



# THE DIE-HARDS

*The Journal of*

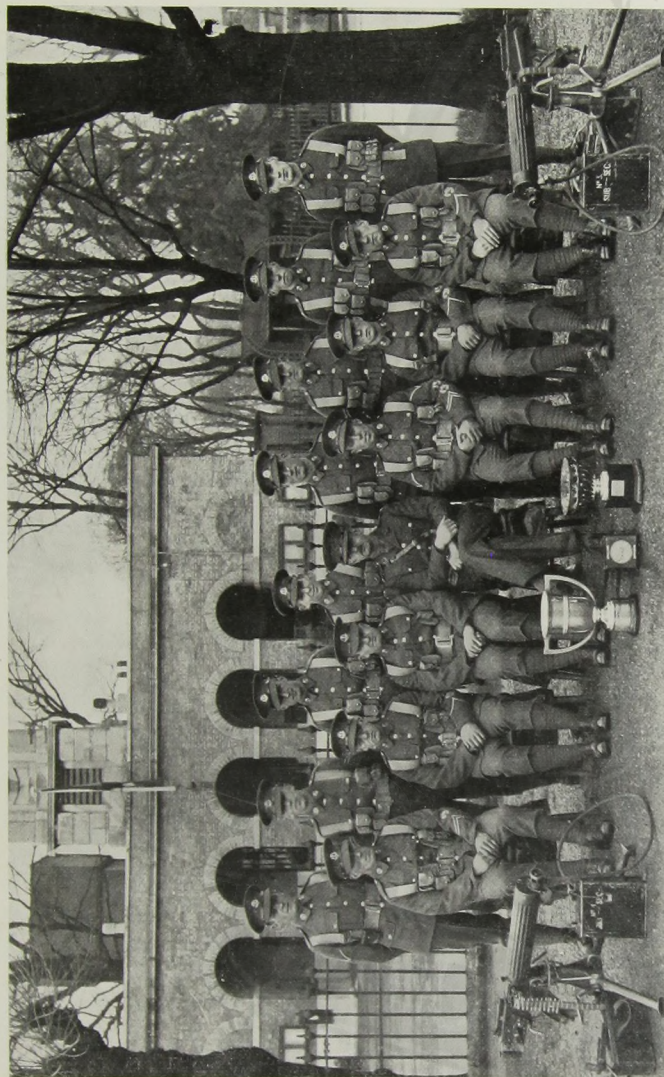
THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT

*(Duke of Cambridge's Own)*

## May 1939

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"C" COMPANY A.R.A. MACHINE GUN CUP WINNERS. SECOND SUCCESSIVE YEAR  
*Back Row*—L/Cpl. Donovan, Cpl. Clenshaw, Pte. Last, Pte. Lowton, Pte. Baker, Cpl. Palmer, Pte. Rogers, Pte. Baggs  
*Front Row*—Pte. White, Pte. Willats, Pte. Kennedy, Major J. E. Reid (O.C. Company), L/Cpl. Summerfield, Pte. Findley, Pte. Sharp  
*Absent*—2/Lieut. P. M. Lyon (Team Capt.), Sergt. Maloney, Assistant N.C.O., Pte. Aslin, Pte. Pearson

# THE DIE-HARDS

## THE JOURNAL OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT

(Duke of Cambridge's Own)

VOL. VI. No. 8

MAY, 1939

PRICE 9D.

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

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," "Alubuhara," "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," "Aisne, 1914," "La Bassée,"  
 1914, "Messines, 1914," "Armentières, 1914," "Neuve Chapelle," "Ypres, 1915," "Gravenstafel," "St. Julien,"  
 "Frezenberg," "Bellewaarde," "Aubers," "Hooge, 1915," "Loos," "Somme, 1916," "Albert, 1916," "Bazentin,"  
 "Delville Wood," "Pozières," "Ginchy," "Flers-Courcellette," "Morval," "Thiepval," "Le Transloy," "Ancre Heights,"  
 "Ancre, 1916," "Bapaume, 1917," "Arras, 1917," "Vimy, 1917," "Scarpe, 1917," "Arleux," "Pilkem,"  
 "Langemarck, 1917," "Menin Road," "Polygon Wood," "Broodseinde," "Poelcapelle," "Passchendaele," "Cambrai, 1917,"  
 "18," "St. Quentin," "Rosières," "Avre," "Villers Bretonneux," "Lys," "Estaires," "Hazeubrouck," "Bailleul," "Kemmel,"  
 "Scherpenberg," "Hindenburg Line," "Canal du Nord," "St. Quentin Canal," "Courtrai," "Selle," "Valenciennes,"  
 "Sambre," "France and Flanders, 1914-18," "Italy, 1917-18," "Struma," "Dorran, 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," "Murmur, 1919," "Dukhovskaya,"  
 "Siberia, 1918-19."

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

#### Regular and Militia Battalions.

Uniform—Scarlet. Facing—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. (60th Searchlight Regiment)  
 Drill Hall, Pound Lane, Willesden, N.W.10.  
 Princess Louise's Kensington Regiment .. Iverna Gardens,  
 Kensington, W.8.

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

#### Allied Battalion of Australian Infantry.

57th Battalion .. Preston.

#### Allied Regiment of New Zealand Military Forces.

The Taranaki Regiment .. New Plymouth.

#### Colonel:

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

#### Officer Commanding Depot:

Major H. Phillips, M.C.

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## NOTICE TO CONTRIBUTORS, &amp;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 9d. for each copy.

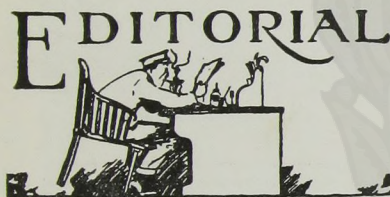
All Contributions intended for publication should reach the Editor not later than the 1st of the month previous to that of issue. Contributions should be typed, if possible, and be on one side of paper only and signed, stating whether it is desired to publish contributor's name or not. Rejected manuscripts,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

A limited stock of back numbers are available which can be obtained on application to the Editor, price 9d. post free.

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

## ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION 3/- (Post Free).



THE attention of readers is called to the notice at the end of the Regimental Association Notes asking for names of members willing to serve on the Executive Committee.

\* \* \*

THE OLD COMRADES' DINNER will be held this year on Armistice Night, at the Baltic House Restaurant, Leadenhall Street. Tickets, price 3s. 6d., can be obtained from the Secretary, Regimental Association, The Barracks, Mill Hill, N.W.7.

## OFFICERS' CLUB NOTES

## DEATHS

PASSY.—On 29th March, 1939, at 44, Walsingham Road, Hove, Major Lancelot Francis Passy, late Middlesex Regiment, only son of the late Sub-Lieut. F. O. Passy, R.N., and beloved husband of Aileen Passy, aged 57 years.

DYER.—On 26th March, 1939, at 19, Archery Square, Walmer, Marion, widow of Col. C. R. Dyer, Middlesex Regiment.

## PROCEEDINGS OF A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE

HELD AT THE HEADQUARTERS, CENTRAL LONDON RECRUITING ZONE, WHITEHALL

ON 25TH JANUARY, 1939

PRESENT: Col. M. Browne, M.C. (in the chair), Col. E. E. F. Baker, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., Col. G. L. Brown, D.S.O., Lieut.-Col. W. H. Samuel, Lieut.-Col. C. P. Rooke, D.S.O., Major H. Phillips, M.C., Major J. B. Worton, Major S. J. Clark, Major N. H. B. Lyon, M.C., Major M. Crawford, Capt. F. A. L. Lawrence.

## 1. MINUTES

The minutes of the last meeting were read and passed.

## 2. COMMITTEES

The Sub-Committees for the following year were selected as under:

Dinner.—Chairman: Lieut.-Col. Samuel. Members: Major H. Phillips, Major Sherwood.

Cricket.—Chairman: Major H. Phillips. Members: Lieut. Unwin (Secretary), a member to be nominated by the 2nd Battalion, with power to co-opt the Captain to be elected by them.

Tennis.—Chairman: The P.M.C., The Depot. Members: Capt. Scott-Lowe, a representative of the 8th Battalion, Major Hogg.

Golf.—Chairman: The O.C. Depot. Members: Major Crawford (Secretary), Major Hogg, Capt. C. T. Whinney.

## 3. ACCOUNTS FOR 1938

It was proposed by Major Lyon, and seconded by Col. Baker, that the accounts for 1938, as audited by the Chartered Accountant, be passed. (Carried.)

## 4. BUDGETS

It was proposed by Col. Brown, and seconded by Major Lyon, that the detailed Budgets of expenditure as laid before the meeting, be passed. (Carried.)

## 5. ARMY GOLF MEETING

On the motion of Major Phillips, seconded by Major Lyon, the Golf Committee were authorised to enter a team for the ex-Officers'

match at the Army Golf Meeting, to be held in April. The entrance fee to be paid from the Club funds. (Carried.)

## 6. AN APPEAL TO BENEVOLENT FUND

An appeal in the case of an ex-Officer of the Regiment was laid before the Committee and, on the motion of Col. Brown, seconded by Major Worton, it was agreed that, if the result of enquiries now being made were satisfactory, the Secretary, with the sanction of the O.C. Depot, be permitted to make a grant up to £10 from the Benevolent Fund. (Carried.)

## 7. ENGINE CREST

On the motion of Col. Brown, seconded by Major Clark, it was decided that the Officers' Club should pay half the cost of engraving the Regimental Crest above the title of the L.M.S. railway engine named "The Middlesex Regiment" if the Regimental Association did the same; that the Territorial Association be asked to subscribe to it, and that if any sum was received from that source half that sum be refunded to each of the above funds. (Carried.)

## 8. VOTE OF THANKS

A vote of thanks was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Major Phillips and carried unanimously, to Major J. B. Worton for his services to the Committee during his two years at the Depot.

## HIS MAJESTY'S LEVEE

The undermentioned Officers of the Regiment attended His Majesty's Levee at Buckingham Palace, on Tuesday, 7th March, 1939, and were presented by Brig.-General R. M. Heath, C.M.G., D.S.O., as Colonel of the Regiment:

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

Cpts. Peter P. D. ff. Powell and John P. Hall, first appointment; Lieut. William P. M. Allen, first appointment.

2ND BATTALION THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE'S OWN)

Cpts. John W. A. Stephenson and Roderick W. D. Sword, first appointment; Lieuts. Gerard O. Porter and Aymar S. J. Clayton, first appointment; 2/Lieuts. Philip D. H. Marshall, Edmund L. G. Passy, Ian F. Campbell, Arthur J. Warren, and Richard K. B. Allott, first appointment.

8TH BATTALION THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE'S OWN), TERRITORIAL ARMY

Lieut.-Col. Edmund W. Fane de Salis, M.C., on promotion and appointment to command; Lieut. James A. Hamilton, first appointment;

2/Lieuts. Desmond Ellis and Eric W. Kirby, first appointment.

9TH BATTALION THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE'S OWN), TERRITORIAL ARMY (60th Searchlight Regiment)

Major (and Adjutant) Mervyn Crawford, first appointment; Cpts. Ivan R. Amis and William F. Parlane, first appointment; 2/Lieut. Jack T. Bull, first appointment.

PRINCESS LOUISE'S KENSINGTON REGIMENT, THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE'S OWN), TERRITORIAL ARMY

Lieut.-Col. Frank G. Hancock, M.C., T.D., on assuming Command; Lieut. David B. Tregoning, on first appointment; 2/Lieuts. John M. Stevens and Archibald R. Meikle, on first appointment.

## GOLF NOTES

The Spring Meeting of the Golfing Society took place at Hendon, on Friday, 14th April. It was preceded by the usual Serving Officers v. Retired Officers Match, on 13th April, and followed by matches v. Hendon Golf Club and Hampstead Heathens, on the 14th and 15th.

On the first day neither team was at full strength, the Retired Officers were without Capt. C. T. Whinney, Lieut.-Col. Hanley, Cpts. Heape and Kempster, whilst the Serving Officers missed the services of Lieut.-Col. Procter, Major Worton, and L. C. Beadnell. In the morning the Serving Officers obtained a lead of 17 holes, chiefly due to a big victory by Capt. Green and E. J. Unwin. Lieut.-Col. Coles and Major Lyons, playing with a ball bearing the Regimental colours, were far too accurate and steady for Lieut.-Col. Horrocks and Major Crawford, and reduced the Serving Officers' lead by four very useful holes. In the afternoon the captain of the Retired Officers and Major MacIlwaine helped to reduce further their side's deficit by soundly beating Lieut.-Col. Jefferd and Major Crawford, but the next two pairs of Serving Officers made their side secure by winning to the extent of five and seven holes, respectively. The final match of the afternoon was reported to be the severest of dog fights. The ultimate result was that the Serving Officers won by 22 holes.

In the medal on Friday morning, Major H. Phillips is to be congratulated on winning the scratch cup with what is believed to be a record for this competition. His score for this reason is given in full and shows for itself how well he must have been playing.



Out : 4, 3, 3, 4, 4, 5, 5, 3, 4—35; in : 4, 5, 3, 4, 6, 3, 4, 4, 6—39; total, 74. Standard scratch score, Hendon, 73.

In the handicap event C. M. Beath usurped the position long held by Major Worton, by returning figures which showed that there was something wrong with his handicap.

In the foursomes *v.* bogey in the afternoon Capt. Kempster and M. A. Perks tied with Capt. Chattey and Green with the good scores of one up. The former pair won the tie on their last nine holes. The co-holders had to surrender their title, being unable to produce the necessary number of savers. Leading scores were :

MEDAL		
	Score Handicap	Net
C. M. Beath ..	85 18	67
Major H. Phillips ..	74 5	69
Major E. F. Lyons ..	87 17	70
Major M. Crawford ..	80 8	72
Major T. South ..	84 8	76
M. A. Perks ..	94 18	76
Major G. Anderson ..	90 14	76
Capt. J. P. Hall ..	96 20	76

FOURSOMES *v.* BOGEY

	Strokes	Score
Capt. Kempster and M. A. Perks ..	10	1 up
Capt. Chattey and Green ..	13	1 up
Majors Lyons and Crawford ..	9	2 down
Major Phillips and Lieut.-Col. Horrocks ..	9	4 down
Winner of Scratch Score Prize : Major H. Phillips.		
Winner of Handicap Score Prize : C. M. Beath.		
Runner-up of Handicap Score Prize : Major H. Phillips.		
Winners of Foursomes : Capt. Kempster and M. A. Perks.		

SERVING OFFICERS *v.* RETIRED OFFICERS

13th April

## MORNING

Serving Officers	Retired Officers
Holes up	Holes up
Lieut.-Col. W. W. Jefferd and Major H. Phillips ..	3
Capt. J. W. A. Stephenson and Major F. G. Parker ..	5
Lieut.-Col. B. G. Horrocks and Major M. Crawford ..	0
Capt. A. E. Green and Lieut. E. J. Unwin ..	9
	17
	4

## AFTERNOON

Holes up	Holes up
Lieut.-Col. W. W. Jefferd and Major M. Crawford ..	0
Major H. Phillips and Lieut. E. J. Unwin ..	5
Capt. J. W. A. Stephenson and Capt. A. E. Green ..	7
Major F. G. Parker and Lieut.-Col. B. G. Horrocks ..	0
	12
	3
Totals	29
	7

MIDDLESEX REGIMENT *v.* HAMPSTEAD HEATHENS

At Knebworth Park, Sunday, 16th April

## MORNING

Middlesex Regiment	Hampstead Heathens
Major H. Phillips and Major T. South ..	0
Major F. G. Hogg and Major M. Crawford (5/4) ..	1
Major G. Anderson and C. M. Beath ..	1/2
E. J. Unwin and Capt. G. L. Weston (4/2) ..	1
	4
	4

## AFTERNOON

Major M. Crawford and Major T. South ..	1/2
Major F. G. Hogg and Major G. Anderson ..	0
Major H. Phillips and C. M. Beath ..	0
E. J. Unwin and Capt. G. P. L. Weston (4/3) ..	1
	4
	4

MIDDLESEX REGIMENT *v.* HENDON GOLF CLUB

At Hendon, on 15th April

## MORNING—FOURSOMES

Hendon	Middlesex Regiment
J. W. Greenshields and Ian Cowper ..	0
M. Tait and F. W. Tipton (2 up) ..	1
F. C. Betts and G. Home ..	0
S. E. Newton and R. A. Williams (4/3) ..	1
	2
	2

## AFTERNOON—SINGLES

M. Tait (2 up) ..	1	Major H. Phillips ..	0
I. Cowper (2 up) ..	1	Major Crawford ..	0
G. Home (6/4) ..	1	Major Hogg ..	0
J. W. Greenshields (2/1) ..	1	Major South ..	0
F. C. Betts ..	0	Lieut.-Col. Jefferd (2 up) ..	1
S. E. Newton (1 up) ..	1	E. J. Unwin ..	0
R. A. Williams ..	0	C. M. Beath (6/5) ..	1
	5		2

## REGIMENTAL FIXTURES FOR 1939

June 25th.—Cricket *v.* Hampstead Heathens.  
 June 26th.—Cricket *v.* The Cryptics.  
 June 27th.—Cricket *v.* The Incogniti.  
 June 28th.—Cricket *v.* The Free Foresters.  
 June 29th.—Cricket *v.* The I. Zingari.  
 June 29th.—Officers' Club Dinner.  
 June 30th.—Officers' Club "At Home."  
 July 1st.—Cricket *v.* Hampstead Cricket Club.  
 July 1st and 2nd.—Tennis Tournament.  
 October 5th and 6th.—Autumn Golf Meeting (subject to confirmation).  
 November 11th.—Remembrance Day Service at the Regimental War Memorial.  
 November 11th.—Old Comrades' Dinner at The Baltic House Restaurant, Leadenhall Street.

EXTRACTS FROM THE  
"LONDON GAZETTE"

## REGULAR ARMY

## INFANTRY

*Midd'x R.*—Capt. M. Crawford is secd. for serv. as an Adj. T.A. (Dec. 6, 1938).  
*Small Arms School*.—Lt. J. E. F. Willoughby, *Midd'x R.*, to be Asst. Instr., Netheravon Wing (Dec. 23, 1938).  
*Midd'x R.*.—Lt. J. E. F. Willoughby is secd. while holding the appt. of Asst. Instr., Netheravon Wing, Small Arms Sch. (Dec. 23, 1938).  
*Midd'x R.*.—Lt. T. G. Symes is secd. for serv. under the Colonial Office (Jan. 4).  
*Midd'x R.*.—The follg. Lts. to be Capt. (Jan. 29).—G. P. L. Weston, R. A. Gwyn, R. C. H. Bellers.  
*Midd'x R.*.—Sec. Lt. H. M. F. Langley to be Lt. (Jan. 30).  
*Midd'x R.*.—Sec. Lt. A. O. Pullman resigns his commn. (Jan. 23).  
*Midd'x R.*.—Lt. H. N. C. Gudgeon is secd. for serv. under the Colonial Office (Jan. 11).

*Midd'x R.*—Capt. C. M. Baldwin, M.B.E., is restored to the estab. (Jan. 4).  
*Midd'x R.*—Capt. A. V. Weller retires on ret. pay (April 3).

## ESTABLISHMENTS

No. 1 *Recruits Phys. Development Depot, Canterbury*.—Maj. and Bt. Lt.-Col. N. P. Procter, M.C., *Midd'x R.*, relinquishes the appt. of Comdt. (April 1).

## RESERVE OF OFFICERS

## REGIMENTAL LIST

*Midd'x R.*—The follg., having attained the age limit of liability to recall, cease to belong to the Res. of Offrs.:—Capt. D. K. J. Chisholm, M.C. (Jan. 23); Lt. C. Everett (Jan. 14).  
*Midd'x R.*.—Lt. S. E. Modlen resigns his commn. (Feb. 28).  
*Midd'x R.*.—Sec. Lt. M. I. Harrison resigns his commn. (Jan. 23) on appt. to a short serv. commn. in the R.A.F.  
*Midd'x R.*.—Lt. L. D. Cowley, from Supp. Res. of Off., *Midd'x R.*, to be Lt. (Feb. 9), retaining his present seniority.  
*Midd'x R.*—The follg., having attained the age limit of liability to recall, cease to belong to the Res. of Off.:—Lt.-Col. (Bt. Col.) H. E. Stanley-Murray, M.C. (Feb. 8); Lt. J. J. Carter (March 22).

## SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE OF OFFICERS

*Midd'x R.*.—W. A. W. St. George (late Cadet Lce.-Corpl., Haileybury Coll. Contgt., O.T.C.) to be Sec. Lt. (Feb. 8).

## TERRITORIAL ARMY

## INFANTRY

9th Bn. *Midd'x R.* (60th Searchlight R.)—F. J. Millard to be Sec. Lt. (Jan. 4); P. Sneath (late Cadet Lce.-Corpl., Framlingham Coll. Contgt., Jun. Div., O.T.C.) to be Sec. Lt. (Jan. 4).  
 9th Bn. *Midd'x R.* (60th Searchlight R.)—The follg. Lts. to be Capt. (Nov. 1, 1938).—W. F. Parlane, J. G. H. Canning.  
*Kensingtons, Midd'x R.*.—Sec. Lt. J. H. S. Hudson to be Lt. (Dec. 21, 1938).  
*Kensingtons, Midd'x R.*.—Corpl. A. R. Meikle, from L.R.B., Rifle Bde. (late Cadet, St. John's Sch. Contgt., Jun. Div., O.T.C.) to be Sec. Lt. (Jan. 18).  
 9th Battalion *Midd'x R.* (60th Searchlight R.)—Maj. H. W. Clayden, *Midd'x R.*, vacates the appt. of Adj. (Dec. 6, 1938); Maj. M. Crawford, *Midd'x R.*, to be Adj. (Dec. 6, 1938).  
*Kensingtons, Midd'x R.*.—Sec. Lt. H. FitzG. Harlock resigns his commn. (Dec. 13, 1938).  
*Kensingtons, Midd'x R.*.—Lt. L. G. Lohan, from Active List, to be Lt. (Jan. 25).  
 8th Bn. *Midd'x R.*.—H. J. S. McShane (late Offr. Cadet, Univ. of Lond. Contgt., Sen. Div., O.T.C.) to be Sec. Lt. (Feb. 15).  
 9th Bn. *Midd'x R.* (60th Searchlight R.)—Sec. Lt. F. M. Shackle, from 36th (Midd'x) A.A. Bn., R.E., to be Sec. Lt. (Dec. 12, 1938).  
 9th Bn. *Midd'x R.* (60th Searchlight R.)—A. R. Porter (late Cadet Sergt., Leys Sch. Contgt., Jun. Div., O.T.C.) to be Sec. Lt. (Feb. 22).



*Kensingtons, Midd'x R.*—The follg. to be Sec. Lts. (March 1):—D. M. Stanes (late Cadet Lce.-Corpl., C. of Lond. Sch. Contgt., Jun. Div., O.T.C.), G. Kent (late Cadet Corpl., Lancing Coll. Contgt., Jun. Div., O.T.C.), B. R. Wood (late Cadet Lce.-Corpl., St. Paul's Sch. Contgt., Jun. Div., O.T.C.).

*8th Bn. Midd'x R.*—Lt. P. R. H. Elliott, from T.A. Res. of Off., to be Lt. (Aug. 16, 1938); Lt. D. R. Pattison, from T.A. Res. of Off., to be Lt. (Aug. 16, 1938); Lt. E. C. K. Sadler, from T.A. Res. of Off., to be Lt. (Aug. 16, 1938).

*Kensingtons, Midd'x R.*—L. A. Burton (late Cadet, Perse Sch. Contgt., Jun. Div., O.T.C.) to be Sec. Lt. (March 4).

*9th Bn. Midd'x R. (60th Searchlight R.)*.—Lce.-

Corpl. J. R. Cropper, from 33rd (St. Pancras) A.A. Bn., R.E., to be Sec. Lt. (March 15).

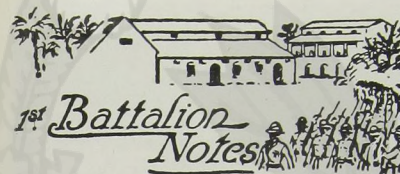
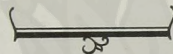
*9th Bn. Midd'x R. (60th Searchlight R.)*.—D. A. Reynolds (late Cadet Sergt., Haileybury Coll. Contgt., Jun. Div., O.T.C.) to be Sec. Lt. (March 22).

*Kensingtons, Midd'x R.*—2nd Lt. P. Beevor to be Lt. (March 21).

*9th Bn. Midd'x R. (60th Searchlight R.)*.—E. P. W. Dillon (late Cadet Sergt., Uppingham Sch. Contgt., Jun. Div., O.T.C.) to be Sec. Lt. (April 5).

#### RESERVE OF OFFICERS

*9th Bn. Midd'x R. (60th Searchlight R.)*.—J. T. Dear (late Sec. Lt. of this Unit) to be Sec. Lt. (April 5).



CHRISTMAS this year made a very welcome break from camp, the Battalion moving into barracks on 23rd December and returning to Lo Wu on 28th December. The programme on Christmas Day itself was much the same as last year, and was a great success. Sergt. Poulter and his staff are to be congratulated on the excellence of the dinners. "A" Company were awarded the prize for the best decorated dining-hall, a choice which, it must be admitted, becomes more and more difficult to make each year owing to the increasingly high standard of decoration. The Children's Party and Christmas Tree was again held in the "Naafi" and Major Overell repeated his success of 1937 as Father Christmas; a role we shall find most difficult to fill next year. The account of Christmas would be incomplete without mentioning the celebrations at Lo Wu, where the Maintenance Party, numbering 50, enjoyed a dinner which must have been intended for at least 100.

On the return to Lo Wu, "B" Company carried on its Field Firing programme, while "D" Company continued intensive Individual Training. During this period we received visits from the G.O.C. and the Brigadier, who watched the Platoons at work.

On 11th January the Battalion was "At Home" to the Master and members of the Fanling Hunt when they met at Lo Wu Camp. A marquee was erected on the football field and drinks were served before the Hunt moved off. On 13th January Lieut. Gudgeon left us for a tour of duty with the Malay Regiment, and two days later Lieut. Chattey rejoined us from furlough in England.

On 17th January Machine Gun Training in camp was brought to an end with the Fire Control Competition, competed for by all Platoons of "A," "B," and "C" Companies. This competition was run on similar lines to the Indirect Fire Competition at home, but in view of the stage of our training the time limit was increased to 12 minutes. The results were definitely satisfactory, the winners

being No. 11 Platoon, "C" Company, commanded by P.S.M. Paterson. The Shield, presented subsequently on a Company basis, i.e., by adding the score of each of the three Platoons, was the old Inter-Company Musketry Shield.

On 19th and 20th January "C" Company and two Platoons of "D" Company, commanded by Capt. Newton, took part in an "A" Force Exercise, their task being to delay the advance of the Rajputana Rifles, who were acting as enemy, into the New Territories, and to fight a rearguard action along the Fanling-Kowloon road. Perhaps all that can be said of the exercise is that it demonstrated beyond all doubt the unsuitability of a large number of machine guns and a small number of riflemen for this particular task.

Whilst in camp we managed to carry on with some of the "Mons" and "Albuhera" Shield Competitions, and also to make a start on boxing training. The tug-of-war resulted in an easy win for "H.Q." Company, who won as they liked and never lost a pull. The pass-ball went to "A" Company who produced both the finalists, while the cross-country was also won by "A" Company. The novices' boxing was very keenly contested, "B" Company finally emerging the winners.

On 21st and 22nd January the Battalion, less "D" Company who were left for frontier emergency, returned to barracks by M.T.

In summing up our time at Lo Wu one is faced, as always, with the danger of exaggeration, but it can truthfully be said that in every department of the Battalion we have made real strides towards our ultimate goal; that is, towards becoming an efficient Machine Gun Battalion. We still have a great deal to learn, but this year's camp has undoubtedly gone a very long way towards making all ranks machine gun minded, which, after all, is the basic principle on which to build our training. Before leaving camp and its training, the Signallers and Motor Transport must not be forgotten. The former, in spite of repeated interruptions due to border trouble and having to maintain miles of cable, passed through Classification with flying colours with an average of 99.78 per cent. The M.T., with the innumerable calls made on them at all hours of the night and day, improved out of all knowledge and performed like veterans.

Back in barracks we had no time to settle down. On 20th January H.M.T. *Dikwara* left for home with Mrs. Hedgecoe, 2/Lieut.





A view of the Shum Chan River and Chinese Territory. The Wireless Station (A) is on the right and The Casino (B) on the left. No. 12 Post is marked C



Lo Wu Camp taken from Crest Hill

Pullman, and a draft. From 25th to 27th January the Battalion was on an Inner Line Brigade Scheme, "A" and "B" Companies manning the pillboxes, while "C" Company formed part of the enemy with the Royal Scots and Rajputana Rifles. The memories of this scheme will remain with "C" Company for some time to come, as they were called upon to carry their guns and kit for three and a half miles across country in pitch darkness and mist, with no lights permitted to be shown. In the course of their trek, it may be added, they had to climb a mountain of 2,000 feet.

From the point of view of "A" and "B" Companies the scheme brought out several important points in connection with pill-box warfare and administration.

Immediately we returned from the Brigade scheme we were kept fully occupied with fitting best S.D. and overhauling boots in



The Sentry at Government House

preparation for taking over the Guards at Government and Flagstaff Houses on 1st February. In addition to finding these guards, we sent a party of 50, under Lieut. Weedon, into camp at Grasscutter's Pass for a fortnight to complete the wiring of that sector.

With the return of "D" Company on 6th February, from Lo Wu, we settled down to a period of Cadres. The policy was, while the majority of the men were employed or taken for guards, that the N.C.O.s for duty should be reduced to a minimum and the remainder struck off and placed on Cadres. At the moment the Cadres number four: Machine Gun, divided into two parts, the first for Officers and Sergeants, the second

for Corporals and Lance-Corporals; a Battalion Cadre for young N.C.O.s and selected Privates; a Range-Takers' Cadre; and a M.T. and Motor-Cycle Cadre. It is hoped that in this way all N.C.O.s will be given a thorough grounding in these subjects, and also in the best methods of instruction.

On account of camp and, since our return, the numerous calls on the Battalion from both inside and outside, it has been found very difficult to keep pace with the usual sports programme. The football team, weakened by the loss of certain members who have gone home, has not quite maintained its position of last season, but the 2nd XI is in the final of the Junior Shield and at the time of writing heads the second division of the league. The hockey XI has been handicapped in the same way and there has been a considerable reduction in fixtures in consequence. The results, however, have been satisfactory, in particular that of the match against the Rajputana Rifles in the Large Units Knock-out. Cricket and rugby have suffered more, perhaps, than any other sport. Only two cricket matches have been played, and the rugby team has fared little better.

The Inter-Company Boxing has been held and was won by "D" Company for the second year in succession. The Battalion novices were narrowly beaten by the Royal Scots in the Command Novices' Meeting, which was held in our ring for the first time

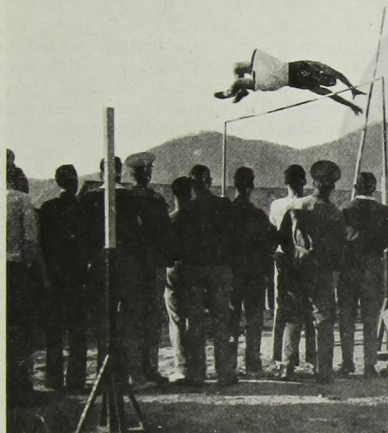


BATTALION SPORTS MEETING  
Pte. Sheehan winning the High Jump at 5ft. 3ins.

and was attended by the G.O.C. and the Brigadier. The athletic team is hard at work, training for the Area Athletic Meeting which takes place at the end of this month. The Novices' Sports, Individuals' and Inter-Company Sports have all been held in barracks, the hockey pitch making quite a good track though the gravel surface is a bit harder



than a cinder track. "A" Company repeated their success in the cross-country with an overwhelming win in the Inter-Company Sports. Our athletic team should be well up to the average, but 2/Lieut. Chiver-



BATTALION SPORTS MEETING  
Sergt. Poulter winning the Pole Vault at 10 ft.

all, who has unfortunately been in hospital for three months following a rugger accident, will be a great loss to the sprints team. We all wish him a speedy recovery.

Chinese New Year, which was observed as a holiday throughout the Command, came as



BATTALION SPORTS MEETING  
The start of the Three Miles Team Race

a welcome break from our exertions, though we felt it was most inconsiderate of the Chinese to spoil the peace of our well-earned rest with their barbarous habit of letting off a

continuous barrage of fire crackers both night and day for the three days.

Our only ceremonial duty this quarter was, somewhat ironically, that of finding a Guard of Honour for Major-General K. Tanaka, Chief in Staff of the Japanese Commander-in-Chief in South China, when he visited the Colony in connection with the recent bombing incident at Lo Wu. The Guard, under Capt. Jacob with Lieut. Langley as Colour Ensign, was specially commended by the G.O.C. as being the best that he had seen since his arrival in Hong Kong.

### BAND

Time waits for no man and it is true of these, our notes, because I am certain that the last lot only went in last week, but it does not matter, as "Do your job and moan afterwards" is the motto (?).

Well, to get down to business, what is there to write about? Ah! I know. We played at the Officers' Mess last week. Yes, engagements are scarce, fellows, but in the near future we will have our time fully occupied, as we have a very heavy programme of race jobs to perform; three long days and one short day in a week. They even threw the Drums in as an added attraction.

These have been very dreary days as far as Platoon sports are concerned as all the various competitions have been concluded, but I am very glad to say that "H.Q." Company has won the "Mons" Shield, and I do not think that I would be boasting to say that the Band contributed 75 per cent. of the points gained.

Company Sports are now in full swing and, as usual, the Band are supplying good numbers. Congratulations to Bill Goddard on his success in the Company Novices' Boxing: also to all those, of whom there are too many to mention, who took part in the inter-Company cross-country run and athletics.

Shooting has once more started, occupying our leisure hours, and the Bandmaster has shown many of us that the baton is not the only weapon that he can wield.

We wish L/Cpls. Holmes and Morton success in their new and dizzy sphere of Unpaid Lance-Corporals.

In conclusion, we wish the 2nd Battalion Band all the best, hoping to hear from some of our ex-1st Battalion Bandsmen in the near future.

B SHARP AND C NATURAL.

### DRUMS

Journal notes, eh? It seems all too quick. Anyway, here they are. First, we must mention the great loss the "Drums" have just lately suffered, for we have lost some of our Drummers for good, namely, Dmrs. Wise, Collis, Murray, Martin, Savage, Powers, and Allen, who have left us for civil life, and with them go our sincerest wishes for the future. Two N.C.O.s have left us for leave in the U.K.; we hope that they enjoy themselves and we take this opportunity of congratulating them on their recent appointments. They are L/Cpls. Gooedge and Bolingbroke.

Training comes next. We spent about three weeks before and four weeks after Christmas at Lo Wu Camp, where we punched up our L.A. and A.A. Training and "Retreats." . . . We only did two per week.

Christmas break, which was five days, was spent very well indeed. Plenty of the Christmas spirit was shown.

In the Inter-Novices' Boxing the three fighters for the Company were from the Drums. L/Cpls. Holdford and Webster, and Dmr. Chacksfield are to be congratulated. L/Cpl. Holdford was runner-up for the welter-weight belt, and his fight was considered the cleverest display of boxing of all the fights. L/Cpl. Webster got the best scientific loser's prize, and justly so. Dmr. Chacksfield was runner-up for the light-weight belt; his efforts in the final fight were praised highly by all.

In the Novices' Sports Dmr. Onslow and Star Boy Rowe were prize-winners for the 880 yards and three mile, respectively.

Dmrs. Onslow and Sturgess represented the Battalion in the open marathon. Onslow was seventh and Sturgess twenty-fourth. Well done, "Laurie and Stoodge."

L/Cpl. Holdford, Dmrs. Onslow, Grossmith, Sturgess, and Star Boy Rowe represented the Company in the Inter-Company Sports.

Our main thing now is the programme practice and under the tuition of a former Kneller Hall pupil, L/Cpl. Ravenscroft, together with the Bandmaster we give some really good music. The perfect rendering of "Lustspiel," "Bohemian Girl," and "Donau Wellen" can be heard issuing from the Drums room. We are practising up for the Race-course. The \$\$\$\$\$\$ that we are promised is the cause of our really hard practice.

Before we conclude, we would like to wish Cpl. "Skipper" Watson our very best wishes

for the future. He will be missed from the Drums and the Battalion. We can assure him that we will never forget him. We congratulate "Legs" Rooker, Grossmith, and "Lush" Minchin on attaining the age of eighteen. Also, we must praise Boy Rowe on winning the "Star" Boy appointment, and we are pleased it remains in the Drums. To the 2nd Battalion Drums we extend our very best wishes and hope they will accept the same. So, till next notes, we say "Good-bye."

L. A. S. & G. R.

### BOYS

Since our last Journal notes many fresh events have taken place. First, let us turn our attention to Boys Grossmith and Minchin, and congratulate them on attaining the "smoking" age; we wish them all the best of luck in their new surroundings. We also congratulate "Star" Boy Rowe on his appointment, and let us hope that he will receive support from the rest of the Boys.

