. After another ten days I received a letter from him requesting me to report at his office. When I did so, I was informed that I had been selected.

I attribute my success to: (1) being well recommended as a suitable man by the Secretary, N.A.E.R.S.S.A.; (2) testimonials from local gentry; (3) personality and appearance; (4) Army character.

My work is very interesting in visiting Officers' Messes, Ships, etc., *re* the sale of wines and spirits, together with about 50 per cent. of office work. The hours are from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., with the usual week-end off, *i.e.*, Saturday, 1 p.m., to Monday, 9 a.m.

One day in every quarter is allowed as a "rest" day and fourteen days' leave, with pay, is given annually; therefore I consider that I am very fortunate to be working with a "firm" which is run on such good lines.

I am working on a salary and commission basis, therefore my sales ability must be developed to count towards advancement which is open in every walk of life. Army life does not help one much *re* salesmanship; moreover, office routine in most up-to-date firms is run on different lines from that of the Army.

Naturally, after twenty-two years' service, everything seemed strange to me, it was just like a child commencing school, but I found everyone most helpful and willing to put me on the right road. I soon gained confidence and after about fourteen days I felt at ease.

Of course, a service man cannot expect to be on the same level as the man who has been employed in one line all his life, no matter how intelligent the service man may be, as there is an "art" in each type of business.

Working hours in my case are much shorter than experienced in the Army; probably I was exceptional through being attached to a T.A. Unit, my hours for about four days a week being from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

One is expected to carry out his work without supervision in the Army. The soldier does not always have to use his brains enough, and when he enters civilian life he expects someone standing over him to put him on the right path, if he should go wrong.

An employer is usually a man who expects his employees to carry out their duties efficiently and to be "ever faithful" to the firm.

There are plenty of amusements in civilian life if you care to pay for the same, whereas the Army usually provides a certain amount of free entertainment.

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

7th BATTALION NOTES

ANNUAL Training this year was spent at Colchester, and, thanks to the excellent weather and the helpful co-operation of the Colchester Garrison, we all had an enjoyable time. Altogether 20 Officers and 440 other ranks attended, an increase in numbers on last year. This increase was due to the enhanced strength of the Battalion, the percentage of attendance remaining within a decimal point of last year's. We have yet to reach the 90 per cent. mark, a not impossible figure if all were as keen as the majority.

The superiority of the Colchester training areas over the open Downland of Sussex facilitated our first experiments with the new platoon organisation, but despite this advantage our imagination was put to severe tests. We pretended that Lewis Guns were Brens, D.P. rifles with a red band were Boyes anti-tank rifles, and that the pantechinons driven so ably and obligingly by Sam Spaight and his friends from Huddersfield were 15-cwt. trucks.

The social and recreational side of the Camp was varied. As usual, the Inter-Company athletic sports, football and tug-of-war were dealt with, and the annual Officers' and Sergeants' cricket match, which had been allowed to lapse, was revived, the Sergeants winning by 10 wickets. Without wishing to detract from the batting abilities of the Sergeants, we must confess that the weakness of the Officers' bowling was rather noticeable, to say nothing of the fielding. While on the subject of cricket and athletics we should like to place on record our very great appreciation of the kindness of Brig. H. N. A. Hunter, D.S.O., the Commander of the Colchester Garrison, for allowing us to use the garrison athletic ground and No. 2 cricket ground. Another kindness

extended to us was the honorary membership of the Garrison Officers' Club. Bus trips to Clacton were arranged on pay days, so that, although we were farther from the sea than we like, we were not altogether deprived of its pleasure and benefit.

We returned from Colchester on 15th August, and the Drill Halls were closed to the majority until 20th September. We could not, however, keep the Transport Section and Signallers away for such a long time, and they insisted on re-commencing work on 2nd September. The Permanent Staff showed an even greater keenness, as they started their activities on 16th August.

This year's Camp enabled us to meet, for the first time, the Fifth Battalion of our Brigade, the 5th Battalion Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment. Sorry as we are to sever our connection with the 5th Battalion Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment, we are fortunate in their successors.

Our B.M.G.O. at Camp was Capt. E. M. G. Wray, D.S.O., from the 2nd Battalion. He lived in our Mess, and performed much "nice work" both there and on parade with the Support Company!

Two Officers of the Battalion who have been with us for many years have recently left us for the Reserve. Capt. S. A. W. Brown and Lieut. C. P. Gliksten have both, unfortunately, found that their business affairs preclude them devoting the time to the Battalion which they would have wished, but no doubt we shall see something of them from time to time.

In conclusion, congratulations to Capt. Jefferson on his promotion.

"A" COMPANY

The period under review covers pre-Camp training and annual training, and although it may be regarded as the most important period of the training year, we are afraid it does not give us much scope for Company notes.

The pre-Camp period passed very quickly, probably due to the more advanced and interesting training—the results of which were reflected in the general efficiency of the Company in Camp.

This year we experienced a complete change of training area and instead of attacking over the rolling downs of Sussex, we had much more interesting country, which added interest and made the training more realistic. The weather was perfect; the Camp, nicely

situated; the training, whilst being very interesting and beneficial, was not too strenuous and the Company has every reason to be satisfied with the progress made.

There are one or two items of Company interest, which are worth mentioning, and on which the Company are to be congratulated. We had the pleasure of doing a show for the Officers and N.C.O.s of the Brigade in the form of a demonstration, showing the action taken by a Platoon coming in contact with a gas contaminated area and, considering this was our first effort, it was effectively carried out. In tactics we demonstrated our efficiency when we carried out a tactical scheme set and directed by the Brigade Commander. He was well pleased with the result and congratulated the men on the manner in which they worked. We also had an eye on the Night Operation Competition, but this year it was changed to an Inter-Company competition for the neatest and cleanest Company lines, and we managed to "pull this off."

In competition work, we do not show up too well in actual results on paper. This is not for the want of trying by the functioning members of the Company; it is due to the fact that we are considerably below the strength of other Companies, and obviously we cannot expect to compete against overwhelming numbers. To the members of the Company who do their job, we say "Well done!" and if you will bring along new members to join us, we shall soon add to our laurels.

Generally we spent a most happy fortnight and training left us all much better for the open-air life and unlimited exercise.

We have just commenced the winter training period with a Company meeting, which was well attended, and if the individual enthusiasm displayed by those attending is any indication, it should be a very interesting and enjoyable period.

We welcome our recently-joined recruits and hope they will soon become efficient members of the Company. We also congratulate Cpl. Register on his appointment to Lance-Sergeant.

"B" (S.) COMPANY

When our last outpouring of literary brilliance was laid before an expectant world the Battalion was in Camp. Many machine gunners, however, were hard put to it to believe the fact, for the closeness of the training areas, M.T., and the slightly unconventional view of the B.M.G.O. that a training area does

not gain merit in distance and made sore feet a memory. During the first week we never went beyond the stop-butts of Middlewick Ranges, whilst the rifle Companies—less fortunate than we—were seeking cover from aircraft and the Brigade Staff on the more distant parts of the training areas. The Orderly Room sought to avenge itself upon us, however, by putting all the Officers on Church Parade, from which they doubtless derived great benefit.

But we would not have the reader suppose that we were idle. Far from it. A great deal of useful work was done, and our part in the epic rescue of County Council's treasure from the clutches of Col. Miskin earned us golden opinions from the Brigade Commander—opinions which he might have modified had he seen Company Headquarters asleep against a reaper and binder as the attack went in.

Modesty forbids us to dwell upon our triumphs, so we will content ourselves with recording that the "Warner" Drill Cup, the Football Cup and the Sports Cup are ours. The "Perring" Trophy team put up the best score in the Brigade in the open range shoot, but the final result is not yet known.

During the second week of Camp we heard that Sergt.-Major Ramsey was to leave us almost immediately, and proceed on foreign service. It would be difficult to over-rate the good work that he has done at Enfield during his tour of duty. His keenness, tact and efficiency were remarkable, whilst he leaves a gap in our athletic team which it will be difficult to fill. Our best wishes go with him and Mrs. Ramsey.

His successor, Sergt.-Major Whitcombe, has now taken up his duties, and is busily engaged in passing on the latest ideas from Netheravon.

We are glad to record that 2/Lieut. Oldham's prolonged absence in the realms of legal textbooks achieved its object. He has passed his finals.

And so the Company ends a very successful training year. We are confident that during the year 1937-8 we shall do even better.

"C" COMPANY

Before commencing our notes, we have been asked to deny the following reports current among readers of THE DIE-HARDS:

(1) That "C" Company was disbanded some years ago. We know that for several issues our notes have been conspicuous by their absence, but this has been due to a becoming modesty on our part, and to no

sudden demise. Our contemporaries have of late become so intellectual that we have not dared to attempt to emulate such talent. However, now that we have taken the plunge we hope again to make our regular contribution.

(2) That when Headquarters is at last demolished and rebuilt, "C" Company Office and adjoining conveniences (?) are being preserved as an Ancient Monument. While it has been definitely established that Boadicea's Own Hornsey Volunteers were raised in those very buildings, it has been regretfully decided to pull them down with the rest.

Returning to our notes proper, we find it impossible to mention in detail the events that have occurred since last we rushed into print, and will have to be content with offering our congratulations to all who have in that period received promotion, appointment or decoration, a hearty welcome to all newcomers to the Company and our best wishes to those who have left us.

The future outlook is full of possibilities both good and bad, but as the Company is only nine under establishment, and, what is more important, has little or no paper strength, there is every prospect of a successful year. Our attendance at Annual Training this year was just under 88 per cent. and was the highest in the Battalion, but in the matter of competitions we were not so clever. However, we won the "Magheramorn" Shield, had mostly seconds and thirds in other events, and hold second place at the time of writing in the Battalion Efficiency Competition. Our chances in the "King" and "Barnet" Cups will depend largely on the amount of practice we can put in during the next few weeks, and on the amount of team work and Company spirit displayed by all ranks. We have only two members of the Battalion XVI in the Company, and shall have to rely on a good all-round team to pull us through.

In the realm of sport, we have great hopes of our boxers this year, and intend to do our best in the cross-country. More than that we cannot say at the present.

By the time these notes are in print we shall have held our first dance. This is to take place on 16th October, and the arrangements of any further events of this nature will depend on the rebuilding programme at H.Q. This has now become a matter of some urgency, but glad as we shall be to see work commenced, it will make things very difficult for the Companies stationed at Hornsey.

We have also to announce the birth of a darts club and a badminton section. As soon as we have had a little practice, we shall be glad to receive any challenges from other Companies of this or any other Battalion.

