

BRIGADIER O. H. TIDBURY, M.C.
Commanding 18th Infantry Brigade (Late Commanding Officer, 1st Battalion)

(Photo by Langfrier, London)

THE DIE-HARDS

THE JOURNAL OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT

(Duke of Cambridge's Own)

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

[57]

East Anglian Area.

The Plume of the Prince of Wales. In each of the four corners the late Duke of Cambridge's Cypher and Coronet.
"Mysore," "Seringapatam," "Albuhara," "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," "Bellevue," "Aubers," "Hooge, 1915," "Loos," "Somme, 1916," "18," "Albert, 1916," "18," "Bazentin,"
"Deville Wood," "Pozières," "Ginchy," "Fiers-Coudeville," "Morval," "Thiepval," "Le Transloy," "Ancre Heights,"
"Ancre, 1916," "18," "Bapaume, 1917," "18," "Arras, 1917," "18," "Vimy, 1917," "18," "Scarpe, 1917," "18," "Arleux," "Pickle,"
"Langemarck, 1917," "Menin Road," "Polygon Wood," "Broodseinde," "Poelcappelle," "Passchendaele," "Cambrai, 1917,"
"18," "St. Quentin," "Rosières," "Avre," "Villers Bretonneux," "Lys," "Estaires," "Hazebrück," "Bailloul," "Kemmel,"
"Scherpenberg," "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," "Murman, 1919," "Dukhovskaya,"
"Siberia, 1918-19."

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

Regular and Militia Battalions.

Uniform—Scarlet. Facings—Lemon Yellow.
1st Bn. (57th Foot) Hong Kong.
2nd Bn. (77th Foot) Gosport.
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.
Princess Louise's Kensington Regiment Iverna Gardens,
Kensington, W.8

Affiliated Anti-Aircraft Units of the Territorial Army.

32nd (7th City of London) Anti-Aircraft Battalion, R.E. 24, Sun Street, Finsbury
Square, E.C.2.
33rd (St. Pancras) Anti-Aircraft Battalion, R.E. Albany Street, N.W.1.

Allied Regiments of Canadian Militia.

The Wentworth Regiment Dundas, Ontario.
The Middlesex & Huron Regiment London, Ontario.
The Prince of Wales Rangers (Peterborough Rgt.) (M.G.) Peterborough, Ont.

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 H. Phillips, M.C.

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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 od. 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 "G. Co."

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

A few covers for holding Volumes I and II are available as follows: whole cloth, leather back and corners, Vol. II 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).



WE congratulate Brigadier O. H. Tidbury, M.C., on his promotion and appointment to command the 18th Brigade in Palestine, and also Lieut.-Col. L. A. Newnham, M.C., on his appointment to command the 1st Battalion.

Attention of ex-Warrant and Non-Commissioned Officers is called to the notice concerning the new Army Reserve, Section E, which appears on page 450.

There are several Regimental Diaries for 1939 available for sale on application to the Editor, THE DIE-HARDS. Price: wallet de luxe, 6s. 2d.; leather bound, 2s. 8d.; cloth bound, 1s. 8d.; including postage.

Readers are reminded of the OLD COMRADES' DINNER, which is to be held at the Drill Hall of the 8th (1st City of London) Battalion The Royal Fusiliers, Handel Street, W.C.1, on Saturday, 12th November, at 7.30 p.m.

It has been found impossible to produce full notes from the Territorial Battalions owing to the political crisis, but some notes from the 8th and 9th Battalions arrived in time for publication.

OFFICERS' CLUB NOTES

BIRTHS

CLOWES.—On 10th August, 1938, at 3 Wilbraham Place, S.W.1, to Enid, wife of Capt. J. H. Clowes, R.A.P.C.—a son.

MARRIAGES

WESTON—HALE.—On 27th September, at All Saints', Odiham, by special licence, Gerald Patrick Linton Weston, The Middlesex Regiment (Duke of Cambridge's Own), younger son of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Weston, to Moira Olive, younger daughter of Major and Mrs. D. B. Hale.

WILLOUGHBY—SCOTT.—On 8th October, 1938, at Longbridge Deverill, John Willoughby, The Middlesex Regiment, younger son of Major and Mrs. Noel Willoughby, of Heytesbury, Wiltshire, to Rosemund, daughter of the late Major Roger Scott, The Gloucestershire Regiment, and Mrs. Scott, of Crockerton, Wiltshire.

DEATHS

WRAY.—Major E. M. G. Wray, D.S.O., at Gaza, Palestine. He was accidentally wounded whilst visiting a post on 8th October and died of his wounds the following day. A memorial service was held at Gosport, on Sunday, 16th October.

PROCEEDINGS OF A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE

HELD AT THE HEADQUARTERS, CENTRAL LONDON RECRUITING ZONE, WHITEHALL

ON 27TH JULY, 1938

PRESENT: Major H. Phillips, M.C. (Vice-Chairman, in the chair), Col. E. E. F. Baker, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., Lieut.-Col. W. W. Jefferd, Lieut.-Col. E. W. Fane de Salis, M.C., Capt. H. W. Clayden, Capt. S. J. Clark, Capt. J. R. B. Worton.

1. MINUTES

The minutes of the last meeting were read and passed.

2. HON. MEMBERS

Col. Baker proposed that Sir Russell Wilkin-son, K.C.V.O., who was Medical Officer of the 2nd Battalion at the beginning of the Great War, should be elected an Honorary Member. This was seconded by Col. Jefferd and carried unanimously.

3. CRICKET WEEK, 1939

It was proposed by Capt. Worton, and seconded by Capt. Clark, that the Cricket Week for 1939 should be held during the week commencing 25th June. (Carried.)

4. VOTE OF THANKS

A vote of thanks was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Capt. Clark, and carried unanimously, to Col. Samuel and the Dinner Committee for their work in connection with the Club Dinner on 30th June.

THE AUTUMN GOLF MEETING



Major E. M. G. Wray, D.S.O.
Spring Meeting, 1938

The Autumn Golf Meeting was held at the Lee-on-Solent Golf Club Course on Saturday and Sunday, 8th and 9th October.

The following were the results:

SATURDAY

MORNING
Medal Round

	Score	Handicap	Total
Major South ..	84	— 10	74
Capt. Whinney ..	80	— 5	75
Major Crawford ..	85	— 8	77
Capt. Stephenson ..	85	— 8	77
Lieut.-Col. Procter ..	83	— 6	77
Capt. Kempster ..	87	— 9	78
Major Worton ..	89	— 10	79
Capt. Green ..	97	— 18	79
Capt. W. M. Ferguson ..	110	— 30	80
Lieut. Hicks ..	110	— 30	80
Lieut.-Col. Jefferd ..	95	— 14	81
Lieut.-Col. Samuel ..	96	— 14	82
Major Phillips ..	90	— 6	84
Major Clark ..	117	— 30	87
Lieut.-Col. Coles ..	102	— 14	88

AFTERNOON

"Cooper" Cup

	Score
Phillips and Worton (1st) ..	34
Crawford and Stephenson (2nd) ..	34
South and Coles ..	30
Procter and Kempster ..	29
Whinney and Rackham ..	25
Melvior and Lewey ..	22
Ferguson and Samuel ..	21
Clark and Hicks ..	17
Reid and Baldwin ..	14
Jefferd and Green ..	14

The "Cooper" Cup was won by The Depot, after a three-hole re-play, by 4 points to 1.

SUNDAY

MORNING
Foursomes

	Score
Green and Crawford (1st) ..	4 down
Samuel and Symes (2nd) ..	4 "
Jefferd and Stephenson ..	7 "
Coles and Whinney ..	9 "
Hicks and South ..	10 "
Reid and Kempster ..	10 "
Clark and Parker ..	10 "
Baldwin and Phillips ..	10 "
Rackham and Ferguson ..	11 "
Chattey and Worton ..	12 "

AFTERNOON

Greensome Foursomes

	Score
Worton and Hicks (1st) ..	2 up
Crawford and Rackham (2nd) ..	All square
Phillips and Samuel ..	2 down
Symes and Chattey ..	2 "
Whinney and Coles ..	2 "
South and Baldwin ..	3 "
Kempster and Ferguson ..	6 "
Procter and Jefferd ..	7 "
Green and Reid ..	8 "
Stephenson and Clark ..	10 "

The Foursomes were won by Green and Crawford on the best last nine holes.

REGIMENTAL FIXTURES FOR 1938
November 11th.—Remembrance Day Service
at the Regimental War Memorial.
November 12th.—Old Comrades' Dinner.

EXTRACTS FROM THE "LONDON GAZETTE"

REGULAR ARMY COMMANDS AND STAFF

Lt.-Col. O. H. Tidbury, M.C., Midd'x R., to be Comdr., 18th Inf. Bde. (temp.), granted the temp. rank of Brig. whilst so empld., and removed from the regtl. list (Aug. 22).

Lt.-Col. to be Colonel (temp. Brig.) O. H. Tidbury, M.C., late Midd'x R. (Sept. 1), with seny. July 1, 1936.

INFANTRY

Midd'x R.—Maj. J. R. Thorp is placed on the h.p. list under the prov. of Art. 496, Royal Warrant for Pay and Promotion, 1931 (July 1).

The following Majors are seconded (Aug. 1).

Midd'x R.—H. B. W. Savile, M.C., Bt. Lt.-Col. G. C. Bucknall, M.C., Bt. Lt.-Col. B. G. Horrocks, M.C.

The following Captains to be Majors (Aug. 1).

Midd'x R.—S. F. W. M. del Court, M.C., Bt. Lt.-Col. N. P. Procter, M.C., B. B. Rackham, M.C., E. T. Pain, J. E. Dobbs, M.C., W. H. V. Jones, S. F. Hedgecoe, F. G. Parker, A. N. Overall, E. M. G. Wray, D.S.O., H. W. Clayden, S. J. Clark, F. Walden, E. L. Heywood, E. S. M. Ayscough, J. G. E. Reid, C. C. Musselwhite, P. E. C. Tuckey, J. B. Worton, I. D. S. Gordon.

The following Lieutenants to be Captains (Aug. 1).

Midd'x R.—W. M. Ferguson, R. W. D. Sword, A. M. Man, H. Marsh, F. B. Whiting.

Midd'x R.—Capt. J. G. E. Reid to be Adj. vice Capt. I. D. S. Gordon (Aug. 3); Lt. A. M. Man is restd. to the estab. (Aug. 1).

The following Gentleman Cadet from R.M.C. to be Sec. Lt. (Aug. 25).

Midd'x R.—R. K. B. Allott.

Midd'x R.—Lt. J. P. Hall to be Capt. (Aug. 28).

The following Sec. Lts. to be Lts. (Aug. 29):—
C. V. U. S. Bilbrough, T. G. Symes, C. E. A. Lane.

Midd'x R.—Maj. L. A. Newnham, M.C., to be Lt.-Col. (Aug. 22).

ESTABLISHMENT

Staff Coll.—Maj. and Bt. Lt.-Col. B. G. Horrocks, M.C., Midd'x R., to be G.S.O. 2nd Grade (July 25).

School of Signals.—Lt. A. M. Man, Midd'x R., relinquishes the appt. of Instr. (CL.G.G.) (Aug. 1).

MEMORANDA

Major J. R. Thorp, late Midd'x R., retires on retired pay (Aug. 27).

RESERVE OF OFFICERS

INFANTRY

The following having attained the age limit of liability to recall, ceases to belong to the Res. of Off.:

Midd'x R.—Maj. A. C. W. Cranks (Aug. 20).

TERRITORIAL ARMY

INFANTRY

Kensingtons, Midd'x R.—Sec. Lt. H. P. Low to be Lt. (July 6).

7th Bn. Midd'x R.—J. K. Laurence (late Cadet, George Watson's Boys' Coll. Contgt., Jun. Div., O.T.C.) to be Sec. Lt. (July 16); F. J. Bennett (late Cadet, Highgate Sch. Contgt., Jun. Div., O.T.C.) to be Sec. Lt. (July 16).

Kensingtons, Midd'x R.—Sec. Lt. H. R. Mountford to be Lt. (July 17).

8th Bn. Midd'x R.—P. A. Warren (late Cadet Sergt., C. of Lond. Sch. Contgt., Jun. Div., O.T.C.) to be Sec. Lt. (July 14).

9th Bn. Midd'x R.—D. V. Littlejohn (late Cadet, Mill Hill Sch. Contgt., Jun. Div., O.T.C.) to be Sec. Lt. (June 20); R. W. Atkinson (late Cadet, Under-Off., Berkhamsted Sch. Contgt., Jun. Div., O.T.C.) to be Sec. Lt. (June 20).

7th Bn. Midd'x R.—2nd Lt. E. L. Wallis, to be Lt. (July 20).

8th Bn. Midd'x R.—2nd Lt. A. J. K. Wilson to be Lt. (July 16).

7th Bn. Midd'x R.—Lt. I. B. Addis resigns his Commission (Sept. 14).

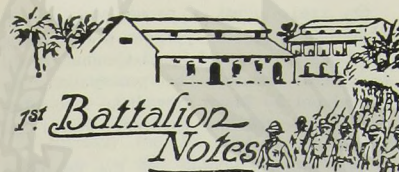
RESERVE OF OFFICERS

INFANTRY

8th Bn. Midd'x R.—A. W. Lewey, late Maj. this Unit, to be Maj. (July 16).

8th Bn. Midd'x R.—Capt. P. H. P. Gunton, having attained the age limit, relinquishes his comn. and retains his rank (Aug. 6); Lt. G. B. Ayre, from Active List, to be Lt. (Aug. 6); Sec. Lt. R. A. Kaye, from Active List, to be Sec. Lt. (Aug. 6).

7th Bn. Midd'x R.—Maj. G. A. H. Bower, M.C., T.D., having attained the age limit, retires and retains his rank, with permission to wear the prescribed uniform (Sept. 24).



OBITUARY

IT is with the deepest regret that we have to announce the death of No. 6197393 L/Cpl. James Alfred Lawlor, who was killed in a truck accident whilst out on a reconnaissance on 18th June. Also of No. 6202171 Pte. John Hubert D'Arcy, who died from injuries received while carrying out his duties in the Horse Transport Section on 20th July.

Both funerals took place with full military honours at the British Cemetery, Happy Valley, Hong Kong.

This quarter, perhaps more than any previous one, will go down to history as one of promotions. The first and most important is that of the Commanding Officer, who has been selected to command the newly-formed 18th Infantry Brigade in Palestine. When Col. Tidbury left us on 17th June to fly home, we all thought that he would be back with us again in November, after four and a half months' leave. The news that he was not returning came as a surprise to the whole Battalion, but, although we are sorry that we have not had the opportunity to say goodbye personally, we all heartily congratulate him on his appointment.

Both the C.O. and Mrs. Tidbury took a really keen and personal interest in all the doings of the Battalion, and they will be very much missed. We wish them both every happiness and the best of luck for the future.

Lieut.-Col. L. A. Newnham, M.C., has been selected as our new Commanding Officer. He is no stranger to the Battalion, as he served with the 57th at Catterick and Colchester, and has been with us here for some time as Second-in-Command, and subsequently as acting C.O. His appointment comes after more than 28 years' service, starting with pre-War service in India.

We offer our hearty welcome to Col. and Mrs. Newnham, and hope they will both have a really happy stay in the Battalion.

Following the new regulations governing promotion, which came into force 1st August, the number of Majors in the Battalion has been increased from one to seven, and we have one additional Captain. Majors S. F. W. M. del Court, M.C., J. E. Dobbs, M.C., S. F. Hedgecoe, A. N. Overall, F. Walden, and E. S. M. Ayscough and Capt. H. Marsh are all to be congratulated on their promotions.

The number of arrivals and departures has been very few this quarter. Apart from the Commanding Officer and Mrs. Tidbury, the only two to leave us have been O.R.Q.M.S. Finch, who, with Mrs. Finch, has gone to the Depot, and Band Master Judge, who leaves us for civilian life. We wish them all the very best of luck in their new surroundings.

From the training point of view, the past three months have been marked by intense activity in the Battalion, and by the time that these notes are in print, we are confident that we shall have made great strides towards becoming a fully-trained M.G. Unit.

"A" and "C" Companies completed the first part of their training in the middle of June, when "B" and "D" Companies took over. The two latter are still at it, and do not complete their period till early October, when "A" and "C" Companies resume their interrupted training, finally completing it in November, in time for Combined Operations.

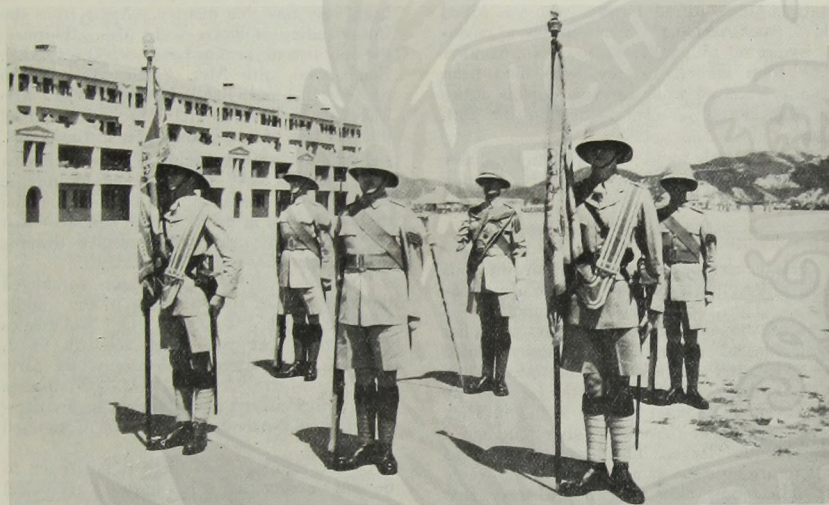
Of the training itself there is not much to be said—except that it has meant a great deal of hard work on the part of all ranks. The lack of qualified Instructors has been remedied by a N.C.O.s' Cadre Course of 10 weeks' duration, which has just been concluded. Lack of training grounds within easy reach of Barracks, limited transport, and to a certain extent, shortage of kit, not to mention the intense heat, has made the training anything but easy. In spite of all the difficulties, however, there is no doubt that considerable headway has been made, and that the whole Battalion has had a very thorough grounding in machine gun work.

The M.T. Training has gone steadily on, and we now have a nucleus of drivers in every Company, whilst our complement of twelve trucks, two Austins, and two motor-cycles is kept fully employed both on Battalion and outside jobs.

Ceremonial parades have been conspicuous by their absence, with one notable exception—the King's Birthday Parade. This took place at the Race Course, Happy Valley, Hong Kong, on 9th June. Owing to the parade being held at 8.30 a.m., we had to be up at a very early hour, in order to cross the harbour and be in position in time. At the rehearsal the heat was intense, but it faded into insignificance beside the hordes of ants which appeared from nowhere and proceeded to crawl over boots, puttees, shorts, and tunics. However,

On 23rd August, a parade was held at Shamshuipo, for the purpose of presenting the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal to C.S.M. Stacey. The presentation was carried out by Major Newnham, who afterwards presented the challenge shields and trophies for 1937.

The summer months are the recognised leave period in Hong Kong, and all who could get away did so. Major and Mrs. del Court left for the Dutch East Indies at



COLOUR PARTY
King's Birthday Parade, 1938

forewarned is forearmed, and on the day itself we arrived on parade supported by a Detachment armed with Flit guns, and the rout of the ants was complete. Owing to the absence of the Brigadier, the C.O. commanded the Hong Kong Infantry Brigade on parade, and Major Newnham was in command of the Battalion. The salute was taken by H.E. The Governor, who later inspected the parade. In the afternoon a reception and garden party was held at Government House, and was attended by all Officers and their wives. During the afternoon the Band played selections.

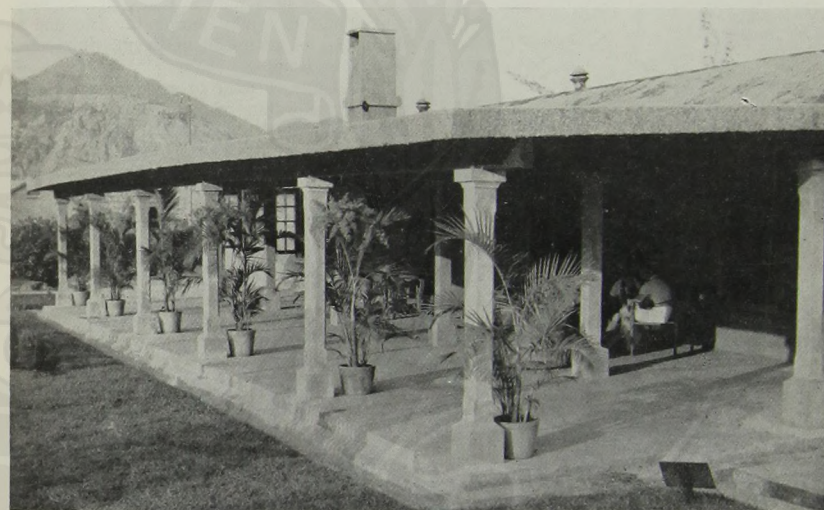
the end of May. Lieut. M. P. Weedon—who is to be congratulated on his engagement—went down to Singapore, and Lieut. T. W. Chattey sailed for home, via the U.S.A., on six months' furlough. Capt. and Mrs. Newton also left us for a stay in the United States. In addition, there have been the usual departures for the United Kingdom on courses. Lieut. Fishbourne and two N.C.O.s left at the end of July for Netheravon, together with two N.C.O.s for Aldershot on a P.T. Course, and two for the Signals Course at Catterick, while a few days later, two N.C.O.s sailed for a M.T. Course at Feltham.

From 2nd September till 16th September, the Battalion enjoyed a break, during which no training was carried out, and fatigues were cut down to a minimum. Permission was granted for men to have local leave, and a few made the trip by river steamer to Macau. Unfortunately, the Holiday Camp at Cheung Chau was put out of bounds on account of an outbreak of cholera. Companies organised daily outings by launch and bus, and every effort was made to get all ranks away from Barracks.

Although the Barracks have been condemned, and will be scrapped as soon as the new canton-

further postponement of the commencement of work on the new cantonment.

The summer is regarded by the Hong Kong residents as the close season for all games with the exception of tennis and lawn bowls, but, true to the traditions of Noel Coward's "Mad dogs and Englishmen . . .", the Battalion playing grounds have never been idle. The cricket league has been completed, and resulted in a win for "B" Company, after some very close struggles, and the final of the Platoon cricket knock-out has been reached. The Platoon water polo was won by No. 5 Platoon "A" Company—and both the Platoon football



The newly-built verandah in front of the Officers' Mess

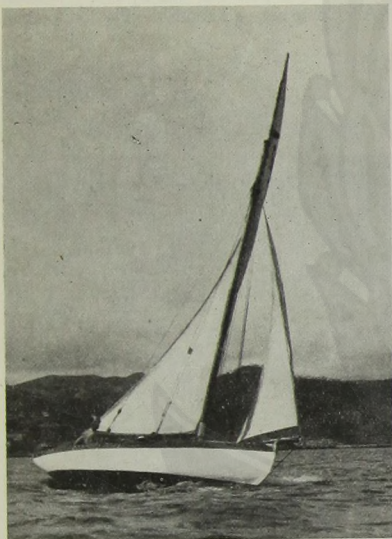
ments are erected, the authorities have seen fit to carry out some improvements to the existing buildings. The Officers' and Sergeants' Messes have each had an addition to their verandahs, whilst the Officers' Mess has had a billiard room built on to the ante-room. The Canteen has had a few alterations, notably the complete re-building of the Corporals' Room, whilst the "H.Q." Company wash house has been re-built in brick to replace the former wooden structure, and the barber's shop and native living quarters have been similarly re-built. It is to be hoped that these improvements do not foreshadow a

and hockey are well under way. Cricket matches have been played between the Officers and Sergeants, Sergeants and Corporals, and Sergeants and Privates. The first named resulted in a tie and produced some really remarkable cricket, the other two resulted in wins for the Sergeants and Privates respectively.

The only Battalion game to be played during the last quarter is water polo, and here we have scored a notable success. "H.Q." Company paved the way by winning the Small Units' water polo knock-out, defeating the Hong Kong Signal Company in the final.

The Battalion team then proceeded to establish themselves as the best Services team in the Colony by winning the Large Units League with an unbeaten record. In the course of the ten games we scored no less than 70 goals, while only 4 goals were scored against us—a really outstanding performance.

The Battalion football team has started already with trial games and two exhibition matches against South China, last year's league winners, and there seems every possi-



The 'G' Class Yacht, owned by Major Overell, Lieut. Beadnell and Lieut. Peal

bility of our maintaining the form of last year in the league matches.

The yachtsmen, undeterred by typhoon warnings, squalls, and flat calms, have continued to race every Thursday, in addition to sailing prodigious distances at week-ends.

In conclusion, we must congratulate Lieut. Beadnell, Ptes. Stickley and Gorman on being selected to tour Malaya with the Army hockey team. Also "H.Q." Company and "A" Company are to be congratulated on retaining the Albuhera and Mons Shields respectively.

MESSAGE FROM LIEUT.-COL. O. H. TIDBURY TO 1ST BATTALION THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT ON TERMINATION OF COMMAND

"Officers, Warrant Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers, and men of the 1st Battalion The Middlesex Regiment.

"When I left Hong Kong on leave on 17th June, I expected to return to you in November. I have now been ordered to Palestine and will not have the opportunity of seeing you again for some time or of personally saying good-bye to you all.

"I am, therefore, sending you this message.

"First of all, I want to thank all who have served me so loyally during my two and a half years of command in Egypt, Singapore, and Hong Kong.

"Secondly, I want to say how grateful I am for the willing, cheerful, and determined spirit with which you have, all of you, always tackled any work which has been given you; it is your greatest characteristic and one which will always see you through any task successfully. As I have often told you, a smile of determination will take you a long way in this world.

"Thirdly, I want to congratulate you on your general fitness and excellent behaviour, and to remind you that with fitness and efficiency there is little you cannot achieve. I also want you to remember that there is always room for improving your own personal efficiency.

"Finally, I wish to say how proud I am to have had the honour of commanding you—the 57th—and I wish you as a Battalion, and individually, the best of everything in the future. Good-bye for the present, and I ask you to show my successor the same loyalty and devotion to duty that you have given me.

"My wife also wishes to say good-bye to you and wish you all good luck.

"(Sgd.) O. H. TIDBURY,

Lieut.-Col., Commanding
1st Battalion The Middlesex
Regiment.

"Shiplake-on-Thames,

"12th August, 1938."

"H.Q." COMPANY

Hello, everybody! This is Station HQMX, Radio Kowloon, broadcasting on a wavelength of 1,000 kilocycles, 2 motor-cycles,

and 12 M.T. Trucks. (You must remember that we are now mechanised.)

We welcome as our new Commander, Lieut. H. Marsh, to whom we wish a long and happy stay. Whilst broadcasting our wishes, we must not forget Sergt. Ramsey, the A/C.S.M. Unfortunately, he is only attached to us and we are, therefore, deprived of his assistance in the field of sport.

A few launch outings have recently been arranged, which have been thoroughly enjoyed

We now come to the Sporting News Flashes. Flash!!! Swimming and water polo. After a very interesting and close-fought game, the Company water polo team beat the Royal Corps of Signals 2—1, making us the winners of the Small Units' knock-out. Congratulations to the team, who were Cpl. Burkitt, L/Cpls. Plummer and Ure, Bdmn. Hymas, Haigh, and Ptes. Stemp and Zelly. At the Battalion swimming meeting, our entrants simply walked away with the shield, only



THREE OF THE BATTALION YACHTS WITH HONG KONG IN THE BACKGROUND

by all who went on them. August Bank-Holiday Monday, a party of 50 went by launch to Junk Bay and Clear Water Bay, where we had some excellent bathing. All arrangements for the catering, etc., were done by Dmr. Savage, and we take this opportunity of thanking him for the wonderful organisation. There are, we are given to understand, a few of the fellows who have since been unable to figure out how an unopened crate of b—, I mean milk, managed to arrive back in Barracks again.

dropping three points. Pte. Stemp's marvellous burst of speed in the four lengths will be a feat not soon forgotten by those who witnessed it.

Flash!!! Hockey. In yet another sport we reached the finals of the China Command Small Units' knock-out and are now joint holders of the hockey trophy with the 3rd Medium Battery H.K.S.R.A. We are also the proud winners of the Battalion inter-Company hockey. Again congratulations to the team—Lieut. Chattey, Cpl. Watson, L/Cpl.

Ure, Bdmn. Grogan, Hymas and Haigh, Ptes. Gromm, Stickley, Abell, Jackson, and Gorman.

Flash!!! Tennis. Wimbledon stars would have been jealous if they could have seen our tennis "champs" in the Hong Kong Area Small Units Tennis League. Total scores at the end of the league were 29 against our opponents' 16. Final placings: 1, Royal Corps of Signals; 2, "A" Company Middlesex; 3, "H.Q." Company Middlesex. "Davis" Cup aspirants were Lieuts. Marsh, Chattey, C.Q.M.S. Bayles, Sergt. Cooper, L/Cpl. Powell, Bdmn. Brown, Morton, and Pte. Gromm.

Flash!!! Albuhera Shield. This coveted trophy comes to us again this year, we having won the hockey, novices' boxing, athletics, cross-country, and tug-o-war, and we are indeed grateful to those of the Company who "fetched home" the shield.

I am sorry that we have not time to broadcast the stock market quotations. When you hear the sound of the gong it will be exactly 12 p.m. We shall be on the air again in another three months, so do not forget to tune in to Station HQMX, Radio Kowloon. And now we wish you goodnight, everybody—goooooodnight.

SIGNALS

Mechanical-minded signallers are much to the fore this quarter, and it is of such importance that we feel it should be recorded and handed down to posterity that L/Cpl. Bowker is the only person who has successfully scaled a perpendicular wall on a motor-cycle. Trick-riding has found a sure footing among our stalwarts and, although in its infancy, will grow in proportion accordingly, as we train our despatch riders. Many thanks to L/Cpl. Bowker for the introduction of his wall-scaling feat.

However, all that, important as it seems, is beside the point. Many of us, instead of retaining our time-honoured profession of signalling, have become, during the past few months, expert truck and motor-cycle drivers, at the same time suffering the invectives of the M.T. Sergeant when, with a squealing of brakes and a grinding of gears, we all but run down the "local copper."

Recumbent upon our beds, we give ourselves up to pleasant reveries, Donington Park, and all that.

Machine Gun Training and Signalling do not mix, and so those of the old class signallers who have not done the M.T. Course have been punching up on machine gun, while our own noble art has been sadly neglected, having to be upheld by those of the new class, who are steadily progressing towards that boggy-classification.

All is serenity and care-free abandon at present, but within a very short while the whole of the Section will be *vis-à-vis* to a lamp, trying to formulate the dots and dashes into sense.

L/Cpls. Miller and Page have sailed to England—luxury trip—in an attempt to expound their knowledge to the Instructors at the School of Signals, Catterick; we wish them success, and that on their return they will be bursting with enthusiasm and procedure.

Our sports column is exceptionally small. All games have been of a friendly nature, in which we have held our own.

In the cricket knock-out we are progressing favourably and at present we aspire to be finalist winners.

Good wishes to signallers of the 2nd Battalion.

G. W. B.

DRUMS

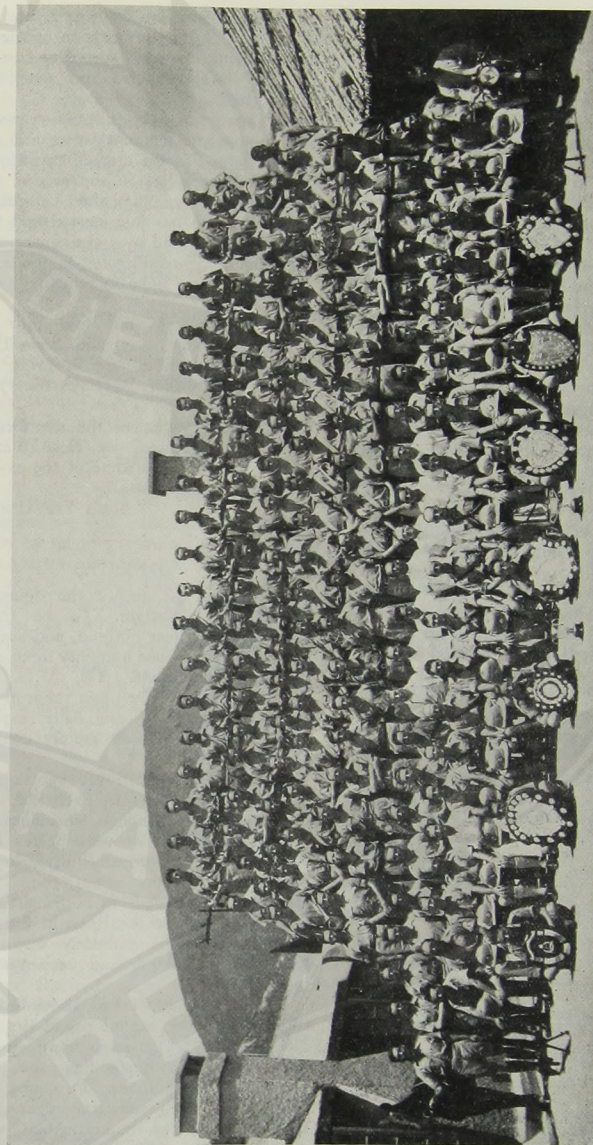
I am afraid that these notes will not be as colourful as our last, but a few events have made it possible for us to enter something of interest.