In December the Battalion had its Annual Camp: the camp being at Lo Wu, about a mile from the Chinese border. As there will be ample mention of this camp elsewhere in these pages, I will not further describe it. However, after enduring the cold mornings and evenings we returned to barracks for the Christmas holidays. On arriving at barracks we were invited to a party at the Soldiers' and Sailors' Home at Hong Kong, where we spent a most enjoyable evening with the other Boys of the Navy and Army. I think everybody ate a very well-prepared dinner (even "Star" Boy Rowe—I wonder?). Christmas Day was spent in a quiet sort of way (you know a boy's quiet way)—everyone smoked himself sick while the N.C.O. i/c wasn't looking. However, we all had an enjoyable time.

On 28th December we all returned to camp. Soon after our return the Battalion cross-country run was held over a seven-mile course. "A" Company won it, with "H.Q." a close second. (I wonder if the former won it by abstaining from "duff" during the Christmas period!) The next sports event to take place was the Novices' Boxing Competition. There were two Boys' bouts in which Boy Alexander met Boy Rowe, and Boy Grossmith met Boy Wilson. We must congratulate all of them as it was whispered far and wide that theirs were the best fights



of the meeting. However, heartier congratulations are due to the winners, Boys Rowe and Grossmith, and we all hope that they will be favoured with continued successes. The Battalion athletics were held on 16th and 17th January, but prior to this a Novices' Sports Meeting was held. There were two Boys' events: high jump and long jump. Congratulations are due to Boy Minchin for obtaining first place in the former and second in the latter, and to Boy Wilson for winning the long jump and taking second place in the high jump. We also congratulate Boys Alexander and Wilson for representing the Company in the Battalion athletics in the one-mile team race, and Boys Rowe and Smith in the 880 yards relay and the hurdles, respectively.

The Boys' football team is still in training under the "eagle-eye" of L/Cpl. Thorley, and is steadily improving. We suffered a 4-3 defeat against Wah Yan College on the Battalion ground, but we take it out of teams in the Company and in the Battalion.

We are looking forward to the arrival of the 12 new Boys who are due to be with us soon, and we hope that their voyage will not be too rough.

Before bringing these notes to a close, we would like to wish the Boys of the 2nd Battalion the best of luck.

TIME TO DO.

### SIGNALS

After the excitements of Frontier manning due, of course, to the Japanese invasion of South China, we settled down once again to normal routine which was rather difficult and boring, having tasted, even only for a few days, the exciting episode of "holding the fort" against those belligerent Nipponese gentlemen, who would insist upon their "divine right."

This lapse of three months from our Individual Training rather injured our prospects for Classification which had been encroached upon by the above incident. However, we could not expect the turbulent Japs to hold up the war to enable us to classify, and so at the first sign of peace and serenity at Lo Wu Camp, with but 17 days to go, adverse as things were we got down to it and with a final spurt after, I believe, the third attempt we classified. Pent up faces and mumbling incantations prior to the two days' classification could be seen and heard. Recitals of

extracts from Signal Training—all arms were the common order. Nevertheless, it is unnecessary to state that all came through with "flying colours." Sixteen obtained the 100 per cent., with the remainder hard on their heels. The creditable average for the whole Section was 99.78 per cent.

For the first time silver flags were introduced for the best Signaller of both the new and old classes. Also presented by the Commanding Officer was the "Best Signaller's" Shield, which was greatly appreciated.

The winners of the silver flags were L/Cpl. Bowker (old class) and Pte. Gordon (new class). They are to be congratulated as 14 others were close runners-up. All in all, classification was very satisfactory.

Sports have been severely hampered by work and, except for a few games, nothing worthy of note can be mentioned.

Congratulations to L/Sergt. Burkitt and L/Cpls. Gibbs, Metcalfe, and O'Neil on their respective promotions.

L/Cpl. Miller, who attended the School of Signals at Catterick, must also be congratulated, having obtained a "Q.1." We hope to see him back with us shortly full of "Joi de vivre" which is mysteriously imbued into one by the School.

Two of our members have left us for civilian life, namely, Ptes. White and Adams, in search of new fields to conquer. We wish them every success.

Best wishes to the Signallers of the 2nd Battalion.

G. W. B.

### "A" COMPANY

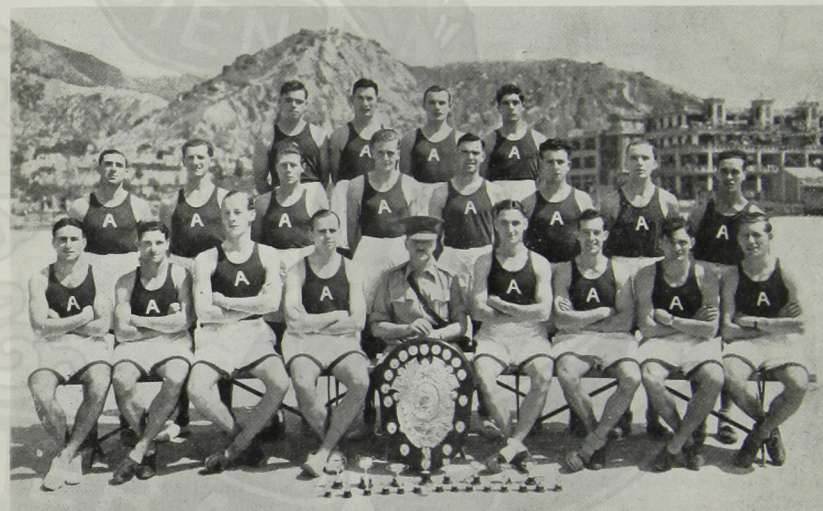
We finished our last notes with some of our exploits on the Border, but this time we have something more exciting to tell. We have actually come into contact with the Japanese and some of us are anxiously awaiting our medals. The Company Commander has filled albums with photographs, some of which will be seen in this Journal, and others which have already been published in the *Illustrated London News*.

On Saturday, 26th November, we were in camp at Lo Wu when at about 9.30 a.m. the sound of shelling was heard. Everybody at once ran to the top of a hill to see the Japanese shelling Sham Chun wireless station, situated about a mile from camp. Several of the overs were seen to land in British territory in the

vicinity of Nos. 9 and 11 Posts. We received immediate orders to man our respective Frontier Posts. No. 4 Platoon (P.S.M. Bayles) took up their position at Lok Ma Chau; No. 5 Platoon (P.S.M. Ramsey) on the Canton Road; No. 6 Platoon was already in position on the railway bridge at Sham Chun, having been sent out before dawn that morning. No. 6 Platoon had most of the fun as the Japanese advanced along the railway line and, after crossing the bridge, occupied a dug-out that had been evacuated a short while before. Lieut. Langley, armed with a walking stick and a map, interviewed their Company Commander and after a long conversation, in

We returned to barracks on 17th December and started preparing for Christmas. A committee was formed under Pte. Samuels to decorate the dining-hall and our congratulations are due to them for winning the Commanding Officer's prize for the best decorated dining-hall. The dinner itself was excellent and our congratulations are extended to the Messing Officer, Cook Sergeant, and staff, who are all members of the Company, and last, but by no means least, the P.R.I.

After Christmas we returned to camp and were able to start some sports. The inter-Company tug-of-war was the first on the list and was won by "H.Q." Company, with



"A" Company Athletic Team. Winners of the Inter-Company Athletic Championships

which Major Ayscough joined, persuaded them to withdraw from British territory. No. 9 Post had some excitement when several shells landed near them, one hitting their dug-out without, however, having much effect. Within a week all was quiet and we were back to normal training. However, it was just as well that Lieut. Langley's Platoon were not at the railway bridge a few days ago, as two Squadrons of Japanese bombed Sham Chun city and a few bombs fell in British territory, one totally demolishing a building at No. 11 Post and killing a policeman and eight Chinese.

"A" Company runners-up. Congratulations to "H.Q." and "Deadlegs," the trainer.

Next event was the inter-Company novices' boxing tournament, in which, thanks to the valiant efforts of the last draft, we finished third. Congratulations to L/Cpl. Maton and Ptes. Cole and Day on winning their weights.

Then came the inter-Platoon pass-ball in which all three Platoons went through to the semi-final, No. 5 Platoon eventually defeating No. 4 Platoon in the final.



The inter-Company cross-country followed and took place on a wet Monday afternoon, and was won by the Company. Congratulations to those who ran and gained for us another 10 points towards the "Albuhera" Shield.

The inter-Company open boxing came next and we gained second place, "D" Company being first. Some very good fights were witnessed. Cpl. McGrady deserves special mention for the training of the team, for winning the welter-weight belt, and also a cup for the best boxer in the Battalion. A very creditable effort. Our congratulations to L/Cpl. Fox on winning the light-heavy-weight belt, and to Cpl. Freshwater and Pte. Cole on winning their strings.

Close on the boxing came the athletic meeting, which was held on 16th and 17th January. In the 14 events the Company gained the following places: eight firsts, four seconds, one third, and one fifth, which was a very fine performance. "B" Company, the runners-up, being 30 points behind shows the margin by which we won the meeting.

A very keen spirit was shown by all who took part, and our thanks are due to P.S.M. Ramsey and others for their interest and efforts in training the team. We hope that we shall see some of the younger members of the Company taking an example from the veterans next year. The Company gained another 10 points towards the "Albuhera" Shield and I hope to record in our next notes that we were the winners. Congratulations to Sergt. Poulter and Pte. Sheehan on winning the individual pole vault and high jump, and to Lieut. Langley, Sergt. Hiscocks, Cpl. Freshwater, and L/Cpl. Davis on being second in the discus, hammer, long jump, and shot, respectively.

Since our last Journal notes the following promotions and changes have taken place: C.Q.M.S. Paterson to P.S.M.; Sergt. Paterson to C.Q.M.S.; L/Sergt. Marshall to Sergeant. On promotion to his new rank P.S.M. Paterson was transferred to "C" Company and in his place we were fortunate in receiving P.S.M. Ramsey who is performing the duties of C.S.M. in place of C.S.M. Northcott, whom we hope is still "doing his stuff" on Vocational Training. We hear he is making cricket bats and, in his spare time, digging an outsize bomb-proof shelter. We congratulate the following Privates on being appointed Unpaid Lance-Corporals: Ptes. Maton, Charles, Barkway, and Merton.

### "B" COMPANY

The last quarter has seen a welcome change in the Company, both in work and sport, and judging by the way everybody worked whilst we were on Semi-Active Service on the Frontier there's no doubt that should trouble come "B" Company would give a good account of itself. When the N.C.O.s have finished the Cadres which have just started and the men have finished one more Individual Training Season we should have an excellent Company—from a machine gun point of view, which, after all, should come first. Whilst we were on the Frontier in our own little Platoon Areas to cope with the influx of refugees we had rather an unexpectedly quiet time. In fact, it got so tame that Barrett (41) started a poultry farm and took tremendous risks at feeding times by the overhead firing from "A" Company, and detailed Gumburd as Chef-in-Chief for the cooking, which was enjoyed by the rest of his Platoon. By the way, we had a crab scare at the same Post and everybody was found to be having secret baths, using the drinking water to do so. There is no truth in the statement that the Quarter Bloke swore when it was reported that No. 7 Platoon had used all the fresh water for bathing. The ironical part about our Active Service was that we had a good part of our time taken up in chasing bus bandits, the men parading in double quick time; in fact, even quicker than parading for pay. It was said that they expected sharing the spoils (\$2,000)—but don't believe it. After our Frontier work was finished we settled down to our higher training in Field Firing, which everybody seemed to enjoy—some using camouflage for the first time, and fully appreciated the "famous" rendezvous—"D" in Downs. As a relaxation we squeezed in a cross-country run, also a Battalion open novices' boxing competition. We congratulate Ptes. Berryman and Heather on being placed first and second, respectively, in the run, also Ptes. Heather, Cornford, Dry, Winkworth, Williams, and Johns for winning their weights in the boxing, and congratulate Pte. Bowles and the remainder of the team on putting up such a good show, enabling us to win the competition and prove that we were the best novices' team in camp.

About this time the Bandmaster backed us up twice a week with his light musical switches, also with an excellent concert.

To finish off the Field Firing there was an Inter-Platoon Indirect Shoot Competition,

in which the Company did very well indeed. Special congratulations are due to Lieut. M. P. Weeden and his Platoon on finishing second in the Battalion.

The C.S.M. attempted to get the best-ever tug-of-war team, but found that Gromm, of "H.Q." Company, had all the tricks up his sleeve. However, we are looking forward to getting a really good team in training. After a few days' rest in barracks (looking for our kit) we went out on the Pill Box Scheme. As usual No. 7 Platoon got all the cakes and jam—being situated next to a first-aid post

to insufficient training we were unable to turn out a really representative team, some of the old 'uns not being able to make the weights, but some of the draft came to the rescue in filling the breach. Special congratulations are due to Ptes. Tait and Hill who did so well, and also to K.O. Dry, who, in spite of appearance on entering the ring, believes in the saying "The bigger they are, the harder they fall." With very little training we are pleased to congratulate the athletic team in coming second in the inter-Company athletic meeting.



"B" COMPANY NOVICES' BOXING TEAM  
Winners of the Inter-Company Novices' Competition

where the smell of fried steak and onions and fresh coffee had them scuttling out of their Pill Box—not to mention the Padre's visit.

The Quarter Bloke was said to have sworn again when he was asked for a Sergeants' dinner in the heat of battle, and a certain Platoon "H.Q." 'phoned him for some hot shaving water. Unfortunately, Company Headquarters were captured, but we soon heard the old, familiar voice on the 'phone, saying, "I have established Company 'H.Q.' at 119. Is everything all right there?—Right, etc." On our return to barracks we soon got in the swing for the Inter-Company Boxing Competition, but, unfortunately, owing

We are very sorry to have lost Sergts. Kruck and Bullock to the Depot, where we hope they will have an enjoyable time, also L/Cpl. Casey to Home Establishment. We sincerely wish the best of luck in "Civvy Street" to Busty, Bogey, Nobby, Cowboy, Micky, Solly, Louise, Trooper, Fanny, Dickey, Gilley, Soapy, and, last but not least, the Great Champ.

We are looking forward to seeing Cpl. Pace and L/Cpl. Shore in the Company once again, very soon.

We are now settling down to Government and Flagstaff House Guards, etc., so will



be able to put more time in at sport and expect startling results next quarter.

Before closing, we welcome P.S.M. Donovan to the Company.

To all in the 2nd Battalion and the Depot, "Fung Hay Fat Chey."

BEER.

### "C" COMPANY

Flash ??? "C" Company, after a long and tiring period at camp, are now back to normal routine again.

Employments and Cadre Classes are the main events of the day, leaving only a few spare men to do guards and duties.

A change has taken place in the Company since our last notes, namely, the loss of Lieut. H. N. C. Gudgeon, who has left us to take up duties with the Malay Regiment, and a draft of 18 who have left us for "Civvy Street"; to these we extend our heartiest greetings. In the realm of sport the Company has held its own, finishing second in the novices' boxing, fourth in the Battalion cross-country run, second in the Company team boxing, and tied for third place in athletics. The Battalion held an open novices' athletic meeting and though the Company had quite a few entries only a few turned up.

The inter-Company athletics was held on 16th and 17th February, 1939, and our congratulations go to Pte. Lever who won the individual discus and javelin, which gave the Company first place in these events, also to Pte. Fisher who, although only a week or two out of hospital where he had been for six months, took the place of L/Cpl. Burnett and, although limping, brought the Company into fourth place in the 880 yards relay. (L/Cpl. Burnett thought the time of the race was time to obtain teas and wads.)

### FOOTBALL

Competitive football has been at a discount during the last quarter owing to the Japanese and training, but we are getting down to it with "gusto" and mean to make good in the Small Units League.

We have already met and beaten one Company to the tune of four clear goals, and although we do not hope to beat the remainder so easily, there is an optimistic and keen feeling.

We supply the Battalion 2nd XI with six of their team, and congratulate them on helping the team to reach the final of the Junior Shield, also at this period to be top of the 2nd Division League. The inter-Company hockey has just commenced and up to date we have played "B" Company, the result being a draw 1-1.

### SHOOTING

While at camp the Battalion held an Indirect Fire Control Competition. No. 11 Platoon were the last to fire, and when they did the noise of the guns was like music in one's ears.

Such splendid behaviour on the part of the "Guns" could not possibly be undermined by failure to hit the target. We waited patiently and lo and behold the scores came through. Well done, No. 11. They did the trick, even beating the aggregate of the next best Company of three Platoons.

Congratulations to the controller and the team. Now we are wondering what badge the best shooting M.G. Company wears. Lieut. Fishbourne and Sergt. Sheffield both obtained a "Q" in their respective courses, and Cpl. Burrell obtained 2nd Class in his P.T. Course.

It is interesting to note that members of the Company represented the Battalion in the Annual Kowloon Marathon (Pte. Evans, Cpl. Ellis, and L/Cpl. Burnett). All three finished in the first 10; they have also been picked to run for the Battalion in the Command cross-country run.

Now that the warmer weather is in view the Company has taken up rowing and all the yachtsmen are overhauling their boats for the yacht club races.

It is said that Pte. Cavill has bought himself a canoe as he cannot manhandle a yacht. He has great hopes of winning the individual canoe race. (He should, being the only one entered.) In closing these notes, we wish all old members of the Company now in England the very best of luck in "Civvy Street."

### "D" COMPANY

After a long sojourn in the East I have at last been persuaded to pen these notes and wait for the "can."

"Welcome" to our new Company Commander, Major I. D. S. Gordon, to Lieut. Chattey who has returned from leave, and to

Sergt. Fuller who makes his first trip aboard. *Bon voyage* to all who have left us for home.

Here is a brief description of our deeds during the past quarter:

As stated in our last issue we formed the advance party to Lo Wu Camp. We arrived at camp safe and sound thanks to our M.T. drivers who seemed to know all the bends and could go round them blindfolded; in fact, one was heard to remark he would be taking up Malcolm Campbell's job of speeding when he left the Service. The job is O.K., but the Company's nerves wouldn't stand too much of the bends.

Nothing much occurred for the first couple of days, except the usual round of tent pitching which, unluckily, fell to our lot. Everybody worked hard and many sighs of relief were heard at the end of the day's work. Special mention must be made of a certain "Busty" Lance-Corporal in the Company, whose unflinching efforts resulted in a tent being pitched in record time. But, alas, on surveying his handiwork he found that it was inside out!

A period of excitement followed, owing to the arrival of the Japanese on the border, which caused us many anxious moments, but, as we know, things returned to normal on the withdrawal of the Japanese. Returning to camp routine much hard work was done by the Company with the gun and tripod, and every man of the Company should now be able to judge the weight of them to a dram, and also the amount of energy required for a long carry of a hundred yards.

A beginners' and novices' boxing competition was held at camp, and we take this opportunity of congratulating N.C.O.s and men who took part in the above events on their splendid performances, and we also hope they will continue the good work in the forthcoming Command boxing. We would also like to thank L/Cpls. Noble and McGrady for their untiring efforts in getting the team together and training them. We would like to add special praise to L/Cpl. (Porky) Betts for putting up a very splendid performance against Pte. Moran, of "B" Company, in a special light-heavy-weight contest.

The inter-Company cross-country run was also held at camp and although our representatives were short of training they put up an excellent performance in finishing third. Special praise must go to Pte. (Karrachi) Dunne on a great show in finishing third in the Battalion. On conclusion of camp the Company held an inter-Section machine gun

shoot which was won by No. 15 Platoon, No. 5 Section gaining first place (Well done, Fred and Gimper). No. 6 Section ran a close second under the supervision of Gunner L/Cpl. McGrady. L/Cpl. (Professor Nobby) Perry got a third even if one gun did fire at a grave (Well done, the Mighty Atom!).

Back to barracks we went to resume our normal routine of Guards and fatigues. Cadre classes are now under way; the remainder are drilling under the A.S.M., for the forthcoming Trooping of the Colour.

Almost as soon as our return to barracks came the Inter-Company Belt and Team Championship. It did not come as any surprise to us when the Company Commander stepped up for the boxing shield for the second year in succession. The team is to be congratulated on its fine performance. Special reference must be made to the following belt holders: Bantam-weight, Pte. (Pancho) Panting; Feather-weight, L/Cpl. (R.E.P.) Noble; Middle-weight, L/Cpl. McGrady. Long may they reign.

Now we come to the "Knights of the track." The athletic prowess of the Company is not great, but we had a team of triers who, with a few outstanding performers, managed to tie with "C" Company for the third place.

Pte. Berry did very well in winning the shot, and L/Cpl. Seton in finishing second in the javelin. L/Cpl. Noble added to his laurels when he finished second in the one mile. Pte. (Karrachi) Dunne made the headlines once again when he put up two grand performances in the two-miles relay and the one-mile relay, in which races the Company finished third and second, respectively. On the whole the team did all that was expected of them and are to be congratulated on their showing.

We also take off our hats to the Company hockey team for putting up a splendid performance in the Small Units Hockey Knock-out. However, after playing three hard and fast games in two days, they were defeated in the semi-final by "H.Q." Wing of The 5/6 Rajputana Rifles, who went on to win the competition. Well done, "Don" Company. And so, in conclusion, we ask for any information regarding a certain mysterious individual in the Company who jumps every time a "Chink" cries "Cum Shaw."

### FOOTBALL

Since our last notes very little has taken place in the football world owing to the period of camp. With the Japs leaving us for a while



we did manage to have some friendly games against the Navy and Marines. These were very enjoyable games and enjoyed by all who played in them. To even out the games we formed an N.C.O.s' team, which consisted of: C.S.M. Tibble, Serjts. Castle, Marshall, and Fuller, Cpls. Shaw, Hammond, and Harvey, L/Cpls. Seton, McGrady, Perry, and Betts. Note the old 'uns who took their boots down after having hung them up. The C.S.M. scored a hat-trick (honest, he did) and Serjt. Marshall got a pair of beauties, only to be flogged by the magnificent goal-keeping of Serjt. Fuller who, incidentally, was handicapped by the loss of studs. However, we won four out of five games, drawing



The "Tidbury" Cup

the fifth game 1-1, for which we give credit to "Porky" Betts for his timely "centres" into the ditch, and to "Mud" Harvey for his glorious heading. Too bad the ditch was behind the goal, "Porky." We are waiting now for the "Albuhera" League to commence, in which we hope to do well.

In this we will have the services of Ptes. Courtney and Wilkinson who have played regularly for the Battalion. Congratulations to them both.

We still have five games to play yet in the Garrison Small Units League and are expecting to play them very shortly. We are sorry that Pte. Blackburn sustained an ankle injury and hope that it will soon be better. Bad luck, Blackie, the skating rink is missing you. Although we wish the other Companies luck in the "Albuhera" League they will still hear "Good old Don," or "Well done, 'D'," "Don."

### SERGEANTS' MESS

From the Mess point of view the past quarter, two months of which were spent at Wo Lu Camp, has given us little to record. It has been the "close season" for sport and functions, except for a welcome break during Christmas week.

Our stay at Lo Wu Camp was, nevertheless, a pleasant change. It is seldom that the Mess gets together under one roof for such a long time, when single and married members "pig in" together and foregather in the Mess in the evenings. Arrangements were excellent, the Mess was well furnished and comfortable, and quite a little home from home. We played

Mah Jong, darts, and pokey die, and now and again did a spot of field firing. A feature of camp was the stay of Royal Naval and Royal Marine Detachments, a week at a time, amongst whom we have made several friends who now attend our functions in barracks. We should also mention a regular visitor, "Paddy" Galvin, the Police Sergeant at Lok Ma Chau Station on the border—a typical "flatfoot."

On our return to barracks, functions recommenced with the fortnightly whist drive and dance and the monthly dinner. Owing to its success it has been decided to continue the latter as a usual monthly affair. The first dinner, in February, saw a great deal of original and impromptu talent and we are assured that Serjt. Overy (the producer) has still something up his sleeve for future occasions. The whist drives and dances are well attended and during the cold months the Mess

is really too small to hold the crowd that gets there. With the advent of warmer weather the open-air dance floor on the tennis court will give us more room and should prove a great attraction.

Christmas was celebrated in the usual manner with the single members' dinner and "do" on Boxing Day. Members were in the Mess on Christmas morning when Lieut.-Col. L. A. Newnham, M.C., presented the "Tidbury" Cup to P.S.M. E. Paterson, to whom we offer our congratulations on a well-deserved award. The "Tidbury" Cup was recently presented by Brigadier O. H. Tidbury, M.C., to be awarded each year to the most efficient Sergeant or Corporal in the Battalion.

Perhaps the item of major interest this quarter has been the promotion of the first Warrant Officers, Class III (P.S.M.s) in the Battalion under the new establishment, and we congratulate the following on promotion to that rank: P.S.M.s R. Bayles, F. Donovan, E. Paterson (36), and J. Ramsey.

Among the many changes in the Army in recent months the institution of this rank and the placing of promotion to ranks above Sergeant on a Corps basis, it is felt, have done a lot towards bettering the position of the N.C.O., especially in the Battalion serving abroad. The full effects of these changes have not yet been felt as the initial promotions to W.O. III (seven for a M.G. Battalion abroad) have for the present been restricted to four, and no promotions have yet been made on a Corps basis.

The following are also to be congratulated on promotion: Serjts. L. Priddy, W. Bean, and E. Paterson (29) to C.Q.M.S.; L/Serjts. H. Naylor and H. Marshall to Sergeant; Cpls. R. Lomax and R. Burkitt to Lance-Sergeant.

The trooping season has let us off lightly. Serjt. Bullock, for a tour at the Depot, and Serjt. Bond, invalided, left for home on the *Dikwara* in January. We wish them both the best of luck, and a speedy recovery for Serjt. Bond.

Serjt. Fuller, who arrived from U.K. on the *Dikwara* whilst the Battalion was in camp, is welcomed to our Mess from the 2nd Battalion.

The dart board continues to occupy serious attention with many members getting snaky double-tops and such-like. It is remarkable how conveniently placed is the waiter's bell—experts can be seen to throw a final double with one hand while pressing the bell with the other.

### THE "TIDBURY" CUP

This cup was presented to the Battalion by our late C.O., Col. O. H. Tidbury, M.C., to encourage a high standard of individual all-round fitness and efficiency at duty and in sport amongst N.C.O.s, one Sergeant and one Corporal to be nominated by C.O. for 12 months, ending 16th May. No special competition to be held. Cup to be held: April, May, October and November in Officers' Mess; other months in Sergeants' Mess; and sometimes in Corporals' Room.

### CORPORALS' CLUB

Since the last notes were put into print very little has happened in the way of news. Our first bit of excitement happened on 17th October, 1938, when two Companies were called out to assist the Civil Police with the incoming refugees over our border, "A" and "C" Companies being the unlucky (or lucky) ones to catch this duty.

We were separated from that date until the whole Battalion met at Lo Wu Camp after the Christmas break. We shall not trouble to bore you with "Border Topics" as these will be found elsewhere.

Congratulations are extended to the members who have left us to join the Sergeants' Mess, namely, L/Serjts. (Darkie) Lomax and (Bugs) Burkitt. Also, to those members who have gained another rung up the proverbial ladder, viz., Cpls. Tattam and Moody (Pinkie). And now, not to forget the newcomers to our Club, we all extend a hearty welcome to the following: L/Cpls. Maton, Charles, Gilham, Barkway, Merton, Green, Goodge, Bolingbroke, Shepherd, Colebeck, Bennett, Holmes, Morton, Gibbs, Metcalfe, O'Neil, and Dickens. We hope that their stay with us will be a long and pleasant one.

The Club was well represented at the various boxing meetings, both at camp and in barracks, and we congratulate the following members who were belt winners: Feather-weight, L/Cpl. Noble; Light-weight, Cpl. Ellis; Welter-weight, Cpl. McGrady; Middle-weight, L/Cpl. McGrady; and Light-heavy-weight, L/Cpl. Fox. Also those members who won the strings of their weights.

There have not been any functions so far this quarter owing to the training period which has taken up most of the time, but it is anticipated that there will be plenty to make up for the ones we have missed.

We offer our sincere wishes to the members



who have left us for Home Establishment and for civil life, namely, Cpls. Watson, Sibley, Clark and Bissett, L/Cpls. Casey, Whitney, Ellams, Ellingworth, Morrish, and Morris. Also to L/Cpls. Amos, Chelu, Bolingbroke, and Goodge who have gone on furlough. Again we apologise for the lack of Club notes, but we anticipate more next time. We conclude our notes by wishing the members of the 2nd Battalion Corporals' Club the very best.

PRO TEM.

PS.—We welcome Cpl. (Flop) Soden and his wife from the 2nd Battalion, and we hope that they will enjoy their stay with us.

## POLO AND HUNTING

At the beginning of March we were very glad to see Capt. Jacob back in the hunting field after two months' absence. His horse had the misfortune to gallop over one of the numerous hidden Chinese graves near Fanling and it was very fortunate for both that only a broken collar-bone and badly-bruised ribs resulted from this very serious accident.

In January the Mess was "At Home" to the Fanling Hunt. The Meet took place under ideal conditions on the Lo Wu Camp football ground. The P.M.C. put up a marquee and filled it with bottles of "Jumping Powder" which were much appreciated by all, especially by those who were about to risk life and limb over the Fanling graveyards.

"Kiola," the C.O.'s charger, and "Trojan" were both entered for the Kwanti Races at Fanling during February and took part in the Hunters Steeplechase. Both ran well but could not compete with the bloodstock imported from the flat-racing course at Happy Valley, Hong Kong. "Soldier of Scotland," a fine, black, Australian horse belonging to Lieut. Fishbourne, has also been under training at Fanling but has proved, as yet, unmanageable, even when ridden in preliminary slow canters by its trainer, C.Q.M.S. Christie, and experienced amateur riders, including Lieut. Chattey.

The final spring meeting of the season takes place on 26th March, at Fanling, and it is likely that hunting will stop soon after owing to cultivation and climatic conditions.

Polo tournaments continue until May under the auspices of the Hong Kong Polo Club, but it is a matter of great regret that we have been unable, as yet, to turn out a polo team. Lieut. Chattey has now joined Capt. Marsh and 2/Lieut. Hancock on the polo ground and has recently purchased a new pony, "Corrie."

Polo ponies are now owned as follows:

"The Cheetah".....Capt. Marsh  
"Radium".....Lieut. Chattey  
"Corrie".....Lieut. Chattey  
"Until Then".....2/Lieut. Hancock  
"Little Beauty".....2/Lieut. Hancock  
"Sandstorm".....2/Lieut. Hancock

## FOOTBALL

Since the last issue of our notes the 1st XI has undergone a few changes due to the departure for the Home Battalion of two of our outstanding players—Cpl. Watson, the "skipper" and a very popular man in the Battalion, and Bdmn. Grogan. They will be sadly missed, but we hope they will fit in with the 2nd Battalion team.

The 1st XI is now out of the Senior Shield, having been eliminated by South China "A" by 2-1. The 2nd XI, however, are now in the final of the Junior Shield—with The Royal Scots 2nd XI—and we are hoping to see them collect the trophy this year. They are also doing very well in the league, although their recent defeat by the South China team has somewhat lessened their chance of collecting the winners' medals.

The policy now is to keep the 2nd XI together, as far as possible, for the remainder of the season and not to promote players as normally would be done.

They have a very good opportunity of pulling off one, or both, of the honours in this section and, as the 1st XI have no chance of either winning the Senior Shield or 1st Division honours, it is best that we should let the teams remain unchanged.

We end our notes with best wishes to the 2nd Battalion in their quest for the Army Cup, and our congratulations to Delaney, Phipps, and Vanner on again being selected to play for the Army.

## BOXING

Since the last notes we have held four successful boxing meetings—two in camp and two in barracks. The first one held at camp was the usual "Beginners' Competition, Class 'A'," being those who have fought before but never won a competition, and Class "B" for those who have never fought before. This competition produced some very good fights and what the competitors lacked in knowledge they made up in courage. To swell the programme five special contests were held. The following are the results:

*Bantam-weight*—Class A: Pte. Dewberry, "H.Q.," beat Pte. Hooper, "C," on points.

*Feather-weight*—Class A: Pte. Dry, "B," beat Pte. Harris, "B," k.o.; Class B: Pte. Cooke, "D," beat Pte. Clarke, "A," t.k.o.

*Light-weight*—Class A: Pte. Cole, "A," beat Pte. James, "C," on points; Class B: Pte. McElhatton, "B," beat Pte. Cunningham, "D," on points.

*Welter-weight*—Class A: Pte. Robinson, "D," beat Pte. Emery, "C," on points; Class B: Pte. Jennings, "A," beat Pte. Iszard, "D," w.o. on medical grounds.

*Middle-weight*—Class B: L/Cpl. Wright, "C," beat Pte. Malham, "C," k.o.

*Light-heavy-weight*—Class A: Pte. Huggonson, "A," beat Pte. Bridle, "C," on points; Class B: Pte. Fawcett, "D," beat Pte. Flood, "D," on points.

*Three Rounds Welter-weight Contest*: Pte. Berryman, "B," beat Pte. Eaton, "C," on points.

*Four Rounds Special Light-heavy-weight Contest*: Pte. Moran, "B," beat L/Cpl. Betts, "D," on points.

*Four Rounds Special Middle-weight Contest*: Stoker Stinton, H.M.S. Medway, beat Bdmn. McDonald, "H.Q.," on points.

*Boys' Contests*: Boy Grossmith beat Boy Wilson on points; Boy Rowe beat Boy Alexander on points; Ptes. Goldsmith and Iszard were awarded "good losers" prizes.

The Inter-Company Team Novices' Competition was held at camp on 9th, 10th, and 12th January, 1939, and the placings of the Companies were as follows: 1, "B" Company, 49 points; 2, "C" Company, 43 points; 3, "A" Company, 39 points; 4, "D" Company, 38 points; 5, "H.Q." Company, 23 points.

Individual finalists were:

*Bantam-weight*: L/Cpl. Maton, "A," beat Pte. Hooper, "C."

*Feather-weight*—1st String: Pte. Dry, "B," beat Pte. Cooke, "D"; 2nd String: Pte. Ball, "B," beat Pte. Commerford, "D."

*Light-weight*—1st String: Pte. Cole, "A," beat L/Cpl. Rich, "C"; 2nd String: Pte. Day, beat Pte. James, "C"; 3rd String: Pte. Winkworth, "B," beat Pte. Dormer, "C."

*Welter-weight*—1st String: Pte. Emery, "C," beat Pte. Robinson, "D"; 2nd String: Pte. Maloney, "A," beat Pte. Lane, "B"; 3rd String: Pte. Williams, "B," beat Pte. Webster, "D"; 4th String: Pte. Burke, "D," beat Pte. Devine, "B."

*Middle-weight*—1st String: Pte. Cornford, "B," beat L/Cpl. Wright, "C"; 2nd String: Pte. Heather, "B," beat Pte. Wright, "C"; 3rd String: Pte. Johns, "B," beat L/Cpl. Davis, "A."

*Light-heavy-weight*: Pte. Fawcett, "D," beat Pte. Cohen, "A."

*Heavy-weight*: Pte. Goddard, "H.Q.," beat Pte. Jousiffe, "C."

From the above competitors a team and reserves were picked to train for the Inter-Unit Novices' Team Championship under the guidance of "Sky" Kerrison, our professional trainer, and Cpl. McGrady.

The next competition was the Inter-Company Open Team Boxing Tournament which produced some good results, and the Battalion open team was rewarded with the services of L/Cpl. Betts, Pte. Moran, Bdmn. McDonald, and Pte. Smith (15) from the 2nd Battalion.

Individual results were:

*Bantam-weight*: Pte. Panting, "D," beat Pte. Williams, "C."

*Feather-weight*—1st String: L/Cpl. Noble, "D," beat Pte. Smith (15), "A"; 2nd String: L/Cpl. Collier, "C," beat Pte. Cooke, "D."

*Light-weight*—1st String: Cpl. Ellis, "C," beat Pte. Chacksfield, "H.Q."; 2nd String: Pte. Geist, "D," beat L/Cpl. Phillips, "C"; 3rd String: Pte. Frenchum, "D," beat Pte. Lusham, "C."

*Welter-weight*—1st String: Cpl. McGrady, "A," beat L/Cpl. Holdford, "H.Q."; 2nd String: Cpl. Freshwater, "A," beat Pte. McElhatton, "B"; 3rd String: Pte. Iszard, "D," beat Pte. Cole, "A"; 4th String: L/Cpl. Perry, "D," beat L/Sergt. Hiscocks, "A."

*Middle-weight*—1st String: L/Cpl. McGrady, "D," beat L/Cpl. Harris, "C"; 2nd String: L/Cpl. Seton, "D," beat Pte. Maloney, "A"; 3rd String: Pte. Roberts, "D," beat Pte. Williams, "A."

*Light-heavy-weight*: L/Cpl. Fox, "A," beat Pte. Hanford, "B."

*Heavy-weight*: Pte. Moran, "B," beat Pte. Adams, "C," w.o.

In the above competition some excellent fights were witnessed and the standard of boxing was very high. Inspector Hallam, of the Hong Kong Police, presented three cups at the meeting for "the most scientific boxer," "the unluckiest loser," and "the pluckiest loser."