Finally, as we believe that these notes will not appear until well on in December, we should like to wish all ranks of the Regiment a happy Christmas and a cheerful New Year.

"D" COMPANY

Our notes this issue must needs refer to Camp chiefly, with odd jottings of anything else which comes to mind.

Colchester turned out to be a much better place than most thought, and exceptionally brilliant weather helped things along. In fact, the only cancellation was night operations in the second week, and there were not many moans about that! During the first week we mustered 105, the strongest Company in the whole Camp, although our "B" (S.) and "C" Companies were much stronger than in recent years. Unfortunately a large Company is liable to casualties, and Sergt. Huggins spent nearly the whole fortnight in Colchester Garrison Hospital, whilst others suffered from minor ailments.

On the second day of Camp we represented the Battalion at the Brigade Rifle Meeting in two Competitions—the Light Automatic and the Young Soldiers' team shoots. The first we won easily and the Young Soldiers would also have been successful had one of our team fired on his correct target! This minor "disaster" started a sequence of second places which beset us for the rest of Camp.

A very successful sports meeting was held at the Garrison Stadium and was narrowly won by "B" (S.) Company, whom we congratulate heartily on this and their other successes in Camp. In C.S.M. Ramsey they have had a really outstanding athlete and although we have been able to defeat "B" (S.) Company in the last year or two it has been a hard business indeed. Our best runners this year were 2/Lieut. Hatfield, Ptes. Chapman and Fox in the shorter and Ptes. Trafford, Thompson and Godbold in the longer distances.

Earlier in the same day we were second to the Enfield Company in the "Warner" Drill Cup. Unfortunately the Company was rather let down by one or two members whose razor

blades had apparently been mislaid. Otherwise the drill and march discipline could hardly have been bettered.

Then we came to the football and we really thought we should achieve success—but no. The team revealed promising form in defeating "C" Company 4—0 in the semi-final, but we succumbed in the final to "B" (S.) Company by 2—1, in spite of clever football by 2/Lieut. Hatfield and Pte. Plume.

In case Tottenham readers should begin to wonder what has become of the Company, we would gently refer them to the latest position in the Company Championship "Race," where we have after all a very substantial lead.

The winter season has begun auspiciously enough and a comprehensive programme of entertainments has been arranged. It looks as if we shall be pretty busy in the social and sporting sides with dances, social evenings, shooting, badminton and boxing matches.

THINGS WE SHOULD LIKE TO HAVE HEARD

What C.S.M. Bishop said when dismissed first ball in the Officers'- Sergeants' Cricket Match.

OFFICERS v. SERGEANTS CRICKET MATCH

The Sergeants beat the Officers in a very pleasant game, held on one of the Garrison grounds in Colchester.

Winning the toss, the Officers decided to wield the willow, but, with the notable exception of Capt. Jefferson and 2/Lieut. Hatfield, the ball beat the bat, chief honours being taken by C.S.M. "Jack Hearn" Mewitt and Cpl. Delaney of the 2nd Battalion (muttered remarks *re* rank from Officers).

The Sergeants opened well, C.Q.M.S. Silvey and Cpl. Delaney putting up a fine score. After they had left, and after the Officers had been strengthened by the "tea" interval, things began to hum. Capt. Scott Lowe dismissed the three P.S.I.s in four balls. Both sides collapsed (with laughter) towards the end of the match, the combined efforts of certain Officers in propelling the ball from the boundary to the wicket being somewhat unconventional.

At the close of play the contestants demolished the rest of the "tea" and returned tired but happy to Camp.

Thanks are due to our Padre, Rev. Montgomery-Campbell, for his researches into higher mathematics in the score-book.

| SCORES | |
|------------------------------------|----|
| Officers | |
| 2/Lieut. Hatfield, c and b Delaney | 16 |
| Capt. Bartram, c Badham, b Delaney | 3 |
| Capt. Scott Lowe, run out | 3 |
| Capt. Jefferson, b Delaney | 28 |
| 2/Lieut. Hughes, b Badham | 0 |
| Capt. Wray, c Delaney, b Parker | 2 |
| 2/Lieut. Hicks, b Mewitt | 2 |
| 2/Lieut. Preston, b Lauderbach | 0 |
| 2/Lieut. Abbott, b Mewitt | 0 |
| 2/Lieut. Bridges, b Mewitt | 0 |
| 2/Lieut. Oldham, not out | 0 |
| Extras | 1 |
| Total | 55 |

C.S.M. Mewitt 3 for 0, Cpl. Delaney 3 for 19.

| Sergeants | |
|--|----|
| C.Q.M.S. Silvey, b Hughes | 23 |
| Cpl. Delaney, b Scott Lowe | 35 |
| C.S.M. Bishop, b Scott Lowe | 0 |
| C.S.M. Mewitt, b Scott Lowe | 0 |
| C.S.M. Ramsey, c Bartram, b Scott Lowe | 0 |
| Sergt. Lauderbach, b Hatfield | 11 |
| C.Q.M.S. Lenney, b Scott Lowe | 0 |
| C.S.M. Ellis, b Hatfield | 6 |
| Sergt. Broughton, c and b Scott Lowe | 5 |
| Sergt. Parker, c and b Hatfield | 3 |
| R.Q.M.S. Badham, not out | 7 |
| Extras | 4 |
| Total | 94 |

Capt. Scott Lowe 6 for 31, 2/Lieut. Hatfield 3 for 16

"H.Q." WING

The last period for the Wing was principally occupied by activities before and including Camp, which this year was blessed with amazingly good weather. Camp amenities were very good, and a good fortnight's Annual Training was enjoyed by everyone.

The Bandmaster was unable, through ill-health, to be present at Colchester, a misfortune which was regretted by all. The Band played twice at Officers' Mess and on Sports Day with their usual vigour and melody. On the second Tuesday in Camp, they played in the Y.M.C.A. and were a popular and universal success, which performance we hope will be repeated on 6th November, when they play at the Old Comrades' dinner.

As for the Drums, L/Cpl. Gilbey won the Bugle Competition, which makes him the C.O.'s Bugler for the ensuing year. The runner-up was Dmr. Young, a first-year soldier who becomes Adjutant's bugler; it was an excellent performance of this young soldier. The Drums were unlucky in the Brigade Competition, being only four points behind the

9th Battalion, the winner. The Competition was judged by the Brigade Major and the Drum Major of the Lancashire Fusiliers.

TRANSPORT ACTIVITIES

One truck arrived apparently in good condition at Camp, still going strong. Strength was reinforced by two trucks from 5th Battalion, Royal Norfolk Regiment, and four civilian lorries (Sam Spaight & Co.). The M.T. seemed to spend most of their time teaching the R.S.M. to drive; net result, one truck now at Woolwich convalescing.

Eight horses arrived on Sunday, 1st August, of which four were rejected. One of the remainder decided to be absent without leave for some considerable time.

All the horses disliked the Band and Bugle March except the Adjutant's, which insisted on beating time with front legs.

We regret that Pte. Finch was the victim of a nasty accident, breaking some small bones in his left hand. He is recovering rapidly.

Parades have now started again, but the Transport Officer is on leave.

SIGNALS

Camp for the Signals was not very eventful, eight men attempting Classification, six of whom passed.

Cpl. Swannell unfortunately was on sick leave owing to a gastric ulcer, and the rest of the section followed his lead by leaving "A" Company bicycle in a wood and aircraft co-operation strips in Camp when most urgently needed on training.

Cpl. Swannell has now completely recovered.

LONDONERS UNDER ARMS

HORNSEY GOES A-SOLDIERING

By R. J. T. HILLS

Yesterday we were very matter-of-fact folk, butchers and bakers and candlestick makers of Hornsey and the parts adjacent. To-day we are very much the 7th Battalion, Middlesex Regiment (Duke of Cambridge's Own). Together with our 8th and 9th Battalions, and the 5th Beds. and Herts., we are the 162nd Brigade of the 54th East Anglian Division, assembled at Colchester for annual training.

Parade was ordered for 12.45 p.m., but began much earlier. Indeed the first arrival was discovered by the Sergeant-Major when he

went down for the milk. Recruit Samuel Small stood, politely requesting instruction in the complicated business of putting together a set of web equipment. What a Lancashire Lad should be doing in this assembly is unexplained.

For the Seventh is a very local product. Its men are mainly small and wiry, as good infantrymen and Londoners should be, and with that ineffable Cockney spirit that has never heard of defeat.

Hornsey takes just pride in its own Army. The very barmaid in the "Compasses" knew both the time of parade and of the departure of the troop train. Female and infantile Hornsey lined the pavements and admired the "bloke next to Uncle Bill," or boasted to envious neighbours, "My Dad's in the Drums." Old Soldier Hornsey wondered grimly whether the packs really held every campaigning essential; muttered of Smith-Dorrien at the 'Shot in '98; grunted at this new-fangled notion of marching three abreast.

The Battalion, indeed, could hardly move for Hornsey. Relays of sergeant-majors fought for manoeuvre space. One Metropolitan policeman—materialising after the manner of his kind from thin air—did the trick.

Once in the troop train, however, we discard all irrelevancies. A little less magnificence and some semblance of war. At all events we get down to "shirt-sleeve order" and investigate the haversack ration. No mere hunk of bread and cheese, newspaper-wrapped, serves to-day's Army. We "get outside" the pork pie, and the apple-tart, and the chocolate and then, soldier-like, wonder why they have omitted the rock cake of Coronation Day. But the philanthropist who thrust the quart bottle through the carriage-window has earned our undying gratitude.

Quite like old times just to climb into a train and sit till one is told to get out. This is the trustful patience of the true infantryman. We understood that we were going to Colchester. The train stops at St. Botolph's, but we suppose it's all right. The Colonel seems content; so does the Drum-Major. He moves off confidently. "Five-Pace-Roll"—"Tipperary"—"Take me back to Blighty"; being Londoners, we sing.

There it is, a glimpse of tent-tops—Camp. Bill, now suddenly deciding to be Sergeant Hawkins, gets a positive rasp into his voice—"Mind that step." All right, Bill, we'll humour you. We're in this game, too. The Band takes up the Regimental Quick Step.

Few of us realise that our typically English Regiment owes its Scots March to the whim of an old-time Caledonian Colonel.

Now there's something Hornsey can justly be proud of. Formed on parade, Colours in the centre, Band and Drums on the right, four hundred very ordinary lads have merged into a battalion of British Infantry. And a surprised Regular, one of a critical group, is forced to confess, "They marched in well."

