



# THE DIE-HARDS

*The Journal of*

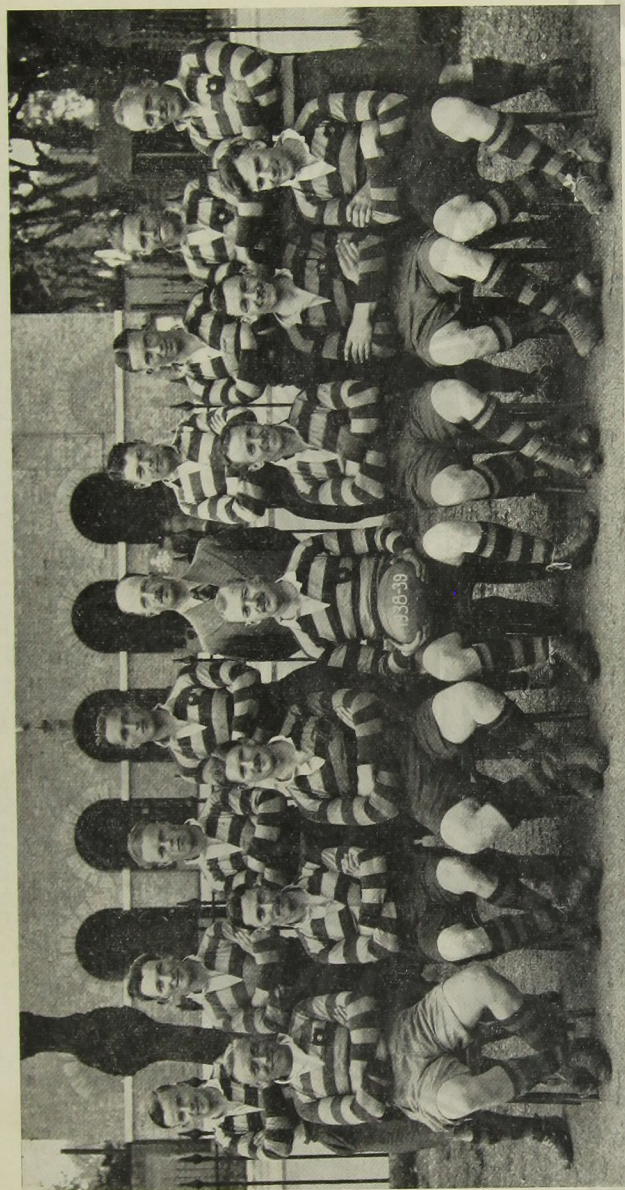
THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT

*(Duke of Cambridge's Own)*

## August 1939

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2nd BATTALION RUGBY 1st XV, 1938-9.

Back Row—Pte. Cronin, L/Sergt. Parry, Pte. Fliccroft, L/Cpl. Scott-Farnie, P.S.M. Davidson, L/Sergt. Jennings ("D"), Pte. Clark, Pte. Coleman, Pte. Kent  
Front Row—Cpl. Rawlinson, Lieut. Porter, Lieut. Beath, Lieut. Clayton, L/Sergt. Trotobas, Cpl. Williams, Cpl. Jennings ("C")

# THE DIE-HARDS

## THE JOURNAL OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT

(Duke of Cambridge's Own)

VOL. VI. No. 9

AUGUST, 1939

PRICE 9D.

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

[57]

East Anglian Area.

The Plume of the Prince of Wales. In each of the four corners the late Duke of Cambridge's Cypher and Coronet.  
"Mysore," "Seringapatam," "Albuhera," "Ciudad Rodrigo," "Badajoz," "Vittoria," "Pyrenees," "Nivelle," "Nive,"  
"Peninsula," "Alma," "Inkerman," "Sevastopol," "New Zealand," "South Africa, 1879," "Relief of Ladysmith," "South  
Africa, 1900-02."

The Great War—46 Battalions—"Mons," "Le Cateau," "Retreat from Mons," "Marne, 1914," "Aisne, 1914, '18," "La Bassée,  
1914," "Messines, 1914, '17, '18," "Armentières, 1914," "Neuve Chapelle," "Ypres, 1915, '17, '18," "Gravenstafel," "St. Julien,  
"Frezenberg," "Bellewaarde," "Aubers," "Hooge, 1915," "Loos," "Somme, 1916, '18," "Albert, 1916, '18," "Bazentin,"  
"Delville Wood," "Pozières," "Ginchy," "Fiers-Courcette," "Morval," "Thiepval," "Le Transloy," "Ancre Heights,"  
"Ancre, 1916, '18," "Bapaume, 1917, '18," "Arras, 1917, '18," "Vimy, 1917, '18," "Scarpe, 1917, '18," "Arleux," "Plickem,"  
"Langemarck, 1917," "Menin Road," "Polygon Wood," "Broodseinde," "Poelcappelle," "Cambrai, 1917,  
"18," "St. Quentin," "Rosières," "Avre," "Villers Bretonneux," "Lys," "Estaires," "Hazebrouck," "Baillieu," "Kemmel,"  
"Scherpenberg," "Hindenburg Line," "Canal du Nord," "St. Quentin Canal," "Courtrai," "Selle," "Valenciennes,"  
"Sambre," "France and Flanders, 1914-18," "Italy, 1917-18," "Struma," "Douran, 1918," "Macedonia, 1915-18," "Suvla,"  
"Landing at Suvla," "Scimitar Hill," "Gallipoli, 1915," "Rumani," "Egypt, 1915-17," "Gaza," "El Mughar," "Jerusalem,"  
"Jericho," "Jordan," "Tell 'Asur," "Palestine, 1917-18," "Mesopotamia, 1917-18," "Murman, 1919," "Dukhovakaya,"  
"Siberia, 1918-19."

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

#### Regular and Militia Battalions.

Uniform—Scarlet. Facings—Lemon Yellow.  
1st Bn. (57th Foot) .. Hong Kong.  
2nd Bn. (77th Foot) .. Gosport.  
5th Bn. (R. Elthorne Mil.) .. Mill Hill.  
6th Bn. (R. East Middlesex Mil.) .. Mill Hill.  
Depot—Mill Hill. Recd and Pay Office—Hounslow.

#### Territorial Army Battalions.

17th Bn. .. "The Elms," Priory Road, Hornsey, N.8.  
27th Bn. .. "The Elms," Priory Road, Hornsey, N.8.  
18th Bn. .. Drill Hall, Hanworth Road, Hounslow.  
28th 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

#### Affiliated Anti-Aircraft Units of the Territorial Army.

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

#### Allied Regiments of Canadian Militia.

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

#### Allied Regiment 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 F. G. Parker

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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.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION 3/- (Post Free).

# EDITORIAL



WE congratulate Col. E. J. King, C.B., C.M.G., T.D., D.L., A.D.C., on receiving the C.B. in the Birthday Honours List, and Brevet Lieut.-Col. C. W. Haydon, M.C., on being granted the Brevet Lieut.-Colonelcy in the half-yearly list of Brevet promotions.

\* \* \*

We welcome the arrival of the first batch of Militiamen to the Depot, and also the newly-formed 2/7th and 2/8th Middlesex and 2nd Kensington Battalions, and tender them all our best wishes for the future.

\* \* \*

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.

\* \* \*

The attention of ex-Regular Officers is called to the notice of change of address of the Ex-Regular Officers' Employment Bureau, which appears on page 643 of this issue.

## OFFICERS' CLUB NOTES

## BIRTHS

FERGUSON.—On 28th May, at Scarborough, to Muriel Elizabeth (née Caley), wife of Capt. W. M. Ferguson, The Middlesex Regiment, D.C.O.—a son.

CLAYTON.—On 17th June, 1939, at Stepney Towers, Southsea, to Barbara (née Allott), wife of Aymar de Satgé Clayton, The Middlesex Regiment, D.C.O.—a son.

## DEATHS

SAVILE.—On 14th May, 1939, suddenly, at Locksheath House, Locksheath, Southampton, Henry Bouchier Wrey Savile, M.C., Major, Middlesex Regiment, late Commandant F.M.S.V.F. Malaya, beloved husband of Winifred Savile, and only son of the late Capt. Henry Savile, R.N., and Mrs. Savile.

WILLOUGHBY.—On 18th May, 1939, Major Noel Edward Grey Willoughby, late The Middlesex Regiment, of Chancel End House, Heytesbury, Wilts., beloved husband of Blanche Willoughby.

HEWETT.—On 3rd July, 1939, very suddenly, at Pixham Mill House, Dorking, Col. Walter Pearse Hewett, T.D., Hon. Colonel 9th Middlesex Regiment, beloved husband of Rose Emily, in his 64th year.

LEGGETT.—On 18th May, 1939, at 49, Earls Avenue, Folkestone, Mary Anne, widow of Major G. E. Leggett, late H.M. 77th Regiment, and daughter of the late Mr. Justice Manisty, in her 97th year.

## PROCEEDINGS OF A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE

HELD AT THE HEADQUARTERS, LONDON

RECRUITING ZONE, WHITEHALL

ON 26TH APRIL, 1939

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

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Col. G. L. Brown, D.S.O., and Col. A. M. O. Anwyl Passingham, O.B.E., D.L.

## 1. MINUTES

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and passed.

## 2. REPLICA OF GOLF CUP

It was proposed by Col. Jefferd and seconded by Major Phillips that the usual replica of the "Middlesex" Cup be presented to the Hendon Golf Club for the winner of the Annual Competition for that trophy in 1939. (Carried.)

## 3. VOTE OF THANKS

A vote of thanks was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Major Phillips, and carried unanimously, to Lieut.-Col. W. W. Jefferd and Capt. C. T. Whinney for their work on the Committee as members. The former on relinquishing command of the 2nd Battalion and retiring to New Zealand, and the latter on his resignation from the Committee after five years as a member.

## OFFICERS' CLUB DINNER

The Annual Dinner of The Middlesex Regiment Officers' Club was held at the Junior United Service Club on 29th June. The Colonel of the Regiment, Brig.-General R. M. Heath, C.M.G., D.S.O., presiding. The following attended:

Major-General C. R. Simpson.

Brig.-Generals R. M. Heath, F. G. M. Rowley.

Colonels M. Browne, E. E. F. Baker, G. Beach, R. F. B. Glover, E. J. King, J. N. Lamont, G. B. Lempriere, H. A. Murray, J. K. Maitland, A. M. O. Anwyl Passingham, O. H. Tidbury.

Lieut.-Colonels G. C. Bucknall, W. H. C. Davy, G. L. Fox, R. W. Fane de Salis, W. P. Hewett, F. G. Hancocks, B. G. Horrocks, S. Mirams, W. Y. Miller, W. E. Pringle, N. P. Procter, C. P. Rooke, W. H. Samuel, R. D. Sherbrooke-Walker, T. S. Wollocombe.

Majors G. B. Anderson, G. A. H. Bower, J. M. Cossar, M. Crawford, D. V. Cubitt, S. J. Clark, H. W. Claydon, H. C. Ellis, E. W. C. Flavell, E. L. Heywood, H. K. Hardcastle, C. W. Haydon, E. F. Lyons, N. H. B. Lyon, S. Maddex, C. C. Musselwhite, L. H. Owen Josephs, E. T. Pain, F. G. Parker, J. G. E. Reid, B. B. Rackham, B. L. Sutcliffe, H. Sherwood, P. E. C. Tuckey, F. Walden.

Capt. R. Bartram, T. W. Chattey, L. C. D. Doidge, N. G. Gilbert, H. Glyn-Jones, A. E. Green, G. Hartley, J. P. Hall, A. D. Jefferson, F. A. L. Lawrence, J. McCoy Hill, F. J. Nunn, P. D. ff Powell, A. F. E. Robinson, G. C. B. Scott-Lowe, J. W. A. Stephenson, C. T. Whinney, R. E. Warlow, G. P. L. Weston, A. V. Weller.

Lieuts. W. P. M. Allen, C. M. Beath, A. S. J. de S. Clayton, R. T. Douthet, J. A. Hamilton,

J. G. P. Hunt, T. A. Harris, P. S. Ingham, T. L. Marks, D. R. Pattison, G. O. Porter, T. H. Reddy, C. W. Summers, E. C. K. Sadler, T. Sewell, E. J. Unwin, R. T. Webster, E. L. Wallis, D. West, P. Watson, C. K. Williamson, J. E. F. Willoughby, R. W. H. Willoughby.

2/Lieuts. A. W. Atkinson, R. A. Booth, F. J. Bennett, D. R. Buxton, J. T. Bull, I. F. Campbell, E. P. Dillon, W. D. Ellis, K. A. L. Emery, K. T. Gilmour, H. T. D. Hicks, S. E. Illingworth, M. A. Jones, D. V. Littlejohn, J. L. Merchant, J. D. MacFarlane, P. D. H. Marshall, G. M. de B. Monk, F. J. Millard, J. H. Oldham, J. E. Pillivant, E. L. G. Passy, J. D. Robbins, K. O. Sayers, W. A. W. St. George, C. H. L. Travis, J. R. Talbot, R. J. E. Wilkins, J. E. F. Watson.

## REGIMENTAL FIXTURES

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.

## NOTICE

The Ex-Regular Officers Employment Bureau which was located in Lion House, 72, Red Lion Street, has now moved to:

Watergate House,  
York Buildings,  
Adelphi.

Watergate House is situated next door to and on the west side of Adelphi Buildings on the Embankment.

The nearest railway station is Charing Cross, from which the shortest approach is along the Strand to Halifax House, where steps will be found leading down to the Embankment to Watergate House.

## TENNIS TOURNAMENT

The Annual Tennis Tournament was held on the Depot Officers' Mess tennis courts, on Saturday and Sunday, 1st and 2nd July. The 2/7th Battalion won the Singles and Doubles Competitions at their first attempt, and the Mill Hill Plate was won by 2/Lieut. Lyon of the 2nd Battalion.



## TENNIS TOURNAMENT

SINGLES				
1st Round	2nd Round	3rd Round	Semi-final	Final
Major Clark Major Hogg	Hogg 6-4, 6-3	Marshall 6-3, 4-6, 6-4	Beath 6-2, 6-1	Buxton 6-0, 6-2
Lieut.-Col. Fox Lieut. Marshall	Marshall 6-1, 6-1	Beath w.o.	Buxton 6-3, 6-1	
Byes :				
	2/Lieut. Campbell Lieut. Beath			
	Lieut. Porter 2/Lieut. Buxton			
	2/Lieut. Hughes Lieut. Unwin			
	Capt. Hall Capt. Scott-Lowe	Hall 6-0, 6-4, 6-4	Booth 6-4, 6-0	Pillivant 6-3, 6-1
	Lieut. Allen 2/Lieut. Booth			
	2/Lieut. Pillivant 2/Lieut. Lyon	Pillivant 6-1, 9-11, 6-3	Pillivant 6-1, 6-3	
	Lieut. Clayton Lieut. Ingham	Ingham 6-8, 6-4, 6-3		

DOUBLES				
1st Round	2nd Round	Semi-final	Final	
Lieut. Beath & Lieut. Clayton	Beath & Clayton 6-1, 6-3	Beath & Clayton 6-2, 6-2	Beath & Clayton 6-1, 6-0	Marshall & Buxton 6-2, 3-6, 8-6
Lieut.-Col. Fox & Major Hogg	2/Lieut. Pillivant & 2/Lieut. Booth			
Byes :				
	Lieut. Porter & 2/Lieut. Campbell	Ingham & Hughes 6-2, 2-6, 6-3		
	Lieut. Ingham & 2/Lieut. Hughes			
	Major Clark & Capt. Scott-Lowe	Clayden & Unwin 6-3, 6-0	Marshall & Buxton 6-1, 6-4	
	Major Clayden & Lieut. Unwin			
	Capt. Hall & Lieut. Allen	Marshall & Buxton 6-0, 6-3		
	Lieut. Marshall & 2/Lieut. Buxton			

## MILL HILL PLATE

Major Clark	Clayton	Clayton	Lyon	Lyon
Lieut. Clayton	Lieut. Porter	Lyon	Hughes	Hughes
Byes :				
	2/Lieut. Lyon			
	Capt. Scott-Lowe			
	Lieut. Allen			
	2/Lieut. Hughes			
	2/Lieut. Campbell			
	Lieut.-Col. Fox			

## DEPOT CRICKET WEEK

The Cricket Week was held at the Depot from 25th June to 1st July, and a really good week's cricket was witnessed. The highlights of the week were centuries by 2/Lieut. St. George and Lieut. E. J. Unwin on the first and last days, and a brilliant 50 not out by Capt. J. W. A. Stephenson. Out of six matches played three were won, two lost, and one drawn. Of the two matches lost that against the Incogniti was lost by one run and that against Hampstead by eight runs.

The scores are printed below.

## MIDDLESEX REGIMENT v. HAMPSTEAD HEATHENS

Played on Sunday, 25th June. Won by The Middlesex Regiment by 81 runs.

## THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT

Major J. H. Clowes, b Atkinson	11
2/Lieut. S. E. Illingworth, c Warr, b Berliner	0
Capt. J. W. A. Stephenson, st Warr, b Berliner	12
Lieut. E. J. Unwin b Bennett	69
2/Lieut. W. A. St. George, run out	104
Lieut. P. M. Lyon, b Atkinson	0
Capt. G. P. L. Weston, c Mence, b Atkinson	5
Capt. A. E. Green, b Atkinson	0
Lieut. C. M. Beath, c Hay, b Atkinson	8
C.S.M. Kennett, not out	0
Sergt. Wilson, b Berliner	2
Extras	6
Total	217

## Bowling

	O.	M.	R.	W.
P. B. Berliner	6	—	43	2
M. S. Atkinson	13	2	73	6
G. M. Hay	4	1	27	—
G. P. Mead	5	—	28	—
A. Bennett	7	—	38	1

## HAMPSTEAD HEATHENS

P. B. Berliner, b Stephenson	8
A. Bennett, c St. George, b Stephenson	22
P. McMillan, c Illingworth, b Unwin	5
G. M. Mence, c Green, b Unwin	0
J. A. Hay, b Unwin	5
M. S. Atkinson, c Beath, b Weston	23
E. H. Allen, c Wilson, b Green	5
T. F. Graham, c Illingworth, b Green	17
A. L. Warr, b Stephenson	38
G. P. Mead, b Weston	6
M. S. Fitzgerald, not out	2
Extras	15
Total	136

## Bowling

	O.	M.	R.	W.
J. W. A. Stephenson	9.6	1	17	3
E. J. Unwin	10	1	40	3
C.S.M. Kennett	1	—	1	—

	O.	M.	R.	W.
G. P. L. Weston	5	—	27	2
A. E. Green	5	—	36	2

## THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT v. CRYPTICS

Played at Mill Hill, Monday, 26th June. Won by The Middlesex Regiment by two wickets.

## CRYPTICS

Major Lindsay-Hamilton, run out	0
G. C. Bambridge, b Stephenson	3
J. B. Bates, b Stephenson	16
R. K. Butler, b Stephenson	0
N. S. Glennie, b Kennett	14
H. E. H. Harben, c Weston, b Illingworth	11
R. Johnston, c Beath, b Illingworth	0
M. D. Millman, not out	30
A. Gunningham, b Kennett	0
E. D. Glanfield, b Illingworth	5
J. C. Taylor, c Wilson, b Stephenson	38
Extras	18
Total	140

## Bowling

	O.	M.	R.	W.
S. E. Illingworth	5	—	28	3
J. W. A. Stephenson	9.2	3	22	4
E. J. Unwin	9	—	43	—
C.S.M. Kennett	5	—	26	2

## THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT

Major J. H. Clowes, b Butler	0
Major E. L. Heywood, b Butler	5
Capt. J. W. A. Stephenson, c and b Butler	86
Lieut. E. J. Unwin, c Glennie, b Glanfield	76
2/Lieut. W. A. St. George, lbw b Butler	8
2/Lieut. S. E. Illingworth, c and b Johnson	47
Capt. G. P. L. Weston, b Johnston	28
Capt. A. E. Green, b Hamilton	13
Lieut. C. M. Beath, not out	11
Extras	6
Total (for 8 wickets)	280

C.S.M. Kennett and Sergt. Wilson did not bat.

## THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT v. INCOGNITI

Played at Mill Hill, 27th June. The Incogniti won by 1 run.

## MIDDLESEX REGIMENT

Major J. H. Clowes, c Young, b Mellish	42
Major E. H. Heywood, b Ruane	1
2/Lieut. W. A. St. George, c Sellars, b Ruane	38
Lieut. E. J. Unwin, c Nelson, b Mellish	0
Capt. G. P. L. Weston, b Ruane	2
Capt. J. W. A. Stephenson, not out	50
2/Lieut. S. E. Illingworth, b Ruane	3
Capt. A. E. Green, c Sellars, b Ruane	1
Lieut. C. M. Beath, b Ruane	0
C.S.M. Kennett, b Ruane	0
Sergt. Wilson, c Sellars, b Ruane	0
Total	137

## Bowling

	O.	M.	R.	W.
J. D. Ruane	14	2	43	8
G. C. Mellish	14	2	67	2
G. H. Skinner	3	—	17	—



## INCOGNITI

J. W. Houghton, c Wilson, b Stephenson	5
K. R. Young st Wilson, b Illingworth	19
Col. Wollocombe, c Wilson, b Unwin	4
K. H. Sellars, b Weston	57
W. A. Greenwell, c Wilson, b Unwin	0
D. N. Watney, c Wilson, b Weston	26
H. G. Skinner, c Stephenson, b Weston	6
M. P. Nelson, lbw b Weston	15
G. C. Mellish, b Weston	0
V. H. Wells, c St. George, b Weston	0
J. D. Ruane, not out	1
Extras	5

Total ..... 138

## Bowling

	O.	M.	R.	W.
J. W. A. Stephenson	12	2	44	1
E. J. Unwin	6	—	32	2
S. E. Illingworth	1	—	8	1
C.S.M. Kennett	2	—	15	—
G. P. Weston	7	—	39	6

## THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT v. FREE FORESTERS

Played at Mill Hill, 28th June. The match resulted in a draw.

## FREE FORESTERS

I. C. R. Isherwood, c Wilson, b Weston	22
J. A. Nunn, b Stephenson	4
A. H. Backham, b Unwin	61
C. P. M. Hunting, b Stephenson	17
M. F. Turner, b Stephenson	22
H. P. Ward, not out	55
W. M. Turner, b Green	46
D. Percival, b Stephenson	6
Extras	12

Total (for 7 wickets dec.) ..... 245

M. A. Hayfield, H. E. Impey, and G. C. Firbank did not bat.

## Bowling

	O.	M.	R.	W.
J. W. A. Stephenson	14	—	62	4
E. J. Unwin	13	—	85	1
C.S.M. Kennett	3	—	15	—
G. P. L. Weston	6	—	18	1
S. E. Illingworth	2	—	22	—
J. H. Clowes	1	—	13	—
A. E. Green	1	—	12	1

## THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT

Major J. H. Clowes, b Firbank	24
Major E. L. Heywood, b M. Turner	1
2/Lieut. W. A. St. George c and b Nunn	21
Lieut. E. J. Unwin, b M. Turner	63
Capt. J. W. A. Stephenson, c Turner, b Hayfield	19
Lieut. C. M. Beath, b Nunn	31
Capt. G. P. L. Weston, b Nunn	6
2/Lieut. Illingworth, b Nunn	10
Capt. A. E. Green, not out	8
C.S.M. Kennett, not out	0
Extras	10

Total (for 8 wickets) ..... 193

Sergt. Wilson did not bat.