We are now in possession of two belts and hope that the remaining six will be in our possession before the end of the year. All winners of the first string of each weight are considered belt holders.



The results of points towards the "Albuhera" Shield were:

		"Albuhera" Shield Points
1. "D" Company	43 points	10
2. "A" Company	34 points	8
3. "C" Company	27 points	6
4. "B" Company	18 points	4
5. "H.Q." Company	9 points	2

"Inspector Hallam" Cups were awarded to: Cpl. McGrady, "A," most scientific boxer; L/Cpl. Webster, "H.Q.," unluckiest loser; Pte. Dormer, "C," pluckiest loser.

On 23rd February, 1939, the Area Inter-Unit Novices' Team Boxing Championship was held at Shamshuipo between the 2nd Battalion Royal Scots and the 1st Battalion The Middlesex Regiment. Those present included H.E. the G.O.C., and Brig. Thomson and Reeve. The prizes were presented by H.E. the G.O.C., who remarked on the good spirit and temper shown by all who took part and congratulated both teams on their fine show. The result was:

**Winners:** 2nd Battalion Royal Scots, 24 points; **runners-up:** 1st Battalion The Middlesex Regiment, 21 points.

Individual results were as follows:

**Bantam-weight:** L/Cpl. Brown (2/Royal Scots) knocked out L/Cpl. Jones (1/Middlesex).

**Feather-weight—1st String:** Pte. Manderson lost to Pte. Dormer; 2nd String: Bdmn. Edge beat Pte. Cooke.

**Light-weight—1st String:** L/Cpl. Morley beat Pte. Frenchum; 2nd String: L/Cpl. Locharie lost to Pte. McElhatton; 3rd String: Pte. Glassey lost to Pte. Dry.

**Welter-weight—1st String:** Pte. Cavanagh beat Cpl. Freshwater; 2nd String: Pte. Gallagher beat Pte. Iszard; 3rd String: Pte. Allan beat Pte. Burke; 4th String: Pte. Manson beat L/Cpl. Morgan.

**Middle-weight—1st String:** Pte. Moore beat Pte. Roberts; 2nd String: Pte. Wallace lost to Pte. Huggonson; 3rd String: Pte. Dunlop lost to Pte. Emery.

**Light-heavy-weight:** Pte. McDougall knocked out Pte. Goddard.

**Heavy-weight:** Pte. Alexandér lost to Pte. Fawcett.

We sincerely hope that we will be able to avenge this defeat in the Area Inter-Unit Open Team Championship. In concluding, I would like all our boxers to remember the golden rule that "the shortest distance between two points is a straight line" and to avoid swinging, and to learn to hit good, hard, straight, and clean, and go in to win on points and k.o. when the opportunity occurs.

## RUGBY FOOTBALL

Few matches have been played this season. This has been due mainly to our long stay in camp and partly to the extremely dry winter and the scarcity of grounds. The lack of water in the Colony prevented grounds from being watered and often games were played where the surface was comparable to concrete. Only two grounds were available for all Units and these were used both for rugger and soccer. Yet in the matches that we have played the Battalion has been fairly successful and would have been more so had it been possible to field our full sides; but this has so far been impossible owing to the congestion of games, many good rugger players being bound to give their services to Regimental cricket and football teams. This is regrettable but inevitable with all games being played at the same time in one short season.

In the matches we have played we beat the 2nd Battalion The Royal Scots 11—5, we beat the Hong Kong Football Club "A" 29—3, drew with them 9—9, and were beaten by H.M.S. *Medway* and the 5th A.A. Regiment.

In other spheres Lieuts. Gudgeon and Hewitt, 2/Lieut. Chiverall, and Ptes. Berry and Fergusson have all played for the Army which this year only ran one team. In one of these matches 2/Lieut. Chiverall was unlucky enough to receive very severe concussion, and has been in hospital for three months. He will be a great loss to the Battalion seven-a-side team in the Inter-Unit Seven-a-sides, and also in the Colony Seven-a-sides, which are both about to begin.

Another great loss is that of Lieut. Gudgeon who left us in January to be seconded to the Malay Regiment. We are extremely sorry to lose him: his strong running and his enthusiasm will be greatly missed. The Hong Kong Army team and "Scotland" also bemoan his departure. However, we are sure that he will enjoy his rugger in Malaya and that he will be a potent asset for Negri Sembilan, the Army in Malaya and South Malaya.

## HOCKEY

Since leaving Singapore our hockey has deteriorated not so much through the players themselves, who in reality have put up some fine shows. The main cause of the trouble is that in Singapore we were most fortunate

in having excellent sports facilities with good grass hockey grounds. In Hong Kong we have to play on sand which is very bumpy, thus causing the ball to shoot considerably. The only chance of getting a game on grass is when we are fortunate enough to play civilian teams. Very little hockey has been played since Christmas due to the fact that we have been in camp for a considerable period.

In the Large Units Knock-out we were drawn against the 5/6 Rajputana Rifles and lost by the odd goal. It might be mentioned that this team is definitely the best team in the Colony. However, we had very bad luck during this match, Bright, at centre-forward, hit the upright twice with the goal-keeper beaten each time. Some of our results are given below.

Hong Kong H.C.	.. ..	Drawn	2—2
Y.M.C.A.	.. ..	Lost	2—3
Y.M.C.A.	.. ..	Won	2—1
R.A.F.	.. ..	Won	3—0
5/6 Rajputana Rifles	.. ..	Lost	0—1

The following played this season: Pte. Boggis; Ptes. Stickley and Gorman; Cpl. Crowley, Ptes. Abell and Courtney; Pte. Jackson, Lieut. Chattey, Pte. Sheehan, Bdmn. Hymas, L/Sergt. Hiscocks, Pte. Hatfield, Pte. Dunne and Bdmn. Bright.

## THE TARANAKI REGIMENT, NEW PLYMOUTH, NEW ZEALAND

BY LIEUT. H. N. C. GUDGEON, THE MIDDLESEX  
REGIMENT

IN September, 1937, I paid two visits to New Plymouth, on the North Island of New Zealand, where the Taranaki Regiment has its Headquarters.

The first visit, which was for one day only, was merely a "feeler" in order to gain contact with the Regiment as a prelude to a later visit. With this object in view I called on Lieut.-Col. F. S. Varnham, M.C., the Commanding Officer, who, in civil life, is proprietor of the *Taranaki Herald*, the chief daily paper of the province. He very kindly invited me to spend the evening at his house, where I met his wife and family, his Adjutant, Capt. F. L. Hunt, N.Z.S.C., and also a Captain of the Queen Alexandra's Mounted Rifles. I was invited

to spend a week-end there at the end of the month, in order to be able to see the many places which would be of interest to me as an Officer of the 1st Battalion Middlesex Regiment, and also to climb Mount Egmont, should the weather be favourable.

I returned at the end of the month, when I was introduced to several members of the Regiment and was shown the New Plymouth Drill Hall which houses the Colours and several interesting articles of Regimental property. Both Lieut.-Col. and Mrs. Varnham spared no pains in order to show me all the localities, buildings, and historic articles which could possibly be of any interest to me.

New Plymouth, as the Headquarters of the British punitive Forces against Maori disaffection in the "sixties" in Taranaki province, boasts several most interesting historical places. Among those which I saw were St. Mary's Church, which contains rolls of honour of all H.M. Ships and Regiments which took part in the operations; the churchyard where are buried several soldiers of the 57th Foot; the site of the old Barracks on Marsland Hill which was also the town's rallying point; a quaint circular wood building which formerly served as an Officers' Mess for one of the Regiments quartered in the town; the old Maori Pa, or fortified village of Pukerangiora, with the saps and earthworks whence it was assaulted still traceable; and also the Memorial in the cemetery dedicated to certain Officers and men of the 57th Foot who fell in the Maori trouble. In addition, I was shown the old book of Daily Garrison Orders as issued by Col. Warre, Commanding Officer of the 57th Foot and Acting Commander of the Garrison of New Plymouth, and also several interesting extracts from the *Taranaki Herald* of that time.

It is worthy of note that the old Colours of the Taranaki Volunteers, only replaced by new ones in 1936, were presented by Mrs. Warre, wife of the Garrison Commander, on which occasion a Guard of Honour found by the 57th Foot was on parade.

As the weather was suitable, I was able to climb Mount Egmont, accompanied by Lieut. Carryer, of the Taranaki Regiment, and the brother of another Subaltern. This extinct volcano, which forms the badge of the Taranaki Regiment, is, after Fujiyama, the most perfect cone-shaped mountain in the world, and presents a truly wonderful picture on a clear day.

In conclusion, I must mention the hospitality I received when in Taranaki, and how genuinely



pleased everyone seemed to be at meeting a member of the Middlesex Regiment. The amount of interest taken in Middlesex affairs and the knowledge shown of our Regimental history amazed me, and made me realise how real, though seemingly invisible, is the bond which unites these two Regiments—British and Dominion—which, as their respective Battle Honours testify, had a very visible connection in the "sixties" of the last century. I am looking forward very much to being able to welcome a member of our affiliated Regiment to England, when I can assure him of an equally good reception to the one I received.

As an afterthought and of personal interest only, I have discovered that the standard book on the Maori Wars, by Col. Gudgeon, *Reminiscences of the War in New Zealand*, which is quoted on several occasions in the now out-of-print *History of the 57th Foot*, by H. H. Woollright, was, in fact, written by a great-grand-uncle of my own, who had emigrated to New Zealand early in the last century.

## A JOURNEY TO BURMA, THROUGH INDO-CHINA AND SIAM

### THIRD INSTALMENT



"Vat" at Luang Prabang

AT Luang Prabang I found I had returned, for the time being, to civilisation: steam-boats come up the river thus far, and there is a "Commissariat" and a "Cercle." In the morning a cup of chocolate was brought to my

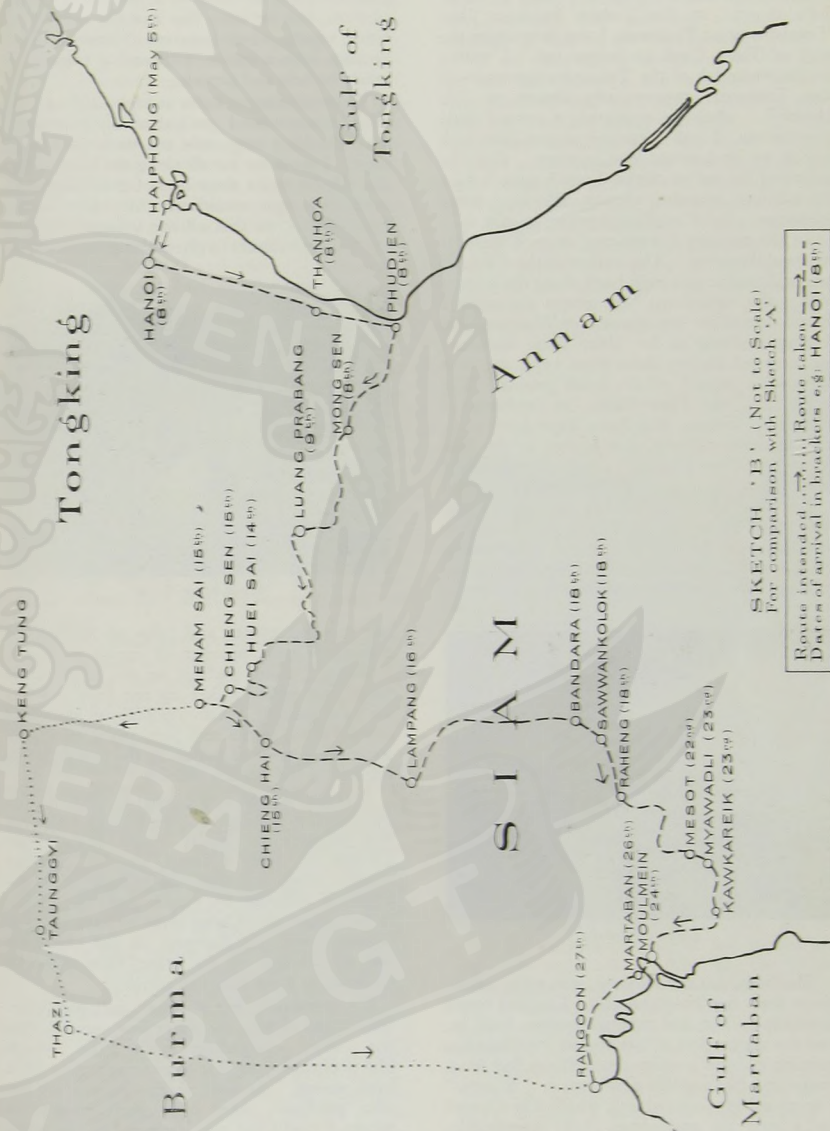
room, with a roll and a small dish of rancid butter.

I wrote an account of myself on one of the police forms that one never misses for long in the French dominions, and went out into the town to buy myself a hat. The houses, built in a single row on either side of a plain earth road, were all rather low, thatched, with the floor raised not more than two or three feet from the ground, and projecting in front to form a verandah or stall for a shop. Not many things were shown for sale, the size of the place considered, and these mostly shoddy European goods. I bought a brown felt hat, after rejecting several topees painted different colours and decorated with flowered chiffon; it was of American manufacture, slightly too small, with a purple lining and the legend "Sunny Side Up Hat Co." Sunny Side Up accompanied me the rest of the journey; including its original unaccountable trip to Indo-China, it has now completed half the circumnavigation of the globe, and hangs in the hall of an English house, awaiting further excursions, without apparent emotion.

Everyone continued saluting me respectfully; even the sentry outside the Commissaire's house. On my hat-hunting expedition I missed the way at first, and walked past the Garde Indigène, where I saw a squad of native soldiers, extended at three paces, having a musketry lesson, a sight that filled me with nostalgia. When I passed them again, later in the morning, they had piled arms and were taking "Five Minutes' Smoke."

In a wing of the Commissariat I found a "Bureau de Tourisme," where I asked whether I could hire a boat to go up the river. The clerk told me there was a motor-boat leaving the next morning, to go as far as Chieng Sen, on the Siamese border. I asked, could I get from there to Burma: he said vaguely and without conviction, that there were "voitures." I paid my fare and decided to risk finding a voiture at Chieng Sen, where I should be within half a dozen miles of the Burma border.

Meanwhile, the only amusement at the rest-house was in studying the travel posters on the walls, and devising theories to account for a heap of derelict Swedish newspapers of different ages lying on the table. Two native women came, and spread out on the verandah various objects, such as one seen displayed for sale nearly everywhere between Singapore and the Mediterranean: Luang Prabang was evidently the last outpost of "Tourisme."

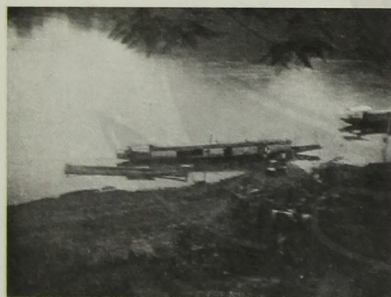




In the afternoon I tried to change a traveller's cheque at the Trésor Publique, but Tourisme or no Tourisme, I was now where the writ of Thos. Cook no longer ran. I waited on the verandah of the Trésor for the return of the Trésorier, mysteriously absent at "la chasse"; when he appeared, a rotund little Frenchman, I was surprised at the ease with which we understood one another: after the patois of the native clerks, French spoken by a Frenchman sounded almost like my native language. But I could still get no money.

In the evening I wandered around the outskirts of the town. The outline of the old walls was still visible as a high bank along the eastern side; the view from here across the town I found somehow reminiscent of Malacca, but Luang Prabang is far older than Malacca; its recorded history dates from 1353, and it is the oldest capital of the Laos people. The palladium, the Phra Bang, an emblem of legendary history, has been kept here since the sixteenth century, and is now in the Wat Mai, the "New Pagoda," a rather insignificant structure at the side of the main street.

Knowing I had paid my bill the night before, the servants hustled me out of the bungalow very early on the morning of the 11th, having produced a fellow to carry my baggage to the boat on a machine like an errand boy's tricycle.



*Lefèvre Pontalis*

The boat, *Lefèvre Pontalis*, was a big canoe, about forty feet long and about four feet broad amidships; she had a small engine, built in, and the centre part of her roofed with bamboo matting to form a cabin about fifteen feet long, containing two wooden platforms or "K'angs." I occupied the forward one, which was covered by a mat of undoubted, but inexplicable, Moslem design, and, with my baggage, just

gave me room to lie down; there was a space of three feet between this and the other platform, which, when I arrived, housed a native woman with a small child and a baggage of many baskets and parcels.

We were due to leave at eight o'clock. At a quarter to nine I got out of the boat and a man checking cargo told me we should go at nine. I went for a walk along the bank. The Me-Khong has a deep bed of pale red-brown mud and rises sometimes fifty feet in the flood season, so that all the villages are built on the high banks with nothing below them



Me-Khong River

but mooring stakes and piles of rubbish. I noticed a great number of crows at Luang Prabang, picking garbage on the edge of the water, but none further up the river. While we were waiting, a native policeman came and asked for my name and particulars, which he wrote on a piece of paper, in the indefatigable manner of the French officials.

A canoe drifted down past us with two or three men in it, singing; the melody was more like Javanese or Malay music than either Chinese or, what I heard later of, Siamese music. They say that the culture of Indo-China is Chinese by origin, but the people of the upper Me-Khong seem to have more in common with the Burmese on the one hand and the Malays on the other, than with the Chinese, or even with the Siamese.

We eventually left at about half-past nine. We moved slowly, the water was very smooth, but pitted everywhere with little whirls like pockmarks, so that the current must have been strong. As well as the woman on the after platform, there were some passengers whom I could not see, clustered at the stern with the captain and his family. At about mid-

day, we moored by a village near a waterfall, where a little spit of sand projected, dividing a smooth stretch of water from the main stream which here entered a passage broken by rocks; the speed of the current was astonishing in the narrow space.

Here the native woman got off, with her bundles, and her place was taken by two passengers from the stern, one a man of about 40 with tattoo marks all over his thighs, giving him the appearance of wearing a pair of blue shorts under his sarong, the other a youth of about 15 with a distinctly Indian look, reminding me strikingly of the film actor, Sabu. Sabu and his father (I took him to be) remained with us as far as Huei Sai, littering the boat with their belongings; their foodstuffs, dried vegetables, and things like sausages, were hung in bundles and festoons around the inside of the roof, filling the cabin with pungent odours.

We went through several rapids during the day; the river flowed over and around large, irregular barriers of greyish rock, through which navigation was difficult owing to the speed of the current and the narrowness of the twisting channel. The passage was sometimes marked with stakes, in the lower part of the river. The water was full of silt, coffee-coloured, with floating patches of foam like morsels of soufflé. Once we passed some water buffalo, their skins stained pink with the river mud.

At five o'clock in the evening we moored for the night near a village whose roofs could be seen among the trees about 50 yards from the river's edge, at the top of the bank which here shelved gently. A small stream ran down from the jungle.

I walked up to the village with one of the stern passengers, a superior man in a white topee, who spoke a kind of French, and referred to the villagers with some disdain as "seulement des montagnards." The houses had pointed gable-ends supported by wooden eaves, and looked more solidly built than any I had seen of their kind. There was a small white temple, and under a bamboo shelter some priests in their yellow robes were sitting about a fire and singing monotonously. Most of the women wore a sarong only, with their breasts and heads bare, but I saw one or two European vests and old Homburg hats. There was a haze of woodsmoke everywhere, and a quiet hum of voices. The scene was almost idyllic.

When I got back to the boat, the passengers had lit a fire and were cooking fish and a brew of herbs in a kettle. Later in the night, after

I had gone to bed on my odoriferous platform, they all came aboard again and began to stow and rearrange their gear with a great deal of thumping, keeping me intermittently awake.

So we went slowly upstream, for five days. It was very peaceful and consoling to sit in the bows of the boat, doing nothing, never shaving, washing precariously in a tin basin, eating and drinking when the mood took me. I slept at intervals during the day, and later had recourse more and more to an early novel of Edgar Wallace that had somehow got into my baggage at Haiphong. I admit that the feeling of unfamiliarity and isolation, of being among people who could neither speak my language nor understand my thoughts, was oppressive at times; in these moments I resorted to Edgar Wallace.



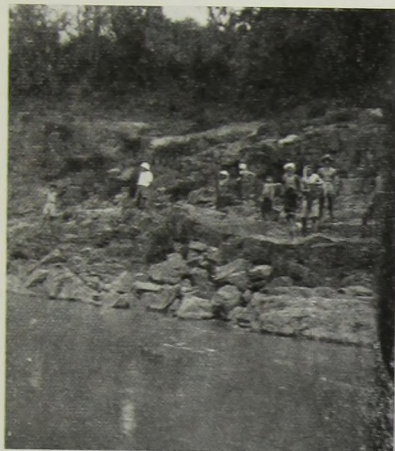
Rapids

The hills, which at first were close about us, receded as we went higher, leaving a narrow plain on either side. We came more often to more difficult rapids. All the passengers, except me, were most competent at getting us through the rapids. Usually they all landed, and by re-echoing shouts brought someone out of the jungle, who would be sent to find help, and return with a dozen friends; then, after half an hour's conversation, everyone would take hold of a rope and tow the boat with the engines running at full speed, until she was clear. After this, all the helpers would come crowding into the cabin, chattering like monkeys, for a lift. They were jungle people, wearing loin-cloths and a kind of turban; some of the women had metal anklets.

Sometimes we would get through, by steering a zig-zag course, one of the boatmen in the bows holding a boat-hook and jumping up and down like a marionette, for some reason



I could never fathom. Occasionally we steered close under the high rocks, where men, perched with nets stretched on square bamboo frames, were fishing literally in troubled waters.



Towing through the Rapids

The familiar green pigeons flew about among the trees; there were some greyish waterfowl that I did not recognise. In the upper part of the river we continually saw white herons; graceful creatures, whose long legs and necks seemed to help rather than impede their easy movement. A few small deer showed themselves at the edge of the scrub.

We moored three or four times every day at villages, and one or two passengers got on



Passengers Coming Aboard

or off; at some places parcels and boxes were left. On the second night out, we tied up at a place called Pak Beng, where there was a path leading away to the northward, and horse tracks with fresh dung. This was the only sign I ever saw of any village having communication with others, except by river.



Rain

All this time the clouds were collecting, and the rain fell at ever shorter intervals. On the third day the current seemed stronger, and branches and flood wreckage began to float past us. In the middle of the day we stopped and waited for some time at a fishing village where the only sign of life, I remember, was a small black dog lying in the sun; here, I noticed, the water had risen, and the bank was crumbling and falling into the stream.

It was on this day that I began to get a little tired of the Sabus, who spent nearly all the time whistling tunelessly and spitting over the side. When the rain came, and the cabin was closed, they had to contain themselves, but



Halting Place

the moment the weather cleared they would open the matting and start casting out their phlegm with renewed vigour.

In the third evening we reached Pak Tha, where the French-speaking passenger had friends; he offered me a bed in some official hut, but I preferred to sleep in the boat and avoid the mosquitoes. When I spoke of going to Keng Tung, he said, reassuringly, that I should be able to get a lorry at Chieng Sen. The last I saw of him that night, he was sitting on a verandah among a party of his acquaintance, and I eventually fell asleep to the sound of their music, wailing rhythmically in the quiet of the night. I was puzzled for some time by a mysterious croaking, like hundreds of frogs, which I traced in the end to the cluster of rafts, among which we were moored, rubbing together with the movement of the water.



Unloading at Huei Sai

The last day was the most trying. The rain began early, and the clouds hung low all day; the river had risen to a level less than ten feet from the top of the banks, and was thick and chocolate-coloured with eroded mud. Trees at the edge of the stream were submerged, and the surface was covered with floating wreckage. Behind me, at the bottom of the boat, the Sabu family were hawking and belching, and wiping their noses on their fingers. In the middle of the day we reached

Huei Sai, the last village in French territory. A small fort crowned the height above the landing place, garrisoned by the Garde Indigène, whose khaki jackets with yellow buttons formed the one common feature of their assorted clothing. A gang of convicts in blue, cotton overalls, with leg-irons, came to unload the boat under the direction of a Corporal, who shouted and stormed at everyone to show his importance. We unloaded a bicycle which excited general curiosity, and several objects like oil-drums, which the Corporal was determined could all be carried at once, in spite of the despairing gestures of the convicts; when they tried to raise the load on a pole, the pole broke, and the Corporal lost face. Then the rain came down again, and all the convicts got into the boat for shelter and had to be shouted at to come out. The unloading lasted for hours.

All the other passengers left us here, including the French-speaking man, whose white topee, wrist watch, and umbrella made him a great figure among the admiring villagers.

At last we went on, I and the boat's crew only. Our progress grew slower and slower. About six o'clock in the evening one of the boatmen came to me and said we should not reach Chieng Sen that night. I had no food left, but he produced rice and a lump of cane sugar, and then tea made with river water, which I fortified and, I hoped, sterilised with whisky.

We tied up for the night under some overhanging trees near a small house, on the west bank. We were now in Siam. The air was heavy and still, and towards eight o'clock the breeze rising suddenly indicated the approach of a storm, which broke on us all at once with frightening force. I was afraid we might carry away, and the thought of this, together with a general foreboding about the state of the roads ahead of me, drove me half out of my wits with agitation. I have never, in all my life, been so thankful at a storm's subsiding as I was when this one had gone.

In the early light we set out once more, and reached Chieng Sen shortly before seven o'clock. The rain had stopped, and I was in luck, as at the far end of the village street a lorry was waiting. Now language difficulties began. My French had been good enough for the boatman, but with the Siamese all conversation was speculative. I gathered that the lorry was going to Me-San, and that from there I could get another to Kengtung. I climbed aboard hopefully.



The people of Chieng Sen appeared not to differ very much from the Laos. Most of them wore a sarong, bright red seemed a fashionable colour, but a few had trousers, cut very wide, unlike any I remembered seeing before. Their houses looked flimsier than those in the jungle, covered with lattice work, and very clean.

The driver of the lorry began to tie around the sides, boxes and baskets of provisions, lanterns, and other equipment as for an expedition, lashing the whole together with rope; a necessary precaution as I later found. Every time he had us all ship-shape, some more passengers would arrive with more packages. Finally, after about three-quarters of an hour we were all roped in and, with a complement of 15 or 20, went off swaying and clattering down the road towards Me-San. The road was remarkably good, compared with the frontier roads of Indo-China.

When we got to Me-San we were stopped and examined by the douaniers, one of whom spoke to me in English. I went with him to his house by the roadside, where he stamped my passport. He gave me a glass of tea, and lent me a shaving mirror, while we waited for a lorry to Keng Tung. He and his assistants, and an elderly woman with a shaven head, served and ate a meal on the floor of the inner room; I felt very gross and barbarous with my muddy boots on their clean floor.

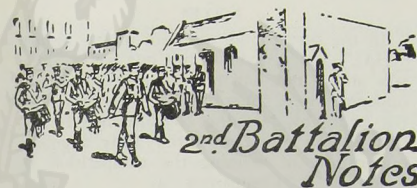
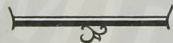
Nobody seemed to know when the lorry would come. After about an hour and a quarter it came, and I got myself and my baggage aboard. One of the douaniers was going with us to Me Nam Sai, on the frontier. The lorry was a little bigger than one of the "mosquito" buses in Singapore, and there

were 17 of us. We were packed so closely that the jolting was hardly perceptible. An Indian and some other nondescript person occupied the front seat next the driver; next to me was the douanier, and beyond him a youth carrying a kind of large waste-paper basket; I could not see any further on my side; the space in the middle was piled with baggage, over which the heads of the passengers opposite were visible bobbing up and down. Opposite me was a piratical-looking person with a gnarled face like a walnut, and next to him a row of Shans, gentlemen of presence, balancing straw hats above their turbans with perfect dignity. Some more passengers tried to join us on the road, and were made to climb on to the roof.

At Me Nam Sai the lorry stopped and everyone got out. I waited for a few minutes, then asked the douanier whether we were going on. He seemed not to know, and introduced the Indian passenger, who spoke English. The Indian said the lorry was going no further. I asked whether I could get another to Keng Tung, and he said, "No, the road was washed away." One Indian gentleman, he assured me, had started for Keng Tung five weeks before, and no more had been heard of him. I might get a bullock cart, but I should have to take a month's provisions with me.

This was exactly what I could not do. Money was getting short, and soon I must find a town in which I could cash a cheque. The rain had begun again in a fine drizzle, as I stood there, baffled, with Burma in sight a hundred yards along the road, and in my mind the vision of a long trek back the way I had come.

*(To be continued)*



IF it be that envy and jealousy are the roots of all the evil for which money is not responsible, and if it be further true that evil begets evil, then most assuredly will these notes prove evil. Certainly I am both envious and jealous of my counterpart in the 1st Battalion. For while I find myself at a loss for subjects to write on, there he sits hampered by a wealth of material—as well as the usual subjects, the change-over of the Battalion from Rifle to M.G. is taking place before his eyes, while a first-class war is going on under his nose.

But if we here have no real war under our eyes, certainly we have numerous rumoured wars in our ears.

Training proceeds along the usual lines and it has even been found possible to add to the normal programme, a period of three weeks' play-acting at Tidworth. We very much appreciate the honour done us, in being asked to give a display of P.T. and club-swinging at the Tattoo next July. And so, on returning from the annual furlough, the Battalion dug into its new task with no inconsiderable fervour. First of all, the N.C.O.s were trained in the diverse exercises which go to make up the two P.T. tables and the countless, almost incomprehensible evolutions and revolutions which comprise the club-swinging. Now they have mastered the art and, in company with the Subalterns, have set out bearing the torch of physical culture to the rest of the Battalion. Seven a.m. finds us all lined up, a Company here, a Company there, sharing the bitter sweet of an early-morning swing, while here and there may be heard the musical clink or the strangled oath which denotes that someone has blundered. Nor is this occupation pure pleasure. On the contrary it is fraught with danger, for one false move may result in a painfully-bruised shin, or, worse, a severe blow on the head from an instrument by no means blunt.

Individual Training has proceeded the while, ever on the Cadre system. This has so far proved successful in relieving the Company

Commanders of the onus, though every now and then some of them have been heard to sigh wistfully, "Oh! to see one of my Company." Soon, however, the season will be completely over and already "A" and "B" Companies are engaged on Headquarter Training, which is upon us some weeks ahead of its usual period due to the general shortage of time. Much of the summer will be spent in camp; first at Warminster, then Tidworth, back to Warminster, and finally to Catterick Camp where we are taking part in the manoeuvres of the First Corps to be held there in September.

Since the last issue of these notes Major Clayden has rejoined us after a tour as Adjutant to the 9th Battalion; Capt. Chattey has come to us after a period in Aden; Lieut. Beath is back after being away for the most of the last year; and Lieut. Watson has joined us from Sandhurst. We welcome them all, regretting, nevertheless, that in two cases it is to be "Salve Atque Vale." At the same time we are very sorry that Capt. Weller is to retire after so short a stay with the 2nd Battalion. We wish him every happiness and all good luck for the future. Major Heywood we must congratulate on his appointment to the Recruits' Physical Development Centre at Canterbury, where he succeeds Major Proctor, whom we are sorry to lose to The South Lancashire Regiment. Major Musselwhite has gone back to the Royal Air Force again, while Capt. Man we congratulate on his appointment as Staff Captain in Palestine, whither he sails on 16th April.

In the sporting field the Battalion has achieved some success. Though defeated in the fifth round of the Army Cup, our footballers have succeeded in winning the United Services Charity Cup. The boxing team has carried off the Inter-Unit Brigade Boxing Trophy, the "Girdwood" Cup, for the third time, as some sort of recompense for the narrow defeat at the hands of the 2nd Battalion The Gloucestershire Regiment in the Army Competition. We managed to reach the third round of the Army Cup Hockey Competition before defeat. Rugby football has gone along excellently, and though there has been no major inter-Unit contest during the last quarter, nevertheless, the inter-Company competition has produced such a degree of interest that rugby would seem now to have been definitely established in the Battalion. Certainly if the keenness displayed during these games be any criterion, next



season should produce a number of new players.

Thus from a bad beginning I have arrived at what you may believe to be an even worse ending. Still, I will console myself with the thoughts of the much-needed Easter break which is almost on us, and with this pleasant idea before me, I conclude.

#### "A" COMPANY

Before we write on the events of the last quarter we regret to report the departure of our Company Commander, Major C. C. Musselwhite, and while we hasten to congratulate him on his staff appointment he will naturally be greatly missed by all ranks of the Company. Major C. C. Musselwhite took over the Company in September, 1936, at the very difficult time when we were being converted from a Rifle to a Machine Gun organisation. Our sternest critics could not deny the fact that we are an efficient Company and in passing we would like to point out the fact that it was "A" that has so far made the best attempt of any Company in the Regiment to capture the coveted A.R.A. Cup when we were placed second in this competition 18 months ago. We might add that it was only the crisis that prevented us from winning it last year.

Capt. R. W. D. Sword is our new Company Commander, although he himself is no newcomer to the Company. We extend to him our best wishes for a successful command and can assure him that we shall all endeavour to place the Company in a position second to none.

We welcome to the Company, 2/Lieut. J. E. F. Watson from Sandhurst, who has proved a valuable acquisition to our rugby team. Other arrivals include Cpls. Watson and Sibley, and we hope that they will enjoy their stay with the Company.

Another departure we regret to announce is that of our Sergeant-Major, C.S.M. Johnson, who has decided to forsake the sword for the pen. We all wish him the best of everything in civilian life. P.S.M. Gatehouse, in continuing his tour of the Battalion, has left us for "D," but he has still got that wistful look when he passes our block.

Since the furlough period we have been engaged in the various knock-out competitions and we find it best to sum up our efforts as follows:

#### SOCCER

In the first round we were drawn against "H.Q." and everybody but our team said it was only a question of how many goals our opponents were going to get. We confounded the critics by defeating Headquarters by the odd goal in nine, but threw away a golden opportunity of winning the competition by losing to "B" Company 5-4.

#### HOCKEY

Once again we were drawn against "H.Q." and the eventual winners of this knock-out beat us by four clear goals.

#### RUGBY

We have a brighter tale to recount here and one cannot do better than quote the words of "Gunner" who states:

"Company rugby has been very difficult to run owing to the distance our 'home' ground is from barracks. The cost in 'bus fares is 8d. per person per match, and no sports fund can stand that sort of treatment. At present the Inter-Company Knock-out Competition is in full swing and I have great pleasure in relating 'A' Company's following successes. *First round, 'A' v. 'B.'*—After a thrilling game 'A' Company won by 9 points to 8. Both teams played very hard which made up for their lack of skill. Both teams are to be congratulated. *Semi-final, 'A' v. 'D.'*—'A' Company won this game by 5 points to nil, the Company's forwards, having gained a little experience from their game with 'B,' packed down much better and got the ball back to the three-quarters more often. This resulted in some good runs by the three-quarters, which all but proved successful on several occasions. Towards the end of the game, Pte. Flitcroft scored between the posts after a good run by Pte. Rimmer. Pte. Clarke converted. We are now awaiting the result of the match between 'H.Q.' and 'C,' the winners of which we meet in the final. The following were awarded their Battalion Rugby Colours for the season 1938-39: L/Sergt. McDowell and Pte. Clarke (13). The following have represented the Battalion during the season: Capt. R. W. D. Sword, 2/Lieuts. I. F. Campbell and J. E. F. Watson, C.S.M. Johnson, Sergt. Wray, L/Sergts. McDowell and Parry, Ptes. Clarke, Rimmer, Flitcroft, Shaw, and Markham. The following have represented the Company: Capt. R. W. D. Sword, 2/Lieuts. I. F. Campbell

and J. E. F. Watson, Sergts. Wray and Williams, L/Sergts. McDowell, Cummins, and Parry, Ptes. Flitcroft, Clarke, Rimmer, Shaw, Tyler, McDowall, Davis, and Jones. Having come to the end of our tether, all that remains is to wish our opposite numbers abroad the best of luck.

#### "B" COMPANY

The notes for last quarter ended on a note of extreme jubilation, for annual furlough was in the offing: that is now a thing of the past, all the Company reporting back safely and girding up their loins for the sterner business of Individual Training, which was resumed after the Christmas break. Cadres on M.G., M.T., A/T Rifle, and Rangefinder have all been most successfully carried out and we are now busy preparing for the first instalment of training proper, Platoon "H.Q." Training. Incidentally, we have been musing, in our somewhat senile way, on the great increase in knowledge required of the soldiers in these days to what he was expected to know some dozen years ago. Undoubtedly he is worthy of all the improvements and privileges that Mr. Hore-Belisha is giving to him.

Having delivered a vicarious pat on the back to ourselves, we are extremely sorry to relate that Lieut. Willoughby has left us to take over the job of Assistant Instructor at Netheravon. More able pens than ours will bemoan his going, but their expressions of regret will be no more sincere than ours, not only for the gap that has been left in all our Company sports and games teams, but for the loss of an Officer who always had the good of "B" Company very much at heart. We are also sorry to report the departure of Pte. (Aggie) Hall for civilian life, and we extend all the best of luck to him in his new venture. On the credit side we are happy to say that C.S.M. Poulter has decided to stay with us for another year, P.S.M. Davidson has come to us from "C" Company, together with two batches of recruits from the Depot. The well-known "B" "Glad Hand" is stretched out to all of them.