Regular Army attitude towards the pre-war T.A. wavered between the forbearing and the frankly contemptuous. Both attitudes received a grateful shock in about October, 1914. To-day the same force has become a serious, worth-while hobby. The Regulars, of course, have certain duties, but go far beyond the bare necessities. Here in Camp we find odd "details" reporting for attachment, and at least one expert taking a queer busman's holiday, by spending his leave drilling recruits.

This fortnight in Camp is, of course, the supreme opportunity of our year. Enthusiasm can do much in spare evenings, but to have a battalion at nearly full strength for a fortnight is something regular adjutants only dream about. There is room for only twenty-nine recruits in the "Seventh."

From foot inspections to Brigade Days—and one inevitable night scheme—the Training programme is complete without being impossibly ambitious. We even ignore the seasons by including both cricket and football. There is an ominous paragraph which hands over all young Officers to the R.S.M. at 7 a.m. each morning—to their ultimate salvation, if temporary terror.

Regular personnel have to adjust their ideas. One such remarked, "If you want a job done here you can't just clap your hands; but once you get 'em started —." Doubtless this explains the sight of two Grenadier Sergeant-Majors making their own beds, an event which, at Caterham, would signify the end of all things.

Frankly, one had expected a deal of confusion in settling into Camp. Actually, the calm was amazing. Our own advance party had completed the picture down to red-painted fire buckets and the hoisting of the lemon-yellow banner of the "Die-Hards."

Companies took possession of their lives and arranged the simple necessities of life. Cooks settled easily to the inevitable potato-peeling. Incidentally, a full four-meal a day diet sheet made one regret that one's attach-

ment was for the day only. Newly-acquired motor transport buzzed helpfully about. Orderly Sergeants that were probably murmuring "Yes, Madam" to Hornsey's shoppers last night produced "States" and "Returns" with the briskest air.

Despairing of finding anything undone we adjourned to the Sergeants' Mess. White-clad waiters—maybe Hornsey's errand boys—whisked plates against a background of yellow and maroon, regimental wall-hangings.

Standing up to the bar with a tent pole at one's back it was possible to realise what a collection of soldiers these Territorial battalions attract. It is safe to say that they can muster more service than their Regular brethren. Here is no "discharge to pension." It is possible, glancing round, to pick out the old incorrigible who, taking discharge from the Army, has entered the Drill Hall like a homing pigeon.

Reminiscence got to work. We thrilled again to the meeting of our two regular battalions in this very garrison a few years ago. We touched on the inevitable Aldershot, glanced at Catterick, and discussed the sanitation of Stamboul. Someone remembered the detrainment at Bombay, when the Battalion was ordered to form up facing the engine—with an engine at each end of the train! We deplored while we chuckled over the Private who told the Colonel he couldn't "drill a couple of ducks"! Time moved back to that day in '99 when we touched at Las Palmas en route for Table Bay, and saw the incident of the Inniskilling, the ripe tomato, and the gold-laced Port Authority.

And while young Hornsey was pulling its blankets round its ears—with a very considerable section of the rest of young Middlesex in tented happiness about, one regretful "attached" man descended to humble civilian status and inquired for the "next train to London." Myself.

8th BATTALION NOTES

COLLECTING our notes for recording the events of the past quarter, it is perhaps understandable that Annual Training overshadows everything else.

It will be generally agreed I think that there was much shaking of heads and many people

who muttered in their beards when the news was public that the "Territorial Soldier's annual holiday" was to be spent at Colchester. Equally, I think, everybody will agree that the realisation was far, far better than the anti-climax.

The training areas seemed much more workable than has been our experience so often in the past, and they seemed to be reasonably near the Camp site.

The weather was perfect and every opportunity was taken for regular bathing parties to journey by coach to Clacton every day.

The Battalion may take on reasonable pride in the attendance figures—22 Officers and 468 other ranks makes a good showing, representing over 72 per cent. of the Battalion establishment and well over 90 per cent. of the Battalion strength.

2/Lieuts. Lawrence, Whitmore and Merchant attended the Sandhurst Course, 2/Lieut. Smith was attached to the Regimental Depot, whilst Lieut. Summers found that urgent business matters prevented his attendance.

In the main the training seemed to be well conducted, the schemes were enthusiastically carried out and much should have been learned.

Night operations were cancelled on account of heavy rainstorms, and thereby we were denied the interest of taking part in a Brigade operation which was to have been commanded by Col. Baker.

The annual Inter-Company football competition was played off, and after a number of good and closely contested matches, the winners of the "Gamage" Trophy proved to be "B" (S.) Company.

The "Isleworth" Trophy for the highest aggregate points secured under tests covering squad drill, guard mounting and a small tactical movement was jointly won by "A" and "C" Companies. In congratulating them, mention should be made that a very commendable show was put up by every team, and, in fact, there proved to be only a bare margin of points between respective Companies.

The Sergeants' Mess challenged the Officers' Mess to a cricket match, and after a sparkling innings by the Sergeants, the teams adjourned to the Officers' Mess for the interval—unhappily the clerk of the weather selected that moment to send over one of those "troughs of low pressure" and the match had to be deferred until next year.

We would take this opportunity of expressing warm congratulations to Capt. Miskin and

"B" (S.) Company upon the excellent performance put up by their team in the Divisional Test and also upon the exceptional number of qualified Range-takers.

We are glad to welcome upon appointment 2/Lieuts. Pillivant and Kirby and congratulate Capt. M. C. D. King and A. H. L. Baker, R.A.M.C., upon their promotion.

By the time these notes are public, the festive season will be close at hand; we of the 8th Battalion send greetings to all other Battalions of the Regiment and wish them all a very happy Christmas.

"H.Q." WING

Annual Training this year, contrary to expectations, was very successful. We were a little dubious as to whether Camp close to a garrison town and some distance from the sea would be popular, but at the end of our 15 days the general opinion was that Colchester was definitely a good spot. The training areas were very useful, and fighting in more or less close country made a welcome change from the open downs to which we have been accustomed. The various schemes, which were interesting, brought out several useful lessons, and our prompt and strategic action in suppressing the unruly "rebels" of Colchester, and recovering the stolen bullion, earned the warmest praise from the "Governor" and, of course, his beautiful daughter, whom we saved from an untimely end. Even Ham, Shem and Abednego turned in their graves to thank us for respecting their sacred burial ground.

The new formations on the line of march and in the field we found advantageous in many ways and it is quite evident that fire power and rapidity of movement are essential to success. Our trucks certainly proved their worth, and we visualise that before very long Officers' chargers will be a thing of the past. A demonstration of the new Bren Gun was very interesting and we hope we shall soon be issued with this amazing little weapon.

The transport to and from Clacton was much appreciated and all ranks were able to visit the many attractions there after duty almost daily. Patsy seems to have been one of them, and some of our best shots were, we believe, frequently breaking bottles on her rifle range; but one thing they could not break was her voice: Patsy should have been a Sergeant-Major!

The "Isleworth" Trophy was again competed for and although rather deficient of

trained men, we entered teams for all events. In the Guard Mounting we easily came top, with over 90 per cent., but in Squad Drill and L.G. we were not so brilliant, and on the total had to be content with last place, although not many points behind. We failed to retain the "Gamage" Football Cup, which we have held for many years and must confess that we have only ourselves to blame, and congratulate "B" Company on securing the trophy.

In the Brigade Drums contest, we put up a very sporting effort with a skeleton band. Drum-Major Howard has some hard work ahead of him in getting the Corps up to strength and efficiency again, and we wish him luck.



Annual Training, Colchester, 1937

"B" (S.) Company 8th Battalion The Middlesex Regiment T.A.

"Second Week Party"

The Band contest was not held, but Mr. Groves and his musicians, who were almost at full strength, were ready to give a good account of themselves. Under the baton of Conductor Jimmy in the Officers' Mess they certainly produced some weird and wonderful music.

After a busy time clearing up and preparing for the Brigade Annual Inspection, our Drill Hall is now "out of bounds" for the usual period prior to the commencement of the next training season, and so we will bid farewell to our readers until the next issue, when we shall be hard at it once more.

"A" COMPANY

Recruiting has gone up immensely and the standard of efficiency as well. All our recruits are very keen and interested in everything we do, in fact, we could not keep them away from the Drill Hall if we wished.

Camp is finished and we are impatiently waiting for the next. Our attendance was really excellent, 83 members out of our 84 total strength attended, an achievement of which we are really very proud. We tied for first place in the "Isleworth" Trophy with our old friends "C" Company.

Pte. Coles has left us to join the Life Guards. We wish him the best of luck and hope that he will not forget to look us up now and again. ALPHA.

"B" (S.) COMPANY

We are extremely sorry to lose Col. Baker, who has relinquished command of the Battalion. He worked hard and expected the Battalion to do likewise. Well, we did our best and enjoyed it under his inspiring leadership. He takes with him the best wishes of all ranks.

Now, a few words about Annual Training. This was our first Camp with the new Brigade, the 5th Beds. and Herts. taking the place of the 5th R.W.K.s. New organisation—new trophies, and the one that looms largest in our eyes is the "Duncan" Cup, which is awarded to the Support Company showing the best all-

round efficiency during the training year. This trophy, unlike the "Perring," takes into account such things as the percentage of first class shots and attendance at Annual Training, and in both these we were well up. The remaining points are awarded for the firing and the tactical scheme. We had bad luck in the former, but apart from a few rather silly mistakes (so obvious afterwards) we did not do so badly in the latter. By the time this is in print, we shall know the verdict.

We were disappointed that the Sports Cup was not competed for this Camp, but consoled ourselves by bringing home the Football Cup. Well done, the team!

The "Isleworth" Trophy was held as usual and we congratulate "A" and "C" Companies on their successes.

An excellent demonstration by two Instructors of the 1st Battalion, Oxford and Bucks Light Infantry of the Bren gun and anti-tank rifle was greatly appreciated. Truly the Bren is a remarkable weapon, but the old Vickers is still indispensable. Another demonstration of anti-gas tactics was staged by members of the 7th Battalion, and this also was very interesting.

The weather, especially the first week, was excellent, the rain coming just in time to wash out the night operations, much to the intense disappointment (?) of all ranks.

The Company worked very well in Camp, particularly in view of the large proportion of recruits attending.

During the training period, Cpl. Freeman and L/Cpl. Norwood attended a Mortar Course, and Cpl. Tomblason a Course in P.T. All obtained good reports, and we trust that their newly-gained knowledge will be of great use to the Company.