## Bowling

	O.	M.	R.	W.
M. F. Turner	11	2	55	2
J. A. Nunn	14	—	72	4
G. C. Firbank	5	2	7	1
M. A. Hayfield	8	—	48	1

## THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT

## v. I ZINGARI

Played at Mill Hill, 29th June. The Middlesex Regiment won by eight wickets.

## I ZINGARI

I. C. R. Isherwood, b Stephenson	3
L. F. Marson, c Wilson, b Unwin	5
M. D. B. Farmiloe, b Stephenson	0
F. F. T. Barnardo, b Stephenson	1
D. A. M. Rowe, b Unwin	7
J. B. Jackson, c Stephenson, b Unwin	24
M. H. Kingsley, b Stephenson	0
H. O. C. Maitland, b Unwin	11
D. Percival, not out	0
C. E. Winter, c and b Unwin	5
H. D. Read, c Wilson, b Unwin	0
Extra	1

Total ..... 57

## Second Innings

I. C. R. Isherwood, b Beath	43
L. F. Marson, b Kennett	9
M. D. B. Farmiloe, not out	32
F. F. J. Barnardo, not out	6
Extras	3

Total (for 2 wickets) ..... 93

D. A. M. Rowe, J. B. Jackson, M. H. Kingsley, H. O. C. Maitland, D. Percival, C. E. Winter, and H. D. Read did not bat.

## Bowling

	O.	M.	R.	W.
J. W. A. Stephenson	7	—	29	4
E. J. Unwin	6.3	1	27	6

## Second Innings

	O.	M.	R.	W.
S. E. Illingworth	2	—	18	—
C.S.M. Kennett	3	—	24	1
G. P. L. Weston	4	—	26	—
A. E. Green	1	—	8	—
C. M. Beath	2	—	10	1

## THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT

## First Innings

Major J. H. Clowes, b Read	0
Major E. L. Heywood, b Read	12
2/Lieut. W. A. St. George, c Farmiloe, b Kingsley	39
Lieut. E. J. Unwin, b Kingsley	4
Capt. G. P. L. Weston, b Read	3
Capt. J. W. A. Stephenson, b Read	4
2/Lieut. S. E. Illingworth, not out	5
Extras	10

Total (for 7 wickets) ..... 83

Lieut. C. M. Beath, Capt. A. E. Green, C.S.M. Kennett, and Sergt. Wilson did not bat.

## Second Innings

Major J. H. Clowes, c Maitland, b Kingsley	8
Capt. J. W. A. Stephenson, c Barnardo, b Read	32
Lieut. E. J. Unwin, not out	26
2/Lieut. W. A. St. George, not out	0
Extras	2

Total (for 2 wickets) ..... 68

Major E. L. Heywood, Capt. G. P. L. Weston, 2/Lieut. S. E. Illingworth, Lieut. C. M. Beath, Capt. A. E. Green, C.S.M. Kennett, and Sergt. Wilson did not bat.

## Bowling

	O.	M.	R.	W.
H. D. Read	11	2	29	4
F. F. T. Barnardo	6	1	19	—
M. H. Kingsley	4	—	19	2

## Second Innings

	O.	M.	R.	W.
H. D. Read	5	1	22	1
M. H. Kingsley	3.25	—	31	1
F. F. T. Barnardo	1	—	13	—

## THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT

## v. HAMPSTEAD

Played at Mill Hill, 1st July. Won by Hampstead by eight runs.

## HAMPSTEAD

A. R. Boney, c Weston, b Unwin	63
P. A. Newman, c Clowes, b Unwin	1
P. McMillian, c St. George, b Unwin	3
D. J. L. Stevens, b Unwin	12
B. S. Crummy, b Unwin	16
M. S. N. Atkinson, c Green, b Unwin	3
D. B. Berliner, st Wilson, b Weston	21
G. F. R. Park, b Unwin	15
L. L. Burth, c Illingworth, b Beath	28
T. F. Graham, not out	7
G. P. Mead, c Kennett, b Unwin	8
Extras	28

Total ..... 205

## Bowling

	O.	M.	R.	W.
E. J. Unwin	16	—	101	8
G. P. L. Weston	8	1	47	1
C.S.M. Kennett	6	—	40	—
C. M. Beath	1	—	5	1

## THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT

Major J. H. Clowes, b Berliner	10
Capt. G. P. L. Weston, lbw b Mead	26
2/Lieut. W. A. St. George, b Berliner	6
Lieut. E. J. Unwin, b Mead	104
2/Lieut. S. E. Illingworth, c McMillian, b Mead	0
Capt. A. E. Green, c Newman, b Berliner	12
Lieut. P. M. Lyon, b Atkinson	13
Capt. N. G. Gilbert, st Newman, b Atkinson	2

Lieut. C. M. Beath, c Park, b Berliner ..... 0  
C.S.M. Kennett, lbw b Berliner ..... 8  
Sergt. Wilson, not out ..... 3  
Extras ..... 13

Total ..... 197

## Bowling

	O.	M.	R.	W.
D. B. Berliner	9.1	—	82	5
G. P. Mead	5	—	48	3
M. S. N. Atkinson	8	—	51	2

EXTRACTS FROM THE  
"LONDON GAZETTE"

## REGULAR ARMY

## COMMANDS AND STAFF

Maj. C. C. Musselwhite, Midd'x R., to be G.S.O., 2nd Grade (Air Staff Organisation) Hdqrs., Trng. Comd., R.A.F. (March 27).

Capt. A. M. Man, Midd'x R., to be Staff Captain (April 6).

Maj. and Bt. Lt.-Col. G. C. Bucknall, M.C., relinquishes his appointment as G.S.O., 2nd Grade (April 13).

## INFANTRY

Midd'x R.—Maj. C. C. Musselwhite is secd. for serv. on the Staff (March 27).

Midd'x R.—Maj. H. W. Clayden retires on ret. pay (April 19).

Midd'x R.—Maj. E. L. Heywood is secd. while holding the appt. as Comdt. No. 1 Recruits Phys. Development Depot (April 1); Capt. A. M. Man is secd. for serv. on the Staff (April 6).

Midd'x R.—Lt. H. N. C. Gudgeon is secd. for service under the Colonial Office (Jan. 13) (substituted for the notifn. in the Gazette of March 7).

Midd'x R.—Capt. W. H. P. Chattey is restd. to the estabt. (April 26).

Midd'x R.—Lt. L. C. Beadnell is secd. (April 14).

Midd'x R.—Maj. and Bt. Lt.-Col. G. C. Bucknall, M.C., is restd. to the estabt. (March 27).

Midd'x R.—Lt.-Col. W. W. Jefferd, on completion of his period of serv. in comd., is placed on the h.p. list (June 1).

Midd'x R.—Maj. H. Phillips, M.C., to be Lt.-Col. (June 1).

## Half-Yearly Brevets

Midd'x R.—Maj. C. W. Haydon, M.C., to be Bt. Lt.-Col. (July 1).

## First Commissions

Midd'x R.—Gentleman Cadet J. A. Burton from the R.M.C., Sandhurst, to be Sec. Lt. (July 3).



## ESTABLISHMENTS

No. 1 Recruits Phys. Development Depot, Canterbury.—Maj. E. L. Heywood, Midd'x R., to be Comdt. (April 1).

Maj. W. H. V. Jones, Midd'x R., from Staff Capt., to be D.A.Q.M.G. (April 1).

## MEMORANDA

Sec. Lt. B. de R. Meyer (late Midd'x R.) relinquishes the rank of Sec. Lt. on enlistment in the T.A. (June 24).

## RESERVE OF OFFICERS

## INFANTRY

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

Midd'x R.—Capt. F. C. Booth, V.C., D.C.M. (April 16).

Midd'x R.—Lt. H. B. Birdwood, M.C., resigns his commn. (June 20).

## SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE OF OFFICERS

Midd'x R.—Lt. D. J. Borgars to resign his commn. (May 10).

## TERRITORIAL ARMY

## INFANTRY

7th Bn. Midd'x R.—Sec. Lt. P. S. Ingham to be Lt. (April 8).

7th Bn. Midd'x R.—Lt. (Qr.-Mr.) C. F. Denton to be Capt. (Qr.-Mr.) (April 17).

9th Bn. Midd'x R. (60th Searchlight R.)—Capt. B. L. Sutcliffe to be Maj. (Nov. 1, 1938).

Kensingtons, Midd'x R.—Sec. Lt. E. W. Holding to be Lt. (April 18).

8th Bn. Midd'x R.—Lt. N. M. Blair to be Capt. (April 29).

7th Bn. Midd'x R.—Maj. S. Mirams, M.C. (Capt., ret. pay) (Res. of Off.), to be Lt.-Col. (May 24); A. T. Jones to be Lt. (Qr.-Mr.) (May 21).

Kensingtons, Midd'x R.—Maj. G. C. Pim (Capt., ret. pay) (Res. of Off.) to be Lt.-Col. (May 24).

8th Bn. Midd'x R.—Capt. R. D. Sherbrook-Walker, from 5th A.A. Divl. R.A.S.C., to be Lt.-Col. (May 27).

7th Bn. Midd'x R.—J. C. Binns (late Cadet Sergt., Highgate Sch. Contgt., Jun. Div., O.T.C.) to be 2nd Lt. (May 31).

Kensingtons, Midd'x R.—Sec. Lt. D. P. Holmes resigns his commn. (Feb. 28).

9th Bn. Midd'x R. (S.L.R.)—Maj. K. A. S. Chapman, ret. pay, to be Maj. and Admin. Offr. (April 9).

9th Bn. Midd'x R. (S.I.R.)—Maj. W. F. Morris, M.C., from Res. of Off., to be Capt. (June 7).

7th Bn. Midd'x R.—D. West, late H.A.C. Inf. Bn. (late Cadet Lce.-Corpl., Merchant Taylors' Sch. Contgt., Jun. Div., O.T.C.) to be Lt. (June 10).

Kensingtons, Midd'x R.—Lt. A. M. J. M. J. de Caraman Chimay, Res. of Off., to be Capt. (June 14).

The follg. to be Sec. Lts. (June 14):—Corpl. J. J.

Evans, from H.A.C. (Inf. Bn.); Corpl. H. J. Lavington, from H.A.C. (Inf. Bn.) (late Cadet Corpl., Tonbridge Sch. Contgt., Jun. Div., O.T.C.); Rfmn. J. W. Doyle, from L.R.B. Rifle Bde. (late Cadet Sergt., Wellington Sch. Contgt., Jun. Div., O.T.C.).

8th Bn. Midd'x R.—G. Kaines (late Cadet Under-Offr., Dulwich Coll. Contgt., Jun. Div., O.T.C.) to be Sec. Lt. (May 10).

9th Bn. Midd'x R. (S.L.R.)—The follg. to be Sec. Lts. (June 17):—P. Blair (late Cadet Under-Offr., Mill Hill Sch. Contgt., Jun. Div., O.T.C.); D. E. Dowlen (late Cadet Under-Offr., Mill Hill Sch. Contgt., Jun. Div., O.T.C.); K. J. Gilmour (late Cadet Sergt., Berkhamsted Sch. Contgt., Jun. Div., O.T.C.); H. J. Hesketh (late Cadet, Eastbourne Coll. Contgt., Jun. Div., O.T.C.); D. H. Coles (late Cadet, Wellington Coll. Contgt., Jun. Div., O.T.C.).

Kensingtons, Midd'x R.—W. A. Blakeley to be Lt. (June 17); Lce.-Corpl. W. E. Walker, from L.R.B. Rifle Bde. (late Cadet, St. Dunstan's Coll. Contgt., Jun. Div., O.T.C.) to be Sec. Lt. (June 17).

7th Bn. Midd'x R.—R. Scott-Worthington (late Cadet, Highgate Sch. Contgt., Jun. Div., O.T.C.) to be Sec. Lt. (June 17).

9th Bn. Midd'x R. (S.L.R.)—Pte. W. E. H. Grayburn, from H.A.C. Inf. Bn. (late Cadet Sergt., Sherborne Sch. Contgt., Jun. Div., O.T.C.) to be Sec. Lt. (June 16).

8th Bn. Midd'x R.—The follg. to be Sec. Lts. (May 10):—Tpr. W. M. Barr, from Inns of Court R., Cav.; A. R. Waller (late Cadet Sergt., Queen's Westminster C. Corps); J. W. Latham (late Cadet C.Q.M.S., Wellington Sch. Contgt., Jun. Div., O.T.C.).

W. C. Fletcher to be Lt. (Qr.-Mr.) (June 21).

7th Bn. Midd'x R.—The follg. to be Sec. Lts. (June 21):—Pte. Q. T. Robinson (late Cadet Under-Offr., Cranleigh Sch. Contgt., Jun. Div., O.T.C.), Lce.-Corpl. C. P. Glanville, from H.A.C. Inf. Bn. (late Cadet, Blundell's Sch. Contgt., Jun. Div., O.T.C.), Gnr. R. N. F. Bishop, from R.A., G. T. Thomas (late Cadet, Felsted Sch. Contgt., Jun. Div., O.T.C.), Pte. D. G. Buxton (late Cadet Lce.-Corpl., Tonbridge Sch. Contgt., Jun. Div., O.T.C.).

8th Bn. Midd'x R.—T. S. Luscombe (late Cadet C.S.M., 1st C. Bn. Midd'x R.) to be Sec. Lt. (May 10).

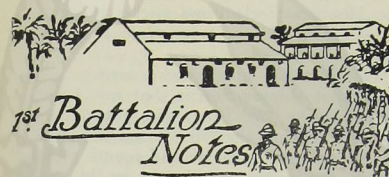
7th Bn. Midd'x R.—W. R. Harkness (late Cadet, Durham Sch. Contgt., Jun. Div., O.T.C.) to be Lt. (June 28); D. S. Haig (late Offr. Cadet, Univ. of Reading Contgt., Sen. Div., O.T.C.) to be Sec. Lt. with seny. Dec. 28, 1937 (June 28).

The follg. to be Sec. Lts. (June 28):—Lce.-Corpl. R. E. Bird, from Artists Rif. (late Offr. Cadet, Univ. of Lond. Contgt., Sen. Div., O.T.C.); Pte. P. C. T. Wildash, from Artists Rif. (late Cadet Lce.-Corpl., Merchant Taylors' Sch. Contgt., Jun. Div., O.T.C.); J. D. Robbins (late Cadet Corpl., Aldenham Sch. Contgt., Jun. Div., O.T.C.).

## RESERVE OF OFFICERS

## INFANTRY

7th Bn. Midd'x R.—Lt. C. P. Gliksten resigns his commn. (March 16).



## OBITUARY

IT is with the deepest regret that we have to announce the death of No. 6201896 L/Cpl. Henry Francis Thorn, which occurred as the result of an accident at Cheung Chau Island on 10th April. Also of No. 6200567 Pte. Edward John Stemp, who died suddenly on 3rd May, whilst taking part in the Area Athletic Sports. Both funerals took place with full military honours at the British Cemetery, Happy Valley, Hong Kong.

It was with great regret that we heard of the sudden death of Major H. B. W. Savile, just when he was about to take over command of the 2nd Battalion. Whilst he was with the 1st Battalion, which he joined in 1933, we all learnt to like and respect his soldiering qualities and his happy nature which endeared him to all ranks. His untiring energy as a Company Commander will never be forgotten by those who served with him. To his widow we extend our sympathy. With her husband she associated herself with all his activities and those of the N.C.O.s and men of the Battalion.

As successive quarters go by the life of the Battalion seems to become more and more a frantic rush against time, and the past three months have been no exception. The date of our departure for Malta has not yet been made public, but we have a most imposing list of jobs to finish before we leave. Individual Training was not due to start till 24th April, but the interim period between that date and our return from Camp was by no means a respite from our labours. The majority of N.C.O.s were fully occupied with M.G., M.T., and Drill Cadres, and the remainder were required for Guards—of which the Battalion had, at one period, to find six daily—whilst the numbers of Garrison and Regimental men employed were quite remarkable. Consequently the men available for parades were practically nil.

On 17th-18th March "D" Company took part with the 5/6th Rajputana Rifles and the

Kumaon Rifles in a Brigade Exercise on the mainland, in which the Commanding Officer was Chief Umpire and five other Officers were Assistants. This, however, was but an interlude, and we were soon back at work in Barracks, where the G.O.C. and the Brigadier visited the Cadres at work, and made an unofficial tour of the Lines. On 30th March the Brigadier carried out his annual Inspection of the Battalion, lasting till 3 p.m.

On 25th March the Battalion Rifle Meeting was held on the Army Ranges at Kowloon City. Unfortunately the time available for practice was so short that the results were not so good as might have been expected. From 7th to 10th April we stopped work for the Easter break. Immediately after the break came the annual "Bisley" Meeting of the Hong Kong Rifle Association, which employed most of the Battalion either as competitors, on the firing points, in the butts, or in the statistics department. Unfortunately the weather throughout the meeting was very bad, and the last day had to be postponed for a month. "H.Q." Company are to be congratulated on winning the Company Rifle Match, and we were unlucky to meet a remarkably good score by the Royal Scots, who won the M.G. Match, in which we were placed second. Again we were represented in the last twenty for H.E. The Governor's Prize.

On 24th April "A" and "C" Companies began the first period of their Individual Training, whilst "B" and "D" Companies took over all guards and duties, the position being reversed on 19th May. In addition, all Companies have spent much time in reconnoitring their new Beach Defence Areas, whilst "B" Company took part in two beach electric light trials, operating a Lyon Light with their own personnel—yet another "weapon" in which the Battalion has to be proficient.

At the time of writing, "B" and "D" Companies are approaching the end of the first period of their Individual Training, but our immediate worry is the King's Birthday Parade, which takes place in the very near future, and for which we are doing the new drill for the first time. Our rehearsals have been dogged by the most appalling weather, with the result that we have scarcely had a chance to try out the new movements.

The Officers have held one cocktail party, on 25th March, when the Massed Bands of the Battalion and the 5/6th Rajputana Rifles beat Retreat on the hockey pitch.



As usual, the list of arrivals and departures has been a long one, but in view of the calls of the T.A. and the Militia it appears that next quarter we shall be faced with one of record size. On 10th March Lieut. Anson arrived back from England, having travelled via Canada. On 1st April, H.M.T. *Ettrick*, on her first trip to the Far East, brought Major and Mrs. Worton and their family back to the Battalion after a tour at the Depot; also Lieut. Fishbourne from leave, together with Details, including eleven band boys. On 6th April the *Ettrick* sailed with Major and Mrs. Walden and their family en route to England for leave, and 2/Lieut. Chiverall on sick leave. Capt. Marsh has temporarily taken over the duties of Adjutant from Major Walden. On 29th April, Lieut. Weedon left us for four months' leave at home, and early in May Lieuts. Hewitt and Dawson departed on seven weeks' local leave in the Dutch East Indies. On 10th May, Major Stewart returned to the Battalion, and has taken over the duties of second-in-command. Towards the end of May the *Dunera* arrived with several N.C.O.s returning from Courses, and C.S.M. Challis came back to take the place of C.S.M. Stacey, who has left us to go to the T.A.

In games the Battalion has maintained the standard of last year. We were placed sixth in the Area Cross Country, but we had our revenge when we carried off the Area Athletic Championships by a large margin. The issue was never really in doubt, and our superiority in the sprints and field events was very marked. In the Boxing Tournaments, all of which were held in our ring in Barracks, we did remarkably well. We lost the Novices' match to the Royal Scots by six bouts to nine, but avenged this defeat in the Opens, when we won by the large margin of thirteen bouts to two. In addition, we ran a very successful invitation tournament, in which our boxers won twenty bouts out of twenty-two. In the Area Individual Championships the Battalion supplied the winners in five of the weights.

The football season has finished, and the Battalion teams, though not quite repeating the successes of last year, have every reason to be satisfied with the results. The 2nd XI in particular are to be congratulated on being runners-up in the Hong Kong Football League, Division II, and also finalists in the Junior Cup Competition. Three members of the 1st XI were awarded Colony caps, and represented Hong Kong in Manila. On 23rd April a Battalion team paid a visit to Macau and were

beaten by the Macau team. At the moment, the Albuhera football and cricket leagues are in progress, and the water polo is about to start.

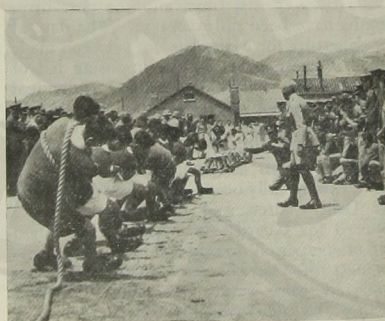
The Battalion entered two teams for the Inter-Unit Rugger Sevens, but met with no success. The "A" Team were put out in the first round, while the "B" Team were beaten by the winners in the second round. In the Colony Sevens we were beaten in the second round by the Police, who were the eventual winners. The hard grounds have made rugger practice very difficult, and there are only very few occasions on which it can be played.

At the beginning of May a representative of the American Newsreel Film Company, "The March of Time," paid a visit to the Colony. All units were visited, and our share was a demonstration of a Machine Gun Platoon in action, done by "B" Company, whilst some shots were taken also of the boxing.

Whitsun was entirely spoiled by the weather, for during the greater part of the week-end No. 7 Typhoon Signal was hoisted. The Battalion Yacht Club, however, sailed away in force to Lamma Island, to the south-west of Hong Kong, where they spent two nights. In spite of casualties, in the shape of two boats capsizing, they had a thoroughly enjoyable trip. On Whit Sunday the G.O.C. and Mrs. Grassett, accompanied by the A.D.C., attended morning service in the Matshed Church, and afterwards spent a short time in the Officers' Mess.

#### ALBUHERA DAY, 16TH MAY, 1939

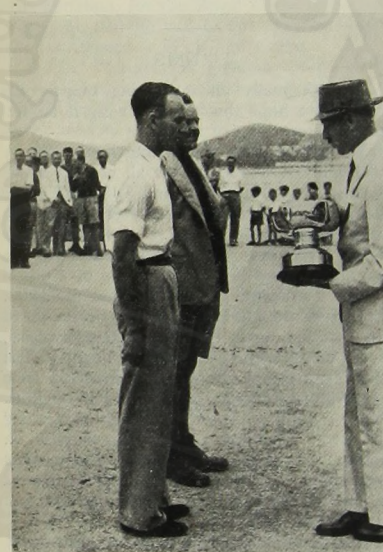
The Albuhera celebrations began on 12th May, when the Corporals gave a very successful



The Battalion Tug-o-War Team pulling against the Indian Personnel of the 8th Heavy Regiment, R.A.

and well-run dance in the new Shamshuipo Lecture Hall. Albuhera Day itself was celebrated in the traditional way on 16th May, the weather, though overcast, keeping fine. The Corps of Drums beat Reveille round Barracks at 7 a.m. At 9 a.m. an inter-Mess six-a-side hockey tournament was held, in which the Sergeants beat the Officers and the Privates beat the Corporals. In the final, the Privates proved far too strong for the Sergeants. This was followed by the Officers—Sergeants tug-of-war, in which the Sergeants easily disposed of the Officers. The Commanding Officer then presented the tug-of-war cup, the runners-up medals of the H.K.F.A., Division II, to the Battalion 2nd XI, the Heavy and Light-Heavy Boxing Belts, and the "Tidbury" Cup to Sergt. Overy and Cpl. Ellis.