Our first item is the King's Birthday Parade, in which our buglers took an important part, having been selected from among all the buglers in the Command to play the bugle marches.

Those of us who were unable to go to the Cheung Chau Holiday Camp earlier in the year had an opportunity in June. The usual pastimes were enjoyed during the evenings, with a little bit of Bill's "Bennet College" and Bud's "knitting."

In the Platoon cricket knock-out we met a very strong team, but, nevertheless, our bowlers, Dmr. Stickley and Boy Minchin, skittled them out for 43. Then the Drums batted and, against the excellent bowling of our opponents, made a score of 40. Football knock-out came next and the Drums lost 0-4.

"Fatty" Parsons has attended the M.T. Course and is now one of our drivers. We have every faith in you, "Fatty"—hhhhaven't wwwwe, ffffatty?



"H.Q." COMPANY, 1st BATTALION MIDDLESEX REGIMENT
Winners of Albuhera Shield, 1938

For a while we saw "Porky" Abercrombie smoking Savage's fags, and Klimke's tobacco, but it was only as we expected, as he had attained the age of 18. This was only for a short while as he has now decided to try his luck at duty with "D" Company.

Dmr. "Tom" Stickley has left us to take over the duties of Q.M.'s general storeman. We were very sorry to lose him, for his qualities both as a Drummer and sportsman were very much appreciated, although we are glad that he still remains in "H.Q."

Boys Rowe and Minchin have joined us from the Band. The former will be representing us as a runner and at hockey, and the latter at football and cricket. After only a week or two, "Lush" Minchin found himself on the guard roll, and we think that he has secret designs on the silver bugle.

We have to congratulate the following on their promotions and appointments: L/Cpl. Ringe to Corporal; Dmrs. Thorley and Webster to Lance-Corporal; Ptes. Pelham, Murray (63), Murray (74), Allen, Goodge, and Boy Rooker to Drummer.

We thoroughly enjoyed the August Bank Holiday, thanks to Dmr. Savage, who took all the responsibility on his own shoulders and made this possible. A party of us were able to attend a launch outing, arranged by him, and as he had the foresight to get a good stock of beer and find out some good bathing places, we had an excellent time. We thank you, "Sav."

We welcome Lieut. Marsh, as our Company Commander, and Sergt. Ramsey, as A/C.S.M., and hope sincerely that they will enjoy their stay with us as much as we enjoy having them.

In conclusion, we ask those ex-1st Battalion Drummers, and all Drummers of the 2nd Battalion, to accept our best wishes.

L. A. S.

BAND

What! Time for journal notes again? My word, doesn't time fly? It seems only a few weeks ago that we were compiling our last notes.

We will commence by extending a welcome to our new Company Commander, Lieut. Marsh, and the A/C.S.M., Sergt. Ramsey, and hope that their stay with us will be long and happy.

We have been practically idle in the way of engagements, except for the usual Officers' and Sergeants' Messes. We did, however,

have one outside engagement at the Diocesan Boys' School, on the occasion of their annual Prize-Giving Day, and according to the report in the local papers, our services were appreciated.

We have not been idle as regards sport. At the present moment we are in the final of the inter-Platoon cricket knock-out. Unfortunately, we lost in the second round of the Platoon water polo, after a re-play. The football season has just started and the Band won the first round by a clear margin of 6-0. The hockey inter-Platoon knock-out comes off soon and we hope to remain "top dogs" again.

We welcome to our fold four ex-boys, Goddard, Bridge, Nix, and Russell, and by the time these notes are in print, we shall have "our 'Erbert" (Boy Witty) on his service.

With best wishes to the members of the 2nd Battalion Band, we close these notes, hoping to hear from some of the ex-members of the 1st Battalion Band.

"BOB'S YER UNCLE."

DETAILS

Once again we record the doings of the "Scrounger" Section. To be true, they know nothing, hear nothing, and see nothing, but they carry on like a mighty force upholding the finest traditions. The M.G. Training does not seem to have upset them in the least, and although they are daily expecting a "stunt," they are not acutely conscious of any foreboding.

However, to get to the sporting side of us, cricket has been just lately the sole topic of the day, and although we managed to get into the semi-final we were beaten by No. 7 Platoon "B" Company who, no doubt, reading the papers about the "Aussies" tried, and succeeded, in copying their style. They have to face the Band in the final and all our money is definitely on the Band. (So come on, Band, and keep that "Pot" in the Wing.)

In the Platoon football knock-out, we got through into the second round, by defeating No. 1 Platoon by two goals to nil, and we have our hopes, notwithstanding the fact that we have no Bryn Jones. Of course, we have to bank on such stalwarts as Sergt. (Duff) Cooper, Ptes. Jackson and Abell, who have always played to the bitter end, win, lose, or draw.

In the hockey world we are pleased to record that Ptes. Stickley and Gorman have been selected to represent the Army in Singapore during September in a series of matches. Stickley is the only member of the Army team playing to obtain inter-port honours—he played at left back against the Portuguese last year in Hong Kong. Well played, Tom. We have also got through into the second round of the Platoon knock-out, and we expect to win this event.

We were very pleased to welcome Lieut. Marsh as Company Commander and we all feel his keenness and the hard work he has put in to make us happy and above all "The Company."

In conclusion, we send our good wishes to the Details of the 2nd Battalion and hope to see some of the "old 'uns" soon.

INK-SPLASHER.

BOYS

Once again we will endeavour to interest our readers by relating to them the happenings of the last quarter. Boys Bridge, Nix, Goddard, Russell, and Endersby have now left us, having attained the age of 18. By the time these notes are in print, Boys Witty and Rooker will be able to smoke in peace. We congratulate the latter on his being appointed Boy Drummer and we hope to see him a Drum-Major in the near future.

Owing to the inclement weather we have been unable to show our championship class in sports. The few matches we have played, however, both in hockey and football, have resulted in the utter humiliation of our opponents (?). We played a cricket match against No. 8 Platoon, but we were defeated by 51 runs.

We hope that the new Boys, who are expected to join us in the near future, will quickly adapt themselves to the new conditions; if not, there are plenty of "old sweats" in the Boys' Room to show them the ropes. (Especially the star Boy, Grossmith.)

Most of the boys went to Cheung Chau Holiday Camp for a fortnight and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. They came back suntanned, looking like young Greek gods. We do not like to get too personal in our notes, but ever since we got back from this camp, a certain Boy has been studying the German language very hard and even talks

in his sleep about a certain Fräulein he left behind at Cheung Chau.

We were sorry to lose L/Cpl. Ellingworth, who used to be in charge of us, but we wish all the best to his successor, L/Cpl. Moggridge. We now close, wishing the Boys of the 2nd Battalion a lot of extra practice.

"TIME 2 DO."

"A" COMPANY

We begin another spasmodic attempt at journalism with greater gusto, owing to the fact that we have received that much-promised rise in pay. The Right Hon. Hore-Belisha's pay scheme has certainly caused greater competition, and topic No. 1 being discussed at the present moment by Private Soldiers and junior N.C.O.s is, "Ways and means of obtaining S.P.P.," and by senior N.C.O.s, "How to get W.O.3." The Company has now finished the Individual Training Period with results that could be better, perhaps, owing to the number of items that had to be completed in a very short space of time—but congratulations are due to all those of the Company who put in very hard work during those trying times. Most of the N.C.O.s and men have taken over employments, and about the only people to be seen in the Company lines are G.O.M. No. 1, gracefully wielding his broom over the Company areas, and the administrative clerk, who, I hope, with a little persuasion will type these notes.

Before we get on with the more serious parts of our lives we have a few congratulations to make. Firstly, Sergt. Paterson (36) on becoming a real C.Q.M.S., after months of real good work. To L/Sergt. Poulter on his promotion to Sergt., L/Cpl. Ayres to Corporal, and to the number of young bloods who have received their first appointment, remembering there is a Field-Marshal's Baton in every soldier's haversack.

SPORTS

We congratulate all the younger members of the Company who have been selected to play for their Company or Platoon teams, and it is hoped that still more will put in an extra effort, as quite a number of our best players will be leaving us shortly. In the Company we have some very fine players who are willing to teach the finer points of any branch of sport to all those who are willing to learn.

COMPETITION RESULTS, 1937-38

"ALBUHERA" SHIELD (INTER-COMPANY)

We finished with third place, and although offering no excuse, we were unlucky to lose most of our Company players in the first half of the trooping season.

"MONS" SHIELD (INTER-PLATOON)

In the above competition we took first place, without conceding a point; an excellent show. We won the soccer, cricket, hockey, and pass-ball knock-outs. Great credit is reflected on all those who played in the above games. The Battalion has now started the 1938-39 season, and the Company has started off excellently by winning the water polo, and is still going great guns in the cricket. Here are the results:

WATER POLO

FIRST ROUND

"A" 4 v. "B"	7	..	..	Won	2-1
"A" 5 v. "D"	15	..	..	Won	2-1
"A" 6 v. "C"	11	..	..	Won	2-0

SECOND ROUND

"A" 4 v. "D"	14	..	..	Lost	0-1
"A" 5 v. "B"	8	Won	1-0
"A" 6 v. Battalion "H.Q."	Lost	0-1

(after re-play)

SEMI-FINAL

"A" 5 v. "C"	10	Won	1-0
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FINAL

"A" 5 v. "D"	14	Won	2-0
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Owing to this match being played in the afternoon, Sergt. Poulter was, in all probability, asleep.

CRICKET

Our would-be "Dons" and "Larwoods" are now making great names for themselves, and from what can be seen, "body-line bowling" is nothing compared with our "head-line bowling," but so far, accidents have been few and far between. The results up to the time of going to Press are:

First Round: "A" 4 beat "D" 15 by 6 wickets. (Saw, 28 not out. Tait and Thomas, 5 for 16.) "A" 5 lost to "C" 12 by a small margin. "A" 6 beat "C" 11. (Goodair took 6 wickets for 10 runs.)

Second Round: "A" 4 beat "B" 9 by 8 wickets, Cutler scoring 55 not out, and Lieut. Hewitt, Ptes. Whitehouse and Tait contributing good scores. In the bowling, Ptes. Tait and Thomas each took 4 wickets for 41 runs.

"A" 6 lost to "H.Q." 1, having lost a few wickets very cheaply.

The rain has been the cause of this competition not being finished at present, and we have great hopes of winning this.

HONG KONG SMALL UNITS COMPETITION

WATER POLO

In the first round we defeated "B" Company Royal Scots by 2 clear goals, Jennings scoring both.

In the second round we lost to the A.A. Brigade Royal Artillery by 5 goals to 1. The team was Cpl. Freshwater, Cpl. Sibley, Ptes. Soper, Jennings (70), Goodair, Charles, and Samuels.

For the benefit of those who have left us, the Battalion has had to re-number the Platoons in accordance with the establishment of a M.G. Battalion, which shows "A" Company as Nos. 4, 5, and 6 Platoons.

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL

The Small Units team has had a number of trial matches, and judging by the results we are very confident of carrying off the trophy for the second year in succession.

RECONNAISSANCE

Returning from reconnaissance in the vicinity of Junk Bay, on Saturday, 18th June, 1938, a military truck, containing a party of N.C.O.s of "A" Company, skidded and somersaulted off the Customs Pass Road, and dropped a distance of about 30 ft. One of the occupants, L. Cpl. Alfred Lawlor (30), was killed, and two others, L. Sergt. Marshall and L. Cpl. Williams, were injured. Superficial injuries were received by other occupants. The accident was due to the greasy state of the road, following a fall of rain. As the truck went over the edge, several of the occupants were thrown clear, whilst the rest accompanied the vehicle in its descent, until it came to stop in the bed of a stream. L. Cpl. Lawlor joined the Regiment in 1926, went to India in 1928, and served with the 2nd Battalion until 1936, when he joined the 1st Battalion in Mouscar, Egypt. He was captain of the Battalion 2nd XI and played for the 1st XI a number of times. As a Company player he represented us in every branch of sport. A great sportsman whose memory will be long-lived. Full military honours were accorded at his funeral, which took place at the Colonial Cemetery, on Sunday, 19th June, 1938.

"B" COMPANY

The chief topic this quarter is cricket, in which "B" Company is "top dog," having won the inter-Company knock-out.

This "knock-out" was very keenly contested, and some very good games were witnessed. We should like to congratulate "C" Company on their fighting spirit. Well, let us proceed with our subject, cricket. The team must be congratulated on putting up such a fine show.

Although we do not like to single out any particular player, as we think that the team, as a whole, went all out to do its best, we should like to place on record the good bowling of Ptes. Pearson and Crowhurst, also Sergt. Painter; and L. Cpl. Haynes, Ptes. Vince and Hicks on their fine batting. Here are the results:

"B" beat "C" Company by 3 wickets; "B" lost to "A" Company by 6 wickets; "B" beat "D" Company by 9 runs; "B" beat "H.Q." Company by 9 wickets.

As can be seen, our most exciting game was against "D" Company, and here we must congratulate Sergt. Bullock on his marvellous catch, which finished the game. We were much too good for "H.Q.," whilst we must admit that we were soundly beaten by "A" Company. Now if England should need any new Test players, all you have to do is to arrange a tour of Duty at the Depot for us.

Now for football. As these notes are being written, it is 3 p.m. on Saturday afternoon, 27th August, and in a few hours' time football will start with a swing in England, and how we envy those at home who can go and watch those games. Anyway, we have started football already with a Platoon knock-out competition, and although not up to first-class standard, the enthusiasm is there just the same. We still have all our three Platoons in the competition, although we are sorry to say that two of our Platoons are playing each other. They have already played each other once, and drew after extra time. It is surprising the interest that this match has caused, not only in "B" Company, but throughout the Battalion, and here we must congratulate old man Hatchett, who is still living up to his reputation. We are hoping to win this competition, or at least have one Platoon in the final.

The Company came third in the Battalion swimming sports, and considering the talent we were up against, our team are to be congratulated on putting up such a jolly good

show. We had the spirit, but the other Companies had the swimmers. We were not far behind in points and we thank all the swimmers who represented the Company for their grand show.

Before we leave sport, we must congratulate No. 7 Platoon on reaching the final of the Platoon knock-out cricket. Well done, No. 7, go on and win.

Ptes. Pearson and Crowhurst are to be congratulated on being elected to represent the Battalion football teams this season, also Bindon and Pike for representing the Battalion at water polo.

Cpl. Pace and L. Cpl. Shore having left us for courses in the United Kingdom, we wish them the best of luck. Congratulations also to Cpls. Pace and White on their promotions; also L. Cpl. Shore.

In conclusion, we congratulate Capt. Overall on his promotion to Major; also C.S.M. Stacey on his Long Service and Good Conduct Medal. Good luck to all those at home.

BEER.

"C" COMPANY

Flash!!! "C" Company back to normal routine and feeling very happy once again. Employments, far and wide, have relieved us of some of our best men. Faces covered with expressions of delight can be seen throughout the Company, as men watch other Companies start that which we ourselves have just finished, i.e., Machine Gun Training.

Some changes have taken place during the past quarter—the foremost being the departure of Capt. W. C. Newton, who has proceeded on leave to the U.S.A. for a short period. His duties as Company Leader were handed over to 2/Lieut. H. M. F. Langley, who came to us from "A" Company. After only a short stay, 2/Lieut. H. M. F. Langley handed the Company over to Capt. S. F. W. M. del Court, M.C., who is now our new Company Commander. We hope that he will enjoy his stay with us, however long it may be.

2/Lieut. H. M. F. Langley has now returned to "A" Company after less than a month's stay with "C."

Lieut. P. A. Fishbourne has left us for a Course of Instruction in the United Kingdom; we hope he meets with great success there.

Sergt. L. Sheffield has also gone home on a course, and we expect him to return with a "D."

Cpl. A. Burrell has gone on a muscle-bending course in the United Kingdom. We wish him luck outwardly, but inwardly it may be a different story, as we are to be his pupils on his return to the Battalion.

The Company received a great shock on 20th July, when Pte. J. D'Arcy met with an accident and died shortly afterwards. He was buried with full military honours on 21st July. A large number of Officers, N.C.O.s, and men were present at the graveside to do homage to their comrade. We offer our deepest sympathy to all his relatives at home and abroad in their bereavement. R.I.P.

Trooping season, 1938-39, draws nearer and talk of home-going becomes more prominent. We have about a dozen men due to go home, and they all have their own ideas as to when they are going.

Pte. F. Rathbone, a great comedian of ours, is extra anxious to get home as he wants to be in England for the "plum-picking season," a job at which he is an expert.

"HIGH LIGHTS IN THE WORLD OF SPORTS"

This season we have great hopes for many successes, and with good backing we should get there.

In the football world we have moulded together a fair team which can be trusted to fight for victories at any time they are called upon to do so. At present there are only a few Company games, as the "Mons" Shield knock-out is in progress. In this line, we still have two Platoons left in the competition out of the three that entered. Of course, the knock-out is in its early stages at the moment, the first round only being completed, but we have a slight idea that "C" Company is still going to be fighting in the closing stages—that is our bet, anyway.

In the cricket league we did not do too well as we do not possess much talent in that line of sport. But still, we fought hard and gained a few victories, which is better than none at all.

Hockey is not very prominent at present, but we have the "Mons" Shield knock-out starting shortly. Games being played at present are more or less trials which bring out budding talent, a thing which is much needed by the Company at present. Once again we are hoping for the best in this line of sport. Inter-Company Swimming sports have just been completed and we regret to say that we could not do better than share fourth

place. Actually, this is a good effort on the Company's part as we lack swimming talent. At least, we have the consolation of knowing that we did not finish last.

Yachting is now becoming a pastime for some members of the Company and we must congratulate Pte. Foakes on winning the last two races held. His yacht is rather like a "baby barge," but he still manages to get home first. Lieut. Dawson is another yachting expert, but in races he has a rather large handicap to overcome if he wishes to win.

C.Q.M.S. Colbourne is also a yachtsman, but his boat still carries "L" plates, so we cannot say much about him as far as racing goes. His name did manage to get in Battalion Orders once, but we will not say where.

In closing these notes, we wish all old members of "C," now in England, the very best of luck in their future life in civvy.

CHARLIE,

"D" COMPANY

At this time of year the most exciting and important event of the season is the home-going of a minority of the Company. It may seem incredible to many, especially to a Home Battalion, that the continual chatter of this small group can affect the rest of the Company. It does. If the home-goers are a good lot and mix well, that *something* we all feel, when Auld Lang Syne is played, unconsciously influences the friendships and attachments of the squaddies' remaining few months of service. The rather shallow sophistication of to-day shines at the sentimental songs and protestations of friendship that emanate from the Canteen. But it is in the Canteen and with the "Bond of Good Fellowship" amongst them, that the feelings of soldiers to the Service are best discovered. Despite the general aversion to a routine life and the near prospect of a civilian's problematical freedom, there is an under-current feeling of regret at having to leave the care-free life of the past seven years. The best that is in the spirit of *esprit de corps* is on parade, and, though even theatrical in its display, is sincere in the camaraderie that exists in our Company. We are always the poorer when a home-going draft leaves us for the United Kingdom.

The Company took part in the King's Birthday Ceremonial Parade and formed No. 4 Company of the Battalion. We con-

gratulate all on their steadiness. The atmosphere was exceptionally close and the sun blazed down on us in real tropical fashion. There were very few casualties.

After the parade the Battalion provided free drinks and cakes.

Tennis had a very poor show in the Small Units League; we failed to win a single match, Major Stewart and L/Cpl. Perry being the only pair capable of winning their sets at any time. The rest were the merest of novices. However, quite a few have been attracted by the game, and Dunne, who is very keen, has taken in hand about six enthusiasts for next year's effort.

In the Small Units water polo knock-out we were put out by the team that eventually reached the final. In the first match we played our own "C" Company and won 9-0. The next match, against the R.C. of Signals, was a drawn affair and continued a draw for three re-plays. On the fourth re-play they managed to beat us 0-2.

Much kudos is due to Berry for his magnificent performance in goal. He was one of the outstanding persons responsible for our team putting up such a splendid dog fight against a much superior team. The rest of the team deserve praise, too. They are Ptes. Morgan, Davies, Mills, Buckle, Cpl. Bisset, and Sergt. Hopwood.

Sergt. Hopwood, who is on a course in the United Kingdom, was sadly missed in our team for the Battalion aquatic meeting.

In the "Mons" Shield water polo knock-out No. 14 Platoon reached the final and played the Drums' Nos. 5, 6, and 4 Platoons respectively, losing to the last mentioned. How they reached the final surprises even No. 14 Platoon. Only one man, Pte. Davies, knew the game and could throw the ball. Dunne, the right back, was responsible for both goals being netted. The team was: Ptes. Davies, Dillon, Merlock, Dunne, Roberts, Painting, and Panting. Pte. Hymas of "H.Q." Company refereed.

In preparation for the Command Small Units half-mile aquatic team race the Battalion held a trial race a short while ago. Teams were of six. One of our men, unfortunately, failed to turn up, one was forced to retire from the race due to cramp, and with four men it is not to be wondered at that we came fifth. Placings of the Company team in the Battalion were: Dunne sixth, Howe seventeenth, L/Cpl.

Thompson twentieth, Pte. Commerford twenty-eighth.

In the actual race the team was Ptes. Davies, Dunne, Morgan, Howe, and Merlock. The results have not been published so we are unable to say exactly where we finished.

The Battalion aquatic meeting saw the Company in a sorry plight. Always Don have fought "H.Q." Company for first place. This year saw our Company last. One event only did we win, that outright. The team was chosen at the last minute and consisted of Ptes. Buckle, Mills, Morgan, Davies, Dunne, and Lieut. Chiverall. This team will possibly represent the Company in the Command Small Units 500 yards (free style). Last year the same team, with the exception of one man, was in the final and came third.

Shortly, the football and hockey seasons open and our teams have been entered for the various leagues and knock-outs. Also, the weekly meetings of the Hong Kong Rifle Association. We hope to supply a large following from our Company.

The Machine Gun Course showed a high percentage of first-class gunners for beginners. A large number had had three weeks' intensive training with "A" (S.) Company about nine months previously. A rather novel feature of our intensive training period was the weekly lectures by Major Stewart, our Company Commander. Everyone looked forward to these weekly lectures on current topics of international interest. It may be surprising, but the average soldier does take a keen and intelligible interest in his country's politics.

Beside Machine Gun Training, picked men have been undergoing Motor Transport and Range-Finding Courses. All, so far, have justified their Company Commander's choice.

All our Platoons are out of the soccer knock-out.

In hockey our No. 14 Platoon opened the knock-out by putting out of action No. 6 Platoon of "A" Company. Everyone of hockey note was present and much interest taken in the probable winners of this year's knock-out. The team was: L/Cpl. Wilmer, Ptes. Painting, Osborn, L/Cpl. Harvey, Pte. Courtney, L/Cpl. Reeves, Lieut. Chiverall, Ptes. Caul, Wilkinson, and Noble.

Wilmer, a late discovery in goal, is living up to our hopes. Osborn, Wilkinson, and Noble, a triplet who have lately developed an interest in the game, show promise of being good players one day.

SERGEANTS' MESS

In opening our notes we cannot think of a more appropriate subject than the letters of Mr. Hayden. Letters of yesterday always have a charm all their own, and the merest incidents that had no current value take on and enshroud themselves in the mystery of the past. The letters are extremely interesting and have been read by all members of the Mess.

The monthly dinners, discontinued during the summer period, will be resumed in September. All are looking forward to these opportunities of meeting every one else.

Sport is gradually on the up-grade in the Mess. To date, we have had two inter-Mess affairs.

In a hockey match against the corporals, after a terrific struggle they managed to beat us by the odd goal in three. Sergt. Cooper, who is developing into a brilliant forward, scored for us the only goal. During several of our onsets it looked as though we would force them to a draw. The return match was rather a dismal affair; we lost 1-9. Try as we could we were unable to pin down the ball and control our passing.

In a cricket match against the Officers' Mess we managed, by good generalship, to force them to a tie. The match raised a great deal of enthusiasm throughout the Battalion and everybody enjoyed a pleasant afternoon, not excluding the Chinese. Two sides of the ground are bounded by five-storied buildings, and these provided "stands" for our local ashes.

Like every other corner of our sporting world our Mess has taken the keenest interest in the epic fifth Test Match over the air, the commentary being followed as much as possible.

Our billiards and darts champions are getting in trim for the forthcoming season and we predict that many a glass is going to be won, and lost.

We congratulate C/Sergt. Colbourne on entering the Army singles tennis championship, and hope to see him take part in the second round.

Our fortnightly dances are now held on the tennis court. It is quite a posh affair, too. Our aged Mess has been rejuvenated, and a projecting roof over the entrance imparts rather a dignified air to the whole. Wet or fine, it enables the members to enjoy their hobnobbing in the garden.

In addition to our new roof we now boast a linoleum-covered floor, new lighting, and furniture.

Congratulations are due to C/Sergts. Donovan and Paterson on their promotion, and to Sergts. Riches, Poulter, and Parnell. Also to L/Sergts. Bailey, Hiscocks, and Moore, on being paid.

We wish a Q.1 to Sergts. Ramsden, Sheffield, and Hopwood on their courses.

Sergt. Hopwood will be sadly missed during the Command aquatic meeting.

Special congratulations are due to C.S.M. Stacey on receiving the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal.

Congratulations are due to S/Sergt. and Mrs. Harvey on the birth of a daughter.

We are sorry to hear that Col. Tidbury is leaving us to take over the duties of Brigadier in Palestine, but the Services come first and we wish him always the best of everything. Whilst very pleased to learn of his promotion, we are sorry to lose an Officer who has always taken a keen personal interest in the Sergeants' Mess. His great desire always was to inspire a spirit of loyalty throughout the Battalion, and with his departure we can assure him this spirit, fostered by him, will be given wholeheartedly to his successor.

CORPORALS' CLUB

Another quarter has rolled on, and again we must record the activities of the Mess—for the Archives.

Not too much has occurred these last three months, except that the Mess has been partially demolished and re-built in such a manner as to facilitate our latest craze—fortnightly dances. Most of the members are now being called "Gunner"—and to L/Cpl. Perry propounding theory after theory about "mechanism" one can say it is a matter of time before the title of "Gunner" will be changed to "professor."

As regards sport, we just manage to hold our own in the various branches, but on one particular instance, in our encounter with the Sergeants at hockey (we love to crow over this), we beat them to the tune of 2-1 and 9-1, but their revenge was complete when they gave us a terrible licking at cricket—however, we are not in despair—hope springs eternal.

In the football world we have not shone too much, possibly due to the fact that games

are few and far between. We are very pleased to see "Say" back in the fold again now that he has finished his nature studies at "Laichi," and sorry to hear that "Clyno" has a passion for geology—at least he is nearly always climbing the rocks—probably getting some local colour for his reminiscences (if he has learned to write by that time). We also welcome back "Slim" from the detention staff—he was, I hear, sent back because, like Useless Eustace, he punched the clocks literally and broke them all.

Ah, of course, congratulatory. The following are congratulated on their promotion to Corporal, L/Cpls. Burrell, Bisset, Harvey, White, McDavitt, Graham, Pace, Ayres, Sturdy, and also the following on their appointment to the Lance rank, Thurland, Fox, Burnett, Hills, Houghton, and Shore (the last named having already left us for a course at Feltham).

One other departure from our midst is that of L/Cpl. Bond, who has taken a post in Hong Kong. Our good wishes go with him.

OBITUARY

It is with the deepest regret that we record the death of L/Cpl. J. Lawlor, who was killed in such tragic circumstances. He was always cheerful, a good companion, and, above all, a good sportsman, who played the game for the game's sake. His loss will be felt in the Battalion football team. To his sorrowing parents we tender our deepest sympathy.

SWIMMING

In spite of the lack of a bath of our own, we have made an excellent start to the season, and there is no doubt that we have in the Battalion some really good swimmers, while the water polo results prove that we are the best Service team in the Colony.

Owing to a number of causes, we were forced to start the season with the Small Units water polo knock-out. This competition is open to all Companies, Batteries, and independent Small Units in the Colony. As was to be expected, our Company teams were very out of practice, but "H.Q." Company played splendidly, and went on to win the competition, beating the Royal Corps of Signals 2-0. "D" Company were unlucky to lose to the Signals in the third round after no less than three draws.

The next competition was the "Mons" Shield Platoon knock-out. This was held

in the Kowloon Y.M.C.A. Bath, and here it must be said that, without this bath, swimming and water polo would be impossible, owing to the expense involved in transporting teams over to the Hong Kong side, quite apart from the expense of hiring a bath.

The standard shown by the Platoon teams was, on the whole, very encouraging. The final was contested between "A" 5 and "D" 14, and was narrowly won by the former.

Owing to the area swimming programme, we were forced to postpone the Company water polo league, and instead, concentrated on the Garrison Large Units league, open to all Large Units in the Colony.

We started on this league with practically no training. For some inexplicable reason the local teams had made up their minds that we were no good, and the result was that practice matches were extremely hard to arrange. Another blow was the departure of L/Sergt. Hopwood to the United Kingdom for a course. However, the team settled down remarkably well, and astounding all the critics, finished the league easy winners, without the loss of a match, and in the 10 games played amassing 70 goals as against 4. It is hard to single out any one player, but mention must be made of Pte. Berry, who captained the side well, and played splendidly in goal, and of Pte. Stemp, who is probably the best forward in the Colony. In addition, Bdmn. Hymas was very safe in defence, while Bdmn. Haigh always worked hard.

Of the team, Berry, Haigh, Stemp, and Hymas have all played for the Army in trial matches, and are almost certain of their places in the representative games.

On 13th August, the Battalion half-mile race was held at Stonecutters Island. This was, in reality, a trial for the area half-mile that was to follow a week later. The race was run on a team basis, each Company having a team of five. The first man home was Pte. Stemp ("H.Q."), who finished in 12 min. 25 sec. "A" Company secured second and third places in Pte. Harmsworth and Pte. Jennings. The final placings were: "A" Company, "H.Q." Company, "B" Company, "C" Company, "D" Company.

In the area half-mile our teams were a little bit disappointing, as we only managed to get two points, thanks to "H.Q." Company, who finished fourth. There is no doubt that we have the swimmers, but lack of practice makes it hard for us to compete with some of the other Units.



1st BATTALION MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (D.C.O.) FOOTBALL TEAM, 1937-38
Runners-up Hong Kong Football League, Division 1.



1st BATTALION MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (D.C.O.) 2nd XI FOOTBALL TEAM
Winners Football League, Division 2, Hong Kong, 1937-38

The Battalion swimming sports were held at the Y.M.C.A. Bath, on 18th August. There were no individual events, the programme being modelled on the area inter-Unit team swimming. "H.Q." Company once again proved their superiority by an overwhelming win. "A" Company were second, and "B" Company third, while "C" and "D" Companies tied for last place.

If we are going to win the area swimming cup we will have to train extremely hard, and this may be difficult owing to the innumerable Platoon and Company games at present in progress. It will be a very great

At present we have only two active members of the Club, Lieuts. Marsh and Hancock, but we are looking forward to the return from leave in England of Lieuts. Chattey and Fishbourne to complete our Regimental team, if no one else comes out to join us in the meantime.

Polo in this country is limited to China ponies, and these take a lot of getting used to when one has only ridden English or Arab horses before. A lot of these animals originally came from Mongolia and Northern China, where they are extensively used as pack-horses over the inland desert trade routes of



1st BATTALION MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (D.C.O.) BOXING TEAM
Winners of Hong Kong Area Boxing Shield, 1938

pity if we allow the cup to elude us after having built up a lead such as we have from the water polo.

The Battalion water polo team was composed of the following: Pte. Berry, Bdmn. Hymas, Pte. Jennings, Pte. Buckle, Pte. Davies, Bdmn. Haigh, Pte. Stemp. Reserve, L/Cpl. Ure.

POLO CLUB

The polo season starts in Hong Kong on 1st September. The Hong Kong Polo Club is situated about half a mile from Sham Shui Po Barracks, and is very convenient for us.

Central China. In their natural state they look more like wild asses than anything else, and are undoubtedly the most primitive descendants of the wild horses that used to roam all over Europe and Asia.

Extensive inter-breeding, particularly with Russian and Arab horses is, however, having a marked influence on the China pony, and to-day one can see China ponies racing at Happy Valley Race Course, in Hong Kong, which look for all the world like thoroughbred English or Australian horses.

As a result of the Sino-Japanese War, the movement of these ponies from the North to Shanghai and Hong Kong particularly,

has now ceased, and the only new stocks of horses being received in this Colony now come from Australia. This should have the effect of increasing the value of polo-trained China ponies, and with this end in view, we are training all our ponies in the new riding school recently built by the Polo Club.