Well, so much for Annual Training. The winter training programmes and courses are occupying our attention and we expect to put in some useful work before Christmas.

The Rifle Club, formed before Camp, will continue its meetings and hopes to go from strength to strength. The greater the support the better the prizes in the shoots; so roll up, ye budding King's prize-winners!

Congratulations to: C.S.M. Rowe on his Coronation ribbon. C.Q.M.S. Evans on his handling of the Sergeants' Mess accounts. Sergt. Crump on carrying the entire Company's kit (if one can judge by appearances); he tells us that if the training period is increased to three weeks, he will have to hire a container all to himself. The recruit who reported to the Q.M. Stores and demanded his Field-Marshal's baton.

A MONS DIARY

THIRD INSTALMENT

THE TRAIN JOURNEY

16th August

The French authorities paid us a great compliment to start with by giving us proper passenger carriages instead of cattle trucks, or things very much akin to them, which were generally used later on in the war for the transportation of troops. Our first-class coach was very comfortable. We did not see much of the first half of our journey as we slept peacefully through it. Which way we went I do not know, but we stopped for a long time at two stations and did not bother to ask where we were.

The first place I remember was Ham, a large station where there was another large cheering crowd of civilians and soldiers, chiefly territorial troops of the 3rd line.

The next station that we stopped at was St. Quentin, another large station, and a similar crowd was there to cheer us and give us more plums, pears, milk, etc.

The next stopping place was Landrecies, which was, I believe, the Headquarters of our Army Corps. Here a Colonel of the Divisional Staff got into our carriage and showed us the situation of our own troops at the present time and where we were going into billets in our concentration area, etc. He left the map in the Colonel's possession, and, as the latter got a similar one from the Brigade that evening, he let me keep this one, which I found very useful during the next fortnight. It was a combined sheet of most of the smaller ones which were issued to us later on, and it saved me the worry, that most other Officers had as a rule, as to which map a place was on. They always seemed to march us about in the corners of maps, so that we were continually changing from one sheet to another. I don't know how they managed it with such extraordinary regularity, but somehow they did. We were using a map marked France one day, Belgium the next, Namur the next, Mons the next, Cambrai the next, and so on. We had seven all told and wanted another one for the latter part of our journey, but it was packed away in the transport. Whether they ever got it or not I don't know, but if they did it was after I had left. It went by the name of the Rochroi sheet. Anyway, seven were quite enough to have to carry about in one's haversack mixed up with iron rations!

The train went on to a little place called Bussigny, which was to have been the end of our journey, but when we got there, we were told that we were to stop for an hour only. It was then 9 a.m., and we went on at 10 a.m. to a place called Aulnoye, where we detrained. It was just 12 noon when we arrived there.

It was a good thing that we did not march from Bussigny, as some of the Reservists could not have done it. They were not fit for much marching yet, but with the help of a few route marches in the concentration area and the final marches up to the front they soon got fit for anything.

We had finished detraining by 1.45 p.m.

The transport took a long time to get off the train as we had to move the vehicles by side ramps from the trucks, and not by a single ramp at the end of the train. This meant, of course, that each vehicle had to be pushed backwards and forwards on the trucks until sufficiently turned to permit it to be run over the edge of its truck, which required a lift of about six inches to negotiate it. This was easy enough with the lighter vehicles, but the large G.S. wagons made a difficult problem, owing to their size and the fact that they were only quarter locked, and they took many men and much time and patience to detrain. The old cooker again gave a deal of trouble and Cartwright was a perfect picture when he had finished with it, as were also the men with him. They were black-faced and black-handed, not to mention the black oily soot which covered a good portion of their kit.

I was struggling, myself, with another party of men on another truck with a G.S. wagon and a machine gun limber at the time, but I saw them going to wash when they had finished.

Our detraining Officer, who called himself a Railway Transport Officer, was simply breathless with excitement. I did not know before that an Englishman could get so excited. He was dreadfully afraid that he would not get the station cleared for the next train and was simply panting with his own importance when he gave me my orders on arrival. He told me half of about six things at one and the same time, and finally reduced me to laughter, whereat he faded away furious, thinking, I suppose, that I was a cracked-brained care-for-nothing sort of a fool who was resolved to upset his wonderful arrangements, or something of the sort. However, he left me to my senses at last, and I was rather pleased on looking round to see that our men were laughing, too. This put me in a better frame of mind, as I

began to see that I was not the only one who found him rather trying. He did not leave us long, however, for he was back again in about ten minutes. This time he caught me by the arm with a grip of iron and asked me to come along with him as he wanted to show me the place where the Battalion was to form up when detrained and where the horses could be watered. As a matter of fact these were only about 100 and 200 yards away from the station respectively and I could have seen both from the platform, one on each side of the railway. He was a Captain and I only a Subaltern, so, of course, I had to go with him. He told us that we must be clear of the station by 1.50 p.m., and was busy fussing again as the last wagon was being detrained. This wagon gave some trouble as it had slipped a wheel off one side of the ramp just before reaching the ground and, though it did not completely overturn, it stuck there immovable though 15 or 16 men were lugging and tugging at it. We eventually hauled it back, with the aid of ropes and other devices, and got it off at 1.45 p.m., much to the delight of my fidgety friend, who was able to get the trucks shunted away to make room for another train. I wonder what the new Adjutant thought of him!

We marched off through more excited villages to a little place called Taisnières, where we spent three happy days and nights.

The march was about six miles and I was sent on when the Battalion was about two miles off to go and see what arrangements had been made for our billets by our worthy and excellent Quartermaster. On reaching the village I found him with the four Company Quartermaster Sergeants, whom he had taken on with him, trying all he knew to get billets, but found that every house he came to was occupied by the Royal Irish. He was in despair when I met him. I have never seen him at a loss as to what to do before or since. The Colonel soon came up and immediately went off at a canter to the General, who said we were in the wrong area. The truth of the matter was that there were two different schemes working, one a French one and the other an English one. The Royal Irish were working on the right one and we were not. However, with the aid of the interpreter, the Quartermaster soon got the billets told off and they were immediately occupied by the Companies, who were very glad of a rest and a meal, not to mention the fruit, eggs, bread, milk, etc., which were given to them by their exceed-

ingly kind hosts and hostesses. You could not call them anything else as we were treated as guests and not at all as nuisances.

TAISNIERES

Taisnières was a quiet little country village and the people seemed delighted to see us. I went round all the billets after they had been occupied by the Companies and all seemed quite comfortable. They were rather scattered and took some time to go round, but when I got back a good tea was waiting for me and was very welcome. On my way back I saw one of the inhabitants up a pear tree shaking it violently, with a crowd of soldiers underneath picking up the pears as they fell. I was riding past on my horse when one of my old Company came running up to me with a handful of them. They were very good and quite ripe. In another spot on my round I was given some very nice plums by an old lady out of her garden, and a glass of "Vin Blanc" by a farmer when I got to his farm. After tea we got orders from the Brigade and I had to write orders for the next day.

A late rise, breakfast 7.45 a.m., route march at 9 a.m. and various routine orders concerning billets, sick parade, etc.

Battalion Headquarters was quite a comfortable place. Our host and hostess were very nice old people. He had fought in the 1870 war, where he lost a finger, and in the present war he had two sons serving in the French Army at the front (he did not know where they were), also a son-in-law. His daughter and two small children were living in the house. The children were, however, packed off to live with their paternal grandmother. I suppose that this was because of our intrusion, but they would not admit it. They were very nice little children and seemed to be very amused with us.

The old lady was very kind and gave us everything we wanted in the way of lamps, crockery, cutlery, etc., and said she did not mind what we used as long as we put it back where we found it when we had finished with it. I met with much the same kindness in my own billet next door, a village inn, where I asked to be shown my room. They took me upstairs and produced hot water, a towel and some soap and offered me all sorts of eatables and drinks, which I refused as well as I could, but I had to give in to a glass of Vermouth, which was pressed upon me and money refused.

I shared a room with Capt. Glass in the inn. He had the bed and I slept well and soundly on the floor in my valise. He offered to toss me for the bed, but, of course, as he was my senior Officer, I refused. I think I was just as comfortable as he was; anyhow, I slept so well all three nights that we were there that I did not notice any discomfort. I have omitted above our dinner, which we all had together at Battalion Headquarters, and after studying the map and talking to the inhabitants about the prospects of the War and "Les Allemands," etc., and when all the bridge players had finished their rubbers, we all retired to our beds or valises.

(To be continued)

9th BATTALION NOTES

LIEUT.-COL. J. N. LAMONT, M.C., T.D., completed his term of command of the Battalion on 16th August, 1937. He was first gazetted in March, 1914, and went to India with the Battalion soon after the outbreak of war.

He was promoted Captain in April, 1916, and in the following September he volunteered for active service in Mesopotamia, and joined the 1st/4th Hants as a Reinforcement Officer. He saw much active service with this Battalion, and whilst with them was awarded the Military Cross for gallantry during operations on the Hai in 1917.

In February, 1918, he rejoined the Battalion at Nejjaf, and served with it continuously from that time. He was promoted Major in August, 1929, and assumed command on 17th August, 1933. Throughout his service his tactical efficiency was always outstanding. He was awarded a "D" on his examination for promotion from Captain to Major. The high standard which he attained being so unusual for a Territorial Officer, the Secretary of State for War wrote him a personal letter of congratulation.

Col. Lamont was always keen on rifle shooting, and founded the "XXX" Club to encourage marksmanship in the Battalion. It was a great satisfaction to him that the Battalion rifle team, of which he was a member, was so successful during his last year of command.

As a member of the County Association he has, during his period of command, been

tireless in his efforts to ensure that the Battalion received all the assistance which it was possible for the Association to provide, and at his own Headquarters his indefatigable attention to duty has set an example which it will be difficult for any successor to follow.

Everyone in the Battalion greatly regrets that his term of command has now come to an end, but we can find consolation in the knowledge that though he has ceased to command the Battalion, he will continue to take a deep interest in it, and will always remain our sincere friend.

"A" COMPANY

By the time these notes appear another training year will have commenced, so, before proceeding to review the past quarter, it is hoped that the *esprit de corps* which exists in the Company will be surpassed or at least maintained, during the forthcoming year.

The Company, although not causing any drastic changes, has been steadily improving both in numbers and attendances.

During June and July some very enjoyable evening training was held at the Depot; this culminated in a Sunday exercise, which was carried out under almost tropical conditions. The Company would like to thank the Depot for the admirable way in which it was received. The Sunday exercise was carried out in the form of Platoon in attack and defence. Lieut. Hamilton commanded the Defending Platoon and Lieut. Perks the Attacking Platoon.