At 12 noon the Sergeants were entertained in the Officers' Mess. After lunch a very successful Fun Fair was run on No. 1 Hockey



The Commanding Officer presenting the "Tidbury" Cup to Sergeant Overy and Corporal Ellis

Pitch, which quickly took on the appearance of Hampstead Heath on a Bank Holiday, and at tea time the Band played for an hour. In the evening, according to custom, the Officers were entertained in the Sergeants' Mess.

On 18th May the Sportsmen's Dinner took place in the Corporals' Dining Hall, at which all those men who had represented the Battalion during the past season were the guests. On 19th May the Sergeants gave an excellent



A view of the Albuhera Fun Fair

dance, held in the open on the tennis court outside their Mess. The Dance, which was very well attended, proved a great success. The celebrations concluded on 21st May with an All Ranks Dance held in the Lecture Hall.

On Albuhera Day telegrams were received from: The Colonel of the Regiment, Brigadier Tidbury, Capt. Bellers, Lieut. Gudgeon, The Depot, 2nd Battalion, 7th Battalion, 8th Battalion, 9th Battalion, 1st and 2nd Battalions Princess Louise's Kensington Regiment.

#### SIGNALS

Once every quarter one realises the difficulties of journalism and vows that for future reference journalistic aspirations are taboo, and that other means of existence are much easier. However, the job has to be completed, even if under much mental strain and much wastage of paper.

L/Cpl. Miller returned to us full of the usual vitality, which is so miraculously instilled into us poor humans who travel the weary way to Catterick. His Q.1 is to be commended, and at such a period as this is of great importance to the future success of the Section.

Sergt. Bayford, who has been with us for a number of years, is leaving for the United Kingdom, to tackle the Territorials on their own hunting ground.

The future holds a complete revolution for the Section. Many are going—leaving us for the U.K.—and we do sincerely hope that the prestige of the Signals is upheld by those who follow on, which we are quite sure about.



The New Class is progressing favourably and we have no doubt of the ultimate result of the work they are putting in, both compulsory and voluntary, and after the tedious period of individual training they can be assured of a brighter aspect on life.

Some there are who have been elevated to dizzy heights during the latter months—namely, L/Cpls. Gibbs, Dandridge, O'Neil, and Metcalfe. We congratulate them on their first step up, and, judging by those who closely criticise their work, they should do well and make a success of the task on hand. L/Cpl. Gibbs has been temporarily taken from us by the M.T. Staff, and we feel sure he is an asset to them as well as to us.

Sports have been of the higher order. In athletics, at which the Battalion won the Command Trophy, we sent able assistance in L/Cpl. Bowker and Pte. Bloomfield, who did their full share towards the success of the Battalion team. Other than friendly matches at football and hockey nothing of great importance to the Signals can be mentioned. Perhaps we may indulge a little and bring forth our champion chess player, "Capablanca" Gibson, whose face, full of worry, yet tries to hazard his opponents into checkmate. And with success, too!

Nearly the whole of the Signals are able to manage something of a mechanical nature. We have now a full complement of truck and motorcycle drivers and but for the absence of the vehicles are all set to go to any place at any time.

Best of luck to the Signallers of the 2nd Battalion, which reference will probably be made to some of us soon, who may join the other Battalion under the new scheme for service abroad.

G. W. B.

#### BAND

Before we commence our quarterly notes, we wish to extend our deepest sympathy to the relatives of the late Bdmn E. J. Stemp. He was well known as an all-round athlete, not only in the Battalion, but also in the Colony, especially for water polo.

Nothing of any importance has occurred during the past quarter, except that the Band has been doing plenty of guards and fatigues.

Engagements during the past quarter have been few and far between, much to our regret.

One notable event took place in the beginning of May, and that was the Command Athletic

Meeting. We wish to congratulate Bdmn. Hymas, together with the remainder of the Battalion sports team, on their fine performance in the various events that they took part in. Well done, John! We will also congratulate Bdmn. McDonald on his fine performance in the Command Boxing Finals, which were won by this Battalion.

Now that summer has started, yachting is the main pastime, and so far nobody has had the good fortune to stay out all night, meaning that boats have overturned, thereby causing a lot of discomfort to the passengers.

By the time these notes appear, we will have lost Band-Sergt. Edwards, who has left us for civilian life. We wish him all the best in his new sphere. We welcome Drum-Major Jeffree as our new Band-Sergeant. He is by no means a stranger in our midst.

In conclusion, we wish all the 2nd Battalion Band our very best, and hope they will accept the same.

EUPH.

#### DRUMS

Though really an unexciting quarter has passed, we hope that the following notes will contain something of interest.

We will mention the boxing first. Display of exhibition bouts, against all comers of the Colony. Cpl. Holdford and L/Cpl. Webster competed, both were very successful, and we congratulate these N.C.O.s on winning their bouts. The next boxing tournament was the Battalion versus The Royal Scots in the final of the Command Inter-Unit Championships. Cpl. Holdford and L/Cpl. Webster represented the Battalion again this year, and, as is usual, they put up a fine exhibition of boxing. The Command Opens followed this, in which some of the Boys showed their prowess as pugilists. We congratulate Star Boy Rowe on reaching the final of his weight, but he narrowly lost on points. His training and efforts of instructors were shown to great credit, by his performances in the preliminary bouts, and his narrow loss in the final. Well done, Rowe!

The much anticipated Race engagement we spoke of last time materialised, and gained for our pockets \$500, and the Drums Fund appreciated by a further \$200. The show put up by us seemed a novelty and was really appreciated by all, and praised by the Officers who witnessed the performance. We hope to repeat this in the future and so swell our income.

Command Athletics. The Battalion won this important event and much-coveted trophy by a good margin of 29 points; a detailed description will be found elsewhere in the journal. "Sam" Onslow represented the Battalion in the Mile and Three Mile and we would like to congratulate him, with the team, on the fine performance.

Our Drum-Major came back off leave from the U.K. on the H.T. *Ettrick*, and with him came the eleven boys from the 2nd Battalion. We welcome to the fold Boys Hall, Harrington, Cosgrove, Winsborough, Plumridge, and Bell-Chambers, and, as is usual, we hope their stay with us will be a pleasant one.

The Chung Chau holiday camp has started again, and the first to go are L/Cpl. Staley and the new boys.

The Drums have suffered two losses, i.e., Cpl. Ringe and L/Cpl. Thorley; the former to "B" Company, and the latter, who has left the Battalion, for the Royal Corps of Signals. We hope that he will accept our best wishes for future success in his new Corps.

L/Cpl. Webster has gone in charge of the boys. They have benefited as regards boxing and P.T., as Joe is master of his own domain and reigns supreme.

Ptes. Williams and Abercrombie have returned to the Drums again. The former is a great asset as regard sports, and as to instrumentation, both can do their bit as guard buglers.

Congratulations go to Cpl. Holdford on promotion to that rank, and to Dmrs. Webber, Smith, Onslow, and Star Boy Rowe (and we hope shortly Williams) on gaining their drummership.

In conclusion, we wish all 2nd Battalion and ex-1st Battalion Drummers our very best wishes, and hope they will accept the same. *So au revoir.*

L. A. S. & G. R.

#### "A" COMPANY

The past quarter has, from the point of view of both sport and work, been a moderately busy period. Firstly, sport. The Company managed to once again win the Mainland Branch of the "Small Units" Football League, but in the play-off in the final against the 8th Heavy Battery, R.A., we lost 2-1.

As a result of the matches played to date in the Albuhera Football League, the final resting place of the Albuhera Shield has assumed an open proposition. We, at the moment, have

the commanding lead of 13 points over "H.Q." Company, and only require a further six points to make it safe. These points can only be obtained from the two remaining competitions, namely, football and cricket. The football has started most disastrously for us, however, for despite having an unbeatable team on paper we have already suffered defeat at the hands of two teams whom we thought would prove easy victims of our skill. The glorious uncertainty of our national game was never more amplified than in these two games. Congratulations to both "B" and "D" Companies on defeating us by the score of 1-0 and 2-1 respectively, after two hard games.

While on the subject of sport we must offer our congratulations to Cpl. McGrady, L/Cpl. Fox, Ptes. Hope and Huggonson, for their efforts in the Battalion boxing team; also to P.S.M. Ramsey, Sergt. Poulter, L/Sergt. Hiscocks, L/Cpls. Perrin, Merton and Barkway, and Ptes. Fergusson and Goodair for their efforts in the Battalion Athletic team which helped to win the Area Athletic Championship, mentioned elsewhere in this issue.

We have just completed our first period of Individual Training, preparatory to firing our A.M.G.C. Due to the situation in Hong Kong and the call on the Battalion for various duties, etc., it has necessitated the period being cut to slightly less than four weeks. Great credit must be given to all members of the Company for the splendid way in which they co-operated and ensured the programme being carried out in such a short time.

We regret to say that, in the near future, we are losing the majority of the senior members of the Company, to wit:

Major E. S. M. Ayscough to the Home Establishment.

C.S.M. Paterson for leave in the U.K.

Sergts. Malony and Marshall as P.S.I.s to the T.A.

L/Sergts. Hiscocks and Cpl. Kidby on a series of courses in the U.K.

Our best wishes go with these and hope for their safe arrival in the "Old Country."

There is now keen speculation among the junior N.C.O.s as to whom will fill the various vacancies incurred by those going to the U.K. Our best wishes to those who are successful.

#### "B" COMPANY

We deeply regret the forthcoming departure of Major A. N. Overell, to the Home Establishment. This in itself is a very great loss to



the Company, who no more will have the esteemed pleasure of hearing the familiar "Up Sticks and Away," etc., but our thoughts for a long time to come will be of the very happy times spent on training under his command.

Furthermore we wish C.S.M. Stacey great success in his new sphere, bearing in mind his great interest in sports and administration of the Company. To Sergts. Russell and Painter go our heartiest congratulations on their new appointments (T.A.).

Our heartiest good wishes go to Lieut. C. M. M. Man on his appointment as Company Commander. We also have occasion to welcome a distinguished (M.G.) personage in C.S.M. Challis, who we feel is influenced by the "Call of the East," and sincerely trust his stay with us will be a prolonged and enjoyable one.

We must record the prominent part taken by us in a film of military subjects, taken by the "March of Time" Newsreel. Unfortunately the Star was mislaid, so Major A. N. Overell kindly consented to take the part of the dashing hero, which he carried out with great success and determination; his role as a Commander of a Mechanised M.G. Platoon in action was very fitting and every support was given him by the Platoon when the cameras commenced turning, the results of which proved that BEER has its share of hidden talent.

Training in general has not taken up much of our time, with the exception of two or three beach manning exercises, which went off very smoothly; but now all employments have been handed over and we are in the midst of Individual Training, which is in full swing.

#### SPORTS

In the Small Units cricket we beat the 24th A.A. Battery by 72 runs, and were very fortunate to win the semi-final by six wickets against the 24th Heavy Regiment, R.A., but we suffered defeat at the hands of the R.A.M.C. in the final by 64 runs.

The team for the above league was: Lieut. Man, Lieut. Weedon, Sergt. Painter, Cpls. Pace and Haynes, L/Cpls. Johns, Soames and Dyson, Ptes. Pearson, Vince, Chatton, and Barrett.

The Albuhera Football League commenced on 13th May, "B" Company causing a big upset in the Battalion by beating "A" Company by 1-0, "A" Company having nine Battalion players. In our second game, versus "H.Q." Company, we drew 0-0. Well done, "B"!

The team consisted of Cpls. Pace, Borrow, and Haynes, L/Cpl. Johns, Ptes. Bindon, Pike, Dry, Jennings, Vince, Pearson, and Chatton. This team, less Pte. Pearson, represented the Company in the Small Units football, and put up a very good show to finish runners-up.

Pte. Bindon is to be congratulated on his splendid efforts in the Company and Battalion Athletic Meetings, held in February, he being the outstanding athletic. No. 7 Platoon won the Platoon Shield. Good luck, No. 7!

In the Inter-Company Athletic Meeting we managed to get second place to "A" Company.

Mention should be made of the magnificent show put up by Pte. Moran against the welter-weight champion of the China Fleet, whom he beat easily.

To all old members of "B" Company we wish all the very best.

BEER.

#### "C" COMPANY

Since our last notes there have been some changes in the Company. Capt. W. C. Newton has left for "H.Q." Company as W.T. Officer, and in his place we welcome Major J. B. Worton as Company Commander. Major Worton, we feel sure, is known to most of our readers, and it is hardly necessary to say that under his leadership "C" Company feel confident that there will be a bright outlook from every angle.

The last quarter started with M.G. Training Cadres, when almost everyone in the Company, from the O.C. down to the Lance-Corporals, were taking part, either as instructors or students. This was followed by several visits to the island of Hong Kong, where we had a look at our new sectors. These reconnaissance trips seemed to be enjoyed by all concerned, when the weather was kind.

We have just completed the first period of M.G. Training, and most of the Company have completed Part 1A. At the end of our 30 yards range period we held a Fire Order Competition, which was won by L/Cpl. Hodgeson's section. We congratulate the winners, but from the critics' point of view it was seen that we must keep working hard if we wish to term ourselves "Gunners" without blushing.

Once again we are on the non-Individual Training period and as most of us are employed on various Garrison and Regimental employments we find it most difficult to cover the ground as laid down. To-day is the first time

we can claim to have some private soldiers available for training; a grand total of two!

During April a Battalion Rifle Meeting was held. The conditions of the various matches to be fired were issued rather late, so no practice could be carried out and the show turned into one of those "pot luck" affairs. The most important events were being run at the same time and this meant that either one or both teams had to suffer the loss of key men.

Congratulations are due to Sergt. Overy, L/Cpl. Jousiffe and Pte. Lever, who were selected to represent the Battalion in the M.G. Shoot.

#### SPORTS

We were pleased to see Cpl. Ellis, L/Cpls. Poole and Burbidge and Pte. Lever helping the Battalion to win the Command Athletic Meeting. Special mention must be made of Pte. Lever, who won the Individual Javelin with a throw of 164 feet, and also the Individual Discus. L/Cpl. Poole won the Individual Long Jump.

Swimming has just commenced again, in which L/Cpl. Puddifoot and Pte. Byrne were awarded Battalion colours.

Several N.C.O.s and men represented the Battalion in the boxing, both Novices and Command Team events; special mention being made of Pte. Foakes, who caused great surprise by winning the Area Light Heavy-weight title.

**Football.**—Battalion games having ended, the Company turned their eyes towards the Albuhera Shield matches, and the Small Units games. We did not do too well in the Small Units games, although we tried our hardest. In the Albuhera matches we have lost 2-0 to "H.Q.", won 5-0 against "D" Company, and won 4-1 against "B" Company, leaving us "A" to play. We hope to say in our next notes that the Company won the league. A Platoon knockout was held in the Company for the "Weller" Shield, and we congratulate No. 10 Platoon on their success.

#### CRICKET

The Company has plenty of talent and we hope to be near the top of the Inter-Company League at the finish. With the inclusion of Major Worton and Pte. Hatfield, the Company has a very good chance, as the side is fairly well balanced.

We welcome back Sergts. Blackman and Sheffield and Cpl. Burrell; also we wish

Sergt. Soper all the best of luck during his tour with the T.A.

We wish all old members of "C" Company all the best in "Civvy Street."

#### "D" COMPANY

Work and play go hand in hand, and "D" Company have tempered their work with plenty of really hard games on the field of sport, although the serious side of soldiering work must be given its fair share in reporting the doings of the Company during the last quarter.

On Thursday, 30th March, the Brigadier's Inspection took place. During the parade the Company carried out their part very creditably. During the inspection of barracks afterwards the Company must be congratulated on the way the stores and rooms were laid out—they were a picture.

Commencing 20th May, the Company started their individual training period. All those who have been nicely parked away and entered on the inventories of Garrison and Regimental employments shook off the cobwebs and have been seen smiling round the Company lines once more.

The tales of woe and lost skin and bruised knuckles will be told in the next issue, when the period will have been completed.

We welcome back to the fold Sergts. Ramsden and Hopwood, and Cpl. Baker, all of whom have attended Courses in the U.K. We have not had a chance to make the personal acquaintance of Cpl. Baker, but his reputation in the field of sport is well known.

Major Walden left the colony on leave. We wish him a good time whilst at home. Cpl. Graham has left the Company and gone to "H.Q.," although he hangs around giving us the feeling that he wants his spirit to linger on.

Major Stewart has returned to the Battalion and has taken over second-in-command. "D" Company welcome him back, and know that he still has a soft spot for us.

We are very sorry to lose Pte. Wickens, who has left us for the R.A.P.C.

And now we take another look at "D" Company boxers. As already stated in the last issue of this magazine, "D" Company won the Inter-Company boxing by 11 clear points. After this came the Inter-Unit Competition, our opponents being the Royal Scots. Out of our Company we had the following men in the Battalion team: L/Cpl. Noble, Ptes. Gribble, Milroy, Fawcett and



Geist, who all put up a very good show. The Battalion were the victors by 13 fights to 2.

Following this was the Area Boxing Championships, and in the feather weights L/Cpl. Noble knocked out his man in the first round, and L/Cpl. Betts was unfortunate to lose on points in the light heavy-weight class. Pte. Burke also gave a brilliant display, but was unfortunate not to reach the finals.

In "D" Company we have much hidden talent and with encouragement and a little hard work we should again prove ourselves top in winning the Inter-Company Boxing Shield next year for the third time in succession.

#### FOOTBALL

Since our last notes on football we have completed the Small Units League and tied for third place. The Kumaon Rifles unfortunately withdrew from the league after playing only two matches and so put us lower than we expected. After a delayed start, the Albuhera League commenced on 8th May. The delay was caused by the Command Athletic Meeting being cancelled. However, this much-looked-after event commenced and from the very first game began to shake the book-keepers. What is more, it has continued to do so since. At the time of going to press it is only half over, but three teams still can finish at the top of the table, so the shocks have served to leave the league winners open and maintain the interest until the very last game. We have been dogged by bad luck since the very first game, which we played against "C" Company. For this game we began without the services of Courtney, who returned from his Manila trip a sick man. We suffered again during the game itself, for after fifteen minutes' play Cpl. Hammond was injured and had to leave the field of play. He returned, but was only a passenger. Wilkinson and Devonshire both sustained injuries in the second half. It was rather a good game though and was enjoyed by all. Half-time score was 1-0 in favour of "C." They eventually won 5-0. Although "C" deserved their win, it was not worth so big a margin. "H.Q." were our next opponents and we began the match with Cpl. Hammond and Pte. Courtney both on the sick list. We lost this game to the tune of 0-4, after having nearly all the game. The defence played well together and were very constructive, whereas the forwards failed at the last jump with their shooting. "A" Company were our next opponents and in a fast and exciting game we defeated them by 2-1.

It would be unfair to single out any definite player for everyone gave of his best in this game and I am sure the remainder of the Company congratulate them on their fine and splendid performance. It was truly a great game, in which the "Invincible 'A'" were not allowed to settle down and were lucky not to suffer a much bigger defeat. Well done, "Don"!

It is heard in various quarters that "B," our last opponents and one of the three for the top position, will have to watch "D." In this game it is expected that Courtney and Hammond will bring the team to full strength for the first time. With the team thanking the Company for their support, we close until our next notes, when we will give the final results. For the present, "Keep it up, 'Don'."

#### ATHLETICS

Once again the Company was well represented when it came to picking a Battalion team for the Area Command Sports, which the Battalion won by 29 points. Well done! Our old rivals, the H.K.S.R.A., gained second place in the Sports.

We offer our congratulations to the following men of the Company who were selected to represent the Battalion: Cpl. Sturdy, L/Cpls. McGrady, Seton, Matthews and Noble, Ptes. Cutter, Berry, Hughes, and Dunne; they performed remarkably well.

We extend our sympathy to Cpl. Graham, who, owing to an unfortunate accident in training, could not take part in these sports. Better luck next time, Grubby!

Congratulations are due to the following: C/Sergt. W. Bean to P.S.M.; L/Cpls. Finnis and Perry to Corporal; L/Cpl. Betts to paid appointment; L/Cpls. Commerford and Simpson for the first step. Good luck to them all.

#### SERGEANTS' MESS

Casting a hasty eye over our collection of assorted jottings from which we have to compile our notes this quarter, we perceive a miscellany of oddments to be pieced together in some intelligible form.

Amongst this heap, let us select our notes on Albuhera Week, which, although following on customary lines, this year produced that little extra which makes news.

In the morning, the Inter-Mess Hockey—result, we beat the Officers and lost to the Privates, naturally. Our team for the Officers versus Sergeants Tug-of-War, assisted by an

impromptu band, came off best (naturally!), and we returned the Cup in triumph to its usual place in the Mess. After our visit to the Officers at midday, the fun fair provided an afternoon's entertainment. Sergt. Marshall as Aunt Sally thought he was clever, but did not bargain for the Sergeants who descended on him in force, and he got his usual Aunt Sally crop of hard knocks (unnaturally).

The evening commenced with the monthly dinner, very nicely prepared and served by Café Wiseman. The following old Middlesex men attended and remained during the evening: Q.M.S. Woodham, R.A.P.C., W.O.I. Jessop, R.E., Sergt. Misson, R.C.S. Later the Officers paid their customary visit to our Mess. Lieut.-Colonel L. A. Newnham, M.C., in his speech paid tribute to the W.O.s and Sergeants for their loyalty and hard work during a difficult period of re-organisation over the past twelve months, which he said had contributed to the efficiency of the Battalion.

At this point we now fill and pass round the cups mentioned below, which have been won during the quarter, and from which we drink deep to the health and prosperity of the winners: Bandmaster W. Kifford: The Hong Kong Rifle Association Long Range Aggregate Cup, and the Army and Navy Cup. The latter was also for good shooting.

C/Sergt. P. Hale: The Steers Cup (shooting), which he has gained for the second year in succession.

Sergt. R. Overy: The "Tidbury" Cup for Fitness and Efficiency.

Friday, 19th May, dawned gloomy and dull, and as the storm clouds gathered during the day, the Annual Ball bid fair to be a flop—the tennis court is also our dance floor, and in the open air. However, it proved a great success. It is literally true that it rained heavily everywhere in Hong Kong that evening except on our dance floor. Guests were arriving with umbrellas and raincoats, prepared to find the event cancelled or at best a gathering in the Mess. It was not, however, until the last guest had left that the storm broke over Shamshuipo.

Another little dip in our bag of oddments and we have:

Congratulations to C.S.M. E. Paterson and P.S.M. W. Bean on promotion; to Sergt. Bayford on his captaincy of the "H.Q." Company team which brought home the Command Inter-Company Shooting Cup; and to C/Sergt. P. Hale and Sergt. V. Cooper on getting in the

"Governor's 20" (with visions of getting into the "upper ten"). A welcome back to C.S.M. R. Challis, Drum-Major G. Jeffree, Sergts. Ramsden, Sheffield, Blackman and Hopwood from home.

Brilliant end play by L/Sergt. Hiscocks gave us a victory over the Corporals at a darts challenge match. An enjoyable day was spent at Lyemun, where the R.A., after a football match, entertained us at their Mess. The match, incidentally, ended in a draw, 1-1, P.S.M. J. Ramsey scoring our goal. We should also mention the visit to the Mess of the band of the P. & O. S.S. *Canton*, which was held up in Hong Kong for repairs.

Drum-Major Jeffree (a brandy dry, please) and Sergt. Bayford continue to strive for mastery on the dart board and the billiards table respectively, which brings up that controversy "should sportsmen specialise?" C/Sergt. Colbourne and Sergt. Quick are still keen yachtsmen. Mrs. Quick now trusts herself out on the blue water; we ourselves, however, regretfully decline to accompany C/Sergt. Colbourne (I've a wife and two kids myself).