The following is the present strength of our stable, showing the owners and breed of the animals.

AUSTRALIAN

"Kiola" Government Charger
 "Trojan" Capt. M. A. Jacob
 "Soldier of
 Scotland" .. Lieut. P. A. Fishbourne

CHINA PONIES

"Sandstorm" .. Capt. J. E. Dobbs, M.C.
 "National Spirit" .. Lieut. H. Marsh
 "The Chetah" .. Lieut. H. Marsh
 "Wanderer" .. Lieut. A. G. Hewitt
 "Radium" .. Lieut. T. W. Chattey
 "Until Then" .. 2/Lieut. F. S. C. Hancock
 "Little Beauty" .. 2/Lieut. F. S. C. Hancock
 "Evermore" .. Government Charger

Owing to mechanisation of the Battalion, which is now taking place, our old establishment of nine chargers and C.O.'s 2nd forage has now been reduced to a pool of six forages, so that it appears that some of the Company Commanders who previously had chargers will now have to ride on M.T. (Motor-cycles and the like.)

We are very sorry to have to record the very tragic death of Pte. D'Arcy, who died as the result of an accident whilst mounting to go out on early-morning exercise on 7th July. Amongst those who attended his funeral were a party from the Horse Transport Section, and his grave was hidden by about 26 lovely wreaths of flowers.

We extend our deepest sympathy to his relatives in England.

The Horse Transport Section is now run by L/Cpl. Cheal and nine grooms who are drawn from various Companies in the Battalion, and we take this opportunity of thanking them for their keen and willing work which is no sinecure in this hot weather, which at the present time is often 90 degrees F. in the shade.

A JOURNEY TO BURMA, THROUGH INDO-CHINA AND SIAM

NO matter how careful one's preparation, every journey seems to begin with a precipitate rush followed by a long wait. By analogy, therefore, this journey can best be described as beginning when, after some head-long last moments, I was to be found on Kowloon public pier at one o'clock on the afternoon of Sunday, 1st May, 1938, waiting for Butterfield's launch to carry me to the ship.

The launch came at about half-past one, and carried us out to the S.S. *Soochow*, lying at the western end of the harbour. One passenger from the launch stayed aboard, a French journalist with one arm and a "taipan" appearance, who wore large glasses with the air of a corpulent owl; a Chinese friend came to see him off, and talked rapidly with him in French.

We sailed a little after two o'clock, through the western channel by Green Island. The third European passenger was a Canadian



S.S. 'Soochow'

mining engineer from Hong Kong, on his way to Yunnan-fu to prospect for the Chinese Government. He said he was sure that besides the known deposits of minerals in Yunnan, which are not yet worked, there were others still undiscovered; he was convinced he could find iron, lead and silver, copper, some oil and perhaps a little gold. Certainly each of these is found in some part of Burma, Siam, and Malaya, and the rock

formations appear the same throughout the whole peninsula. If there is enough coal in Yunnan the iron should be workable, because to judge by photographs and descriptions the limestone which one sees in Indo-China and Burma extends northward through Yunnan as far as the upper Yangtse; if the other rock formations run north and south correspondingly the granite should lie under the limestone as in Burma and the gold found there be found also in Yunnan. This is speculation, which a competent geologist can probably correct.

What is surprising is that no one has thought it worth while to prospect in Yunnan. The usual explanation is that the country is "undeveloped," but that begs the question; "development" is the result, not the cause, of being a source of wealth; no country would ever be "developed" unless someone thought he could get money from it. Since northern China has been over-run by the Japanese, foreigners who have lost trade may be expected to try to get concessions in the south; a French company was lately reported to have offered to build a railway between French Indo-China and Kwang-si, in return for some mining rights or other. At present the only railway in Yunnan runs south from Yunnan-fu through Hanoi to Haiphong, the chief port of Tongking.

The Canadian said he would go by rail to Yunnan-fu, and then perhaps make his way westward through Burma; the temptation to go the same way myself was almost overwhelming. I had intended to go that way, but there was no leave to go into China so long as the war lasted; doubtless it was more prudent to persist in the second choice, that of finding a route from French Indo-China to Burma. The sketch map marked "A" shows the main route to the east and west across the northern part of the Indo-China peninsula. From Yunnan-fu the main route is north-westward to Tali-fu, shown on some maps as Tali-hsien; a railway has been projected on this route, so that it is now distinguished from other caravan tracks by having been surveyed, but in no other particular; from Tali there are three main caravan tracks to the west and south into Burma, the northern track to Myitkyina where it meets the railway line southward to Mandalay, the central track to Bhamo, which communicates only by river with the railroad at Katha, and the southern track to Lashio, where there is a branch railway line westward to Mandalay. Another track lies south-west from Yunnan-fu to



Keng Tung in the Shan States, where there is a motor road westward to the railway at Taunggyi. Capt. Kingdon Ward, who travelled this route in 1935 as far as Puerh-fu, in southern Yunnan, described it as unfit for heavy traffic beyond Keng Tung, and probably quite impassable in the wet season; Chinese officials told him hopefully that within another two years the road would be fit for motor traffic as far as Yunnan-fu, but he seems to have regarded this assurance with a scepticism easily understood by anyone knowing the Chinese. There is a road from Keng Tung southward to Me-nam-Tsai, or words to that effect, on the Siam border, also impassable in the wet weather; I shall have more to say about this road in another place.

In French Indo-China nearly all the communications are north and south. From Hanoi roads radiate in all directions for short distances, mostly to recognised tourist resorts: on some maps a road is shown tentatively with a dotted line as far as Lai Chau in the north-west, but to reach the Burma border one must follow the excellent Mandarin Road along the east coast to Phudien, north of Vinh, and there turn westward along a road which my map described euphemistically as "automobile en tout temps" as far as Chieng Kuang, and from there to Luang Prabang by a road "Automobile en saison seche"; when I used this road at the beginning of May the rains had just come and the road was only automobitable with great labour from about Mong Sen onwards. There are several roads westward into Siam, mostly to towns on the railway whose main line crosses Siam from north to south like a spinal column, and to which most Siamese roads ultimately lead. So far as I know, there is only one route westward from Siam, the route I eventually followed through Raheng and Mesot: beside this, and the road to Keng Tung already mentioned, there is no communication between Siam and Burma.

I collected nearly all my information as I went: at the start I knew nothing about the means of travel, and had only a nebulous intention of going as best I could to Luang Prabang, and thence up the Mekong river to some convenient point on the Burma border from which I could reach Keng Tung; the map showed a road westward from Keng Tung to the railway. If I could find any other route, I would take it, but the chief object of the journey was to find as direct a way as possible from Indo-China to Burma.

Considered over the map, in the saloon of the S.S. *Soochow*, the plan seemed every moment more and more tenuous and impracticable. At last we put away the map and talked of other matters. The Second Officer joined us after dinner: he was an R.N.V.R. Officer and had been at Port Said in 1935 during the Abyssinian crisis; we exchanged reminiscences of that uncomfortable affair. There were three Chinese passengers on board, a girl and two young men; at meals they were demure and speechless, but grew more frolicsome later, and towards bedtime we heard great giggling and scampering and banging of cabin doors. The police sergeant commanding our escort ate with us, sitting at the bottom of the table in the silent gloom with his napkin tucked under his chin; he was a White Russian, had been an Officer in the Imperial Army, and wore an orange and black decoration.

Early on Monday morning we sighted Hainan Island, a flat coast of sand covered with grey scrub something like camel thorn; the sea was a bright blue, suggesting copper sulphate, that I remember to have seen in some lights on the Indian Ocean; shoals and reefs appeared unexpectedly from time to time. I talked with the French journalist, to find whether he could tell me anything about Indo-China, but he only knew Hanoi, where he intended catching the aeroplane, to be taken home without more delay or trouble; for a moment I envied him, but beyond bows and smirks and compliments on my French and his English, we had little other intercourse.

In the early afternoon we anchored off Hoihow and began unloading cargo and passengers into boats which clustered alongside, grappled and swaying together like ships in an old-fashioned sea fight; the passengers and boatmen swarmed over them, yelling as only the Chinese can. Some Officers in uniform with the Kuo Min Tang star in their caps, whom I had not seen before, left the ship; one unhappy man could not make up his mind which of the two boats he was going in, and was in danger of being torn in half, clinging to the shrouds of both as they drifted apart. Tall white and yellow buildings gave the town a slightly Red Sea aspect at this distance. Kendall, the Canadian, went ashore and did not return that evening.

Unloading began again the next morning, cases of silk, hardwood logs, and straw packages of Nankin cloth. Some rain fell, a foretaste of what was to come in the next four weeks.

We sailed at about six o'clock in the evening, a little before the most splendid sunset I can remember in these seas. A French missionary priest came with us, on his way to Pakhoi. Kendall also rejoined us just before we sailed; he had been inveigled into spending the night ashore with some drinking companions. After dinner he told us an amusing story, I do not know how true, about the war in Canton; he said he had been there to help mine the harbour, and had planned several series of dynamite charges, to be fired electrically: then the Canton Government got some contact mines, with which they were so pleased that they would have nothing else; unluckily the contact mines failed to explode, so that the defences of Canton harbour are now wholly imaginary: to save face, ships are taken into the harbour by a devious way to avoid the "mine-fields" whose position varies daily according to the pilot's fancy.

We reached Pakhoi at about half-past seven on Wednesday morning. The landscape was more like that of the rest of South China than in Hainan, which was almost tropical with its sand and coconuts, but the sea was quite Malayan, green and solid-looking over the shallows where we were anchored, and further out reflecting clouds in a sky whose indeterminate colour blended with it at the horizon. I noticed here the same diffused light that I have seen sometimes in Egypt over Lake Menzala and the salt marshes towards Damietta. We bathed from the ship's side; the water was warm and slightly greasy.

Later, a little elderly retired Major came aboard to look for some boxes that had been among the cargo of S.S. *Kwangtung* when she caught fire some months before. He said he remembered my Regiment in Burma in 1903; he was working now for the China Inland Mission. He had a longish argument with one of the Maritime Customs men, a wizened Chinaman with large horn-rimmed spectacles; there was another customs officer, a young man introduced to me as "Kwok," who began to talk in fluent English that broke down completely when I answered him in the same language; he must have rehearsed his speeches parrot-fashion before he spoke.

Afterwards I went ashore with the Major in a small boat navigated by Spectacles, and we passed a hot dream-like afternoon paying a round of calls, riding bicycles, the Major talking at intervals about H. G. Wells and social injustice. There is not enough

space to describe all the inconsequent events of this trip ashore—we have to be getting on to Indo-China. Once in the afternoon the major pointed westward and said, "Indo-China is over that way," and I remember staring as if the objective were already in sight; one man, to whose house we went, told a story about a Major Macgruder of the United States Army who had travelled in Indo-China and Burma, but that got me no nearer.

Trenches had been dug here and there; the Japanese had raided Pakhoi by air, but dropped all their bombs outside the town on to a hill that seemed to worry them. The sentries carried an odd mixture of equipment, partly of the British pattern, and I think all wore puttees without boots. Most of the houses were tall and narrow, unlike ordinary Chinese houses, and reminded me faintly of pictures of towns in the Hadramaut, in Southern Arabia. The Major remarked that "the natives were just like children"; everywhere I go the English people tell me that the natives are so childlike as to be unable to deceive. Sometimes I wonder.

I left for the ship on the customs launch; we went first to the *Kwangtung* anchored a little beyond the *Soochow*. There followed the first of the innumerable long waits, that, I foresaw with what proved sinister prescience, would be all too familiar before the end of the journey. Pigs were being loaded on the *Kwangtung* and the decks were piled high with cylindrical baskets from which pink noses stuck out and wriggled pathetically. As each pig boat came alongside, the sail was lowered with an intolerable creaking noise that sounded as if it would go on for ever. The launch heaved and rocked, the sun shone down on us, and the heat was reflected from the plates of the ship's sides. We waited, for what felt like hours.

The delay came to an end, as it always does just as one is about to go mad, and we moved across to the *Soochow* and I got aboard. The mission doctor came with us, to get the latest newspapers, or the latest we had: I never saw a man so anxious for news, but then he was an Austrian, and this was May, 1938, not long after the Anschluss. We sailed the same evening.

The *Soochow* was divided, as are all ships on the China coast, by an iron shield with a grill, between the after well-deck and the main superstructure, to keep the deck passengers from the forward part of the ship: until

lately, the pirates usually came aboard among the deck passengers. Looking through the grill as the ship left Pakhoi, we saw another kind of villainy preparing: the Indian passengers were stowing away in nooks and crannies of their baggage, yards of silk and other contraband stuff, ready for the customs in Haiphong. Later in the evening when we looked again, they had changed their plans, and were winding the cloth round and round their bodies.

When I awoke on Thursday we were already near the coast of Tongking, very rocky, with trees and scrub growing on the steep slopes. The Red River runs through a delta here and carries its mud far out to sea, turning the water, as one approaches, first to grey, then to a drab colour like soup, then to the pinkish-brown of gravel in the desert. To the north, out of our course, we could see the opening of the Bay of Ha-long, three or four tall limestone pillars, rising sheer out of the water; these continue for miles inside the bay, and visitors come great distances to navigate a boat in and out among them, and under the natural arches or tunnels. Nearer Haiphong, the country becomes flat and cultivated; we passed through a narrow channel, not more than 20 or 30 yards wide,



Padi Fields near Haiphong

into the inner passage, where the customs launch met us; the tricolour at her stern gave an exhilarating novelty to the scene, as if at last we were getting somewhere.

The customs and Sûreté men filled the saloon with their papers and satellites: piles of white topees and attaché cases covered the chairs. The passengers formed a queue

and were examined one after another, including an Indian conjuror who could give no other account of himself than that he was a magician, which caused him to be looked on with misgiving until someone was able to explain him as "prestidigitateur." While we sat talking and drinking in the saloon, the First Officer introduced me to a M. Lejeunn, the company's agent, who offered to find me some means of transport if I would come to his



Barracks of the 19th Colonial Infantry, at Haiphong

office later. He spoke very good English, and showed every sign of sympathy and willingness to help, and then, and afterwards, I was extremely obliged to him for his efforts on my behalf.

The Captain and the First Officer, a great jovial Vitellian man, had some swindle devised to get liquor out of bond and avoid the duty, so we all three walked to the agent's together. I stopped on the way to see my baggage pass the customs: the douanier let my valise and suit-case go without looking at them, when I told him they were all I had, but Asiatic passengers had every package opened and the contents thrown down violently and scattered over the floor. At the agent's the ship's Officers got their wine and Lejeunn said he would have an answer to his enquiries for me the next day.

I went to the Hotel de l'Europe, where I found the fellow who had carried my baggage, resting under a wall with an accomplice; two hotel porters joined us, and a few assistants in the liberal sense of that word, and we arrived at my room in a procession about a dozen strong. While I was haggling over tips I heard "Hey!" from across the corridor, and there was Kendall in the opposite room;

he had disappeared earlier in the day with a Mr. Li who was going with him to Yunnan-fu; they had borrowed my map of Yunnan and a railway time-table, had managed between them to miss the train and were now waiting until next morning for the express.

We had a farewell dinner, I hope not too uproarious; the cooking at l'Europe was excellent: we drank a very good Saumur and afterwards Calvados out of a great bottle, three or four feet high. Towards midnight, at a cabaret, I found myself talking with a man from a neighbouring table, who had unaccountably joined the party; after a few minutes he asked me whether I would speak English; he said he was the British Vice-Consul: the conversation then continued in our own tongue and we both felt very much easier, though a little resentful at having wasted our talents; he was good enough to offer me a bed at the Consulate, but I had already booked my room at l'Europe. At this cabaret, I remember seeing a Major of the French Colonial Troops stop at a table where some of his N.C.O.s were sitting and solemnly shake hands with them all, one of them offering his left hand; they order these things differently in France.

(To be continued)

"DON'T SAY 'HULLO' "

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["Don't say 'Hullo.' Announce your identity."—*London Telephone Directory.*]

Don't say "Hullo." Announce your identity. Indicate your species. Classify your entity.

Enumerate the marks by which the scientific mind

Can certainly distinguish you from others of your kind;

State your major measurements, and where you were designed—

But don't say "Hullo."

Don't say "Hullo." This absurd ejaculation Is an insufficient pointer to your name and sex and station;

Admittedly it does suggest that *somebody* is there

Who wishes, or is willing, to communicate—but where?

And how are they to tell if you're a Brahmin or a bear?

So don't say "Hullo."

Don't say "Hullo." Apart from lack of clarity

The POSTMASTER-GENERAL must deprecate vulgarity.

Remember that the instrument to which we have referred

Is provided by HIS MAJESTY, who doesn't like the word;

And imagine what a shock if all Civil Servants heard!

Oh, don't say "Hullo."

Don't say "Hullo." Unseasonable levity, Gross lack of reverence, unfashionable brevity!

The more words the merrier: so carefully proclaim

"It's the Anglo-Swedish Company to Set the Thames Aflame.

I'm one of the stenographers, and Fanny is my name"—

But don't say "Hullo."

Don't say "Hullo." Announce your identity. Indicate your species. Classify your entity.

Tabulate your ancestors and name your lucky star;

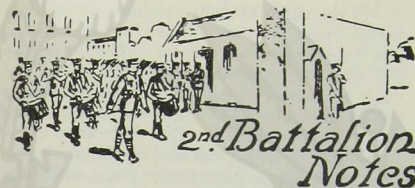
What is your religion and the number of your car?

Or, to put it rather crudely, TELL THE FELLOW WHO YOU ARE—

But don't say "Hullo."

A. P. H.

[Editor's note.—We have been instructed to this effect before, but reminders are good.]



IT was with the deepest regret that at the time of going to Press, we heard of the tragic death of Major E. M. G. Wray, D.S.O., who left us such a short time ago to take up an appointment in Palestine. It is not possible at such short notice and with such scanty news to write fully at present, but this most unhappy occurrence must, of necessity, overshadow the ensuing notes.

In recording the events of the past quarter, one is sorely tempted to start at the wrong end and describe the happenings of the past ten days, as, apart from their extraordinary nature, they are naturally uppermost in our minds. However, one must go back to the beginning and continue from where our last notes left us.

The beginning of July found us very busy indeed, preparing for the combined operations which took place in Devonshire. We were part of the landing force. So a fine morning in July saw us sailing out from Spithead aboard the H.M.T. *Lancashire*, escorted by various Men o' War. Having spent the previous night on board in Portsmouth harbour, the first sign one got of having sailed was the slight motion of the ship as she got into deeper water. Breakfast was eaten under more or less normal conditions, but only just in time, for on turning south the sea began to look and feel quite different. By noon, one noticed a distinct change for the worse in the complexions of one's friends and a noticeable depletion in the numbers for lunch. However, in the afternoon the weather and general health improved and late in the evening it was finally decided that fears that it was too rough to land were unfounded and that we could carry out the landing that night.

Having crept in as close to the shore under cover of darkness as the Navy would take us, we were lowered down in the ship's boats and propelled ourselves, by means foreign to most of us, on to the shore.

Having jumped out on to the beach, or, in many cases (thanks to flash-light photo-

graphers) into the sea, we marched off to our positions.

The final stage of the exercise, namely the re-embarkation, proved the most hazardous. This was entirely due to the weather which had taken a decided turn for the worse. Only a few managed to get back on to the troopship, and then only after a most adventurous trip out from the beach, which none enjoyed. The less fortunate members of the Force returned by train, having marched to the R.N. College, Dartmouth, in a steady downpour.

However, it was a most interesting experience and, as far as can be gathered, enjoyed by all who took part.

On 17th July, "A" Company, together with the Band and Drums, left for Tidworth to take part in the Tattoo, which they enjoyed very much.

On 10th August, the Battalion left Gosport for the Pennings Camp, Tidworth, there to join the rest of the Brigade for Annual Training. We carried out training more on our own this year, due to the fact that two of the Rifle Battalions were engaged in Specialised Training.

While at Tidworth we took part in the Brigade motor-cycle reliability trial. We entered two teams and it is pleasing to note that one of them was placed first.

From Tidworth we moved to Warminster, to fire Parts III and IV. This we did successfully, but owing to the difficulty in obtaining supervising Officers, and for other reasons, we abandoned the idea of competing in the A.R.A. fire control competition, and returned to Gosport a few days earlier than originally planned.

The following few and last days of September formed indeed a real climax to the quarter. It was an anxious period and a busy one for all, and the results of our toils can still be seen in the form of sand-bags surrounding the Barracks.

However, now once again we are back to normal and our minds, with their usual flexibility, have subordinated international affairs to football and other important subjects. Before concluding, we must mention those who have left or joined us in the past quarter. Capts. Weller and Baldwin joined us a few months ago from abroad, and we hope they will enjoy their stay with us.

Lieut. Ormiston has just left us to take up an appointment in Palestine. We wish him luck, and hope that he will not be away from the Battalion too long.

Major Gordon, who has been Adjutant for the past three years, is shortly leaving us for Hong Kong. We hope he enjoys his stay with the 1st Battalion. To his successor, Major Reid, we extend a hearty welcome.

Finally, we congratulate Lieuts. Weston, Willoughby and Lane on their recent marriages.

"A" COMPANY

The Company is once again getting used to the welcome sight of bricks and mortar, after having spent practically three months touring Salisbury Plain, stopping at such places of interest as Tidworth (Arena Road and Pennings) and Warminster. Which is one way of pointing out to all concerned that as campers we have no equals. In the pious hope that we have seen the last tent for a few months at least, we take the opportunity of penning a record of our experiences since we last appeared in print.

Firstly, the whole Company heartily congratulate the Company Commander, Major C. C. Musselwhite, on his promotion. We also congratulate Capt. Sword and Lieut. Symes on their respective promotions. Platoon Sergeant-Major Johnson, who has been our Acting Company Sergeant-Major for some time now, also receives our congratulations on his promotion, as do P.S.M. Chillery, Sergt. Wray and L/Sergt. Cummins on their respective promotions and appointments.

As readers are no doubt aware, the 1938 Tidworth Tattoo was an enormous success and despite the fact that we were busy fighting the French we also proved our versatility by giving two machine gun demonstrations that were highly commented on. Our time at Tidworth, Pennings, and Warminster was spent in a similar method to the rest of the Battalion and our one regret is, that owing to the sudden departure from the latter Camp, the Company was unable to fulfil its supreme desire of capturing the Fire Control Cup.

2/Lieut. Campbell has again disappeared; this time to the more cheerful atmosphere of Folkestone. He is expected to call in at the Army School of Education and we sincerely hope that he brings back a "D" with him. Which reminds us that we must congratulate Sergt. Gatehouse on obtaining the coveted "Distinguished" at the Small Arms School, Netheravon, and also the other members of the company who obtained qualifications on the recent course held there.

In the realm of sport, we have, in common with other Companies, little to record. Whilst at Warminster we played "C" Company in the inter-Company cricket knock-out and lost a truly exciting game by one wicket. We congratulate "C" on eventually winning this tournament. In the Battalion cross-country run, which was held on the last Saturday at Camp, we gained third place, which was an improvement on last season.

To revert to the hardy annual, "By the time these notes are in print," a Squad will have joined us from the Depot. In welcoming them to the Company we would point out to them that our motto is "Nulli Secundus."

And finally, as a token of our thanks to the painstaking readers who have perused these notes, we offer our best wishes for an enjoyable Christmas and unbounded prosperity in the forthcoming year.

"B" COMPANY

It is good to know that, as our journal notes are handed in to the Editor, the tension regarding the European situation has relaxed.

To return to the activities of the Company. On the Combined Operations held in June, the Company did very well. The first day at sea in the H.M.T. *Lancashire* was most uncomfortable, due to the heavy swell that was encountered. On shore the Company *humped* their stores like Trojans, for a few miles before occupying their position. One Platoon was pushed out into the "Blue" to protect a flank. An Officer of very high rank could not make out where this Platoon had vanished to until it was discovered that he was standing on top of one of the Sections. The Platoon, under the command of Lieut. Warwick, S.R.O., was congratulated on its camouflaged position.

The last night of the operations was the very devil. The sea grew too rough for the Company to re-embark. 2/Lieut. Marshall and his Platoon with the C.S.M. were left ashore; all were soaked to the skin. Instead of riding into Dartmouth eight miles away on trucks, the men requested to march there. The distance was nothing compared with the steep hills that had to be climbed in the raging gale. A most welcome halt was had at a certain inn in the village of Strete, on the way to the Royal Naval College.

At Camp, we welcomed Major F. G. Parker to the Company and we hope he will stay with us. We must also take this opportunity of

welcoming C.S.M. Poulter and C.Q.M.S. Thompson. The former spent much of his early soldiering in "B" Company and we wish him as happy a time as he enjoyed with the Drums and "H.Q." Company. Also, we welcome Sergt. S. Smith to the Company and regret to say good-bye to Sergt. Hows, who has gone to join the Transport Staff.

We welcome the Draft from the Depot and hope that they will soon settle down and do their share towards the good work of the Company.

The Company carried out its usual training at Camp, but, unfortunately, they were very much below strength. Our sudden return to Barracks spoilt our chance of winning the A.R.A. competition! Our thanks are due to Lieut. Willoughby and R.S.M. Parsler for the time they spent coaching our team. Inexperienced as the team was, it displayed great keenness. It was disappointing we had not the chance of fulfilling our quiet hopes.

On the return to Gosport we spent a few very hectic days in organising and assisting in A.R.P. work. Although the good work is being continued, things are beginning to look towards the Brigadier's Inspection.

We congratulate Lieut. Lane on the occasion of his marriage, also Sergt. West and L/Cpl. Wyllie.

We congratulate L/Cpl. Parton-Old on his promotion to that rank.

C.Q.M.S. Thompson, L/Sergts. Elcome, Soden, L/Cpls. Ceaton and Fegan have all qualified on the Machine Gun Instructors' Course at the S.A.S., Netheravon.

L/Sergt. Fuller attended a Range-Finding Course at the S.A.S., Netheravon, which he completed successfully.

Pte. Reed qualified at a Course of Butchery at Bulford Camp.

L/Cpl. Hudson underwent a Boxing Course at Aldershot.

The Company met "H.Q." Company in the first round of the inter-Company cricket shield. "H.Q." batted first and began rather shakily, Capt. Stephenson and L/Cpl. Ceaton taking the wickets, but L/Cpl. Risley and Major Reid drove the ball all round the wicket. When "B" Company went in to bat they had to face a total of 94. After a promising start by the opening pair, 2/Lieut. Marshall and Pte. Reeve, the Company collapsed and were all out for 41. Capt. Stephenson was caught at the wicket by a magnificent catch. Capt. Stephenson took 7 wickets for 17 runs.

The Company entered a six-a-side soccer team in the Ludgershall Festival. They did very well and reached the final, having accounted for the Tanks and many other teams. Team members received a prize each, including the trainer who was roped in at the last minute!

While at Warminster the Company played Sutton Viny at soccer and lost 0-4.

The Company is looking forward to the inter-Platoon and inter-Company Soccer.

"C" COMPANY

Since the last time of going to Press, a large amount of water has flown under the bridge, no small portion of the spate consisting of that all-important part of our military training which is spent in Camp.

Contrary to the almost traditional practice, M.G. Concentration followed our stay in the 9th Infantry Brigade Camp, which was held at Tidworth Pennings. For our more specialised training we proceeded once more to our old friend, Warminster Camp. Life in both places was Camp routine as usual, with plenty of hard work carried out with great enthusiasm by all ranks. We feel that we should rather stress the word "hard," as we were handicapped more than somewhat by the acute shortage of personnel, which is felt so much by a Machine Gun Regiment. At the same time, we are feeling rather sorry for ourselves in not being able to fire off our A.R.A. competition shoot, owing to the fun and games in Europe which curtailed our time at Warminster by four days.

We have regretfully said "Farewell" to Capt. Weller, our Company Commander, and in his place we welcome Capt. Crawford, who will only be with us for a short time, and Capt. Ferguson, who is no stranger to the Company, having been with the old "C" (M.G.) Company six years ago.

We are certainly feeling a trifle perky at present for we are now Battalion cricket champions, having defeated "H.Q.'s" galaxy of stars in the final. This was mainly due to some good batting by 2/Lieut. Lyon, and some wily trundling by C.S.M. Kennett and Pte. Spittles. Good show, chaps.

Congratulations are due to Sergt. Snell, Cpl. Davidson, and L/Cpl. Rouse on their qualifications at the S.A. School, Netheravon. While on this engrossing subject we should like to offer our best wishes and congratulations

to Cpl. Delaney, who has seen the error of his ways, and taken unto himself a wife. Let us hope that with this inspiration he will play football better than ever.

Turning to the other, not-so-cheerful side we must commiserate with Pte. Gray, who sustained an ankle injury from a fall of earth, and with Pte. Baggs, who was concussed following a praise-worthy effort to bend an Anti-tank Rifle around his neck. We wish them both a speedy recovery, and a warning not to wax too nautical after their return from Haslar.

Individual Training is now starting: so the daily round and the common task (quotation to the uninitiated) goes on; ere long, we shall be at Camp again, which brings us to a more or less graceful finish, wishing all members of the Company, old and new, the best of everything.

After-thought. One of the tame hack writers in our midst has suddenly sprung upon us, waving frantically a sheaf of white paper, marred only by some vile scrawl. Not wishing to discourage any budding talent, we include his effusion, but most emphatically disclaim any responsibility, at the same time beating our brow upon the ground for any departure from our well-known high standard of prose.

THOUGHTS FOR NEXT YEAR'S CAMP

1. Electric light might be laid on.
2. Water in pipes to the tents and not so much in "deluge" manner.
3. Courses in navigation might be held to enable trucks to negotiate the plains in wet weather with more ease.

"D" COMPANY

Our notes this quarter start in a very sad vein. We regret to announce the death of Pte. Smith (64), who died in August at the Royal Naval Hospital, Haslar, from double pneumonia. The whole Company attended the funeral at Portsdown Hills.

He was a re-enlisted Reservist and had spent twelve years with the Battalion. Most of us knew him only for a short while, and although quiet and reserved, he was, nevertheless, very popular.

The Company has undergone such drastic changes since the last issue of the Journal that it is necessary, at this early stage, to introduce the reader to the revised "D" Company, in

order that he (or she!) may be able to comment justly and without bias on our successes and/or failures.

We heartily welcome Capt. C. M. Baldwin, M.B.E., our new Company Commander, Capt. A. M. Man and Lieut. A. S. J. de S. Clayton; also C.S.M. Kemp from "B" Company. From the Depot we welcome Cpls. Lovell, Hockley, Robins and L/Cpl. Wells, together with two drafts of recruits, Badajos and Ypres. We hope that their stay will be long and pleasant.

We regret to record the departure of our late Company Commander, Major E. M. G. Wray, D.S.O., who has forsaken us for the hazards of Palestine. Our best wishes go with him for a successful tour in his appointment and trust that the *Aquitania* proved more satisfactory than the trooper which he missed.

C.Q.M.S. Misso, who was an "all-round" favourite during the time he was with us, has left for Vocational Training, and L/Cpl. Farrington has left us for a spell at the Depot. We wish them luck in their respective spheres.

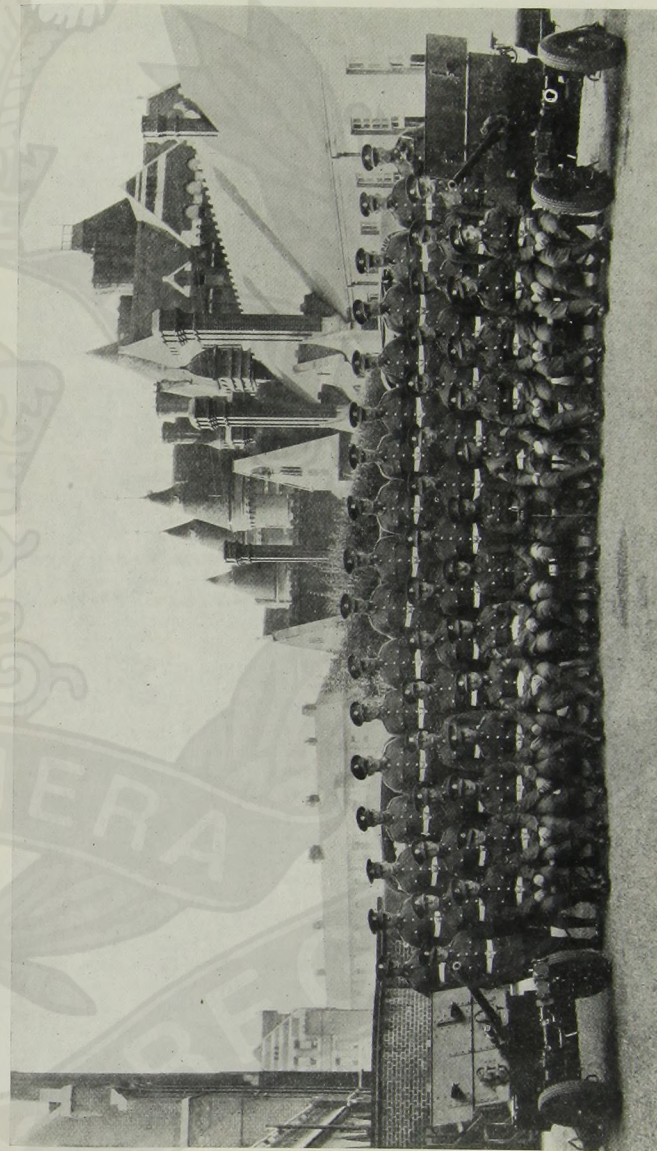
In the realms of sport we have little to record. The cricket results would, no doubt, have been more promising if we had had time to discover the hidden talent in our last two drafts, but any setback experienced here was counterbalanced by our success in the first Battalion Cross-country Run, where we gained second place. Our football team shows promise this year and gave "C" Company a very good game at Camp, despite the lack of sports gear. Nearly all the Company are buying football boots in the near future and, judging from the optimism expressed in the barrack rooms, it appears that when they arrive "D" Company will be a force to be reckoned with on the playing fields this season.