Our good reputation on the football field is being maintained, for the Company team meets "C" Company in the final of the inter-knock-out, while No. 7 Platoon are in the semi-final of the inter-Platoon competition.

We are not going to come over all boastful and boast about what we shall do to our

opponents, but we can assure them that we are more than hopeful.

We were unfortunate enough to lose to "A" Company in the first round of the inter-Company rugby by 9-8, but the struggle was almost epic. We led by 8-6 to within three minutes of time, with a team three-quarters of whom were strangers to the handling code, our opponents being far more experienced. Where everyone played such a valiant part it seems hard to single out any one person, but we must make mention of Cpl. Williams for his hooking and place kick, Cpl. Hudson for his tackling, and Lieut. Clayton for his spoiling tactics. Tries were scored by P.S.M. Davidson and Cpl. Hudson. We wish "A" Company all good luck.

Congratulations are due to Cpl. Hudson who retained his Command bantam-weight title, to L/Cpl. Coleman who came in fourth in the Command cross-country run, and to L/Sergt. Trotobas, Cpl. Hudson, and L/Cpl. O'Brien who have all represented the Battalion at boxing.

Sergt. Knight has just returned from Netheravon having qualified there as an Instructor in Machine Gunnery: to him also we extend our congratulations, while a further need of the same commodity is due to L/Cpl. Barter who is now a Physical Training expert.

Promotions and appointments are too numerous to congratulate singly, but we assure all those who have been fortunate that our old heart is positively bubbling over with good wishes and beautiful thoughts towards them.

Have you glamour? Allure? Are you the sort of man at whom the finger of scorn is pointed for having a skinny body? We refer, of course, to the far-famed, scornful finger of our much-advertised friend, Charles Atlas. But he has nothing on us: not only can we make a man out of you in six days, we can give you grace and rhythm, so that your every movement is sheer poetry. Join our club-swinging and callisthenic class, and, who knows, you may eventually arrive at the centre page of the *Daily Mirror*. The Tidworth Tattoo has had club-swinging and P.T. displays ere this, but, we dare swear, never one like ours.

Time draws on and we must haste us to the Editor with our effusion, crawling in on our middles and apologising for our tardiness. Deep down in our heart is a devout wish that we could walk in like a Warner Bros. film reporter, wearing our disreputable hat, and, taking a Corona from the Editor's private



box, say to him, "Okay, so my column isn't ready: so what! You can't fire me, big shot, I've resigned."

#### "C" COMPANY

The Battalion returned from annual furlough on 15th January, and the 17th saw the commencement of Individual Training which has continued to progress along very smooth lines.

At the moment our interests are divided between preparation for the all-important "H.Q." Training and practice for the part we are to play in the forthcoming Tidworth Tattoo. The combined P.T. and club-swinging should give an added zest to life. Practice for the latter item has been confined to the N.C.O.s of the Battalion up to the present. They have managed to master the intricacies of the art in a remarkably short time, although it has been said that certain individuals have indented for specially-shaped clubs in order to get the necessary clearance for some movements.

Further to our comments in the last issue, a photo of the winning M.G. Cup team has been given the honour of frontispiece in this issue. Those with long memories will notice that the old gunners of "C" played a prominent part. A casual glance at the 1939 A.R.A. Handbook reveals the fact that these stalwarts will no longer be eligible to compete. However, in spite of the amended rules our objective this year will be the replica which is awarded to a team winning for three successive years, so take a hint, youngsters of "C," it's up to you now to carry on the tradition and maintain the high standard that has been set. Before leaving the subject of the M.G. Cup we should like to record that our success was in a very large measure due to the expert coaching and able assistance of Major Reid and Sergt. Maloney, respectively. The junior N.C.O.s of the Company have just completed an "All Weapons Cadre," the duration of which was approximately four months. During that time they were initiated into the mysteries of the following weapons: medium machine gun, light machine gun, A.T. rifle, pistol, and infantry range-finder (B. and S.). The cadre was directed by Major Musselwhite and it is hoped the knowledge gained by the students will prove invaluable in their steady climb up the roll.

Congratulations to the following on obtaining the appointment of Lance-Corporal:

L/Cpls. Bartle, Hunt, Heeks, Quarrell, Scott-Farnie, and Sharp. We hope they will make good in their new sphere.

We also congratulate Sergt. Delaney on maintaining his very high standard of skill on the soccer field, both in the Regimental and Army representative games.

Our collective efforts in this direction have met with fair success. We were eliminated from the inter-Platoon competition, No. 10 Platoon being the last survivors. They managed to reach the quarter finals before going down to No. 5 Platoon.

The inter-Company competition has yet to be decided. We are to meet "B" Company in the final. The next issue will reveal the margin by which we were successful.

We had ambitions of wresting the hockey crown from "H.Q." Company. Unfortunately, three of our stars were missing when the final was decided and we went down fighting, the result being a win for "H.Q." by 3-2.

We welcome Lieut. Beath back to the Company on his return from the Military College of Science. We have missed his prowess on the field of sport. The welcome also extends to Sergt. Bond and Cpl. Keefe, both from across the water. The latter should prove a very useful acquisition in the field of athletics.

Lieut. Allott has retired to the wilderness of Netheravon, there to be instructed in the tactical handling of infantry weapons. As passing out examinations are being discontinued it will be unnecessary to "hunt" a "D." This innovation will no doubt prove very popular; after all, if variety is the spice of life, the regular publication of a succession of "D.s" must necessarily become monotonous.

Lieut. Lyon is at present sick in quarters. We wonder if it can be "Sand Table Fever"? Buck up, sir, get fit and return to your "Model Estate."

We were very sorry to see Pte. White proceed on Vocational Training, but our best wishes go with him for his future success. We hear that Pte. Lowton has landed a plum in "civvy life." Congratulations, Freddie.

In conclusion, the "spring" is calling and your unworthy scribe is possessed of an irresistible desire to adopt the prone position, there to recline in blissful repose, conjuring sweet visions of the ever-alert orderly N.C.O. appearing in the morning with spanner in hand in order that we may have "H. and C." on tap.

In closing we send our best wishes to those across the water and all members away from the station (94 on the Parade State, 24 away from the station, 21 Regimental employed) "I'm up."

CHARLIE.

#### "D" COMPANY

As we go to press, we are rapidly drawing to the close of the Individual Training Season. The square is now being deserted for the wide, open spaces of Portsdown.

After our Easter leave we are taking the sea air at Browndown, where we hope to spend many happy hours on the beach.

We welcome P.S.M. Gatehouse and C.Q.M.S. Snell (second only to Dr. Schacht) who, we understand, wields a wicked coin. At the same time we wish Capt. Man every success in his new appointment as a Staff Captain to a Brigade in Palestine, and also Lieut. Lane who has now left us to join the R.A.O.C.

Cpl. Harris has returned to Colchester as a civilian, and Cpl. Robins, according to the latest news, is now passing through the Red Sea. We wish them both the best of luck.

In the noble art of "fisticuffs," "D" Company was well represented, both in the semi-final of the Army Cup and the "Girdwood" Cup, by Cpl. Lowe, L/Cpl. Bradshaw, Ptes. Kent and Appleby, and Cpl. Rawlinson, and Pte. Izzard also fought in the latter.

Unfortunately, after a strenuous game, we were beaten by "C" Company in the hockey and by "A" Company in the rugby, but the inter-Company soccer still remains to be played and as we have such players as L/Cpl. Flynn, Ptes. Crocker, Fenwick, and Howey we ought to do well.

Pte. Kent had another trial for the Army rugby team, but was handicapped by an injury.

Congratulations to Pte. Douglas on passing out top on a Driving and Maintenance Course at Fort Monckton.

Considering our rather depleted numbers we are doing quite well in the Inter-Platoon Soccer League, No. 14 Platoon leading No. 13 Platoon, with No. 15 Platoon close on their heels. We hope to do better next year when we are up to strength.

Before closing we would like to mention that although mechanisation is rapidly assuming a most important part in our life, we still hear the echo of the hunting horn in "D" Company "H.Q." Tally-ho. Good hunting, all.

#### "H.Q." COMPANY

Another quarter has flown. Another crisis has come and, as yet, we have not been called upon for action so we continue to enjoy our normal peace-time pursuits.

Company Commanders come and go rapidly. Capt. Powell was with us last October, then Capt. Weller took over, Major Heywood looked in for a month or so, and after leave took over again, and as we write Capt. Green is in the process of taking over once more.

Capt. Weller is, we understand, shortly retiring and we would like to take this opportunity of offering him our very best wishes for the future. Sergt.-Major Sherriff, C.Q.M.S. Bishop, L/Cpls. Avery, Pullen, Phipps, and Dmr. Havell have recently left us for civilian life; may the future hold nothing but good in store for them.

Bdmn. Davies and Boys Aylward, Bell-chambers, Cosgrave, Ward, Norris, Plummeridge, Hall, Harrington, Hilkene, and Winsborough left us on 24th February for Hong Kong. We hope they had a good voyage and will enjoy their life abroad.

Lieut. Porter has added Q.M. to his activities lately. We hope Lieut. Pilley is feeling refreshed after a much-needed rest.

In sport we keep our end up very well. We still don't quite know why we allowed ourselves to be knocked out of the Company football, but we pulled off the hockey for the second year in succession, thanks in no small measure to Sergt. Jennings, and we have the two finalists in the inter-Platoon football knock-out.

The Boys have been putting up some excellent boxing. In a battle with the R.A.O.C. half our Boys were isolated, but the spirit was there all the same, and others stepped into the breach to take a hammering, and took it, too! Boy Carvell was awarded a prize for the best loser of the night.

Boys Carvell, Lovell, Roper, and Cox fought for the Battalion in the "Girdwood" Cup and, without doubt, receive a well-deserved mention elsewhere.

Our congratulations to C/Sergt. West on his promotion, and L/Cpls. Hamlin, Gower, Brown, Ash, and Jones (21) on their appointments. Also to Pte. Bennett (86) whose wife presented him with twins, and Dmr. Redding on his marriage.

We will say no more here as further details appear in the various Group Notes.



## BAND

Time has arrived to make a few notes of what has happened in the past three months.

Since returning from leave I am afraid all that has been in our minds has been the Inspection by the Director of Music.

After hours and hours of tedious practice in which scales played a great part the inspection has been held, and we are now awaiting results. It was a great welcome to the members of the 1st Battalion, who have just arrived, to find they were just in time to be present at the inspection.

We must congratulate the Company hockey team on winning the Inter-Company Hockey Shield again this year; once again the Band were well represented. We are maintaining our standard at football and have now reached the final of the inter-Platoon knock-out, when we play the Drums.

Talking of football, we really must not forget to congratulate Bdmn. Phipps on being appointed captain of the Army football team.

Bdmn. Cullen is now at Kneller Hall and we hope he gains plenty of knowledge during his Course. In return we are expecting Bdmn. Platt who has now finished there, and we are waiting to see the sparks flying out of his cornet.

We must congratulate Cpls. Hogg and Phillips and L/Cpls. Gower and Brown on their promotions. We regret to say that Cpl. Phillips has now left us as a result of this promotion; we imagine Company Orderly Corporals feel the loss somewhat, too. We welcome to the Band, Bdmn. Goulding (58), Goulding (60), Grogan, and Merrett, who have joined us from the 1st Battalion, and Pte. Taylor from the Depot, and we are sure they will soon settle down in their new circle. We hope that Bdmn. Davies and the Boys had a good journey to Hong Kong and have now found their feet in the 1st Battalion Band.

It is quite probable that by the time these notes are in print we will have yet another three members of the Band on a V.T.C., namely, Cpl. Stretton, Bdmn. Price and Bones. These are certainly a great loss to the Band, but still, all good times come to an end, and we wish them every success in civilian life.

Before we conclude, we must remember that Boy Dudek has attained that big age of 18 and he is now smoking like a chimney.

LEGATO.

## DRUMS

The time has arrived again when we have to sit and think out what has happened during the last quarter.

In our last Journal Notes we were learning to drive. Now a large percentage of Drummers are proud possessors of driving licences. "Kenny's" reign of terror must surely now be ended and it will in all probability be left to "Wag" to do all the shaking, an art that "Kenny" mastered with a truck in a very short space of time: he was very disappointed because he never could make it do the high jump. Able assistance on our M.T. Cadre was given by two ex-Drummers, Cpl. Humberstone and L/Cpl. Burchell, whom we thank very much.

"Dickey" Bodle has flicked on the dotted line. We understand his credits could not see him finishing, as he has just completed a Driving Course, and the results were definitely in favour of the "Civil" population (Fareham Petty Sessions).

Turning to sport, we have so far convinced the critics that we have a football team of some calibre. In the Platoon League we hold a prominent position which can be bettered before the season is out. Our rivals, the "Sigs.," have strong fancies for the league. Best of luck to them in this respect. The strong fancy of the league and knock-out champions did not go together, as was proved just recently when we knocked them out of the inter-Platoon competition. With Cpl. Jones, our stalwart of many years' standing, we won 4-0. Now we are in the final and a grand battle is expected with the Band. (Look to your laurels, Phipps!) One of our members has recently become entwined in the toils of matrimony. We wonder if he still finds time to push them round. Good luck, "Bob."

Our A.A. Gunners are fast becoming proficient on the Bren Gun, and are hoping to fire a practice at Chickerell Camp at the end of next month. What with first-class instruction from Cpl. Jones and L/Cpl. Drury, we should bring down a whole balloon barrage.

The mechanisation of the Battalion seems to be creeping into the Group: Yes, a big surprise, "Cocker" bought a new bike, or at least he told us it was, until we saw it ourselves: it looked something like the truck "Dickey" was learning to drive, or perhaps it was one of "Archer's" specials.

Rumours are in the air that we go to Plymouth between October and March.

We should like to offer our congratulations to "Wag" and "Ginger" on their promotion to Lance-Corporal, also to Cpl. Humberstone on his new appointment. "Ginger" has not been able to enjoy any privileges from his, having spent some weeks in hospital, but we hope to see his smiling face very soon. Well, it is about time we buzzed off, so we extend our greetings to all drummers abroad and hope they are enjoying life.

## SIGNALS

With annual classification drawing nigh, we are all studiously pegging away, many of us dreaming of our new serge adorned with a pair of silver flags. It has been prophesied that "classo" results this year will gladden the hearts of the A.I.s to such an extent that even the person who asked the length of a short circuit will be forgiven.

The Section has done exceedingly well at football, succeeding in winning the Platoon League, with a goal average that "Hearts" would envy, losing only one game. Not possessing any soccer stars, many members of the "Wing," no doubt, still smarting under the defeat they sustained at our hands, predicted a hasty retreat from the Platoon knock-out for us; but they were proved wrong, as, with shoulders strengthened by the sending of many alphabets by flag and sugar pip, we fought our way to the semi-final, losing to our "bogey" team the "Whistle Blowers" after a very hard fight. (We hope to "shake" them up at athletics.)

We offer congratulations to "Big Harry" on his promotion to full rank, and to L/Cpl. Jones on obtaining that promotion, and hope that they will both scale the promotion ladder very quickly. We also tender the best of luck to those who sat for the coveted First.

Pte. Parker did admirably well in coming tenth in the Army Individual Motor-Cycle Championships and we take this opportunity to commend him. The N.C.O.s of the Platoon are under instruction in club-swinging and are fast becoming exponents of the art, although during the Course many phrases have been uttered that are not in S.T.A.A. when a club comes in contact with a shin-bone.

A reunion of old Signallers is to be held on 1st April and a very enjoyable time is expected, and our members are well prepared for any-

one who tells us of the time smoke signals and jungle telegraphy were in vogue.

Before closing these notes we would like to say that our Signal Officer to be, Lieut. Passy, is at present attending a Course at Catterick and we all wish him the best of luck during his stay in those far-flung regions.

In conclusion, we send our heartiest wishes and best of luck to our brother Signallers of the 1st Battalion.

A Signals' "Smoker," inaugurated by Capt. J. W. A. Stephenson, was held at "Jack Straw's Castle," Hampstead Heath, on 1st April.

In attendance were Majors S. F. Clark and E. L. Heywood, Capt. J. W. A. Stephenson, Lieut.-Quartermaster C. F. Denton, Mr. Horseworthy (a pre-War Signaller of the 2nd Battalion now still serving in the 7th Battalion, T.A.), 20 old Signallers, and seven serving members, some of whom are still with the Signal Section.

It turned out a very successful evening and, after many old and pleasant experiences had been related, it was proposed by our Host (Capt. J. W. A. Stephenson) that these gatherings should in future become an Annual Reunion of Old and Present Signallers of the 2nd Battalion.

It is hoped, therefore, that a greater success will be achieved at the next Annual "Smoker" to be held on the first Saturday in March, 1940, at the Tottenham Drill Hall.

The efforts of Capt. J. W. A. Stephenson in inaugurating this long-hoped-for reunion was greatly appreciated by all.

A telegram was received during the evening from Capt. A. M. Man who was due to sail to Palestine on 6th April. We wish him *bon voyage*.

SMUDGER (45).

## EMPLOYED GROUP

"And some fell by the wayside," and we, the Employed Group, were among that "some" as far as the inter-Platoon football knock-out was concerned. Three of our Platoons went on to the semi-finals but we were defeated by No. 7 Platoon of "B" Company in the first round. After all, the other Companies have a right to compete in this competition.



We must congratulate Pte. Bennett (86) on his increase in strength and hope that he will rear his twins in the true tradition of the Pioneers Shop.

Cpl. Humberstone has taken over the duties of M.T. Corporal from L/Cpl. Burchell, and Pte. Bishop (23) has deserted his job of Company Storeman for that of servant to Major Heywood.

Major Heywood is just about to leave us: his stay has been very short, and all ranks will be sorry to lose him.

Congratulations are due to C.Q.M.S. West on his promotion and we hope his stay with the Company will be a long one.

Major Heywood, C.Q.M.S. West, Sergts. Baker and Wright, and Pte. Tostevin were all members of the Company hockey team which won the inter-Company hockey knock-out for the second year in succession.

So with thoughts of a few days' respite at Easter time we bring these notes to a conclusion with our very best wishes to our friends of the Employed Group of the 1st Battalion.

### BOYS

Once again we have to contribute to our Regimental Journal and so we must rack our brains for important events which have happened in recent months. The first notable event was the splendid performance put up by our Boys in the contest for the "Girdwood" Cup which, I am sure, had a good deal to do with the Battalion winning it. The Boys were represented by Boys Cox, Roper, Carvell, and Lovell, the first three being presented with a cup each, of which, as you see by the photograph, they are very proud. Hard luck, Lovell.

Another outstanding event in the pugilistic world was the contest against the R.A.O.C. Boys. The Marines were unable to find a full team and so word was sent through asking if we could supply them with some light-weights. As the majority of our team was in isolation, we could only scrape together a rather untrained team of beginners, but, nevertheless, a plucky band of young pugilists who, although very much outclassed, went at their opponents "hell for leather" and without ever a hope of winning fought the gallant fight, with the result that our two strapping, young bloods, Boys Brown and Broom, were knocked out. We must congratulate them on such a splendid show of pluck.

The football team has recently broken its record for goals against us, losing its last match against St. Vincent by only 5-1. Incidentally, not many matches have been played lately, and we can only put it down to the fact that teams with whom we should have played have turned down the arranged games because they knew they would win before the match begins! However, perhaps one of these years we will be blessed with a brilliant team and then we'll show 'em.

A wave of hope passed over us not long ago when we read in the papers of a proposed Bill to be passed in Parliament bringing the



"GIRDWOOD" CUP—BOYS' BOXING  
Boys Carvell, Lovell, Roper and Cox

enlisting age down to 17½ years. Probably the nicotine habit was the main reason.

Ahoy! there, 1st Battalion Boys. We challenge you to produce a Boy who can eat more "clacker" at one time than our "Pony" Moore. After he has drawn his pay he is not satisfied until he has every pocket filled with Cadburys and toffee and a spare orange or two awaiting in his locker. He was very peeved when the Boys came back from town to inform him that they could not find a grocer in the vicinity who could get him his required coconut. "Pony" is very fond of coconuts, and I am sure he would not feel out of place up amongst the monkeys in a coconut palm.

L/Cpl. Caney has left us after a stay of 14 months and we heartily welcome his successor, L/Cpl. Gower.

We extend our farewell wishes to the 1st Battalion Boys who sailed to join their Battalion in February. To them, good luck and *bon voyage*.

Dudek has recently started his man service and can now smoke in public. We all wish him good luck.

Hold on, our "Pony Moore" has just bounced in with a bag of ginger cake.

By the time these notes have gone to press Major Heywood will have handed over the charge of the Company to another, and so we take this opportunity to bid him good-bye and wish him good luck.

### SERGEANTS' MESS

We feel that we have something in common with the Jews of old, whose Egyptian task masters required them to make bricks without straw: whereas we are expected to produce a sparkling, nay, effervescent, contribution to this Journal at a time when there is a positive dearth of intriguing news. However, we do not complain, for we feel that our reward will come from our delighted readers.

Introductory paragraph more or less successfully negotiated, we can now proceed to hard facts. We are sorry to record the departure of C.S.M.s Sherriff and Johnson to civilian life. These two personalities will be sadly missed, for they have been prominent figures in the Mess for more years than we care to think about. It is a definite fact that the sales of Guinness have gone down considerably: doubtless the discerning amongst our readers will be able to connect cause with effect. In their place we are glad to say "Hello" to Sergts. Makewell and Williams who are with us for a short time prior to being attached to the Territorial Army.

Congratulations, usually a safe bet for the harassed scribe, seem to be sparser than ever, and the lonely figure of C/Sergt. West stands out to be felicitated on his promotion. We envy the Mess contributor in the last issue who was able to fill most of his notes with a lengthy list of promotions and appointments. If only there were one teeny weeny marriage or birth we could get all gleeful about!

Our monthly dances recommenced after the Christmas break and have all gone with a swing, if we may go all original and coin a phrase. Quite a few of our members can now do a bigger "Big Apple" than was ever dreamed of, and, boy, you should see them "trucking."

Certain members of the Mess may be seen almost daily now, bending and twisting their bodies in preparation for the Tidworth

Tattoo, as well as endangering the bystanders by their prentice attempts at club swinging. Whilst on this subject we hear rumours of the shadowy figures of two prominent W.O.s being seen doubling around the vicinity of Walpole Park in the small hours. We are not normally suspicious by nature, but we now ups and states that there exists in our minds a doubt as to the purity of their motives. Dingling and dearning, we fancy.

The Mess is now the possessor of a very fine table tennis table and appurtenances, and the cloistered calm of our ante-room is now shattered by "ping" and "pong," by shouts of "Net ball" and of "Jammy." We are thinking of sending a team to enter the European championships in about 50 years' time.

Every avenue has now been explored and we feel that it is time to write "Finis." We take this opportunity of sending our best wishes to our opposite numbers in the 1st Battalion, especially to Ramon, whose mellifluous tones will be sadly missed by the single members at breakfast time. No, Harry, we most certainly have not got cloth ears.

### CORPORALS' CLUB

Our activities during the period under review have been somewhat limited owing to alterations to our main room. A new ceiling has been put in and the walls are being plastered. The work is taking some time, but if one may judge from its present progress it should soon be completed, and we should have a much more cheerful abode, and one with less comparison to a barn's interior. Much to the regret of some of our members the billiard table has been out of commission, and one or two have been heard to complain they have just grounds for compensation for loss of revenue, especially as the game of skittles has just been re-introduced.

A table tennis table has been made for us, but we have so far not been able to make use of it. No doubt as soon as the decorators have left us we shall be hearing the merry ping pong of the ball intermingled with the oaths that seem as much a part of the game as of golf. We have several able exponents of the game, and we should be able to form a reasonably good team.

Two darts matches were played against a local hostelry and the members taking part were able to demonstrate their ability to throw a straight dart and to drink a straight pint.



Very little practice in either direction takes place within our walls these days, but results show that members have been keeping their hand in in other quarters as well as in other directions.

Two dances have been held and if one may judge their success by the amount of rebate from the refreshment counter, they were highly popular. Further dances will be held each month until the training season demands that we go to camp.

We regret that we were unable to find teams to represent us at the "At Home" of our Territorial friends in Portsmouth, but we hope to entertain them to a social evening at an early date.

Cpl. Robins has left us for a warmer clime, and to him and to those temporary members from the 1st Battalion who returned with him, we wish a good voyage and the best of luck. To Cpls. Baldwin and Lovell, now on "Voc.," we send our best wishes, and to Cpl. Pryor, in his igloo in the frozen wastes of the North, our felicitations.

We conclude these notes by welcoming to the Club the new members from both Battalions. They are too numerous to name individually, but we know that they will soon find themselves at home.

### FOOTBALL

Once again the fifth round of the Army Cup has provided our Waterloo. Drawn at home against the 9th Regiment Royal Artillery, we had high hopes of appearing at Aldershot in at least the semi-final; but alas, it was not to be.

Our fourth round game against the 1st Battalion The Rifle Brigade resulted in a clear-cut win by 6-0. The goal scorers were L/Sergt. Delaney (3) and Ptes. Baker, Gregory, and Ryder. The game was not such an easy one as the score might indicate, and a large crowd of spectators were given 90 minutes of good, interesting football.

In the following round, played at Portsmouth on 11th February, we were defeated 3-0. An unfortunate goal early in the game had the effect of unsettling our men and the punch which they had displayed in the previous rounds now seemed to be lacking. In trying to make a clearance Cpl. Jones, at left back, kicked the ball hard against an opposing forward whence it rebounded into

the net, giving little or no chance to Crocker in goal. As is so often the case in cup-tie, football the first goal decided the match and although we continued to fight back hard, we could make no headway. Credit must be given to our opponents who played a good clean game. They have a well-balanced side and, at the time of writing, have defeated their semi-final opponents by 5-0.

Having dealt with the bad news we now come to the good. After many years of striving we have at last been successful in winning a trophy. After making such a regular appearance in the final of this competition, we have won the United Services Charity Cup. In the semi-final we defeated R.A.F., Gosport, by the comfortable margin of 5-0. L/Sergt. Delaney once again had a field day, scoring three—Ryder and Vanner were responsible for the other two. In the final, we once more met our old rivals R.A.O.C., Hilsa. The latter team had been playing so well that we had little hopes of beating them, but, once again, Baker, at outside-left, scored the only goal of the match. The standard of play was not so high as at our previous encounters, but we did not look like losing at any period of the game. It was in 1932-33 when an Army side last won this cup and we were glad to have been the victors in what is most likely to be our last season in this district.

We still have an interest in the Gosport Charity Cup, and if we could only add this to our present trophy, we would feel compensated to some extent for our defeat in our major competition. We are still fairly high in the United Services League, where we have few commitments left. We welcome Cpl. Watson, concerning whom we have had good reports from the 1st Battalion, and while we have not yet had a chance of seeing him play, we will, no doubt, be able to call on him for our closing games.

The 2nd XI have not had a regular fixture list this season, but were entered for two cups. The strength of the sides turned out was greatly affected as we had called on so many players for the 1st team games, thus rendering them ineligible for 2nd team fixtures. In the Gosport Junior Hospital Cup they were defeated by 3-1 in the third round; in the U.S. Junior Challenge Cup they were also defeated in the third round, the score this time being 5-1.

Bdmn. Phipps and Pte. Vanner are still being called upon to represent the Army, and we wish both their cap.

### INTER-PLATOON LEAGUE

The football season—as far as the inter-Platoon league, inter-Platoon knock-out, and inter-Company knock-out are concerned—has reached its zenith, and soon the "honours" to be won will have found their resting places. That these will be worthy ones, we have no doubt.

Turning to the inter-Platoon league first, the ultimate "champions" have not yet been found. The best chances of finishing at the top appear to be with the Signals, as they have but three comparatively easy matches to complete their fixtures. They certainly did themselves a good turn by inflicting on the Band their first defeat. This was quite a "needle" match, but the Signallers well deserved their victory. There will doubtless be much enthusiasm in the matches still to be played by the three leading Platoons, since the loss of only a single point by any one of them would be sufficient to jeopardise their chance of being at the head of the league. Our next notes should contain the solution to this intriguing problem.

Having said our say about the leaders a little information about the remainder of the Platoons will not come amiss. With the arrival of drafts from the Depot some teams have been fortunate enough to be able to introduce new and better players. A glance at the league table in our previous quarter's notes as compared with the one appended below, will bear this statement out. Witness the advancement of No. 5 Platoon, for instance. In their last eight matches they have collected 12 points, and this series of successes has carried them to fourth place. On this form they must be seriously considered for potential honours next season. Nos. 14 and 6 Platoons also have improved considerably, the latter having left the "wooden spoon" position to No. 9 Platoon and moved to midway in the table. By consistent good form No. 12 Platoon still maintain their position near the leaders. On the other hand, Nos. 10 and 15 Platoons have lapsed from grace, but we hope this will only be temporary.

Coming now to the inter-Platoon knock-out, this has reached the last stage, and the contestants in the final will be the Band v. Drums. Most creditable of performances is that of the Drums who, with a less number of players than any other Platoon to call upon, have battled their way to the final. On their way they gave the k.o. to the Signals by 4-0, a result that surprised many, including the

writer of these notes. Perhaps the grimmest match of this competition was that between the Band v. No. 7 Platoon (the latter a "hot" tip as ultimate winners); this was only won 3-2, the deciding goal being scored from a penalty in the last 15 minutes. We hope to give the winners of the final before these notes go to press.

The finalists in the inter-Company knock-out competition are "B" Company v. "C" Company. The undoubted surprise of this was the defeat of "H.Q." Company by "A" Company, who deservedly won a hard-fought game by 5-4. "H.Q." Company, with their array of internationals—I beg your pardon!—their array of Battalion and near-Battalion players, were confidently expected to "walk" this and any other obstacle that might arise on the path to the "trophy." As is so often repeated, "There's many a slip," etc. That "A" Company themselves were knocked out by "B" Company in the next round in no way detracts from the merit gained in giving the most formidable team in the competition the *coup de grâce*. It is also hoped to publish the winners with these notes.

The inter-Company league has proceeded in a quiet and unobtrusive way, and is nearing completion. "H.Q." Company are leading by four points from "C" Company and there is no doubt that the eventual winners will be one of these two Companies, with the chances in favour of "H.Q."

Below are the positions in the inter-Platoon league:

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	Pts.
Employed .....	13	10	2	1	73	20	22
Signals .....	12	10	1	1	60	6	21
Band .....	12	9	2	1	55	6	20
5 Platoon .....	15	8	2	5	31	34	18
12 Platoon .....	13	7	3	3	33	31	17
Drums .....	11	7	2	2	35	16	16
14 Platoon .....	14	6	1	7	37	44	13
7 Platoon .....	14	4	3	7	16	26	11
11 Platoon .....	14	5	1	8	20	40	11
6 Platoon .....	13	5	0	8	21	38	10
13 Platoon .....	13	4	1	8	25	33	9
10 Platoon .....	13	4	1	8	22	40	9
15 Platoon .....	14	4	1	9	23	43	9
8 Platoon .....	13	3	3	7	13	48	9
4 Platoon .....	11	3	1	7	23	43	7
9 Platoon .....	11	1	2	8	19	38	4

### HOCKEY

The beginning of the quarter found the Battalion drawn against the Armoured Fighting Vehicle (Driving and Maintenance), Bovington, in the third round of the Army Hockey Cup.



The match was played at Gosport Park early in February. With the assistance of Lieut. E. J. Unwin and Sergt. Elcome from the Depot we were able to turn out a strong side. Our opponents came to us with a good reputation and their particularly fast and clever forward line was led by the Irish International and Army player, Lieut. Cairnes. It was, however, a very close game and we lost by the odd goal in seven, the winner being scored in the last five minutes. The Battalion was represented by the following team: Sergt. Baker; Capt. A. M. Man and L/Sergt. Stickley; Sergt. Etheridge, P.S.M. Chillery, and Sergt. Elcome; Major E. L. Heywood, Cpl. Blan, Lieut. E. J. Unwin, Sergts. Wright and Day.

The inter-Company knock-out was concluded by the middle of March and the results of the various games were as follows:

First round: "H.Q." beat "B" 9-0.

Semi-finals: "C" beat "D" 5-2; "H.Q." beat "A" 4-0.

Final: "H.Q." beat "C" 3-0.

The winning team was: Sergt. Baker; Bdmn. Baker and Grogan; Pte. Tostevin, Sergt. Wright, and Bdmn. Rolfe; Major E. L. Heywood, Bdmn. Cullen, L/Cpl. Butterworth, Cpl. Jones, and C/Sergt. West. Congratulations, Headquarters.

The following have been awarded their Battalion Hockey Colours for the season: Major E. L. Heywood, Capt. A. M. Man, 2/Lieut. I. F. Campbell, P.S.M. Chillery, Sergts. Etheridge, Wright, Day, Baker, and Elcome, L/Sergt. Stickley, and Cpl. Blan.

Finally, we regret the departure of Capt. A. M. Man to Palestine and Lieut. T. G. Symes to West Africa. We wish them the best of luck and sincerely hope that they will enjoy their games "out there" as much as they did when representing the Battalion. Major E. L. Heywood is also leaving us, but we hope to have his assistance in all our important matches.

### RUGBY FOOTBALL

Since the Christmas break the Battalion rugby XV seems to have taken a new lease of life, scoring 108 points against 47.

The forwards worked together with a will, getting the shove in the scrum and, thereby, getting clean heels. This was due to a great extent to the reappearance of Cpl. Williams as hooker. His enforced rest seems to have

improved his hooking and all-round play a great deal.

The halves have been working more smoothly and seem to have struck up a real partnership which is so all-important to the smooth working of the three-quarters.

Pte. Rimmer has been playing fly-half, after an absence through injury of some three months, and has really played well, taking the ball in his stride whilst running flat out.

The three-quarters have also improved out of all recognition, running straight and timing their passes to perfection. It was a real pleasure to watch the back division in some of the matches, several of their moves being quite classic. 2/Lieut. Illingworth (S.R.O.) has turned out for us (when not playing for the Harlequins) and has proved a big asset.

Pte. Clarke has been kicking very well and has surprised many of our opponents by converting frequently from the touch-line.

To deal with the actual matches, we lost nil-8 to the R.A.F., Gosport, with a very depleted team who put up a very game fight and actually kept their line intact until the last five minutes.

Then we played G.T.C., Redbridge, with an "A" team. We won 8-7 after an even game played in a howling gale and a drizzle, Pte. Clarke converting a try from the touch-line.

Next we played H.M.S. *Excellent* and gave a really good account of ourselves, being just beaten 8-11. This was a most heartening result after the display against them last October. The team played really hard and had very bad luck in not scoring in the last 10 minutes.

We completed our first double over Portsmouth, winning 6-nil, the team going really hard for the whole game with no easing up.

Thorney Island defeated us 12-nil but, unfortunately, we could only produce a very weak side. However, the reserves gave a very creditable display.

We turned out a fairly strong "A" XV to play the E.R.A.'s 2nd XV and proved much too strong for them, scoring as we liked. The final score was 49-nil; a Battalion record. It is worthy of mention that Pte. Clarke scored 21 of these—two tries, one penalty goal, and six conversions.

R.A.F., Odiham, came down with a good reputation and we accordingly turned out as strong a team as possible. The team played magnificently and won easily, 27-nil,

the halves and three-quarters giving a textbook display.

We lost a very close game by 7-6 with the E.R.A.'s 1st XV due chiefly to our inability to heel the ball in the set scrums. Unfortunately, Cpl. Williams was unable to play and his absence was badly felt.

We have one remaining fixture and that is with The King's Own Scottish Borderers. This should prove an excellent match as we are determined to avenge our Army Cup defeat. [We did—Ed.]

The Company knock-out competition has been started and seems headed for a great success. So far "A" Company, the favourites, have beaten "B" Company 9-8 after a great struggle. "B" Company put up a great show and actually led by 8-6 until a few minutes from time.

The semi-finalists are "A" v. "D" and "C" v. "H.Q." The final is being played on 30th March.

The season has been fraught with many difficulties through absence of vital players on Courses, etc., but a great deal of ground work has been got through with the learners and we shall reap the benefit next year and be able to produce two regular XV.s.

### BOXING NOTES

On 24th January the Battalion met the 2nd Battalion The Gloucestershire Regiment in the Army Inter-Unit Championships, Semi-Final Group, Stage C. This turned out to be a most thrilling match, the Gloucesters winning by one point. At the interval the teams were level and each won three of the subsequent six fights to put them in the same position again. All depended on the last fight, but the opposing first string welter-weight was too clever and took the verdict. It is interesting to record that the Gloucesters won the Command Championship and reached the final.

The following represented the Battalion: bantam-weight—Cpl. Lowe; feather-weight—Cpl. Hudson and Sergt. Wray; light-weight—Ptes. Markham, Christian, and Appleby; welter-weight—Pte. O'Brien, Cpl. Morley, Ptes. Shaw and Bradshaw; middle-weight—L/Cpl. Chapman, L/Sergt. Trotobas and Dmr. Dench; light-heavy-weight—Pte. Kent; heavy-weight—Pte. Izzard.