From the bottom of the bag comes our last, but not least, item of news, to wit, the departure of C.S.M. Stacey (good old Joe) and Sergt. Maloney to the T.A. Good luck and our best wishes go with them; we can say no more, for they are but the forerunners of many who are to leave us.

#### BIRTHS

Bandmaster W. Kifford.—Son, Peter, born at Kowloon, Hong Kong, on 2nd April, 1939.

Sergt. B. Bedward.—Daughter, Marlene Glyn, born at Kowloon, Hong Kong, on 17th May, 1939.

Sergt. R. Chaplin.—Son, Robert Ivor, born at Kowloon, Hong Kong, on 11th March, 1939.

L/Sergt. R. Lomax.—Daughter, Kathleen Rosemary, born at Kowloon, Hong Kong, on 18th April, 1939.

R. C.

#### CORPORALS' CLUB

As usual, the day dawns when one has to record the doings of the Mess. However, to proceed, this quarter is a very momentous one and many happenings worthy of note have taken place in this fair land of ?! & % (If you get me!)



## CONGRATULATORY

Under this category it is fitting to record that Corpl. Ellis was awarded the Efficiency Cup, which he so well merited (well done, Alf!), whilst the following are to receive the usual thing on promotion to the coveted "second one": Cpls. Ure, Perry, Finnis, Holdford, and Hoare, and to those following, who have crossed the threshold in the persons of Toms, Dormer, Jousiffe, and Simpson.

## SPORTS

Several of our members represented the Battalion in the Command Athletics and we justly say WE won the sports, ahem! Cpls. Ellis, Pace, and Sturdy, L/Cpls. McGrady, Matthews, Hobson, and Poole are among those who merit special mention and helped us to win the coveted trophy. In the annual encounter on Albuhera Day we were beaten by the Privates in the Hockey K.O., and the Sergeants, who only just scrambled home against the Officers, were ultimately thrashed to the tune of 8-0, so the fruits of defeat were not so bitter after.

## INDOOR GAMES

Having snared by devious ways and means to get the Sergeants' Mess to have an "At Home" evening in our Mess, and having with malice aforethought spread around that we were going to show them our dust at any game they liked, found that all was not to our liking; in fact it was the case of the biter being bit, and we think the least said about our ignoble showing the better; suffice to say that we LOST.

Among other of our vices is the spasm of dance craze which has hit us with cyclonic force—even to the extent of sending the "mugs" to a teacher in town—but so great was the demand and what with the dear soul running out of Horlicks and thereby losing her sleep at nights that notice was given for us to quit, which we did, but after our Annual Albuhera Dance (pardon us, Ball) we are of the opinion that it is we who should give lessons and what not. A La Fred (Perry) Astaire shakes a pretty leg, not to forget Adagio (Curley-top) Harvey, who danced his way to stardom. It was an unforgettable success and our thanks, heartily reciprocated by all members, are extended to Cpl. Sheen and the remainder of the Committee for their hard work.

## BOXING

The following members represented the Battalion, and we fairly swept the board:

Cpls. McGrady, Holdford and Ellis (Area light-weight champion), L/Cpls. Webster, Phillips, Noble (Area feather-weight champion), Fox and Betts.

## OBITUARY

It is with deep regret that we mourn the passing of L/Cpl. H. F. Thorn, who died under such tragic circumstances whilst camping with Scouts at Cheung Chau Island. He will be remembered for his unfailing cheerfulness and his ability to take everything in the course of a day and frankly he took a lot; his courage carried him through with flying colours and we know that he is missed by all. We extend sympathy to all his relatives in their bereavement.

"EGGHEAD."

## THE MINING OF S.S. TYNDARIUS

Strolling round the Peak, one of the show places and the highest point of the Island of Hong Kong, the visitor will come across a small grey stone, situated at the side of the path. On this stone is the following inscription: "25th Bttn. Middlesex Regt. Tyndarius, Feb. 6th, 1917." How this monu-



ment came to be erected is a mystery for none of the local Hong Kong papers has any record of its unveiling, nor can the residents shed any light as to its origin. However, the deed that it commemorates has been traced, and is one of which the whole Regiment may well be proud.

Early in 1917 the 25th Battalion Middlesex Regiment embarked in England in the Blue Funnel steamer *Tyndarius*, en route for Hong Kong where they were to carry out garrison duties. Owing to the submarine menace, which was at its height at that time, the course

followed was that round the Cape via South Africa. When rounding Cape Agulhas the ship struck a mine from the German minelayer *Moete*, and was so badly holed that it was thought that she was sinking. The Commanding Officer, Lieut.-Col. J. Ward, paraded all troops on deck, prepared for another disaster like that of the *Birkenhead*. The behaviour of the Battalion was admirable, and the discipline throughout excellent. The ship's Captain, however, thanks to the entire absence of panic, was able to stop the hole sufficiently to control the influx of water, and the ship was towed into Simonstown, drawing, in place of her normal 20 ft., 8 ft. at the stern and 42 ft. 7 ins. at the bows.

When the Battalion arrived in Hong Kong they were feted for their gallant behaviour, and the local Press records that the following telegram was received from the Secretary of State for War, Lord Derby: "Splendid behaviour of all ranks on board the *Tyndarius* is a fresh honour to the Army and the Nation to which they belong. I congratulate you on your Battalion and the Battalion on its Colonel. Derby."

Messages were sent also by the General Federation of Trade Unions and by the Mayor of Wandsworth.

## ATHLETICS

In the athletic season just finished we have achieved something which we have failed to do since the Battalion came abroad in 1931. That is to win a Garrison Inter-Unit Team Championship. We have been runners-up practically every year, and at last have something concrete to show for our efforts.

The Hong Kong Area Inter-Unit Athletic Meeting was originally arranged to take place



Athletic Team, 1st. Battalion.  
Winners Area Athletic Championships, 1939

on 23rd and 24th March, but owing to inclement weather it was postponed until 3rd and 4th May. We were looking forward to a hard tussle with the H.K.S.R.A., who beat us by the narrow margin of half a point last year.

However, on the first day we at once jumped into the lead by winning the Discus, Javelin, Long Jump, and being placed second in the Hammer, High Jump, and Pole Vault. This gave us a substantial lead of eight points at the end of the day. We were never headed on the second day, and in the end ran out winners from the H.K.S.R.A. by a margin of 29 points.

It would be invidious to mention individuals, but mention must be made of the splendid running of our sprint teams and Pte. Lever for his magnificent efforts in the Javelin and Discus.

The final placings were as follows:

	Points
1st Battalion The Middlesex Regiment	140
H.K.S.R.A.	111
8th Heavy Regiment, R.A.	109
5/6th Rajputana Rifles	108½
2nd Battalion The Royal Scots	102
5th A.A. Regiment, R.A.	70
Royal Corps of Signals	48
Royal Engineers	36½

The Battalion team consisted of the following:

440 Yards Relay	: P.S.M. Ramsey, L/Sergt. Hiscocks, L/Cpl. Bowker, L/Cpl. Matthews.
880 Yards Relay	: P.S.M. Ramsey, L/Sergt. Hiscocks, L/Cpl. Bowker, Pte. Bloomfield.
One Mile Relay	: L/Cpl. McGrady, L/Cpl. Dickens, Pte. Goodair, Pte. Fergusson.
Two Miles Relay	: Cpl. Sturdy, L/Cpl. Hobson, L/Cpl. Burbidge, Pte. Dunne.
One Mile Team Race	: Cpl. Ellis, L/Cpl. Noble, Pte. Shaw, Pte. Onslow.
Three Miles Team Race	: Cpl. Ellis, L/Cpl. Noble, Pte. Shaw, Pte. Onslow.
480 Yards Hurdles Relay	: Sergt. Poulter, L/Cpl. Perrin, Bdmn. Hymas, Pte. Bindon.
High Jump	: Pte. Bindon, Pte. Goodman.
Long Jump	: L/Cpl. Poole, Pte. Bloomfield.
Pole Vault	: Sergt. Poulter, Bdmn. Hymas.
Discus	: Pte. Lever, Pte. Wookey.
Weight	: L/Cpl. Seton, Pte. Berry.
Hammer	: Pte. Berry, Pte. Lever.
Javelin	: Pte. Lever, L/Cpl. Poole.

Turning to domestic affairs, a Battalion Novices' Athletic Meeting was held on 12th and 13th February, and quite a number of potential Battalion athletes were found.

The Inter-Company Athletic Meeting took place on 12th and 13th February with the following result:

1. "A" Company	.. .. . 89 points
2. "B" "	.. .. . 59 "
3. "D" "	.. .. . 55 "
4. "C" "	.. .. . 55 "
5. "H.Q." "	.. .. . 48 "



Before closing these notes a tribute is paid to the late Pte. Stemp, who collapsed and died a few minutes before he was about to represent the Battalion in the Discus event in the Hong Kong Area Athletic Meeting on 3rd May. He was a good all round sportsman and will be sorely missed by the Battalion in the field events for years to come.

### FOOTBALL

The Colony football season came to a close with a series of charity matches played mostly by the teams of the South China Athletic Association.

The Battalion on the whole has done moderately well during the past season. Congratulations are due to the 2nd XI who managed to reach the final of the Junior Shield, losing to the Royal Scots, and who finished runners-up to the South China 2nd XI in the Second Division of the Hong Kong Football League.

The 1st XI finished fifth in the First Division, which is quite a fair result when one considers the really good players who have left the Battalion for the United Kingdom.

These notes would be incomplete without our congratulations to Cpl. Freshwater and Ptes. Sheehan and Courtney, on gaining Inter-Port caps in the series of games—Hong Kong v. Manila—played at Manila. Pte. Courtney was unfortunate in being a bad sailor. He was ill for the duration of the tour and had no chance of playing his usual sterling game.

We are now in the middle of the Albuhera Shield matches and excitement is running high. These matches are being watched with interest as they serve as a pointer towards the individual talent of those who will be called upon to represent the Battalion next season against new competition at Malta, when yet another batch of players will be lost from both the 1st and 2nd XIs.

Finally, it is the wish of all sportsmen in the Battalion to congratulate the 2nd Battalion football team on their magnificent showing in the Army Cup at home. As this is the second year they have done so well, we sincerely hope they may emulate Portsmouth F.C. and make the third time (next season) lucky.

### POLO AND HUNTING

Since the last journal notes, polo has been played continuously three times a week with very few breaks. The ponies have all played well with no serious casualties. In the Navy

Cup Capt. Marsh, Lieut. Chattey, 2/Lieut. Hancock, and Capt. Gilbertson of the Royal Scots, formed a team (The Giant Pandas) but were beaten in the first round by the Royal Navy, having given two goals. Our goals were scored by Lieut. Chattey and Capt. Gilbertson.

Owing to the duties of Adjutant, Capt. Marsh has given up playing but Lieut. Fishbourne, who is just back from England, has purchased his "string" and rejoined the squad. Lieut. Chattey has also returned from England and taken over the management of the stables again from Capt. Marsh.

There have been several new purchases both in polo ponies and hunters. The stable now consists of:

"Radium" (polo pony), "Corrie" (polo pony)—Lieut. Chattey.  
 "Feudal Knight" (polo pony), "Little Beauty" (polo pony)—Lieut. Fishbourne.  
 "Sandstorm" (polo pony), "Until Then" (polo pony), "Winterstale" (hunter)—Lieut. Hancock.  
 "Trojan" (hunter)—Capt. Jacob.  
 "Kiola" (hunter)—Government charger.  
 "Cheetah" (polo pony)—Spare.

Hunting and racing at Fanling has been enjoyed by Capt. Jacob, Lieut. Hancock, and Lieut. Chattey.

Lieut. Hancock rode "Winterstale" into second place in the Point-to-Point and Lieut. Chattey has been placed in numerous steeplechases, though riding various horses outside the Regiment.

Polo has finished for this season but will commence again in August. We are hoping to get instructions soon to purchase a string of ponies for the future Adjutant and so make up the Regimental side.

### SWIMMING

Apart from half an hour three times a week in the Y.M.C.A. bath which has been used by Companies to prepare for the Mons Shield Water Polo, there has been no swimming so far this season. We have had to delay the start on account of the various hold ups in the Albuhera Football and Cricket Leagues.

At first sight our chances of repeating the successes of last year do not seem too bright. The sudden death of Bdmn. Stemp came as a shock to the whole Battalion, and his place will be almost impossible to fill in the swimming and water polo teams. He was a really outstanding performer at both. Ptes. Davies and Buckle have gone to the Reserve, and Bdmn. Haigh will not be back from leave till the end of the season. The swimming team will be

weakened by their absence as well as the water polo team.

However, there are plenty of promising men in the Battalion and so long as we can get the time and place to practise, there is no reason to feel depressed at our prospects.

The lack of a bath will, it is hoped, be solved by the hire of the sea water polo pitch at Stonecutters, which is in the course of being repaired and will, we hope, be ready for use in the near future.

### HOCKEY

Since the return of the Battalion from camp, hockey has been played continuously by the 1st and 2nd Battalion teams. The standard of play improved as the season progressed and we have enjoyed some extremely fast games. The 1st XI games included a very good one against the Kumaon Rifles which we won by 4—1, repeating our win in the early part of the season. In the Unit Knock-out Competition we met the Rajputana Rifles, probably the best team in the Colony, in the first round which was unfortunate. A very fast and thrilling game ensued, the Battalion losing 0—1 after Bright had struck an upright with a very hard shot, and we held a territorial advantage during most of the game. The Battalion has played the Rajputana Rifles twice since then, the results being 0—4 and 4—4 respectively.

The 2nd XI have also had some very good games, the most notable being against the Kumaon Rifles 2nd XI, won 4—1, and the Y.M.C.A., won 3—1.

We entered four teams in a Six-a-Side Tournament run by the Hong Kong Hockey Association. The most successful team was "A" team, the strongest, which reached the semi-final.

The following were awarded their 1st XI and 2nd XI colours for the season 1938-1939, and constitute the respective Battalion teams.

1st XI.—Lieut. Chattey, Cpl. Crowley, Ptes. Boggis, Stickley, Gorman, Courtney, Abell, Jackson, Caul, Sheehan, Hatfield.

2nd XI.—L/Sergt. Hiscocks, Cpl. Ure, L/Cpl. Waldron, Ptes. Samuels, Painting, Compton, Winfield, Pearson, Vince, Bdmn. Bright.

On Albuhera Day a Six-a-Side Tournament was arranged between the Officers, the Sergeants, the Corporals, and the Privates. In the first round the Sergeants beat the Officers after a close game by 3—2 (it should be

mentioned that the average age of the Officers' team was 35) and the Privates beat the Corporals by 3—1. In the final the Privates beat the Sergeants by 8—1.

### BATTALION RIFLE CLUB

The rifle shooting season in Hong Kong has just drawn to a close with the conclusion of the Battalion Rifle Meeting and the Service and Bisley Meetings of the Hong Kong Rifle Association.

The Battalion Meeting was designed to give practice for the Platoon and Company teams that were later to represent the Battalion in the Services' Meeting, and owing to the lack of time no individual events, with the exception of revolver, were held.

"A" Company won the Company, and No. 15 Platoon "D" Company the Platoon matches, whilst "A" Company also was successful in the Machine Gun event. "H.Q." Company won the Falling Plate competition and the Inter-Mess shoot went to the Corporals, who won easily. The Sergeants, Privates, and Officers, in that order, finished with four points between them.

The Individual Revolver resulted in a tie between Major Walden and 2/Lieut. Dawson.

Prior to the Meeting the Company Shooting Challenge Shield, which had been re-allotted for an Indirect Machine Gun competition to the Company whose three Platoons made the highest aggregate, was won by "C" Company. This was fired for whilst the Battalion was in camp at Lo Wu. "D" Company did not compete.

Mention must be made of the fine shooting of No. 11 Platoon under the command and control of P.S.M. Paterson, now C.S.M. of "A" Company. This Warrant Officer hit all of the eight screens that comprised the target.

The Services' and Bisley Meetings were to be held on the Kowloon Ranges from the 13th to the 17th April. The first two days, during which the Services' Meeting took place, were fine, and some extremely close scores were registered between the Battalion and other competing Units. After this the weather broke in no uncertain fashion and as a result a day's firing in the rain took place, and the final day was postponed until 14th May.

As a result of the team events the Battalion were unlucky or, on the other hand, perhaps, lucky in finding second place in several events,



and the only win which was very definite was the Company match.

The results were as follows:

*The Company Match*: 1. "H.Q." Company; 3. "C" Company; 4. "A" Company.  
*The Machine Gun Match*: 2. "B" team, I.MX.  
*The Services' Team Aggregate*: 2. I.MX., with a score of 77 against 79 by the Royal Scots.  
*"Steel Coulson" Trophy*: 2. I.MX., two points behind the winners.  
*The Services' Inter-Ship and Unit Clay Bird Team Match*: 2. I.MX.

The following must be congratulated for very fine shooting in the individual events:

2/Lieut. Dawson, C/Sergt. Hale, and Sergt. Cooper in reaching the last twenty in H.E. The Governor's Prize. 2/Lieut. Dawson was lying seventh in the first and second stage aggregates, but was unable to compete in the final stage on 14th May.

Bandmaster Kifford won the Long Range Aggregate over 700 and 800 yards, also the Army and Navy Cup.

C/Sergt. Hale was also second in the Individual Services' Revolver Competition.

L/Cpl. Langford, who had just returned from leave, very quickly found his old form on the S.R.(a)—the rifle as issued—and took up the P.14 so as to try to win a place in the coveted "Final Twenty." With practically no practice L/Cpl. Langford tied for the twentieth place and in the shoot off was unfortunately unsuccessful—a very sporting attempt.

Capt. Guscott, who had been shooting excellently, especially at 500 yards, represented, with C/Sergt. Hale and Sergt. Cooper, the Army in the Inter-Services' and Police Competition.

L/Cpl. Rawling, who had been lost over on Hong Kong Island for many months, made an appearance and as usual ably acquitted himself for the benefit of the Battalion teams. Many others deserve mention but the list, luckily, is too long to enumerate, but to those, and there are quite a number, who repeatedly miss at 500 and 600 yards and yet turn up every time to try again, all honour must be given.

A very enjoyable dinner was held by the H.K.R.A. in the Rose Room of the Peninsular Hotel to which H.E. The Governor, Sir Geoffrey Northcote, K.C.M.G., the Patron, was the principal guest.

The annual competition for the "Steers" Cup was held in conjunction with the final mid-week shoot and C/Sergt. Hale retained the trophy. It was a very interesting competition. 2/Lieut. Dawson led at 300 yards with 32, closely followed by C/Sergt. Hale, Sergt.

Cooper, and L/Cpl. Langford. At 500 the two former drew level with 2/Lieut. Dawson and a very keen competition at 600 yards was anticipated as the light was rapidly failing. However, the bad light and puffy wind seemed to have no effect on C/Sergt. Hale; a very fine 34, one less than a possible, gave him an aggregate of 98. 2/Lieut. Dawson and Sergt. Cooper finished equal second with a total of 95, only three points behind.

This concludes rifle shooting in Hong Kong until the autumn, by which time the Battalion may have moved to Malta.

The Wednesday afternoons and the occasional Sunday shoots are greatly missed, and there is no doubt from the popularity of rifle shooting in the Battalion what a great boon the Hong Kong Rifle Association has been. Members going to the United Kingdom, whether on leave or transfer, can join the Home Branch where they will meet an old friend in Major Steers, now promoted to Lieut.-Colonel. The Club offers its congratulations. It is hoped that on the Battalion's arrival at Malta, range facilities will permit so that the excellent and useful recreation of rifle shooting may be continued.

### BOXING

Another season in the art of self defence has just finished and again the Battalion has given a good account of itself within the Hong Kong area. To give a detailed account of individual bouts, and indeed of each tournament, would occupy too much of my time, entail the Editor increasing the size of this journal, and cause some poor unfortunate clerk to work overtime in typing them. However, a brief résumé of the various meetings will not, I am sure, come amiss.

We commenced the season with a Beginners' Tournament interspersed with special contests, and followed it with the Inter-Company Novices' Championships whilst at Lo Wu Camp. Both of these tournaments proved a huge success and the standard of boxing shown augurs well for the forthcoming Area Meeting. On returning to barracks we staged the Inter-Company Team Meeting, where beginners, novices, and more experienced fighters were freely mixed, and upon which we were able to get some inkling of our potential strength. Then commenced a period of intensive training for those fortunate enough to be selected for the Battalion teams.

Mr. E. Kerrison and Cpl. McGrady immediately took over the novices whilst the Battalion team trained more or less on their own. As part of their training an open tournament was arranged by Major F. Walden, in which the whole of our team took on all comers from the Royal Navy and other Units of the Army. It speaks well for their fitness that out of a total of 22 bouts we were adjudged to be the losers in two only.

Then came the final of the Inter-Unit Team Novices—2nd Battalion The Royal Scots v. 1st Battalion The Middlesex Regiment—in which we suffered a keen disappointment, losing by six bouts to nine. Without detracting from the merit of our team, we must, in fairness to the Royal Scots, state that we met a better and more experienced team. However, we secured an ample revenge in the Inter-Unit Open Team Championships, when we defeated them in the final by thirteen bouts to two. The whole team is to be congratulated on their excellent boxing display and their fitness.

Before closing these notes we would like to take this opportunity of thanking Inspector Hallam of the Hong Kong Police, and Mr. Kerrison of the P.W.D. for the presentation of two boxing belts and cups in appreciation of the many enjoyable nights they have spent with our teams.

The following have been awarded full colours and half colours for the present year:

#### BATTALION OPEN TEAM

##### (Winners Area Open Team Championship)

Cpl. McGrady	Pte. Eaton
Cpl. Holdford	Pte. Geist
L/Cpl. Noble	Pte. Hope
L/Cpl. Fox	Pte. Moran
L/Cpl. Phillips	Pte. Gribble
Pte. Hugginson	Cpl. Ellis
L/Cpl. Webster	Pte. Milroy
Bdmn. McDonald	Pte. Fawcett

#### BATTALION NOVICES' TEAM

##### (Runners-up Area Novices' Team Championship)

Cpl. Freshwater	Pte. Dry
L/Cpl. Jones	Pte. Burke
L/Cpl. Dormer	Pte. Emery
L/Cpl. Morgan	Pte. Cooke
Pte. Roberts	Pte. Iszard
Pte. McElhatton	Pte. Goddard
	Pte. Frenchum

The following won their weights in the Area Open Championships:

Heavy-weight	: Pte. Moran
Light-heavy-weight	: Pte. Foakes
Light-weight	: Cpl. Ellis
Feather-weight	: L/Cpl. Noble
Bantam-weight	: Pte. Hope

The undermentioned are Battalion Belt holders:

Heavy-weight: Pte. Moran  
 Light-heavy-weight: L/Cpl. Fox  
 Middle-weight: L/Cpl. McGrady  
 Welter-weight: Cpl. McGrady  
 Light-weight: Cpl. Ellis  
 Feather-weight: L/Cpl. Noble  
 Bantam-weight: Pte. Panting

### BATTALION YACHT CLUB

Owing to the inclement weather we have had during the last quarter the Club activities have been very few. Our first item of interest to be mentioned was at Whitsun, when, thanks to the Admiral of the Club, Major J. E. Dobbs,



The Yacht Club returning from Lamma Island at Whitsun

M.C., a week-end outing was arranged. It was agreed to visit Picnic Bay, Lamma Island, situated about five miles south of Hong Kong.