In the "exciting events" column, we find little that affects the Company as a whole, yet we were represented throughout the last quarter by a few stalwarts, each in his own sphere.

From tales that have been told, the writer thinks it best to pass over the period of the "Combined Operations," but he believes Pte. Birt enjoyed himself and felt quite at ease amid the turmoil.

Tidworth Tattoo also saw us represented and lurid tales are told of murky doings during the "blackouts."

Next comes Camp at Tidworth, where we were joined by the second draft. Camp this year did not give us an opportunity of distinguishing ourselves, our time being taken in



"D" COMPANY, 2nd BATTALION MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (D.C.O.) ANTI-TANK GUN COMPANY, 1936
Commanded by Capt. E. M. G. Wray, D.S.O.

[Photo by J. Russell & Son, Southsea]

learning the mysteries of Platoon Drill, after which we were torn asunder and thrown to the other Companies to complete their organisation.

Concentration at Warminster was merely an excuse to make us work hard and long and our sudden return to barracks gave us an opportunity of boasting of what we would have done in the A.R.A. Cup.

That brings us to these last few days. We are proud of our prowess at "sand-bagging" and still fondly pat the bulwarks outside the Company rooms, strutting around with the air of master craftsmen. We thought we were good at digging until we heard Pte. Flynn's opinion on the subject. But as his opinion was given in the heat of the moment (and in broad Scotch at that) we still think we're good. Yet there is no doubt that the activities during the past week have taught us a great deal.

Sergts. Scott, Moir, Cpl. Jennings and L/Cpl. Farrington attended the last Machine Gun Course at Netheravon, and between them managed to bag two "Ds" out of the six which were awarded on the Course—five of them came to this Battalion. The going was far from easy and we congratulate these ex-A/T gunners on a rapid but successful change-over. L/Cpl. Newton is at present on a M.T. Course at the Austin works at Warwick; we wish him luck and look forward to seeing him back among us soon. In addition, Pte. Bradshaw attended a Hygiene Course at Aldershot and qualified.

In closing, the Company extend their heartfelt sympathy to Cpl. Lovell on the occasion of his marriage on 8th October. We sense a conspiracy somewhere and warn bachelors elsewhere against visiting the houses of comrades. Verily, the teachings of "Ol' Joe" are surely spreading throughout our fair Battalion.

"H.Q." COMPANY

Since the middle of July the Company has been split up. The Band and Drums took part in the Tidworth Tattoo, leaving Gosport about 17th July. The Drums joined us in Tidworth a month later, after a week's leave. But the Band had further engagements and did not come to Camp until the end of August.

On 10th August the whole Battalion left Gosport for four weeks' collective training at Tidworth, but the Wing only functioned twice as Battalion H.Q.

On 8th September we moved to Warminster for three weeks' concentration, but even here we have not been all together for long. The Band have had their promised week's leave from 9th to 18th September, and on the 21st the Drums and Boys left for Gosport.

Everybody has been buying football boots for the Platoon League, which will be in full swing by the time these notes are published. Good luck to the Wing.

The situation in Europe gave us a very hurried move back from Camp two days earlier than expected. Also plenty of sand-bag filling and inspections, etc. But it looks as if we shall play our football this winter at least.

SIGNALS

Hold the line, you Signallers, while I enlighten you on the events of the last quarter.

As I compile these notes there are many changes to report. First, let us wish *bon voyage* to our Signal Officer, who is away to Palestine; we hope he makes as big a success of Cipher Officer as he did of Signal Officer. We also add to our list of "Gone but not forgotten" the most illustrious "Baggy," "Paddy" (he who never sleeps), L/Cpl. Rawlinson, Ptes. Atkins, George and O. Farrell; we wish them every success in their new spheres.

We take pleasure in welcoming our "Signal Officer-to-be," Mr. Passy, and hope he enjoys his training at Catterick as much as former Signal Officers have done.

We also extend the hand of welcome to the lads who are to form our "New Class" and hope their stay will be a long and pleasant one.

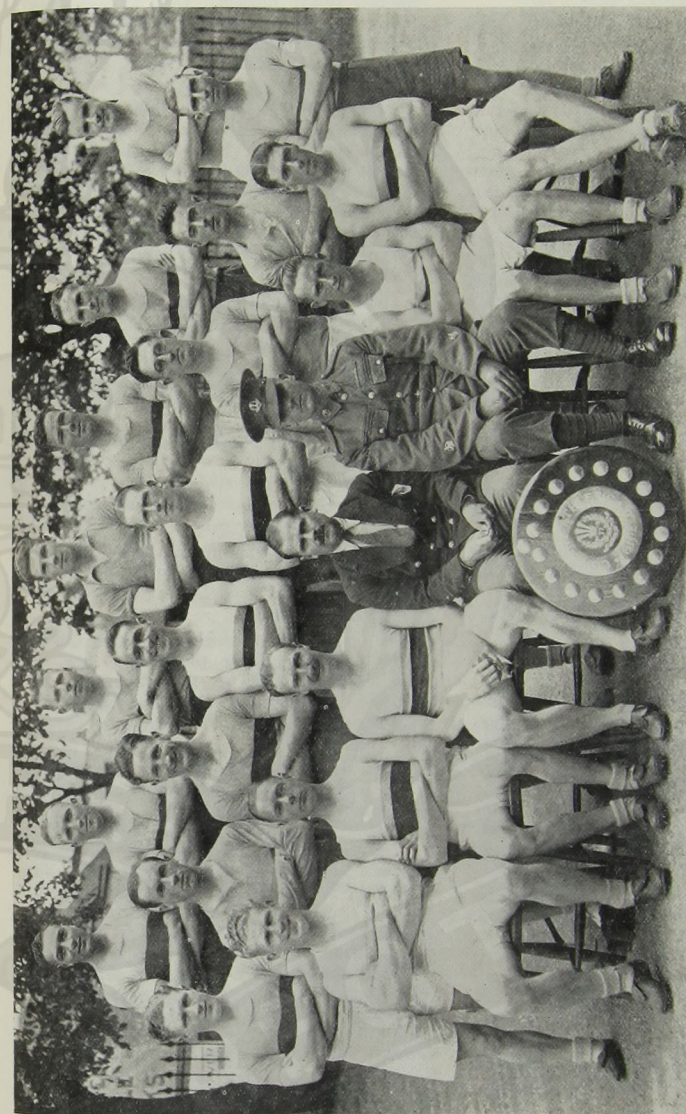
Congratulations to L/Cpl. Butterworth on his appointment, and hope he gets those other two subjects to help him on his way to promotion.

At the moment it is the "Pick and Shovel" not the "Flag, Signalling, Small" which is spoiling our lovely hands, but we are about to get down to Signalling business once more, with our objective, Classification, like a mirage in the desert of the future.

However, the "Flag Waggers" have a reputation to keep up, so get to it, my lads, and remember the password ("Think").

We send our best wishes to our confederates overseas, and hope L/Cpl. Miller returns to them with the coveted "D."

OVER.



2nd BATTALION THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (D.C.O.) "H.Q." COMPANY
Winners Inter-Company Athletics, 1938

Back row, left to right—Pte. Malka, Pte. Parker, Pte. Turbuck, Dmr. Street, Dmr. Ryder, L/Cpl. Green, Pte. Cronin
Second row, left to right—Bdmm. Burrell, L/Cpl. Riseley, L/Cpl. White, Bdmm. Baker, * Pte. Fabray, * Bdmm. Allbrook, Pte. Crosthwaite, L/Cpl. Jones
Front row, left to right—Bdmm. Phipps, * L/Cpl. Caney, * Lieut. J. W. G. Ormiston, Capt. A. E. Green, C.S.M. Poulter, Dmr. Salmon, * Pte. Pearce, *
Absent: Cpl. Peasley, * L/Cpl. Rawlinson, * Bdmm. Clubb, * Pte. Connor
* Member of Battalion Athletic Team

EMPLOYED GROUP

Much has happened both within the Battalion and in the world at large since the last publication of the Journal. Events succeed each other with such surprising rapidity nowadays that each quarter seems like a century. Less than a week ago we all thought that these notes would have to be written from the front line; we are indeed happy to say that such a possibility is also something to be recorded as past history.

However, we have now recovered from a somewhat hasty return from Camp and are now hard at work with our Individual Training. In spite of living in such momentous days there is very little to report. The chief item of news is the departure of Sergt. Beaveridge for Vocational Training; we are all sorry to lose a very popular member of the Group and wish him success in civilian life. His successor as Sergeant Master Cook is not yet known, but we may be sure that his good work will be carried on.

We offer our congratulations to Pte. Bishop, our Company Storeman, on his marriage. Mrs. Bishop is no stranger to the Battalion, being a daughter of C.S.M. Poulter, our erstwhile leader. We hope that they will be very happy.

SPARKING PLUG.

DRUMS

Well, here we are again, chapsies. Quite a lot has happened since our last Journal notes; too much, in fact. The Old Corps was caught for distemper the Barracks, but hang on a jiffy, we are a little ahead of ourselves.

First we did a Combined Exercise. In the last issue somebody said shades of Corfe Castle; we retract that and say shades of Gallipoli.

A day at sea and you never saw such a mess in all your lives. None of us felt too good. Best of it was, we had liver for breakfast; it did not agree with most people. Who was it who went down into the hammock room, and came up quicker than he went down? No names, no Cocker.

After we had finished our stunt we took off from the beach in a howling storm. We still hear a familiar voice saying, "Put that bottle down and pump up."

By the way, when disembarking from the troopship someone pulled the plug out of

number twelve lifeboat. Does anyone know the culprit? Well, we arrived back safely without any casualties, after having sailed the high seas for three days.

We have had an enjoyable three weeks at the Tidworth Tattoo. The first week or so was rather trying as we had to do a lot of rehearsing; but the Boys did not mind, as long as they could get a couple of quick hands in before going on to the arena. The Drums item, according to most people, was one of the best shows there, ably led by that well-known Drum-Major, Drum-Major McEnergy. Well done, the Drums!

Having departed from Tidworth, we arrived back to barracks for a much-needed ten days' leave. After leave we returned to Tidworth Pennings for another Camp, which lasted for three weeks. It was an enjoyable Camp, except for a couple of incidents, namely, being in the back of Kenny's truck; he nearly ditched us. Still he has not driven for a long time, so we forgive him. On the completion of Pennings Camp the Drums did rear party. And did we whip those tents down quickly! We left Old Robbo roasting.

From Pennings we were away to yet another Camp, Warminster this time, for M.G. Concentration. Hold your horses; the Drums are on fatigues again.

We hear a rumour wafting on the breeze of a cross-country run in the offing; but, as luck would have it, we were taken back to barracks to distemper same, but before we had finished the Battalion was back, before their time.

We take this opportunity to congratulate Dmr. Drury on his appointment to Lance-Corporal. We wish good luck to L/Cpl. Phipps and Dmrs. Havell and Burt on their move to "Civvy Street," where they will very likely starve. We have also lost L/Cpls. Ceaton and Burchell, two good Drummers, who have left the old Corps for a job of a lower order. We also heartily welcome Boy Judge who has attained the ripe old age of eighteen; he can now smoke up. We have now three new members, Ptes. Slater, Day and Sales, and we hope they will settle down to a pleasant life. Don't let Bob teach you Rummy; he is a shark.

We are all glad to be back, and are all looking forward to a well-earned month's leave. Best wishes to all Drummers at home and abroad.

SEVEN OF A KIND.

BOYS

Since our last issue our ranks have been augmented to an incredible size. Owing to this our football team has improved very much, and the behaviour is expected to be of a much higher standard than our very weak efforts of last season. It is with pride that once again this year we have a Boy training with the Battalion representatives, this time for football, and we hope that comrade Masters will be able to give formidable opposition to our opposing teams.

Our experience has now been enlarged as for the last week we had a hectic time filling sand-bags, an art which we all agree is best left alone by us. At least it gave us an idea of the consequences if the Powers went further than a crisis. We are now back to normal routine (thank goodness) and we are certainly more agreeable to the normal than the abnormal.

This year we were more fortunate, or unfortunate, as others would say, in visiting that healthy seaside place known as Tidworth twice in one year. Amongst other places we also visited Warminster, a place familiar to most members of the Battalion, but it was a new experience to us. With regard to cricket this year, we had the grand total of three matches (any more and we would have to put in for E.D. Pay). Two of the above were against the K.O.S.B.s' Boys and one against the Gosport Boys' Club.

Our congratulations are waved to Boy Cox, who, through a grand performance at school, obtained three Ds in his second class certificate. We now hope that the same will happen in his next exertions for the coveted First.

We say good-bye to Pte. Judge, who has now gone on his service. (He can now smoke in public.) We also say good-bye to a cheery little fellow "Do Do Williams." We hope he has a successful future in "Civvy Street." To L/Cpl. Avery we say farewell; he was very popular in our midst and we wish him well in the future.

From one crisis to another, we are preparing for the Brigadier's Inspection, and, by the look of it, smartness will be prominent, according to the way drill was carried out one fine Saturday morning, not long after we returned to Warminster.

During the walnut season (now banned) many were the times a few of us thanked our lucky stars for the fact that walnut stain on the fingers looks like the "forbidden fruit", and hand inspection was, shall we say, a farce during that period.

Well, not to take up any more room in the Journal we will close by wishing our comrades of the 1st Battalion all the best, hoping they receive eighteen more boys to their ranks with pleasure.

SOLO TURN OVER.

BAND

By the time these notes appear we shall have completed another year of collective training. Warminster Camp and other famous resorts will have been banished from our bright lexicon. We now have the Director of Music's Annual Inspection coming along.

These last few months have found us fully occupied. Regimental Depot Week proved our step off. "Jet Black" and her seven satellites were in great demand, so much so that the Bandmaster thinks about giving the services of "Snowy White, etc." to the local A.R.P. Officer for the bomb proofing of unkind remarks.

Tidworth Tattoo once again was a huge success; the male voice singing by the Massed Bands was a new item on this year's programme, in which "Shoddy, Blanco and Ugly" surpassed themselves on their final hey ho!

Fratton Park Tattoo, on Portsmouth's football ground, met with well-earned applause, especially when "Pompey" team made a personal appearance. How many of us remembered a certain time when they let us down on the coupon!

By far the most pleasant engagement of the season was our week on South Parade Pier, at Southsea. We were fortunate in having some really good weather. This, combined with Oscar's imitation of a cock crow and Salsos' rendering of the cat (see Three Blind Mice), not to mention the numerous novelty numbers, assisted in giving the programme that spice so necessary when the general public have to be considered. An unkind member of the Band suggested having "Bozzles' Head" on top of the bandstand with a halo of electric light around to serve as an attraction!

All members take this opportunity of heartily congratulating the Bandmaster and Mrs. Dennis on the birth of their daughter.

L/Cpls. Risely and Avery and Bdmn. Sheeves are due for A.V.T.C. shortly. We wish them the very best of luck in their future employments.

Our very best wishes to the gentlemen of the 1st Battalion and Lenny, Bill and Joe! Nasty work.
A. R. P.

CORPORALS' CLUB

Again we have been asked to become literary experts, hence this column.

Nothing of great importance has happened since our last issue, unless we can call seven weeks in Camp important. We did not have any opportunity for an outing as is our usual custom whilst at Camp, but we think that the most enjoyable evenings that were spent in the Combined Mess at Tidworth compensated us for the loss of an outing. We did, however, have a change of scenery when we shifted from Tidworth to Warminster, especially as it was the first time that quite a few of our members had been there.

On return to Barracks we set out to try to make the Mess look like a Brigade "H.Q." of 1914, as the floor below the Mess was commandeered for Advanced "H.Q." during the recent crisis and surrounded by sand-bags, etc. It looked every bit the part; happily it all blew over.

The dance season is on us once more and we wonder if it would not be a good plan to keep up our fortifications until the close of the season as, after all, a chap must have a little cover. We have lost some of our members, namely, Cpl. Read, L/Cpls. Phipps, Firth, and Avery, to A.C.T.C., and all our good wishes go with them in their new sphere of life.

At the time of going to Press, Cpls. Davidson, Delaney, Cummins, and Trotobas have gone to the Senior Mess, and we offer them our warmest congratulations.

In conclusion, we wish the 1st Battalion Junior N.C.O.s' Mess all that they wish themselves for the coming season.

SERGEANTS' MESS

With the War, and rumours of the War, it would be small wonder if we were unable to contribute any notes to the journal at all this quarter, as we have been busy "mobilising" and "gas defencing" the last few days. However, the excitement having subsided we are able to contribute a few remarks, just to make our presence in the journal still felt.

We are back in Barracks from Camp, after a very hurried packing up on 26th September, and having been back a week or so, are settled down to Barrack routine once more.

We are looking forward to the winter season, with its quota of dances and winter entertainments, and hope to arrange our full programme shortly. Thanks to Chamberlain, we shall be able to have our entertainments in Gosport, and not in the centre of Europe. The Camp period passed very uneventfully, albeit very pleasantly. It began to get rather cool towards the end, but the Mess was made very comfortable with hired furniture and there were "no complaints." We had a very pleasant interlude in the shape of a cricket match with the Officers on the last Sunday in Warminster, as a result of the Officers challenging us. The ground of the Warminster Cricket Club was secured and our gathering was supplemented by the presence of a few of the ladies. Despite Capt. Stephenson's bowling, we managed to score a victory, the scores being, Officers 54, and Sergeants 75. It is obvious there could not have been any outstanding scores in such a total, and it is sufficient to say that all the members of the team did their best and contributed their quota.

We have to offer our congratulations to C.S.M. Kemp on his promotion, and C.Q.M.S. Thompson on his. Also to Sergt. Makewell on being made up to full rank and L/Sergt. Smith on his entry into the Mess. The last two have been re-posted to the Battalion from the Depot, and we extend them a hearty welcome back to the Mess.

Our heartiest congratulations to Bandmaster Dennis on an increase in family.

Sergt. R. Smith has left us for the Regimental Depot, and we wish him the best of luck there.

C.Q.M.S. Misso has left us for Vocational Training, and we hope he finds a suitable job and wish him every success in civilian life.

Battalion Headquarters have not yet been able to sort out the new Warrant Officers, Class III, to be promoted in accordance with recent Army Council instructions, and speculation is rife. We shall be able to congratulate them in our next issue.

It is rather novel to see the Company Sergeant-Majors walking about wearing the Crown in wreath badge and will be apt to be a little confusing until we get used to it.

We must apologise for our meagre notes this time and have already made our excuses for the same. We shall have to make up for them next issue, when we should have a good deal to report and comment on.

ATHLETICS

On 25th June the Medley relay team, consisting of Capt. Powell and 2/Lieut. Passy (220 yards), Lieut. Willoughby (440 yards), and Bdmn. Clubb (880 yards), won the Hants County Championship Cup for the second year in succession, recording the fast time of 3 min. 39.4-5 sec. This race was run in the above order. The Regiment lay second after the two 220 yards, but a good run by Lieut. Willoughby gave us the lead which Clubb held in spite of very strong opposition. Cpl. Peasley, L/Cpl. Rawlinson, Bdmn. Phipps, and 2/Lieut. Lyon won the Open Medley Relay, run at Whale Island Sports, and Cpl. Hinch, Sergt. West, Pte. Douglas, and Bdmn. Phipps won the Open Medley Relay at the R.A.F. Sports, Gosport.

It was particularly good to win all three races with almost three completely different teams and shows the keenness displayed by the many runners, one or two of whom, although reserves, did not compete in the Army Meetings.

L/Cpl. Coleman did very well to run second in the mile at the Hants County Championships.

ARMY INTER-UNIT CHAMPIONSHIP

On 3rd July, the Battalion athletic team travelled to Aldershot and stayed at Corrinia Barracks, where they were very well looked after by the Hampshire Regiment, and on the 4th and 5th July the heats and finals took place.

It was extremely unfortunate that Major Haydon was unable to put the weight owing to the exigencies of the Service. Pte. Davis was also sick, but 2/Lieut. Lyon, who took his place, did well to jump 5 ft. 4 in.

We had one disaster besides these casualties. One of the three-miles team did not finish and we only scored four points instead of at least 12 points (eight teams took part). This undoubtedly lost us second place in the whole show, for the remainder of the teams were well up to form in their various events.

It was exceptionally creditable to win all the flat relays in times that compared well with the records, although our 4 x 440 yards team was certainly expected to do well.

The hurdle team scored 50 per cent. of their possible points after scoring 40 per cent. at Tidworth and 25 per cent. at Portsmouth. Special mention might be made of L/Cpl. Coleman's third in the mile and fourth in the three mile. Also Pte. Grogan's

10 ft. 9 in. pole vault and Pte. Fabray's 113 ft. 8 in. in the hammer amongst many good individual performances. But it was the excellent team spirit which got us third place, only 3½ points behind the Northants and 43 points ahead of the forty-fourth team. The Cheshires, who won by a dozen points, were undoubtedly the better team on the day. They only once dropped lower than fourth place and that was in a field event. If the Regimental team can just improve in one or two places next year, they must stand an even better chance of winning. Lieut. Unwin being available will undoubtedly assist materially.

It is to be hoped that all possible members of next year's team will not only get themselves fit early in the season, but assist their Company teams in finding fresh talent.

Only two competitors did any good at the Army individual meeting held on 8th and 9th July, which came very soon after the team competition. Lieut. Willoughby won the quarter mile for the third year in succession in the fast time of 50.2-10 secs. But he only just beat Pte. Baldwin, Lancashire Fusiliers, by inches. (Pte. Baldwin went on to lower the Army half-mile record and ran second in the A.A.A. 880 yards.)

Bdmn. Clubb elected to run also for the 440 yards this year and did well to gain an Army Standard Medal and came in fourth.

Lieut. Willoughby, besides representing the Army, won the Hants County 440 yards championship for the second year in succession and reached the semi-final of the A.A.A. championship 440 yards this year.

TEAMS

(Relays in order of running)

4 x 110 Yards.—1, Bdmn. Phipps, 2/Lieut. Passy, Sergt. West, Capt. Powell.

4 x 220 Yards.—1, Bdmn. Phipps, Bdmn. Clubb, Lieut. Willoughby, 2/Lieut. Passy, Capt. Powell.

4 x 440 Yards.—1, 2/Lieut. Lyon, Capt. Powell, Bdmn. Clubb, Lieut. Willoughby.

4 x 880 Yards.—1, Cpl. Peasley, Lieut. Willoughby, Cpl. Hinch, Bdmn. Clubb.

One Mile.—3, L/Cpl. Coleman, Cpl. Hinch, Cpl. Peasley, L/Cpl. Caney.

Three Miles.—7, L/Cpl. Coleman, L/Cpl. Caney, Pte. Gosling, Pte. Gaffney.

Hurdles.—5, Lieut. Bilborough, Cpl. Delaney, Lieut. Ormiston, 2/Lieut. Lyon.

Long Jump.—3, Pte. Lowton, Pte. Sharp.

High Jump.—3, 2/Lieut. Lyon, Pte. Pearce (Pte. Davis, absent).

Pole Vault.—2, Pte. Grogan, Pte. Connor.

Weight.—5, Pte. Eyles, L/Cpl. Coleman (Major Haydon, M.C., absent).

Hammer.—2, Pte. Fabray, Bdmn. Baker.
Discus.—6, Pte. Fabray, L/Cpl. Coleman.
Javelin.—2, Cpl. West, Pte. Law.

The other Regiments with teams in the final besides those mentioned above were:

Training Battalion R.E.(4th), The Wiltshire Regiment, The East Surrey Regiment, The Buffs, and the Scots Guards.

CRICKET

Judged purely from results, the season may be considered a disappointing one. Fortunately, statistics never made any game, and discarding any idea to chronicle them, let us hasten to the simple, but none the less real enjoyment of our final games played on the village green.

To forget to mention the game against Hampshire Hogs would be uncharitable. They are our strongest opponents and a severe defeat of last year had to be revenged. We lost by 90 runs. Lieut. Ormiston alone made any runs. Our tail almost doubled the score, but 84 was not sufficient, and they won by three wickets. Pte. Allen bowled very well, taking 5 wickets for 53 runs. We beat R.A.F., Lee-on-Solent, handsomely and drew with R.A.F., Gosport.

Ludgershall were our first village opponents, and they were keen to try our suggestion of playing 24 overs each side, and even keener that the game should be finished when the match was theirs. Their earlier batsmen opened cautiously, as if afraid the side would be out before their time limit expired. Confidence soon grew and when it only remained to try our wicket-keeper, L/Cpl. Bailey, and C/Sergt. Deane as bowlers, they had made 147 runs for 7. L/Cpl. Butler bowled well and took two wickets in his first over. Had he bowled earlier when their hitting was less severe, he must have got more. Our time limit expired with our score 128 for 8, thanks largely to L/Cpl. Rawlinson, who made a spirited 31, and an unfinished ninth wicket partnership of 62 by Lieut. Ormiston (56) and L/Cpl. Risely (21). Their captain insisted on playing the game to the finish. Pte. Malka returned from driving L/Cpl. Rawlinson to Camp in the very nick of time. Amid great excitement he and Lieut. Ormiston knocked off the runs.

From Ludgershall to Warminster, whose XI could only make 48 in 15 overs of their 24. L/Cpl. Ceaton came on to bowl with their score at 29 for 4. Within three overs they

were all out. He only bowled two overs but took 4 wickets for 2 runs, including a hat-trick. A most meritorious hat-trick, as each time the off stump was laid flat. L/Cpl. Bailey hit lustily for 21 and with Capt. Stephenson added 30 runs. Thirty very valuable runs, as they came together when the score read 17 runs for 6 wickets. But the match was not over. One run to win and L/Cpl. Ceaton to come in. It was obviously his day, and it was only proper that he should make the winning hit with a lovely off-drive for four.

Hurstbourne Priors was some 40 miles away. Some of us had met "Albert" one evening at his residence, and "right glad" he was to arrange a game for us. It was delightful to think we should once again play on their ground and revive the memories of our games in 1935. We were at strength; we knew we needed to be. There was Albert, who gave us a warm welcome, and when we had lost the toss we were soon making our way out of their match pavilion on to their most satisfying and pleasing little ground.

Capt. Stephenson and Lieut. Weston opened the bowling. Wickets fell, bowlers were changed. Neither caused much concern to the batsmen until Capt. Baldwin was summoned from the deep. Four men were required to take his place, with two men to form an inner flank and one to run about in between. Fielders on the off-side were not required to take any active part. They had only to remember their Q.A. graph to decide which ball would get a wicket. Numbers 8, 9, and 10 of Hurstbourne Priors found that the angle of sight and the angle of descent called for great presence of mind. They struck, only to find Capt. Man performing prodigies of fielding at square leg, or that they had misjudged the ball. Seldom can there have been better fielding. Hurstbourne Priors made 114, and Capt. Baldwin, having seen the first-class averages that day, was heard to remark that he had a better average than Capt. Stephenson. True, his two wickets cost only 14 runs.

We began badly. Lieut. Weston and Capt. Stephenson added 60 runs, and Lieut. Lyon knocked up a very gay 12 runs. Lieut. Symes and Lieut. Willoughby had settled their bet on their respective scores with honours even; eight wickets were down for 111 and darkness had set in. We saw Capt. Green set off to join Lieut. Weston, and help him reach his 50. We saw Capt. Green running very fast once or twice, and then from out of the gloom

a loud "How's that?" against Lieut. Weston. There was an appreciable delay before we saw him returning to the pavilion. He was out for a very well-played 59, but how? Leg-before-wicket? But what was all the delay and talking about? "The umpire asked me if the ball had hit my leg. I said 'Yes'. The umpire raised his finger—which I could not see—and shouted 'Out'!"

2/Lieut. Marshall and Capt. Baldwin took our score to 131, and our day was over when we had an opportunity to remind Albert of our past encounters.

The Company cricket went to "C" after a surprising, but well-deserved, win over "H.Q." They had previously beaten "A" after an exciting match. "A" Company all out 20, C.S.M. Kennett 7 wickets for 8 runs. "C" Company all out 37, after being 17 for 8. "B" were beaten by "H.Q.," thanks to L/Cpl. Risely, who made 28 runs and, partnered by Major Reid, hit Capt. Stephenson away hard and true to the boundary. Ninety-three needed some making. Pte. Cooper, "H.Q." wicket-keeper, brought off a really magnificent catch to dispose of Capt. Stephenson. 2/Lieut. Marshall and Pte. Reeve had given the Company a good start, but after that only Lieut. Clayton made any show against Lieut. Ormiston and L/Cpl. Risely.

In the final, "H.Q." all out 34 (C.S.M. Kennett, 6 for 10; and Pte. Spittles, 3 for 13) was surprisingly beaten. Major Reid was unable to play. His batting and slip fielding might have made a great difference. L/Cpl. Risely made 11. Capt. Green shaped confidently for a brief moment, but was caught and bowled off a full pitch. He made a great effort to win the match in his first two overs. He took two wickets for no runs in his first, and had Lieut. Lyon dropped off a hard, but possible chance in his second. Lieut. Lyon went on to make 40, including two huge sixes and "C" Company had won by seven wickets.

The season ended with the Officers versus Sergeants' match, played as a 24 over game after the final of the Company cricket on the last Sunday in Camp. The Officers' challenge was readily accepted, but a doubt existed among the Sergeants as to whether, without outside assistance from the Corporals, they would be strong enough. The result leaves no doubt whatsoever on the matter. C.S.M. Kennett, having previously helped to dismiss "H.Q." Company on a sticky wicket and then volunteered to assist in rolling the stick-

ness in, proceeded to win the toss. He looked long at the coin and long at Capt. Stephenson, once again at the coin and towards his team, and then decided to bat. All Officers bowled. Nearly all got wickets. We hoped much from Capt. Baldwin, remembering when he last played he took six wickets. He got three this time, but somehow the Q.A. graph was not accurate. Possibly Sergt. Day, who not only knew his machine gunning but had happened in the Ahmednagar days to have played with Capt. Baldwin, was the culprit. He certainly gave Capt. Baldwin much difficulty in positioning his deep fielders, and gave them many a long and desperate chase to the boundary. But Sergt. Day alone did not defy the Officers. C/Sergt. Bishop was impregnable and unmovable. His bat moved little. He ran a little. When he did run, he made sure his many partners conformed to his tempo. He was out only to a brilliant catch to Lieut. Symes.

Set 74 to win the Officers began disastrously. Lieut. Ormiston was bowled by a snorter from Sergt. West for none. Capt. Green really seemed in form. He struck the ball hard and clean for two fours, only to attempt to mow it in vain for six. Lieut. Symes promised well for seven, before falling to another good ball from Sergt. West. Lieut. Lyon hit a four in a manner to give the Officers real encouragement. C.S.M. Kemp turned a ball the width of the wicket, and Lieut. Lyon was out off his pads. Major Haydon smacked his first ball from C.S.M. Kemp hard, break or no break. Unfortunately, it was brilliantly stopped. Another devilish break and again the ball hit the stumps via the batsman's legs. Not content with these twists and turns, C.S.M. Kemp proceeded to hold a very unfair catch in the slips to dismiss Lieut. Passy for a duck. Then came the Officers' last (but one?) hope to join Capt. Stephenson, the latter looking most uncomfortable, but trying to appear in complete mastery. Enough of him, here was Lieut. Pilley. Here was an invaluable No. 10, ripe with experience, gifted with tactics and a master of positional play. He was nearly run out running one of Capt. Stephenson's ten singles, and then, a little out of breath, settled down to play his part. He saw Capt. Stephenson, hopelessly at sea to a ball from C.S.M. Kemp, which hit the batsman's leg. There was (and there is an intonation) an appeal, which Capt. Stephenson did not seem to hear—or was it heeded? With head bowed he seemed

to be playing the shot again as if to practise it for the next similar occasion. The umpire chided at this delay. His finger had been raised for 30 good seconds, and it must have been only a rigorous self-control which prevented him shouting "Out." Capt. Baldwin and Lieut. Pilley battled on bravely. A good catch by Sergt. Etheridge and the Officers were all out for 51. Stumps were drawn, and Capt. Man, umpiring the Officers, walked sedately to the pavilion. Sergt. Johnson (the other umpire), it was noticed, preferred to make a long detour of the pavilion as if to hide the stumps—or was it his shame?—in the precincts behind.