On 31st January the Royal Marines and the Battalion took part in a Boys' Boxing Competition against the R.A.O.C., at Hilsea Barracks.

The following Boys represented the Battalion: Boys Broom, Brown, Carvell, Chalgrave, Cosgrave, McCann, and Sands. Boy Carvell was awarded the Best Loser's Cup for a very plucky fight.

The 9th Infantry Brigade Inter-Unit Boxing Competition for the "Girdwood" Cup took place on 23rd and 24th February in the



"Girdwood" Cup Team, 1939

Garrison Gymnasium, Portsmouth. The following Units competed: 2nd Battalion The Lincolnshire Regiment, 2nd Battalion The Middlesex Regiment, 1st Battalion The King's Own Scottish Borderers. At the close of the first night's boxing the Battalion team was level with the K.O.S.B.s with 26 points each. The Lincolns, the cup-holders, were three points behind. There was great excitement



Belt Holders, 1938/39

on the finals night when it turned out to be a race for points between the Battalion and the K.O.S.B.s. The final score was as follows: The Middlesex Regiment, 42 points; The K.O.S.B.s, 41 points; The Lincolnshire Regiment, 38 points. We have now won the "Girdwood" Cup three times.

L/Cpl. Chapman and Cpl. Hudson entered for the Command Individual Championships.

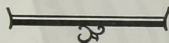


Cpl. Hudson retained his bantam-weight title. The same N.C.O.s entered for the Army Individual Championships and gave a good account of themselves.

The following represented the Battalion in the "Girdwood" Cup Boxing Competition: Boys' fly-weight—Boy Cox; Boys' bantam-weight—Boy Carvell; Boys' feather-weight—Boy Lovell; Boys' light-weight—Boy Roper; bantam-weight—Cpl. Lowe; feather-weight—Sergt. Wray and Cpl. Hudson; light-weight—

Ptes. Markham and Bradshaw; welter-weight—Ptes. Taylor, Shaw, and O'Brien; middle-weight—L/Cpl. Chapman; light-heavy-weight—Pte. Kent; heavy-weight—Cpl. Rawlinson.

The season has been a good one and it was most unfortunate that our luck was out in the Army Inter-Unit Championships. Next year we shall have a younger team and, with the keenness shown this year, we hope to have an even better attempt at the Army Cup.



## ACROSS NORTH AMERICA BY MOTOR CAR

### FIRST INSTALMENT

IN August, 1938, I was to join the Directing Staff of the Militia Staff Course for Western Canada at Calgary, Alberta. The opportunity of seeing more of Middle and Western Canada, and also of extending the journey to take in part of the United States, was too attractive to miss. I decided, therefore, to travel by car, for this would give more freedom of movement and reduce expenses, and to take my wife and daughter with me, to ensure good fortune.

The general course of our travels is shown on the map overleaf. Including local trips for fishing and sightseeing, the total mileage reached 9,500, and, with three weeks' stay between Calgary and Banff, the journey extended over eight weeks.

The car, a 30 h.p. 1937 Chevrolet, was specially tuned up for her approaching trial, and a good deal of care was expended in other necessary preparations; for we had to be ready for extremes of heat and cold, and for high and low altitudes.

Our kit, however, stowed away more or less comfortably, and, on the morning of 28th July, we drove out of Kingston.

I should mention here that there is yet no "through" road north of the Great Lakes. The ordinary route is over the excellent United States roads via Detroit, Chicago and Duluth, and thence north-west to Winnipeg. We were anxious, however, to see something of the wilder part of Ontario and decided, therefore, to run north-westwards to Sault Ste Marie. This would touch the fringe of the less populated northern part of the Province, and the road was reported doubtful. The risk turned out to be well worth while.

Our first day took us through the region of the Rideau Lakes and then north-westwards along the Ottawa River valley—a lovely drive over good roads. To the west of the military camp at Petawawa a gravel road replaced the paved highway, but it was well graded and was not unpleasant going.

Running along the northern edge of Algonquin Park, the country either side was wild and beautiful. Rocky, heavily-wooded hills stretched steeply down towards the Ottawa River. Here and there a chain of lakes, linked by rushing streams, made us stop to enjoy their

charm. Strange as it may seem in these days, we were able to pass the turning to Callander, the home of the Dionne quintuplets, without a qualm. Then, after a pleasant drive along the northern shores of Lake Nipissing, we stopped for the night at Sturgeons Falls, where the Windsor Hotel made us most comfortable.

From Nipissing to Sault Ste Marie was not so easy or pleasant. Except for one stretch of excellent paved highway, the road was generally bad and in places shocking. Heavy construction was in progress in several places, and we were lucky to get over the detours in the woods. Indeed, storms would have held us up badly. Around Sudbury lies an extensive mining area, mostly copper, a very ugly, uninviting locality. As a well-known lake harbour and port of entry, and the end of the navigable road on the Canadian side, Sault Ste Marie was a disappointing town. The locks, however, were splendid and impressive, and the harbour facilities good. Our hotel windows commanded the passage, and the number of ships moving down showed clearly the busy character of the traffic. Mileage to "the Soo" was 600.

Now in the U.S.A., the road took us through rather flat, wooded, monotonous, but not unpleasant country, forming the peninsula between Lakes Superior and Michigan. Generally more heavily populated than Western Ontario, much of it was State preserved forest. In contrast to our previous days' experience, the roads were paved and excellent to drive along. We spent a night at Ironwood on the fringe of a vast iron and industrial area and so into Duluth. This is an unattractive, workaday city lying along the south-east face of a fairly high bank (in its Yorkshire sense). However, the hotel was an excellent stopping place and we enjoyed a first-rate lunch there.

Our experience of gravelled roads and pressure of time made it advisable now to continue the journey on the U.S.A. side of the frontier. All information confirmed that the country either side was very similar, but necessity to jettison our visit to Winnipeg was a deep regret.

There is little to describe on our long journey across the prairies, and the road, in the absence of Buffalo and Sioux Indians, was often indeed monotonous. As we passed westwards through Minnesota the hills and dales flattened out, the forests gave place to woods, the woods to trees and the villages and farms became more scattered. Mixed crops gave place more and more to wheat.



## ACROSS NORTH AMERICA BY MOTOR CAR

(The general course of the journey is indicated by the black line)



Leaving behind us the "Badlands" in Eastern North Dakota—sour, dead land, and salt lakes—we could almost trace our track westwards by the groups of wheat elevators every 20 to 30 miles along the railway. The heat, up to 100° F., was quite trying at times, particularly with a following wind. The roads deteriorated, and grasshoppers became a real nuisance. All over Western North Dakota and Eastern Montana their numbers developed into a plague, which this year ruined two-thirds of a fine crop. We were forced to protect the radiator and windows of the car with screens. However, the endless miles of billowing golden wheat made a sight for wonder, for in this area it was not a year of drought. Montana, which came to U.S.A. with the Louisiana purchase, enjoys marked and vigorous characteristics. The rolling wheat fields gave way gradually to coarse grass ranges, cut by sharply indented creeks in which nestled scattered ranches—the cattle country. Not a tree was to be seen except in these creeks or in a few wide river beds such as those of the Missouri and Milk Rivers. Stopping overnight in an old-time "cattle town" we heard of the great bygone days of these ranges, and exciting times they must have been. No paper money here. We paid for our drinks in silver dollars!

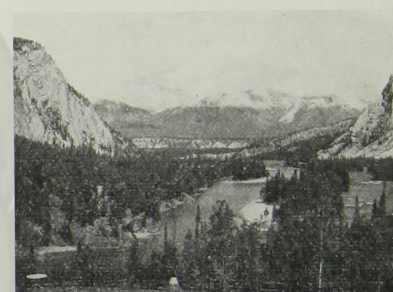
The further we drove to the west, the more rugged and hilly the country became. Until, on 4th August, we neared the foothills and had our first view of the vast Rocky Mountain Range. What pleasure to be once more amongst the hills! We passed through the



The Bow River, looking west towards the Rockies, from the Stoney Indian Reserve

reserve of the once proud Blackfoot Indians about Browning, the road getting gradually steeper and the air deliciously cool and fresh, and spent a luxurious night at the Glacier Park Hotel amongst the eastern-most peaks.

Though the atmosphere may have been a little too "tourist" for most Englishmen, there is good trout fishing in stream and lake within easy reach, and also stalking (or "hunting" as they call it here) for deer, bear and mountain lion (a type of puma). The drive



Looking down the Bow River, from the Banff Springs Hotel

next day northwards along the eastern foothills was indeed beautiful. We were fortunate in having good, clear, sunny weather, and a fine road right up to Calgary. Turning westwards there the road followed the Bow River, whose water is of a vivid copper sulphate blue, through foothills rather like West Somerset country, past the Stoney Indian Reserve to Banff. Across the Ghost River, about 50 miles west of Calgary, the wild grandeur of the Rockies opens up. One is dominated by the vast forests of birch, spruce and fir and by the great jagged rock faces reaching up towards the snow caps.

We stayed one night at the famous Banff Springs Hotel and enjoyed the splendid rooms and facilities. Next day we moved into a pleasant, small hotel in the town.

Banff is 6,000 feet up and, at this time, decidedly cool. So a certain amount of acclimatisation may be necessary for some constitutions.

Having 36 hours to spare, I got into touch with a local guide and was fortunate enough, on 7th August, to kill eight nice speckled trout (a beautiful "char") before breakfast. Fishing amongst such scenery and wild surroundings was an experience which I shall never forget. The trip involved being out on the water at dawn to get the "rise," and a paddle by canoe across the Bow River and up a tributary. We passed a number of beavers busily at work on their lodges.



On 8th August, having settled my family comfortably in Banff, I took the road eastwards to Calgary, and for the next few days was busy with Major Bradbrooke, the Staff Officer for that district, preparing the exercises for the



Lake Moraine, Alberta Rockies

Militia Staff Course. There is no space in this record to describe the Staff Course. It must suffice here to say that there was a good deal of valuable work done and a good deal of fun, too. We all enjoyed the kindness and hospitality of the Strathcona's Horse, with whom we lived, and the people of Calgary to the full.

Calgary is a small but pleasant city lying to the east of the foothills, by the Bow River. It is surrounded by a fine wheat and cattle country and provides excellent sport in fishing, shooting and riding for those who care to look for it. We were very disappointed to miss the Stampede, at which riders from all parts of North America compete, and there is a fine show of stock. However, Mr. Richardson, who runs the Stampede, very kindly explained it all to me, also showed me the stock yards, which were not very full at that time.

I was able to rejoin my family in Banff for week-ends, and, in spite of the cold weather, much enjoyed the place.

It was interesting to notice how attention is rapidly turning towards the north, with the development of the industrial and mining areas about the Slave Lakes, and the facilities

provided by air transport. To the southward, also, the Turner valley oilfields are reaching higher production. In fact the activities are no longer confined to the old east and west axis.

At the end of August we sent Ann, the daughter, back to Kingston, and my wife and I resumed our travels westwards. The road through the Rockies was magnificent, particularly in the Kicking Horse Pass. In places the road narrowed dangerously, hugging the steep cliff face, around which it was carried on wooden struts. There was, therefore, no question of fast running in the mountains. There is no road yet through the Selkirk Range, so we loaded the car on a truck from Golden to Revelstoke and enjoyed a very pleasant four-hour ride by rail. The route to the south, over the Crows' Nest Pass, would have meant too long a detour. The construction of this vital artery is indeed a masterpiece of railway engineering.

Once in British Columbia we found the roads gravel and poor. A so-called "wash-board" formation caused by use of a four-wheeled grader made it impossible to drive between speeds of 10 and 40 miles per hour with any comfort, and corners prevented all but the hardest natives from exceeding 40 m.p.h.

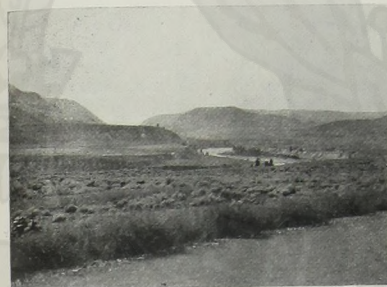
From the Selkirk Range westwards the country becomes gradually lower and more arid. The road followed the South Thompson River to Kamloops, the centre of activity of this part of British Columbia. With two, or three days to spare, we settled down at Paul



Looking Northwards in the Kicking Horse Pass

Lake, twelve miles north of Kamloops, a charming and very comfortable lodge, and enjoyed some glorious fishing. The fish were all "Kamloops Trout," of the Rainbow

family, in splendid condition and running up to 8 lbs. At this time of the year the fishing was all lake and boat. For the best sport, a good guide is essential for a stranger.



The Thompson River in the Arid Belt, B.C.

We left our kind friends at Paul Lake with many regrets and followed the Thompson River, through the dry, semi-desert country of the arid belt, to its junction with the rushing Fraser River at Lytton. Here we joined the old Caribou trail. The roads improved but gave us some awkward moments here and there round the steep cliff faces. After Lytton we ran once more amongst the great mountains. We found the coastal range grim and fine, but nothing like so beautiful as the Rockies and the Selkirks. However, as we dropped down the Fraser Canyon, mists became heavier, and a good deal of smoke from the extensive forest fires to the north hampered our views.

For this reason we did not see Vancouver at its best. Nevertheless, we had a very pleasant stay there, shepherded by Major Spankie of the District Staff and his wife.

The seaport city, which is developing extensively, rests underneath the lee of enormous wooded mountains, and surrounds a marvellous harbour. We had a good view of the large Japanese fishing fleet.

The passage to Victoria is no more than four hours and is a very beautiful one. Here we found ourselves amongst large numbers of retired British Service people and American visitors. Much of the island is undeveloped still. It consists chiefly of heavily wooded hills and valleys, with deep inlets here and there. There is good fishing, both salmon and trout, although the salmon fishing is practically all estuary trolling. The trout which I saw were all "cut-throat." Like Vancouver,

there is a fairly large foreign element in the population, chiefly Chinese and Japanese. The defences are in process of considerable reorganisation and extension. In Victoria, I delivered the last of my lectures, with much relief. We then shipped the car for Seattle to continue our travels southwards.

The voyage through the Straits of Juan de Fuca was lovely, with the snow-capped Olympic Peninsula to the southward. Spending only the night at Seattle we saw little of the city and harbour, making pace to reach the Pacific coast without delay. After leaving Portland we entered the magnificent farm and fruit country of Northern Oregon, smelt the enlivening "sea tang" once more, and hit the coast at Otis. The principal activity appeared to be lumber but there were fishing villages here and there, and we enjoyed the fresh fruit



Pacific Coast near Newport, Oregon

and fish to the full. The coast is grim and grey and has few harbours. The drive southwards over beautiful roads was, however, very pleasant. South of Eureka we ran into vast groves of the enormous, aged "Red-Wood" fir trees. Their dominating hugeness gave us an eerie feeling of primeval survival. They would have been felled by the lumber jacks long before now, had not various philanthropic organisations combined to protect them. One hundred and fifty miles north of San Francisco the road left the coast and the atmosphere inland became insufferably hot. The lumber work gave place to extensive fruit farms all along the Santa Rosa valley. We struck the sea mist, unfortunately, north of the Golden Gate and this veiled almost completely the beautiful approach to this attractive city.

We spent two or three days wandering around San Francisco, deeply attracted by its



individuality and "Latin" character. The lack of activity in the harbour was unexpected. From there southwards town and country showed the influence of the old Spanish Colony. Many of the beautiful Spanish Missions still thrive.



A grove of California 'Red-Woods'

The exquisite Santa Barbara was an outstanding example of this Spanish atmosphere, and the El Paseo market centre there was a veritable slice of Spain.

The amenities of Oregon and California have been carefully safeguarded for the future by the establishment of numbers of extensive "National Parks." Indeed, this principle has been carried through in all the States through which we travelled.

It is difficult to describe our reactions to Los Angeles, the next port of call. It has all the signs of "mushroom growth," and yet there are many beautiful suburban-type properties and houses in the residential localities such as Beverly Hills. There are luxurious and expensive hotels and beautiful shops. On the other hand, there are wide areas of bungalows and waste land and a squalid commercial

quarter. Hot dry hills enclose the city on the north and north-east, Pasadena and San Bernardino fruit country lie to the east, and the various well-known beaches to the west. On the south side are extensive oilfields, giving almost the impression of a forest, and the port of Wilmington. All appear forced to live "in the lime-light." The general atmosphere seems fictitious and the sense of values upside-down. Probably this is due to the influence of the motion-picture industry and its extraordinary devotees. We were taken all over Paramount Studios, by the kindness of Mr. Eugene Zukor, whose interests and conversation, curiously enough, seemed chiefly occupied with the European situation. Another friend showed us the "high-lights" of Hollywood, took us to dine at the Coconut Grove, the Brown Derby, and the Victor Hugo, and on to the Clover Club, where we saw a number of well-known characters at leisure. However, the weather was getting hotter (already 95°, and airless), the city was rapidly filling with



SANTA BARBARA  
In the Municipal Centre

hilarious and curiously dressed members of the American Legion, whose convention was shortly to take place, and the news from Europe appeared grave indeed. We decided to make for home.

Los Angeles was the farthest point of our journey. It was now 16th September; we had been (excluding the three weeks in Calgary) a month on the road, and completed 6,000 miles.

(To be continued)

## DEPOT NOTES

THE stormy variations of the political barometer have had no radical effects, so far, on life or training at the Depot. The C.O., it is true, is at present away on an important Command Exercise at Oxford to be followed by an even more elaborate W.O. one, and it is believed that their object is to study the best way of frustrating another "1066 and all that." Lieut. Allen is also attending a similar one shortly, destined, presumably, to get the young idea on the subject. Otherwise, the darkened horizon has not been allowed to ruffle the even flow of Depot activities.

Three successful all ranks' dances have been held during this quarter, and also a Corporals' dance.

Early in February the annual boxing match took place between the Depot and the 7th Battalion. It was held this year at the Depot and resulted in a narrow win for the latter, Col. Pringle afterwards giving away the prizes.

For the fifth round of the Army Cup the Depot turned out some 90 supporters. These filled three charabancs and the only regret was that we should have been unable to cheer the Home Battalion to victory. However, an enjoyable time and a pleasant outing was had by all.

The Regiment was well represented at the Levee this year by all Battalions. General Heath made the presentations. The meeting at the J.U.S.C., both before and after, was quite a gathering of the clans. Further particulars may be found in this number in Officers' Club Notes.

We were all extremely sorry to lose Major and Mrs. Worton, who left for China with their family at the end of February. Major Worton's influence on the sporting life of the Depot was most marked, notably at cricket and golf, and his departure is sadly felt. The Quarter at the end of the Officers' Mess stands empty now and the little garden seems strangely deserted and still.

Sergt. Williams left the Depot in March and we were distressed at the tragic circumstances of his going. Mrs. Williams, after a long illness of over six years, passed away on 27th February, 1939. We know that the bereaved will have many sympathisers both at home and overseas.

Happily, Sergt. Williams has now been selected as a Signalling Instructor to the

7th Battalion Middlesex Regiment and has already gone to Gosport to "punch up."

In his place we welcome Sergt. Bullock. We hope he may be able to give the tip to some of the rising generation as regards throwing the hammer, later in the year.

Lieut. Anson spent his last few days at the Depot before embarking for Hong Kong. Having hacked much of his way home, he was scheduled to return in a class known as "Colonist" through Canada, and Asiatic 3rd across the Pacific. His baggage was duly organised to meet these ends.

It is hoped that he finally reached his destination without undue inconvenience, and that his projected liaison with our allied Regiments duly materialised.

Lieut. Beadnell has also been paying a number of visits here and after one of these he announced his engagement. We offer him hearty congratulations.

2/Lieut. Illingworth, of the S.R., Mrs. Worton's nephew, recently completed his Depot training and has now left for the Battalion. In his place we have 2/Lieut. St. George, who is likewise "going through" with his Preliminary S.R. Training.

2/Lieut. Watson spent a week here on first appointment. All those who knew "Watto" in Moascar will be glad to know that this chip of the old Brigade Major has been with us. He went on to the 2nd Battalion where we wish him luck.

Lieut. Pilley has been having a well-earned holiday here. He arrived looking a trifle battered by fair wear and tear, but we hope to exchange a renovated article to the Battalion shortly. Already he has responded well to the air of Mill Hill, helped by Sanatogen, vitamin D, bismuth, and occasional healthy gusts from the gas works.

The various R.A.O.C. Stores and ammunition dumps which have been springing up around the cricket ground are showing an even more mushroom-like growth since early March, when the Express Dairy lands on the north side of the Depot were all bought up by the War Office.

As usual in these cases the work went on day and night, and in a matter of hours, rather than days, the view from the Library windows of the surrounding lands had become completely transfigured. The interior of barracks, too, is coming in for a few minor R.E. onslaughts.

Where nature is undisturbed, however, there are plentiful indications of spring.



Procter's Folly is sprinkled liberally with crocuses and wild hyacinths, and the drives are colourful with primroses and daffodils.

The chestnut trees are bursting into bud, a sight welcome to all, unless, possibly, the far-sighted Mr. Caterer, who already associates this phenomenon with his barrow and his broom.

#### SERGEANTS' MESS

It is with the deepest regret that we record the death of the wife of Sergt. A. Williams. No printed word can express the sympathy of all friends of "Tich," but we feel sure he understands the genuine sorrow of all who knew his wife. The Mess has also lost Sergt. Williams who has gone to the Battalion for a month prior to taking over the "Terriers" at Hornsey. Their gain is our loss, for he was an excellent Mess member and a grand sportsman in every sense of the word.

He has been relieved by Sergt. S. Bullock, at present on leave. We extend our greetings with a hope that he will be as comfortable here as in the Battalion. Incidentally, it is noted with satisfaction in view of the approach of sports day that an invincible tug-of-war team is rapidly being built up.

The whist drives continue to be successful. In February there were eight and a half tables, while in March there were seven and a half. Possibly there was too much "flirtation," but the refreshments were excellent, and the concentration over clicking billiards balls was superb. This latter virtue may account for the predominance of ladies in the prize list, since it is generally agreed that few ladies listen to anybody else. The prize-winners were:

*February:* 1, Mr. Wilcockson; 2, Mrs. Housden; 3, Mrs. Goodall and Sergt. Housden (equal).

*March:* 1, Mrs. Wilcockson; 2, Mr. Burt; 3, Mrs. Burt; Booby, Mrs. Franklin.

Our long-awaited return games tournament with the Corporals has taken place. It was preceded by a hockey match in the afternoon. For a reason which will later be apparent, here is the team: Sergt. Williams; R.Q.M.S. Goodall and C/Sergt. Franklin; S.I. Rogers, Sergt. Selfe, and S.I. Duncan; Sergts. Kruck and Tiller, C.S.M. Hazeldine, and Sergts. Boen and J. Smith. We bullied our way to victory by 5-3. "Skipper" Boen was a revelation, most of his shots, and there

were many of them, nearly braining our opponents' goal-keeper. Incidentally, it is rumoured that a certain Battalion side flatters itself on its average service. A little research into ancient history will reveal a startlingly high average for the team printed above; it is about 17 years. By dropping the wing halves (complete Gugs) this could be greatly improved. We should be greatly interested to hear of a side, which has actually played, to beat this record. The tournament in the evening was eventually won by us, but so close were the scores that there is no point in recording them. As we knew intimately the hazards on our own billiards table our opponents, perhaps, had no real chance. The important point was, however, that everybody had an enjoyable evening. It is to be hoped that it will not be the last.

The annual dinner was held on 6th January. Ninety-eight members and their guests were present and the large attendance was the probable cause of the improved standard of the speeches. The opportunity was taken to bid official farewell to Sergt. and Mrs. A. Mason. He is going to the A.V.T.C. in March. The R.S.M., in proposing his health, said everything there was to be said, so that "Alf" will forgive us if we do not "gild the lily." Much amusement was caused by the remarks of R.Q.M.S. Goodall who, although unprepared for the honour of toasting the "Visitors," did so excellently. Messrs. Hibbard and Denchfield, amid much heckling, suitably replied.

At the quarterly dinner in March we said *bon voyage* to Sergt. and Mrs. R. Wilson. Once more the R.S.M. very fully described the virtues of Wilson, and it is unnecessary for those who know "Tug" to have them re-told. To both the Mason and Wilson families we offer our best wishes for a smooth journey in this troubled world. After the customary remarks, this time by C.Q.M.C. Franklin and Mr. Graver, an excellent dance was held.

A party of 23, as forecast in our last notes, went to Sandhurst and, from all reports, had a great time. The writer of this letter was not present, so that imaginations must be drawn upon in order to get a complete picture of the wonderful scene and the tired journey's end next morning at "Reveille."

We learn that the 1st Battalion is to move to Malta. It is to be hoped that it will not be a jump from the frying pan into the fire. However, from all accounts they can still look

after themselves very well. Perhaps Britain's Mediterranean problems are in safe keeping.

We conclude with good wishes to all ranks at home and abroad for a continued peaceful existence, together with all the stable information for the Derby, to which we will be sending a contingent, not to guard the winner, but to find it.

#### CORPORALS' CLUB

Once again your roving reporter brings you news gathered from far and near. The order has been published, "Notes in by Tuesday." Orders are orders, so on your marks.

First we must state our regrets on losing Cpl. Bint (Big-hearted Bindle) and L/Cpl. Chambers (Grapevine Charlie) to vocational training; we simply cannot understand people asking for hard work. "Big" handed over his position as chief Down Homer to Cpl. Morley who, we understand, is carrying out these sacred duties in a most amazing fashion aided by his stalwarts "Rudge Sticks," "Fulham Bill," and "Ariel Spot." They do tell us that wedding bells are going to ring in Edmonton and Tottenham soon. Poor old "Sticks," poor old "Spot," they were such free-and-easy fellows, too.

We welcome L/Cpl. Harvey and our old friend L/Cpl. Wells, and hope they will enjoy their stay. L/Cpl. Harvey should, for he immediately joined the ranks of the Down Homer Section. Can that man ride a "bike"? Phew!

In January and February we ran coaches to Gosport to support the 2nd Battalion soccer team in the fourth and fifth rounds of the Army Cup. In the fourth round they won and on our return journey we were "pinched" by a zealous Petersfield "Bobby" for having interior lights out in the coach whilst travelling the King's highway. In the fifth round we didn't get "pinched," but the Battalion lost after a hard game. We congratulate the team on an excellent show and wish them better luck next time.

Once again we journeyed to the Cock Tavern to show the Edmontonians how to sling a nifty arrow. After a very good fight it was left to the maestro of the feathered flights (Fulham Bill) to keep our record intact. (One's wanted, Bill.)

On 20th February, the Depot W.O.s and Sergeants entertained us to a social in the Sergeants' Mess. A very enjoyable evening

was spent by all, thanks to the efforts of R.S.M. Newman who saw that we were well supplied with the wine of life. The plate-crashing efforts of C.Q.M.S. Franklin and Sergt. Harper also caused much laughter and amusement. The evening's entertainment consisted of games of billiards, snooker, darts, and cards, not forgetting that Chinese game of euchre. The result of all games when totalled up was a win to the Sergeants. C.Q.M.S. Franklin and Sergt. Harper were invincible at euchre. They were the only two who knew how to play this game, anyway.

In the afternoon of the same day the Corporals played the Sergeants at hockey. They wiped us up, only because L/Cpl. Hatherly was too small though. (Sorry, Punch, no offence.)

As regards sport we have a few representatives of the Depot soccer team, namely, Cpl. (Yiddle) Morley, who has the honour of being captain of an unbeaten team. Cpl. Peasley also gives a hand (or should I say a leg?) to the team. Both these N.C.O.s have played on several occasions for the Depot team which, on present form, should hold the record of not losing a game throughout the season.

Cpl. Hockley spends most of his time lying over the billiards table making wonderful strokes with the cue and muttering to himself over and over again, "All on the pink, all on the pink." Any one is welcome to play our George. He is sure to lose, anyway.

Cpl. Peasley went to Tidworth last month to flatten out a few of their hills; he managed all but five of them. Keep trying, "Sticks," one of these days you will win that race (we hope).

Once a month swing reigns supreme at Mill Hill. Reason! Our monthly Mess dances which have proved very popular. We did hear that the local lovely lovelies sit in at nights waiting for their invitations.

Can anybody tell us how to dance the Tiger Rag? Uncle Bill wants to know. Drop me a post card. Stamp on it with the left foot and address it to "Sticks," Llim Llih, Nodnol, 7.W.N.

In conclusion, Mess members wish to extend their deepest sympathy to Cpl. Palmer on his sad bereavement and great loss.

#### STICKS.

Winners of Squad Badges and Shooting Spoons were:

*El Boden Squad:* Twentieth Week Test.—Winner, Pte. Bird; runner-up, Pte. Groves.

*Alma Squad:* Twentieth Week Test.—Winner, Pte. MacAlister; runner-up, Pte. Jones.



*Mysore Squad*: Twelfth Week Test.—Winner, Pte. Bathie; runner-up, Pte. Goozee. Sixteenth Week Test.—Winner, Pte. Bathie; runner-up, Pte. Goozee. Twentieth Week Test.—Winner, Pte. Goozee; runner-up, Pte. Withers.

*Mons Squad*: Twelfth Week Test.—Winner, Pte. Power; runner-up, Pte. Willard. Sixteenth Week Test.—Winner, Pte. Power; runner-up, Pte. Willard. Twentieth Week Test.—Winner, Pte. Willard; runner-up, Pte. Power.

*Ypres Squad*: Fourth Week Test.—Winner, Pte. Bradford; runner-up, Pte. Mansfield. Eighth Week Test.—Winner, Pte. Desborough; runner-up, Pte. Bradford. Twelfth Week Test.—Winner, Pte. Desborough; runner-up, Pte. Bradford. Empire Test Shooting Spoon.—Pte. Cross. Table "A" Shooting Spoon.—Pte. Clapp.

*Nivelle Squad*: Fourth Week Test.—Winner, Pte. Whitehead; runner-up, Pte. Budden. Eighth Week Test.—Winner, Pte. Whitehead; runner-up, Pte. Budden. Twelfth Week Test.—Winner, Pte. Whitehead; runner-up, Pte. Budden. Empire Test Shooting Spoon.—Pte. Whitehead. Table "A" Shooting Spoon.—Pte. Lee.

*Albuhera Squad*: Fourth Week Test.—Winner, Pte. Richards; runner-up, Pte. Carran.

## JENKYN'S LION

"STRAIGHT between the eyes I got him and he rolled over at my feet dead as mutton. The old .470 is a good gun and, though I say so, there was a good man behind it," Linton impressively concluded his longest lion story.

"Vell, I've shot lions all my life, mind you, and I've never known one come for a man wit'out being wounded. I've shot 64 of them, so I ought to know," commented Muller.

The grizzled old Boer was talking on one of the few subjects he really knew and he refused to be browbeaten by anyone, not even the leading light of Sitambi.

"When I was in a little place on the foothills of the Nilgiri's," Linton made a fresh start in a valiant effort to remain master of the situation by dragging a red herring across his adversary's path, "I had a nasty experience with a tiger."

"Ach, never mind vot happened vit dose Hindu tings, ve vere talking of lions," interrupted the Boer, knowing Linton's old.

"I once had an experience similar to Mr. Linton's," shyly volunteered Jenkyn, the newest-joined member of the Sitambi Club. His remark occasioned a patronising smile from Muller, who thought him a greenhorn, and a snort from Linton, who considered him a young puppy.

"I was out after a buck for the pot, in some 'wait-a-bit' thorn country where the grass was long enough to give ample cover even to a large animal lying down, when I suddenly saw a magnificent black-maned lion, standing majestically on the top of a fold in the ground. He was beautifully silhouetted against a light-coloured rock, which showed his head and mane to his advantage. I dropped my coat, which I had been carrying over my arm, and, bringing my rifle to my shoulder, fired. I had only a little .256 Maunlicher, but at a range of about 50 yards that old lion was as unmissable as the Woolworth building. I got him fair and square in the shoulder. He let out a roar that echoed for miles, shaking the whole earth with its fury, and taking a halting pace forward he tottered and fell. My heart leapt for joy and, like a fool, I jumped up. Then hell broke loose. His mate, who I had not seen, or imagined existed, sprang out of the long grass at me like a tawny streak of fury. I instinctively jumped to one side and, catching my foot on a stone, fell down heavily."

Here, Jenkyn paused. Gone was all his nervousness and he revelled in having gained the full attention of his audience. Muller's smile had faded as he sat up straight on his stool; Linton had, for the moment, erased his expression of contemptuous disapproval; and even Ali, the coffee-coloured Arab barman, whose knowledge of English was just sufficient to follow the story, had lost his air of bored abstraction.

Jenkyn shuffled into a more comfortable position and went on.

"The breath was knocked out of me, and my heart seemed to have stopped beating. I felt the lioness shaking me to and fro in a manner sickeningly like a cat playing with a mouse. I was so paralysed with terror that I felt already dead, though my eyes were open and I was in full possession of my faculties. I could feel her hot, fetid breath against my face, and saliva dropped on to me from her cruel mouth. For what seemed eternity, she sniffed around me. At last, apparently satisfied that I was no longer alive, she moved away. Then happened the strangest part of the whole affair."

Jenkyn reached out his hand and, drawing his hat towards him along the bar, continued.

"Out of the corner of my eye I saw her go over to my coat and examine it, turning it over with her paws and growling ominously, thumping her tail on the ground. Then the

incredible happened. She suddenly put her tail between her legs and silently slunk away.

"For what must have been in reality about a quarter of an hour, but what seemed to me aeons of time, I lay, not daring to move a finger, suffering agonies of cramp. Then, at last, only half convinced that she had gone, I crawled over to the coat to investigate the phenomenon."

Jenkyn slowly stood up, put on his hat, and moved to the door where, with his hand on the latch, he continued dramatically with a gesture strangely reminiscent of Linton.

"I knelt and looked at the coat very carefully, completely baffled. I just stared at it until in a flash the solution came to me. On the little tab by the collar I read the name of the tailor who had made it—Daniel."

## 7th BATTALION NOTES

"MACKENZIE'S MARVEL," otherwise our new Battalion Headquarters at Hornsey, can no longer be described as "rising day by day before our delighted eyes." It has, in fact, risen and, indeed, unofficial efforts have even been made by the R.A.S.C. to push it down again. We are now busily engaged in moving in, and it will only be a matter of a week or two before we abandon our wooden huts for ever. At the same time we must condemn with the fullest official severity the premature incendiarism of some unknown occupant of the temporary Officers' Mess.

The new building in its completed state is greatly admired. Even the Quartermaster has at length persuaded himself that his new clothing store is larger than the old one, although he is grimly certain that the extra space has only been provided so that he may hold more articles on charge. The luxurious shower baths meet with particular approval, but the Adjutant, after most careful investigation, has reluctantly abandoned the idea of using them to wash Bunda.

The re-equipment of the Battalion is proceeding slowly but surely. Vast quantities of machine gun stores have been delivered; vast quantities have still to come. Ten more 15-cwt. trucks ("beetles" to the really expert) have also fallen from Mr. Hore-Belisha's cornucopia, and each Company now has its own transport. Furthermore, we have re-

cently been told that we shall have no less than 20 motor-cycles, three dozen "beetles," a six-wheeler, and seven two-seater cars to contend with in camp. Certain pessimists are now engaged in lugubrious researches into the conduct of military funerals, but the Transport Officer, we are glad to say, withstood the shock very well, although we had never before realised that his theological views were so unorthodox.

It is hardly necessary to say that the work of reorganisation is keeping everybody extremely busy, and the imagination staggers at the thought of what the latest expansion scheme may entail.

Fortunately the enthusiasm of all ranks is very great, and excellent progress is being made with training the Battalion for its new machine gun role. A very full programme has been prepared for the period between Easter and camp, and it has been necessary to cancel several old-established events, including the Battalion rifle meeting.

It should not be supposed, however, that the intensive worship of Mars has caused us to neglect the shrine of Terpsichore. Outlying Companies have held their usual dances and "A" Company, with considerable enterprise, have even organised one in conjunction with the A.T.S. Nor have we forgotten athletics. The usual Battalion cross-country run took place at the Depot in February, and two or three weeks later we met and very narrowly beat the 8th Battalion, who were our only competitors, in the Divisional Cross-Country Championship. On April 1st (strange date to select!) Capt. Scott Lowe will take a team to Edinburgh to compete in the Army run.

There was also a boxing match with the Depot, at Mill Hill. Although the Depot, who won, thoroughly deserved their victory, the standard of skill and sportsmanship displayed by both sides was extremely good and we look forward to a return match next year.

Recruiting has been excellent and we are now well over peace establishment. For the first time, we imagine, in the history of the Battalion, it was necessary to close down recruiting altogether for two Companies, but the recent decision to increase the Territorial Field Army to its war establishment, and then to double it, caused this order to be speedily reversed, and recruiting must in future attain heights hitherto quite unheard of in time of peace.