Foreseeing the possibility of bad weather, arrangements were made for the yachts to be towed to the Island by launch. As it happened, the weather turned out as expected and we had rather a rough and exciting crossing. The first happening occurred before leaving home waters. *Mistral*, the "Jonah" boat, decided to ram the



pier. Luckily no damage was done to the pier.

After passing the south-east corner of Hong Kong a number of casualties are to be reported. Firstly, *Snipe* broke loose but was recaptured after an encirclement. Secondly, a string of yachts broke loose, and when moving off after refastening, *Mistral* filled up and became waterlogged and a menace to the remainder of the fleet. She was towed into a nearby harbour and bailed out. Whilst pulling out from here, *Snipe*, last year's champion, turned turtle. The mast broke and she was rammed and a hole torn in her bottom. We dismasted her and she was towed in a waterlogged condition the remainder of the journey.

We finally arrived at our destination and after half an hour's hard work pulling the boats up high and dry and erecting four tents, we were ready for a spot of tea which the cook had been getting ready in spite of the rain which had been steadily coming down practically the whole time since leaving.

The remainder of the day was spent in bathing and settling down. Evening, together with a petrol lamp and a few bottles of "lunch" and a sing-song, passed only too quickly.

Next morning the remainder of the party arrived. These were mainly of the Band, who were unable to leave on the Saturday with the main party. We must mention that the photographer came with this party together with two cameras, and in spite of the almost continual rain managed to get a few candid shots.

Although we only saw the sun for a couple of hours during our stay, Bob Hewett, the cook, managed to get sun blisters three inches in diameter on his back, and as is usual in these cases had plenty of "Army" sympathy.

We managed to get a few swims in, and when Sergt. Quick was scrummed into the sea, clothes and all, things looked brighter.

There was not much to see on the island, most of it being barren rock except around the area where we had pitched camp, where there was a small cultivation.

Our thanks to Mrs. Quick, who supervised the issue of food.

The end of our little rest came too soon, and at 2 p.m. on Whit Monday, the Admiral and his wife arrived to lead us home. During our absence from barracks a typhoon signal was hoisted and the typhoon was expected to strike Hong Kong. It was rumoured that a police launch was asked to come to our assistance on the island but had to give up. The people least worried were we who knew nothing about the

typhoon at all. It was certainly windy but what did we care.

We were towed back in "line ahead," the big battleship *Alpha* leading and the gallant *Popeye* in rear keeping the wrecks in line behind the launch. We looked a gallant fleet arriving back at Sham Shui Po.

We hope, with the aid of the powers that be, to arrange another week-end or perhaps a week's outing at some future date.

We have since had an impromptu outing for the day at Saddlers Beach. On this occasion we had all the sun that was wanted. For the next couple of days one could hear "My back" or "My legs." The effects very soon wear off though, and one can't have sun treatment without a certain amount of redness. We had a good following wind on this trip and made very good time.

After Grommy had lit the fires and got the kettles on, it was discovered that the crew of that floundering old junk *Bounty* had left the rations on the pier at the barracks. The *Popeye* being the fastest boat there, as everybody agreed at that time, volunteered to go back and try to retrieve the lost goods. The goods were found and brought back and the crew thoroughly enjoyed the steak and kidney pie made by Mrs. Quick. We all had a very enjoyable day and then got ready for the return. *Alpha* did not like leaving and stopped for a time cuddling the rocks after the remainder had left. *Snipe*, who had broken her rudder, had to be steered with an oar which, according to Sergt. Quick, is not so easy as handling a tiller.

For the return trip we had a head wind and the tide against us and it was dark before we arrived back.

*Thor*, George's tub, got back two hours after the first boat, but was only just behind *Snipe* who had had a hard time of it. *Thor* said that they had stopped to pull a steamer off the rocks at Stonecutters, but we think he lost his way.

If you people at home cannot go yachting, well come abroad and join our Club. It is fairly cheap and when the wind drops while you are out you can rest assured that the "posh" yachts are no better than you are, unless they do not play fair and use motors.

We are sorry to say that the Club has lost one of its members in the late Bdmn. Stemp, who was part owner of *Pluto*. A wreath from the Club was taken to the funeral by Mrs. Quick.

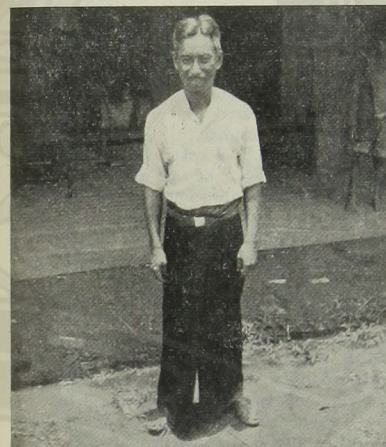
As the Sub-Editor is waiting on the doorstep, so to speak, for these notes, we will close hoping to relate further adventures next quarter.

JIBS TO THE FORE.

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

### CONCLUDING INSTALMENT

I HAVE often observed one peculiarly feminine trait in the Goddess of Fortune: that the more liberties one takes with her, the better she is pleased. I had here with all deliberation placed myself in an impossible position, from which I had not more than one chance in a hundred of extricating myself with credit. Yet that one chance now offered itself, through the unlikely agency of an Indian contractor.



Ibrahim

Ibrahim, as he announced his name, took me to his shop, where, under the hoary eye of a venerable gentleman, presumably Ibrahim père, we studied the map. He then told me of a way I might reach Burma, without the humiliation of returning to Indo-China or going tamely to Bangkok. Two hundred miles to the south there was a road, of which up to then I had never heard, from Raheng, near the railway, to Mesot on the Burmese frontier, passable for ponies. From Mesot, I might go by cart or lorry to Kawkaireik, near the river

Haungtharaw, and so down the river to Moulmein.

In the meantime I must get a lorry to Lampang, then to take the train to Sawwan-kolok, the railhead sixty miles from Raheng. That, Ibrahim could arrange.

I wanted a meal; Ibrahim could arrange, and we went down the street to a shop shared between a grocer and a barber, one of whom sold bicycles as a side line, where I got fried eggs, bread, and a glass of coffee.

By half-past one I was jolting back to Me San, on the front seat of the lorry this time; an Indian family sat immediately behind me, exuding a smell of curry, periodically fretting and complaining at having to shift and make room as the lorry filled to normal capacity.

At Me San I was given another visa on my passport, and we waited by the barrier, while the sun came out and shone intolerably on the white dust of the road. The Indians were having difficulty with their baggage. Everywhere one travels one meets Indians, and always they are in trouble. Their high plaintive voices meandered on and on in the hot afternoon. Eventually we left them, and continued down the road to the market place, a broad, dusty square thinly shaded by half a dozen seedy palms, where we stopped for some time.

Late in the afternoon we reached Chieng Hai, after a journey of about three hours, consisting mostly of halts. At one of these, a polite English-speaking Siamese got down from the back of the bus and gave me his card. He was a Mr. Banchof Bansiddhi, something to do with a missionary society, and when we got out at Chieng Hai, surprised me by offering to take me to the house of an Englishman, one of three living in the town.

We walked some distance, then took a ride in two side-cars attached to push-bicycles, the Siamese substitute for rickshaws, and at length found my fellow-countryman at his bungalow, where he and his Siamese wife received me with the greatest hospitality. Later we joined the other two Englishmen in their house. The abrupt descent into civilised life was almost too swift to be realised; sitting on the lawn after tea, overlooking the river, I could nearly have fancied myself in some garden on the upper reaches of the Thames, in the light of a long summer evening. Only the absence of midges, the tame monkey playing on the grass, and a flight of green parrots passing in formation above the trees in the far distance, were foreign.



I had put up at Thorvaldsen's rest house, a roomy wooden building full of strange ornaments, kept by a Dane, lately Colonel of the Siamese gendarmerie, a jolly, loud-voiced man with broken teeth. He refused to believe that the road to Keng Tung was closed, and tried to dissuade me from going to Raheng, but I had already made my arrangements.

I was to catch the mail lorry at seven o'clock the next day. A prolonged bugle call, out of tune, from the police barracks, awoke me early; luckily, because at six a man came to say that the lorry was waiting. This I take to be the first recorded example of transport in the East being ready before it was expected, and I think there must have been some misunderstanding.

I got a front seat on the lorry (I was growing wise) and we started for Lampang. The country had grown more civilised during the last two days; here the fields were broad and flat, with cattle tethered to long weighted poles, balanced upright like those used at wells for drawing water. There was a faintly Chinese note about the houses, but I could never discover what occasioned it; some of them had tiled roofs, but most were thatched.

Periodically during the morning we stopped at customs barriers, where the customs men probed all the packages with long steel rods, and searched industriously under the seats. At one place a gramophone was playing a strange, haunting tune, unlike anything I ever heard before or since. We stopped in the middle of the day to eat rice, at a village with a wide muddy street, standing alone in the plain with an outlandish air of desolation. Parties of women went to and fro, carrying twin baskets on poles; some of the young girls were attractive, with flowers and ornaments in their hair; they squatted in the roadway among the puddles, gossiping.

Once the lorry had stopped, it was very difficult to start again; this was particularly noticeable at customs barriers. When we reached the most important of these, everything had to be removed from the lorry and spread over the road for the customs men to jump on and prod with their long instruments like cleaning rods. Every nook and cranny of the lorry was searched; the petrol tank was removed, and fell to pieces and could not be got back again. We sat in the shade and watched them for an hour, after which we were allowed to go. Then the lorry would not start for ten minutes.

We had a few pauses to take up passengers

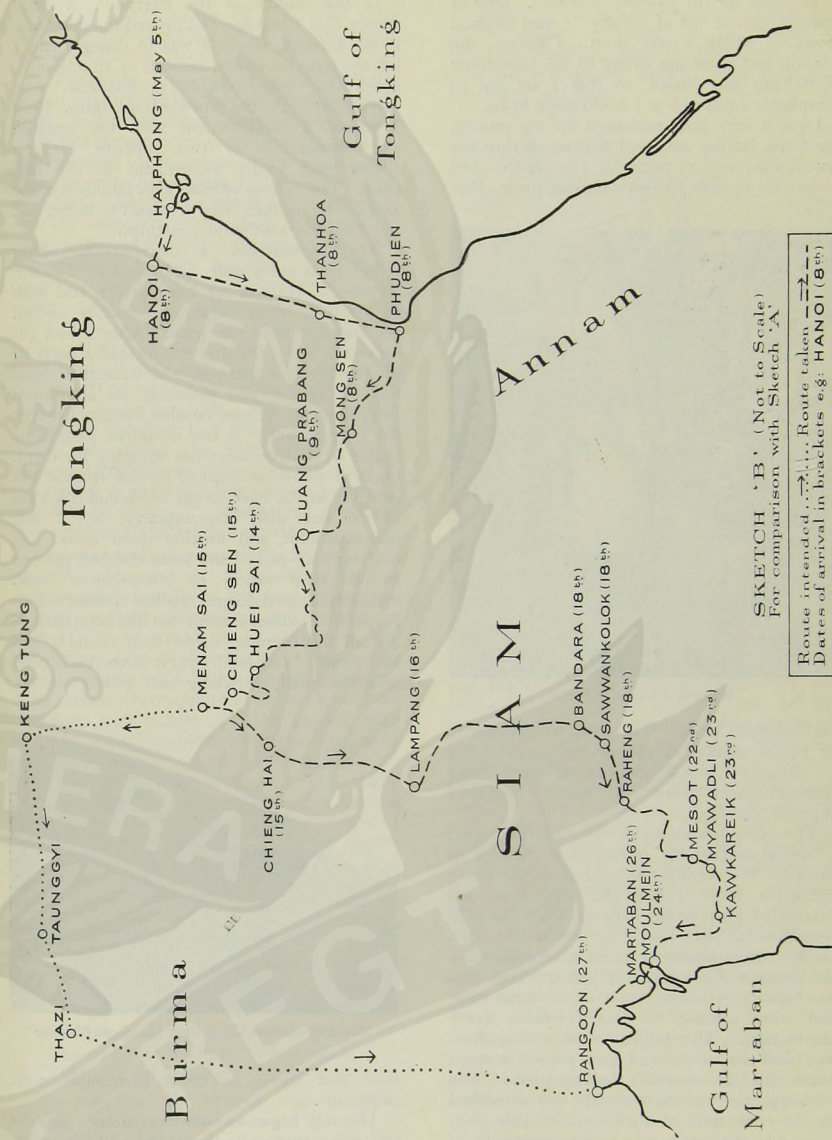
and fill the radiator, besides two mysterious breakdowns. The driver had an assistant, of some name like "Mee." Whenever we broke down, Mee would come forward with pieces of string to make repairs. Mee had a little piping voice; repeatedly, as the afternoon wore on, his shrill fluting would bring us to a standstill. Mee wanted a drink of water, or he must speak to a friend; once he lost his nat, and we waited while he ran back miles for it.

We passed over some low hills, then down into the plain once more. In the late afternoon we reached Lampang, where I was pleased to see a post office; civilisation was getting its hold on me. Guided by a chit that Ibrahim had written for me, I was taken to the railway rest house. Then a dispute arose; hitherto I had paid my way in Siam with Indo-China piastres, but the lorry man would have none of these. Eventually I showed him by signs that he would get nothing else, and gave him as many as seemed fit; I found later that I had overpaid him, monstrously.

Having heard that there was a British Consul at Lampang, I decided to settle the money question at once, and asked the rest-house keeper, who appeared to know English, the way to the Consulate. "Yes," he said, "Peritish Consul." I asked him which way and how far. "Yes," he said amiably, "How far?" This went on for some time, he nodding his head and repeating my questions with every sign of affability and none of comprehension, until I had to leave him and find my own way.

The Consul was very helpful, told me where to change my money, and took me to the club, where presently about half a dozen English people assembled under a sort of summer-house roof, from which the mosquitoes and flying ants were ingeniously lured by two lamps behind wire screens placed one at each end of the building. Conversation was chiefly about the elephants the Consulate had on its establishment, venerable beasts aged on the average sixty, long past work, but impossible to get rid of. I dined with the Consul, and returning late to the rest house awoke two of the Englishmen who were staying there; they thought it later than it was, and I got the reputation of a wild, desperate fellow.

The next day I was entertained by some of the Bombay-Burma Trading Co. people, all of whom were most considerate, asked me to their houses for meals, told me the times of trains, and telegraphed to Raheng for a lorry to come for me to Sawwankolok, and for ponies





to be ready for the journey to Mesot. One of them produced tins of "bully"; and medical stores of which I was short. Oldham, the Consul, had given me letters to the Governors of Raheng and Mesot, so that I set out as completely equipped as I could hope to be.

I got a very poor exchange for my money, the franc having subsided further during the last month, only 75 ticals for 136 piastres, but I was able to cash a Cook's cheque for another



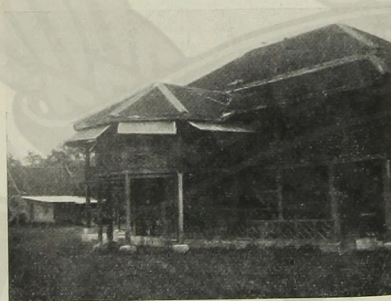
Railway Station in Siam

two hundred ticals. The bank wanted me to go to the market to change my piastres, but an obliging Chinese standing at the counter changed them there and then; hence, I suppose, the rate.

The train left at seven the next morning; I had a comfortable second-class carriage to myself. We went southward over the plain, crossed a range of hills near Den Jaya, and descended again to the flat country. The hills were covered with jungle, intersected by deep valleys where limestone rocks protruded from the streams of thick yellow water. Teak logs has been floated down most of the waterways, and were jammed in clusters above every obstruction. The tender of the locomotive was filled with wood, and great piles of it stood beside the line at every halting place. The wild appearance of the landscape was intensified by the eerie note of the train's whistle, that, pitched in the minor key, piped mournfully at short intervals all the way to Bandara.

In the middle of the afternoon, a small station that I had ignored proved unexpectedly to be Bandara, where I was to change, and I left the train hurriedly, assisted by an unknown gentleman, very voluble in Siamese, who carried my kit to the Sawwankolok train. Here I shared a compartment with the baggage and women-folk of two superior Siamese sitting with lordly detachment in the first class. The railway officials kept falling over me and my kit on their way to attend to these, and regarded me with great contempt.

At Sawwankolok a disreputable-looking fellow gave me a note, addressed to "Anson Esquire." He was my lorry driver, and with the help of some ragamuffin friends carried my baggage from the train. After I had got on to the lorry, the driver indicated a party of his friends, and relatives, who wanted to come too; I agreed, and presently we all moved away through the now familiar country towards the western hills. A few would-be passengers hailed us, but we were not stopping for them. Once or twice we stopped for the friends and relatives in the back to get down and drink tea or eat rice with acquaintances, but I was unsympathetic and hustled them away. At one stopping-place I saw some children playing an odd local variety of "hopscotch," with variously-shaped designs chalked on the ground. As darkness came, a storm that had been gathering all the evening, broke with thunder and heavy rain. The family party at the back grew wildly excited, shrieking and rolling on the



Bombay-Burma Co.'s Rest House at Raheng

floor and trying to cover themselves with tarpaulins.

The way began to seem very long; actually the drive was only three and a half hours, going fairly fast. At about a half-past eight

we began to follow a track by the river arched over with the branches of trees, and soon afterwards turned suddenly into an open space before a building on tall piles.

A little group stood waiting in the light of a lantern; two of the Bombay-Burma Company's clerks, and a watchman carrying a shot-gun. They had expected me to arrive with servants, and the chief clerk, whose name I think was Chai, began to be helpless, and say, "No cook in Raheng," but after some encouragement he and his assistants made shift to produce a table, a lamp, and a dish of eggs and rice. They also found a wooden bedstead in some far corner of the bungalow, whose great empty rooms stretched away into the darkness on every side. I found some old, worm-eaten books, including a White's *Selbourne*, and settled myself very comfortably for the night.

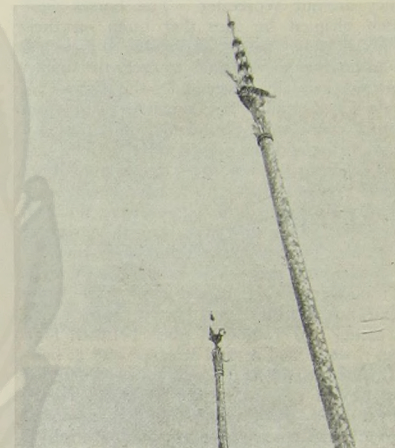
The next morning Chai appeared with a man who had ponies for hire. We went together by bicycle rickshaw to a landing stage, from where we crossed the river, the Mc-Ping, balanced perilously at water-level in a dug-out, to a stretch of swamp through which we waded bare-foot for about a hundred yards, and came at last to a small village in a clearing.

The clerk and the pony dealer began a conversation with some sort of headman. It was very peaceful to sit there, watching the women at work, and the children running among the trees. Nobody stared or disturbed us. On the further side of the clearing a house was being built with much hammering and shouting. After about three-quarters of an hour, the headman sent a man for the ponies, who returned with two little creatures, ten hands high and thin to match. I could find no positive unsoundness in them. The riding saddle was of European pattern, with leathers and girths half worn through; when I pulled them they came apart, and the dealer, who looked a thorough-paced ruffian, lost face. His assistant then showed me the pack-saddle with a great air of condescension, which made the spectators laugh, so that I lost face. In the end I agreed to take the ponies, but I must have new girths, and a bridle instead of the twisted grass headstalls they wore at present. The clerk wrote a chit:

"One ponie for riding ..	90 ticals.
One ponie for loading ..	40 ticals.
Two man for helping ..	80 ticals."

The two man for helping were to bring enough food for the three of us. We were to start at half-past five the next morning. We

went back over the swamp and across the river. Another dug-out was moored at the bank, two Indian women reclining on the bottom in shapeless bundles, shading themselves under their bright-coloured shawls. The river was very wide and calm.



Temple Poles, Raheng

I stayed at the bungalow for the rest of the day, reading, getting ready for the journey, and taking photographs, including one of the pagoda with its long poles from which streamers inscribed with pious comments sometimes hung. A cook, hired from the village, fed me like Elijah's ravens morning and evening, with strange messes of eggs and meat and vegetables, that, however, tasted all right. It rained heavily during the day. When I lit the lamp in the evening, I was visited by hordes of insects of an incredible size, variety, and number; enormous cockroaches hung on the mosquito curtains, weaving and humming.

I awoke late, and dressed hurriedly by lamp-light. When I got to the landing stage, the pony man had given me up and gone away, and I had to wait for another boat. The ponies were waiting at the village, in charge of the chief driver, a lanky youth called Nai Satit Something-or-other. The second driver was a small boy of about thirteen, Nai Djan. I mounted, feeling like Don Quixote, with my knees almost meeting. I was riding the larger



of the two ponies, a bay; the other, a chestnut, carried my kit. Outside the village we were joined by a third driver, Nai Taung, an elderly gentleman with a sky-blue topee, making us a proverbial force of three men and a boy.

Our path lay at first across the fields, appearing in the early mist like parts of the Severn valley around Worcester. The horses were much plagued by flies that hung on their bellies in grey clusters, impossible to dislodge. In an hour or so we began to enter the jungle, growing gradually closer about the path as we made for the hills that separate Siam from Burma on the west. Suddenly, quite near, we heard bells, and we moved off the track into the thicket, to make room for a caravan of about twenty ponies loaded with wooden cases, going towards Raheng. The ponies were not led, but picked their own way over the irregular paths with the drivers walking behind them.

The ground grew more broken as we went on; occasionally we passed along what in the eighteenth century one would have called "a glade," an avenue of grass between high trees; we forded several streams, and at half-past nine unsaddled near some rather decayed huts, by a pile of smoke-blackened stones showing the resting-place of former travellers. The drivers cooked rice, to which I added hard-boiled eggs and a tin of bully, half-liquid and not very appetising.

Oldham at Lampang had given me a press-cutting describing the adventures of a Pro-



Teak logs on the Me-Ping

fessor J. A. Degen, who followed this route in the early months of 1938. He had, by his account, waded the Me-Ping and walked ahead of his servants to "bathe up to the beard in the ice-cold water," and had been much alarmed by a snake swimming towards him.

I must confess to seeing no wild beasts on this day or any other, excepting the usual blue pigeons, and some bright scarlet centipedes that lay on the path. Satit and Djan carried stones which they flung into the bushes now and then, but for what purpose I never learnt.

By midday we had reached Metaw police station, the usual end of the first day's march, where Professor Degen had had his sleep disturbed by the roaring of wild beasts. We went on until half-past one, when we reached a village at which Satit suggested we should stop. Satit, I found, could write a fair fist in English, but could not speak it, so that our relations both now and later were troubled by misunderstanding. I asked if we could reach the next village before dark, as it was still early, and he seemed to say, reluctantly, that we could; little knowing, I said we would go on.

We began to climb higher in the afternoon. I found I could not ride any more, but had to lead my pony, sometimes dragging him up the longer inclines. We sweated like Sisyphus, and still the path wound upwards. Once I dropped my watch, and had to go back half a mile before I found it; after this we never knew the time exactly. Towards four o'clock we halted at the top of a long grassy "ride" with trees on either side.

It was coming on to rain. I asked Satit how far to the next village. He said, fifteen kilometres. If only the fool had told me this before I should not have gone past Metaw. But it was too late to go back now, and, furious, I said we would finish the stage. We rested for half an hour, and Djan and Taung gathered in their hats a sort of wild cherry that grew on the trees, faintly acid and refreshing.