We are sorry to think that this is Lieut. Ormiston's last game for us for some time, and take this opportunity of wishing him good fortune in Palestine.

2ND BATTALION THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (D.C.O.) v. HAMPSHIRE HOGS

MIDDLESEX REGIMENT

Capt. J. R. B. Worton, c Evans, b Shield	5
Lieut. J. W. Ormiston, b Inman	23
Lieut. J. M. Lyon, c and b Shield	4
Capt. J. W. A. Stephenson, lbw b Inman	1
Capt. C. T. Whinney, c and b Shield	1
Capt. A. E. Green, c Inman, b Shield	0
Lieut. T. G. Symes, c Knight, b Shield	1
C.Q.M.S. Kemp, st, b Shield	13
Pte. Allen, c Biddell, b Inman	8
C.S.M. Kennett, c Biddell, b Shield	10
Sergt. Wilson, not out	2
Extras	16
Total	84

HAMPSHIRE HOGS

J. W. LeGrice, c Stephenson, b Allen	40
B. W. Evans, c Allen, b Stephenson	12
R. N. Macintosh, c Worton, b Allen	16
A. E. Knight, c Ormiston, b Green	10
P. T. Inman, b Allen	22
D. R. Woodburn, b Green	10
J. H. Biddell, b Allen	12
W. D. Pain, c Kemp, b Allen	6
B. H. Jackson, c Lyon, b Whinney	4
D. I. Fairhurst, c Allen, b Symes	26
I. N. R. Shield, not out	6
Extras	10
Total	174

Bowling

MIDDLESEX REGIMENT

Capt. Stephenson, 1 wicket for 40 runs; Capt. Whinney, 1 wicket for 34 runs; Pte. Allen, 5 wickets for 53 runs; Capt. Green, 2 wickets for 16 runs; 2/Lieut. Symes, 1 wicket for 0 runs; C.S.M. Kennett, no wickets for 21 runs.

HAMPSHIRE HOGS

J. W. R. Shield, 7 wickets for 30 runs; P. T. Inman, 3 wickets for 18 runs; J. H. Biddell, no wickets for 20 runs.

2ND BATTALION THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT v. R.A.F., LEE-ON-SOLVENT

MIDDLESEX REGIMENT

Cpl. Delaney, c Reeder, b Parham	2
L/Cpl. Pullen, c West, b Parham	13
Lieut. Lyon, c Reeder, b Credon	8
Lieut. Ormiston, b Credon	0
Capt. Green, b Credon	0
Cpl. Blackman, not out	22
L/Cpl. Bailey, c Burdle, b Taylor	29
C.S.M. Kemp, c West, b Taylor	4
Sergt. West, c Simmonds, b Credon	3
L/Cpl. Vanner, b Spurdle	9
Pte. Sprules, c Heather, b Spurdle	6
Extras	4
Total	100

R.A.F., LEE-ON-SOLENT

Spurdle, b Kemp	6
Credon, b Capt. Green	30
Parham, b Kemp	3
Taylor, b Kemp	0
West, b Kemp	12
Heather, run out	8
Simmonds, b Capt. Green	1
Wood, b Capt. Green	1
Morrell, run out	0
Reeder, run out	5
Bourne, not out	4
Extras	4
Total	74

Bowling

MIDDLESEX REGIMENT

Capt. Green, 3 wickets for 34 runs; C.S.M. Kemp, 4 wickets for 40 runs.

R.A.F., LEE-ON-SOLENT

Credon, 4 wickets for 35 runs; Parham, 2 wickets for 27 runs; Taylor, 2 wickets for 13 runs; Spurdle, 2 wickets for 6 runs; Reeder, no wickets for 15 runs.

2ND BATTALION THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT v. R.A.F., GOSPORT

R.A.F., GOSPORT

Sergt. Warren, b Blackman	1
L.A.C. Bryon, c Vanner, b Kennett	26
Cpl. Crocker, b Lyon	10
L.A.C. Green, c Lyon, b Kennett	49
S/Lt. Hamilton, not out	59
P.O. Hall, b Blackman	17
Cpl. Holland, not out	6
Extras	21
Total (for 5 wickets)	189

W.Com. Hay, F/Lt. Sandon, Cpl. Methven, and L.A.C. Darlington did not bat.

MIDDLESEX REGIMENT

Cpl. Delaney, b Holland	33
L/Cpl. Pullen, lbw b Hall	1
Lieut. Lyon, c Warren, b Crocker	0
Lieut. Ormiston, b Methven	31

C.S.M. Kemp, b Holland	2
L/Cpl. Bailey, b Holland	9
Lieut. Clayton, run out	2
Cpl. Blackman, not out	1
Extras	2

Total (for 7 wickets) 81

C.S.M. Kennett, L/Cpl. Banner, and Sergt. West did not bat.

Bowling

MIDDLESEX REGIMENT

C.S.M. Kennett, 2 wickets for 41 runs; Cpl. Blackman, 2 wickets for 40 runs; Lieut. Lyon, 1 wicket for 28 runs; C.S.M. Kemp, no wickets for 51 runs; Lieut. Ormiston, no wickets for 8 runs.

2ND BATTALION THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT v. HURSTBOURNE PRIORS

HURSTBOURNE PRIORS

J. W. Crooke, c Symes, b Lyon	47
S. Underwood, b Weston	0
W. Biggs, b Stephenson	11
D. McFaulh, b Green	4
W. O'Russell, c Symes, b Marshall	8
E. Puddefoot, run out	6
E. Willis, c Mann, b Baldwin	10
P. Mason, not out	11
E. Seaman, c Lyon, b Baldwin	0
E. Cooke, b Weston	6
J. Berry, b Weston	4
Extras	7
Total	114

MIDDLESEX REGIMENT

Cpl. Delaney, st, b Underwood	0
Capt. Mann, b Cooke	3
Lieut. Campbell, run out	6
Lieut. Weston, lbw b Russell	59
Capt. Stephenson, b Underwood	15
Lieut. Symes, played on, b Seaman	1
Lieut. Lyon, b Underwood	12
Lieut. Willoughby, b Underwood	1
Capt. Green, not out	3
Lieut. Marshall, st, b Underwood	11
Capt. Baldwin, c and b Berry	6
Extras	13
Total	131

Bowling

MIDDLESEX REGIMENT

Lieut. Weston, 3 wickets for 24 runs; Capt. Stephenson, 1 wicket for 8 runs; Capt. Green, 1 wicket for 22 runs; Lieut. Symes, no wickets for 18 runs; Lieut. Lyon, 1 wicket for 6 runs; Lieut. Marshall, 1 wicket for 6 runs; Capt. Baldwin, 2 wickets for 14 runs; Lieut. Willoughby, no wickets for 12 runs.

HURSTBOURNE PRIORS

Underwood, 5 wickets for 45 runs; Cooke, 1 wicket for 3 runs; Biggs, no wickets for 12 runs; Berry, 1 wicket for 32 runs; Seaman, 1 wicket for 16 runs; Russell, 1 wicket for 10 runs.

FINAL OF INTER-COMPANY SHIELD

"H.Q." COMPANY v. "C" COMPANY

"H.Q." COMPANY

L/Cpl. Hogg, b Kennett	2
Bdman. Phipps, b Kennett	8
Capt. Green, c and b Spittles	3
Lieut. Ormiston, b Kennett	3
L/Cpl. Bailey, c Delaney, b Kennett	1
L/Cpl. Risely, b Kennett	11
Bdman. Ryder, b Spittles	0
L/Cpl. Lloyd, run out	4
Pte. Minter, b Spittles	2
L/Cpl. Papworth, b Kennett	0
Extras	0
Total	34

Bowling

OFFICERS

Capt. Stephenson, 4 wickets for 3 runs; Capt. Green, 1 wicket for 7 runs; Lieut. Clayton, 1 wicket for 9 runs; Lieut. Passy, no wickets for 7 runs; Lieut. Lyon, no wickets for 0 runs; Capt. Sword, no wickets for 9 runs; Capt. Baldwin, 3 wickets for 23 runs; Lieut. Symes, 1 wicket for 4 runs.

SERGEANTS

Sergt. West, 3 wickets for 12 runs; Sergt. Elcome, 1 wicket for 11 runs; C.S.M. Kemp, 4 wickets for 14 runs; C.S.M. Kennett, no wickets for 5 runs; Sergt. Day, 2 wickets for 5 runs.

"C" COMPANY

Cpl. Delaney, lbw b Risely	0
Pte. Spittles, b Green	0
Sergt. Etheridge, b Green	0
Lieut. Lyon, not out	40
C.S.M. Kennett, not out	4
L/Cpl. Addy, b Phipps	1
L/Cpl. Rouse, b Lloyd	1
L/Cpl. Butler, lbw b Phipps	0
Pte. Pearson, st, b Risely	3
Pte. Nelson, not out	2
Sergt. Day, c Risely, b Lloyd	2
Extras	4
Total	57

Bowling

"C" COMPANY

C.S.M. Kennett, 6 wickets for 10 runs; Pte. Nelson, no wickets for 11 runs; Pte. Spittles, 3 wickets for 13 runs.

"H.Q." COMPANY

Capt. Green, 2 wickets for 5 runs; L/Cpl. Risely, 2 wickets for 11 runs; Lieut. Ormiston, no wickets for 24 runs; Phipps, 2 wickets for 9 runs; Lloyd, 2 wickets for 4 runs.

DOUAI AFTER TWENTY YEARS

CAPTURE BY 2ND MIDDLESEX CELEBRATED*

A MEMORABLE TRIP

BATTALION'S WAR STORY RE-LIVED

(Illustrations by kind permission of "The Ypres Times")

INVITED by the Mayor of Douai—the historic town near the Belgian Frontier in France—to a Civic Reception on Easter Sunday, 17th April, 1938, commemorating the capture of the town by the 2nd Battalion on 17th October, 1918, the Officers who were serving at the time planned a week-end tour covering all the battle fronts (except the Aisne in May, 1918) of the Battalion in France and Belgium from November, 1914, to November, 1918. The trip was organised and carried through with the utmost comfort and efficiency by the Ypres League, whose representative, Capt. R. P. Pridham, M.C., accompanied the party.

*For an account of the 2nd Battalion's entry into Douai, see THE DIE-HARDS for August, 1924, Vol. 1, No. 9, p. 258.

The Douai Flag—a beautiful silk tricolour with the words "Douai Reconnaissance, 17th Octobre, 1918" embroidered in gold—which was made and presented by the ladies of Douai, and which is now one of the most highly-prized trophies of the Battalion, was kindly lent for the occasion and was a centre of great interest at the civic reception.

Col. E. E. F. Baker, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., T.D., who had commanded the 2nd Middlesex from June, 1918, to April, 1919, led the party. He had made the most thorough preparation for the tour—so thorough that his special study has cleared up certain obscure points in the official history—with the happy result that every member of the party was able to live over again the magnificent War story of the 77th Regiment and feel under a deep sense of personal gratitude to Col. Baker for a unique experience.

Accompanying Col. Baker there were Mrs. Baker, Miss R. H. Baker, Mr. L. F. Baker, and Mr. G. L. Baker. The party also included Major A. Maurice Toye, V.C., M.C.; Capt. H. B. Birdwood, M.C., accompanied by Mrs. Birdwood and Mr. Nigel A. Birdwood; Capt. G. E. Carter; Capt. R. B. Holman, M.C., accompanied by Mrs. Holman; Capt. the Rev. A. Montgomery Mann, C.F. (T.A.); Capt. E. L. Taggart, M.C.; Lieut. H. L. Chevens, accompanied by Mrs. Chevens and Miss P. Chevens; Lieut. E. M. Davis; Mr. F. V. Allen, accompanied by Mrs. Allen. With Capt. Pridham of the Ypres League, the party also enjoyed the personal services of the League's Ypres Representative, M. Cyrille Leupe, C. de G., who endeared himself to everyone by his courtesy and helpfulness.

From the moment of our assembling at Victoria Station on Good Friday morning, until late at night on Easter Monday when we were forced to separate, we were a very happy family indeed. Not a hitch of any kind interrupted the good fellowship of the party throughout the week-end. The tour proper began at Ostend, when Col. Baker, who had issued the "general idea" in the train between London and Dover, took his place beside M. Leupe in "The Shannon Car," M. Leupe's most comfortable motor-coach.

Approaching Ypres from the direction of Roulers, we were able to appreciate the importance of Passchendaele Ridge, which dominates the country to north, east, and south, and Col. Baker gave us a short explanation of the Battles of Ypres in 1915, 1917, and 1918.

We entered the battle area about 1½ miles north of Passchendaele and soon came to Teal Cot, which we identified with difficulty. Here, on 3rd March, 1918, the Battalion captured six prisoners in a raid, at the expense of one casualty who remained at duty. The appalling conditions of the Salient during the winter, 1917-18, were recalled—the mud and shell holes, where men were in danger of drowning if they left the duck-board tracks or log-boards; the isolated posts which we strove to connect in a trench line; an occasion when frost had enabled an easy relief, but

officers and 185 other ranks. We saw what a splendid guide the railway Ypres-Roulers made for the left flank of the Battalion on both occasions. We located the M.G. post which held us up on 16th August, and we recalled how, on 31st July, Col. Hall, disdaining a captured pill-box, had impressed some prisoners to convert a shell-hole into Battalion "H.Q."—and the rain came down in torrents!

Just before reaching Ypres we passed one of the hundreds of stones placed on the main roads to mark the furthest points reached by



Colonel Baker and his party standing at attention before the French Memorial at Douai

made digging impossible, and the gruesome discovery, when the thaw came, that the easy march had been over countless bodies buried in the frozen mud.

Between Passchendaele and Zonnebeke we crossed the line held before the first gas attack in April, 1915, and at the latter place and on the Westhoek Ridge we fought again the battles of 31st July and 16th August, 1917—the former a success for the Battalion, in spite of 11 Officers and 257 other rank casualties, but not, alas, for the Allies: the latter without effect, though our losses were 6

the enemy. Surmounted by a steel helmet carved in stone, they bear the inscription in French and English, "Here, the invader was brought to a standstill," and the date.

After dinner in Ypres, we went out to the Menin Gate, where a brief, but impressive service preceded the sounding of the Last Post at 9 p.m. As we walked in the dark outside the moat from the Menin Gate to the Lille Gate, local colour was added by such remarks as "Mind the wire!" and "Cigarettes out!" To "Step short in front!" the C.O. replied "Stop talking!" At the Lille Gate

we inspected the guard room (Mess) and dug-outs (sleeping quarters) in the ramparts, used by the Battalion "H.Q." after being shelled out of the Cavalry Barracks in June, 1917. Col. Baker and Major Toye, V.C., were able to identify the bunks they had used. Casualties, although the Battalion was in Divisional reserve, were 3 Officers and 49 other ranks.

On Saturday morning we left by the Lille Gate and noted Hill 60 about two miles eastwards as we crossed the Cornmines Canal. As we went along, the general run of the line from 1914 to 1916 was pointed out and the bombing of the Battalion in Camp at Reninghelst one night in August, 1917, with 66 casualties was recalled. South of Messines at the 7-kilometre stone we stopped to see where the Battalion first went into the line, on 15th November, 1914, on which occasion they advanced the last part of the way in extended order with bayonets fixed! Here, too, we considered the results of the Battle of Messines and of the German attack in April, 1918. Passing Ploegsturt (where Poulton-Palmer, the rugby international, is buried) we halted on the frontier at Le Bizet. Near here, when the Battalion was in the line by Le Touquet in October, 1917, Capt. Brodie, while trying one night to cross a demolished bridge in No-man's Land, fell into the River Lys: and a C.S.M. was captured by a German raiding party complete with his Company's rum ration!

Continuing through Armentières and near Pont de Nieppe, where in September, 1917, the Battalion suffered casualties from shelling of 1 Officer and 34 other ranks in billets and whence the two French girls, "Lanoline" and "Vaseline" joined a British concert party during the first winter, we came to Fleurbaix at the edge of the peaceful billeting areas used by the Battalion from December, 1914, until March, 1916. From here, through Croix Blanche, we converged on the line occupied at various times by the Battalion during the same period between Neuve Chapelle and Bois Grenier and soon reached the scene of the Battle of Aubers on 9th May, 1915. Here, two Companies of the Battalion holding the front line, in reserve, lost 1 Officer and 81 other ranks in the terrific shelling which followed the failure of another Brigade's attack. The Officer was Lieut. Bishop, a Canadian, who having been left for dead by another M.O. was found by our own (Capt. T. A. Kidner) beneath a ground-sheet

and sent off to an ambulance which was able to come up close under cover. A shell burst near the stretcher and Lieut. Bishop, although semi-conscious, dashed for the ambulance. After a miraculous recovery and further War service he returned to Canada and has been in England since our tour. For the bombardment we had two field guns firing through loop-holes in the parapet. The blast of the the first few rounds wrecked the parapet and the guns were disclosed. A week or two earlier, what we had understood were a R.F.C. Staff Officer and a Red Cross doctor had visited our trenches, had tea in a Company "H.Q." and sniped at the Germans. They spoke and behaved exactly like Englishmen. We were told a day or two later that a couple of spies were in the neighbourhood and would be likely to enter our trenches. We could not help wondering whether our visitors were really what they had seemed.

Passing Fauquissart, where the line was now within 200 yards of the road, Col. Baker recalled that here Capt. Kidner found a pair of golden pheasants which he was able to smuggle home and that here the men were convinced that the Germans were using explosive bullets, because of the sparks they made hitting the walls of the church.

Our next halt was north of Neuve Chapelle, just where the line, before the battle, crossed the road. Here, on 25th November, 1914, the first Officer, Lieut. Harvey, was killed, stalking a sniper believed to be firing at the Battalion from a cottage behind the trenches, and on 6th December, 1914, Capt. Wordsworth was killed by a chance "whiz-bang."

We saw from the objective the ground over which the Battalion made its first attack, losing 16 Officers and 449 other ranks, in the Battle of Neuve Chapelle on 10th March, 1915. Col. Baker described the battle, how he was wounded by a bullet which went through the peak of his cap and came out of the band at the side, and how the flooded trenches were gradually transformed in 1915 into a massive breast-work which remained the front line till the German attack in April, 1918.

Continuing, we passed the scene of the fruitless attacks at Richebourg and Festubert in May, 1915, and after La Bassée turned to Cuinchy, where after its terrible hammering at Ovillers on 1st July, 1916, the Battalion was put in the line with its left on the La Bassée Canal. Owing to new building it was difficult to place the line and the exact

position of the wrecked train in No-man's Land—the object of sundry patrols. After explaining the Battle of Loos, Col. Baker recalled how he had sent for his bath during a long tour in this sector, but was shelled out of it by an unexpected bombardment. Here, too, a Battery of another Division, having saved an unauthorised reserve of shells, rather than face exposure on handing over, had asked our Officers to select targets, such as chimneys in Auchy, to show their skill. The brick stacks are no longer there, but we looked towards where the Hohenzollern Redoubt used to be and thought of mines and "minnies." Our difficulties were not lessened by the fact that popular opinion has placed the Redoubt just west of Hulluch—nearly two miles too far south.

Returning to the road La Bassée-Lens, we came to Cité St. Elie opposite which a snipers' post, built one night with enormous care, was spotted by the enemy, was itself sniped by 5.9's and soon smashed by a direct hit. Passing Hulluch and the pseudo-Hohenzollern Redoubt, we had a momentary glimpse to the south-west of what we thought were Loos and the Tower Bridge and so came into Lens, cutting off the German Salient west of the town.

Soon after leaving Lens we were confronted by the Vimy Ridge and realised more than ever why the Germans fought so hard to retain it. The twin columns of the Canadian Memorial were an impressive sight in their magnificent position on the edge of the ridge. Passing Vimy, the scene of our first entry to this sector in July, 1918, we ascended the Ridge by the main road—not possible by daylight in 1918, as it was in full view of the enemy. Thelus and the Canadian Cross, well known as a rendezvous for guides, were soon reached and we made for Arras at a good pace down the gradual slope, reserving memories of our doings here for the following afternoon.

From Arras to Bapaume we passed through country which the enemy had been forced to give up when he withdrew to the Hindenburg Line in March, 1915—a time of explosive booby-traps, when the staff of one Division suffered severely from a delayed-action mine in a cellar of Bapaume. Our next contact with the Battalion's history was at Le Transloy, where we picnicked, looking across to where Zenith Trench fell into our hands on 23rd October, 1916, with a loss of 9 Officers and 226 other ranks. The road Gendecourt-Le

Transloy, right boundary of the Battalion, showed us the exact ground of the attack. A most interesting account of this period is to be found in *Twelve Days*, by Sidney Rogerson, an Officer of a sister Battalion in the 23rd Infantry Brigade. Continuing, with the well-known places of the central Somme area on our right, we passed Sailly-Saillisel and soon had an extensive view of the St. Pierre-Vaast Wood on the left. Probably nowhere else were there more British, French, and German dead in No-man's Land than where the Battalion took over the line here near Rancourt in January, 1917. In the trenches, limbs protruded from the sides and it seemed impossible to dig without disturbing half-buried bodies. During a later period the ground was frozen so hard that it was impossible to bury our dead. Here, too, Gen. Seely and his dismounted Colonial snipers, with a fine disregard for their personal safety, sniped the enemy from shell-holes in the rear and drew retaliation on our trenches.

As we approached Bouchevesnes, scene of a raid on 27th February, 1917, unsuccessful chiefly because the participants had been unable to rest beforehand, Col. Baker described how, escorted by the dashing Colonials (now mounted), we had followed up the Germans in March, 1917, from here to the Hindenburg Line. A wrecked 'plane lay in the wood and—most useful—a German coal dump, which the T.O. was ordered to collar for our use. In the semi-open warfare which followed we occupied Moislains and Lieramont and captured Hendicourt at the expense of 2 Officers and 21 other ranks. After a pointless raid at La Vacquerie on 5th May, 1917, costing us 4 Officers and 52 other ranks, the Battalion moved north to scenes near Ypres already visited the day before. On the Bouchevesnes Ridge we had a fine view eastwards towards the Hindenburg Line and after a short explanation of the Battles of Cambrai (which we had no part in) and of the Somme, 1918, we descended, with an extensive view of the Somme Valley, to Péronne, ready to hear of the Battalion's exploits in the latter battle.

On the rising ground, south-west of Eterpigny, Major Toye, V.C., and Capt. Birdwood recounted the parts they had played in March, 1918, in one of the most gallant fights ever put up by the 77th. Here, it was that Major Toye won his V.C. Turning west at Villers-Carbonnel and looking south-

wards we followed the country over which the Battalion resisted so magnificently the German onslaught. The odds against us were tremendous and we lost 12 Officers and over 300 other ranks. Time forbade an extension of the trip to Villers-Bretonneux, where, on 24th to 26th April, 1918, the Battalion beat off the last desperate attacks and with 39 survivors, on 27th April, counter-attacked the enemy. The losses here were 13 Officers and 500 other ranks, out of a total strength of 585.

At Foucancourt we turned northwards, and reaching Chuignes we halted to inspect the German Big Bertha and the interesting little War museum. Crossing the Somme at Bray, we saw Luzanne through the trees, where, in January, 1917, Gen. Heneker first met the Battalion and made an complimentary remark about Major Wilmer's cap. In spite of this unfavourable beginning, he has more than once referred to the 77th as the only Battalion which never let him down. Passing through Bray, near where we were in Camp in February, 1917, on the opposite side of the road to the 1st Battalion (in quarantine for measles!), we soon reached the top of the hill with a fine view of the whole Somme area to the north-west and of Albert with its famous spire straight before us. Crossing this sky-line in June, 1916, with a 2 Company working party, Col. Baker had not realised that he was under distant enemy observation and had been forced, by hostile shelling, to adopt Artillery formation, the only time he remembered doing so in the War. Casualties were nil. Descending to Méaulte, we passed a huge new national aircraft factory, at present working day and night, and with mixed thoughts of dilapidated billets but at least respite from fighting, we left this rather drab place for Albert and tea.

Albert was welcomed by the Battalion in April, 1916, as the first place where proper baths and in-door sanitation could be had in billets. In the line, however, at La Boisselle we were to meet "oil-drums" (10-gall. drums filled with high explosive and fired from a rough sort of trench mortar). We lay in bed wondering whether their bite would be worse than their very frightening bark. A few months later at the brick stacks we would gladly have changed the "minnies" for "oil-drums"! Here, first we took over the line in daylight, a welcome novelty after the flat country near Neuve Chapelle, where

such a thing had been impossible. Leaving by the Bapaume road we stopped at La Boisselle, inspected one of the mine-craters of 1st July, 1916, saw where our line ran through the pre-War cemetery (then in a dreadful state from the "oil-drums") so close to the enemy, and looked across to Ovillers, where on 1st July, 1916, our share of the colossal losses was 22 Officers and 500 other ranks out of 23 and 650 who had gone over the top. Col. Baker recalled how he had sadly handed his Company over to a senior Captain a month earlier and, having been left out of the battle, found himself commanding the remnants of the Battalion for a couple of days. As we made for Pozières we saw the ground over which the Germans had rushed a limber right up to Ovillers during a lull in the bombardment a few days before the attack: The Battalion was not in the line at the time. We then made for the heart of the Somme area and on the South African Memorial at Delville Wood were able to get the direction, from the pointers in the turrets, of all the places we had known twenty-one and a half years ago. We saw the gap between Trones and Bernafay Woods where the 1st and 2nd Battalions had lain side by side in November, 1916. Two of the party, Cpts. Birdwood and Holman, had been in the 1st Battalion at the time, as also at Bray. We remembered the duck-board tracks which led forward and Col. Baker recalled the padre's servant, a fine goal-keeper, who was said by his Officer to be able, uncannily, to predict the fall of a shell. It was here that the padre said that he was peremptorily told to jump; the shell went underneath and it was a "dud"!

We then made north for Bapaume through Gendecourt and passed the sunken road where Battalion "H.Q." had been for the time near Le Transloy and which had seemed to hold half the Battalion "H.Q.s" in France, so congested was it (see *Twelve Days*), and reaching the road Bapaume-Arras soon came to our billets in Arras, where an eventful day charged with memories came to an end.

Easter Sunday, 1938, will always be remembered as a day of days by everyone in our party.

Leaving our hotel at Arras we were soon at Plouvain which was occupied by the Battalion on 5th October, 1918, and several of us recalled how, at dawn on 7th October, with a heavy covering barrage, we captured the Fresnes-Rouvnoy line and the village of Bièche-St. Vaast; and how, at dawn on 9th October,

we took the Quéant-Drocourt line and the village of Vitry-en-Artois. Our minds were recollecting the exciting events which had followed this attack until at 8.30 p.m., on 17th October, under the personal supervision of Brig.-General St. V. Grogan, V.C., C.M.G., D.S.O., and Col. Baker, the 2nd Middlesex hoisted the Union Jack together with the French Flag and the Regimental Flag (afterwards presented to the town) on to the Hôtel de Ville at Douai.

Now, 20 years later, we were again at the same Hôtel de Ville, but a very different scene met our eyes. Waiting to greet us at 11.30 a.m. in the Court of Honour were the Mayor and Town Councillors of Douai, the President and members of the British

Club, and the principal officers of all the societies of the town. Fanfares of welcome were blown by the trumpeters of the Association Philanthropique dressed in full hunting habits—a most picturesque sight. The Douai Flag was carried by Lieut. Chevens, wearing his South African medals as well as those of the Great War. Several French Regimental Colours were also being carried by Officers; as were, too, those belonging to various War veterans' associations.

The Mayor of Douai, Monsieur Proust, greeted Col. Baker most cordially and led the whole assembly into the White Hall, where the official reception took place.

(To be continued)

EXTRACT FROM HART'S ANNUAL ARMY LIST, 1862

77TH (EAST MIDDLESEX) REGIMENT OF FOOT

Benares. Depot Chatham. The Plume of the Prince of Wales. "Seringapatam," "Ciudad Rodrigo," "Badajoz," "Peninsula," "Inkerman," "Sevastopol."

Henery Lord Rokeby,¹ K.C.B., Ensign, 21st April, '14; Lieutenant and Captain, 12th June, '23; Captain and Lieut.-Colonel, 21st September, '32; Colonel, 9th November, '46; Major, 28th June, '50; Lieut.-Colonel, 17th February, '54; Major-General, 20th June, '54; Lieut.-General, 20th September, '61; Colonel 77th Foot, 13th February, '61. Years' service, 48.

Lieut.-Colonel Hon. Aug. Geo. Charles Chichester, Ensign, 19th February, '41; Lieutenant, 22nd November, '42; Captain, 3rd August, '49; Major, 6th July, '55; Lieut.-Colonel, 16th June, '58. Years' service, 21.

Lieut.-Colonel Thomas Josephus Devereil, Ensign, 7th November, '22; Lieutenant, 25th June, '59; Captain, 30th August, '31; Brevet-Major, 9th November, '46; Major, 9th September, '47; Bt. Lieut.-Colonel, 20th June, '54; Lieutenant-Colonel, 24th August, '58; Colonel, 26th October, '58. Years' service, 40.

Major Henry Kent,³ Ensign, 8th August, '45; Lieutenant, 23rd August, '50; Captain, 27th September, '54; Major, 24th August, '58. Years' service, 17.

Major Henry Alfred Macdonald, Ensign, 30th December, '40; Lieutenant, 10th November, '43; Captain, 26th June, '55; Major, 4th November, '5. Years' service, 20.

Years' service	Captains	Ensign	Lieutenant	Captain
11	William James Carden ⁴	5th Dec., '51	6th June, '54	2nd Mar., '55
10	Rd. Butler Willington ⁵	16th Aug., '52	13th May, '53	20th Apr., '55
9	Frederick John Butts ⁶	18th Mar., '53	18th Aug., '54	20th Apr., '55
9	William N. Morris Orpen ⁷	12th May, '53	27th Sept., '54	5th June, '55
9	Matthew Wm. Dickson ⁸	22nd Apr., '53	18th Aug., '54	24th July, '55
8	H. M. Lamont Colquhoun	18th Aug., '54	29th Dec., '54	17th July, '57
8	George Edward Leggett ⁹	25th Aug., '54	29th Dec., '54	30th Apr., '58
8	James M. Daly ¹⁰	4th Nov., '54	9th Feb., '55	4th June, '58
8	Thomas Peter Harvey ¹¹	27th Oct., '54	9th Feb., '55	24th Aug., '58
8	John George Skene	20th Dec., '54	9th Feb., '55	4th Nov., '59
6	James Lazenby	15th June, '55	14th Jan., '56	18th Mar., '59
7	John Augustus Staines	13th Feb., '55	25th Oct., '55	4th Sept., '60
Years' service	Lieutenants	Ensign	Lieutenant	
7	Marcus A. Waters ¹³	26th Jan., '55	23rd Feb., '55	
8	William Minister ¹⁴	5th Nov., '54	9th Mar., '55	
8	Herbert Fred L. Browns	1st Dec., '54	9th Mar., '55	
7	William M. Dixwell Alderson	16th Jan., '55	20th Apr., '55	
7	Charles B. Knowles ¹⁵	20th Feb., '55	20th Apr., '55	
7	Aubrey Thomas Butts	9th Mar., '55	25th May, '55	
7	Phil. Secklemore Dauncey	15th Mar., '55	5th June, '55	
7	Charles Betram Saunders	22nd Feb., '55	4th Sept., '55	
7	Harcourt Mort Bengough	22nd Mar., '55	3rd Oct., '55	
7	Hen. Stewart Weigall Adj.	6th July, '55	24th Aug., '58	
7	John Wordsworth	8th Nov., '55	4th Mar., '59	
7	Reginald Hoskins	7th Dec., '55	3rd June, '59	
6	Percy Kirk	1st Feb., '56	4th Nov., '59	
6	Arthur Bishop	12th Feb., '58	17th July, '60	
4	James Franklin	25th Oct., '56	17th Nov., '57	
Years' service	Ensigns		Ensign	
7	Cecil Percival Stone		6th Nov., '55	
7	Henry Reginald Bate		9th Nov., '55	
4	George Augustus White		19th Nov., '58	
3	Edward Nicholas Mosley		18th Mar., '59	
3	Wm. Samuel Henderson		31st May, '59	
3	Geo. Cook		30th Dec., '59	
2	William James McClelland		23rd Mar., '60	
3	Henry Topp		14th June, '59	
1	Edward Beatty		17th May, '61	
1	Vivian Page Byrne		18th June, '61	

Instructor of Musketry, Capt. H. M. L. Colquhoun, 30th December, '56.
Paymaster, Wm. Fortescue Scott,¹⁶ 13th January, '54; Ensign, 15th July, '43; Lieutenant, 18th February, '48.

Adjutant, Lieut. Henry Stewart Weigall, 4th November, '59 (Hon. Captain, 1st January, '60).

Quartermaster, Henry Blissett,¹⁶ 3rd November, '54.