There have been no changes among the combatant Officers of the Battalion but, most unfortunately, we are now without a Chaplain, owing to the retirement of the Rev. H. C. Montgomery-Campbell, M.C., M.A., who had served with us since 1928. His vast experience of military matters, his unflinching tact, used sometimes with the most gratifying results upon difficult but important visitors, his dry wit and, above all, his unassuming devotion to his task and to the Battalion, made him one of the most popular, as well as one of the most useful members of the Officers' Mess. He has presented the Mess with a magnificent silver cigarette box to mark his departure, but we know that this will not be our only reminder of him, for he will still visit us sometimes—we hope, very often—and once again we shall hear him deny the horrid rumour put about by irreverent young subalterns that a comic strip is about to be published in *The Times*.

#### "A" COMPANY

We feel that we should apologise to our readers for the non-issue of our last batch of Company notes. Their absence was not due to lack of news—far from it—but we have been far too busy to commit it to paper!

The period at present under review has most certainly been full of interest! What with our change to a M.G. Battalion, the demolition of our old "H.Q." and the rising like a phoenix from the ashes of the handsome and imposing building now gracing Hornsey, and the period of crisis, not regretted by various members, we have certainly been seeing a little action in our neighbourhood.

This Company had the pleasure of being the first to fire the first part of the new M.G. Annual Course at the Depot a short time ago and the author had the honour of discharging, with enthusiasm if not complete accuracy, the first burst of shots to be fired by the Company with their new weapon. The members have been working very well indeed this year and the results were to be seen in their efficiency that Sunday morning already mentioned. Few would have thought that nearly every member was firing the Vickers gun for the first time.

The Canteen has been handsomely renovated during the last few weeks and the fact that business there has steadily increased shows that the members of the Company appreciate the

improvements that have been made. The new apparatus for serving the vital fluid, which, we might say, was viewed by the writer with the greatest suspicion, has turned out to be both an improvement in condition, longevity and taste.

We are very pleased to see the excellent progress made by our "A" Company Detachment of the A.T.S. We believe we are right in saying that they are both up to strength and extremely keen, a large parade being held every Wednesday often assisted by N.C.O.s and Officers of the Company, and we take this opportunity of wishing them every success.

There have been various promotions in the Company and we congratulate those advanced and would remind others that there are several more vacancies for the right men.

An enjoyable evening at darts was held with our old friends of "C" Company, when this time the Company team was victorious. Let us hope that we shall soon have a return match.

As far as we can see and as far as this Company is concerned I do not think we shall be unduly optimistic in looking forward to a really good year of training. We have got rid of various members who were no great help to the Company, except as paper strength, and the present members, with a few exceptions, are parading extremely well and are getting on with the new training at a steady rate. We have had quite a number of recruits lately who, I am sure, will be a very useful addition to the Company. This Company may not be so large as others owing to its position, but we may credit ourselves with a large percentage of "full playing members."

The author has been racking his brains for a considerable period for that witty quip in a dead language without which no really fashionable writer of Company notes can hope to compete with the gifted gentleman now gracing "H.Q." Company, but inspiration is dead, "H.Q." telephone line is engaged, and my "North and Hillard" has gone the way of all flesh, so until next time—we wonder where we shall be by then—we wish our readers farewell.

#### "C" COMPANY

"C" Company has always been looked upon as a strong Company; now, however, we are numerically the strongest in the Battalion. This is a great achievement consider-

ing our numbers only two years ago and we realise that the credit is not ours but is due to the fine response made locally to recent appeals for recruits and to the unsettled state of the world in general. Nevertheless, it is very gratifying to have such a large Company to train and administer, and all ranks are playing up splendidly. We are getting larger and keener parades than ever before. Interest has been stimulated by the much improved conditions under which we are working and by the change-over to machine gun training, and the way everybody has taken to the new weapon is really amazing. There was, however, one recruit who, on being shown the Vickers gun, said that he had always understood that the Padre didn't carry arms.

All this new training has not, of course, been done without a lot of preliminary work by Officers and N.C.O.s, nearly all of whom have been on Courses at "H.Q." almost continuously since last October. The L.D.S.I. has also been well patronised, and our Company Commander and C.S.M. are both shortly going on a fortnight's Course at Netheravon to be further initiated into the mysteries of the machine gun. The R.S.M. has recently returned, wiser than ever before, but perceptibly slimmer, from seven weeks at the same place.

We are hoping for record numbers at Purfleet this year and, in view of the present size of the Company, we shall no doubt get them.

To turn to the lighter side of the Company's activities. We are glad to be able to record that we again won the Cross-Country Cup, with "D" Company as runners-up. Congratulations to Pte. Morris, Cpl. Cox, L/Cpl. Rockett, Mr. Laurence, and Boy Bannister, who represented us and finished in that order.

Our social activities have naturally been rather neglected this winter owing to building operations, but we hope to hold at least one dance before the end of the season if we can get into our new Hall in time.

We should like to welcome to "C" Company, Sergt Edwards, who has come to us from Enfield, and Sergt. Ellmore from the Signals. Also, all newly-joined recruits, amongst whom we are pleased to see so many old soldiers. At the same time we have to say good-bye to L/Cpl. Brownlie, who has obtained a short-service commission in the R.A.F., where we wish him every success, and temporarily to Sergt. Valentine, whose job has taken him to Monmouth for a year

or so—no doubt we shall see him in camp at Wannock.

#### "D" COMPANY

In the February issue we reported the change to a M.G. Battalion and during the last three months we have been able to weigh up the pros and cons. Judging by the interest shown by the members of "D" Company the change-over has been heartily welcome. Elementary Gun Drill has been well mastered by many of the trained men and we hope to put in further useful M.G. Training in the Drill Hall and in the country before long. Classes in the A.T. Rifle, under C.S.M. Whiting, have been well attended and altogether the Company seems to have taken on a new lease of life through the added interest taken in its new weapons.

The Company M.T. Section is in full swing and has done many useful jobs—one wonders how the Battalion got on in the days when there were no trucks. The only snag in this connection is the frequent arrival of transport in the middle of a parade necessitating the employment of an unloading party.

The Company has been closed for recruiting for some weeks, war strength having already been reached. At the moment of writing, however, we learn that we are to double our strength and we hope to achieve this in a very short space of time.

On a very cold Sunday in March, 70 members attended the 30-yard range at Mill Hill in order to fire the first portion of A.M.G.C. A good standard of intelligence was shown with the result that we were able to finish firing in a very short time, a fact well appreciated by the staff on the firing point.

In the athletic world we were again runners-up in the Battalion Cross-Country Championships, a strong team from "C" Company winning the event. Capt. Scott Lowe was third in the run and first man home for the Company, whilst Ptes. Sutton and R. Webb, who were making their first appearance in a race, ran very well to come in fifth and seventh, respectively. These three helped the Battalion to retain the Divisional Cup and, together with Pte. Gardner, are running in the T.A. Championships at Edinburgh.

The Battalion sent a boxing team to the Depot early in February and a number of our representatives did well, notably Ptes. Bush (bantam-weight) and Wilson (fly-weight). Pte. Hird decided he would join up at Mill Hill



after a somewhat decisive defeat and, no doubt, he has by now endeavoured to reverse the verdict.

The social season commenced with the Children's Party staged at our Drill Hall in view of the rebuilding of "H.Q." This, needless to say, was a howling success! Then we had our invitation dance which was very well attended and to which we were glad to welcome the C.O. and nearly all the Officers. Apart from this, several darts matches have been held and it is hoped to form a dart club on a proper footing very shortly.

C.S.M. Brett was away the whole of January and February on a Course at Netheravon and he came back full of bright chat and new ideas. We may, however, be losing him and it is quite on the cards that we shall have a new P.S.I. by the time these notes appear. Things move so rapidly these days that there is no saying what will happen so we will be content to report the change in the next issue.

Camp this year should be extraordinarily interesting and we are looking forward to a really first-class attendance. No reasonable firm will nowadays stand in the way of a man requiring a fortnight's holiday to attend camp, so it is up to everybody to be sure to make arrangements in good time.

#### 40TH MIDDLESEX COMPANY, A.T.S.

It is six months since an appeal was made for women volunteers to join the Auxiliary Territorial Service.

This appeal was responded to wholeheartedly in the vicinity of Highgate; women flocked to the recruiting centres, offering their services in any capacity.

They undertake to perform various non-combatant jobs in an emergency and so release many soldiers to do more important work.

And so the 40th Middlesex Company, General Duties, came into being. It is attached to "A" Company, 7th Battalion Middlesex Regiment for training during peace time and in the event of war would do duty at the Depot of The Middlesex Regiment at Mill Hill Barracks.

We parade every Wednesday evening at 8 p.m. Ten drills a year is our contract! But so keen are we all to learn and be thoroughly efficient and smart that practically the entire Company turns up once a week. Company

Sergeant-Major Kemp has completely adopted them as part of "A" Company and has, and still is, patiently putting them through their paces in Squad Drill. And do they do him credit! It can be safely said that they do. In addition to Squad Drill the members have physical training under a qualified instructress from Miss Kindersley's physical training school at Highgate. Miss Kindersley is an Officer in the A.T.S. and she herself is attached to the A.T.S. School of Instruction for Officers at the Duke of York's Barracks, Chelsea. Her method of P.T. is recognised by the War Office as being most suitable.

As well as drills the Company has enjoyed lectures on various subjects—Army discipline, Army organisation, Army Accounts, and Gas—and especially a course of lectures on Hygiene and Sanitation in Camp, by Group Capt. Straun-Marshall, R.A.F.

In January of this year 12 members visited Mill Hill Barracks and saw for themselves how the present-day Army is housed and fed. They were escorted over the Regimental Museum to inspect the old trophies and war relics, and at the end of the tour their Company Commander, Mrs. Rollinson, signed the Visitors' Book; that afternoon "history" was made for it transpired that this was the first time an Officer commanding a women's organisation had had the honour of signing in it.

During February and March no less than 32 volunteers have put in a day's training at Mill Hill Barracks—cooks, clerks, orderlies, and storekeepers—and very interesting they have found it.

The 40th Middlesex Company also finds time to indulge in social activities; a very successful whist drive was held at the Drill Hall on 22nd January, in spite of 10 inches of snow and bitter cold they turned up like warriors. They joined wholeheartedly with "A" Company in running a very jolly dance one evening in February, and on Wednesday, 22nd March, they had a "Beetle Drive." This caused a riot of fun and was voted a very enjoyable evening. On 17th March, the "A" Company darts team challenged the 40th Company to a match. Both sides played a sporting game, but the result is still an "official secret."

There is a grand spirit of comradeship and co-operation between the two Companies, fostered and encouraged by the Company Commander, Major Holt. We are most grateful for all his help and hope we shall prove a credit to him and to the Regiment.

## TOC H

### ITS BACKGROUND AND ITS AIMS

TOC H was born during the Great War in Talbot House, Poperinghe, a small town about seven miles west of Ypres. It was a unique club, or rest-house, founded by an Army Chaplain, the Rev. P. B. Clayton, in December, 1915. The name, Talbot House, so named to commemorate a young Officer of the Rifle Brigade killed in July, 1915, was shortened by general Army usage into "Toc H."

Field-Marshal the Earl of Cavan has written of it:

"I can say from experience that Welcome met me at the door, Happiness lived within, and the Peace that passeth understanding could be found by those who sought it, in the Upper Room."

The House developed a fine and happy spirit of comradeship and service, while inspiration and fresh courage came from the Chapel or Upper Room (the old loft at the top of the House), and the personality of its Padre who used it as a way to reconcile man with God, and man with man.

Following the War many of those who had known and appreciated Talbot House came to miss its happy spirit of friendship and warmth of welcome, and sought for something in civil life of the same kind, where they could forget the pre-war and post-war prejudices and divisions. As a result, in 1920, Toc H was reborn. Though started by ex-Service men they realised that were it confined to such it would fade away, as they would fade away. Thus it opened its doors to young men of 16 years and upwards, so that to-day the average age of its membership the world over is probably in the late twenties, and the percentage of ex-Service members decreases year by year. Apart from its Houses, as a rule, it has no permanent quarters, but is divided into branches and groups, and is in no sense a Service Club. On the other hand, personal service of every description for the welfare of others, both individual and corporate, is required of its members who are pledged to endeavour to deal with the problems of life in the spirit of simple Christianity. Toc H has no material advantages to offer to its membership and in no sense is it a secret society. Its meetings are open to all comers, who are always welcome.

Toc H endeavours to contribute in the following ways, among others, to the enrichment of the life of the community in general:

1. By surmounting barriers of denomination, class, and party interests, it brings men of all different types together in active work towards a common goal. It is not a society for the furthering of any one set of opinions, but endeavours, with a great measure of success, to prove that men can differ widely on many things and can yet live and work together happily and to their mutual advantage.

2. By reasserting the truth that neither a man's life nor his value to society consists in the abundance of his possessions, and affirming that the worth of the individual to the community should be estimated by character, rather than by possessions, by being and doing, rather than by merely having.

3. By developing a body of public opinion free from prejudice, so that party contests would no longer be fought on a basis of personalities and prejudices, but would be debated on a basis of principles and issues.

4. By developing the initiative of the individual in all his relationships and stimulating freedom of expression in his thinking, thus encouraging every man to make his contribution to the common life in a spirit of self-sacrifice, rather than of self-glorification.

### TOC H AND THE SERVICES

In order to dispel any possible misunderstanding it would be, perhaps, well to quote a letter, issued by the Army Council in February, 1930, reading as follows:

"It has been represented to the Army Council by Field-Marshal Viscount Plumer and the Reverend P. B. Clayton, in an interview which took place on the 29th January, 1930, between the above-mentioned and the Chief of the Imperial General Staff and the Adjutant General to the Forces, that an impression has got abroad that Officers and men of the Army are, by reason of their profession, cut off from active membership of Toc H. It may be as well, therefore, to state here, quite distinctly, that there is nothing either in the obligations of an Army career on the membership of Toc H which are antagonistic. Quite the reverse. Toc H was born of the Army in War, and there is no reason why Officers and men should not exercise, should they so desire, full membership in peace as they did during the War. Nor is there any more reason why an Officer who is a member of Toc H should not meet a private soldier who is also a member



of Toc H in the course of their activities in connection with the fellowship, than there is that he should not play football, cricket, or any other game that is, as is well known, played by Officers and other ranks in their ordinary every-day regimental life.

"The Army Council feel that it would be unfortunate, indeed, if the present ignorance of the aims and objects of Toc H were perpetuated by its parent, the British Army, and wish it to be understood that, for their part, they desire once and for all to state that there is nothing in the constitution of either to prevent Officers and other ranks of the Army from becoming members of Toc H. Those members of Toc H who joined that fellowship when at school—as so many do—may carry on their membership throughout their Army career, and others may join without any misgivings.

"It will be kind of you if you will cause the contents of this letter to be made known, in such manner as seems best to you, to all Os.C. Units in your Command."

The following extracts from a talk given recently by a senior Officer at a meeting of Toc H Service members is as good a way as any of explaining what Toc H is out to do, and does, and its relationship with the Services:

"There is still a great deal of misunderstanding of the purpose of Toc H in the Army as elsewhere. This is due, partly, to the difficulty of explaining it, and there is no doubt that we are very bad at the business ourselves; it is a matter we should remedy. I have been asked why it was necessary to form yet another society, when there were so many others doing precisely the same work; whether Toc H was not a Secret Society and whether it did not consist of community singing, back slapping, and lamp lighting of sorts. I will only say, briefly, that Toc H is not just a body of people that meet to spend cheerful evenings and help its members with grants, excellent as that is; nor is it a Secret Society, for the greater the publicity and number of visitors, the better we are pleased. Nor is it an exclusive group within a group, setting up divisions and antagonisms.

"Toc H is a way of living; the way of friendliness and helpfulness; of forgetfulness of self, as opposed to self-seeking; of giving instead of getting. To quote His Majesty's message to a recent Toc H Festival: 'I am confident that in the coming year you will spare no effort to cultivate among your fellows the spirit of mutual understanding and voluntary

service, which it is the aim of Toc H to apply to the urgent problems of the day.'

"I believe it is only necessary to say that, to realise the crying need for such a leavening in the world to-day; and this brings me to the crux of the matter—THE INDIVIDUAL. As I see it, this is the great problem of modern life. We live, and work, and play, in great masses, and there is an inevitable tendency for the individual to be lost in the crowd and there to be subjected to every kind of influence in the shape of newspapers, wireless, and cinemas. Moreover, the discoveries of science have raised the standard of living and increased demands of all kinds; unfortunately, they have also, in many cases, emphasised differences, created jealousies, and discontent. We need to get back to a recognition of what Lord Baldwin calls 'the essential dignity of the individual human soul'; and to see men as ends, and no longer as means. There is a great deal of loneliness among us to-day; and want of friendship. There is also a need for an opportunity to express good nature. Numbers of men and women are looking for a purpose in life, an opportunity of self-expression that will satisfy. The answer can only come in service; all other satisfactions will run like sand out of one's hand; but service in which self is forgotten, service to the community, friendship to the individual, these are ways to lasting happiness. It is these demands which Toc H exists to fill. We do not set out to make everyone around us members of Toc H; our attempt is to help men to become themselves. The Toc H spirit is that of friendliness and the desire to help; and within the organisation the opportunity for service will be found, and the way to go about it learned. It is whole men who are needed to-day; Toc H has always helped to develop and satisfy the mental and spiritual sides of men's make-up, and I was very glad to see recently that attention is being paid to the physical side; for a whole man must be healthy, sane, and spiritually minded. Toc H, too, makes men think and express themselves; for unless men think for themselves they will become mere units.

"I have tried to explain what it is, as I see it, that Toc H exists for; and now I want to return to the Army for a bit. In the light of what I have just said, is Toc H desirable among individuals in the Army? Is it good that there should be a leavening of men of high ideals, friendly outlook, and the desire to be of service? I have heard it said that such men

are to be found in the Service, anyhow, and that Toc H is unnecessary. The first part of that statement is, fortunately, true, but the second part is a fallacy; for without some centre, a unity with others of like spirit and the encouragement and help that Toc H provides, the ideals and feelings will remain undeveloped and ineffective. I should not be here to-night did I not feel, and had I not felt for many years, that Toc H is of the greatest benefit to the Army. It helps to provide men with a whole and satisfying life, to give them an absorbing interest outside their daily work, to teach them to forget themselves and, instead, to help others. In the Army we live very close together, in large numbers; and there is a large proportion of very young men. It is not always easy to encourage the individual to feel that, in the Army, too, men are not merely means, but matter in themselves. The Toc H man will be on the look-out to lend a hand to some of those who seem unhappy, out of place, and discontented; there is his chance of showing friendliness. He himself will accept all hardship and misfortune cheerfully, and will give himself whole-heartedly to his work; this, because he is a whole man and can do no other than put every ounce into it. Wherever he goes he will have the community of men of like mind, in many of the places he visits; and he will be given the opportunity of serving the community and learning about them, and making friends. The better a man understands Toc H, the better he will be at his job. In my mind, the Army and Toc H are admirably matched; both are world wide, both deal with men.

"So I think it is very clear that Toc H is a very real help to us. Now what should be the special part that Army Toc H can play? Clearly, we cannot do all that civilian members can, but we have our own task, and that is to bring encouragement and help to Toc H men all over the world, to show the Toc H spirit of friendliness, of giving instead of getting, wherever we go. In distant places it is not always easy to keep the interest alive and the spirit bright; we can refresh them, remind them of the underlying ideals, give them news of doings at home, and renew their determination.

"To Army members, I would say this: unless Toc H is to be regarded as just another society, you must make it your business to show that there is something quite distinctive about it. This you will do by the way you go about your daily life. Do not make special efforts to

rope in other people, but let them see that you have something they lack; something desirable. That something will be happiness.

"If there should be any here who are hesitating as to joining Toc H, I would suggest that the first thing is really to understand it; then make up your mind as a private individual, deciding what you can and what you cannot do, remembering always that your first loyalty is to your Service. If you then feel you can give enough to justify your joining, do so; but avoid, like the plague, situations in which you feel unnatural. Remember, too, that the really important thing from the Toc H point of view is the right spirit, rather than the performance of specific jobs.

"I believe we have now reached a stage in which in most large towns, in many smaller ones, and in villages in Great Britain and throughout the Empire, it is Toc H to which people naturally turn for help and man power in all sorts of needs. If this is to continue to spread and be the leavening it should be, we must have enthusiasm; and thought and study; and, above all, practice."

In conclusion, although Toc H units are not as a rule allowed in Stations or Barracks, Toc H Headquarters will be very glad to put those interested into touch with the local Unit nearest to their Station, and to give every possible information.

Enquiries should be made of: The Secretaries for the Services, "H.Q.," Toc H, 47, Francis Street, London, S.W.1.

P. A. S.

## 8th BATTALION NOTES

THE past quarter has not been particularly eventful, but it certainly has been full of interest from a training point of view and we can feel that the Battalion has taken a real stride forward in the difficult task of conversion to a Machine Gun Unit. All ranks have taken a real interest in their work, record parades are commonplace at Drill Halls, and enthusiastic hard work seems to be the order of the day.

The return of three of our P.S.I.s after qualifying at Netheravon was very welcome and will, of course, go far to reduce the difficult task we have to face in training the Battalion. In addition, five Officers are shortly undergoing a fortnight's Course at Netheravon, and Major Maddex will be attending a Senior Officer's Course there.



Training has been assisted materially by the issue of sufficient kit to keep everybody employed; we have even taken delivery of 10 trucks. Recruiting is also very satisfactory, the Battalion being well over establishment, and more recruits arriving steadily every week.

In the world of sport we have to congratulate the 7th Battalion upon winning the Divisional cross-country run at Mill Hill, on 4th March. It was a very close thing; we thought we had it in the bag, but the 7th Battalion produced two really outstanding runners, and victory was theirs.

For the first time for many years our establishment of Officers is complete and we should like to extend a hearty welcome to 2/Lieuts. R. A. Booth, J. D. McFarlane, and H. J. S. McShane upon appointment. In addition three former Officers have returned to the fold from the Reserve, Lieuts. P. R. H. Elliott, D. R. Pattison, and E. C. K. Sadler, whose welcome return to active work should prove of real value to the Battalion.

#### "A" COMPANY

It is with regret that we have to report the departure of Sergeant-Major and Mrs. Atkins. During the period that Sergeant-Major Atkins has been our P.S.I. the Company has made much progress. For his work on behalf of the Company, we say, "Thank you."

Mrs. Atkins has always taken a keen interest in our Social Club. All ranks in the Company wish them "God speed and good luck."

Sergeant-Major Turton (Grenadier Guards) has taken over the duties of P.S.I. To Mrs. Turton and himself we extend a warm welcome, and we all hope that their stay with us will be a happy one. Lieut. Pattison has joined the Company from the Reserve. He is no stranger to "A" Company, having completed a term of duty with the Battalion some years ago.

2/Lieuts. McFarlane and McShane have been posted to the Company. We are pleased to welcome these Officers; we hope that their stay with us will be a long and happy one.

Machine Gun Training has started in earnest. All ranks are getting their noses to the "grind stone" and much useful work is being carried out. Parades are very well attended. It is rumoured that one member of the Company has invented an "Elastic Drill Hall." More power to his elbow, say all of us. We will need his help if we get any larger.

Our social activities have been carried on in the same jovial spirit. Our prize-giving was well attended, the Commanding Officer distributed the prizes and congratulated all ranks, and the Mayor and Mayoress of Twickenham and other distinguished guests were present. The evening closed with an all ranks' dance; this was enjoyed by all.

A "good-bye" party was organised to say *au revoir* to Sergeant-Major and Mrs. Atkins. Capt. King presented Sergeant-Major Atkins with a silver tankard, and a cake basket to Mrs. Atkins.

L/Cpl. Smith represented the Battalion in the Brigade cross-country run. We congratulate him on his performance.

It is whispered that there is much activity among the sportsmen of the Company, challenges are being issued to other Companies, the cricket pads are receiving their coat of "Blanco," and the "willows" are being well oiled.

#### "B" (S.) COMPANY

This is "B" Company programme. Before we give the news, here is a police message. Missing from the Drill Hall, Ealing, since the night of Monday, 27th February, a small phial of genuine N.C.O.'s perspiration. This rare fluid was the result of a spot of energetic gun drill under the instruction of C.S.M. Nash and was to have been exhibited in the Regimental Museum. Will the finder please return same to the Drill Hall, where he will be rewarded with a Course of Instruction in the game of "pokey die" (also under C.S.M. Nash)?

Here is the news, copyright by those well-known gentlemen, Messrs. R. and L. Wuntap.

The Company is now 114 strong, having enlisted 17 recruits since the beginning of the year and we may say that we are getting the right type of fellow. Sergt. Bartlett, assisted by Sergt. Smith, who has charge of their training on Monday nights, has become quite enthusiastic over them. This is an excellent state of affairs and looks well for the future.

Two more members of the Company have taken the matrimonial plunge—Pte. J. Williams on 18th February, and Sergt. Smith on 1st April (well, he chose the date himself!). Congratulations to both.

Our prize-giving, held on Friday, 17th February, was a huge success, the crowd

breaking all previous records. The guests included the Mayor and Mayoress of Ealing and our former Commanding Officer, Col. E. E. F. Baker, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., T.D. Also present were the Commanding Officer and many of the Officers. After the prize-giving, a dance, continuing until the small hours, was held and a good time was had by all.

Here is the sports bulletin. Our Christmas shoot, mentioned in last quarter's notes, was duly held and met with great support. Here are the results:

Lieut. Blair gained first prize (highest score in all practices), closely followed by L/Cpl. Bray, second, and C.S.M. Nash, third. The handicap shoot was won by Cpl. Freeman, and Pte. Kinch, with an absolutely unbeatable score, became the proud owner of the Wooden Spoon for the current year. The prizes consisted of "Goode Heartye Christmase Fayre," both solid and liquid.

#### RUNNING

We tied with "C" Company for third place (77 points) in the Battalion cross-country run held at Hounslow Heath, on 28th January, and we congratulate Sergt. Crump and Pte. Waite on being selected to represent the Battalion in the Divisional run at Mill Hill on 4th March. They did very well, Pte. Waite being fifth and Sergt. Crump seventh, thus helping the Battalion to be placed second.

#### BOXING

Congratulations to Pte. F. Bond on winning his weight (feather) at both the Battalion and Brigade boxing meetings. He is certainly keeping up the reputation of this "fighting family." Pte. K. Smith did well to gain most points for the Company, but was beaten in the final for the light-weight.

Here is a special announcement. The A.T.S. have descended on the Company Office and have put in some very useful work, thereby fulfilling their task of relieving the C.S.M. and C.Q.M.S. of some of their clerical duties.

We extend a hearty welcome to Lieut. Elliott on joining us from the Reserve of Officers, and to 2/Lieut. Merchant on being transferred from "D" Company. We hope their stay with us will be a long and pleasant one.

#### "C" COMPANY

Officers, N.C.O.s, and trained men are still hard at work learning the "whys and where-

fores" of our new weapon under the able instruction of our P.S.I., C.S.M. Jones, who has worked very hard to make us as efficient as possible in the short time that has elapsed since our conversion. Now, however, we understand the peculiar names applied to the various parts, we are getting along famously. Guns and part of the equipment have arrived and we are looking forward to the light summer evenings when we can get out in the open for training.

2/Lieut. Pillivant is commencing his additional duties as Company M.T. Officer and instructional drives are already taking place every Sunday. Fortunately, we are well off for qualified drivers and it is really only a case of getting the drivers used to the trucks, of which we have two.

Our young cross-country team did very well in the Battalion run held at Hounslow and next year we feel sure that they will have improved sufficiently to be able to head the field. Lieut. J. Holcombe who is in charge of the team is keeping them fit and also going to prepare them to take part in the Battalion sports meeting should one be held this year. The first man home in the Company in the Battalion run was Pte. Bingley, to whom a cup was presented by Lieut. Holcombe.

In our few idle moments during the winter we have completed the darts and billiards competitions. Pte. E. Burt was the winner of the former, and Sergt. Wright proved himself master of the "pins." Pte. Burt throws a very pretty "fever."

Saturday evening dances have proved very popular and have been well attended. This is due to the really hard work put in by the committee and they will be glad to hear that as a result of the work put in by them the Company funds are in a better position now than they have been for some time. The committee celebrated their successes of the previous year by attending the show at the Victoria Palace, "The Lambeth Walk," and a supper afterwards.

A Company prize-giving was held at Staines, on Saturday, 4th February, and Col. E. E. F. Baker, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., T.D., very kindly presented the prizes. The list of prize-winners is appended:

"Col. Baker" Cup—for best shot, trained men, at A.W.T.C.: Sergt. Pearce.

The "Loe" Cup—for best rifle shot, recruits, at A.W.T.C.: Pte. Gill.

The "Staines" Cup—for the best shot



in the miniature range in the Empire Test : Sergt. Pearce.

Inter-Section Cup—most efficient section leader at Annual Training : L/Sergt. Harper.

Pewter Tankard—most efficient recruit : Pte. Bingley.

Tankard—best attendance at drills, trained men : C.S.M. Browning, 85.4 per cent.

Tankard—best attendance at drills, recruits : Pte. Marshall, 87.7 per cent.

This function was well attended by all the Officers in the Battalion, led by the Commanding Officer. After the prize-giving was an all ranks' dance, and everybody appeared to be sorry when the evening came to an end.

The Company has excelled itself in recruiting since last September and the strength of the Company at the time of going to press is 5 Officers and 119 other ranks. One more and we open a waiting list.

#### "D" COMPANY

Training during the past quarter has been associated almost entirely with the Vickers Gun—our proud new weapon. All ranks have shown the keenest interest, both in training themselves to become efficient instructors and in endeavouring and succeeding to master in a few hours what one might expect to take so many hours.

It is very gratifying to see a Company of men who, a month ago had barely heard of the Vickers .303, throwing themselves about the Drill Hall with such evident interest and proficiency. We have a great deal to learn yet before we can expect to become "Regular" in the handling of our new weapon, but such a beginning should justify optimism.

On 25th February we held our annual prize-giving. Sir Silfrid Craig, who gave the prizes away, felt bound to admit that "D" Company proudly maintained the tradition of the Middlesex Regiment. The proceedings were nearly spoiled for the men of one Platoon whose Officer, after presentation of an Efficiency Cup, found that it consisted of so many parts, which, when placed on a chair, clattered to such an extent that it was assumed to be irreparably broken and unfit for suitable celebration.

Our football team continues to show local teams exactly how the game should be played, except, we might mention, on one unfortunate occasion, when a team selected by 2/Lieut. Ellis showed them, in a blinding snowstorm,

how goals should be scored ; which only goes to show that 2/Lieut. Ellis knows how to pick 'em, or the Company were not really trying, a supposition not to be entertained.

We are pleased to welcome our P.S.I., C.S.M. Bell, back to Uxbridge from a M.G. Course at Netheravon, and to congratulate him on his success. Once again we can say, "Oh, Sergeant-Major, where is ———?"

May we offer our congratulations to the following, and wish them success in their new rank : L/Sergt. Bowden to Sergeant ; Cpl. Dixon to Sergeant ; Cpls. Jones and Brierley to Lance-Sergeant ; L/Cpls. Short and Smith to Corporals ; and Ptes. Bonner, Bonsheld, Whitney, and Merritt, to Lance-Corporal.

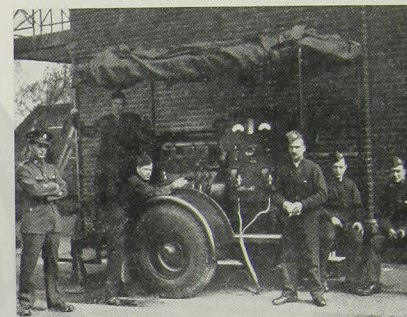
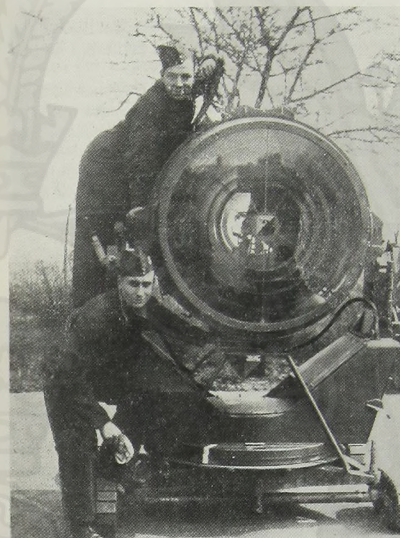
#### 9th BATTALION NOTES

EQUIPMENT for the Battalion's new role has been arriving with amazing alacrity during the last quarter. We now have eight complete searchlight lorries and three trailer sets. This has made our task of training for our new role a considerably easier problem. Our organisation has also expanded and we now have, besides our normal permanent staff, three administrative Officers, one clerk, and one plant attendant per Company, doing full-time employment.

Easter training proved a great success ; this was our first trial of "letting our lights so shine before men." For three nights 11 beams illuminated the sky between St. Albans and Mill Hill, in good focus and order, which shows that a great deal of progress in our training has been made.

Our football team can look back on the 1938-39 season with considerable credit. They finished second in the local Willesden League, and in the Territorial Army Cup they defeated the 4th Battalion The Essex Regiment 4-3 in the final of the Brigade zone, but were beaten in the Divisional zone by our old friends the 4th Battalion The Sussex Regiment 2-7, at Horsham.

Owing to the exigencies of European dictators and the change-over to our new role it has not been possible to hold Battalion boxing competitions, but our known stalwarts have nobly maintained our reputation in this sphere. Cpl. J. Weaterton, L/Cpl. W. Wigzell, Pte. A. Gaitt, and the brothers Routledge were responsible for our winning the 54th Divisional



SOME SNAPS OF OUR EQUIPMENT



Cup and, following up their success at the Albert Hall we are proud to record two Territorial Army champions and two runners-up.

Results of the Finals, Territorial Army Championships, held at the Albert Hall, on Friday, 3rd March, are as follows:

*Fly-weight*: Pte. T. Worton (56th A/T Regiment, R.A.) (holder) beat Pte. W. Routledge (9th Battalion The Middlesex Regiment) on points.

*Feather-weight*: L/Cpl. W. Wigzell (9th Battalion The Middlesex Regiment) (holder) beat Sergt. W. R. Lewis (53rd Division, R.A.S.C.) on points.

*Middle-weight*: Gnr. Elliott (91st Field Regiment, R.A.) beat Pte. A. Gaitt (9th Battalion The Middlesex Regiment) on points.

*Heavy-weight*: Cpl. J. Weaterton (9th Battalion The Middlesex Regiment) (holder) beat Pte. J. McLachlan (9th H.L.I.) on points.

The following is an extract from the *Daily Telegraph*:

"The finest exhibition of pluck during a crowded evening was that of Pte. W. Routledge, of the 9th Battalion The Middlesex Regiment. Although he lost on points to the holder, Pte. T. Worton, he received a terrific ovation at the end of his bout. Worton, much the stronger and more experienced boxer—this was his fifth success in the championships—hit Routledge with both hands almost at will, and the latter was sent to the floor six times in the first round. He refused to stay down, however, and, to a storm of cheering, rose each time. In the second round Routledge did a little better and made his opponent miss badly once or twice, and although he took a crack on the jaw which would have put most men out for minutes, he lasted the full three rounds—a gallant loser on points."

The following is an extract from *The Times*:

"The team trophy is the well-known 'Scarborough' Cup, now held by the 54th (East Anglian) Division. This Division generally is well represented, for among its Units is the old 9th Battalion The Middlesex Regiment. This Regiment, however, now is a Searchlight Regiment and next season will assist the 2nd Anti-Aircraft Division. Meanwhile the 54th will enjoy the services of such men as L/Cpl. Wigzell, Pte. Gaitt, and Cpl. Weaterton."

The following letter has been received from the 54th (East Anglian) Division:

HERTFORD,

10th March, 1939.

O.C. 9th Middlesex Regiment.

I am directed by the Divisional Commander to write and thank you very much for the very

great help your Battalion has given to the Division, both in last year's and this year's Boxing Championships.

It was due to this help that we won the "Scarborough" Cup last year, and came out second this year.

The Divisional Commander wishes to send his congratulations to Cpl. Weaterton and L/Cpl. Wigzell on winning the heavy- and feather-weight titles, respectively, and also to Pte. Routledge on the very gallant fight he put up in the final. He hopes that Routledge has not suffered any serious damage as the result of the punishment he received.

E. F. HALL, Major,

General Staff,

54th Division and E.A. Area.

#### No. 429 (SEARCHLIGHT) COMPANY

Since our last notes appeared this Company has been undergoing concentrated training in searchlight work. To carry out this successfully, it was essential that the men attended regularly every drill night so that they would not miss any of the instruction, as it was all arranged on a progressive basis, and we are pleased to say that the attendances, with the exception of a few cases of illness, etc., were well up to our expectations.

During the months of January and February we concentrated on training a number of Officers, N.C.O.s, and men as Instructors in special Searchlight Duties. While this was being done, the remainder of the Company carried out Weapon Training with the Lewis Gun and Rifle, and also fired the Empire Test Course on the Miniature Range.

At the beginning of March we were all set for the big task of training the men of the Company to take their places in the new role of "Lighters." Six detachments were formed and each Detachment carried five reserves. All these men were trained in their respective work in the Detachment, and also collectively as a Detachment working together. The Instructors whom we had trained previously took these classes and, although they met with many difficulties owing to lack of accommodation and the necessary training equipment, they carried out the training very successfully.