The rain was beginning as we moved off. The hills grew steeper and steeper. Then a tremendous storm broke, with sheets of rain that made everything invisible beyond a few yards and turned the pathway into a running stream. Struggling up the muddy slopes with the ponies pulling backward against us was extremely tiring. In the middle of all this, Satit wanted to stop; we had passed a group of people sheltering miserably under plantain leaves, and I think Satit had the idea of passing the night in this fashion. I undecieved him, and we went on, covering our belongings with leaves to keep off the worst of the rain.

Crossing a bridge of logs over a stream, the pack horse put his foot through and came down. He began to kick and struggle, and I was afraid would damage himself. Taung and Djan stood belabouring him hopefully with a

stick, until I made them move the logs and lift him out. When we began to descend on the further side, Taung, who was leading the pack horse, was afraid that it would fall on him, and ran at full speed, the wretched animal sliding after him on its haunches.

The rain stopped, and we made our way over a high plateau, fairly level, covered with scrub and patches of jungle. It was quite dark now, and we fell repeatedly into ruts and ditches. Sometimes we lost the path, and had to cast about in the dark to find it. The way seemed endless. Little points of light appeared momentarily, which I took for the lights of a village, but they were only fireflies.

At last we came down into a hollow, where the lights remained. We pushed out way through lines of tethered ponies belonging to a caravan that had preceded us, and off-loaded at a hut where Satit and the others were known. I unrolled my valise on the platform under the eaves; when I took off my puttees I found a large leech clinging to my right leg, gorged and purple. One of the women of the house gave me a bunch of bananas to eat. I remembered being told once by a doctor that bananas "had no food value," and wondered whether he would have refused them. Satit called this village Barodi, but Professor Degen calls it Plalod, and mentions that one of his colleagues was here plundered of all his possessions. Chai had warned me of robbers before I left Raheng, but again the peril failed to materialise. The range of hills we crossed in the night must, I think, have been Tai Chang, the "Elephant's Back."

When we awoke, the sun was already up. The drivers were very languid, drifting to and fro in their wet clothes. They wanted to cook rice before starting, but I was sure that once they settled to a meal they would never start, and made them load up and move off at once. The chestnut pony was quite done up; I noticed the day before when we unsaddled that his back was almost raw, simply from bad loading, so I put the pack saddle on my bay, whom I knew now for a shirker, and led the chestnut with only the riding saddle.

We marched very slowly until the middle of the morning, when we stopped for a meal at a "rest-house," a bamboo platform covered by a thatched roof. The drivers produced rice, together with some mysterious scraps of strong-smelling meat, wrapped in plantain leaves, my ration of which was given surreptitiously to a one-eyed pidog who came sniffing

after fragments. The going was much easier, the country cultivated in places, and I saw some cattle, the first time since Raheng. I bought two pineapples I saw hanging outside a hut, and over-ate myself grossly.

At the next village Djan and Taung fell out. Their place was taken by another oldish man, Twe, who took Taung's blue topee, so that it



Jungle Village

finished the journey by a sort of apostolic succession.

In the early afternoon we came to a deep stream. Satit looked about him hopelessly; I felt the strongest possible conviction that in another minute he was going to sit down and say it was impossible to go any further, so I quickly stepped into the water, pulling the pony after me. Twe, who had more spirit than all the others together, had found a shallow place higher up, and I worked my way towards him. The water came above our waists, but we reached the other side, more by luck than judgment.



Soon afterwards we off-loaded at another rest-house which Satit said was only 20 kilometres from Mesot. Again, here is a disagreement about names; according to Satit, whom I could never quite understand, this place was called Malamout, but Degen says that it was Me-Ranow, and that he arrived there limping with his canvas shoes (!) held in his hand. We slept for the rest of the day, waking for the evening meal, and to light fires around the hut when it got to be dark.

Our long rest did us good, and we were up at first light. The path ascended once more, over the Jampee ridge, where the limestone hills rose to a great height in slender conical pillars. The jungle was taller, and the tree tops inhabited by howling monkeys, whose shrill whooping followed us, echoing across the valley. We ate our midday meal at a most superior rest-house, with a corrugated iron roof, then continued along the ridge between forests of bamboos, rising above the scrub like the masts of feluccas.

Going down the further slopes we entered a broad valley, where we met a company of merchants resting beside rows of pack-saddles; we could hear their horses as they browsed among the undergrowth. The monkeys were still hooting and whistling derisively in the high woods, as we descended.

Progress was more tedious as we drew near Mesot, in the muddy flats. Outside the village, Satit and Twe suddenly sat down and began to deck themselves with clean shirts and coloured scarves. I was riding the bay once more, and we made a triumphal entry down the main street; the prevalence of houses with pink-tiled roofs, on either side of the bare mud, gave an unutterably dreary effect, like a suburban building plot.

We were greeted by a fellow with wild staring eyes, dressed in a red shirt, a sarong, and a khaki cap; he was evidently a wag, and ran in front of us gesticulating and darting from side to side, until we came to a shop whose owner was reputed to speak English; here Popeye sat down to watch the proceedings, interrupting now and then with ejaculations. The shopkeeper said, after some argument and explanation, that I should have to get a bullock cart from Mesot to Myawadli in Burma, and from there a lorry to Kawkareik, and so to the river where the steamers ran down to Moulmein.

Meanwhile I must find somewhere to sleep in Mesot. While I was getting out Oldham's

letter to the Governor, I saw a procession approaching, headed by a gentleman who introduced himself as the local cinema operator. He had come from Burma. "You and I," he said, "we are the same. We are British subjects. These fellows, they know nothing." I asked him to take me to the Governor, and we marched through the village to a small hut with a verandah, on which the others seated themselves while I went forward and gave my letter. The Governor, or "Amphur" as he would have been called in Malaya, was a quiet, courteous little Burman, who taught in the school during his unofficial hours. He sent for the rest-house keeper and while we waited, asked, "Can I give you smoking?" and produced Gold Flake from a tin. I wished he could have given me drinking, after the long march. When the rest-house keeper appeared, he was none other than Popeye, who led us to a building most of which was already filled by a Siamese family. One locked room downstairs was supposed to be empty, and all together we assaulted the door, and burst into a small place filled with old rags and rubbish. Everyone crowded in. Popeye bustled about, raising clouds of dust. The uproar in the confined space was terrific.

The room was cleared, and I got my kit in, and sent out to a cookshop for supper. Everyone came back again to see me wash and eat. Just as it got dark, one of the Siamese upstairs offered me a room with a bed, and I moved my belongings. I paid off Satit, and he and Twe and the ponies disappeared up the village street. Before I went to bed I was visited by the immigration officer, who examined my passport by the light of candles stuck in bottles, like an interview in a smuggler's cave.

My bullock cart came for me early the next morning. Popeye gave us a cheer as we moved off; the road was appalling, and the cart lurched and rocked from side to side so that it was necessary to hold on with both hands. We forded a wide shallow river, the driver pausing in mid-stream to wash down the bullocks, and on the further side lay Burma.

When we entered Myawadli, a bus was waiting at the end of the street, with a Rangoon number plate. I was home indeed.

The bus drive over the hills to Kawkareik was in every respect like every other on this journey, with its halts for rice, halts stuck in the mud, one halt for a landslide, hastily shovelled away by coolies, halts to let files of bullock-carts go by, attempted halts "for

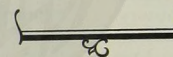
coffee," sternly discouraged by me. At Kawkareik I lodged in the P.W.D. bungalow, where I was joined in the evening by a P.W.D. inspector and a Burmese police officer, who told me he was much impressed by pictures he had seen of English policemen, standing, as he phrased it, "on two legs," respected by all. We sat fairly late, talking and drinking toddy, a whitish stuff with a rancid taste, that the P.W.D. man had with him. The Burmese reminded me again as I went to bed, that in a few weeks I should be seeing policemen standing upright on both legs; the thought was somehow not entirely consoling.

We caught the river steamer the next day. On board were some Burmese officers, correctly dressed in K.D. uniforms and Sam Browne

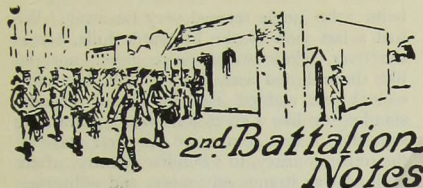
belts; the jungle seemed very far away. We had a last view of the limestone hills, across the river, whose waters were green, not red like those I had seen before. At about five o'clock we sighted the Moulmein pagoda, standing up like a great gold finger; a warning sign that I was coming to the first stage of the return journey, to a familiar country, where nothing was strange any more, and policemen stood irreproachably upon two legs. We passed down the river in the evening light.

"Heureux, qui comme Ulysse, a fait un bon voyage,

Ou comme cestuy-là qui conquiert la toison. . . ."







SOME people hate history and if you were to ask them why they hate it I would lay odds of five to one on getting this reply, "Oh! Well, its just a mass of dates." I know this is the answer you'll get. I have just had it myself from an Officer, a Sergeant-Major, and a private soldier in turn and, to a certain extent, they are right. For it is true that we are called upon to learn numerous dates in the study of history. Yet these dates are not in themselves an end, but simply the means to an end. They are merely the peg on which we hang a cloak of fact. Thus at the mention of King John our thoughts fly (or should fly if we have that sort of mind) to Magna Carta; or, of Queen Elizabeth to the Armada; or, of George III to the loss of the American Colonies; and so on. In short, for the purpose of convenience, English history is divided into periods according to the reign of any particular Sovereign, and with those periods are associated the general conditions of the age. As with English history, so with the history of a Battalion. Substitute Commanding Officers for Kings and we have our pegs. For general conditions of the age substitute military development and the parallel is complete.

Assuming command on the 1st June, 1935, while the Battalion was performing at the Aldershot Tattoo, Lieut.-Col. Jefferd's period of command was an eventful one. Returning to its Station at Colchester, it was not long before the Battalion moved to Portsmouth, thus re-establishing an old contact, and it was here that the major event of these four years took place. For throughout 1936, the reorganisation of the Battalion to a Machine Gun Unit (published late the previous year) took place. Nor was this all. Mechanisation had come in the wake of tactical reorganisation. On paper it is easy to carry out a change of this nature. In practice it is much less easy. But everything proceeded smoothly and, when late in 1937 the Battalion packed its bags afresh for a short sea trip to Gosport, the reorganisation might be said to have been fairly near completion. By May, 1939, when the time came

for Col Jefferd to relinquish command, the Battalion was a smooth running concern with an already established reputation as Machine Gunners, having won the A.R.A. Machine Gun Cup in 1937 and again in 1938. To him and to Miss Jefferd, ever interested in the activities of the Battalion, we wish good-bye and the best of good wishes for the future.

In his place the Battalion welcomes back Lieut.-Col. Bucknall, M.C., fresh from his appointment in Canada. We are only sorry that his stay is to be so short.

It was with profoundest sorrow that we heard on 14th May of the death of Major H. B. W. Savile, M.C., whilst on leave in Great Britain. His funeral was attended by the whole Battalion. To Mrs. Savile and to his relations, we extend our sincerest sympathy.

Work has proceeded at a feverish pace during the last quarter. H.Q. Training has given way to Platoon and Section Training. Yet all the while Individual Training has had to go on as well. This somewhat topsy-turvy situation has arisen in immediate consequence of the Military Training Bill. We are faced not only with the prospect of having to train on the normal peace establishment of men, but with the problem of producing instructors at once for the re-joined Army Reservists and then, later, for the drafts of Militiamen which we are to welcome to the Battalion sometime in September, after they have done two months at the Regimental Depot. Thus as I write these notes three sounds come to my ears. Through the open windows on one side of my office comes a throaty snarl—and, just now, an unpleasant grinding of gears—as the combined M.T. resources of "C" and "D" Companies are warmed up preparatory to transporting a Composite War Establishment Company to Wool near Bovington where Collective Training exercises are to be carried out in co-operation with the Lincolnshire Regiment. Through another window on the opposite side of the barrack building, come mixed sounds of crunching gravel and clanking tripods, spiced with an occasional sharp command of "Mount Gun," as a Squad of Army Reservists is instructed in Elementary Gun Drill. The third sound comes from just outside that same window where I can hear two Sergeants teaching Squads of young N.C.O.s and selected private soldiers how to become good Machine Gun Instructors, against the fast approaching time when they will be required to pass on their knowledge to Militiamen.

Late in May, the Battalion moved to War-

minster to fire Part IIB and Part III of the new Annual Machine Gun Course. Bowls Barrow Range was again allotted to us this year and, thanks to a dry period preceeding our fortnight's stay, a certain amount of "strike" was seen, enabling Fire Controllers to derive added benefit both in Direct and Indirect Shoots. The weather was marvellous. It was as though "Old King Sol," peeping through a chink in the clouds, had seen The Middlesex Regiment in Camp and decided that here was so fine and so interesting a body of men that he must watch them all his waking hours throughout their stay under canvas. (Quite right too!) The good fortune of having so glorious a spell of weather did much to make this camp enjoyable to all ranks and helped to allay disappointment at the inexplicably poor results produced by the teams of all four Companies in the A.R.A. Fire Control Cup Competition.

Returning to Gosport early in June, "A" and "B" Companies, as Employments and the like, had taken their usual toll of numbers, formed a full Composite Company and continued Platoon Training on the local training areas. Unfortunately, the weather broke and, as it is useless to try to teach anyone anything when he is wet and cold and uncomfortable, two valuable days were lost out of the necessarily limited period at their disposal. One scheme had to be cut short, therefore, to enable "C" and "D" Companies to be relieved of Employments in time to give them a little practice before setting off to Wool, as mentioned above, to co-operate with the Lincolnshire Regiment.

Although there must be universal regret that conditions demanded cancellation of the Tidworth Tattoo, yet, in a way, we must feel thankful that the authorities could see their way to do this. I have already emphasised above the shortness of time available for training and the vast amount of work that must be got through. Had a large chunk been sliced off that already abbreviated period, it is difficult to imagine how we could ever have managed to train up to the concert pitch we must reach before going to Yorkshire in September. Many may think that the hours they spent in learning to swing their clubs or in learning to swing their arms and legs have been completely wasted. But this is far from the case. Muscles have been developed where before was fat, and thanks to the zeal of Capt. Baldwin, we are now a physically fitter Battalion.

Mention of fitness leads almost automatically to thoughts of sport, and though fuller details

of our success will be found elsewhere in this issue, mention must here be made of the Battalion football team which, perhaps in some way as compensation for its ill luck in the Army Competition, managed to carry off the United Services' Charity Cup and the Gosport Hospitals' Cup. Where the footballers failed the athletic team has succeeded, and for the third successive year the Battalion is to be represented at the finals of the Army Inter-Unit Team Championship to be held at Aldershot in July. The team is probably stronger than those of 1937 and 1938 and should do very well as, indeed, it already has done both at Portsmouth and at Tidworth. Elsewhere in these notes congratulations have been showered on active, individual members of the team but, with almost undue modesty, the writer of the Athletic Notes has omitted all mention of himself. To Lieut. Beath, for his keenness, patience, enthusiasm, and careful training of the team more than to anyone else are due the thanks of the Battalion for its success.

Finally, let us finish with a welter of congratulations: To Capt. Man on being nominated to the Staff College; to Capt. Weston on qualifying for the Staff College; and to Capt. Ferguson and to Lieut. Clayton on being the fathers of two handsome sons—one each.

#### "A" COMPANY

In an effort to confound our contemporary journalistic colleagues we just cannot tell you how pleased we are to have once more the opportunity of penning the activities of the Company during the past quarter.

The weather, in reminding us of the song "June in January," or vice versa, also reminds us that the Company was successful in carrying off the Inter-Company Rugby Knock-out by defeating "C" Company in the final by five points to nil.

On going through a diary that in future years will no doubt become famous one finds that the Machine Gun Cup Competition, which this year has been confined to young soldiers, proved that we still maintain that super excellent standard that we are noted for. The team in scoring 432 points gained 100 more than any one other team within the Battalion, and five more than the previous year's winners obtained. The result of this competition is not yet to hand, but whether we be successful or not we congratulate the team.



The first fortnight in May provided an absolute glut of Sports Meetings and our own Company Sports, which this year were run on an individual basis, proved that while such athletes as Cpl. Hinch and Pte. Fabray are still outstanding, there is plenty of talent in the Company. This particularly applies to the field events and if these people maintain interest and train by next year we should be providing a few more to the Battalion team.

By way of a change the Company took an excursion to the birthplace of cricket, and if this was somewhat marred by the wearing of equipment and repeating the journey about four or five times a week, it provided an ideal area to carry out Section and Platoon Training. In any case we feel sure that the whole Company should know by now the "Bat and Ball," even if they have not tasted its luscious cider. The period spent at Warminster combined with the finest spell of weather we have experienced so far this year. We also fired the Fire Control Cup Competition during our stay there.

Quite a number of the Company are now preparing themselves for civil life, and amongst those already on Vocational Training or about to go are Cpls. Hinch, Jarvis, and Kenny, and Ptes. Tyler, Waters, Alderton, Sibley, Baldock, and Sprules. To all these we wish the very best of luck in the future. Sergt. Smallridge has forsaken us for the Depot and with him went L/Cpls. Clark, Murphy, and Swaine. The Army Reservists are now with us and we can recognise some old members of the Company amongst them and we hope that all of them will enjoy their short stay with us. The man of the "honesty, sobriety and integrity" is returning to the fold after an extended furlough period with the "Terriers."

Before closing these notes congratulations are due to Cpls. Taylor, White, and King on their promotions, L/Cpls. Markham, Shaw, and Flitcroft on their appointments, and to Pte. Fabray for breaking his own Battalion record for the Hammer during the recent Command Sports at Tidworth.

#### "B" COMPANY

The quarter just finished has been so eventful and fraught with happenings and occurrences of such importance that we scarce know where and how to start, but it would seem that to commence with something which we all feel very deeply about is definitely indicated.

With an amount of regret that the writer does not feel capable of estimating, we have

said good-bye to our O.C. and C.S.M., Major Parker and C.S.M. Poulter, who have gone to take over command of the Regimental Depot and to be R.S.M. of the 2/8th Middlesex respectively. To the uninitiated this may seem a small thing, for, they will blithely say, there are always other O.C.s and C.S.M.s, but for our part—and here the writer is merely the mouthpiece of everyone in the Company—we feel that we have lost two very good friends. To them both we wish the very best of luck, and assure them that we shall be more than happy to see and hear from them in the years to come.

In Major Parker's place we are fortunate enough to have Lieut. Clayton as O.C., while we hear that 2/Lieut. Marshall is returning to us very shortly.

Training so far has consisted mostly of exercises performed in conjunction with "A" Company, with whom we combined to form a complete "T" Company, Employments, duties, and A.V.T. Courses having taken their usual toll of our numbers. The one full Platoon that "B" Company found earned golden opinions for their excellent work.

The 29th May found us at Warminster, where we fired Parts IIB and III of the Annual Machine Gun Course, the results being most gratifying, every man in the Company pulling his weight and working, if we may be permitted to coin a new simile, like Trojans. Nine men of the Company qualified as First-Class Rangetakers, and 31 second- and third-year men qualified as Marksmen Machine Gunners.

While at camp the A.R.A. Fire Control Cup Competition was held, and though we do not feel justified in boasting, yet we must mention that three other Company teams were placed below ours. The M.G. Cup, which was fired prior to going to camp, found us second in the Unit to "A" Company, with a score of 309 points.

Sport has been practically at a standstill but we have hopes of fitting in the odd cricket match or so with other Company teams; incidentally, a new star has arisen in the cricket firmament in the person of L/Cpl. Heyward.

Cpl. West, L/Cpl. Coleman, and Pte. Gaffney have all assisted the Battalion Athletic Team to win both the Area and Command Meetings, while L/Cpl. Coleman has added to his laurels by winning the Hampshire County Mile Championship. Before leaving this subject we feel that we should mention that L/Cpl. Coleman's very handsome cup is resplendent in the Sergeants' Mess—not hocked as



(Top) "C" Company Sports Team, 1938-39.

(Bottom) "C" Company Football Team, 1938-39.



security against a gross of Cadburys, two Nutty Crunches, and a crate of oranges.

We extend our very best wishes to our late Company Commander, Capt. Stephenson, who has left the Regiment, and to L/Cpls. Hutson and McArdell, who have gone to look after the young idea at the Depot. To all ex-members of "B" Company we send profound salaams, to all those who are about to join us in the near future a sincere welcome.

### "C" COMPANY

Since the Easter break the Company had a short period of Employments, and then started on the more serious work of H.Q. Training and Classification on the ranges. The results were extremely satisfactory, but in the M.G. Cup, in spite of good results in practices, we did not shoot up to our form.

At the time of writing we have just completed Platoon Training and are now preparing for a move to Wool as part of a Composite Company with "D."

On the 28th May we went into camp at Warminster to fire Parts II and III of the M.G. Course and A.R.A. Cup. We were lucky in having splendid weather the whole time, and during the period the Company became quite sunburnt.

The sporting activities of the Company have maintained their usual high standard. The fact that we were only one point behind "H.Q." Company for the Champion Company Shield speaks for itself. "C" Company won the football after a hard fight with "B" Company, finally beating them by three goals. All three were scored by Pte. Baker. The whole team played with enthusiasm. Cpl. Turner, playing his first game with the Company put up an excellent performance.

We were unlucky in having to postpone the Company Sports owing to rain, but when they did eventually take place we were glad to see that the older members of the Company still maintained their previous form and that we have some promising youngsters.

Once again in the Battalion Sports Meeting the Company entrants showed that they were in no way lacking in enthusiasm or ability, and that "C" Company is a hard nut to crack.

Our Three Mile team and One Mile team consisting of P.S.M. Day, Sergt. Delaney, Cpl. Keefe, L/Cpl. Sharp, Ptes. Gosling and Smith were a great asset to the Company and were unbeatable. At the end of the meeting we

were only just behind "H.Q." Company, and for this success we have largely to thank Lieut. Beath, P.S.M. Day, Sergt. Delaney, Cpl. Keefe, L/Cpl. Sharp and Ptes. Gosling, Law, and Smith, and we offer them our heartiest congratulations.

We are all very sorry to lose C.S.M. Kennett and P.S.M. Day on their posting to the Depot, and we wish them luck in their endeavour to make a safer Britain. We welcome back to the Company C.Q.M.S. Snell, Sergt. Day, and Cpl. Eastland, all old members of the Company. We extend our welcome to Cpl. Jennings and Cpl. Keefe who are new to us. At the time of writing a number of Reservists have been called up and among them are many familiar faces. We wish them the best of luck and hope they will enjoy their period of soldiering with us.

### "D" COMPANY

With the sound of aeroplanes overhead and men digging not far off we commence once more to write our journal notes.

We welcome Lieut.-Col. G. C. Bucknell, M.C. He has temporarily taken the place of Lieut.-Col. W. W. Jefford who has left us after commanding the Battalion for four years. We wish them both the best of luck in their new occupations.

We deeply regretted the announcement of the death of Major H. B. W. Savile, M.C.

Perhaps the outstanding event in connection with "D" Company is Pte. Jones (26) throw in the Javelin nearly 180 ft. in the Command Sports at Tidworth. The Battalion having successfully, for the third time, won the Area Sports. Pte. Eyles as usual represented the Battalion in the Shot.

We have had many changes in the last quarter. We saw Cpl. Rawlinson for a brief spell in which he helped No. 13 Platoon to win the Company Sports. C.S.M. Trestain returned to his "nest" in London, and Sergt. Moir left with him to take up a job as Permanent Staff Instructor to the O.T.C. in London. Mr. St. George has called in and left again. Cpl. Newton and L/Cpl. Peters have rejoined us from M/T Courses. Many are leaving us for the 1st Battalion and Vocational Training. Two Drafts have joined us from the Depot and about 20 Reservists. We wish them all the best of luck.