Surgeon, Francis Holton, M.B., 24th August, '58; Assistant Surgeon, 23rd May, '51.

Assistant Surgeon, Alexander Humfrey,¹⁶ 28th April, '54.

Assistant Surgeon, Thomas Norton Hoysted,¹⁷ 28th September, '55.

Assistant Surgeon, Francis Edward M'Farland, 1st November, '58.

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Returned from the Crimea, 23rd July, 1856. Embarked for Australia, 4th May, 1857.

¹ Lord Rokeby served in the Campaign of 1815 with the 3rd Guards, and was present at the battles of Quatre Bras and Waterloo. Served in the Eastern Campaign, 1855, in Command of a Brigade, including the siege and fall of Sebastopol (Medal and Clasp, K.C.B. Commander of the Legion of Honor, Sardinian Medal, Turkish Medal, and 3rd Class of the Medjidie).

³ Major Kent served in the Eastern Campaign of 1854-55, including the battles of Alma and Inkerman, and siege of Sebastopol (Medal and Clasp, 5th Class of the Medjidie, and Turkish Medal).

⁴ Capt. William Carden served in the Eastern Campaign, 1854-55, including the siege of Sebastopol (Medal and Clasp, and Turkish Medal).

⁵ Capt. Willington served in the Eastern Campaign of 1854-55, including the battles of Alma and Inkerman, and siege of Sebastopol (Medal and Clasp, Sardinian and Turkish Medals, and 5th Class of the Medjidie).

⁶ Capt. Butts served in the Eastern Campaign of 1854-55, including the battles of Alma and Inkerman, siege of Sebastopol, and attack on the Redan on the 8th September—Severely wounded. (Medal and Clasp, 5th Class of the Medjidie, and Turkish Medal).

⁷ Capt. Orpen served at the siege of Sebastopol, 1855 (Medal and Clasp, and Turkish Medal).

⁸ Capt. Dickson served in the Eastern Campaign of 1854-55, including the battles of Alma and Inkerman, and the siege of Sebastopol, until severely wounded 8th June (Medal and Clasp, and Turkish Medal).

⁹ Capt. Leggett served at the siege of Sebastopol from December, 1854, and was wounded at the attack

on the Redan, on 8th September (Medal and Clasp, and Turkish Medal).

¹⁰ Capt. Daly served at the siege of Sebastopol in 1855 (Medal and Clasp, and Turkish Medal).

¹¹ Capt. Harvey served at the siege and fall of Sebastopol from the 7th June, 1855, and at the assault on the Redan on the 8th September. He was selected to cross the open space, under a heavy fire, to stop the fire of our own 8 Gun Battery (Medal and Clasp, and Turkish Medal).

¹³ Lieut. Waters served with the 53rd Regiment during the Campaigns against the Hill Tribes on the Peshawar Frontier in 1851-52. Served with 77th Regiment in the Crimea from 11th June, 1855, including the siege and fall of Sebastopol, and was present at the assault on the 18th June, and engaged in the storming of the Redan on the 8th September—severely contused (Medal and Clasp, and Turkish Medal).

¹⁴ Lieut. Minister served in the Eastern Campaign of 1854-55, including battles of Alma and Inkerman, and siege of Sebastopol (Medal and Clasp, and Turkish Medal).

¹⁵ Lieut. Knowles served at the siege of Sebastopol in 1855, and was severely contused at the assault on the Redan on the 8th September (Medal and Clasp, and Turkish Medal).

¹⁶ Capt. Scott, Quartermaster Blissett, and Assistant Surgeon Humfrey, served in the Eastern Campaign of 1854-55, including the battles of Alma and Inkerman, and siege of Sebastopol (Medal and Clasp, and Turkish Medal). Assistant Surgeon Humfrey has also the Sardinian Medal. Paymaster Scott has the 5th Class of the Medjidie.

¹⁷ Assistant Surgeon Hoysted served with the 59th Regiment at the operations before the capture of Canton, on December 29th, 1857.

DEPOT NOTES

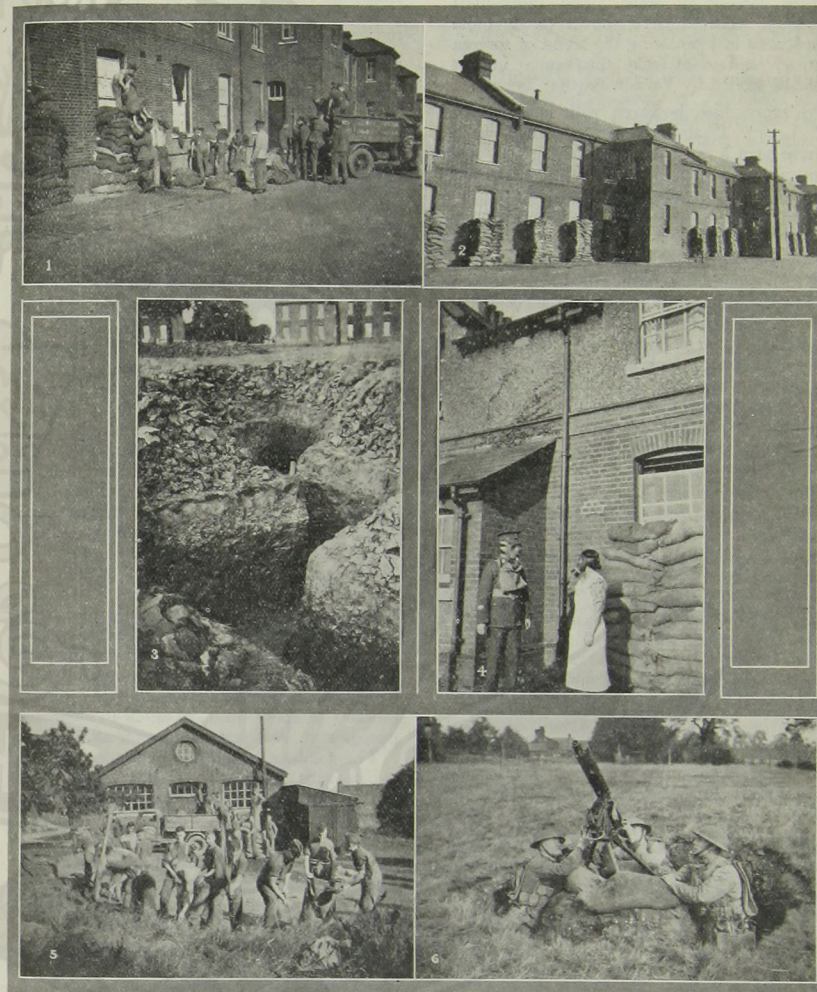
THE appointment of Brigadier O. H. Tidbury, M.C., to the command of the 18th Infantry Brigade, came as a welcome surprise to the Depot, and particularly so, to those who had served under him. We offer him our heartiest congratulations together with our best wishes in his task of "mopping up" Palestine. Capt. Wray and Lieut. Ormiston, who are bound on the same mission, in a smaller, though no less adventurous capacity, have been spending their last few days at the Depot (we mean, of course, their last few days before embarking!).

The end of the quarter has been overshadowed by the political situation which has rather eclipsed normal Depot life. The crisis has, of course, brought a complete departure from the usual routine and so an air of novelty, not entirely unwelcome to some of us who are always ready to greet a change. Admittedly it takes the gilt off the ginger-bread when one's days and nights are given up to carrying heavy loads (however novel) over roads, which have themselves collapsed under the strain; and to adorning one's buildings with cumbersome sand-bags which exclude most of the light that has not been already shut out by unserviceable blankets. Nevertheless, the present situation, if it has soured us in some ways, has at least achieved the return of our R.S.M. from the Territorials. Mr. Newman, it will be remembered, abandoned us in mid-summer for the 9th Battalion, where he was carrying on the good work while the P.S.I.s were learning the intricacies of search-lights. During this period, C.S.M. Hazeldine combined the functions of R.S.M. and C.S.M. Training Company. Now we have the R.S.M. back, and regret only that his home-coming should have included the discovery that he was homeless, having been evicted from his sanctum in the Orderly Room. This state of affairs arose out of the change-over of Orderly Room Quartermaster-Sergeants. In July, we were glad to get O.R.Q.M.S. Finch back from Hong Kong. He started with a month's leave, but soon proved that this period had been in no way wasted. For on assuming office he proceeded to roll up the map of the Orderly Room; this is now planned on a new and probably ideal design, save that the revised structure makes no provision for R.S.M.s. As, however, he now has a small, but secluded,

office all of his own, the R.S.M. has, perhaps, come out best after all.

Against the restoration of the R.S.M. must be balanced the departure of Major Heywood. Our Training Company Commander left us under sealed orders, but is believed now to be esconced in an office in the neighbourhood of Whitehall; and to be working, in fact, hand in glove with the police. The crisis also took temporary toll of Major Clark, who has left to be closer to his Drill Hall. "Bunda" is left drooping, though, luckily, with Pte. Goodsall to console her. Visitors coming to the Depot at present are quickly gaining a considerable working knowledge of the elements of Field Engineering. This applies both to those bent on a few days' leisurely holiday, as well as to others merely paying their respects. These, whose services have, of course, been greatly appreciated, might be seen digging, sawing, or proceeding at a steady trot bowed under the load of large sacks. They have included Lieut. Anson, 2/Lieut. Allott, and 2/Lieut. Warwick. 2/Lieut. Allott arrived here on first appointment; but since his coming coincided with the "going up of the balloon" his week's attachment was a very different business from what was intended. He has now left for Gosport, however, where it is to be hoped that he will find life a smoother and more pleasant affair. Lieut. Anson came here to rest and put the finishing touches to his log book. The first instalment of this work appears elsewhere in this number, describing how he blazed his lonely trail from the China Coast to the Indian Ocean, through the jungles of Indo-China, Siam, and Burma.

Lieut. Chattey was also among those mentioned above, but unfortunately escaped our clutches by a few hours. His liberty was short-lived, however, as he has since been taken by the War Office for work of a highly personal nature, in connection with the scrutinising of applicants for the Officers' Emergency Reserve. It is understood that Lieut. Chattey was specially selected for this task in view of an extensive knowledge of human affairs accrued in the course of his journey home through the U.S.A. and elsewhere. No separate account of this Officer's adventures is appearing in this number. But it is understood that not the least of the many colourful items punctuating his itinerary was the taking of the salute at the "march past" of a negro cavalcade at West Point.



A.R.P. AT THE DEPOT
1 and 2—Sandbag Protection

3—A.R.P. Trenches
5—Filling Sandbags

4—Gas Mask Instruction
6—An A.A. Machine Gun

The last two months of this quarter were devoted largely to leave. The individuals concerned seem to have shown considerable perspicacity in forecasting the trend of foreign politics; and one feels that such insight might be envied by Vernon Bartlett himself.

We sympathise, however, with Dmr. Beach and L/Cpl. Chamber's party. They seem to have seen a good deal less of the coasts of Cornwall than they had hoped; which was due to seeing a great deal more of the insides of their engines than their gloomiest calculations had allowed for.

Sergt. Duncan is off to Czecho-Slovakia. The trip should be both interesting and instructive. Meanwhile, we welcome his relief, A/Sergt. Clegg, who is coming on temporary attachment. Sergt. Housden is now back as Sergeant-Master Cook. We gather that he has happily regained the stone and a half lost during the period of his course at Aldershot when he was subsisting on the produce of the Army School of Cookery. There is no place like home!

The following are the names of the Squad Badge winners and winners of Shooting Spoons:

Badajos Squad—12th week: Winner, Pte. Manby; runner-up, Pte. Bedward. 16th week: Winner, Pte. Pipe; runner-up, Pte. Brownell. 20th week: Winner, Pte. Pipe; runner-up, Pte. Bedward. Empire Test, Pte. Hodge. Table "A," Pte. Manby. C.O.'s Silver Medal, Pte. Bedward. C.O.'s Bronze Medal, Pte. Rice.

Sivla Squad—8th week: Winner, Pte. Bottley; runner-up, Pte. Hazelton. 12th week: Winner, Pte. Hazelton; runner-up, Pte. Best. 16th week: Winner, Pte. Green; runner-up, Pte. Taylor (93). 20th week: Winner, Pte. Bottley; runner-up, Pte. Clayton. Empire Test, Pte. Hazelton. Table "A," Pte. Hazelton. C.O.'s Silver Medal, Pte. Mead. C.O.'s Bronze Medal, Pte. Taylor (93).

Ladysmith Squad—4th week: Winner, Pte. Scott-Farnie; runner-up, Pte. Hunt. 8th week: Winner, Pte. Scott-Farnie; runner-up, Pte. Pennick. 12th week: Winner, Pte. Rogers; runner-up, Pte. Scott-Farnie. Empire Test, Pte. Garrett. Table "A," Pte. Robertson.

Nivelle Squad—8th week: Winner, Pte. Gibbs; runner-up, Pte. Crossman. 12th week: Winner, Pte. Reeder; runner-up, Pte. Gibbs. 16th week: Winner, Pte. Gibbs; runner-up, Pte. Crossman. 20th week: Winner, Pte. Sharp; runner-up, Pte. Crossman. Empire Test, Pte. Brown. Table "A," Pte. Reeder, Pte. Sharp (tie). C.O.'s Silver Medal, Pte. Gibbs. C.O.'s Bronze Medal, Pte. Barnett.

Albuhera Squad—4th week: Winner, Pte. Burns; runner-up, Pte. Willard. 8th week: Winner, Pte. Burns; runner-up, Pte. Willard. 12th week: Winner, Pte. Burns; runner-up, Pte. Stevens. Empire Test, Pte. Burns. Table "A," Pte. Burns.

El Boden Squad—4th week: Winner, Pte. Bird; runner-up, Pte. Groves.

Alma Squad—4th week: Winner, Pte. Louvain; runner-up, Pte. Knight.

CRICKET

From July onwards we had quite a successful season, although we were handicapped in some matches by some of our best players being on leave.

The outstanding batsman was Pte. Bridge, who had his best season ever, his scores in four consecutive innings being: 68 not out, 96 not out, 36 not out, and 95. Major Heywood was also a most consistent scorer, his 30's, 40's and 50's always being most useful. L/Cpl. Daly was another whose batting improved greatly once he had gained the necessary confidence. Pte. Kidby blossomed forth as a hitter later in the season, whilst Sergt. Williams, after a poor start, also struck form, and the ball, with violence. His 20 not out in six strokes against the Royal Fusiliers was much needed. Sergt. Williams and Pte. Bridge were our best bowlers, Sergt. Selfe proving a very useful addition to our bowling strength when he arrived later in the season. Of the recruits, Pte. Stevens showed promise.

We had the satisfaction of beating the Depots of the Royal Fusiliers and East Surrey Regiment twice each, the second game against the Royal Fusiliers being a particularly good one. After some very even batting we declared at 170 for 6, leaving them two hours in which to get the runs. We got them out with five minutes to spare for 115, much to their surprise, Sergt. Williams taking 5 for 28.

The fielding improved greatly in the last two months, whilst Pte. Taylor, who did not join until August, showed considerable promise as a batsman.

RESULTS

Depot East Surrey Regiment, 124; Depot The Middlesex Regiment, 221 for 8. (Bridge, 95).

Aldenhall School, 218 for 9 declared (Williams, 5 for 16); Depot The Middlesex Regiment, 69 for 9 (Major Heywood, 36 not out).

Enfield Postal, 174 for 8 declared; Depot The Middlesex Regiment, 136.

Harrow Police, 63 (Williams, 3 for 11); Depot The Middlesex Regiment, 122.

Depot The Middlesex Regiment, 122; Friern Hospital, 99 (Williams, 3 for 17).

Depot The Middlesex Regiment, 109 for 8 declared; London Fire Brigade, 118.

Depot The Middlesex Regiment, 170 for 6 declared; Depot Royal Fusiliers, 115 (Williams, 5 for 28).

Coombe Park C.C., 146 for 6 declared (Selfe, 4 for 46); Depot The Middlesex Regiment, 59.

Southwark Police, 56 (Williams, 6 for 18; Selfe, 3 for 28); Depot The Middlesex Regiment, 150.

Mill Hill Wanderers, 185 for 3 declared; Depot The Middlesex Regiment, 97 (Major Heywood, 41).

BATTING AVERAGES

	Inns.	Times		Runs	Average
		not out	H't		
Pte. Bridge	..12	4	96*	428	53.50
Major Heywood	..12	2	68	329	32.90
Capt. Worton	..11	1	67	300	30.00
L/Cpl. Daly	..16	5	38	247	22.45
Pte. Scott-Farnie	..10	0	38	151	15.10
Lieut.-Col. Wollocombe	..7	1	16	90	15.00
Sergt. Wilson	..15	0	26	169	11.26
Pte. Kidby	..8	2	30	64	10.66
Pte. Stevens	..9	2	15*	55	7.85
Sergt. Williams	..13	1	23	88	7.33
L/Sergt. Thomas	..9	1	18*	39	4.87
Pte. Gibbs	..7	1	10	17	2.83

* Denotes not out

BOWLING AVERAGES

	O.	M.	R.	W.	Aver.
L/Sergt. Selfe	..42.5	5	129	13	9.92
Sergt. Williams	..187.2	34	560	43	13.02
Pte. Stevens	..82.1	7	301	20	15.05
Pte. Bridge	..81	10	363	23	15.78
Pte. Kidby	..17	2	67	4	16.75
Major Heywood	..27.2	0	124	6	20.66
Lieut.-Col. Wollocombe	..39	0	204	7	29.14
L/Cpl. Daly	..68	4	318	6	53.00

SERGEANTS' MESS

The mills of the Mess grind slowly. We are still in occupation of our palatial surroundings, but it is now considered definite that the renovations will drive us out very soon. Reliefs to the Depot in 1940 may, therefore, reasonably expect to find things happening.

Comment will doubtless be found in other places on the European crisis. Suffice it to say that the Mess was developing the atmosphere of the House of Commons inside, and of a glorified dug-out outside. To have been blown sky-high may be considered at least one way of suggesting speedy rebuilding. At the time of writing, "Peace" has been written on the walls. It is to be hoped that those who prognosticate further international complications may be completely wrong and that normal life may continue for many "pontoon" to come.

It is with the deepest regret that we record the death of Tommy Capel. The news had not reached the Mess when the last notes were published. We can add nothing to

those things already written. We desire to associate ourselves with his every praise and extend our great sympathy to those who mourn so fine a man, who was always a real "Die-Hard."

The R.S.M. has been away from us since the beginning of August. At Arundel Camp, he trained the 9th Battalion for its last ceremonial parade before becoming a Searchlight Battalion. Subsequently, he held the interesting job of embodying the Battalion when it was called up for service. Now that he has returned to duty he has some amusing tales to tell of square pegs forcing themselves into round holes. Our imperturbable C.S.M. Hazeldine performed the duties of A.R.S.M. His calm, under pressure of work, is an object lesson to those of us who tend to be fretful.

O.R.Q.M.S. Finch has taken up residence again after an absence of seven years. We cannot be sure that he has the same chair, but are certain of the heartiest welcome to both him and Mrs. Finch. Sergt. J. Smith and L/Sergt. Selfe have joined the Mess and to them also we extend our best wishes for an agreeable stay.

Sergt. and Mrs. Makewell have left us for Gosport. We congratulate him on his promotion and trust that they will both be as happy in the future as we feel sure they were at Mill Hill. C/Sergt. Thompson and L/Sergt. Buckland have also departed. To both and their respective wives, we offer our best wishes for the future.

It is always pleasant to see visitors here. C.S.M. Challis and Sergt. Ramsden, both of the 1st Battalion, visited us recently. It was splendid to see them; our only regret is that the C.S.M. may have got into trouble for being out so late. "Bunny" Steadman, landlord of the "Crab-Tree," also visited us. He is the same as ever, for his "Mark Tapley" expression, "However," is a constant reminder of his philosophy of life. He is now the proud possessor of a car, which certain very bold members tried out. They are now busy conning the problem of becoming innkeepers.

And so on to another quarter. We shall try to make it more eventful, but summer is a hard task-master of Mess events. In conclusion, it is our pleasant duty to proffer Bandmaster Judge our wishes for good fortune on his leaving the Service. We are sure that Bandmaster Kifford will be made very much at home in the 1st Battalion Mess and

that he will soon settle down in his new surroundings.

The Depot Mess sends its best wishes to all Battalions of the Regiment and again extends its open invitation to those who are passing near Mill Hill.

CORPORALS' CLUB

We write these notes just as "Stand Fast" sounds. It is our first opportunity for a few moments of quietness.

First of all, we must state our regret at so quickly losing L/Cpl. McNeille and L/Cpl. Wells to the Battalion, and our gallant "Bruno" to Vocational Training.

We welcome Cpl. Nicholls, L/Cpls. Farrington and Llewellyn, S.S.S., and hope they will enjoy their stay. Bill's stay is brief, but we are endeavouring to make it as joyous as possible. This week, "Orderly Corporal" has been sounded more than ever before; merely that he should not become bored.

This week, the two "Yiddles" are heart-broken. They cannot get home. Who was it who made a 'phone call last for one hour? Who was told he was getting married on Saturday, 1st October? Poor old Bindle!

Three bright rays of sunshine (English, not Brickwood's) have suddenly appeared in our midst long before we expected them. When asked if they had enjoyed their leave, they had the grace to reply that they had had a nice "week-end."

The Mess is, at the present, divided into three groups. The staid "Down-homers," the "Pussy fiends," and the "Barrack rats," who are the actual users of the Mess. The "Pussy fiends" are gallantly and ably led by that trusty stalwart, "Lulu," S.S.S.

"Down-homers," including "Rudge-sticks" and "Fulham Bill," rally under the banner of "Big Yiddle Bindle."

The "Barrack rats" are ably led, on his "Red Hunter," by "Spot," assisted by "Rotten Richard." Evidently, the "Enfield" has been placed permanently at the disposal of the Canteen personnel.

The ranks of the "Pussy fiends" have been considerably swollen during this week of confinement and Partingdale Lane echoes with the plaintive wailing of the "fiends" and their prey.

REGIMENTAL HISTORICAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM

THE following presentations have been made to the Regimental Museum, receipt being gratefully acknowledged.

Regimental Badge, carved from a piece of bone, by a French prisoner of War in Germany, 1915. Presented by C.Q.M.S. W. C. Thompson, late 4th Battalion.

Medals of the late C.S.M. Anderson, of the 1st Battalion.

Photograph of a group of W.O.s and N.C.O.s Presented by wife of late C.S.M. Anderson.

Framed needlework reproduction of Regimental and King's Colours, sewn in fine silk. Presented by Mrs. Hewitt, wife of late C/Sergt. Hewitt.

Crest of the Royal East Middlesex Regiment, wrought in brass and mounted on red cloth background. Presented by 7th Battalion Middlesex Regiment (T.A.).

Silver Bugle. A presentation to the South Middlesex Rifle Volunteers by their Company Commander, Lieut.-Col. The Right Hon. D. S. Dereker, in April, 1860. Presented by Mrs. E. M. Hopcraft.

Old German Pistol, firing feathered bullets. Presented by Lieut.-Col. G. W. Cranfield.

"E" Company, 77th Regiment. Showing John Henry Bourne, 1844-73, who died in the L shai Campaign. Presented by his nephew C. H. Bourne, Esq.

4th BATTALION RE-UNION DINNER AND DANCE

THE 4th Battalion third annual dinner and dance was held at the Allenby Club, on Saturday, 17th September, and our usual party turned up for an enjoyable evening.

Amongst those present was the President, Col. A. Anwyl Passingham; the Vice-President, Col. T. S. Wollocombe; the Chairman, Mr. J. Donoghue. We were sorry that Mrs. Passingham and Mrs. Wollocombe were unable to attend.

Others present were: Major Musselwhite, Capt. Farrow, Capt. Perkins, Lieut. Harrington, A. B. Coldicott, W. G. Hudson, A. Pearce, H. Broom, W. Phipps, F. J. Meadows, G. Smith, U. Murphy, A. Coxhill, G. Edwards, W. V. Couper, J. Adcock, H. Bray, A.

Matthews, W. Brazier, A. Roffe, A. Cummins, with a large number of ladies and friends.

Speeches were made by the President, the Chairman, and the Secretary, and after dinner, dancing was continued until nearly midnight, a good variety of the old-fashioned dances being included in the programme for the benefit of the old-stagers.

A wreath will be laid on 11th November at the Mill Hill Memorial, to the memory of our fallen comrades, and it is hoped to have two meetings in 1939, the first in May, for men only, and the second in October, to include ladies. Further particulars will be forwarded to members in due course.

A. T. FARROW,
Hon. Secretary, 4th Battalion Middlesex
Regiment O.C.A.

26/10/38.

8th BATTALION NOTES

"H.Q." COMPANY

BY the time these notes are in print, we shall be drawing near the commencement of yet another Territorial year, and our Annual Training at Arundel will almost be forgotten, although for most of us the Camp will be remembered as being one of the most popular of recent years. Beautiful country and ideal weather for working in, every facility for recreation and enjoyment in the gay life of near-by coast towns; the principal attributes to an enjoyable 15 days under canvas.

Training programmes were not carried out quite according to plan, as after the first few days Companies commenced M.G. Training, and the only Troops to go out to the areas daily were the recruits who carried out their own programme of work all under the supervision of Major Ellis.

A word of praise must here be given to the Transport Section, who kept an efficient "bus" service running to and from the scene of operations daily, but even so, the young soldiers showed their older and more experienced brothers that they could march, particularly on the Battalion route march, when all but a few completed the eight odd miles.

We think we can congratulate ourselves on having an attendance of 99 per cent. in Camp this year, and you will be wondering what happened to number 100! Well, un-

fortunately, he was taken off to hospital just before Camp as the result of an accident.

The Drums have made marked progress since last year, and with stronger numbers and better equipment they can now make themselves heard at the head of the Battalion. They entered for the contest in Camp and tied with the 7th Battalion for third place. We think we can boast, however, that our Buglers did their stuff in almost faultless style. L/Cpl. Mobley again won the Battalion bugle contest and carries the silver bugle on all parades for the year. Boy Lucas, with a powerful set of valves, proved himself the best Boy bugler for the year.

The Signallers, who did their training under Brigade arrangements, showed great keenness and 24 of their number are now classified.

We regained the "Gamage" Football Cup by a 5-1 win over "A" Company in the final. Our opponents played better football in the first half and it was not until late in the second half that our forwards really got going. Congratulations to "A" Company, however, on winning the Efficiency Cup. They beat us to third place by only a few points, so we have hopes of doing better next year.

We had several representatives in the annual cricket match, Officers v. Sergeants, and after a fast and exciting game the Officers proved victorious.

All ranks in Camp received their new T.A. badges and we hope these will be worn with pride by all members of the Company.

Before very long now we shall be commencing intensive training and hope also to acquaint ourselves with the Bren and A.T. Rifle which are now with us.

SIGNALLERS

The Section returned from Annual Training after a successful, but strenuous year's work.

Of 26 men entered for Annual Classification 24 have passed, including 7 who obtained the coveted 100 per cent.

As the majority of the above are first-year Signallers, we are looking forward with great confidence to our new and important role as Machine Gun Battalion Signallers.

On a classification occasion held recently at Gosport, a very enjoyable week-end was spent by all.

The Section has been well represented in the Company's sporting successes this year, Cpl. Hamlin's team succeeding once again in bringing the "Gamage" Football Cup to "H.Q." Company.

Regretting our separation from the 9th Battalion Signallers as we do, we wish them



the best of luck in their new role, and hope that we may have the opportunity to "maintain communication" with them in the future.

Best wishes to all Signallers at home and abroad.

"A" COMPANY

Once again we have won the Battalion Efficiency Cup through real hard work. Two years in succession, we feel this to be rather good work. We spent most of our time doing M.G. Training, which we found very interesting and we are looking forward very much to the next three months' training. Our recruits worked very well, and seemed more keen and eager than ever to learn their job. Arundel Park, to most of us who had not been there before, came up to full expectations and we would, with great pleasure, go there again. Our attendance at Camp was not quite so good as last year, but 107 out of 112 is not so bad; soon we hope to be up to full strength.

"B" (S.) COMPANY

Well, we have hardly recovered our composure from the exciting events of the last few weeks. Everybody was on tip-toe, waiting for the order to embody the Territorial Army, which we all thought was bound to come. However, it did not. Some of us even went as far as to sharpen our teeth to deal with iron rations.

We must congratulate Lieut. Blair on taking over command of "B" Company, and wish Capt. Miskin success in his new duties in connection with the Battalion's change-over to machine guns.

An enormous amount of excellent work was put in by those members of the Company who volunteered for full-time duty during the crisis. A "funk hole" was dug in our "front garden," one room made completely gas-proof and strengthened against H.E., all windows blackened and covered with wire netting, and a generous supply of sand-bags placed round the building. Those members, headed by Mr. Blair and C.S.M. Trestrain, were: Sergt. Crump, Sergt. Smith, Sergt. Mills, Ptes. Lazarus, Toulle, Crosby, Lawrence, R. Smith, Gallagher, Dunnington, Sumner, Martin, Bradley, Hewson, Dines, K. Smith, H. Williams, Clarke, and Cadet Kerrison.

A gratifying number of the fair sex have been offering their services to the W.A.T.S.

There was a good attendance at Annual Training this year and the only regret we have is that we did not retain the Football Cup.

Training for the next few months will be mainly P.A.D., and then we will continue with our normal M.G. work. Several P.A.D. Courses are to be held and we hope to send a good number of N.C.O.s.

"D" COMPANY

"D" Company's activities since the last issue can be divided into two equally important phases. In August, the culmination of the year's training was concluded, and in September, a concentrated period of practical experience in Passive Air Defence measures was successfully undertaken.

In Camp, at Arundel, the keenness of all ranks to put into practice what had been learnt during the previous year was indicated both by the interest shown in the work we were given to do and by our success in winning the "Isleworth" Trophy, a cup presented for inter-Company competition in Guard Mounting and Recruits' Drill. We would like to take this opportunity of congratulating those concerned, and regarding our appreciation of their efforts.

Towards the end of September, it became apparent that there was a necessity to make some preparation against a possible air attack. 2/Lieut. W. D. Ellis reported for duty, and, after an appeal was made for volunteers,

which met with a ready response, and with the help of members of the Company, work was begun and concluded on a trench behind the Drill Hall, sufficiently large to accommodate 100 men. In addition, a simple, but efficient, air-lock was fitted to the entrance of the P.S.I.'s quarters, and one of his rooms made completely gas-proof by means of heavy blankets which could be attached at a moment's notice to a wooden framework for the doors and windows. The windows themselves were covered with Cellophane paper and protected externally by sand-bags. Nor were other important details, such as the sealing of cracks, wireless and telephone installation, forgotten. We feel it very creditable to those who accomplished this work in such a short time.

In spite of these intensive preparations we are, as usual, running a football team and we hope to meet the other Companies during the season.

9th BATTALION NOTES

OUR last Annual Training as Infantry of the Line has come and gone; whilst it is sad to think that we shall never again form a part of an Infantry Brigade and lie alongside our old friends, the 7th and 8th Battalions, we did at least have a most successful and memorable Camp.

Training, obviously, could not be our normal lines and included such items as road blocks, protection of detailed posts, map-reading, in the form of a treasure hunt, and an Arab battle, involving the relief of an Officers' Patrol by an improvised force from a Searchlight Battalion.

The Support Company carried on with their usual training for the first four days when the Divisional Machine Gun Competition was held. Although the result was not available during Camp, we have since learned that we won the cup, beating the 1st Cambridgeshires who, earlier in the year, had once again lost the Divisional Boxing Cup to us by only a small margin. It is interesting to recall that when the 132nd Infantry Brigade Machine Gun Trophy was instituted "B" (M.G.) Company of the Battalion it won it in the first year, and now, in its last year, the Support Company has won the Divisional Cup for its new 162nd Infantry Brigade.

In view of the change of role which was given to the Battalion early in June, the Commanding Officer invited the Colonel of the Regiment to inspect the Battalion for the last time as Infantry, and he very kindly consented to do so on the 11th August.

This was a very memorable day in the history of the Battalion and we were delighted to have General Heath with us. The Duke of Norfolk very kindly gave us permission to hold the inspection in the grounds of Arundel Castle, and both the setting and the weather were perfect. A large number of guests arrived, including 60 Old Comrades, who were on parade and led the Battalion for the final March Past in fours.

After lunch, "Bumble-puppy" sports were the order of the day, the most notable winner of any event being Major Sherwood, who came from the Reserve to win the open beer-drinking competition by at least 10 swallows!

2/Lieut. R. A. Keane, of the Lake Superior Regiment, who has been attached to the Battalion for nearly a year now, was fortunately able to attend Annual Training and we were delighted to have him with us.