At the beginning of April their work was put to a severe test as we had four Detachments occupying searchlight sites for Easter training. The sites were in the vicinity of Elstree and our men, with their equipment,

moved out to their positions on Good Friday. Their task was made more difficult owing to the ground being so soft, but the old saying is still true, "One always learns from experience," and all the men who were at camp now know how to get a lorry out of the mud when it is "bogged" up to its axles.

In spite of it being our first camp as Searchlight detachments, and the difficulties that we had to overcome, all the detachments were out in their positions with camps and searchlight equipment erected, and the beam shining on the North Star ready for action at the specified time (19.45 hours), and spot chasing was carried out.

On Saturday morning they were initiated into the art of "Care and Maintenance" of the equipment, followed by a period of manning drill, and in the evening we had aircraft flying and our Detachments did some excellent work in picking up the target and following it. On Sunday we concentrated all our listeners at Section "H.Q." for listening practice and, once again, in the evening we had aircraft flying, when the results were even better than the previous night.

On Monday, much to everyone's disappointment, our short camp came to an end, so we had to strip stations and return to the Drill Hall. This passed without any mishaps and we were able to dismiss the men at the Drill Hall at midday, everybody going away well satisfied and looking forward to the next chance of going to camp. Great credit must be paid to the cooks on the excellent way in which they prepared the food for the men, and the hard work which they put in.

Now camp is over we are settling down to training again and we are concentrating on three new Detachments, with reserves, and also a Course for detachment Commanders, who will be trained in all duties of a Searchlight detachment.

#### No. 430 COMPANY

We are pleased to report that the progress predicted in our previous notes has been fully maintained, and we are now quite familiar with our new role. Recent results have shown that the difficulties at first experienced have been overcome. The improvements made in the Drill Hall, building of new Company offices, receipt of additional equipment and training appliances have all contributed to this result.

The Company carried out most successfully their first outside training as Searchlights during the Easter holidays and showed the good value they had got from the past three months' training. Four detachments were formed for this training, and were accommodated at the Depot, Mill Hill, this being the Headquarters. Sites in the Radlett area were manned on the nights of the 7th, 8th, and 9th April, and aircraft co-operated. Training concluded, to the regret of all, on the morning of the 10th. Ideal weather prevailed throughout the period and with the hospitality of the Depot—to whom we tender our most appreciative thanks—contributed in no small measure to the success which everybody felt it to have been.

The next item to which we are looking forward is the series of week-end camps, when Sections in turn will occupy the various searchlight sites; and we hope for equally ideal conditions as at Easter.

We welcome to the Company, Major Lloyd-Williams, 2/Lieuts. Sneath, Bull, and Shackle (from the 36th Middlesex Battalion, R.E., T.A.), and hope that they will enjoy their time with us. We regret the departure of Capt. Parlane to No. 429 Company, who takes with him the good wishes of us all.

#### No. 431 COMPANY

NOTE.—The usual writer of these notes has decided that as devolution is the Company motto they shall be written by different people in each issue. A very senior subaltern was selected in this instance, whose style you will doubtless recognise, and notes for subsequent issues will be written in turn by a Warrant Officer, a Sergeant, a Corporal, and a Private. Unfortunately for those concerned, they will be edited.

Easter, 1939, will not be easily forgotten by thosefortunates who forsook their home comforts or their tours abroad. Good organisation, combined with hot weather and a pleasant countryside, made our first Searchlight Camp an experience which will serve as a model for those to come.

Rumours of incidents, reaching us from other Companies, made our few pale into insignificance; but mention must be made of that of the Spotter and the Officer; phosphorescent pips are suggested as a remedy.



Members of the permanent staff will also be careful in the future not to leave their cars unattended while visiting the local, and to remember that "W" stands for water.

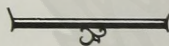
Easter served as an interesting break in the Group Training which finishes at the end of April. May and June are occupied with Section Training, with two week-ends under canvas at Potterscrouch for each Section. In July we go to camp at Aylsham, in Norfolk, where it is expected that three detachments per Section will be out under canvas, on their sites during the first week, and the remainder at Company "H.Q." Some competition for these detachments is probable. During the

second week it is hoped that more detachments will be sent out.

Mr. Cropper has now been posted to this Company. It is hoped that he has a long association with us.

Our boxers are to be congratulated again on their respective achievements. Recent recruits make our real strength in this sphere even more formidable.

Work has started on the new Drill Hall at Kingsbury; this may sound unbelievable, but it is, nevertheless, true. It is especially good news, coming at the time when Group Training brings home the defects of the old Halls to everybody.



## REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION NOTES

### PROCEEDINGS OF A MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

HELD AT THE HEADQUARTERS, CENTRAL LONDON  
RECRUITING ZONE, WHITEHALL

ON 25TH JANUARY, 1939

*Present.* Lieut.-Col. M. Browne, M.C. (in the chair), Col. G. L. Brown, D.S.O., Col. E. E. F. Baker, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., Lieut.-Col. C. P. Rooke, D.S.O., Lieut.-Col. W. H. Samuel, Major H. Phillips, M.C., Major J. B. Worton, Major N. H. B. Lyon, M.C., Major S. J. Clark, Major M. Crawford, Capt. F. A. L. Lawrence, R.S.M. P. Newman, R.S.M. R. Parsler, Mr. E. Crouch. Apologies were received for non-attendance from Lieut.-Col. W. W. Jefferd, and R.Q.M.S. C. Goodall.

1. *Tribute to the memory of Brig.-General V. L. N. Pearson, D.S.O., and Capt. H. E. Foster.* At the commencement of the meeting, tribute was paid to the memory of the late Brig.-General V. L. N. Pearson, D.S.O., and Capt. H. E. Foster, by the Chairman. The former served as Chairman of the Committees of the Association and Officers' Club from April, 1936, to May, 1938, and for many years previously as a member; and the latter had been a member continuously since the formation of the Association in 1912, and of the Officers' Club in 1922. The Committee then stood for a few moments in silence.

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

3. *Douai Club.* Col. Baker reported that he had attended a dinner of the Douai Club as a guest and that he had delivered 12 Old Comrades' Badges to certain members of the Club in accordance with Minute 5 of the last meeting. These members are now honorary members of the Association.

4. *Secretary's Report.* The Secretary's Report for the quarter ending 31st December, 1938, was read and passed. It was proposed by Col. Rooke, and seconded by Col. Brown, that the sum of £125 be allocated to the relief of necessitous cases during the ensuing quarter. (Carried.)

5. *Old Comrades' Dinner.* On the motion of Col. Samuel, seconded by Major Worton, it was decided that the price of the tickets for the Old Comrades' Dinner for 1939 be 3s. 6d. (Carried.)

## 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



6. *Crest on L.M.S. Engine.* On the motion of Col. Brown, seconded by Major Clark, it was decided that the Association should pay half the cost (£4 5s.) of engraving the Regimental Crest above the title of the L.M.S. Railway Engine named "The Middlesex Regiment," if the Officers' Club did the same: that the Territorial Association be asked to subscribe towards the cost and that if any sum was forthcoming from that source, the two above-mentioned funds should be refunded equally. (Carried.)

7. *Weekly Allowance.* It was proposed by Col. Rooke, seconded by Col. Samuel, that the allowance of 1s. a week for tobacco to a member be continued for the next 12 months. (Carried.)

8. *Vote of Thanks.* A vote of thanks was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Major Phillips and carried unanimously, to Major Worton for his services to the Committee during his two years tour at the Depot, and also

to Mrs. Worton for her work as Honorary Secretary of the Ladies' Guild during the same period.

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

During the past 12 months the Executive Committee has lost several of its members. As it is not easy to replace them with others who can spare the time to take an active share in the tasks of the Association it has been decided to keep a list of ex-Officers and other ranks who are interested, willing to serve, and likely to be able to attend the quarterly meetings. The meetings are held on the last Wednesday in January, April, July, and October, in the afternoon.

Election to the Committee will be notified as vacancies occur. The present vacancies have already been filled.

Names and addresses should be sent to the Secretary, The Barracks, Mill Hill, N.W.7.

#### THE REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT

GENERAL BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1938

LIABILITIES				ASSETS			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Association Fund:				Investments at Middle Market value on 31st December, 1938:			
Balance at 1st January, 1938	10,514	6	7	£1,049 1s. 3½% Conversion Stock at 98½	1,035	18	9
Less Decrease in value of Investments	561	2	1	£738 os. 1d. 4½% Conversion Stock, 1940-44 at 103	760	2	10
				£220 13s. 1d. 4% Funding Loan, 1960-90 at 107½	237	3	11
Sundry Creditors:				£216 15s. India 3½% Stock at 89½	194	10	8
Regimental Journal Account	235	5	4	£800 London Transport "T.F.A." Stock 4½% at 102½	820	0	0
				£652 2s. 4d. Australian Government 5% Registered Stock, 1945-75 at 102	665	3	2
				£1,411 3s. Australia 3% Registered Stock, 1955-58 at 83½	1,178	6	7
				£700 Kenya Government 5% Inscribed Stock, 1948-58 at 108	756	0	0
				£108 16s. 4d. New South Wales 3½% Stock at 92	100	2	2
				£800 New South Wales 3½% Stock, 1930-50 at 92	736	0	0
				£103 17s. 5d. Queensland 3½% Inscribed Stock, 1940-60 at 95	98	13	6
				£97 15s. 3d. Queensland 5% Inscribed Stock, 1940-60 at 102	99	14	4
				£99 9s. 5d. Sierra Leone Government 3½% Inscribed Stock, 1958-63 at 100½	99	19	4
				£600 South Australia Government 5% Registered Stock, 1945-75 at 102	612	0	0
				£100 7s. Victoria 4% Consolidated Inscribed Stock, 1940-60 at 98½	98	17	0
				£715 Southern Railway 4% Debenture Stock at 100½	718	11	6
				£848 Canadian Pacific Railway 4% Perpetual Consolidated Debenture Stock at 76½	648	14	5
				£511 11s. 2d. Australia 3½% Stock, 1951-54 at 90½ x. d.	443	11	0
					£9,303	9	2
				Sundry Debtors for Subscriptions and Diaries	6	3	7
				Cash at Bank:			
				Main Account	589	7	11
				Petty Cash Account	40	17	7
					630	5	6
				Cash in Hand:			
				Main Account	1	9	6
				Petty Cash Account	5	11	6
					7	1	0
				Stamps in Hand	7	1	½
				Income and Expenditure Account Balance	776	17	8½
				Less Balance at 1st January, 1938	535	14	3
					241	3	5½
					£10,188	9	10

£10,188 9 10

We have examined the above Balance Sheet with the Books, Vouchers, Counterfoil Receipt Books, and Pass Books of the Regimental Association and certify it to be in accordance therewith.

We have verified the Investments by a Certificate from the Charity Commission and the Balances at the Bank by a Certificate from the Bankers.

9A SACKVILLE STREET, PICCADILLY, W.1,  
20th January, 1939.

G. DIXEY & CO.,  
Chartered Accountants.



GENERAL INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
31ST DECEMBER, 1938

EXPENDITURE			INCOME		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Grants and Loans to Cases .. .. .			By Subscriptions .. .. .	532	2 9
„ Working Expenses : Salaries and Allowances .. .. .	458	14 11	„ Interest on Investments .. .. .	383	17 3
Office Expenses .. .. .	224	0 0	„ Refund of Loans .. .. .	10	6 0
Printing and Stationery .. .. .	12	0 3	„ Sales of Badges .. .. .	1	6 8
Postage .. .. .	6	3 0	„ Entertainment Receipts .. .. .	83	0 10
Auditors' Fees .. .. .	13	12 10½	„ Subscriptions to Memorial Wreaths .. .. .	8	7 0
Bank Charges .. .. .	6	6 0	„ Subscription to Secretary's Salary from Officers' Club and Journal .. .. .	56	0 0
	3	2 0			
		265	4	1½	
„ Allowances to Chelsea Pensioners .. .. .		3	5	0	
„ Entertainment : Cash .. .. .	95	2 1			
Petty Cash .. .. .	21	10 6			
		116	12	7	
„ Charities .. .. .		25	4	0	
„ Donation — N.A.E. E.R.S.S. & A. .. .. .		100	0	0	
„ Memorial Account .. .. .		36	11	8	
„ Interest on “James Dixon” Memorial Fund paid to Officers' Club .. .. .		3	10	0	
„ Excess of Income over Expenditure, carried forward .. .. .		65	18	2½	
		£1,075	0	6	
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Grant, Regimental Cottage Homes .. .. .	842	15 11	By Balance brought forward .. .. .	65	18 2½
	£842	15 11	„ Balance carried to Balance Sheet .. .. .	776	17 8½
				£842	15 11

## JOURNAL ACCOUNT

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1938

EXPENDITURE			INCOME		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Stock at 1st January, 1938 ..	47	10 4	By Advertisements .. .. .	220	10 6
„ Production of Journals and Diaries ..	407	10 4	„ Sales and Subscriptions .. ..	260	8 9
„ Postage .. .. .	1	19 2½	„ Stock at 31st December, 1938 ..	47	10 4
„ Office Expenses .. .. .	40	0 0			
„ Subscription to Society for Army Historical Research .. ..	1	1 0			
„ Subscription to Secretary's Salary ..	22	13 4			
„ Excess of Income over Expenditure for the year .. .. .	7	15 4½			
	£528	9 7		£528	9 7

We have examined the above Balance Sheet with the Books, Vouchers, Counterfoil Receipt Books, and Pass Books of the Regimental Association and certify it to be in accordance therewith.

9A SACKVILLE STREET, PICCADILLY, W.1,  
20th January, 1939.

G. DIXEY & CO.,  
*Chartered Accountants.*

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1938

LIABILITIES				ASSETS			
£		s. d.		£		s. d.	
Income and Expenditure				Sundry Debtors :			
Account :				General Fund .. .. . 235 5 4			
Balance at 1st January, 1938 .. .. . 347 18 7				1st Battalion .. .. . 22 17 6			
Add Excess of Income over Expenditure for year .. .. . 7 15 4½				Advertisers .. .. . 50 0 0			
		355 13 11½				308 2 10	
£355 13 11½				Stock of Standing Orders and Binding Covers .. .. . 47 10 4			
				Stamps in Hand .. .. . 9½			
						£355 13 11½	

REGIMENTAL COTTAGE HOMES ACCOUNT  
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 12TH DECEMBER, 1938

EXPENDITURE			INCOME		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Land Agent, Eastern Command, for			By Grant from Eastern Command in aid		
Rent .. .. .	36	0 0	of Rent .. .. .	22	0 0
Repairs .. .. .	9	7 6	Interest on Investments .. .. .	67	1 0
Water Rate .. .. .	6	4 2	Middlesex Regiment Coronation		
Fire Insurance .. .. .	2	2 0	Commemoration Fund .. .. .	500	0 0
Fuel .. .. .	10	1 0			
Legal Charges .. .. .	3	4 6			
Bank Charges .. .. .		5 0			
Excess of Income over Expenditure					
carried forward .. .. .	521	16 10			
	<u>£589</u>	<u>1 0</u>			
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Balance carried to Balance Sheet	1,364	12 9	By Excess of Income over Expendi-		
			ture brought forward .. .. .	521	16 10
			Grant from General Account for		
			New Cottages .. .. .	842	15 11
	<u>£1,364</u>	<u>12 9</u>			
				<u>£1,364</u>	<u>12 9</u>

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1938

LIABILITIES		ASSETS	
	£	s.	d.
Income and Expenditure Account :			
Balance at 1st January, 1938 ..	2,073	19	1
Less Decrease in value of Investments .. .. .	96	0	8
	1,977	18	5
Add Balance at 31st December, 1938 .. .. .	1,364	12	9
	3,342	11	2
Creditors .. .. .	17	0	0
	£3,359	11	2
Investments at Middle Market Value on 31st December, 1938 :			
£250 3½% Conversion Loan ..	226	17	6
£460 10s. 6d. 3½% War Stock ..	451	6	3
£108 10s. 8d. India 3½% Stock ..	97	8	1
£600 Kenya 5% Inscribed Stock, 1948-58 .. .. .	648	0	0
£97 15s. 3d. Queensland 5% Inscribed Stock, 1948-58 .. .. .	99	15	4
£100 East Indian Railway 3½% Debenture Stock .. .. .	87	10	0
	1,610	17	2
New Cottage Homes, at Cost ..	1,653	0	7
Cash at Bank .. .. .	95	13	5
	£3,359	11	2

We have examined the above Balance Sheet with the Books, Vouchers and Pass Books of the Regimental Association and certify it to be in accordance therewith.

We have verified the Investments by a Certificate from the Charity Commission and the Balance at the Bank by a Certificate from the Bankers.

9A SACKVILLE STREET, PICCADILLY, W.1,  
20th January, 1939.

G. DIXEY & CO.,  
*Chartered Accountants.*





## OPPORTUNITIES FOR PROMOTION AFFORDED TO ANY MAN ENTERING THE POST OFFICE SERVICE AS A POSTMAN

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

"I should like to give you my own personal experience. Realising that my trade of saddler had practically ceased to exist, I was faced with the fact that I should have to enter some other occupation on re-entering civil life, which, as I was 41 years of age, was a difficult proposition. I visited the office of the National Association for Employment of Regular Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen, at 62, Victoria Street, and, on the advice of the Employment Manager, I registered my name for employment in the Post Office. He informed me that entry was restricted to the appointment of postmen and porters, but that I could enter a limited competition for the appointment of sorter (London), subject to an age limit of 45 years and with the proviso that I competed within the first three years of Post Office service.

"Shortly after nomination I was instructed to appear for an interview with the Postmaster at Aldershot, after which I was medically examined by the Post Office Medical Officer. Within three months of registration I was asked to attend at Battersea, on the 31st October, 1936, and from there I was sent to the London Postal School for instruction. Instruction is given in general postmen's duties in a class under the one instructor for a period of three weeks. It consists of sorting for London

districts and primary sorting for the provinces, with a number of lectures and visits to the principal offices in London. Sorting instruction is given on a series of cards in groups, on which a standard pass for efficiency is set.

"On completing the course and passing the sorting test, I was sent to my office at S.W.14, there to take up my duties as a postman, and I received further instruction in the local sorting and other duties in that area. I was granted a Civil Service Certificate in March, 1937. In the same month I entered the first examination and, in consequence of the position I obtained in the competition, I was appointed a sorter, Inland Section, E.C.1. On appointment, I again entered the London Postal School, on the 20th March, 1938. Instruction is spread over a period of four weeks, in which instruction is given in the sorting of mail into districts and the general principles of despatch, visits are paid to the offices concerned, and practical instruction is given in all duties peculiar to the class. As in the case of a postman, it is essential to attain pass standards in sorting. On completing the course, I joined my office, where further instruction was given in duties peculiar to that office.

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

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

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

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

## A MONS DIARY

### NINTH INSTALMENT

**T**HE C.O. went off to Brigade "H.Q." to find out if there were any orders and shortly afterwards, as he had not returned, Major Finch sent me there to ask if we were to go on. I got there and found the Brigadier, who had had a very trying day and was looking quite worn out. He told me that I had better wait for the C.O. to come back. He had gone off to reconnoitre, with a view to holding the village. I took the opportunity to get my waterbottle filled by some kind-inhabitants who had packed up, but had not left their house. Whether they managed to do so in time or not, I don't know. The C.O. soon returned and I went back with him to the Battalion. We moved on a little and the C.O. told me that the 9th Brigade were going to put up a little show in the village and we would take up a position to cover their retirement if he could find a suitable one. However, when he got back to the Battalion and saw the state of exhaustion of the men he decided to abandon this plan and march on. We got a little further on when a Divisional Cyclist came up with orders for us to go to a place called Nouvelle, about three miles away, for the night. We went on, the men keeping up well. By this time we were away from the annoyance of bursting shells. We got to Mesvin and found it deserted, except for a few refugees who were still there and, although thirsting for information about Les Allemands, they did not forget to produce biscuits, chocolate, water, fruit, bread, and all sorts of things for the men who were retiring like a beaten army through their village. They bore no malice.

We turned to the left halfway through the village and, getting to the top of the next hill, found that we were coming up to face a whole Brigade of Artillery of our own, who were blazing away just over the other side of the crest line. We halted and I was sent on to ask if we might be allowed to pass through. I got up to the guns and they stopped firing for us.

At the foot of this hill was our resting place and very glad we were to get there. It was about 7.30 p.m. We sorted the men out by Companies and got news that the Transport and some more men of ours were coming

along the road from the other direction from which we had come. They got in at about 8 p.m., numbering four Officers and about 165 men, including the Transport men and my horse which I had not seen since about noon and thought was dead. We sorted them out and tried to get two returns done: (1) the number of rounds of ammunition left on the men and (2) the casualty list. I found the latter quite impossible as very few of the missing seemed to be accounted for by anyone and stragglers kept on joining and, though the Platoon Commanders came to a little cottage with me to try to work this out, we could not manage it with any success at all, except for Officers, and of those we had lost 15 and 8 of them had to be reported missing as there was not any really definite news of them. We gave this up and after being supplied, very kindly, by the cottage inhabitants with coffee and bread and butter we returned to the Battalion.

The men were all fast asleep by this time, all being covered over with straw gathered from the field in which they were lying, which had been cut and tied up in sheaves before the war and was simply wasting.

The ridge in front of us had been strongly entrenched during the day by another Division and was being held by the 9th Brigade during the night. There was a small gap in the line which we were ordered to hold.

"B" Company appeared to have had the best time on the whole during the day so they were told to find 30 volunteers to do this. The party was soon up and off under 2/Lieut. Thorp. The Transport were the next to be worried; they were sent off to a cross-roads to the rear so as to be out of the way in case of attack. There was nothing doing during the night, however. I think the Germans had lost very heavily and wanted a rest and reorganisation as much as we did.

The C.O. had the ammunition turned out of one cart, seven boxes, I think it was, to be issued in the morning. I had to put a guard over this and it was an awful job to wake the men up and turn them out for the duty; they were so tired that when woken up they appeared to be doped. I eventually got them up (an N.C.O. and six men) and put a double sentry on.

I showed the N.C.O. where I should be if anything came for me and then got a lot of straw and coiled up in it and went to sleep. It was quite cold and I had to get up and walk



up and down about once every hour to get warm again after sleeping. I had given the sentry my luminous and alarm watch and told him to call me at 3.30 a.m. if nothing happened before, and told him to hand on the watch when relieved by the next sentry. This battle had shown us, above all things, that the enemy were not led, but driven, and that well-directed fire with the rifle would mow them down with little risk to the firers as they did not aim, but shot anyhow and without troubling to put their rifles to their shoulders. The battle also gave us the impression that the enemy, though in vastly superior strength, had very little push or plan of action, and did not try to make any use of cover. They simply relied on their weight of numbers which must have been a good many to one. In consequence of this they must have lost about ten to one in casualties, and had they not had such strong artillery to support them the proportion of casualties would, in all probability, have been much heavier, for practically all our casualties were due to shell fire. The value of machine guns was a revelation to us all and, though ours had done good work, the enemy's had, too, and there were lots of them. Our men, instead of being downcast, were much impressed with the superiority of their rifle fire and extended order manoeuvring to that of the enemy's fire and movement *en masse*.

The casualties had been awful, and the thought of those we had left behind was dreadful, but we knew all along that we should have to retire, and knew it could not be helped.

Our casualties were as follows:

*Officers:*

Killed .. ..	5
Wounded and Prisoner	5
Prisoner .. ..	2 (including the M.O., who was with the wounded)

Missing .. .. 3

*Rank and File:*

"A" Company lost ..	134
"B" Company lost ..	95
"C" Company lost ..	54
"D" Company lost ..	183

A high proportion of rank and file had to be reported missing. Total Officers, 15 out of 27; Rank and File, 467 out of 970. 50 of the rank and file were with the Transport and were consequently not much in action.

# THE RETIREMENT TO THE LE CATEAU POSITION

24th August

The next day, as soon as it was light, our trench party was withdrawn. There had been no firing or other excitement during the night. The C.O. sent me to find the Transport. I went for a long round and could not find it. It had been moved off by order of higher authority and had joined another Transport column. I, however, had the satisfaction of finding our other Division in a strong position behind us and it looked to me as if we were going to retire under cover of them. I rode along a large portion of their line and down a fresh road to join the Battalion, passing through a little village on the way where some inhabitants gave me a couple of eggs and some large slabs of bread and butter. I ate one piece of bread and butter, and threw the rest into the first of our Companies I came across; the men scrambled for them. The eggs, I gave to the C.O. and someone else as I could not cook them and I do not like eating them raw. We marched off at about 7 a.m. after the men had made what breakfast they could out of what they had left, consisting of their iron rations which the C.O. had given them permission to eat.

We went back through the position behind, to Genly, and over a piece of country like Salisbury Plain to another village called Blairon, and on to Quevy Le Grand, where we found the Irish Guards (part of the 1st Army Corps) digging hard to hold back the enemy after the 2nd Division had passed through from the position just behind where we had rested for the night. Our Artillery had been busy all the time, starting before we had to move off; in fact, as soon as it was light.

We went on to Quevy Le Petit, where we took up a position for some of the 1st Army Corps to pass through us in their turn. Whilst coming through, Quevy Le Petit we were blocked by Transport in front and I was letting my horse drink from a trough on the side of the road when two motors came along. I did not hear them coming, but a Staff Officer shouted, "Let us pass, will you, as the Commander-in-Chief is coming behind?" and in the second car was Sir John French. He was apparently going to inspect, personally, the position which we were to take up in front.

We had marched in a semi-circle, starting south and then turning west, and now up

north again, facing Frameries, where we entrenched ourselves. The Artillery came up on our right and a duel with the enemy's Artillery ensued. The Gordon Highlanders were on our left, and the Royal Irish and Royal Scots on our right, in front of the guns. We were up on a hill and could see an attack being made by the 1st Army Corps on Binche as if to retake the place and so delay and deceive the enemy. We watched it all and the retirement therefrom. Then, after a few shells had pitched around us without a casualty, we were ordered to retire to Bavai through the Irish Guards. Major Finch and I went one way with three Companies, and the C.O. went another with the fourth—Capt. Oliver's.

We had got separated somehow or other when retiring through the Guards. The march was roughly about 12 miles and a good many of the men could hardly get along. We passed a lot of stragglers of other Units on the way and received the usual hospitality from the inhabitants of small villages that we passed through.

On our march we passed through the battlefield of Malplaquet and passed the monument erected on the side of the road on the frontier there. We thought of the great victory gained there in 1709, and here we were retiring past it.

After marching some way I saw Tagg was looking very done up. I had told him to march in the rear of the Battalion and keep the men up as well as he could, but it was hard work, so I gave him my horse for about an hour and took on the job myself, but it was a hopeless task; the men, at least a good many of them, were done to a turn and began falling out. The Battalion after about half an hour, that is after the next halt, covered about half a mile in length from front to rear. I passed up to the head of the Battalion for a halt as I was carrying three rifles and could not compete with all the stragglers. Major Finch halted in front and the men filled up their waterbottles. It was a very hot day again and we all felt it a good bit. The stragglers all closed up now and we halted for about half an hour. On again to Bavai, which we reached at about 6 p.m.

Our Chaplain was standing at the side of the road at the entrance to the village and he walked along a little way with us, anxious to hear all the Battalion news. He wore a very depressed face at the end of it, but he told us that the Battalion was the talk of the town.

In the square there was a mixture of all branches of troops, as well as a crowd of terrified civilians, and overhead was a German plane very high up. A Highlander offered me a Mess tin of tea which I passed on to some of the men behind me. Another Highlander came up to guide us to our bivouac. We passed our Army Corps Commander soon, but he was too busy with his maps, etc., to notice us. The Battalion was loudly cheered by all the troops it passed in the town—Artillery, Cavalry, Infantry, and troops of various supply Corps. We arrived at our bivouac where we found the Quartermaster and Transport, and a nice dinner was awaiting us. We had done about 22 miles and had dug ourselves in once during the day.

It was not long before we heard that we were going on as the General considered that it was the enemy's intention to shell the town on account of the great activity of his aircraft. The thing that worried us was the absence of the C.O. and Capt. Oliver's Company.

The men were very afraid of the C.O. being hit. I myself had seen a shell burst almost at Oliver's feet and the C.O. was there at the time, and several other shells burst around them at the time, too.

At about 7 p.m. they arrived with the C.O. at their head. As the Colonel came into the bivouac he was tremendously cheered by the whole Battalion. His groom was terribly anxious about him all the time throughout the march that day as he had his horse and the C.O. was without one, but as a matter of fact he had got one from some Staff Officer. He was frightfully done and had had a very hard day; his energy at all times was extraordinary, but this time he had done too much. He had a little soup and a short sleep while "C" Company had a rest and dinner, and we soon departed.

We had a well-deserved hand-and-face scrub, but no shave, as we had not got our kits at the bivouac.

Our next rendezvous was at a place with an impossible name to pronounce—Amfroipect.

It was about six miles beyond Bavai, making our march for the day 28 miles. The C.O. and "C" Company got in about a couple of hours after us, so we left them to rest a little after we had left Bavai.

We arrived about 9 p.m. and got some inhabitants to give us some eggs and bacon, and coffee—a great luxury—and we got orders at about 10 p.m. from the Brigade to say that we would not start on the morrow



before 5 a.m. at the earliest, so we made up our minds to have a good sleep. I had a rotten night myself as I was continually waking up and feeling frightfully ill. I think I had been poisoned by something or other. Tagg told me the next morning that he had been feeling much the same all night.

Another annoyance was caused by some cows which were in the orchard in which we were bivouacking; they kept on getting startled by the men moving about under the straw which covered them and they stampeded over the men's lines. The men did not seem to mind much. They were too tired to mind anything at the time.

#### 25th August

At about 3 a.m. I was roused by a Brigade Orderly who said I was wanted at the Brigade at once. This was to get our march orders. I had recovered, more or less, from my illness and got up from my bed of straw and went down to the Brigade. We were to be the advance guard of the Brigade and to leave the Brigade starting point at 5 a.m.

The route was through Wargnes, Le Quesnoy, Solesmes, Romeries, to Veisley. We had a long march before us, but we hoped for peace at the other end. We had Reveille and breakfast (a very scrappy one) in a hurry and dished out rations, which had been brought up by the Army Service Corps during the night, and started off. We passed through several small villages where we received our usual welcome and hospitality, and at Le Quesnoy we had a long halt in the town where all the men got plenty to eat and drink given to them. Here, the lame ducks were sent on in lorries to Solesmes. These lorries were going back to the advanced base or railhead, empty, after supplying us with our rations the night before. We had no Medical Officers in the Brigade as we had left them all at Mons and never saw them again throughout the retirement. Soon after we had started the C.O. found that he had left his field-glasses in the billet where he had spent the night. I went back for them, but, unfortunately, they had disappeared by that time.

When we were going down to Solesmes we saw our 1st Battalion in the distance. We were just beginning to think of the end of our march when some fresh situation arose. I suppose it was the idea of taking up the Le Cateau position and we went on and on until we reached at last a place called Caudry, making the march about 30 miles for the day. Here

we had to wait to let a whole French Cavalry Division go by and pass through the town across our head. It was a fine sight—Hussars, Dragoons, and Cuirassiers in full ceremonial kits, most unsuitable for War. They were a fine lot of men and I think they must have been General Sordet's Cavalry who were not able to help us on the next day owing to the tired state of their horses. We got to our bivouacking ground in pelting rain and hardly any of the men had great coats. Here, however, we found a lot of empty houses and got a hot meal. The men had their dinners under shelter, but not until they were wet through. The inhabitants here were, as usual, very kind, and produced dry shirts and towels for many of the men, as well as food and cigarettes.

The Quartermaster and I were sent on to arrange billets in Audencourt, a village about two miles further on.

We heard that there was going to be a great battle here, from the inhabitants, who told me that civilian labour had been employed to dig trenches. I went back to guide the Battalion to Audencourt and after getting them on the right road I went back again for the Transport, which we had a lot of difficulty in bringing along. However, we got there in the end at about 8 p.m. All were billeted by about 9 p.m. At Caudry, we had a very good dinner cooked for us, but mine was rather spoilt owing to a little misfortune. It was a "Hotch Pot" and the first mouthful I had was a hot potato which stuck to the roof of my mouth and burnt all the skin off it. It was sore for many days, but seemed to get worse instead of better as time went on and I did not lose the discomfort of it for at least a fortnight.

I had another restless night here; worse than ever, in fact. I found out where the horses had been stabled and could not find my groom, but as I had no time to waste I handed my horse over to another groom. I found the Officers' Mess and took my equipment off, much to my delight. I then set out to find the Colonel, which I soon succeeded in doing. He had found himself a bed and though some Officers were with their Companies, Major Finch, some other Officers, and myself, decided to sleep in the Mess House. We had a meal of sorts—a mixture of tea and dinner—at about 10 p.m. and then retired to a bed of straw in the next room. Supplies arrived about this time and the Quartermaster was kept busy for some

time issuing them. It was just midnight when the first messenger arrived.

#### 26th August

I had had about an hour's sleep and now I had to go to Brigade Headquarters with the C.O. I went and woke him up, and we went over to the Brigade together. We received orders to put out a picquet along the road at our end of the village and were told that we should be required to dig some trenches the next day. After waiting there for about half an hour or so we went back to the Battalion area. The C.O. made me move into his room for the rest of the night as he expected more orders. I went out to post this picquet myself, taking a Sergeant and 15 men of "D" Company. I woke up Tagg to tell him what I was doing with his Company, but did not take him out with me. I got back at about 1.30 a.m. and coiled up on the floor of the C.O.'s room.

At 2.10 a.m. we were aroused by some more orders.

"To O.C. 4/Middlesex Regiment.

"26th.

"Stand to arms 4 a.m. to-day and be prepared to occupy the section of position allotted.

"Troops will be prepared to march at 7 a.m. Further orders will be issued.

"Orders *re* preparation of position for defence are cancelled.

"The position will be occupied at 4 a.m. by outposts as follows: Royal Scots, 1 Officer and 1 Platoon about F of FOURACHAUX.

Gordon Highlanders, 1 Officer and 1 Platoon about CH of CLAREMONT CHATEAU.

"Remainder stand to arms in present billets.

"CCCCCCCC Major.

"Bde Major 8th Inf Bde.

"8th Infantry Brigade.

"2 a.m."

"To O.C. 4/Middlesex Regiment.

"26th.

"1. Please send S.A.A. Carts to Bde HQ by 6 a.m. to-day to draw any ammunition you may require to complete.

"2. Please render returns of casualties, approximate numbers if nothing else is avail-

able, incurred in your Battalion this week. Also a return of deficiencies in equipment, etc.

"CCCCCCCC Major.

"Bde Major 8 Inf Bde.

"8 Infantry Brigade.

"2 a.m."

My next move was to go and get Thorp up to turn his Platoon out, and then I had to issue orders for the next day, and with the map which the C.O. had been presented with in the train coming up to Aulnoye I guided this Platoon out to their post. On the way we came to a well where we halted to let the men fill up their waterbottles. It was a slow process as the water was brought up in a bucket by turning a wheel at the side of an apparatus, which looked like a pump and automatically tipped the bucket at the top of its journey, then the water poured out of a spout and, of course, on account of the size of the mouthpiece of the waterbottle, most of the water was wasted. Time was getting short as it was already 4 a.m. and we were about half a mile from the position we had been ordered to take up, so Thorp and I left the party to carry on the work at the well under the Sergeant's supervision and went on ourselves. We decided upon the position of the picquet and returned to the well where the men had completed the waterbottle filling and I left them. On my way back I found the Royal Scots hard at work digging trenches, so I presumed the march was cancelled and the battle was going to take place after all.

The Cavalry which had been scattered during the last two days' work was rapidly being collected and a whole Brigade passed me on my way back.

I got back at about 4.45 a.m. and was quite ready for breakfast. We were given eggs and bacon by the inhabitants, and made some tea.

At 7 a.m. we were ordered to dig some trenches facing, roughly, NW., and overlooking those of the Royal Scots from which we were able to bring a very effective fire to bear on to the country in front, which was open.

(To be continued)



## CORRESPONDENCE

MADRAS RACE CLUB,  
GUINDY,  
SAIDAPET P.O.,  
MADRAS, I. INDIA.

27th March, 1939.

To the Editor of "The Die-Hards"

DEAR SIR,

After 41 years in India, without a break, I have decided to quit and return to the land of my birth—New Zealand. I am due to sail from Bombay at the end of June. I will send you my address as soon as I am settled. Having been a worker all my life, I will still require to be doing something to occupy mind and time, and, if possible, bring in a few shillings to help the small pension. If this should meet the eye of any of my old Officers retired in N.Z., I hope they will communicate with me—147, King Street, Rangiora, Canterbury, N.Z. (Temporary), will find me on my arrival.

I could write a book on a "Die-Hard's" doings in India for 41 years. Might be interesting to young soldiers, about to proceed abroad, how an old soldier, with 21 years' Army Service and 16 years' Volunteer Service, winding up with 10 years at the Race Club, passed those years away.

My only grievance is the failure of the Home Government to fulfil the conditions on discharge to pension existing at that time, viz.: Additional fivepence on attaining 55, and additional fourpence at 60 years of age.