The Annual Training Camp was held at Colchester and a very enjoyable time was experienced; the weather was excellent, the training very interesting, and the strength of the Company was greater than at any previous training since the re-organisation.

During the period of Annual Training, the Inter-Company Football Competition was held, and although not wishing to make excuses, we are convinced that had Lieut. Perks, Cpl. Wheeler and Pte. Pocklington been fit we should have had another tale to tell regarding the cup.

Since returning from Annual Training, the most important items of interest are the departure of Lieut.-Col. J. N. Lamont, M.C., T.D., our Commanding Officer and a former "A" Company Commander, and the re-engaging for further service of two old veterans, namely, C.S.M. W. Sewell and Sergt. C. Campbell.

To Lieut.-Col. J. N. Lamont, M.C., T.D., we extend best wishes for the future and hope that he will find the time to visit us now and again, and to the two "veterans" we hope that they will be permitted to extend their service for a good number of years.

Our new Commanding Officer, Lieut.-Col. G. L. Fox, T.D., is an old friend of the Company, at least that is what we are led to believe by the great help that he gave us during the time that he was P.R.I. at our Company Dinners. While on the question of Company Dinners, we hope that all members will make a special effort to attend this year and make the event the success it deserves.

"C" COMPANY

Undoubtedly Annual Training, 1937, at Colchester will be remembered as an exceptionally good Camp. The weather was fine, and the Company was successful.

In Brigade Competitions, the Company provided the winners in both the High Sheriffs and the Young Soldiers' Competitions. In the Lord Lieutenant's Competition, which the Battalion won, the average of five members of "C" Company was over 60. With the keenness which has recently been displayed by members of the Company on the miniature rifle range, it should be possible to get next year at least eight men who between them will not average less than this figure.

In the Battalion Competition, the Company won the Platoon Competition, and on the same day the other Platoon took part in an exercise arranged by the Brigadier, and was reported on in most satisfactory terms. In the Section Leading Competition, two N.C.O.s of "C" Company, and one of "D," will compete in a final test at Headquarters in the near future. Good luck to one or other of our representatives.

The extensions to the Drill Hall have at last commenced, and it is hoped that they will be completed by the date of the Company Annual Dinner, 27th November. Greatly increased social facilities will be available, and several new Societies have sprung up in the Company. The first of the Company Concerts will be held on 30th October.

"D" COMPANY

After a very successful Camp we are now back to the Drill Hall and our various jobs. From all points of view the Camp was splendid;

the weather was all it should have been, particularly during the first week, when a minor heat wave was experienced, and the Camp itself was situated in an almost ideal spot.

A point that was appreciated by everyone was the partial mechanisation of the Battalion. One heard on all sides sighs of relief when a Commer truck or Magg's lorry was sighted after a morning's exercises in very hot weather. There was almost a vote of thanks from those who during the preceding months had developed a "middle-aged spread" some years before it was due and from those who, starting off very enthusiastically at cycling, had not quite been able to maintain their enthusiasm; we wonder, did the C.S.M. know there would be M.T. when he sold his bike?

We also found an astonishing number of drivers, mechanics and men with garage experience in the Company; there must be something very wrong with the 50's. We congratulate L/Cpls. Kent and Devereaux on their promotion to Corporal, and Ptes. Reynolds, Haselton, Willison and Tee on their appointment to Lance-Corporal.

We are now in a position to state that the rumour that L/Cpl. Tee proposed offering his services to the G.P.O. is entirely without foundation.

An excellent photo of the Company was taken at Camp. This was a very fitting occasion, as it was the last Camp we shall have Major Hardcastle as O.C. We take this opportunity of wishing him *au revoir* and hope that his duties as second-in-command will not prevent him from visiting us occasionally. We welcome Major Hogg as our Company Commander and offer our congratulations on his promotion. It is now up to "D" to show him that we still are up to the old standard which was reached under the command of Major Hardcastle last year when the Company was awarded the "Crowborough" Cup.

CORRESPONDENCE

R.M.C.,
KINGSTON,
ONTARIO.

9th July, 1937.

To the Editor of "The Die-Hards"

DEAR SIR,

Before leaving home, I was requested by the Colonel of the Regiment and the Officers of the 2nd Battalion at Portsmouth to visit our

affiliated Regiments in Canada and give them our warm greetings and good wishes.

I was able to do this last week and was received with great kindness and hospitality by all our good friends.

I visited first the Prince of Wales' Rangers (Peterborough Regiment) (M.G.) at Peterborough, 130 miles west of Kingston. Here, the Hon. Colonel of the Regiment, Col. H. A. Morrow, Lieut.-Col. Dewart, the Battalion Commander, and a number of the Officers entertained me most kindly at the Armoury. I enclose a picture of them. We enjoyed a very happy luncheon party afterwards at Peterborough Golf Club.

Under the new reorganisation the Regiment has absorbed the local Cavalry Regiment and M.G. Company. Col. Dewart has made formal application for the affiliation of the reorganised unit to the Middlesex Regiment, and all ranks are anxious to retain this valued relationship.



I was glad to meet C.S.M. Brooks, late of "A" Company (Capt. Osborne's), 57th Regiment, and a member of Lieut. Paul's (now Major H. W. M. Stewart's) 19th Brigade Intelligence Section, who was in good fettle.

After looking over the Armoury, a fine and extensive building with excellent accommodation and training facilities, with Col. Dewart, I took the road again westwards 120 miles to Bronte on Lake Ontario.

Here I was the guest of Major J. F. Osler, who was a Captain in 57th Regiment in 1904. I enclose a picture of his beautiful home, Lake View Farm. I spent a most happy time with him and his family, and Major Osler was most interested to hear news of many of his old friends.

On the Tuesday I drove to Sarnia (170 miles west on the Michigan border), where I visited Lieut.-Col. Malone and the Middlesex and

Huron Regiment. I found the Regiment out training and accompanied them for a short time in an attack exercise, returning with them to camp for sandwiches. They were all most kind and were delighted to receive our greetings.

I talked here with S.M.I. E. P. Thieme, late Middlesex Regiment, now serving on the permanent staff, Royal Canadian Regiment (Wolseley Barracks, London, Ontario). He seemed very young and active, in spite of more than 30 years' service.

I should have mentioned that both Col. Dewart and Col. Malone were quite overcome with the kindness and attention which they and their friends received at the hands of our Regiment during the Coronation period.



Lake View Farm, Bronte, Ontario

That evening I turned eastwards to Hamilton (150 miles), where I was entertained at dinner by the senior Officers of the Wentworth Regiment. After dinner we proceeded to the Armoury at Dundas, where a number of Officers and friends of the Regiment were assembled to meet me. Again everyone was most hospitable. I conveyed our greetings in a short speech, thanking them for their kindness.

Considerable changes have occurred here. After much heart burning, the infantry portion of the Regiment has now been absorbed by the H.L.I. (Hamilton). Some, however, of the

Officers and men were absorbed by the 102nd (Wentworth) Field Battery, in which the Wentworth Regiment traditions, silver plate and other belongings, are to remain. The 102nd Field Battery has also taken over the Armoury, a fine place and very well appointed. Major L. L. Smith, a very keen and efficient Officer, commands the Battery, which is most anxious to continue the old liaison with us.

Col. Armand Smith, of the Wentworth Regiment, looked after me most kindly the Thursday night at his house at Winona, amidst the fruit country of the Niagara peninsula.

My journey next day back to Kingston completed my first liaison tour, 780 miles. I hope later on to visit all the affiliated Regiments

again, indeed I have been heartily invited to do so.

In the meantime, I have been asked to convey to all members of our Regiment at home the best wishes and warm greetings of our very good friends in Canada.

It would be impossible to place too much emphasis on the valuable results of the close liaison and friendly relations which exist between us and our affiliated Regiments.

Yours very sincerely,

G. C. BUCKNALL.

SOUTH AFRICAN WAR VETERANS' ASSOCIATION OF NEW ZEALAND (GISBORNE BRANCH)

126, DISRAELI STREET, GISBORNE, N.Z.

7th June, 1937.

The O.C., Middlesex Regiment,
Mill Hill Barracks, London.

DEAR SIR,

At our reunion on 29th May last we had, as a visitor, Mr. James Carson of Palmerston North, who is a son of an old "Die-Hard." He met one of our Vice-Presidents at Palmerston North on Coronation Day parade, after which he was going to attend a conference on his trade matters in Auckland, and promised to return home via Gisborne and attend our reunion and church parade, a promise he fulfilled. I had a look at the medals he was wearing. He has the Crimean with three clasps, Sevastopol, Inkerman, and Balaclava, also the Turkish medal; both medals are in good order and seem to have the original ribbon on them, and in a good state of preservation. On the edge is engraved: James Carson, No. 1701, 57th Regiment. He emigrated to New Zealand about 1864 or 1866, and has been dead about 25 years. The son is in business as a mineral water manufacturer in Queen Street, Palmerston North. I am sending a local paper this mail, hoping it will be of interest.

I remain,

Yours faithfully,

J. V. SCOTT, *Hon. Sec.*

PS.—I presume you had a paper sent you with the account of the late C/Sergt. Bezar's death. He was about the last of the old brigade in New Zealand.

OBITUARY

C/SERG. W. H. K. RICHARDS

WE regret to announce the death, which occurred on 11th September, 1937, whilst on holiday at Hastings, of C/Sergt. W. H. K. Richards, at the age of 73. He was well known by many old comrades as Dick Richards. He died suddenly of heart failure and was buried at Plumstead Cemetery on 15th September. The funeral was attended by Mr. R. E. Evans, D.C.M., and a bugler from the Depot, who sounded the Last Post. A wreath was sent by the Regimental Association.

HENRIETTA M. TICKELL

We regret to announce the death of Mrs. Tickell, widow of Col. A. Tickell, Middlesex Regiment, and third daughter of the late Sir Richard Green-Price, Bart., on 21st July, 1937, at Townsend, Norton, Radnorshire, in her 91st year.