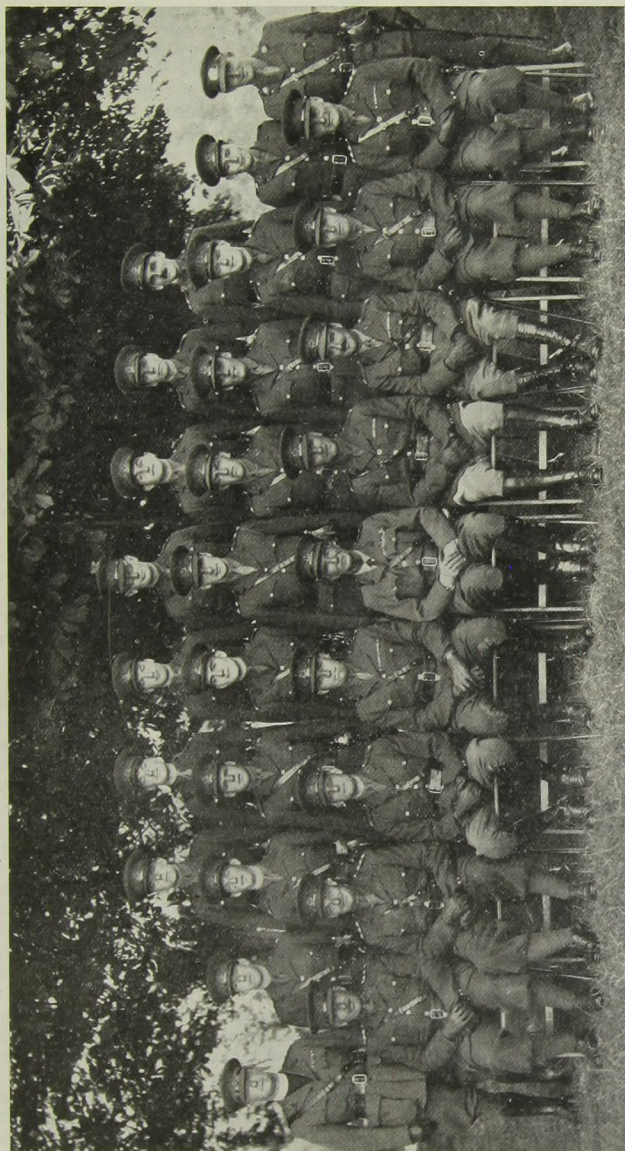
We also had a German Military Attaché—Herr Hauptman Sultman—with us for four or five days, and think we are correct in stating that this is the first time that a foreign military attaché has attended a Territorial Units' Annual Training.

At the time of writing, we are mobilised—but that is a long story and must be left for the next issue of the journal. Had there not been a lull in the crisis there would have been no notes at all from the Battalion in this issue; it is an ill wind that blows nobody any good—and so to bed.

"A" COMPANY

Whereas the Battalion notes merely record a change of role, these Company notes are in the nature of an obituary notice. No longer will the first letter of the alphabet denote the Company that is——well, better left unsaid.

The principle of self-determination has been denied to us, in future we shall form the larger part of a Company that is represented, like any fellow, by a mere number, "1," to wit, to woe! There are compensations, however. No longer shall we be required to hide our light under a bushel, and we meet again an old friend in Major Hardcastle,



OFFICERS OF THE 9th BATTALION THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (D.C.O.)
Inspection by the Colonel of the Regiment, Arundel, 11th August, 1938

Back row, left to right— 2/Lieut. A. Hamilton, 2/Lieut. P. J. Cundy, 2/Lieut. R. M. Cundy, Major H. Sherwood, 2/Lieut. J. T. Bull, 2/Lieut. R. W. Atkinson, Lieut. J. G. H. Canning
Second row, left to right— Rev. F. Chesnut-Chasney, 2/Lieut. J. M. Wood, 2/Lieut. K. A. L. Emery, 2/Lieut. P. A. Mann, 2/Lieut. K. O. Sayers, Lieut. M. F. Pearson, 2/Lieut. J. R. Talbot, 2/Lieut. M. A. H. Jones, 2/Lieut. D. V. Littlejohn, Lieut. H. F. Parlame, Lieut. R. A. Keane
Front row, left to right— Capt. H. W. Gray, Capt. B. L. Sutcliffe, Major H. K. Hardcastle, Lieut.-Colonel G. L. Fox, T.D., Hon. Brigadier-General R. M. Heath, C.M.G., D.S.O., Major H. W. Clayden, Major T. C. M. Johnson, Major F. G. Hogg, Capt. H. A. Neal

who will command the new Company. "May your light never be doused."

Our last Infantry Camp was, for the first time, the occasion of some light-hearted soldiering; instead of the normal Platoon exercises, training was confined to those portions of Infantry work that a Searchlight Unit might be called upon to do, road, blocks, local protection, patrolling, and map-reading exercises were the main subjects, and a point was made of, as one man or another, giving each man a lone hand. This was a most interesting feature, and the results obtained augured well for the provision of adaptable searchlight personnel.

"A" Company is dead; long live "No. 1."

"C" COMPANY

In the middle of the emergency, and during the signing of 2,183 Army Forms, and other documents, the Company Commander was informed that the Journal Notes were due. No attempt will be made in this issue to discuss the trials and tribulations of embodiment, except to express the greatest admiration for the manner in which all ranks carried out their duties.

Annual Training this year proved difficult from the training point of view, but the fine weather and the ceremonial parade both helped to make Camp a success.

The only competitions which were held were for Platoons, Platoon Sergeants, and Section Commanders. The Platoon Competition for the Battalion was won by this Company, No. 11 being the successful Platoon. The Platoon Sergeants' Competition was also won by this Company—L/Sergt. Weller. The Section Competition was won by "A" Company, with Cpl. Whitney, of this Company, second. Thoroughly satisfactory results.

The ceremonial parade was a success and the Company was a great credit on that day. Details appear in the Battalion notes.

On 1st November, this Company and the Hendon Company become one, and will, henceforth, be No. 3 Company. The opening strength will be at least 223 Officers, N.C.O.s, and men.

A new Drill Hall is about to be built which, it is hoped, will be opened before Annual Training next year. All modern requirements,

both for training and for social activities, will be incorporated in this new Drill Hall.

There is little doubt that the Searchlight role, which is to be adopted by the Battalion, is likely to prove extremely interesting to all ranks. Whether the European crisis is over, or not, remains a matter of opinion. All ranks of No. 3 Company must prepare themselves in their new duties as rapidly as possible to face any emergency.

"D" COMPANY

A great many things have happened since we last went to Press. "D" and "C" Companies no longer exist in their old form, but are now combined as one Company.

This is due to the reorganisation of the Battalion as an A.A. Unit of three Companies. Camp has come and is now in the past. It was situated at Arundel, in the castle park, in very pleasant surroundings. It is some years since the Battalion last visited Arundel, and those who were present on the previous occasion were looking forward to visiting it again and renewing "old" friends. Many friends were made, some not so old, and some not in Arundel. I have recollections of a "pub" in Littlehampton that was very, very popular with some members of old "D" Company and though they are considered experts in beer-judging, this particular "pub" remained popular as a meeting place, although the beer was quite ordinary. Perhaps there were other attractions. There was quite a lot of talk about "Ginty's Goat," or some such name as that.

The Camp was a great success, and to mark the occasion as the last Camp attended by the Battalion as an Infantry Unit, a ceremonial parade was held and the Battalion inspected by the Colonel of the Regiment, Brigadier R. Heath.

The parade was considered, by many experts in these things, to be one of the best seen and compared very favourably with the Regular Army in drill and turn-out, which reflects great credit on the Battalion in general and those responsible for the training in particular. New Drill Halls will be built in the near future, and it is hoped they will be ready next year, and the Battalion will move into them. A long association with the present Drill Halls will thus be broken, but the Battalion will still be in its same area, as the new Drill Halls will be quite near.

Members of old "D" Company welcome the return as O.C. No. 3 Company of Capt. B. L. Sutcliffe, who was associated for a long time with Hendon.

The competition between "C" and "D" Companies in the past has always been very keen and friendly. Together, they should do great things.

We offer our condolences to C.S.M. Devereaux and Sergt. Devereaux in the recent loss of their father. Mr. A. Devereaux served in the Middlesex Regiment during the War and lost a leg. For many years he was a familiar figure in Hendon and took a keen interest in the Hendon Company.

REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION NOTES

PROCEEDINGS OF A MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

HELD AT THE HEADQUARTERS, CENTRAL LONDON
RECRUITING ZONE, WHITEHALL

ON 27TH JULY, 1938

PRESENT: Major H. Phillips, M.C. (Vice-Chairman, in the chair), Col. E. E. F. Baker, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., Lieut.-Col. W. W. Jefferd, Lieut.-Col. E. W. Fane de Salis, M.C., Capt. H. W. Clayden, Capt. S. J. Clark, Capt. J. R. B. Worton, R.S.M. P. Newman, R.S.M. R. Parsler, R.Q.M.S. C. Goodall.

Apologies were received for non-attendance from Col. M. Browne, M.C., Col. G. L. Brown, D.S.O., Lieut.-Col. W. H. Samuel, Lieut.-Col. C. P. Rooke, D.S.O., Capt. H. E. Foster, Capt. C. T. Whinney, M.C., Capt. F. A. L. Lawrence, Mr. E. Crouch, Col. A. M. O. Anwyl Passingham, O.B.E., D.L. and Major N. H. B. Lyon, M.C.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE MR. G. N. CAPEL

On taking the chair, the Chairman paid a tribute to the memory of Mr. G. N. Capel, who was, until the time of his death, a member of the Executive Committee. The Committee then stood for a few moments in silence. The Secretary was instructed to convey the Committee's sympathy to Mrs. Capel.

1. MINUTES

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and passed, with the exception of Minute 6. (See below, Minute 3.)

2. SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Secretary's Report for the last quarter was read and passed and it was proposed by Capt. Worton, and seconded by Col. Baker, that the sum of £125 be allocated for the relief of necessitous cases during the quarter ending 30th September, 1938. (Carried.)

3. RESOLUTION, COTTAGE HOMES. (See Minute 1.)

It was proposed by Capt. Clayden, and seconded by R.S.M. Parsler, that the last three lines of the resolution passed at the last meeting on 4th May, 1938 (*vide* Minute 6 of that meeting), be deleted as being beyond the powers of the Committee. (Carried.)

4. DONATIONS TO COTTAGE HOMES

It was proposed by Col. Baker, and seconded by Col. Jefferd, that the question of making a donation to the Cottage Homes for the Association Charitable Fund shall be brought up annually after the accounts for the year have been audited. (Carried.)

5. OLD COMRADES' DINNER

(a) It was decided to ask the 8th Battalion for their Band for the Old Comrades' Dinner on 12th November.

(b) Col. Jefferd proposed, and Col. Baker seconded, that Brig.-General F. H. Stapleton, C.M.G., be asked as a guest to the Dinner. (Carried.)

(c) It was proposed by Col. Baker, and seconded by Capt. Clayden, that the Dinner for 1939 should be held at the Baltic House Restaurant, Leadenhall Street, on 11th November, subject to the approval of the Chairman of the Committee if he considers it a suitable place. (Carried.)

6. SUBSCRIPTION TO NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

It was proposed by Col. Jefferd, and seconded by Capt. Clark, that a subscription for 1938 of £100 be made to the National Association for Employment. (Carried.)

7. SUBSCRIPTION TO MONS MEMORIAL

It was proposed by R.S.M. Parsler, and seconded by R.S.M. Newman, that the sum of £10 be subscribed by the Association to the "Mons Memorial Fund." (Carried.)

8. SUBSCRIPTIONS TO CHARITIES

It was proposed by Col. Baker, and seconded by Col. de Salis, that subscriptions to the following charities be renewed for the next 12 months: Alexandra Orphanage, £2 2s. od.; British Legion (affiliation fee), £1 1s. od.; Charity Organisation Society, £4 4s. od.; Charity Organisation Society (registration), £1 1s. od.; Hospital for Sick Children, £2 2s. od.; Gordon Boys' Home, £2 2s. 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.; Special Fund for the Blind (National Institute), £1 1s. od.; St. Dunstan's, £1 1s. od. (Carried.)



FINDING WORK IN THE NORTH-WEST

I SERVED in the Border Regiment from June, 1930, to June, 1937. Before enlisting, I was a cotton worker in Leigh, Lancashire.

I registered with the Carlisle Branch of the National Association in April, 1937, and had a talk with Major Creedon of that office, who gave me useful hints as to how to obtain work, and some very good advice.

I took a Vocational Training Course as gardener-chauffeur. On completion of this course I returned to Carlisle and reported to the Association. I obtained a couple of temporary jobs, motor driving.

Major Creedon put me up with two others for a store-keeper's job; I did not get this, but evidently I made some impression at the interview, as a few days after I was sent for and, with Major Creedon, went to this firm who asked me whether I would like to go there and learn to be a "driller." I jumped at the chance and have not regretted it. I started in July last and like the work very much indeed.

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

I found it very strange at first, but by putting my back into it and taking notice of all advice given me, I soon found that I was making headway.

Drilling is a job which calls for accuracy and, naturally, a lot of patience. One must use a good deal of common sense. I have been at the job now for nine months and feel confident I can hold my own with men who have been employed at the trade for years.

The work is usually carried out on a compressed-air machine. For work which cannot be done by the compressed-air machine, an electric portable machine, weighing about 4½ tons, is also used and a radial arm driller, which is similar to the portable machine, but is fixed in position. The metal worked on varies in thickness, according to the nature of the work. The tools mostly in use are hammers, spanners, clamp, and round-nosed chisels.

Working hours are 7.30 a.m. to 12 noon and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. We are getting plenty of overtime at present, which means extra pay.

You meet all kinds of fellows, some who think you should not be there, and others totally different. On the whole, I find them quite good fellows, always willing to give a helping hand and advice.

Going into a busy workshop was very strange and took some getting used to. I think the boss realises how strange it must be for a man to come to such a different atmosphere and allows for it, which is a great help.

One finds, compared with the Army, that the hours of work are shorter and one also knows when the day's work will end, and if told to do a job that takes more than ordinary hours, one receives extra pay for doing it.

Good time-keeping is stressed by employers, and it is up to a fellow to adhere to it.

A good boss will put up with slow work as long as it is good, but if slow and bad then, of course, he must make himself felt.

There are, of course, foremen, and to a certain extent everyone is under their supervision. You are given your job and are expected to carry it out to the best of your ability, and it is up to you to make every job a good one. There is no such thing as leaving it for someone else to do.

I used to take part in all games when with my Regiment, particularly rugby football. I now get a game occasionally, but do not miss being able to kick a ball about when there was nothing else to do.

I find that a lot of employers and foremen have been in the Service at some time or other, and it does not help to try to tell them a fairy yarn as to what you had to do when you were in the Army.

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

THE NEW ARMY RESERVE SECTION E

THIS would appear to be a chance for many ex-Warrant Officers and Non-Commissioned Officers who wish to help on mobilisation, but who do not know the best way of doing so.

It will be recalled that at the outbreak of the Great War in 1914, a large number of such men were required to train the new Units which were formed on mobilisation and they had to be taken from the serving personnel of the Regular Army. In one of our Home Battalions alone, 12 Sergeants or Corporals were taken away from the Battalion for this duty on the third day of mobilisation.

On mobilisation, many Warrant Officers' and Non-Commissioned Officers' posts have to be filled; many of these are in training and other Units where a lower degree of physical activity can be accepted than in the Field Force. The Army Reserve at present contains very few Warrant and Non-Commissioned Officers. Section E will be open only to Pensioner Warrant and Non-Commissioned Officers, and it is for the purpose of relieving the Regular Army of this call that it is formed. The Section is open to Warrant and Non-Commissioned Officer Pensioners under the age of 50, who have not been absent from the Colours for more than five years.

The terms of service are enlistment and re-engagement for one year at a time, and the pay 9d. per day. Each man will be allotted a specific mobilisation post. They are liable to come out on the same conditions as the existing Sections B and D, and if called out they will continue to draw their pensions as well as pay, but will not count their additional service towards any increase in pension. It is the intention, as far as possible, to appoint Infantry Section E Reservists to posts

with their own Regimental Training Unit or with non-Regimental Units, such as Infantry Base Depot.

If no vacancies exist, however, they may be posted to other Regimental Training Units, but they will be so informed before they enlist or re-engage, and consequently, will be able to decline if they so wish.

A MONS DIARY

SEVENTH INSTALMENT

IT was now about 6.30 p.m. and while we were talking to Major Davy about various details a German aeroplane came over our position. The half Company were given the order to fire at it by the Officer-in-charge, much to the C.O.'s disgust. It was at an altitude of about 6,000 ft. and, therefore, very unlikely to be hit and the C.O. considered it was entire waste of ammunition and that it gave away our position which, of course, it had come to find out. We were not the worst offenders, however, for the Royal Fusiliers had started the firing and it went all along the 9th Brigade front as far as the aeroplane had flown along it and finished up with ours.

I did not see it come down myself as I was busily engaged blowing my whistle to stop the firing and, as this had no effect, I had to ride over to the Officer-in-charge to tell him to stop it. Thousands of rounds must have been fired by this time, but the Company claim to have brought it down in flames. This was also corroborated by the sentry at "H.Q.," who asked me when I got up there if I had seen "That aeroplane come down in flames, it was just after that firing just now and it must have been brought down by our chaps." Others assert that it went on, including the C.O., who was very sick at the thought of all the information it was going to take away with it.

On reaching "H.Q." with all the preparations for the defence settled, I had a little rest and a meal consisting of some water from my water-bottle and a ham sandwich which the Mess Sergeant had prepared for me before leaving the last resting place and which I had forgotten all about during the day, owing to the hospitality of our Belgian friends.

Thinking that there was bound to be a battle next day I was not long about getting my water-bottle filled again by my servant. Major Finch was at "H.Q." when we got there and we sat down and talked over the situation and other things, and the Colonel, instead of putting on paper his dispositions, rode off to the Brigade on a fresh horse. He stayed there for about an hour and a half, returning when it was dark. I tried to get Major Finch to help me eat my sandwich, but he would not and contented himself with a ration biscuit. We got pretty chilly in about an hour's time and our kits, in the 2nd Line Transport, had not yet arrived, nor had the supplies, and the following message received from the Transport Officer showed that there was some difficulty about getting them up.

"To Quartermaster,
"4th Middlesex Regiment.
"From Transport Officer.

"I sent up 2 wagons at 6.30 p.m. to be emptied and to return here as soon as possible. So far they have not returned. Please enquire into this at once as I am expecting supplies in at any moment. Also send down a guide to conduct us back.

"(Sgd.) W. E. WILLIAMS, Lieutenant,
"Transport Officer 4th Middlesex Regiment.
"Sent by cyclist 9.30 p.m.
"22/8/14."

We began to wonder if either would turn up at all. The men did not worry, they preferred sleeping, having first made themselves some tea. At last I suddenly thought of the brandy flask in my saddle and we partook of this. Major Finch did not refuse this time and it warmed us up a bit. Soon (about 10 p.m.) the supplies and our kits arrived. We had our valises out and a scrap meal was supplied by the Mess Sergeant, consisting of tea, bully beef, tongue, bread, butter and marmalade, and we did ourselves justice at this meal.

"A" Company now came in to Headquarters, having been relieved at their posts by the Royal Scots.

Having refreshed themselves, they likewise got their valises out and coiled up in them. We heard a lot of firing at about 9 p.m. and I sent out a reconnoitring patrol to find out what it was all about. They had not returned by 10 p.m. so I went out myself with a couple of Battalion scouts to try to find them and also to find out what the news was. Passing the Headquarter sentry, I told him that I

would be back about 10.30 p.m. and that if I was not back by 10.45 p.m. he had better report the matter as I should probably be captured or something of the sort.

We went on down to "B" Company and it took longer than I thought it would, for when I got to "B" Company "H.Q." it was 10.20 p.m.

I sent one of my scouts back to the "H.Q." sentry to tell him that I should not be back before 11 p.m.

Major Davy was not at home, he was visiting his picquets. I asked the Company Sergeant-Major what the firing had been at and he said that there had been no firing from the Company, but that there had been some about an hour previously further down the line in the 9th Brigade area by Petit Nimy. I was not satisfied with this information and went on to the lock in front where they told me the same thing. They also told me that they had sent to, and received from, the next picquet, visiting patrols, and that they had learnt that the firing had been from German troops who had been firing at the next picquet on the left, i.e., the other picquet of "B" Company and also at the right picquet of the next Brigade. We had not replied anywhere as their position could not easily be defined in the wooded country.

I went back the same way that I had come and on reaching the level-crossing again I was challenged by the sentry, who let me pass after the usual "friend." As I was passing he said that Sergeant-Major Sinton had told him to ask me to go into the house on my way back to "H.Q." I accordingly went in and found a glass of beer awaiting me. Sinton told me that the people of the house had deserted and left a barrel of beer to which they were helping themselves. I drank a glass of this with great pleasure and my scout did likewise, and after drinking to their success in the morning, as it looked like an attack at dawn coming, I proceeded to Battalion "H.Q." hoping to get a little sleep. I got back all right, passing the sentry there at 10.50 p.m. In the darkness I found my valise, and the C.O. next door asleep.

Seeing the cook's fire still alight I went over to the kitchen and asked for a little hot water which they gave me in a mug and I had a shave, thus scoring by one day's growth over my snoring friends, then I started to turn in. I was very soon interrupted by a Sergeant

of the Royal Fusiliers, who brought a message from their C.O. to our's.

"To O.C. Middlesex Regiment,
"R.F.4 Twenty-second.

"I think it very important that we should keep each other informed of the course of events in case of attack and propose to send an orderly to remain with your Headquarters. My Headquarters are at level-crossing half-mile North of M in Mons in case you want to do the same. Please acknowledge.

"From Commanding Royal Fusiliers."

He stumbled over my pillow (the baggage end of my valise, and very hard) and woke up the C.O. The latter did not seem to take much notice. Soon, however, he saw me light the Mess lantern to read the message and he was wide awake at once, as he always was when there was anything doing. The C.O. decided to send ours down at dawn when he would be able to see his way and get his bearings as he would be useless if he did not know his way easily.

After this I was turning in again when an Orderly from the Brigade brought up another message about the action to be taken if an enemy plane flew over us when we were in a formed body.

"To O.C. Middlesex Regiment,
"23. 22/8/14.

"For information aaa Cavalry Division reports that Germans are using aeroplanes to direct artillery fire aaa If German aeroplanes fly over formed bodies of troops it is advisable to change position when possible aaa

"BBBBBBBBBB Capt.

"Staff Capt. 8th Infantry Brigade.
"10.38 p.m."

Having read this I tried a third time to crawl into my bed and was successful. I looked at my watch and found that it was 12.15 a.m., 23rd August—a fateful day for many.

23rd August

I was not long in going off to sleep as I was wanting it pretty badly. It was a beautiful night, no cold air, no wind, no rain, and not even any dew, and I slept soundly until I was awakened by a fresh messenger at 3 a.m. with several messages, Army Corps Orders, and Divisional Orders from Brigade "H.Q." The first message I opened was an account of our Cavalry's work and experiences during the day.

"To Officer Commanding Middlesex Regiment.

"27. 23/8/14.

"Our Cavalry were engaged from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. to-day, 22nd, with an Infantry advanced guard advancing on Peronne and Binche aaa Enemy showed very little push but this may be because he was going into billets aaa Our reconnoitring detachments have charged both their Cavalry and Infantry with success aaa Their guns shoot well but cannot burst their shells properly and effect is nil aaa Our casualties all day, one Officer wounded and three or four horses, situation to-night Cavalry Division withdrawing at 5 p.m. and marching to billets as allotted Headquarters at Quievrain aaa 5th Brigade billeted about Haulchin with connecting posts for messages at cross-roads south-east of Givry aaa For information.

"BBBBBBBBBBBB Capt.

"For Brigade Major 8 Infantry Brigade."

The second read as follows:

"You will stand to arms at 4.30 a.m. to-day aaa Transport to be loaded up and horses harnessed aaa Acknowledge."

I acknowledged receipt by bearer and sent a similar message to all Companies, etc.

The third message was as follows:

"You will please see that Brigade order regarding one Orderly being always sent to Brigade Headquarters on arrival in billets or rest camp is strictly complied with in future. On many occasions I received no Orderly from you, or when I send him with a message to his Unit he never returns. I have had no Orderly from you 22/23rd and I have sent for one already once."

I wanted to answer that I did not consider that we were either in billets or rest camp, but I wisely refrained. I had had a lot of trouble over these Orderlies myself, as a matter of fact, and I went for the Signalling Sergeant over it. I had no more trouble with this matter afterwards. From the wording of the message it appeared that we were not the only offenders.

I told the Signalling Sergeant to send one off immediately. This he did, and in about an hour our medical officer told me that he had got one of my signalling Orderlies in the aid post exhausted. I found that this was the one who had just been sent off to the Brigade, so I had to send another. The former had had a very trying day the day before, was up all the night before that, and was one of those who do anything that comes

along without any grumbling and he had at last overdone it. He soon came back to duty again, even before the battle started, and he was with us when I left the Battalion on 30th August. We stood to arms, according to orders, at 4.30 a.m. and very soon it came on to drizzle, which lasted until about 10 a.m. when the sun came out and the battle started.

We had breakfast, which was much the same as our meal of the night before, except that the bread was a bit sodden with the rain.

The next thing was a message from "D" Company (Capt. Glass).

"Nothing to report, except that only small bodies of Cavalry have been seen this morning. Any orders, please? 4.39 a.m. 23rd."

I got it about 5 a.m., brought by the Signalling Sergeant, who was killed in the action that day and was a great loss to the signalling establishment. I acknowledged this message and said that I had no orders for him.

At about 5.30 a.m. I got a message from the O.C. Royal Fusiliers which he sent back by our Orderly who could only just have arrived there.

"Have now received order to be ready to withdraw at quarter hour's notice when relieved by Divisional mounted troops aaa Have you the same order? aaa In view of the new order we had better exchange Orderlies again so as to keep our own aaa"

We had not received this order but it made us expect one and, to tell the truth, it made us feel frightfully disappointed to think of withdrawing from our carefully-prepared position and I am sure the men who had prepared it would have felt more so if they had heard it. However, they never did, as the order to withdraw never came either to ourselves or to the Fusiliers.

At about 6 a.m. I got another message from the Brigade.

"Train of all Units in 8 Brigade area will proceed on receipt of this order to Station South of Chasse Royal. They will there assemble under O.C. No. — Company train who will then march to Genly via ES of FRAMERIES and will there park clear of the road."

This was a thoughtful order and saved our kits and supplies from wreck or capture, which would have been inevitable that day as it turned out.

I then went out with Major Abell to show him where the C.O. wanted him to dig a trench to cover the re-entrant near "B" Company Headquarters (level-crossing).

The C.O. had gone off round the outposts; Major Finch remained at "H.Q." in case there were any messages arriving.

We went down to Major Davy and consulted him about the siting of this trench and on our return, after wishing Major Davy good luck, Major Abell detailed 2/Lieut. Henstock's Platoon to dig it.

On returning to Major Finch I found that he had got another message.

"Following message has been received from 3rd Division and forwarded to O.C. 56th Field Company for action. Instruct the Field Company R.E. to prepare all bridges on canal for demolition Nimy inclusive to Ville-Sur-Haine. Orders for demolition to be given by "H.Q.C." Division only. Two Officers only to be used for this report. 7th Brigade."

This message had been sent to us for information by the Brigade and is interesting as two messages on this subject came during the action.

A Special Reservist Subaltern, Lieut. Allistone, who had been sent to us to complete our establishment on mobilisation, came up to me about this time and said that he had been discharged from hospital. He had been taken in by the medical officer after the march on the 21st with sore feet. He wanted to know what to do, so I sent him off to his Company at Obourg Station. I am sorry to say that this was the most unfortunate Company in the action and he never returned. He was one of the missing after the action.

We got nothing more in the way of messages for a bit and I thought I would go and see how Henstock was getting on with his trench. I found that his men had got well into the ground and found the soil easy for digging.

When I got back I went for another little stroll with the medical officer who was in a great state of mind about his hospital. He had chosen one too far forward and was looking for another. This being settled, we returned to Headquarters where someone, I cannot remember for certain who, but I think it was the Signalling Sergeant, presented me with a German soldier's small book (a book giving the owner's name, rank, Regiment, etc. and might be of use to the intelligence branch of the staff). This I sent on to the Colonel who was at the Brigade.

Nothing happened for a bit, but the men soon began rigging up shelters for themselves, made of brushwood hurdles which were lying about, as the rain was coming down a bit

thicker. I got hold of a water-proof sheet and made use of it as a cape until the Mess Sergeant had made quite a good shelter for us.

Our next excitement was prepared for us by Capt. Glass, who sent up a German spy under escort from Obourg. I sent him on to the Brigade.

At about 9.30 a.m. I received a message from the Brigade giving the situation as it was then.

"Message from Brigade Headquarters.

"To O.C. 4/Middlesex Regiment.

"15. 23rd August.

"Following is present situation of 8th Brigade troops—3 troops Divisional Cavalry holding St. Symphorien and Villers St. Ghislain patrolling to Bray and Havre and intervening country. Messages for this Cavalry should be sent to NW end of St. Symphorien.

"Middlesex Regiment holding from bridge over canal due North of N of Nimy to STA due South of Obourg (both inclusive) with 'H.Q.' at pt 62 due North of S of Mons.

"Gordon Highlanders holding NE and E sides of high ground just South of words Faubg Barthelem as far South as letter G of word Faubourg near pt 45.

"Royal Scots from thence Southwards to the St. Symphorien-Harmignies Road with 'H.Q.' at Spiennes connected by wire with Brigade 'H.Q.' at Hyon.

"Royal Irish at kilometer 2 just West of junction of Mons-Binche and Mons-Givry roads.

"40th FA Brigade 'H.Q.' Mesvin with orders to select positions for Batteries on high ground South of words Faubg Barthelem and at Bois la Haut to fire N^WNE and SE.

"Section Fd Ambulance at Mesvin.

"All above positions for both Artillery and Infantry will be entrenched and made as strong as possible and held strongly.

"7th Infantry Brigade will extend from right flank of Royal Scots to about Vellerville le Sec.

"Dividing line between Brigades is Harmignies-St. Symphorien road.

"Troops must be ready to occupy their positions at short notice. No. — Company train is proceeding to Genly.

"CCCCCCCCC Major.

"Brigade Major 8 Infantry Brigade.

"8 Infantry Brigade.

"9 a.m."

I do not know what became of the Artillery, as it did not appear to support us during the

day at all until we retired from our position, although I saw Artillery Officers reconnoitring round our position the night before.

The fact is, I believe, that they could not get much in the way of targets owing to the woody country in our front. Our men noticed what appeared to be their absence and so did the Royal Irish when they supported us later on. I heard them talking about it myself as they were under a terrific Artillery fire themselves with apparently no one to distract the attention of the German gunners. The C.O. told me to send the situation message round to the Companies and as I thought I might want to refer to it at any time, I gave it to the Signalling Sergeant to copy in quadruplicate with carbon paper.

I have omitted a little piece of routine work that had to be done just before I received the situation message. The Brigade called for a few reports or returns as follows:

1. A State showing numbers present in Officers, men, horses, and wagons, also numbers sick to be sent to Adjutant General's office at the base by 2 p.m.

2. Report on revolver ammunition, whether anyone was in possession of soft-nosed ammunition or not. Replied no one. This had been mentioned before and we had enquired into the matter beforehand.

3. Asked whether any of our horses had been shod at Taisnières as, apparently, someone had had a horse shod there without paying for it, or something of the sort. This we were also able to deny.

4. Asked if the Battalion was in possession of iron rations. Answered "yes."

Another thing that had to be done was to complete the War Diary up to date. This, by the way, we never saw again for exactly a week.

I then, having handed over the last message to the Signalling Sergeant, was given an early lunch by the Mess Sergeant about 10.30 a.m., consisting of tea and a plate of beef steak which was almost too tough to eat, but I managed to get through it. It was immediately followed by a signal from the Germans that the battle had started, in the shape of a shell which burst at the head of the quarry somewhere. It was quickly followed by another like my first mouthful of beef. Lunch over, I went up to join the C.O. in our fighting "H.Q." with a couple of scouts, sending my servant to the Quartermaster for some revolver ammunition.

(To be continued)

CORRESPONDENCE

HINTS ON JOB-FINDING

7TH BATTALION THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT,
PRIORY ROAD,
HORNSEY, N.8.

23rd July, 1938.

To the Editor of "The Die-Hards"

DEAR SIR,

I was most interested to read the article by W. H. S. in the last issue of the journal.

I wish to endorse entirely all that it contained. Since leaving the Service, I have been in a position to study this question, and I cannot emphasise too strongly that, upon leaving the Service, men must not expect to occupy senior positions until they have given practical proof of their ability to maintain such a position.

The normal attitude of the employer towards ex-service men is that he regards them as novices who may require to be "untaught" a lot before they begin to learn their new trade or business.

If the ex-soldier is prepared to take a subordinate job and to show that he is worthy of trust, he will find that he is soon pushed on above men, who have not had the benefit of Army training.

It is a mistake to accept a job which looks good on the surface but which may be only of a temporary nature. It is far better to look for employment which may bring in slightly less pay but which is likely to be a permanency.