A word about Warminster. We thought we had conquered the dial sight, but apparently it has not been conquered in the Battalion,

for an average of one shot in 2,000 on the A.R.A. Indirect Shoot is dreadful. (If only the I.R.A. were like this with their bombs we would have nothing to worry about.)

Congratulations to the following on their promotion: L/Sergt. Jennings, L/Cpls. Farrington, Islip, Newton, Budd, Brooker, and Lemaître, and to those men who have been appointed Unpaid Lance-Corporals.

Perhaps readers will glean we are at present at Bovington, co-operating with the 2nd Lincolns, Tanks, Signals, etc. It is all new to the majority of us and proving very interesting. As to the lesson learnt here, our next journey to Warminster, and the manoeuvres at Catterick, we must leave to the next quarter. Good hunting all!

### "H.Q." COMPANY

Camps may come and camps may go and always there remains that same old similarity between one camp and another. This year, however, there has been a noticeable change in one respect and that is the fact that a whole fortnight was spent at Warminster Camp amid glorious sunshine without the usual rain.

There were too many things to be done at camp to allow for any sport unless one can include deck tennis under this heading. It was a very popular form of amusement among the members of the Company as also was the Royal and Ancient game of golf, so-called putting, at the cheap rate of 18 holes for twopenny.

Before camp we managed to show a clean pair of heels (several in fact) to the other Companies in the Inter-Company Athletic Championship Meeting, details of which will, no doubt, be found elsewhere, and in so doing also managed to win the Company Championship Shield. Nice work you athletes.

Bandmaster Dennis and his staff are to be congratulated on the very efficient organisation of the Company Inter-Platoon Sports Meeting which was won by the Band. Congratulations to the "Gentlemen of the Regiment." Ahem!

Whilst on the subject of athletics we should like to offer our words of praise to the members of the Company who have so ably assisted the Battalion Athletic team to reach the finals of the Army Athletic Championships. We wish them every success at this meeting. The members of this team are 2/Lieut. Passy, C.Q.M.S. West, L/Cpl. Caney, Bdmn. Phipps, Baker, and Grogan, Dmr. Salmon, and Pte. Pearce. We understand that this will be

C.Q.M.S. West's sixth appearance in the Army finals, four with the 1st Battalion and two with this Battalion.

Several of our members have relinquished their bachelor rights including Sergt. Jenkins, L/Cpl. Redding, Pte. Bennett (95), Bdmn. Peters and Grogan, and Pte. Kenyon. To these we offer our best wishes for the future. Again the word "congratulations" crops up and this time it is to Cpl. Hogg on the successful visit of the stork to No. 26a Married Quarters. Girls are not allowed in the Regimental Band but we hear from a reliable source that the new arrival is already aspiring to fame as a vocalist.

Our best wishes go to all those who have left the Company during the last quarter, including R.Q.M.S. Fletcher (now Lieut. in the 2/8th Battalion), Mrs. Fletcher and John, L/Cpls. Lloyd and Butler, and Pte. Davies. Many others are due to leave in the near future.

The advent of new equipment is the main topic of interest and it is amusing to watch the antics of those who are trying to solve the problem of how it all fits together.

It is with very deep regret that we conclude these notes with the news of the sudden death of Major Savile who was to have been our new C.O. We offer our condolences to his relatives.

### BAND

"The old order changeth giving way to the new." Which seems a round enough excuse for the fact that a new scribe is tackling these notes, always hoping to keep up the good pattern set by his illustrious predecessors.

I think pride of place in these notes should go to our immortals, Bdmn. Price and Bones, who are now in the process of departing from our midst. Never again shall we see their twin beaming faces surmounting their xylophone in an inspiring rendering of "Mac and Mac." Or perchance staggering happily neath a sack of coal! Anyway we wish both of them all the luck they deserve in "Civvy."

The summer is usually the most eventful season and this apparently will be no exception. The Band carried on their sterling job of work from the soccer to the athletic field and won a deserved victory in the Inter-Platoon Sports, and thanks are due to all those concerned.

As usual our attention is claimed by the Regimental Cricket Week, which usually incorporates the Depot Sports and an "At Home."

Several of our members have decided recently to take the final plunge, and among our newly-



weds we include Bdmn. Grogan and L/Cpl. Goulding; also congratulations to the latter on his appointment. Whisper it not, but rumour has it that our "Snooker" is also about to take the plunge; when tackled with the Band's suggestion for a present he remarked, "What do I want with two coal boxes?" which remark will probably be appreciated only in the Band!

Incidentally, we would like to take this opportunity of congratulating Cpl. Hogg and his wife on the birth of a daughter, which only goes to show that the "Domestica" symphony should take pride of place above "Snow White" in our repertoire.

We will conclude these notes by wishing our friends in the 1st Battalion all the best, and take this opportunity of congratulating Mr. Kifford on his appointment as Bandmaster.

### DRUMS

It has always been a well-known fact that the personnel of the Drums are the most intelligent in the Battalion. It seems that now we are to pay for that fact. Somehow, every time an intelligent N.C.O. or man is required to go on a Course the cry is "Go to the Drums." Affairs have been such that when Cpl. Jones left us recently to join a duty Company we were left not only without a full N.C.O., but also without a Paid Lance-Corporal. Consequently, there came a rush for promotion, the outcome of which was the appointing of four Unpaid Lance-Corporals from the Drums. These lucky individuals were L/Cpls. Hamlin, Ash, Cox, and Redding, and they are now giving excellent and well-earned support to the Drum-Major and that gallant, solitary Unpaid Lance-Corporal—L/Cpl. Drury. With the innovation of five Lance-Corporals we struck a very enjoyable undisturbed period of drumming, but it turned out to be only a brief respite, for shortly we learned that L/Cpl. Drury would go on a Gas Course for three weeks, and L/Cpl. Ash on an M.T. Course for three months.

As we have been greatly depleted during the last year and are now at our minimum strength, these continual temporary losses of the backbone of the Drums have, of course, been a bit heavy on us. Never was Lady Butler's glorious inscription "Steady, Drums and Fifes!" in greater demand than at present.

We have a brilliant Retreat coming along very nicely. Not just an ordinary Retreat. Oh no! But a completely individual, exciting

affair, that would have thrilled our spectators if we had enough men to do the Retreat. The demands of the modern Army are inclined to leave the Drums as a very background feature, but we are trying and will succeed in convincing everyone that the Drums are of the utmost importance to the *esprit de corps* of the Regiment. Before going to camp, the A.A. Platoon went to Chickerell by M.T. to fire an anti-aircraft practice at small balloons on the range there. Some excellent performances were given by our men, and we feel confident that our Bren guns will be responsible for the extermination of quite a few enemy aircraft if war does break out. As we arrived at Chickerell on Whit Sunday, we had Whit Monday to ourselves, and we all had a grand time until the bugbear of all troops—shortage of cash—became prominent.

Dmr. Beach, one of the Depot buglers, has departed on A.V.T.C., and we wish him all the best in his new career. Dmr. Wallace proceeded to the Depot to relieve Beach, but we will only say *au revoir* to him as he will be with us again after two years. Dmr. Slater seems to have got himself into a terrible debt, for all we hear from him nowadays is a continual wail of "How about a dollar?" Now that games of skill at cards are allowed there is a general war cry of "Cockers," the "Bobs," and "Lews," and the "Fishies," not to mention the "Dykes." This practice seems to always result in several others joining Dmr. Slater in a cry for "How about a dollar" (especially if "Lew" is playing "Spoof").

We have been asked to take part in the Gosport Carnival. We understand that one of our number is seriously considering taking part in the Carnival Queen Competition. He has no front teeth, unfortunately.

Albuhera Day was, as usual, heralded at Reveille by the stirring music of the Drums. Yes, definitely stirring! For judging by the number of heads protruding from top floor windows of Married Quarters, the continual wailing of awakened children, and the curses of disturbed Sergeants, combined with the yelping of dogs and the spitting of cats, it was indeed very disturbing. We were disturbed too, for the whole parade took place in a downpour of rain, and, of course, Reveille is not a time at which we look or feel our best.

Still life continues, and with it the good fortune, misfortune, pleasure and sorrow, serenity and anger, and, of course, someone else demanding an N.C.O. from the Drums.

NACETO.

### No. 1 (SIGNAL) PLATOON

Sergt. Jenkins himself is the cause of two momentous happenings this quarter. His own marriage is one of them and we congratulate him upon it. The other is his departure from the Signals after 13 years, the last three of which he has spent as Platoon Sergeant of this Platoon. We hear that he is taking over C.Q.M.S. of "D" Company and we hope and think that he will meet with every success in his new occupation.

Another six years of valuable experience leaves the Platoon with Cpl. Jennings, whom we are also very sorry to lose. He has gone to "C" Company to teach machine gunnery, and with him also go our best wishes for the future.

As if to prove the old saying that misfortunes come in threes, Pte. Butterworth also leaves us to transfer to another post. He, however, remains in "H.Q." Company.

L/Cpl. Thompson is, at the time of writing, at Catterick, undergoing that Signallers' nightmare, the Instructor's Course, but we feel sure that this particular nightmare will end far more satisfactorily than most.

With all these N.C.O.s away, Cpl. Rose and L/Cpl. Green have plenty to do. We are glad to be able to say that neither show signs of turning prematurely grey—yet.

Last season's football seems but a memory, but we cannot let it fade entirely without mentioning that we were first in the Inter-Platoon League. Having exposed this fact to the light, we will now admit that the Band just—and only just—beat us in the Inter-Platoon Athletics. We shall not let it occur again. Many of the Platoon subsequently represented the Company in the Battalion meeting and did very well, notably Pte. Pierce who won the High Jump and still failed to beat the Battalion record of 5 ft. 5 ins.

Half way through May we went to camp at Warminster as the Advance Party, and never did tents spring up so quickly as they did in that week. Seventy-five went up in the first afternoon, but that was only the start, for no sooner did they go up and we stand back and admire them than, "owing to circumstances beyond our control" as the B.B.C. would say, we had to pull them all down again. One instance of this was when the writer's own tent was put up. Heaven knows it looked safe enough among a young army of others. Having made sure that the coast was clear of eager Signallers with nasty looks in their eyes, he carefully unpacked his belongings. Hardly was

this task completed than there came the swish of guy ropes being unleashed and the whole tent was lifted bodily from over his head and whisked away to another spot about 20 yards away. What remained resembled the temporary home of a Spanish refugee after the brokers had paid it a visit.

Also, while at Warminster, conspicuous gallantry was shown by the Vedettes who daily risked their lives (almost) in keeping people off the long range.

Last but not least on our news list this quarter, comes that event which is guaranteed to strike terror into the hearts of even the most hardened "flag-wagger," namely Classification. At the time of writing, results are not known, but in view of the hard work that was put in before this fateful day, we are awaiting them with confidence.

E.L.E.P.

### EMPLOYED GROUP

When one is asked to write the notes for the Employed Group it at once calls for a great deal of imagination, and the person designated for the job has to send scouts to all the secluded spots in the barracks in order to obtain front page news.

Assuming that the scouts have duly reported, here as briefly as possible are the main facts considered fit for publication.

In the Q.M.'s branch we have one very noticeable gap in the machinery of this all important part of the works. We refer, of course, to the absence of R.Q.M.S. Fletcher. He is now a Lieutenant in the T.A. and to him and his family we offer our very best wishes for the future. We welcome the return of Lieut. (Q.M.) Pilley and hope that he is now fully recovered from his recent illness. L/Cpl. Hastie has been in and out of hospital for the last month or so and is now on leave pending Vocational Training. In wishing him the best of luck for the future we also hope he will be free from any more spells of ill health. Congratulations to L/Cpl. Snell on his appointment.

From the Provost Staff comes the news that Pte. Davies has left the "force" and is now at Southampton on Vocational Training, we wish him the best of luck. Another of the sleuths, Pte. Cresswell, is returning to "C" Company at the end of the present month.

There seems to be very little news from either the Pioneers' Shop or the Sergeants' Mess so we pass them by and deal with the



Weapon Training Stores. Here we find that Sergt. Day is away on training with "C" Company, he probably finds a certain amount of relief from the tedious routine of counting an endless number of empty cases.

The Orderly Room supplies us with a few more cases for congratulations and these are recorded in respect of Sergt. O'Connor on his promotion and to his increase in family, and also to L/Cpl. Atkins on his appointment.

No news is obtainable from the Cook-house so we resort to the M.T. Staff where we welcome the arrival of S/Sergt. Sykes, a very useful asset to the Battalion from the point of view of the persons responsible for the football team. Sergt. Hows is in bed recovering from the results of a motor cycle crash and we wish him a speedy recovery. Pardon the use of the word "speedy" Alf.

Finally come a few news flashes from the Company Office, where we find P.S.M. Smith still very efficient as our A/C.S.M., Pte. Cronin still making numerous mistakes on the typewriter, Pte. Butterworth employed as our new Storeman in place of Pts. Curtis who went on a very successful outing, and C.Q.M.S. West who is still performing with the Battalion athletic team. L/Cpl. Burchell is another member of the Company who is on leave pending Vocational Training as also is Cpl. Bettall. Good luck to them both. Our last words are for our Company Commander to whom we hope come lots of runs and plenty of wickets during the cricket week at the Depot, where he is now performing.

Our best wishes to the members of the Employed Group of the 1st Battalion.

### BOYS

Three months have passed since last I attempted to pen the "yob's" notes, and although our members number 31, according to "Wag," capable of the direst plot, not one single headline can I raise to mind to record here. The hearts of four of us were gladdened by the news that at 17½ years of age we could dispense with the prefix Boy, and now Boys Sykes, West, Lovell, and Masters can enjoy the feeling obtained by inhaling the fragrant weed.

We take this opportunity of congratulating Boy Roper on winning his weight while fighting for the Gosport Boys Club, and it is whispered that another Bennett is in the making. Our sports on Albuhera Day brought forth much keen competition and many future Battalion

champions (we hope) showed their mettle. Best efforts were put up by Boys LeGresley, Ryder, Roper, Donovan, Carvell, Sissons, and Stapleton, and the musical groups included several of us in their teams.

We have lost L/Cpl. Drury after a stay of six months, his replacement being L/Cpl. Hamlin who rejoices in the name of "Broadcaster," having once spoken of the joys of Army life over the air in "In Town Tonight."

### SERGEANTS' MESS

Life, and times, we feel are very 'ard. No sooner had we finished reading the last issue of the Regimental Journal, admiring our own well-chosen contribution *en passant*, than it seems we are required to produce yet another portion of prose for our clamouring readers. But who are we to complain? We are but slaves running to do the bidding of our taskmaster, the Battalion Sub-Editor.

It is our wont to bemoan the dearth of news which we can use to prolong these notes to a reasonable length, but on this occasion we would feel ghoulish were we to be all gleeful over the number of happenings in the last quarter, for they are mostly concerned with farewells. Two of the oldest and most respected members of the Mess have left us, and the gaps left by R.Q.M.S. Fletcher and C.S.M. Poulter will be very hard to fill. R.Q.M.S. Fletcher has left to take up the position of Lieutenant and Quartermaster in the T.A., and C.S.M. Poulter to become R.S.M. of the 2/7th Middlesex. We gave them a concerted farewell at a well-attended Social Evening, and all members combined to wish them happiness and good fortune. Since his departure several members of the Mess have been fortunate enough to have a Smoking Concert with Harry, and we have hopes of more to come.

Although not at present a member of the 2nd Battalion Mess, we have to record the departure of C.S.M. Jones, who has become Lieutenant and Quartermaster of the 2/8th Middlesex Regiment. To him and to his family we send our best wishes.

P.S.M. Day and Sergt. Smalridge have left the Battalion for the Regimental Depot, and we anticipate the departure of C.S.M. Kennett to the same delightful health resort. Had we the courage of Walter Winchell and, incidentally, his pay envelope, we might have further prognostications to make concerning the last named, but we will content ourselves with opining that "lurve" is grand.

Two extremely successful functions have been held since last going to press, the first one being especially delightful. It was in the nature of a farewell to Lieut.-Col. Jefferd, and was definitely a Regimental Party, only Officers and their wives, wives and personal friends of members being invited. Other and more able pens than our will, we feel sure, pay tribute to our late Commanding Officer, but we most sincerely wish him and Miss Jefferd health and happiness.

Albuhera Day has passed once again, and in the morning the Commanding Officer and Officers entertained us in the Officers' Mess. This was thoroughly enjoyed by all and was an excellent preamble to the ball which was held in the evening. This was most successful and thanks have already been extended to P.S.M. Smith and his committee. We do feel, however, that not sufficient mention has been made of the excellent refreshments which were a noteworthy feature of both the Farewell Dance and the Albuhera Ball. We say noteworthy, and justifiably so, for no professional caterer could have bettered them, and to those ladies, all wives of members, who spent so much time and trouble with such excellent results we say "Thank you very much indeed."

Congratulations, once again a good one for the book, are due to Sergts. Trotobas and D. Jennings, on their promotion to substantive rank.

News has just come to us on the "grapevine telegraph" that our man of integrity and purpose, "Honest Mac," is returning to the fold. We foresee a certain amount of fluttering in the local matrimonial dovecots, but we doubt if a really wily bird gets caught in the fowler's net. Incidentally, association of ideas having started in our tired old brain, we wish Sergt. Jenkins the very best of luck in his new venture, marriage.

The bearings of our battered typewriter have just run hot, so it must be the end. Our next issue will be devoted to a saga of the great outdoors, camps, and how to avoid them, personally contributed by your own crafty contributor.

### CORPORALS' CLUB

Where do flies go in the winter-time? To tell you the truth, playmates, we are beginning to wonder if it isn't always winter, and that we shall never see any more flies.

The absorbing topic of interest during the last quarter, I think, was the re-decorating of

our Mess. Oh playmates! You should see it. It was officially opened by our good friend "Flash," who gave three sharp knocks on the outer door with a N.A.A.F.I. doughnut—we still have the door by the way. A good time was had by all, but I did hear that "Joe" spilt some tea over his best canvas which was nicely pressed for his "Vocay."

We have just returned from our first camp of the year, most of us having finished firing our Course, and are looking forward to our next sojourn in the land of "Luscious Ushers" in July. Who said that they want to go back to Warminster? We shall have some trouble up "that thar hill" I'm thinking. After you with the glasses, mate—or should we say "one up"? Is it true that all our Mess members qualified as Rangetakers whilst at camp (or did they)?

We have not taken part in any sports competitions during the last quarter, but a few of our members have done very well in the Battalion athletic team. Well done all of you, or better still well run. All the best "Kong" when you tear up Wooderson next month; steady kid, don't cut loose.

Who said "Chuff" couldn't swing the lead? I see that he has now taken up the noble sport of cycling—or has he been sleeping in the same room as the "Admiral" and caught the disease?

Congratulations to all those, too numerous to mention individually, who have been promoted recently, and also to those who have left us for that place called "roll-on." We shall be seeing you again soon, so don't give all that kit away.

Some very good dances were held during the last season. Thanks must be rendered to the lads of the Dance Committee for the way they take the can back.

Before closing these notes, best wishes to the 1st Battalion Corporals' Mess, "Pinky" and "Little Fanny" included. We could think of a lot more, but Muski.

STINKERS.

### ATHLETICS

Owing to the long football season our track could not be marked out on the sports field until Easter. This, combined with bad weather and other Battalion commitments, put back Company Athletic Meetings and the result was three weeks of hectic athletics, finally culminating in the Battalion Sports.



You will, no doubt, read of Company Meetings elsewhere in this journal. The Novices' Meeting, designed to discover talent from Companies, was held on the 8th and 9th May and was very successful. The most notable find was Pte. Jones of "D" Company, who threw the Javelin over 160 feet, a very fine performance and well above the average of any first-class athletic club. "B" Company pulled off the meeting winning by half a point



"H.Q." COMPANY—WINNERS OF INTER-COMPANY ATHLETIC SHIELD

*Back Row*—Bdmn. Burrell, Dmr. Salmon, L/Cpl. Caney, Bdmn. Phipps, L/Cpl. Redding, Pte. Tarbuck, Pte. Mall  
*Centre Row*—Pte. Parker, Bdmn. Ryder, Bdmn. Gregory, Bdmn. Baker, Pte. Pearce, L/Cpl. Cox, Dmr. Orr,  
 L/Cpl. Green, Pte. Cronin  
*Front Row*—Pte. Arlington, P.S.M. Smith, Lieut. Porter, Major C. W. Haydon, M.C., Captain A. E. Green,  
 Lieut. Passy, C/Sergt. West, Bdmn. Grogan

from "D"—deservedly so, as they had a very well-balanced side.

The Battalion Meeting followed the Novices' a week later and it was planned to hold the finals on Albuhera Day. The weather again took a hand and instead of sun we had torrential rain. The meeting was then run piecemeal and was finally completed on Friday, 19th May. Most disappointing both to organisers and competitors.

"H.Q." was the successful Company winning from "C" who put on a final spurt in the last few events to finish a close second. Some of the more outstanding performances are worthy of note. L/Cpl. Coleman of "B" Company, and a Battalion athlete, won both

the Mile and the Three Miles, ran an excellent Half Mile in addition to competing with considerable success in several field events. Pte. Pearce of "H.Q." made a valiant effort to beat the Battalion High Jump record, just failing to clear 5 ft. 6 ins. in the pouring rain.

With the finds from the athletics to date and the nucleus of last year's team which did so well at Aldershot, we set to work to build up a team for the Southern Area Meeting at

back to Gosport from Warminster for the Area Athletic Meeting and successfully defended our title. The team pulled out its very best and in gaining the cup for the fourth successive time won no fewer than 10 of the 15 events, being second in four and third in the remaining one. The Three Miles team gave a great display of determination and thanks to a fine sprint by Cpl. Keefe just managed to win this event. There is not room enough in these notes to mention every good performance in detail, but the results that are appended show only too clearly the efforts of each competitor.

The Command Meeting was held one week after the Area and we went to Tidworth full of confidence. After gaining a small lead on the first day we finally won by a comfortable margin of 13 points. We experienced both good luck and bad in this meeting, our third Command success in three years. Three Battalion records were broken—by Pte. Fabray, 114 ft. with the Hammer, Pte. Jones, 175 ft. 7 ins. with the Javelin, and Lieut. P. M. Lyon, who cleared 5 ft. 6 ins. in the High Jump. In the 4 by 880 Yards Relay, L/Cpl. Coleman had the misfortune to be accidentally fouled, which resulted in his ankle being wrenched. However, he showed fine spirit when he pluckily took part in further events, gaining third place in both the Mile and Three Miles.

A word about the team. A mixture of youth and experience and, in my opinion, better balanced than last year. Although we are not quite so good in some track events the field events have improved, as also have the hurdles.

Bdmn. Grogan is taking the hurdles with great confidence and should get down to a fast time before Aldershot. Owing to training and camp a great deal of training has been individual effort, all the more credit to the team. Two non-competing members of the team who have had a great deal to do with the smooth running of both meetings are L/Sergt. Cummins and Pte. Vanner. These are deserving of mention for the hard work they have put in and are putting in to assist the Battalion team.