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

[57]

(Reproduced from the Army List by permission of the Controller of H.M. Stationery Office).

| 1st and 2nd Battalions (Regular). | 1st and 2nd Battalions— contd. | 7th Battalion (Territorial). | 8th Battalion (Territorial)— contd. |
|---|-----------------------------------|--|--|
| Lt.-Colonels (2). | Lieutenants. | "The Elms," Priory Road, Hornsey, N.8. | Lt.-Colonel. |
| Jeffery, W. W. (2) 1/6/35 | Mackenzie, H. F., o., o.d. | | ×Baker, E. E. F., C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., T.D. |
| Tidbury, O. H., 1/1/36 | 30/8/31 | | t.a. 11/6/36 |
| p.s.c. [1] (1) 1/7/33 | Chattey, W. H. P., a.m. | Hon. Colonel. | bt. col. 20/2/27 |
| | 31/8/31 | ×King, E. J., C.M.G., T.D. (Col. ret. Terr. Army) | 20/2/27 |
| Majors (8). | 14/2/35 31/1/32 | A.D.C., t.a. 13/8/25 | |
| Lyons, N. H. B., M.C. (2), d. 26/1/32 | Ferguson, W. M. (2) 31/1/32 | | Majors. |
| Newham, L. A., M.C., p.s.c. (2) 28/9/32 | Sword, R. W. D., c.o. | | ×Ellis, H. C., O.B.E. 6/2/32 |
| Thorp, J. R. [1] (2) 28/9/32 | 28/8/32 | | Maddox, S., M.B.E. 3/12/35 |
| Savile, H. B. W., M.C. (1), c.o. 17/12/32 | Man, A. M. (Sch. of Sigs.) | | Captains. |
| Phillips, H., M.C. (2) 1/6/35 | 29/1/34 | | ×Fane de Salis, E. W., M.C. (Capt. ret. pay.) (Res. of Off.), t.a. |
| Bucknall, G. C., M.C., p.s.c., n.s., s. 21/8/35 | Gwyn, R. A. (1) 29/1/34 | | Hartley, G. 10/1/31 |
| bt. lt.-col. 1/1/36 | Bellers, R. C. H. (1) 29/1/34 | | Marks, T. L. 8/7/34 |
| Stewart, H. W. M., O.B.E., M.C. (s.c.) (1), (Mtd. Attache) 1/1/36 | Beadnell, L. C. (1) 27/8/34 | | Miskin, E. F. H. 30/6/35 |
| Horrocks, B. G., M.C., p.s.c. [1], s. 25/11/36 | Whitting, F. B., c.o. 1/9/35 | | King, M. C. D. 22/7/37 |
| bt. lt.-col. 1/7/37 | Peal, A. W. F. (1) 1/9/35 | | |
| | Willoughby, J. E. F. (2) | | Lieutenants. |
| Captains (14). | 1/1/36 | | Blair, N. M. 7/11/34 |
| Haydon, C. W., M.C. (2) | 1/1/32 | | Reddy, T. H. 25/7/35 |
| del Court, S. F. W. M., M.C. [1] (1) 28/9/20 | 2/2/36 | | (Lt. Res. of Off.) 25/7/35 |
| Procter, N. P., M.C. (Spec. Appt.) | 2/2/36 | | Summers, C. W. 3/6/36 |
| 1/4/21 | 2/2/36 | | McFarlane, A. J. 28/6/36 |
| Rackham, B. B., M.C. (1) | 2/2/36 | | Ayre, G. B. 7/2/37 |
| (Instr. Small Arms Sch.) | 2/2/36 | | Hamilton, J. A. 5/5/37 |
| Weller, A. V. (1) 9/5/27 | 2/2/36 | | |
| Pain, E. T. (2) 9/5/27 | 2/2/36 | | 2nd-Lieutenants. |
| Dobbs, J. E., M.C. (1) 28/9/28 | 2/2/36 | | Lawrence, D. C. 20/11/34 |
| Jones, W. H. V., s. 10/12/28 | 2/2/36 | | Wilson, A. J. K. 16/3/35 |
| Hedgecoe, S. F. (1) Adjut. | 2/2/36 | | Whitmore, C. E. S. 23/5/36 |
| 10/12/28 | 2/2/36 | | Kaye, R. A. 8/6/36 |
| Parker, F. G. (Spec. Appt.) | 2/2/36 | | Merchant, J. L. 8/7/36 |
| 10/12/28 | 2/2/36 | | Davidson, T. S. 20/7/36 |
| Overell, A. N. (1) 10/12/28 | 2/2/36 | | Smith, M. K. 21/4/37 |
| Wray, E. M. G., D.S.O. (2) | 2/2/36 | | Ellis, W. D. 8/5/37 |
| Cloyden, H. W., t. 14/4/34 | 2/2/36 | | Pillivant, J. E. 31/7/37 |
| Clark, S. J., t. 14/4/34 | 2/2/36 | | Kirby, E. W. 31/7/37 |
| Walden, F. (1) 14/4/34 | 2/2/36 | | |
| Heywood, E. L. (2), d. 12/35 | 2/2/36 | | Adjutant. |
| Ayscough, E. S. M. (1) | 2/2/36 | | Reid, J. G. E., Capt., Middd. R. 1/12/33 |
| Reid, J. G. E., t. 4/4/35 | 2/2/36 | | |
| Musselwhite, C. C. (2) | 2/2/36 | | Quartermaster. |
| Cubitt, D. Y., p.d. 4/4/35 | 2/2/36 | | Cox, S. A., lt. 25/4/31 |
| Tuckey, P. E. C., s. 4/4/35 | 2/2/36 | | |
| Worton, J. B. (1), d. 4/4/35 | 2/2/36 | | 2nd-Lieutenant. |
| Gordon, I. D. S. (2) Adjut. | 2/2/36 | | Harrison, M. I. 18/4/36 |
| 3/8/35 | 2/2/36 | | |
| Crawford, M., o. (1) 21/8/35 | 2/2/36 | | Units of the Territorial Army affiliated to the Regiment. |
| Newton, W. C. (1) 2/4/36 | 2/2/36 | | 7th City of London Regt. (Post Office Rifles). |
| Jacob, M. A. (2) 1/2/37 | 2/2/36 | | 24, Sun Street, Finsbury Square, E.C.2. |
| Gibbert, N. G., c.o. 13/3/37 | 2/2/36 | | Adjutant. |
| Baldwin, C. M., M.B.E., c.o. 13/3/37 | 2/2/36 | | Aylwin, W. H., Lt. R.E. (temp. Capt. T.A. 15/12/35) 15/12/35 |
| Else, F. H., o., o.d. 13/3/37 | 2/2/36 | | |
| Herapath, L. H. J., de la M., c.o. 12/4/37 | 2/2/36 | | 19th London Regt. (St. Pancras). |
| Stephenson, J. W. A. (2) | 2/2/36 | | 76, High Street, Camden Town, N.W.1. |
| Powell, P. D. f. (1) 15/5/37 | 2/2/36 | | Adjutant. |
| | 2/2/36 | | Martin, C. J. M., Capt. R.E. 24/2/31 |
| Subalterns (34). | | | |

SENIORITY ROLL OF WARRANT OFFICERS AND
NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS OF 1st BATTALION

(Compiled in accordance with King's Regulations, 1935, para. 274, et seq., and corrected to 17/8/37)

| Rank and Name. | Date of present rank or appointment. | Rank and Name. | Date of present rank or appointment. |
|---|--|---------------------------------|--|
| *R.S.M. H. Farrow, M.B.E. | 2/12/36 | *L/Sergt. P. Hopwood | Cpl. 20/4/34 |
| *B.M. A. Judge | 12/4/31 | (L/Sergt. 18/12/34) | |
| *Q.M.S. (O.R.S.) A. Finch | 13/6/28 | *L/Sergt. J. Painter | Cpl. 8/5/34 |
| *R.Q.M.S. C. Goodall | 28/4/29 | (L/Sergt. 18/12/34) | |
| C.S.M. 28/7/35 | | *L/Sergt. A. Brown | Cpl. 8/5/34 |
| (R.Q.M.S. 28/7/35) | | (L/Sergt. 25/4/35) | |
| *C.S.M. G. Anderson | 20/10/30 | *Cpl. C. Jacob | 10/6/34 |
| Bull, J. T. 28/2/36 | | L/Sergt. H. Game | Cpl. 10/6/34 |
| *C.S.M. A. Russell (Supn. F.M.S.V.F.) | 1/4/31 | (L/Sergt. 13/5/36) | |
| *C.S.M. B. Brockman | 10/12/31 | Cpl. 20/11/34 | |
| *C.S.M. W. Randle | 13/6/35 | L/Sergt. V. Thomas | (L/Sergt. 13/5/36) |
| *C.S.M. H. Thomas | 28/7/35 | (L/Sergt. 13/5/36) | |
| *C.S.M. E. Hazeldine | 27/2/37 | L/Sergt. T. Bayly | Cpl. 5/12/34 |
| C/Sergt. (C.Q.M.S.) W. Christie, M.M. | | (L/Sergt. 16/12/36) | |
| Sergt. 1/5/20 | | L/Sergt. A. Moore | Cpl. 15/2/35 |
| (C/Sergt. 7/7/36) | | (L/Sergt. 16/12/36) | |
| *Sergt. V. Osterholm (Pioneer) | 18/10/23 | *L/Sergt. L. McDowell | Cpl. 9/6/35 |
| C/Sergt. (C.Q.M.S.) W. Rogers | Sergt. 26/5/25 | (L/Sergt. 16/12/36) | |
| (C/Sergt. 28/7/35) | | Cpl. W. Sampford | 13/6/35 |
| *C/Sergt. (C.Q.M.S.) R. Challis | Sergt. 30/10/27 | L/Sergt. H. Naylor | Cpl. 28/7/35 |
| (C/Sergt. 13/6/35) | | (L/Sergt. 20/4/36) | |
| *C/Sergt. (C.Q.M.S.) C. Misso | Sergt. 28/2/28 | L/Sergt. F. Hiscocks | Cpl. 31/8/35 |
| (C/Sergt. 19/1/32) | | (L/Sergt. 16/12/36) | |
| Sergt. T. Tiller | 29/5/28 | | |
| *Sergt. A. Russell | 16/2/30 | | |
| *C/Sergt. (C.Q.M.S.) W. Northcott, M.M. | | | |
| Sergt. 25/2/30 | | | |
| (C/Sergt. 27/2/37) | | | |
| Supplementary Reserve. | | | |
| Category B. | | | |
| *Sergt. C. Soper | 17/12/30 | | |
| *Sergt. L. Honeybun | 3/8/31 | | |
| *Sergt. L. Priddy | 18/9/31 | | |
| *Sergt. S. Thompson | 30/9/31 | | |
| Sergt. (S.I.M.) R. Bayles | 10/12/31 | | |
| *Sergt. L. West | 10/12/31 | | |
| Sergt. F. Donovan | 4/2/32 | | |
| *Sergt. E. Paterson (36) | 18/2/23 | | |
| *Sergt. H. Kruck | 24/8/32 | | |
| Sergt. W. Bean | 23/3/33 | | |
| Sergt. E. Paterson (29) | 8/9/33 | | |
| *Sergt. (O.R.C.) P. Hale | 19/10/33 | | |
| Sergt. T. Little (Prov. Sergt.) | 19/10/33 | | |
| Band Sergt. P. Edwards | 5/3/35 | | |
| *Sergt. J. Chillery | 5/6/35 | | |
| *Sergt. W. Snell | 13/6/35 | | |
| *Sergt. R. Chaplin | 27/11/35 | | |
| Sergt. S. Bullock | 1/7/36 | | |
| Sergt. H. Ramsden | 7/7/36 | | |
| Sergt. L. Sheffield | 3/8/36 | | |
| *Sergt. (Sig.) G. Bayford | 27/2/37 | | |
| L/Sergt. J. O'Neill | Cpl. 13/8/31 | | |
| (L/Sergt. 16/12/36) | | | |
| Cpl. S. Phelan | 15/9/31 | | |
| L/Sergt. T. Castle | Cpl. 23/6/32 | | |
| (L/Sergt. 18/12/34) | | | |
| L/Sergt. R. Blackman | Cpl. 26/7/32 | | |
| (L/Sergt. 13/5/36) | | | |
| *L/Sergt. E. Wadsworth | Cpl. 15/11/32 | | |
| (L/Sergt. 13/5/36) | | | |
| L/Sergt. C. Clark | Cpl. 20/6/33 | | |
| (L/Sergt. 18/12/34) | | | |
| L/Sergt. G. Jeffree (Band) | Cpl. 19/10/33 | | |
| (L/Sergt. 13/5/36) | | | |
| L/Sergt. F. Britton | Cpl. 25/12/33 | | |
| (L/Sergt. 12/4/35) | | | |