I have not had either of these increments, neither did I get any increase for service during the War, though I hold the General Service Medal, and my Corps was mobilised.

I worked in manufacture of cordite and was badly gassed at work; in fact, lucky to be alive.

I am always interested in the quarterly issue of the Journal and look to it as a means of communication with past and present. May it always flourish.

Greetings to you, sir, and to all Old Comrades.

Yours faithfully,

A. H. SAY.

4TH BATTALION MIDDLESEX  
REGIMENT O.C.A.

22nd February, 1939.

To the Editor of "The Die-Hards"

The Barracks,  
Mill Hill, N.W.7.

DEAR SIR,

In accordance with a resolution agreed to at our last meeting held at the Allenby Club, that a Supper and Reunion be held in May, 1939—ladies excluded.

In view of the above, and carrying out my instructions I ask for your support.

May this notice be published in the May issue of the Journal, please?

It is particularly requested that application for tickets, with cash, be forwarded *as soon as possible to me*, so as to enable arrangements for catering, etc., to be made.

DATE: Saturday, 27th May.

MEETING: 7 p.m.

SUPPER: 7.30 p.m.

TICKETS: 3s.

PLACE: Allenby Club, Hand Court, Holborn, W.C.1.

A. T. FARROW,

Hon. Sec., 4th Middlesex Regt. O.C.A.

16a, Parson Street,

Hendon, N.W.4.

## OBITUARY

BRIG.-GENERAL VERE LORRAINE  
NUTTALL PEARSON, D.S.O.

WE announced the death of Brig.-General V. L. N. Pearson in the Editorial Notes of the last issue. He died at Hove on 17th January, 1939, and had a military funeral at Hove Cemetery, on Friday, 20th January. The 2nd Battalion found the Bearer Party, Firing Party, and Bugler, and the coffin was taken to the cemetery on a mechanised gun carriage.

Among those present were Major H. Phillips (representing the Colonel of the Regiment, Brig.-General R. M. Heath, and the Depot), Major F. G. Parker (representing the 1st Battalion), Lieut.-Col. W. W. Jefferd

(commanding the 2nd Battalion), Col. M. Browne, Lieut.-Col. W. H. Samuel, Lieut.-Col. T. S. Wollocombe, Major N. H. B. Lyon, Capt. N. B. McIvor, and Capt. B. K. Cattell.

Among the many floral tributes were wreaths from the 1st Battalion, 2nd Battalion, Depot, 7th Battalion, 9th Battalion, The Officers' Club, The Regimental Association, Col. and Mrs. G. L. Brown, and Major and Mrs. N. H. B. Lyon.

Son of the late Lieut.-Col. John Pearson, of Hove, Sussex, General Pearson was born on 3rd December, 1880, was embodied in the militia and joined the 3rd Battalion. He served in South Africa, St. Helena, North China, Hong Kong, Singapore, India, and Aden before the War. He was promoted Lieutenant on 8th September, 1903, and Captain on 24th March, 1911.

During the War he became Temporary Major, 29th September, 1915; Substantive Major, 24th July, 1916; Acting Lieutenant-Colonel, 10th Battalion, 6th August, 1916; Temporary Brigadier-General, 10th May, 1917, to 28th October, 1918; received the Brevet of Lieutenant-Colonel on 1st January, 1918; Temporary Lieutenant-Colonel, 52nd Battalion Royal Warwickshire Regiment, 8th March, 1919; Temporary Lieutenant-Colonel, 1/5 Devon Regiment, 4th May, 1919; Temporary Lieutenant-Colonel, 20th Durham Light Infantry, 7th November, 1919, to 21st February, 1920.

During the period of the War he served in France and Flanders, Salonika, Egypt, and Palestine.

After the War he served with the 4th Battalion in Gibraltar and Egypt, and on the disbanding of the Battalion went to 1st Battalion. He commanded the Depot from 10th March, 1923, to 10th March, 1926, and the 1st Battalion from 28th September, 1928, to 28th September, 1932.

He was promoted Colonel on 28th September, 1932, and appointed to command the 150th (York and Durham) Infantry Brigade on 23rd April, 1933.

He retired Hon. Brigadier-General on 24th April, 1935. He served in the South African War, 1899-1902, operations in Cape Colony, March, 1900, to October, 1901, and in St. Helena in May, 1902, and had the Queen's Medal with three clasps.

During the War he was mentioned in despatches in the *London Gazette* on 6th December, 1916, 6th July, 1917, and 12th

January, 1918. He was awarded the D.S.O. and Brevet of Lieutenant-Colonel, and was also an Officer of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem. From April, 1936, to April, 1938, he was Chairman of the Committees of the Officers' Club and Regimental Association.

## CAPT. REGINALD VICTOR WILLIAMS

We regret to announce the death of Capt. Reginald Victor Williams, on 11th January, 1939.

Capt. Williams was a well-known sportsman in his earlier years. He was educated at the County High School, Isleworth, where he was athletic champion for Hounslow Town. He was a keen member of local rowing clubs. In later years his hobby was riding.

He endeavoured to enlist in the early days of the War, but was rejected. He persisted, however, in his efforts and was eventually accepted as a Private in the Middlesex Regiment. He was commissioned in March, 1917, and served in France, both with the 11th and 20th Battalions. On demobilisation in January, 1919, he commenced business as a licensed victualler. At the time of his death he was the landlord of "Ye Olde Watling," in Watling Street, and the Railway Hotel, Church End, Finchley.

Capt. Williams was at the 12th Division Officers' Club Dinner in November last year, when he appeared to be fit and well, but soon after developed bronchial pneumonia, and died from heart failure. He was 51 at the time of his death.

## MR. GEORGE HENRY HOWARD

We regret to announce the death of ex-Private George Henry Howard, who died at the St. Francis Hospital, on 23rd January, 1939.

He was in the 1st and 10th Battalions from 1912 to 1924. The funeral took place at Epsom, on 26th January, 1939.

A wreath was sent from the Regimental Association.

## MR. J. TURNBULL

We regret to announce the death of Mr. J. Turnbull, an ex-Private soldier of the Regiment. He died at the North Middlesex Hospital after a short illness on 26th March,



1939, aged 65. He enlisted at Hounslow, in 1890, and served with the 2nd Battalion in India from 1891 to 1900. He changed over to the 1st Battalion and took his discharge in India.

He was employed with the Southern Indian Railway for 32 years, during which time he took a great interest in the Regiment and was a frequent visitor to the 2nd Battalion when stationed in Madras from 1928 to 1930.

He was well known as "Tubby" Turnbull and was a member of the 2nd Battalion concert party for a number of years during his service.

He returned to England in 1934 and attended most of the Regimental functions until his death.

The Regiment was represented at his funeral by Sergt. Boen and Dmr. Firman, and a wreath was sent from the Regimental Association. Mr. I. Grainger, who served with him in the 2nd Battalion, was also present at the funeral.

#### MAJOR LANCELOT F. PASSY

Major L. F. Passy, whose death is announced in the Officers' Club Notes, was the only son of F. O. Passy, R.N., and grandson of Col. Edmond Wilton Passy, of the 56th Regiment, and great-nephew of Lord Lisgar, first Viceroy of Canada. He was 57 years of age and died of cardiac asthma.

He first joined the 4th (Militia) Battalion of the Regiment at Hounslow and served in the South African War under Col. V. Rolleston. He became an Acting Captain in South Africa, but on returning to England joined the 4th (Regular) Battalion as 2nd Lieutenant. He served at the Depot, Mill Hill, and in Ireland, Tidworth, Aldershot, and Devonport

with the 4th Battalion and was promoted Captain in 1912. He went to France with the 4th Battalion and was present at Mons, Le Cateau, and La Bassée, where he was wounded in the hip. After a year's convalescence he was invalided from Active Service to Home Service and appointed Recruiting and Registration Officer at Folkestone, Ashford, Canterbury, Southampton, and Woking, until the Armistice, when, owing to his wound, he was put on half-pay and retired pay.

He had the King's South African Medal with clasps, Transvaal and Cape Colony and the 1914 Star, General Service, and Victory Medals.

We offer our sympathy to his widow and to his son who is now serving in the 2nd Battalion.

#### MR. J. DOWLING

We regret to announce the death, at the Middlesex County Hospital, on 6th April, 1939, of ex-Bdmn. J. Dowling, after a trying illness at the age of 69.

He enlisted at Hounslow, on 27th May, 1886, as No. 1765 and was discharged on 26th May, 1898. On 11th November, 1905, he re-enlisted in the Regiment and was discharged in July, 1906.

He went to Uxbridge about seven years ago as waiter in the R.A.F. Officers' Hospital till illness prevented his continuing in this capacity.

He was buried at the Hillingdon Cemetery on Thursday, 13th April.

The funeral was attended by Mr. R. E. Evans, D.C.M., and Mr. A. Blinco. At his wish no wreath was sent.

### 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 12/12/38)

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. J. Painter	Cpl. 8/5/34
*B.M. W. Kifford	10/8/38	L/Sergt. 18/12/34	
*C.S.M. A. Russell (Supn. F.M.S.V.F.)	1/4/31	L/Sergt. T. Bayly	Cpl. 5/12/34
*R.Q.M.S. W. Raindle	C.S.M. 13/6/35	L/Sergt. A. Moore	L/Sergt. 16/12/36
	R.Q.M.S. 2/11/37		Cpl. 15/2/35
*C.S.M. F. Stacey	4/7/36	L/Sergt. H. Naylor (Officers' Mess Sergt.)	L/Sergt. 16/12/36
*C.S.M. R. Challis	2/11/37		Cpl. 28/7/35
*C.S.M. W. Northcott, M.M.	8/11/37		L/Sergt. 20/4/36
*C.S.M. E. Green	13/12/37		Cpl. 31/8/35
*C.S.M. W. Tibble	2/2/38	L/Sergt. F. Hiscocks	L/Sergt. 16/12/36
C/Sergt. (C.Q.M.S.) W. Christie, M.M.			
	Sergt. 1/5/20	*Cpl. C. Keefe	28/11/35
	C/Sergt. 7/7/36	Cpl. J. McGrady	6/12/35
*C/Sergt. (C.Q.M.S.) R. Colbourne	Sergt. 6/10/23	Cpl. F. Shaw	12/12/35
	C/Sergt. 20/2/37	Cpl. P. Crowley	12/12/35
C/Sergt. (C.Q.M.S.) R. Bayles	Sergt. 10/12/31	Cpl. S. Clark (Supn. Sch. Sigs.)	30/4/36
	C/Sergt. 8/11/37	Cpl. F. Hammond (40)	25/5/36
C/Sergt. (C.Q.M.S.) F. Donovan	Sergt. 4/2/32	*Cpl. R. Lomax	4/7/36
	C/Sergt. 2/2/38	Cpl. G. Clark	13/1/37
*C/Sergt. (C.Q.M.S.) E. Paterson	Sergt. 18/2/32	Cpl. P. Cain	8/3/37
	C/Sergt. 5/2/38	Cpl. W. Lane	23/4/37
*C/Sergt. (O.R.S.) P. Hale	Sergt. 19/10/33	Cpl. R. Burkitt	23/4/37
	C/Sergt. 5/11/38	Cpl. F. Hammond (64)	23/4/37
*Sergt. A. Russell	16/2/30	Cpl. L. Savagar	9/5/37
*Sergt. C. Soper	17/12/30	Cpl. A. Borrow	2/6/37
Sergt. J. Quick (Pioneer)	23/4/31	Cpl. C. Freshwater	1/9/37
*Sergt. L. Priddy	18/9/31	Cpl. G. Watson	8/11/37
Sergt. J. Ramsey	23/6/32	Cpl. L. Sibley	30/11/37
*Sergt. H. Kruck (Depot)	24/8/32	Cpl. A. Ellis	16/12/37
*Sergt. W. Bean	23/3/33	Cpl. A. Burrell	6/1/38
Sergt. E. Paterson	8/9/33	*Cpl. A. Bisset	14/1/38
Sergt. J. Little	19/10/33	Cpl. T. Baker	2/2/38
*Sergt. J. Bond	17/6/34	Cpl. S. Harvey	15/2/38
Sergt. P. Edwards (Band)	5/3/35	Cpl. R. White	16/2/38
*Sergt. V. Cooper (M.T.)	15/5/35	Cpl. A. Pace	16/2/38
Sergt. B. Bedward	24/8/35	Cpl. J. Ringe	16/2/38
*Sergt. (O.R.C.) R. Chaplin	27/11/35	*Cpl. T. McDavitt	16/2/38
Sergt. S. Bullock	1/7/36	Cpl. L. Graham	16/2/38
*Sergt. H. Ramsden	7/7/36	*Cpl. P. Sturdy	16/2/38
Sergt. L. Sheffield	3/8/36	Cpl. J. Sheen	22/3/38
*Sergt. P. Maloney	17/12/36	*Cpl. F. Ayres	24/4/38
*Sergt. G. Bayford (Sig. Sergt.)	27/2/37	Cpl. R. Powell	23/5/38
Drum-Major G. Jeffree	22/5/37	Cpl. C. Kiefer	24/5/38
*Sergt. R. Overy	16/10/37	Cpl. H. Kidby	7/8/38
Sergt. T. Castle	8/11/37	L/Cpl. W. Barnes	5/10/35
*Sergt. H. Parnell (Provost)	6/1/38	L/Cpl. E. Smith	16/12/35
Sergt. J. Riches	2/2/38	L/Cpl. C. Haynes	28/12/35
Sergt. W. Poulter (Cook Sergt.)	24/4/38	L/Cpl. A. Morris	28/12/35
Cpl. S. Phelan	15/9/31	L/Cpl. G. Tattam	1/4/36
L/Sergt. R. Blackman	Cpl. 26/7/32	L/Cpl. L. Du-Heaume	1/4/36
	L/Sergt. 13/5/36	*L/Cpl. A. Moody	21/4/36
*L/Sergt. H. Marshall	Cpl. 14/1/33	L/Cpl. W. Finnis	19/5/36
	L/Sergt. 9/5/37	L/Cpl. E. Rogers	19/5/36
L/Sergt. J. Burgess	Cpl. 3/2/33	*L/Cpl. A. Hoare	19/5/36
	L/Sergt. 16/10/37	L/Cpl. T. Perry	19/5/36
Cpl. E. Soden	3/5/33	L/Cpl. H. Ellams	19/5/36
L/Sergt. F. Britton	Cpl. 25/12/33	L/Cpl. A. Ruddie	19/5/36
	L/Sergt. 12/4/35	L/Cpl. G. Ravenscroft	29/5/36
*L/Sergt. P. Hopwood	Cpl. 20/4/34	*L/Cpl. G. Plummer	29/5/36
	L/Sergt. 18/12/34	L/Cpl. C. Holford	29/5/36

\* 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. W. Dowsett .. ..	15/6/36	*L/Cpl. G. Geary .. ..	15/3/38
L/Cpl. G. Hodgson .. ..	14/10/36	*L/Cpl. C. Thorley .. ..	17/3/38
L/Cpl. W. Ure .. ..	23/10/36	L/Cpl. A. Wright .. ..	25/3/38
L/Cpl. R. Pointer .. ..	11/1/37	L/Cpl. V. Davis .. ..	26/3/38
L/Cpl. J. Turner .. ..	12/6/37	L/Cpl. A. Poole .. ..	26/3/38
L/Cpl. C. French .. ..	2/7/37	L/Cpl. F. Walker .. ..	31/3/38
L/Cpl. A. Keeler .. ..	29/1/38	L/Cpl. A. Hobson .. ..	31/3/38
*L/Cpl. A. Waldron .. ..	19/3/37	L/Cpl. P. Barron .. ..	15/4/38
L/Cpl. L. Staley .. ..	12/6/37	L/Cpl. J. Rich .. ..	24/4/38
L/Cpl. R. Langford .. ..	23/10/37	L/Cpl. J. Morgan .. ..	23/4/38
L/Cpl. F. Wilmer .. ..	23/11/37	L/Cpl. C. Matthews .. ..	27/4/38
L/Cpl. M. Beresford .. ..	10/12/37	L/Cpl. J. Dunsdon .. ..	5/5/38
L/Cpl. A. Payne .. ..	11/1/37	L/Cpl. E. Caslake .. ..	5/5/38
L/Cpl. C. Payne .. ..	11/1/37	L/Cpl. R. Humphreys .. ..	5/5/38
L/Cpl. R. Harris .. ..	12/6/37	L/Cpl. W. Bumpstead .. ..	5/5/38
L/Cpl. J. Casey .. ..	2/7/37	*L/Cpl. F. Jones .. ..	5/5/38
L/Cpl. J. Whitney .. ..	2/7/37	L/Cpl. G. Adams .. ..	5/5/38
L/Cpl. D. Amos .. ..	30/7/37	*L/Cpl. H. Thorn .. ..	6/5/38
L/Cpl. W. Heath .. ..	7/8/37	L/Cpl. A. Thurland .. ..	21/5/38
*L/Cpl. A. Manning .. ..	7/8/37	L/Cpl. L. Bowker .. ..	24/5/38
L/Cpl. G. Chelu .. ..	7/10/37	L/Cpl. W. Fox .. ..	24/5/38
L/Cpl. J. Brooker .. ..	14/10/37	L/Cpl. J. Webster .. ..	26/5/38
L/Cpl. W. Puddifoot .. ..	23/10/37	L/Cpl. A. Seton .. ..	5/6/38
L/Cpl. A. Rasmussen .. ..	30/10/37	L/Cpl. W. Reeves .. ..	2/7/38
L/Cpl. R. Dyson .. ..	15/10/37	L/Cpl. W. Hills .. ..	2/7/38
L/Cpl. A. McGrady .. ..	6/11/37	L/Cpl. R. Shore .. ..	2/7/38
L/Cpl. E. Johnson .. ..	8/11/37	L/Cpl. H. Burnett .. ..	11/7/38
L/Cpl. E. Morrish .. ..	23/11/37	L/Cpl. F. Houghton .. ..	15/8/38
L/Cpl. W. Dee .. ..	23/11/37	*L/Cpl. A. Tait .. ..	30/9/38
L/Cpl. G. Soames .. ..	29/11/37	L/Cpl. J. Dawes .. ..	10/10/38
L/Cpl. E. Chapman .. ..	29/11/37	L/Cpl. G. Rawling .. ..	25/10/38
L/Cpl. A. Miller .. ..	6/12/37	L/Cpl. C. Noble .. ..	25/10/38
L/Cpl. S. Apps .. ..	6/12/37	L/Cpl. G. Vallance .. ..	31/10/38
L/Cpl. S. Cheal .. ..	10/12/37	L/Cpl. J. Robertson .. ..	31/10/38
L/Cpl. E. Williams .. ..	13/12/37	L/Cpl. W. Phillips .. ..	1/11/38
L/Cpl. W. Stone .. ..	13/12/37	L/Cpl. J. Crow .. ..	4/11/38
L/Cpl. H. Perrin .. ..	17/12/37	L/Cpl. F. Bindon .. ..	12/11/38
L/Cpl. F. Smith .. ..	20/12/37	L/Cpl. C. Wright .. ..	12/11/38
L/Cpl. A. Tyler .. ..	3/1/38	L/Cpl. W. Wood .. ..	14/11/38
L/Cpl. A. Moggridge .. ..	3/1/38	L/Cpl. A. Maton .. ..	3/12/38
L/Cpl. L. Burbidge .. ..	3/1/38	L/Cpl. D. Charles .. ..	3/12/38
L/Cpl. C. Betts .. ..	18/1/38	L/Cpl. S. Gilham .. ..	3/12/38
L/Cpl. W. Thompson .. ..	8/2/38	L/Cpl. G. Barkway .. ..	9/12/38
L/Cpl. E. Collier .. ..	1/3/38	L/Cpl. G. Merton .. ..	9/12/38

Dates against L/Cpls. are the dates of first appointment.

#### SENIORITY ROLL OF N.C.O.s (Home Establishment), April, 1939

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.S.M. L. Johnson .. ..	2nd	2/11/38
*R.S.M. R. Parsler .. ..	2nd	1/5/38	*P.S.M. J. Chillery .. ..	2nd	1/10/38
*Bdmr. C. Dennis .. ..	2nd	25/3/33	*P.S.M. S. Day .. ..	2nd	1/10/38
*C.S.M. J. Hart .. ..	9th	20/1/26	*P.S.M. P. Davidson .. ..	2nd	1/10/38
*Q.M.S. (O.R.S.) A. Finch	Depot	13/6/28	*P.S.M. R. Smith .. ..	2nd	12/10/38
*R.Q.M.S. C. Goodall .. ..	Depot	28/7/35	*P.S.M. C. Gatehouse .. ..	2nd	2/11/38
	(C.S.M. 28/4/29)		*C.Q.M.S. F. Franklin .. ..	Depot	8/9/33
*R.Q.M.S. W. Fletcher .. ..	2nd	31/1/30		(Sergt. 20/3/28)	
*C.S.M. H. Wright .. ..	8th	24/2/34	C.Q.M.S. W. Rogers .. ..	2nd	28/7/35
*C.S.M. A. Jones .. ..	8th	10/5/34		(Sergt. 26/5/25)	
*C.S.M. C. Donaldson .. ..	9th	15/6/35	*C.Q.M.S. L. Honeybun .. ..	2nd	15/6/38
*C.S.M. E. Hazeldine .. ..	Depot	27/2/37		(Sergt. 13/8/31)	
*C.S.M. H. Poulter .. ..	2nd	10/11/37	*C.Q.M.S. S. Thompson .. ..	2nd	16/6/38
*C.S.M. C. Kennett .. ..	2nd	15/6/38		(Sergt. 30/9/31)	
*C.S.M. W. Kemp .. ..	7th	16/6/38	*C.Q.M.S. W. Snell .. ..	2nd	22/11/38
*C.S.M. C. Trestain .. ..	2nd	12/10/38		(Sergt. 13/6/35)	

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\*\*In possession of Army Special Certificate of Education.

Rank and Name.	Battalion.	Date of present promotion or appointment.	Rank and Name.	Battalion.	Date of present promotion or appointment.
*C.Q.M.S. L. West .. ..	2nd	27/1/39	L/Sergt. H. Griffiths .. ..	2nd	9/11/38
Sergt. A. Boen .. ..	(Sergt. 10/12/31)			(Cpl. 16/4/36)	
Sergt. R. King .. ..	Depot	13/4/29	Cpl. H. Lovell .. ..	2nd	3/7/36
	Supn., Fire Bde., Bordon	5/7/29	L/Sergt. L. Delaney .. ..	2nd	25/8/38
Sergt. F. Nash .. ..	8th	11/12/29		(Cpl. 5/7/36)	
Sergt. J. Harper .. ..	Depot	19/4/32	Cpl. W. Millichap .. ..	Depot	3/8/36
*Sergt. S. Smith .. ..	2nd	30/7/32	L/Sergt. M. Trotobas .. ..	2nd	1/10/38
*Sergt. H. Kruck .. ..	Depot	24/8/32		(Cpl. 26/8/36)	
Sergt. J. Scott .. ..	2nd	3/9/32	Cpl. A. Ellwood .. ..	Depot	28/10/36
Sergt. (S.M.C.) F. Housden .. ..	Depot	3/5/33	Cpl. A. Read .. ..	2nd	30/10/36
Sergt. A. Mason .. ..	2nd	22/6/33	*L/Sergt. R. Cummins .. ..	2nd	1/10/38
Sergt. R. Wilson .. ..	2nd	8/7/33		(Cpl. 17/12/36)	
*Sergt. H. Ison .. ..	2nd	10/5/34	Cpl. V. Bint .. ..	2nd	20/2/37
*Sergt. J. Bond .. ..	2nd	17/6/34	L/Sergt. S. Parry .. ..	2nd	22/11/38
*Sergt. E. Jennings .. ..	2nd	1/3/35		(Cpl. 8/6/37)	
†Sergt. J. Smith .. ..	Depot	9/6/35	*L/Sergt. W. O'Connor .. ..	2nd	9/12/38
Sergt. A. Hows .. ..	2nd	15/6/35		(Cpl. 12/7/37)	
Sergt. A. Whitcombe .. ..	7th	16/6/35	Cpl. J. West .. ..	2nd	31/7/37
Sergt. A. Williams .. ..	2nd	28/7/35	Cpl. C. Kenny .. ..	2nd	27/8/37
*Sergt. R. Jenkins .. ..	9th	23/1/36	*Cpl. J. Hinch .. ..	2nd	5/10/37
Sergt. S. Bullock .. ..	Depot	1/7/36	*L/Sergt. H. Jennings .. ..	2nd	11/12/38
*Sergt. E. Moir .. ..	2nd	28/10/36		(Cpl. 16/10/37)	
Sergt. A. Brett .. ..	7th	20/2/37	Cpl. G. Watson .. ..	2nd	8/11/37
†Sergt. (O.R.S.) J. Wright .. ..	2nd	8/6/37	Cpl. L. Sibley .. ..	2nd	30/11/37
Sergt. T. Sargent .. ..	2nd	8/6/37	Cpl. L. Harris .. ..	2nd	13/12/37
Sergt. R. Etheridge .. ..	2nd	10/11/37	Cpl. C. Peaseley .. ..	Depot	21/1/38
Sergt. R. Smallridge .. ..	2nd	13/12/37	Cpl. N. Rae .. ..	2nd	20/3/38
†Sergt. W. Day (S.I.M.) .. ..	2nd	1/5/38	*Cpl. A. Bettell .. ..	2nd	8/4/38
Sergt. W. Makewell .. ..	2nd	16/6/38	*Cpl. A. Blan .. ..	2nd	1/5/38
*Sergt. A. Wray .. ..	2nd	25/8/38	Cpl. R. Williams .. ..	2nd	19/5/38
Sergt. H. Elcome .. ..	Depot	12/10/38	Cpl. G. Hockley .. ..	2nd	15/6/38
Sergt. (S.M.C.) W. Claxton .. ..	2nd	23/10/38	Cpl. W. Fletcher .. ..	2nd	16/6/38
Sergt. F. Knight .. ..	2nd	2/11/38	†Cpl. A. Rose .. ..	2nd	25/6/38
†Sergt. W. Smith .. ..	2nd	22/11/38	Cpl. A. Bursill .. ..	2nd	27/7/38
*Sergt. J. Ceaton (Drum-Major) .. ..	2nd	8/12/38	Cpl. R. Turner .. ..	2nd	7/8/38
*Sergt. V. Thomas .. ..	2nd	11/12/38	*Cpl. F. Pryor .. ..	2nd	15/8/38
L/Sergt. J. O'Neill .. ..	2nd	16/12/36	Cpl. J. Jones .. ..	2nd	25/8/38
	(Cpl. 13/8/31)		Cpl. C. Palmer .. ..	Depot	1/10/38
L/Sergt. H. Buckland .. ..	2nd	28/10/36	*Cpl. C. Clenshaw .. ..	Depot	1/10/38
	(Cpl. 13/10/32)		Cpl. G. Rowse .. ..	2nd	1/10/38
*L/Sergt. E. Wadsworth .. ..	Depot	3/8/36	Cpl. J. Rawlinson .. ..	2nd	12/10/38
	(Cpl. 15/11/32)		†Cpl. A. Lowe .. ..	2nd	2/11/38
L/Sergt. G. Endersby .. ..	Depot	27/2/38	*Cpl. C. Jarvis .. ..	2nd	9/11/38
	(Cpl. 2/6/33)		Cpl. E. Stebbing .. ..	Depot	15/11/38
Cpl. C. Carpenter .. ..	2nd	5/5/34	Cpl. J. Riseley .. ..	2nd	9/12/38
*L/Sergt. R. Selve .. ..	Depot	11/3/37	*Cpl. H. Jennings .. ..	2nd	9/12/38
	(Cpl. 8/5/34)		Cpl. A. Morley .. ..	Depot	11/12/38
L/Sergt. J. Stickley .. ..	2nd	15/6/38	Cpl. A. Hudson .. ..	2nd	16/12/38
	(Cpl. 10/6/34)		Cpl. H. Clay .. ..	2nd	11/1/39
Cpl. R. Stretton .. ..	2nd	16/3/35	†Cpl. F. Hogg .. ..	2nd	11/1/39
Cpl. H. Tye .. ..	Supn., R.W.A.F.F.	4/5/35	*Cpl. E. Phillips .. ..	2nd	11/1/39
*L/Sergt. L. McDowell .. ..	2nd	16/12/36	Cpl. W. Humberstone .. ..	2nd	11/1/39
	(Cpl. 9/6/35)		Cpl. R. Newton .. ..	2nd	11/1/39
Cpl. F. Keen .. ..	2nd	15/6/35			
*Cpl. H. Eastland .. ..	Depot	24/8/35			
*Cpl. C. Baldwin .. ..	2nd	18/10/35			
*Cpl. C. Keefe .. ..	2nd	28/11/35			
L/Sergt. A. Ball .. ..	Depot	(12/10/38)			
	(Cpl. 5/1/36)				
*L/Sergt. G. Blackman .. ..	2nd	2/11/38			
	(Cpl. 23/1/36)				

\*In possession of First Class Certificate of Education.

\*\*In possession of Army Special Certificate of Education.

† Passed in one subject for First Class Certificate of Education.

‡ Passed in two subjects for First Class Certificate of Education.

#### PAID LANCE-CORPORALS :

L/Cpl. C. Armitage .. ..	2nd	3/1/33
L/Cpl. C. Marsh .. ..	2nd	3/2/35
†L/Cpl. R. Wigg .. ..	2nd	16/4/36
L/Cpl. L. Thurston .. ..	Depot	26/8/36
L/Cpl. H. Burchell .. ..	2nd	18/10/36
*L/Cpl. N. Islip .. ..	2nd	28/10/36
L/Cpl. V. Chambers .. ..	2nd	19/11/36
L/Cpl. W. Phipps .. ..	2nd	6/2/37



Rank and Name.	Battalion.	Date of present promotion or appointment.	Rank and Name.	Battalion.	Date of present promotion or appointment.
L/Cpl. E. Haynes .. ..	2nd	20/2/37	L/Cpl. J. Firth .. ..	2nd	3/3/38
L/Cpl. B. Irons .. ..	2nd	8/6/37	L/Cpl. A. Stanford .. ..	2nd	10/3/38
L/Cpl. S. Lloyd .. ..	2nd	5/10/37	L/Cpl. W. Watkins .. ..	2nd	22/3/38
L/Cpl. E. Lindeman .. ..	2nd	24/11/37	L/Cpl. A. Tarbuck .. ..	2nd	26/3/38
L/Cpl. E. Avery .. ..	2nd	13/12/37	L/Cpl. H. Botchin .. ..	2nd	26/3/38
*L/Cpl. A. Hastie .. ..	2nd	21/1/38	L/Cpl. B. Le Maitre .. ..	2nd	26/3/38
L/Cpl. R. Reeder .. ..	Depot	18/2/38	L/Cpl. S. Coleman .. ..	2nd	29/3/38
L/Cpl. C. Farrington .. ..	Depot	22/3/38	L/Cpl. A. Thomas .. ..	2nd	21/6/38
	(Paid Acting Cpl.	11/1/39)	L/Cpl. J. Drury .. ..	2nd	11/7/38
*L/Cpl. R. Taylor .. ..	2nd	1/5/38	*L/Cpl. J. Butterworth .. ..	2nd	11/7/38
L/Cpl. H. Thomas .. ..	Depot	19/5/38	*L/Cpl. A. Gillinder .. ..	2nd	31/7/38
L/Cpl. S. Llewellyn .. ..	Depot	31/5/38	L/Cpl. F. Parton-Old .. ..	2nd	2/9/38
L/Cpl. R. White .. ..	2nd	15/6/38	L/Cpl. W. Jacobson .. ..	2nd	11/10/38
L/Cpl. P. Donovan .. ..	2nd	16/6/38	L/Cpl. F. Griffiths .. ..	2nd	18/10/38
†L/Cpl. F. Bird .. ..	2nd	16/6/38	L/Cpl. E. Summerfield .. ..	2nd	4/11/38
L/Cpl. H. Robinson .. ..	2nd	25/6/38	L/Cpl. J. Reeve .. ..	2nd	3/12/38
L/Cpl. B. Duggan .. ..	2nd	16/7/38	†L/Cpl. D. Allingham .. ..	2nd	7/12/38
L/Cpl. S. Blacknell .. ..	2nd	18/7/38	L/Cpl. W. Jackson .. ..	2nd	17/12/38
L/Cpl. A. Budd .. ..	2nd	27/8/38	*L/Cpl. R. Kennedy .. ..	2nd	20/1/39
†L/Cpl. H. Thompson .. ..	2nd	30/7/38	L/Cpl. G. Griffiths .. ..	2nd	20/1/39
L/Cpl. J. Barter .. ..	2nd	18/8/38	L/Cpl. T. Peters .. ..	2nd	23/1/39
L/Cpl. C. King .. ..	2nd	25/8/38	L/Cpl. W. Hamlin .. ..	2nd	24/2/39
L/Cpl. E. Green .. ..	2nd	1/10/38	*L/Cpl. M. Gower .. ..	2nd	24/2/39
*L/Cpl. W. Pratt .. ..	Depot	1/10/38	L/Cpl. L. Ash .. ..	2nd	24/2/39
L/Cpl. J. Harwood .. ..	2nd	1/10/38	L/Cpl. C. Potter .. ..	2nd	24/2/39
L/Cpl. L. Chapman .. ..	2nd	1/10/38	L/Cpl. E. Sharp .. ..	2nd	24/2/39
L/Cpl. J. Papworth .. ..	2nd	8/10/38	L/Cpl. J. Miles .. ..	2nd	24/2/39
L/Cpl. R. Skinner .. ..	2nd	19/6/38	L/Cpl. L. Brown .. ..	2nd	24/2/39
L/Cpl. C. White .. ..	2nd	18/10/38	L/Cpl. W. Jones .. ..	2nd	24/2/39
L/Cpl. G. Parker .. ..	2nd	18/10/38	L/Cpl. S. Jones .. ..	2nd	24/2/39
L/Cpl. J. Murphy .. ..	2nd	2/11/38	L/Cpl. J. Flynn .. ..	2nd	24/2/39
L/Cpl. W. Oakes .. ..	2nd	9/11/38	†L/Cpl. F. Jones .. ..	2nd	24/2/39
L/Cpl. S. Maple .. ..	2nd	15/11/38	L/Cpl. D. Farnsworth .. ..	2nd	24/2/39
L/Cpl. W. Berry .. ..	2nd	20/11/38	L/Cpl. E. Dickson .. ..	2nd	24/2/39
L/Cpl. A. Harvey .. ..	Depot	22/11/38	L/Cpl. P. Hutson .. ..	2nd	24/2/39
L/Cpl. R. McNeille .. ..	2nd	6/12/38	L/Cpl. J. Oakes .. ..	2nd	24/2/39
L/Cpl. E. Butler .. ..	2nd	8/12/38	L/Cpl. A. Elliott .. ..	2nd	24/2/39
L/Cpl. C. Clarke .. ..	2nd	11/12/38	L/Cpl. E. Powell .. ..	2nd	24/2/39
L/Cpl. L. Clarke .. ..	Depot	15/12/38	L/Cpl. R. O'Brien .. ..	2nd	24/2/39
*L/Cpl. V. Caney .. ..	2nd	15/12/38	L/Cpl. E. Bradshaw .. ..	2nd	24/2/39
L/Cpl. C. Monk .. ..	2nd	16/12/38	L/Cpl. E. Swaine .. ..	2nd	24/2/39
			L/Cpl. F. Gibbs .. ..	2nd	24/2/39
			L/Cpl. J. Gilmour .. ..	2nd	24/2/39
			L/Cpl. E. Hunt .. ..	2nd	24/2/39
			L/Cpl. F. Quarrell .. ..	2nd	24/2/39
			L/Cpl. S. Bartle .. ..	2nd	24/2/39
			L/Cpl. W. Heeks .. ..	2nd	24/2/39
			L/Cpl. D. Scott-Farnie .. ..	2nd	24/2/39
			L/Cpl. L. Burns .. ..	2nd	24/2/39
			L/Cpl. G. Groves .. ..	2nd	24/2/39
			L/Cpl. J. Jones .. ..	2nd	24/2/39
			L/Cpl. C. Heyward .. ..	2nd	24/2/39
			L/Cpl. W. McDarell .. ..	2nd	24/2/39

\* In possession of First Class Certificate of Education.

\*\* In possession of Army Special Certificate of Education.

† Passed in one subject for First Class Certificate of Education.

‡ Passed in two subjects for First Class Certificate of Education.

#### UNPAID LANCE-CORPORALS :

L/Cpl. H. Ellams .. ..	2nd	19/5/36
L/Cpl. J. Casey .. ..	2nd	2/7/37
L/Cpl. J. Whitney .. ..	2nd	2/7/37
L/Cpl. T. Brooker .. ..	2nd	14/10/37
L/Cpl. W. Wells .. ..	Depot	15/10/37
†L/Cpl. R. Addy .. ..	2nd	18/10/37
L/Cpl. P. Fegan .. ..	2nd	26/1/38
L/Cpl. G. Bailey .. ..	2nd	29/1/38
†L/Cpl. W. Webb .. ..	2nd	1/3/38