S. M.

28, STEELE ROAD,
ISLEWORTH,
MIDDLESEX.

1st August, 1938.

To the Editor of "The Die-Hards"

DEAR SIR,

I beg to inform you that my father, Mr. John Farmer, who retired from the Regiment in 1906, died yesterday.

He retired with the rank of Regimental Sergeant-Major of the 1st Volunteer Battalion from the Hornsey Headquarters in 1906.

A solemn Requiem Mass is being held at St. Bridget's Roman Catholic Church, Isleworth, on Thursday morning, at 10.0 a.m., and interment follows at Isleworth Cemetery at about 10.45 a.m.

My father held the Meritorious Medal, which fact, I think, I should inform you about.

Yours faithfully,
NORA M. FARMER.

[EDITOR'S NOTE.—A Bugler was sent to the funeral with a wreath from the Association.]

28, STEELE ROAD,
ISLEWORTH,
MIDDLESEX.
11th August, 1938.

To the Editor of "The Die-Hards"

The Secretary.

DEAR SIR,

On behalf of my mother and family, I send our united appreciation for the most beautiful floral tribute, received for my late father, who was interred on 4th August.

It was really beautiful, and certainly a fitting remembrance, and token of respect, from the Regiment he served so well.

With a further expression of our grateful thanks, and pride, at being able to see the Middlesex token placed on his grave.

Yours very sincerely,
NORA M. FARMER.

TOBACCONIST,
335, SOUTHELD LANE,
LOWER SYDENHAM,
S.E.26.

2nd August, 1938.

To the Editor of "The Die-Hards"

DEAR SIR,

Will you please publish the following in the DIE-HARDS?

Regret to inform you that my wife, Emily P. Morris, passed away at King's College Hospital, on 21st July, 1938.

She was buried at Hither Green Cemetery, on 27th July, 1938.

During the last eight years of my Colour Service she was at Mill Hill Barracks.

My Regimental No. was 4396, Sergt. W. Morris, C/Sergt., 6th Battalion Middlesex Regiment. I also served with the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Battalions and also a tour of duty with the 4th Battalion at the Tower of London, previous to the 3rd Battalion going on Active Service.

I remain,
Yours sincerely,
W. MORRIS.

OBITUARY

MAJOR E. M. G. WRAY, D.S.O.

IT is with very deep regret that we have to announce the death in Palestine, from gunshot wounds, of Major E. M. G. Wray, D.S.O.

He had just been appointed Prosecutor in Military Courts in Palestine and left this country on the *Aquitania* at the end of September. Only a day or so after he could have arrived in the country we hear of his death.

From the information at present available, it appears that he reached Gaza on 8th October. The train was held up at Gaza owing to the engine being broken down and sentries were posted for the night. Major Wray was going round visiting the various posts, with an escort, when one of the sentries, presumably mistaking him and his escort for somebody with no friendly intent, opened fire, wounding both. Major Wray succumbed to his injuries the following day.

Enlisting in the Seaforth Highlanders on the outbreak of War in 1914, he became a Corporal in charge of Battalion Headquarters runners and served with them for two years in France. After passing through an Officers' Cadet Battalion he was Commissioned and gazetted to the Essex Regiment, serving with them in Palestine for about 18 months. It was during this period that he was recommended for the V.C., and he was awarded the D.S.O. for conspicuous gallantry in bringing in a wounded comrade under heavy fire.

After the War he was attached to the 2nd Battalion of the Middlesex Regiment in Cairo and later obtained a Regular Commission in the Regiment.

From this time onwards he served throughout with the 2nd Battalion, being with them in Cairo, Singapore, Ahmednagar, Madras, and Khartoum and later, in this country, in Colchester, Portsmouth, and Gosport. Only twice during his Service in the Regiment did he leave the 2nd Battalion; firstly, in India, when for two years he was an instructor at the Machine Gun School at Ahmednagar, and secondly, from April, 1934, to December, 1935, when he was Adjutant of the 7th City of London Regiment until they became an Anti-Aircraft Battalion.

This brief outline of his Service cannot do justice to all the various Commands he held. If two only are singled out for mention

it is merely because we knew how much he enjoyed them, not only by our observations, but also by his frequent references to them.

One was commanding No. 7 Platoon, which he did for eight years, and to the very last he followed all their activities with keen and friendly interest. The other, of which he was justly proud, was commanding "D" Company when that Company was selected to be the Anti-Tank Company of the Battalion in 1935.

No appreciation of Major Wray would be complete without reference to the part he consistently played in the Regiment's sport. For years, as outside-left in the Battalion football team, he was one of the best we ever had. An injury to his knee in 1922, fortunately, did not prevent him playing hockey still, and for a great many years he was also outside-left in the Battalion hockey team. Later, when he was unable to take an active part in games himself, no matter what the sport, he was invariably among the spectators. At golf, though not a golfer himself, one always found him at the Regimental Meetings, willing to take on any little job that he might be asked to do and enjoying every minute of it amongst his friends.

Within the Mess, a gap has been created which it will be impossible to fill. "Phil" was "Phil," and not only in the Regiment, for he had a vast circle of friends outside as well.

The invariable question asked by any Officer calling upon, or visiting, the Mess, was "How is Phil Wray?" It was almost a ritual. It is more than sad to think that we can chaff him no longer on his world-wide reputation—everybody seemed to know him—whatever their rank.

He loved the society of others, had an amazing memory for names and faces, and was never happier than when amongst his friends. To those of us who knew him well, he showed a genuine sincerity. He shared our troubles as well, and as easily, as our joys. In everything that he did he showed the human touch and was unusually popular with all ranks. Seventeen years as a Subaltern may have denied him the opportunity of becoming a C.O., but it never once embittered him. He was content to enjoy life. Owing to the troublous times only two of his brother

Officers were able to see him off and there he was, as he always was, cheery and full of fun, laughing and joking, with the enjoyment of life written all over his face.

Many are the men who must have heard the tragic news and be sharing the sorrow with us all.

To Mr. and Mrs. Wray, and their family, we offer our deepest sympathy. We have lost a fine Officer, an excellent sportsman, and a very great friend.

MR. HERBERT BIRD

We regret to announce the death of Mr. Herbert Bird, on 5th August, 1938.

He had been an occupant of one of the Regimental Memorial Cottage Homes since June, 1937.

Enlisting in 1904, he was on the Army Reserve in 1914, when he was called up for the Great War, and was finally discharged, after being severely wounded in the right leg, which had to be amputated. He served with the 4th and 3rd Battalions before the War, being with the latter Battalion in Hong Kong, Singapore, and India. In the Great War, he joined the 2nd Battalion on mobilisation and was in France with that Battalion until 1916, being twice wounded. He had the 1914 Star, and the General Service and Victory Medals.

He was buried at Hendon Park Cemetery, on 11th August, and the funeral was attended by a Bugler from the Depot with a wreath from the Regimental Association.

We tender our sincere sympathy to Mrs. Bird and his family.

MR. ALBERT EDWARD DEVEREAUX

We regret to announce the death at Hendon Cottage Hospital, on 7th October, of Mr. Albert Edward Devereaux. He served in the 1st Battalion from September, 1914, to September, 1916, when he was severely wounded in the left leg, necessitating amputation. He was buried at St. Mary's Church, Hendon, on 13th October, and the funeral was attended by a Bugler from the Depot.

We offer our deep sympathy to his family.

(From the Monthly Army List for September, 1938)

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)—contd.	8th Battalion (Territorial)—contd.	Princess Louise's Kensington Regiment (Territorial)—contd.
<i>Lt.-Colonels.</i>	<i>Subalterns.</i>	<i>Majors—contd.</i>	<i>2nd-Lieutenants—contd.</i>	<i>Captains.</i>
Jefferd, W. W. (2) 1/6/35	Weston, G. P. L., a.m. 26/1/34	Holt, J. M. 26/10/36	Warren, P. A. 14/7/38	Watson, W. G. G. 1/4/33
	<i>Lieutenants.</i>		<i>Adjutant.</i>	Collingwood, L. O. M. 27/6/34
			<i>Quartermaster.</i>	Carver, A. R. 1/7/36
<i>Majors.</i>				<i>Lieutenants.</i>
Newnham, L. A., M.C., p.s.c. (1) 28/9/32	Beadnell, L. C. (1) 27/8/34	Bartram, R. 1/12/32	Ward, W. M., Lt. 1/6/38	Harley, J. 18/2/36
Savile, H. B. W., M.C. (1) 2/6/19	Whiting, F. B., c.o. 1/9/35	Johnson, A. K. 1/2/33	[Uniform—Scarlet.	Smith, G. A. 20/5/36
Phillips, H., M.C. (2) 17/12/32	Peal, A. W. F. (1) 1/9/35	Lowe, G. C. D. S. 20/7/33	Facings—Lemon Yellow.]	Paterson, G. D. 16/11/37
	Willoughby, J. E. F. (2) 2/2/36	Jefferson, A. D. 30/5/37		Tregoning, D. B. 16/2/38
				Bryar, B. L. 30/3/38
				Lohan, L. G. 15/5/38
				Falconer, M. H. 15/5/38
				Low, H. P. 6/7/38
				Mountford, H. R. 17/7/38
				<i>2nd Lieutenants.</i>
				Pyne, H. C. 23/10/35
				Williamson, C. K. 23/10/35
				<i>Lt.-Colonel.</i>
				Hudson, J. H. S. 21/12/35
				Beever, P. 21/3/36
				Holding, E. W. 18/4/36
				Smyth, P. F. 24/3/37
				Harlock, H. FitzG. 1/5/38
				Holmes, D. P. 7/5/38
				Stevens, J. M. 21/5/38
				<i>Adjutant.</i>
				Hoare, N. E., Maj. 15/12/3
				<i>Quartermaster.</i>
				Knight, E. D., M.M., Lt. 16/5/34
				[Uniform—Grey.
				Facings—Scarlet.]
				<i>Cadet Unit Affiliated.</i>
				Laymer Upper School C. Corps.
				<i>Oratory C. Corps.</i>
				"C" Coy. 1st W. Lond. C. Corps.
				<i>Supplementary Reserve.</i>
				Category B.
				<i>Subalterns (9).</i>
				<i>Lieutenants.</i>
				Morley, J. F. 24/10/31
				Wilcox, G. L. M. R. 5/12/31
				Cowley, L. D. 9/2/32
				Willoughby, R. W. H. 13/6/34
				Biggs, K. R. McK. 16/10/37
				Borgars, D. J. 28/10/34
				<i>2nd-Lieutenants.</i>
				Harrison, M. I. 18/4/36
				Warwick, F. D. 13/11/37
				Heath, H. M. 8/12/37
				<i>Cadet Unit Affiliated.</i>
				3rd C. Bn. Middlesex Regt.
				<i>Princess Louise's Kensington Regiment (Territorial).</i>
				Ivorna Gardens, Kensington, W.8.
				<i>Hon. Colonel.</i>
				Campbell, H., D.S.O., O.B.E., T.D. (Col. ret. Terr. Army) 28/12/29
				<i>Lt.-Colonel.</i>
				Hancock, F. G., M.C., T.D., Lt. 12/10/37
				<i>Majors.</i>
				Pim, G. K. (Capt. ret. pay) (Res. of Off.) 22/12/36
				Pillivant, J. E. 31/7/37
				Bellamy, C. W. 23/12/36

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 24/8/38)

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. T. Bayly 5/12/34	
*B.M. A. Judge 12/4/31		L/Sergt. 16/12/36	
*Q.M.S. (O.R.S.) A. Finch (Attd. Depot) 13/6/28		L/Sergt. A. Moore 15/2/35	
*C.S.M. A. Russell (Supn. F.M.S.V.F.) 1/4/31		L/Sergt. H. Naylor 28/7/35	
*R.Q.M.S. W. Randle C.S.M. 13/6/35		L/Sergt. 20/4/36	
R.Q.M.S. 2/11/37		Cpl. 31/8/35	
*C.S.M. F. Stacey 4/7/36		L/Sergt. 16/12/36	
*C.S.M. R. Challis 2/11/37		*Cpl. C. Keefe 28/11/35	
*C.S.M. W. Northcott, M.M. 8/11/37		Cpl. J. McGrady 6/12/35	
*C.S.M. E. Green 13/12/37		Cpl. F. Shaw 12/12/35	
*C.S.M. W. Tibble 2/2/38		Cpl. P. Crowley 12/12/35	
C.S. (C.Q.M.S.) W. Christie, M.M. 1/5/20		Cpl. S. Clark (Supn. Sch. Sigs.) 30/4/36	
Sergt. 7/7/36		Cpl. F. Hammond (40) 25/5/36	
C/Sergt. 7/7/36		*Cpl. R. Lomax 4/7/36	
Sergt. 6/10/23		Cpl. G. Clark 13/1/37	
C/Sergt. 20/2/37		Cpl. P. Cain 8/3/37	
*Sergt. A. Russell 16/2/30		Cpl. W. Lane 23/4/37	
*Sergt. C. Soper 17/12/30		Cpl. R. Burkitt 23/4/37	
Sergt. J. Quick (Pioneer) 23/4/31		Cpl. F. Hammond (64) 23/4/37	
**Sergt. L. Priddy 18/9/31		Cpl. L. Savagar 9/5/37	
C.S. (C.Q.M.S.) R. Bayles 10/12/31		Cpl. A. Borrow 2/6/37	
C/Sergt. 8/11/37		Cpl. C. Freshwater 1/9/37	
Sergt. 4/2/32		Cpl. G. Watson 8/11/37	
C/Sergt. 2/2/38		Cpl. L. Sibley 30/11/37	
Sergt. 18/2/32		Cpl. A. Ellis 16/12/37	
C/Sergt. 5/2/38		Cpl. A. Burrell 6/1/38	
Sergt. J. Ramsey 23/6/32		*Cpl. A. Bisset 14/1/38	
*Sergt. H. Kruck 24/8/32		Cpl. T. Baker 2/2/38	
*Sergt. W. Bean 23/3/33		Cpl. S. Harvey 15/2/38	
*Sergt. E. Paterson 8/9/33		Cpl. L. White 16/2/38	
*Sergt. (A/O.R.S.) P. Hale 10/10/33		Cpl. A. Pace 16/2/38	
Sergt. J. Little (Prov. Sergt.) 10/10/33		Cpl. J. Ringe 16/2/38	
*Sergt. J. Bond (Sergt. Cook) 17/6/34		*Cpl. I. McDavitt 16/2/38	
Band Sergt. P. Edwards 5/3/35		Cpl. L. Graham 16/2/38	
*Sergt. V. Cooper 15/5/35		*Cpl. S. Sturdy 16/2/38	
Sergt. B. Bedward 24/8/35		*Cpl. F. Ayres 24/4/38	
*Sergt. R. Chaplin 27/11/35		L/Cpl. R. Powell 5/10/35	
Sergt. S. Bullock 1/7/36		L/Cpl. W. Barnes 5/10/35	
*Sergt. H. Ramsden 7/7/36		L/Cpl. C. Kiefer 5/10/35	
Sergt. L. Sheffield 3/8/36		L/Cpl. E. Smith 16/12/35	
*Sergt. G. Bayford (Sig. Sergt.) 27/2/37		L/Cpl. R. Turner 21/12/35	
Drum-Major G. Jeffree 22/5/37		L/Cpl. H. Kidby 28/12/35	
*Sergt. R. Overy 16/10/37		L/Cpl. C. Haynes 28/12/35	
Sergt. T. Castle 8/11/37		L/Cpl. A. Morris 28/12/35	
*Sergt. H. Parnell 6/1/38		L/Cpl. G. Tattam 1/4/36	
Sergt. J. Riches 2/2/38		L/Cpl. L. Du-Heaume 1/4/36	
Sergt. W. Poulter 24/4/38		*L/Cpl. A. Moody 21/4/36	
Cpl. S. Phelan 15/9/31		L/Cpl. W. Finnis 19/5/36	
L/Sergt. R. Blackman 26/7/32		L/Cpl. E. Rogers 19/5/36	
L/Sergt. 13/5/36		*L/Cpl. A. Hoare 19/5/36	
Cpl. 14/1/33		L/Cpl. T. Perry 19/5/36	
L/Sergt. 9/5/37		L/Cpl. H. Ellams 19/5/36	
Cpl. 3/2/33		L/Cpl. A. Ruddle 19/5/36	
L/Sergt. 16/10/37		L/Cpl. G. Ravenscroft 29/5/36	
Cpl. 25/12/33		*L/Cpl. G. Plummer 29/5/36	
L/Sergt. 12/4/35		L/Cpl. C. Holford 29/5/36	
Cpl. 20/4/34		L/Cpl. W. Dowsett 15/6/36	
L/Sergt. 18/12/34		L/Cpl. J. Boggis 10/7/36	
Cpl. 8/5/34		L/Cpl. G. Hodgson 14/10/36	
L/Sergt. 18/12/34		L/Cpl. W. Ure 23/10/36	

* 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. P. Ellingworth ..	22/12/36	L/Cpl. W. Stone ..	13/12/37
L/Cpl. R. Pointer ..	11/1/37	L/Cpl. H. Perrin ..	17/12/37
L/Cpl. C. Roberts ..	11/1/37	L/Cpl. F. Smith ..	20/12/37
L/Cpl. A. Payne ..	11/1/37	L/Cpl. A. Tyler ..	3/1/38
L/Cpl. C. Payne ..	11/1/37	L/Cpl. A. Moggridge ..	3/1/38
*L/Cpl. A. Waldron ..	19/3/37	L/Cpl. L. Burbidge ..	3/1/38
L/Cpl. L. Staley ..	12/6/37	L/Cpl. A. Keeler ..	29/1/38
L/Cpl. R. Harris ..	12/6/37	L/Cpl. W. Thompson ..	8/2/38
L/Cpl. J. Turner ..	12/6/37	L/Cpl. A. Page ..	19/2/38
L/Cpl. J. Casey ..	2/7/37	L/Cpl. E. Collier ..	1/3/38
L/Cpl. C. French ..	2/7/37	*L/Cpl. G. Geary ..	15/3/38
L/Cpl. J. Whitney ..	2/7/37	*L/Cpl. C. Thorley ..	17/3/38
L/Cpl. D. Amos ..	30/7/37	L/Cpl. A. Wright ..	25/3/38
L/Cpl. W. Heath ..	7/8/37	L/Cpl. F. Walker ..	31/3/38
*L/Cpl. A. Manning ..	7/8/37	L/Cpl. A. Hobson ..	31/3/38
L/Cpl. G. Chelu ..	7/10/37	L/Cpl. P. Barron ..	15/4/38
L/Cpl. J. Brooker ..	14/10/37	L/Cpl. J. Rich ..	21/4/38
L/Cpl. S. Cornford ..	21/10/37	L/Cpl. J. Morgan ..	23/4/38
L/Cpl. G. Brewer ..	22/10/37	L/Cpl. C. Matthews ..	27/4/38
L/Cpl. W. Puddifoot ..	23/10/37	L/Cpl. J. Dunsdon ..	3/5/38
L/Cpl. R. Langford ..	23/10/37	L/Cpl. E. Caslake ..	5/5/38
L/Cpl. A. Rasmussen ..	30/10/37	L/Cpl. R. Humphreys ..	5/5/38
L/Cpl. A. McGrady ..	6/11/37	L/Cpl. W. Bumpstead ..	5/5/38
L/Cpl. E. Johnson ..	8/11/37	*L/Cpl. F. Jones ..	5/5/38
L/Cpl. D. O'Mahony ..	21/11/37	L/Cpl. G. Adams ..	5/5/38
L/Cpl. E. Morrish ..	23/11/37	*L/Cpl. H. Thorn ..	6/5/38
L/Cpl. W. Dee ..	23/11/37	L/Cpl. A. Thurland ..	21/5/38
L/Cpl. F. Wilmer ..	23/11/37	L/Cpl. L. Bowker ..	24/5/38
L/Cpl. S. Starkey ..	26/11/37	L/Cpl. W. Fox ..	25/5/38
L/Cpl. G. Soames ..	29/11/37	L/Cpl. J. Webster ..	26/5/38
L/Cpl. E. Chapman ..	29/11/37	L/Cpl. A. Seton ..	5/6/38
L/Cpl. A. Miller ..	6/12/37	L/Cpl. W. Reeves ..	2/7/38
L/Cpl. S. Apps ..	6/12/37	L/Cpl. W. Hills ..	2/7/38
L/Cpl. M. Beresford ..	10/12/37	L/Cpl. R. Shore ..	2/7/38
L/Cpl. S. Cheal ..	10/12/37	L/Cpl. H. Burnett ..	11/7/38
L/Cpl. E. Williams ..	13/12/37	L/Cpl. F. Houghton ..	15/8/38

Dates against L/Cpls. are the dates of first appointment.

2nd BATTALION (Home Establishment), October, 1938

Rank and Name.	Battalion.	Date of present promotion or appointment.	Rank and Name.	Battalion.	Date of present promotion or appointment.
*R.S.M. P. Newman ..	Depot	13/8/31	C.Q.M.S. C. Misso ..	2nd	19/1/32
*R.S.M. R. Parslar ..	2nd	1/5/38	(Sergt. 28/2/28)		
*Bdmr. C. Dennis ..	2nd	25/3/33	*C.Q.M.S. F. Franklin ..	Depot	8/9/33
*R.Q.M.S. W. Fletcher ..	2nd	31/1/30	(Sergt. 20/3/28)		
*O.R.Q.M.S. B. Baldwin ..	2nd	2/7/30	C.Q.M.S. W. Rogers ..	2nd	28/7/35
*R.Q.M.S. C. Goodall ..	Depot	28/7/35	(Sergt. 26/5/25)		
	(C.S.M. 28/4/29)		C.Q.M.S. S. Bishop ..	2nd	1/5/38
*O.R.Q.M.S. F. Deane ..	2nd	10/6/38	(Sergt. 24/11/27)		
*C.S.M. J. Hart ..	9th	20/1/26	*C.Q.M.S. L. Honeybun ..	2nd	15/6/38
*C.S.M. R. Mewett ..	7th	23/3/33	(Sergt. 13/8/31)		
*C.S.M. A. Wright ..	8th	24/2/34	*C.Q.M.S. S. Thompson ..	2nd	16/6/38
*C.S.M. A. Jones ..	8th	10/5/34	(Sergt. 30/9/31)		
*C.S.M. C. Donaldson ..	9th	15/6/35	*Sergt. V. Osterholm ..	2nd	18/10/23
*C.S.M. H. Thomas ..	2nd	28/7/35	Sergt. J. Beaveridge ..	2nd	28/1/25
*C.S.M. E. Hazeldine ..	Depot	27/2/37	Sergt. A. Boen ..	Depot	13/4/29
*C.S.M. H. Poulter ..	2nd	10/11/37	Sergt. R. King ..	Supn., Fire Bde., Bordon	5/7/29
*C.S.M. G. Sherrieff ..	2nd	1/5/38			
*C.S.M. C. Kennett ..	2nd	15/6/38	Sergt. F. Nash ..	2nd	11/12/29
*C.S.M. W. Kemp ..	2nd	16/6/38	*Sergt. L. West ..	2nd	10/12/31
*P.S.M. C. Trestant ..	8th	1/10/38	Sergt. J. Harper ..	Depot	19/4/32
*P.S.M. L. Johnson ..	2nd	1/10/38	*Sergt. S. Smith ..	2nd	30/7/32
*P.S.M. J. Chillery ..	2nd	1/10/38	*Sergt. R. Smith ..	2nd	2/9/32
*P.S.M. S. Day ..	2nd	1/10/38	Sergt. J. Scott ..	2nd	3/9/32
*P.S.M. P. Davidson ..	2nd	1/10/38	*Sergt. F. Housden ..	Depot	3/5/33

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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. A. Mason ..	Depot	22/6/33	Cpl. F. Keen ..	Depot	15/6/35
Sergt. R. Wilson ..	Depot	8/7/33	Cpl. B. Bruniges ..	2nd	16/6/35
Sergt. H. Ison ..	2nd	10/5/34	Cpl. H. Eastland ..	Depot	24/8/35
*Sergt. E. Jennings ..	2nd	1/3/35	Cpl. B. Baldwin ..	2nd	18/10/35
Sergt. J. Smith ..	Depot	9/6/35	Cpl. A. Ball ..	Depot	5/1/36
*Sergt. W. Snell ..	2nd	13/6/35	Cpl. G. Blackman ..	2nd	23/1/36
Sergt. A. Hows ..	2nd	15/6/35	Cpl. H. Griffiths ..	2nd	16/4/36
Sergt. A. Whitcombe ..	7th	16/6/35	Cpl. W. Lovell ..	2nd	3/7/36
Sergt. A. Williams ..	Depot	28/7/35	L/Sergt. L. Delaney ..	2nd	
*Sergt. R. Jenkins ..	9th	23/1/36			
Sergt. F. Livens ..	2nd	17/5/36			
Drum-Major W. McEnery ..	2nd	5/7/36			
Sergt. E. Moir ..	2nd	28/10/36			
Sergt. A. Brett ..	7th	20/2/37	Cpl. W. Millichap ..	Depot	3/8/36
Sergt. J. Wright ..	2nd	8/6/37	L/Sergt. M. Trotobas ..	2nd	
Sergt. T. Sargent ..	2nd	8/6/37			
Sergt. R. Etheridge ..	2nd	10/11/37			
Sergt. R. Smallridge ..	2nd	13/12/37			
Sergt. W. Day ..	2nd	1/5/38			
*Sergt. C. Gatehouse ..	2nd	15/6/38			
Sergt. W. Makewell ..	Depot	16/6/38			
*Sergt. A. Wray ..	2nd	25/8/38			
Sergt. E. Fuller ..	2nd	1/10/38			
L/Sergt. J. O'Neill ..	2nd				
	Cpl. 13/8/31				
	(U/L/Sergt. 16/12/36)				
Cpl. A. Stone ..	2nd	2/9/31			
L/Sergt. F. Hawkins ..	2nd				
	Cpl. 28/6/32				
	(L/Sergt. 7/3/37)				
L/Sergt. H. Buckland ..	2nd				
	Cpl. 13/10/32				
	(L/Sergt. 28/10/36)				
L/Sergt. E. Wadsworth ..	Depot				
	Cpl. 15/11/32				
	(L/Sergt. 3/8/36)				
L/Sergt. H. Elcome ..	2nd				
	Cpl. 16/11/32				
	(L/Sergt. 17/12/36)				
L/Sergt. F. Knight ..	Depot				
	Cpl. 15/3/33				
	(L/Sergt. 10/11/37)				
L/Sergt. E. Soden ..	2nd				
	Cpl. 3/5/33				
	(L/Sergt. 13/2/38)				
L/Sergt. G. Endersby ..	Depot				
	Cpl. 2/6/33				
	(L/Sergt. 27/2/38)				
Cpl. C. Carpenter ..	2nd	5/5/34			
L/Sergt. R. Selfe ..	Depot				
	Cpl. 8/5/34				
	(L/Sergt. 11/3/37)				
L/Sergt. J. Stickley ..	2nd				
	Cpl. 10/6/34				
	(L/Sergt. 15/6/38)				
L/Sergt. W. Smith ..	2nd				
	Cpl. 17/6/34				
	(L/Sergt. 16/6/38)				
L/Sergt. V. Thomas ..	Depot				
	Cpl. 20/11/34				
	(L/Sergt. 13/5/36)				
Cpl. R. Stretton ..	2nd	16/3/35			
Cpl. H. Tye ..	R.W.A.F.F.	4/5/35			
L/Sergt. L. McDowell ..	2nd				
	Cpl. 9/6/35				
	(L/Sergt. 1/5/38)				

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PAID LANCE-CORPORALS:

L/Cpl. R. Weaver ..	2nd	23/11/32
L/Cpl. C. Armitage ..	2nd	3/1/33
L/Cpl. A. Lowe ..	2nd	15/4/34
L/Cpl. C. Marsh ..	2nd	3/2/35
L/Cpl. H. Outten ..	2nd	16/5/35
L/Cpl. C. Jarvis ..	2nd	16/8/35
L/Cpl. H. Clay ..	2nd	22/8/35
L/Cpl. G. McKay ..	2nd	31/8/35
L/Cpl. R. Barrett ..	Depot	28/3/36
L/Cpl. R. Wigg ..	2nd	16/4/36
L/Cpl. E. Stebbing ..	Depot	17/5/36
L/Cpl. L. Thurston ..	Depot	26/8/36
L/Cpl. J. Riseley ..	2nd	22/9/36
L/Cpl. H. Burchell ..	2nd	18/10/36
L/Cpl. N. Islip ..	2nd	28/10/36
L/Cpl. V. Chambers ..	Depot	19/11/36
A/Cpl. J. Rawlinson ..	2nd	
	L/Cpl. 1/12/36	
	(A/Cpl. 1/10/38)	
L/Cpl. H. Jennings ..	2nd	17/12/36

Rank and Name.	Battalion.	Date of present promotion or appointment.	Rank and Name.	Battalion.	Date of present promotion or appointment.
L/Cpl. F. Hogg	2nd	24/12/36	UNPAID LANCE-CORPORALS :		
L/Cpl. A. Morley	Depot	1/2/37	L/Cpl. J. Papworth	2nd	15/2/37
L/Cpl. A. Hudson	2nd	6/2/37	L/Cpl. C. White	2nd	27/9/37
L/Cpl. W. Phipps	2nd	6/2/37	L/Cpl. L. Chapman	2nd	15/10/37
L/Cpl. E. Haynes	2nd	20/2/37	L/Cpl. G. Parker	2nd	15/10/37
L/Cpl. B. Irons	2nd	8/6/37	L/Cpl. W. Wells	2nd	15/10/37
L/Cpl. A. Rimmer	2nd	12/7/37	L/Cpl. J. Murphy	2nd	15/10/37
L/Cpl. E. Phillips	2nd	31/7/37	L/Cpl. W. Oakes	2nd	15/10/37
L/Cpl. W. Claxton	2nd	31/7/37	L/Cpl. S. Maple	2nd	15/10/37
L/Cpl. S. Lloyd	2nd	5/10/37	L/Cpl. R. Addy	2nd	18/10/37
L/Cpl. G. Humberstone ..	2nd	10/11/37	L/Cpl. W. Berry	2nd	19/10/37
L/Cpl. D. Baker	2nd	18/11/37	L/Cpl. H. Worsdell	2nd	22/10/37
L/Cpl. E. Lindemann	2nd	24/11/37	L/Cpl. A. Harvey	2nd	26/10/37
L/Cpl. E. Avery	2nd	13/12/37	L/Cpl. R. McNeille	2nd	25/11/37
L/Cpl. A. Hastie	2nd	21/1/38	L/Cpl. E. Butler	2nd	25/11/37
L/Cpl. F. Vanner	2nd	28/1/38	L/Cpl. C. Clark	2nd	3/12/37
L/Cpl. R. Reeder	Depot	18/2/38	L/Cpl. L. Clark	2nd	4/12/37
L/Cpl. R. Newton	2nd	20/3/38	L/Cpl. V. Caney	2nd	11/12/37
L/Cpl. C. Farrington	2nd	22/3/38	L/Cpl. C. Monk	2nd	18/1/38
L/Cpl. R. Taylor	2nd	1/5/38	L/Cpl. P. Fegan	2nd	26/1/38
L/Cpl. J. Pullen	2nd	18/5/38	L/Cpl. G. Bailey	2nd	29/1/38
L/Cpl. H. Thomas	Depot	19/5/38	L/Cpl. W. Webb	2nd	1/3/38
L/Cpl. S. Llewellyn	2nd	31/5/38	L/Cpl. J. Firth	2nd	3/3/38
L/Cpl. R. White	2nd	15/6/38	L/Cpl. A. Stanford	2nd	10/3/38
L/Cpl. P. Donovan	2nd	16/6/38	L/Cpl. W. Watkins	2nd	22/3/38
L/Cpl. F. Bird	2nd	25/6/38	L/Cpl. A. Tarbuck	2nd	26/3/38
L/Cpl. H. Robinson	2nd	25/6/38	L/Cpl. H. Botchins	2nd	26/3/38
L/Cpl. B. Duggan	2nd	16/7/38	L/Cpl. B. Lemaitre	2nd	26/3/38
L/Cpl. S. Blacknell	2nd	18/7/38	L/Cpl. H. Webb	2nd	29/3/38
L/Cpl. A. Budd	2nd	28/7/38	L/Cpl. S. Coleman	2nd	29/3/38
L/Cpl. H. Thompson	2nd	30/7/38	L/Cpl. A. Thomas	2nd	21/6/38
L/Cpl. J. Ceaton	2nd	15/8/38	L/Cpl. J. Drury	2nd	11/7/38
L/Cpl. J. Barter	2nd	18/8/38	L/Cpl. J. Butterworth ..	2nd	11/7/38
L/Cpl. C. King	2nd	25/8/38	L/Cpl. A. Gillinder	2nd	31/7/38
L/Cpl. E. Green	2nd	1/10/38	L/Cpl. F. Parton-old ..	2nd	2/9/38
L/Cpl. W. Pratt	2nd	1/10/38			
L/Cpl. J. Harwood	2nd	1/10/38			

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