* In possession of First Class Certificate of Education.

** In possession of Army Special Certificate of Education.

| Rank and Name. | Date of present rank or appointment. | Rank and Name. | Date of present rank or appointment. |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| L/Cpl. A. East | 5/10/35 | L/Cpl. C. Holdford | 29/5/36 |
| L/Cpl. H. Osborne | 5/10/35 | L/Cpl. W. Dowsett | 15/6/36 |
| L/Cpl. J. Hartnett | 5/10/35 | L/Cpl. J. Boggis | 10/7/36 |
| L/Cpl. A. Simkins | 5/10/35 | L/Cpl. G. Duncum | 24/7/36 |
| L/Cpl. B. Compton | 5/10/35 | L/Cpl. G. Hodgson | 14/10/36 |
| L/Cpl. W. Barnes | 5/10/35 | L/Cpl. A. Hoxby | 23/10/36 |
| L/Cpl. C. Keifer | 5/10/35 | L/Cpl. W. Ure | 23/10/36 |
| L/Cpl. E. Smith | 16/12/35 | L/Cpl. H. Ellingworth | 22/12/36 |
| L/Cpl. R. Turner | 21/12/35 | L/Cpl. R. Pointer | 11/1/37 |
| L/Cpl. A. Pace | 28/12/35 | L/Cpl. C. Roberts | 11/1/37 |
| L/Cpl. H. Kidby | 28/12/35 | L/Cpl. A. Payne | 11/1/37 |
| L/Cpl. C. Haynes | 28/12/35 | L/Cpl. C. Payne | 11/1/37 |
| L/Cpl. A. Morris | 28/12/35 | L/Cpl. E. Bell | 13/1/37 |
| L/Cpl. C. Vince | 28/12/35 | L/Cpl. F. McCarthy | 13/1/37 |
| L/Cpl. J. Ringe | 3/1/36 | L/Cpl. L. Bowker | 19/3/37 |
| L/Cpl. H. King | 10/2/36 | L/Cpl. L. Hartley | 19/3/37 |
| L/Cpl. G. Tattam | 1/4/36 | L/Cpl. F. Waldron | 19/3/37 |
| L/Cpl. L. Du-Heaume | 1/4/36 | *L/Cpl. A. Goodge | 12/6/37 |
| *L/Cpl. T. McDavitt | 1/4/36 | L/Cpl. E. Shrub | 12/6/37 |
| L/Cpl. L. Graham | 1/4/36 | L/Cpl. W. Wyllie | 12/6/37 |
| *L/Cpl. P. Sturday | 1/4/36 | L/Cpl. A. Bond | 12/6/37 |
| L/Cpl. F. Ayres | 1/4/36 | L/Cpl. P. Nelms | 12/6/37 |
| L/Cpl. A. Moody | 21/4/36 | L/Cpl. L. Staley | 12/6/37 |
| L/Cpl. E. Byrne | 19/5/36 | *L/Cpl. L. Tostevin | 12/6/37 |
| L/Cpl. W. Finnis | 19/5/36 | L/Cpl. J. Tarnier | 12/6/37 |
| L/Cpl. E. Rogers | 19/5/36 | L/Cpl. R. Harris | 12/6/37 |
| L/Cpl. R. Ellis | 19/5/36 | L/Cpl. L. Bennett | 2/7/37 |
| L/Cpl. V. Knight | 19/5/36 | L/Cpl. J. Casey | 2/7/37 |
| *L/Cpl. A. Hoare | 19/5/36 | L/Cpl. F. Wooley | 2/7/37 |
| L/Cpl. T. Perry | 19/5/36 | L/Cpl. J. Whitney | 2/7/37 |
| L/Cpl. H. Ellams | 19/5/36 | L/Cpl. C. French | 2/7/37 |
| L/Cpl. H. Gribble | 19/5/36 | L/Cpl. D. Amos | 30/7/37 |
| L/Cpl. A. Ruddie | 19/5/36 | L/Cpl. G. Webster | 30/7/37 |
| L/Cpl. G. Ravenscroft | 29/5/36 | L/Cpl. W. Heath | 7/8/37 |
| *L/Cpl. G. Plummer | 29/5/36 | L/Cpl. A. Manning | 7/8/37 |

Dates against Lance-Corporals are dates of first appointment.

2nd BATTALION (Home Establishment), September, 1937

| Rank and Name. | Battalion. | Date of present promotion or appointment. | Rank and Name. | Battalion. | Date of present promotion or appointment. |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|---|----------------------------------|--------------------|---|
| *R.S.M. W. Ward, M.M. | 2nd | 18/3/31 | Sergt. A. Boen | 2nd | 13/4/29 |
| *R.S.M. P. Newman | Depot | 13/8/31 | Sergt. R. King | Supny., Fire | |
| *Bdmr. C. Dennis, A.R.C.M. | 2nd | 25/3/33 | Bde., Bordon | 5/7/29 | |
| *R.Q.M.S. E. Crouch | Depot | | *C/Sergt. (C.Q.M.S.) G. Sherriff | Depot | |
| | (C.S.M.) | 1/9/34 | | Sergt. 9/12/29 | |
| *O.R.Q.M.S. B. Baldwin | Depot | 2/7/30 | | (C/Sergt. 24/8/35) | |
| *R.Q.M.S. W. Fletcher | 2nd | 31/1/30 | Sergt. F. Nash | 2nd | 11/12/29 |
| *C.S.M. G. Goodall | 2nd | 4/6/25 | *C/Sergt. (C.Q.M.S.) W. Green | 2nd | |
| *C.S.M. J. Hart | 9th | 20/1/26 | | Sergt. 27/12/30 | |
| *C.S.M. F. Peck | 8th | 18/2/29 | | (C/Sergt. 9/5/37) | |
| *C.S.M. F. Burt | Depot | 13/8/31 | *Sergt. C. Kennett | 2nd | 16/1/31 |
| *C.S.M. L. Simmonds | 2nd | 3/9/32 | *Sergt. W. Kemp | 2nd | 19/1/32 |
| *C.S.M. R. Mewett | 7th | 23/3/33 | Sergt. J. Harper | 2nd | 19/4/32 |
| *C.S.M. A. Wright | 8th | 24/2/34 | *C/Sergt. (O.R.S.) F. Deane | 2nd | |
| *C.S.M. A. Jones | 2nd | 10/5/34 | | Sergt. 10/5/32 | |
| *C.S.M. C. Donaldson | 9th | 15/6/35 | | (C/Sergt. 10/5/35) | |
| *C.S.M. R. Parsler | 2nd | 17/5/36 | *Sergt. C. Trestain | 8th | 14/6/32 |
| Sergt. J. Beaveridge | Depot | 28/1/25 | Sergt. J. Ramsey | 7th | 23/6/32 |
| Sergt. S. Bishop | 7th | 24/11/27 | *Sergt. S. Smith | 2nd | 30/7/32 |
| *C/Sergt. (C.Q.M.S.) F. Franklin | Depot | | *Sergt. J. Smith | 2nd | 2/9/32 |
| | Sergt. 20/3/28 | | Sergt. J. Scott | 2nd | 3/9/32 |
| | (C/Sergt. 8/9/33) | | *Sergt. L. Johnson | Depot | 15/11/32 |
| *C/Sergt. (C.Q.M.S.) H. Poulter | 2nd | | Sergt. F. Housden (S.M.C.) | Depot | 3/5/33 |
| | Sergt. 13/10/28 | | Sergt. A. Mason | Depot | 22/6/33 |
| | (C/Sergt. 5/7/36) | | Sergt. R. Wilson | Depot | 8/7/33 |

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| Rank and Name. | Battalion. | Date of present promotion or appointment. | Rank and Name. | Battalion. | Date of present promotion or appointment. |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|---|---------------------|------------|---|
| *Sergt. H. Ison | 2nd | 1/4/35 | Cpl. J. Lawrence | 2nd | 25/3/36 |
| *Sergt. E. Jennings | 2nd | 10/3/35 | Cpl. H. Griffiths | 2nd | 16/4/36 |
| Sergt. J. Smith | 2nd | 9/6/35 | Cpl. L. O'Doherty | 2nd | 17/5/36 |
| Sergt. A. Hows | 2nd | 15/6/35 | Cpl. W. Lovell | 2nd | 13/7/36 |
| Sergt. A. Whitcombe | 2nd | 16/6/35 | Cpl. L. Delaney | 2nd | 5/7/36 |
| Sergt. A. Williams | Depot | 28/7/35 | Cpl. M. Trotobas | 2nd | 26/8/36 |
| *Sergt. R. Jenkins | 9th | 23/1/36 | Cpl. A. Ellwood | 2nd | 28/10/36 |
| Sergt. F. Livens | 2nd | 17/5/36 | Cpl. A. Read | 2nd | 30/10/36 |
| Drum-Major W. McEnery | 2nd | 5/7/36 | *Cpl. R. Cummins | 2nd | 17/12/36 |
| Sergt. E. Moir | 2nd | 28/10/36 | Cpl. V. Bint | Depot | 20/2/37 |
| *Sergt. P. Maloney | 2nd | 17/12/36 | *Cpl. S. Parry | 2nd | 8/6/37 |
| Sergt. A. Brett | 2nd | 20/2/37 | *Cpl. W. O'Connor | 2nd | 12/7/37 |
| *Sergt. H. Frewin | 2nd | 9/5/37 | Cpl. J. West | 2nd | 31/7/37 |
| Sergt. J. Wright | 2nd | 8/6/37 | Cpl. C. Kenny | 2nd | 27/8/37 |
| Sergt. T. Sargent | 2nd | 8/6/37 | L/Cpl. W. Patterson | 2nd | 13/10/37 |
| Cpl. A. Stone | 2nd | 2/9/31 | L/Cpl. R. Weaver | 2nd | 23/11/32 |
| *L/Sergt. R. Overy | 2nd | | L/Cpl. C. Armitage | 2nd | 3/1/33 |
| | Cpl. 14/6/32 | | L/Cpl. J. Hinch | 2nd | 18/2/34 |
| | (L/Sergt. 16/5/35) | | L/Cpl. A. Lowe | 2nd | 15/4/34 |
| L/Sergt. R. Smallridge | 2nd | 14/6/32 | L/Cpl. L. Harris | 2nd | 29/4/34 |
| | (L/Sergt. 15/6/35) | | L/Cpl. J. Walker | Depot | 2/5/34 |
| L/Sergt. F. Hawkins | 2nd | 28/6/32 | L/Cpl. N. Rae | 2nd | 17/6/34 |
| | (L/Sergt. 16/6/35) | | L/Cpl. A. Bettell | 2nd | 11/7/34 |
| L/Sergt. W. Day | 2nd | 5/8/32 | L/Cpl. A. Blan | Depot | 2/10/34 |
| | (L/Sergt. 28/1/36) | | L/Cpl. G. Stanton | 2nd | 12/11/34 |
| *L/Sergt. C. Gatehouse | 2nd | 6/8/32 | L/Cpl. C. Marsh | 2nd | 3/2/35 |
| | (L/Sergt. 24/8/35) | | L/Cpl. C. Peasley | 2nd | 3/2/35 |
| L/Sergt. W. Makewell | Depot | 17/8/32 | L/Cpl. G. Hockley | Depot | 3/2/35 |
| | (L/Sergt. 7/3/36) | | L/Cpl. R. Williams | 2nd | 20/2/35 |
| L/Sergt. J. Riches | 2nd | 19/8/32 | *L/Cpl. H. Page | 2nd | 16/3/35 |
| | (L/Sergt. 17/5/36) | | *L/Cpl. W. Nicholls | 2nd | 20/3/35 |
| L/Sergt. W. Poulter | 2nd | 3/9/32 | L/Cpl. H. Outten | 2nd | 4/5/35 |
| | (L/Sergt. 3/7/36) | | L/Cpl. E. Fletcher | 2nd | 16/5/35 |
| L/Sergt. H. Buckland | Depot | 13/10/32 | L/Cpl. G. Robins | Depot | 16/6/35 |
| | (L/Sergt. 28/10/36) | | *L/Cpl. C. Jarvis | 2nd | 16/8/35 |
| L/Sergt. H. Elcome | 2nd | 16/11/32 | L/Cpl. H. Clay | 2nd | 22/8/35 |
| | (L/Sergt. 17/12/36) | | L/Cpl. A. Bursill | 2nd | 24/8/35 |
| L/Sergt. F. Knights | 2nd | 1/2/33 | L/Cpl. G. McKay | 2nd | 31/8/35 |
| | (L/Sergt. 12/7/37) | | L/Cpl. A. Rose | 2nd | 24/9/35 |
| Cpl. J. Burgess | Depot | 3/2/33 | *L/Cpl. H. Jennings | 2nd | 12/10/35 |
| Cpl. F. Knight | Depot | 15/3/33 | L/Cpl. F. Pryor | 2nd | 18/10/35 |
| Cpl. W. Evans | 2nd | 15/3/33 | L/Cpl. W. Sheen | 2nd | 5/1/36 |
| Cpl. J. Bromley | Depot | 15/3/33 | L/Cpl. J. Jones | 2nd | 11/2/36 |
| *Cpl. A. Wray | 2nd | 23/3/33 | *L/Cpl. P. Davidson | 2nd | 25/3/36 |
| Cpl. E. Soden | Depot | 3/5/33 | *L/Cpl. R. Barrett | Depot | 28/3/36 |
| Cpl. G. Endersby | 2nd | 2/6/33 | L/Cpl. R. Wigg | 2nd | 16/4/36 |
| Cpl. E. Fuller | 2nd | 8/9/33 | L/Cpl. E. Stebbing | Depot | 17/5/36 |
| Cpl. R. Harman | 2nd | 25/10/33 | L/Cpl. G. Bignell | 2nd | 3/7/36 |
| Cpl. C. Carpenter | 2nd | 5/5/34 | L/Cpl. L. Thurston | 2nd | 26/8/36 |
| Cpl. J. Stickley | 2nd | 10/6/34 | L/Cpl. J. Riseley | 2nd | 22/9/36 |
| Cpl. W. Smith | Depot | 17/6/34 | L/Cpl. H. Burchell | 2nd | 18/10/36 |
| Cpl. W. Powell | Depot | 2/10/34 | *L/Cpl. N. Islip | 2nd | 28/10/36 |
| Cpl. A. Drake | 2nd | 3/2/35 | *L/Cpl. D. Mules | 2nd | 30/10/36 |
| *Cpl. S. Copelin | 2nd | 1/3/35 | L/Cpl. V. Chambers | 2nd | 19/11/36 |
| Cpl. R. Stretton | 2nd | 16/3/35 | L/Cpl. J. Rawlinson | 2nd | 1/12/36 |
| Cpl. F. Jaques | 2nd | 20/3/35 | L/Cpl. H. Jennings | 2nd | 17/12/36 |
| Cpl. H. Tye (Supny. R.W.A.F.F.) | 2nd | 4/5/35 | L/Cpl. F. Hogg | 2nd | 24/12/36 |
| *Cpl. S. Day | 2nd | 16/5/35 | L/Cpl. E. Tarr | 2nd | 13/1/37 |
| Cpl. F. Payne | Depot | 15/6/35 | L/Cpl. S. Weller | 2nd | 25/1/37 |
| Cpl. B. Bruniges | Depot | 16/6/35 | L/Cpl. A. McCrely | 2nd | 1/2/37 |
| *Cpl. H. Eastland | 2nd | 24/8/35 | L/Cpl. A. Hudson | 2nd | 6/2/37 |
| *Cpl. B. Baldwin | 2nd | 18/10/35 | L/Cpl. W. Phipps | 2nd | 6/2/37 |
| Cpl. A. Ball | 2nd | 5/1/36 | L/Cpl. E. Haynes | 2nd | 20/2/37 |
| *Cpl. G. Blackman | 2nd | 23/1/36 | L/Cpl. A. Read | Depot | 19/5/37 |
| L/Sergt. A. Etheridge | 2nd | 25/3/36 | L/Cpl. B. Irons | 2nd | 8/6/37 |
| | (L/Sergt. 8/6/37) | | L/Cpl. A. Rimmer | 2nd | 12/7/37 |

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| Rank and Name. | Battalion. | Date of present promotion or appointment. | Rank and Name. | Battalion. | Date of present promotion or appointment. |
|--------------------------|------------|---|------------------------|------------|---|
| *L/Cpl. E. Phillips .. | 2nd | 31/7/37 | L/Cpl. J. Pullen .. | 2nd | 20/1/37 |
| L/Cpl. W. Claxton .. | 2nd | 31/7/37 | L/Cpl. H. Thomas .. | 2nd | 25/1/37 |
| *L/Cpl. C. Tanner .. | 2nd | 27/8/37 | L/Cpl. R. Taylor .. | 2nd | 25/1/37 |
| Unpaid Lance-Corporals : | | | L/Cpl. S. Llewellyn .. | 2nd | 25/1/37 |
| L/Cpl. S. Lloyd .. | 2nd | 24/6/36 | L/Cpl. R. White .. | 2nd | 4/2/37 |
| L/Cpl. S. Mullett .. | 2nd | 26/6/36 | L/Cpl. P. Donovan .. | 2nd | 4/2/37 |
| L/Cpl. D. Baker .. | 2nd | 7/7/36 | L/Cpl. F. Bird .. | 2nd | 5/2/37 |
| L/Cpl. E. Lindemann .. | 2nd | 15/7/36 | L/Cpl. H. Robinson .. | 2nd | 8/2/37 |
| L/Cpl. W. Humberstone .. | 2nd | 2/10/36 | L/Cpl. J. Papworth .. | 2nd | 15/2/37 |
| L/Cpl. E. Avery .. | 2nd | 5/10/36 | L/Cpl. B. Duggan .. | 2nd | 6/5/37 |
| L/Cpl. G. Palmer .. | 2nd | 3/12/36 | L/Cpl. R. Skinner .. | 2nd | 19/9/37 |
| *L/Cpl. A. Hastie .. | 2nd | 3/12/36 | L/Cpl. L. Baggett .. | 2nd | 23/8/37 |
| L/Cpl. F. Vanner .. | 2nd | 3/12/36 | L/Cpl. S. Blacknell .. | 2nd | 24/8/37 |
| L/Cpl. E. Sharp .. | 2nd | 3/12/36 | L/Cpl. A. Budd .. | 2nd | 11/9/37 |
| L/Cpl. G. Rouse .. | 2nd | 3/12/36 | L/Cpl. F. Phillips .. | 2nd | 14/9/37 |
| L/Cpl. C. Clenshaw .. | 2nd | 3/12/36 | L/Cpl. H. Thompson .. | 2nd | 15/9/37 |
| L/Cpl. R. Newton .. | 2nd | 18/1/37 | L/Cpl. G. Parker .. | 2nd | 15/9/37 |
| L/Cpl. C. Farrington .. | 2nd | 18/1/37 | L/Cpl. G. White .. | 2nd | 27/9/37 |

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