As regards individual competitions. In the County Championships the Battalion Relay team came second to the Naval Barracks in a very fast and close race in the Hampshire Mile Medley Relay. L/Cpl. Coleman won the Mile and can now call himself the Mile Champion of Hampshire. Pte. Jones beat the County record three times in the Javelin with 175 ft. and was unlucky to be forced down to second place by a competitor from the Cheshire

Regiment whose final throw was 184 ft. Pte. Law threw well to gain third place with 153 ft., and we nearly forgot about L/Cpl. Coleman gaining second place in the Discus. We have entered nearly 20 competitors for the Army Individual Championships at Aldershot, and in later notes we hope to record that we have also Army Individual Champions among us.

In conclusion, "We must go to Aldershot with confidence and win by fitness and determination."

The best of luck to the Battalion team.

#### NOVICES' MEETING

100 Yards Flat : 1, Pte. Davis ("D"); 2, L/Cpl. Harewood ("C"); 3, L/Cpl. Findley ("C"); Time, 11 secs.

220 Yards Flat : 1, Pte. Davis ("D"); 2, Pte. Baker ("C"); 3, Pte. Whitehead ("H.Q."); Time, 24.6 secs.

440 Yards Flat : 1, L/Cpl. Coleman ("B"); 2, Pte. Cronin ("H.Q."); 3, Lieut. Beath ("C"); Time, 56 secs.

880 Yards Flat : 1, Pte. Gaffney ("B"); 2, L/Cpl. Blacknell ("B"); 3, L/Cpl. Griffiths ("D"); Time, 2 mins. 15.4 secs.

One Mile Flat : 1, Pte. Allen ("B"); 2, Pte. Murr ("B"); 3, Pte. Smith ("C"); Time, 5 mins. 4 secs.

Three Miles Flat : 1, Pte. Smith ("C"); 2, Pte. Aleen ("B"); 3, Dmr. Redding ("H.Q."); Time, 17 mins. 9.5 secs.

120 Yards Hurdles : 1, Pte. Davis ("D"); 2, Cpl. Hudson ("B"); 3, Pte. Shaw ("A"); Time, 19.6 secs.

Putting the Shot : 1, Pte. Clarke ("A"), 33 ft. 0½ in.; 2, Pte. Jones ("D"), 30 ft. 3 ins.; 3, Lieut. Beath ("C"), 29 ft. 10 ins.

Throwing the Discus : 1, Bdmn. Baker ("H.Q."), 91 ft. 6 ins.; 2, Cpl. Rawlinson ("D"), 89 ft. 8½ ins.; 3, Pte. Law ("C"), 89 ft. 6 ins.

Throwing the Hammer : 1, Pte. Eyles ("D"), 98 ft. 8 ins.; Bdmn. Ryder ("H.Q."), 93 ft. 0½ in.; 3, Cpl. Rawlinson ("D"), 91 ft. 4 ins.

Throwing the Javelin : 1, Pte. Jones ("D"), 161 ft. 7½ ins.; 2, Pte. Davis ("D"), 130 ft. 7½ ins.; 3, Dmr. Cox ("H.Q."), 126 ft. 7 ins.

Pole Vault : 1, Cpl. Hudson ("B"), 8 ft. 3 ins.; 2, Sergt. Delaney ("C"), 8 ft.; 3, Pte. Birt ("D"), 8 ft.

High Jump : 1, L/Cpl. Scott Farnie ("C"), 5 ft. 1 in.; 2, L/Cpl. Sharp ("C"), 5 ft. 0 ins.; 3, Pte. Mead ("B"), 5 ft. 0 ins.

Long Jump : 1, Pte. Davis ("D"), 18 ft. 5 ins.; 2, Pte. Allen ("A"), 18 ft. 3½ ins.; 3, Dmr. Salmon ("H.Q."), 17 ft. 1½ ins.

#### INTER-COMPANY MEETING

##### LIST OF WINNING COMPANIES

*Hop, Step, and Jump* : "C" Company (Sergt. Delaney, 38 ft. 11 ins.\*; L/Cpl. Sharp, 38 ft. 4 ins.).  
*Throwing the Javelin* : "D" Company (Pte. Jones, 157 ft. 4 ins.\*; Pte. Kent, 110 ft. 8 ins.).  
*Throwing the Discus* : "B" Company (Sergt. Trotobas, 91 ft. 9 ins.; L/Cpl. Coleman, 103 ft. 8 ins.). Best effort, Pte. Fabray, 104 ft. 9 ins.  
*High Jump* : "H.Q." Company (Pte. Pearce, 5 ft. 5 ins.\*; Bdmn. Gregory, 4 ft. 11 ins.).



**Long Jump:** "C" Company (Sergt. Delaney, 18 ft. 9½ ins.; L/Cpl. Sharp, 18 ft. 7 ins.). Best effort, Lieut. Passy, 18 ft. 10½ ins.

**Putting the Shot:** "D" Company (Pte. Eyles, 34 ft. 10½ ins.\*; Pte. Davis, 29 ft. 11 ins.).

**Pole Vault:** "H.Q." Company (Dmr. Salmon, 8 ft. 9 ins.; Dmr. Orr, 8 ft. 3 ins.). Best effort, Sergt. Delaney, 10 ft. 6 ins.

**Throwing the Hammer:** "H.Q." Company (Bdmn. Baker, 96 ft. 9 ins.; Bdmn. Ryder, 95 ft. 6 ins.). Best effort, Pte. Fabray, 106 ft. 9 ins. Unless stated, those marked thus \* were the best individual performances.

**Three Miles:** "C" Company (P.S.M. Day, Cpl. Keefe, Ptes. Gosling and Smith). Individual winner, L/Cpl. Coleman.

**One Mile Team Race:** "C" Company (P.S.M. Day, Cpl. Keefe, Ptes. Smith and Gosling). Individual winner, L/Cpl. Coleman.

**4 x 880 Yards Relay:** "C" Company (P.S.M. Day, Lieut. Beath, Pte. Gosling, Cpl. Keefe).

**480 Yards Hurdles Relay:** "B" Company (Lieut. Clayton, Cpl. West, Cpl. Hudson, L/Cpl. Coleman).

**4 x 220 Yards Relay:** "H.Q." Company (Lieut. Passy, C/Sergt. West, Bdmn. Phipps and Grogan).

**4 x 100 Yards Relay:** "H.Q." Company (Lieut. Passy, C/Sergt. West, Bdmn. Phipps and Grogan).

**4 x 440 Yards Relay:** "H.Q." Company (Pte. Cronin, Pte. Malka, Bdmn. Grogan, L/Cpl. Green).

**Boys Race, 220 Yards Flat:** 1, Boy Le Gresly; 2, Boy Roper, 3, Boy Donovan.

## STOP PRESS

### THE HOLDERS WIN AT ALDERSHOT

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The Army Unit Team Championships were concluded at Aldershot recently, when the 2nd Battalion The Cheshire Regiment retained the Championship Shield with a total of 154 points, the 2nd Battalion The Middlesex Regiment being second with 141 points.

The Middlesex Regiment won all four flat relay events yesterday and also the junior hurdles, but The Cheshire Regiment met with greater success in the field events. In the Weight, however, the 1st Battalion The Irish Guards beat a 12-year-old Army record when their two representatives attained an aggregate distance of 79 ft. 6½ ins. as against the previous figures of 77 ft. 7½ ins. by the 1st Battalion The Highland Light Infantry.

## RESULTS

**High Jump:** 1, Depot Royal Armoured Corps (Cpl. Broad, 5 ft. 8 ins., Pte. Taylor, 5 ft. 5½ ins.), 11 ft. 1½ ins.; 2, 2nd Battalion The Cheshire Regiment, 11 ft. 0½ ins.; 3, 1st Battalion The Gordon Highlanders, 10 ft. 1½ ins.

**Hammer:** 1, 2nd Battalion The Middlesex Regiment (Pte. Fabray, 123 ft. 10½ ins., Bdmn. Baker, 120 ft. 8½ ins.), 244 ft. 7 ins.; 2, 2nd Battalion The Cheshire Regiment, 235 ft. 7½ ins.;

3, 1st Battalion The Gordon Highlanders, 232 ft. 3½ ins.

**Hop, Step, and Jump:** 1, 2nd Battalion The Cheshire Regiment (Cpl. Burrows, 44 ft., Sergt. Andrews, 40 ft. 11½ ins.), 84 ft. 11½ ins.; 2, 1st Battalion The Gordon Highlanders, 83 ft. 6½ ins.; 3, 1st Battalion Irish Guards, 80 ft. 7 ins.

**Half-Mile Relay—Senior:** 1, 2nd Battalion The Middlesex Regiment (Bdmn. Phipps, C/Sergt. West, Lieut. E. G. Passy, and Lieut. E. G. Unwin); 2, 2nd Battalion The Cheshire Regiment; 3, 1st Battalion The Gordon Highlanders. Won by six yards. Time, 1 min. 33.5 secs.

**Half-Mile Relay—Junior:** 1, Training Battalion Royal Engineers; 2, 1st Battalion The Suffolk Regiment; 3, 2nd Battalion The Wiltshire Regiment. Won by five yards. Time, 1 min. 35.4 secs.

**Weight:** 1, 1st Battalion Irish Guards (Sergt. Killen, 42 ft. 2½ ins., Gdmn. Ridge, 37 ft. 3½ ins.), 79 ft. 6½ ins. (Army record); 2, 2nd Battalion The Middlesex Regiment, 74 ft. 0½ in.; 3, 2nd Battalion The Cheshire Regiment, 72 ft. 4½ ins.

**Two Miles Relay—Senior:** 1, 2nd Battalion The Middlesex Regiment (L/Cpl. Coleman, Cpl. Keefe, Cpl. Peaseley, and Lieut. J. E. F. Willoughby); 2, 1st Battalion The Suffolk Regiment; 3, 2nd Battalion The Cheshire Regiment. Won by 12 yards. Time, 8 mins. 17.8 secs.

**Two Miles Relay—Junior:** 1, 2nd Battalion The Wiltshire Regiment; 2, Training Battalion Royal Engineers; 3, 1st Battalion Irish Guards. Won by five yards. Time, 8 mins. 30.6 secs.

**480 Yards Hurdles Relay—Senior:** 1, 2nd Battalion The Cheshire Regiment (Sergt. Andrews, 2/Lieut. W. O. Little, Capt. C. H. P. Harrington, and L/Cpl. Parkinson); 2, Depot Royal Armoured Corps; 3, Training Battalion Royal Engineers. Won by six yards. Time, 1 min. 7.4 secs.

**480 Yards Hurdles Relay—Junior:** 1, 2nd Battalion The Middlesex Regiment; 2, 1st Battalion The Gordon Highlanders. No third. Won by 15 yards. Time, 1 min. 12.2 secs.

**Unit Medley Relay (1½ miles) (non-championship):** 1, 9th Field Regiment, R.A.; 2, 1st Battalion Coldstream Guards; 3, 8th Battalion Royal Tank Regiment. Won by two yards. Time, 5 mins. 50.6 secs.

**Long Jump:** 1, Depot Royal Armoured Corps (Lieut. R. F. Slater, 21 ft. 5 ins., C.Q.M.S. Ayres, 21 ft. 3 ins.), 42 ft. 8 ins.; 2, Training Battalion Royal Engineers, 40 ft. 2½ ins.; 3, 1st Battalion The Gordon Highlanders, 40 ft. 2½ ins.

**440 Yards Relay—Senior:** 1, 2nd Battalion The Middlesex Regiment (Bdmn. Phipps, C/Sergt. West, Pte. Grogan, and Lieut. E. G. Passy); 2, 2nd Battalion The Cheshire Regiment; 3, 2nd Battalion The Wiltshire Regiment. Won by five yards. Time, 44.6 secs.

**440 Yards Relay—Junior:** 1, 1st Battalion The Gordon Highlanders; 2, Depot Royal Armoured Corps; 3, Training Battalion Royal Engineers. Won by four yards. Time, 45.4 secs.

**One Mile Team:** 1, 2nd Battalion The Cheshire Regiment (1, 2, 5, 10), 18 points; 2, 1st Battalion Irish Guards, 50 points; 3, 2nd Battalion The Middlesex Regiment, 54 points. Individuals—1, Pte. Curphey (Cheshire); 2, Lieut. A. B. Quincey (Cheshire); 3, L/Cpl. Coleman (Middlesex). Won by six yards. Time, 4 mins. 38.2 secs.

**One Mile Relay—Senior:** 1, 2nd Battalion The Middlesex Regiment (Cpl. Keefe, Lieut. Lyons,

Lieut. E. J. Unwin, and Lieut. J. E. F. Willoughby); 2, 2nd Battalion The Cheshire Regiment; 3, 1st Battalion The Suffolk Regiment. Won by 2 ft. Time, 3 mins. 28.4 secs.

**One Mile Relay—Junior:** 1, Depot Royal Armoured Corps; 2, 1st Battalion Irish Guards; 3, Training Battalion Royal Engineers. Won by eight yards. Time, 3 mins. 37.8 secs.

## UNIT TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP SHIELD

1, 2nd Battalion The Cheshire Regiment (holders), 154 points; 2, 2nd Battalion The Middlesex Regiment, 141 points; 3, Depot Royal Armoured Corps, 100 points; 4, 1st Battalion The Suffolk Regiment, 94½ points; 5, 1st Battalion Irish Guards, 89 points; 6, 1st Battalion The Gordon Highlanders, 87½ points; 7, Training Battalion, Royal Engineers, 78 points; 8, 2nd Battalion The Wiltshire Regiment, 44 points.

## ACROSS NORTH AMERICA BY MOTOR CAR

### CONCLUDING INSTALMENT

LEAVING Los Angeles, we were amazed at the miles of fine orange groves in the San Bernardino valley. This luxuriant plenty and the next 200 miles of the Californian desert were a striking contrast. The desert was hot, arid, and rocky. Except a few stunted trees



Rock Formations in Grand Canyon, Arizona

near the river beds, nothing grew except sage bush. We saw no game or bird life other than a hawk or two, and a vulture.

In these grim surroundings our only mechanical misfortune befell us. During a blinding thunder and rain storm our fan belt stripped, and I had no spare belt. The rain cooled the atmosphere, but interfered with repairs. No

one would stop in case we should "hold them up." Eventually, however, Wales came to our rescue in the shape of an old Welsh road man with his Ford. He pushed us six miles to the top of a slope down which we were able to make the garage at Ludlow under our own steam. The cooling effect of the



Colorado River and Grand Canyon, Arizona

storm soon wore, and the heat as we crossed the valley of the Colorado River into Arizona was stifling. We were lucky to get across a couple of "wash-outs" caused by the storm before stopping at Kingman for the night—a run of 353 miles.

After an early start next day, we were fortunate enough to find excellent visibility for our drive along the southern edge of the Grand Canyon. The photographs give some idea of this amazing natural formation, but fail to bring out the wonderful pink, red, and purple colours. Away to the N.-E., beyond the Colorado gorge, stretched an endless pink desert, sand, and rock. Eventually we were glad to leave this queer and almost lifeless region and, passing through the country of the Navajo and Apache Indians, reached the ranges and ranches lying to the eastward.

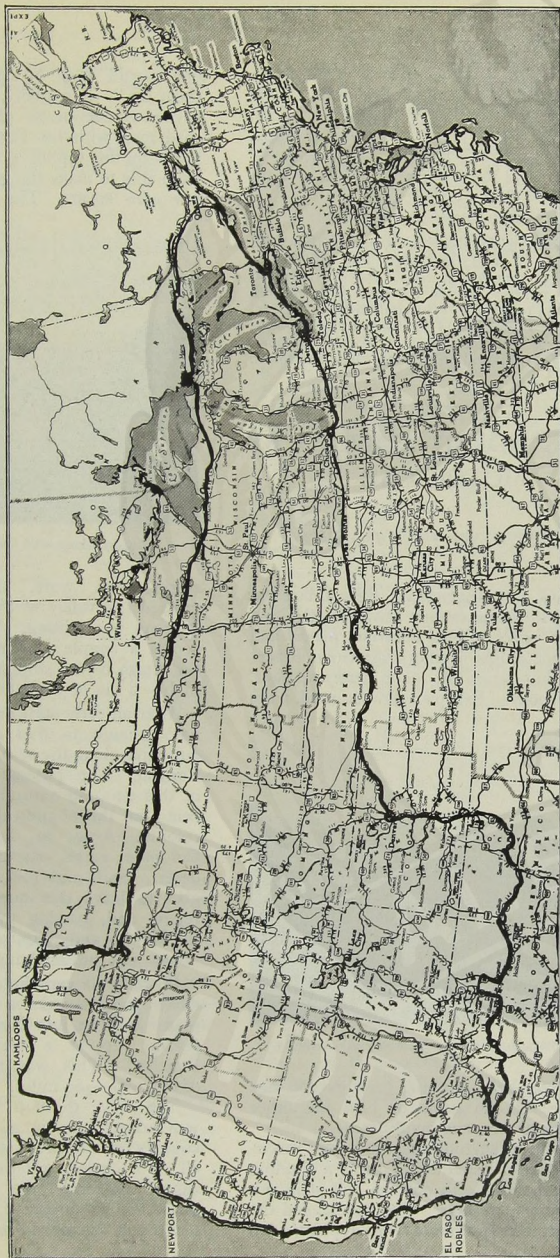
It was still very hot, but we were able to make good speed on Highway 66—a fine road—and ran into New Mexico by evening, putting up at a very pleasant inn—"El Rancho." This was the longest daily run of our trip—480 miles.

The drive through Western New Mexico was rather monotonous, ranch and desert scrub country lying between steep and rocky plateaus, all of a curious reddish hue. Its wild and rugged character, the cowmen, and Indians raised for us shades of "Billy the Kid" and his tough partners. The photograph shows



## ACROSS NORTH AMERICA BY MOTOR CAR

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

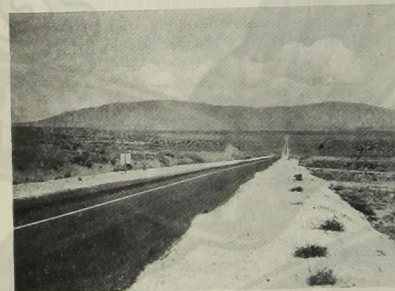


the road dropping down to Albuquerque and our next view of the Rockies. Here, we crossed the Rio Grande and were at once in a completely different Mexican world. Santa Fé, the capital, might have been nestling amongst the Sierras. The narrow, twisting streets, dark, flashing inhabitants, and the murmur of Spanish on all sides showed how close were the relations with the border, two or three hundred miles to the southward.

Once through the pass the country became much richer, and we left all trace of the desert behind us.

Some of the herds in Colorado were magnificent—mostly Herefords and Shorthorns. Here is a rare cattle country. The other great activity is mining, and particularly silver. Our change rattled on the tables in silver dollars, as in Montana. None of your paltry paper stuff! Our road took us northward along the eastern foothills; magnificent views of the big peaks to our left, rich ranges on our right. We made Denver on 20th September, and were looked after handsomely by our very kind friends, the Sanborns, at their charming home.

Denver is the heart of the Middle West. It is fresh and clean, 5,280 ft. above sea-level, its high level detracting from the height of the great mountains to the west. Here are enshrined all the traditions of the bad, bold days of the 90's, the cattle rustling, the mining

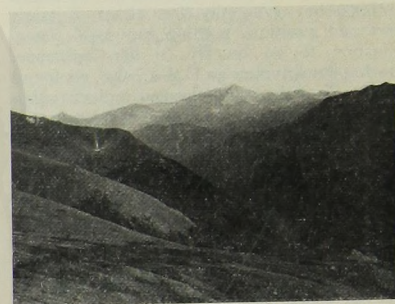


Semi-desert country dropping down to the Rio Grande, New Mexico

rushes, the newspaper stunts, gambling, drinking, and shooting. We were shown all the chief landmarks of this now pleasant and progressive city. One grand drive took us over the Berthoud Pass (11,300 ft.), northward towards Wyoming through the most lovely scenery, past some of the old mines, and home-

wards over the Milner Pass (12,000 ft.). A photograph taken there shows Long's Peak (14,255 ft.). On the way down we passed through some magnificent Wapiti, the first we had seen during the trip.

With many regrets we left Denver on 23rd September. There is little to tell of our



Long's Peak, Colorado Rockies, from the Milner Pass (distance 14 miles)

journey across the prairies. The road through Nebraska followed the Platte River to Omaha, a fertile valley, heavily irrigated, but enclosed by less-productive prairie land on either hand. We were somewhat south of the "dust-bowl," so we saw little of the results of over-intensive cultivation. However, heavy crops of highly-developed, fibre-rooted grasses are now doing much to bind the soil closer, and this, combined with resting, may improve the "dust-bowl" conditions. As we travelled eastward into Iowa the land improved steadily, changing to pleasant hill and dale country. "Corn" took the place of wheat, and the farms carried a strong head of cattle and pigs. The great Mississippi River, which we crossed at Davenport, was even then in flood.

We enjoyed our short stay in Chicago, but must admit to feeling the strain of the rush of life generally, and traffic, in particular, there. The Drake Hotel, one of the smaller hotels, was indeed comfortable. Strange to say, the Chicago police were not (visibly) armed.

By now the war clouds over Europe were, indeed, black, and we were anxious to get back to Canada, quite prepared to "cut our cable" for home. Our drive took us around the pleasant Lake front and then through the vast industrial area of Eastern Chicago. Southern Michigan, a pleasantly wooded, mixed-farming country, looked pretty in its



red and gold autumn colours. We did not stop in Detroit, the home of so many automobile factories, but hurried on over the border.

The news, this night, 27th September, was as bad as could be. We went to bed in Windsor convinced that morning would announce the birth of another world calamity. On all sides, and from every grade of society, we heard nothing but sympathy for Great Britain's part and position, nothing but loyal determination to go quickly to her assistance. During our drive across U.S.A., also, we found the depth of the sympathy and understanding for Great Britain, through a good cross-section of the country, remarkable and encouraging.

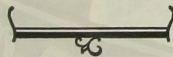
Our journey on 28th September, north of Lake Erie and through the wonderful fruit farms of the Niagara Peninsula, was coloured, therefore, by doleful thoughts of imminent war and all it imported. We stopped at Hamilton to have tea with our friend and connection, Mrs. Willie Hendrie, and suddenly the war clouds cleared! She had heard from the Prime Minister, Mr. Mackenzie King, of Mr. Chamberlain's courageous stand, and of the general improvement in the situation. By the time we reached Bronte, on the shore of Lake Ontario, where we stayed once more with Major and Mrs. Jack Osler, our spirits had fully recovered and we were able to enjoy, happily, our stay at Lake View Farm.

Our last day's run through Toronto and along the north shore of Lake Ontario covered familiar ground. We found Ontario much changed, however, since our departure, for the "fall" atmosphere was pleasantly cool, and all the woods were clothed in their most

lovely autumn dresses. The reds and golds were gorgeous. We reached home in time for dinner on 29th September, and found all well. The long journey—9,531 miles—was over. We had found it full of interests and pleasures which have received only meagre description here, but we had enjoyed every moment of it.

It is no platitude to state that the vast size of the Continent impressed itself on our minds, for we have learned that it is not possible to label "American" opinion. Circumstances, tradition, and outlook differ widely in the Eastern States, in the Middle West, in the West, and in the Southern States. Each group requires careful appreciation. Similarly, in Canada, the provincial outlook of French Canada diverges at many points from that of industrial Ontario, the wheat and cattle country of the Middle West, or the fish, fruit and lumber regions of British Columbia. There is, also, the growing individuality of the rapidly-developing northern territories. Most of these clash sooner or later with what one might term a true and comprehensive "Canadian" view. No doubt, as transportation and political education improve, these divergent local feelings will tend to assimilate themselves to a powerful national heart-beat. Our journey has taught us that air transport will be a major factor in this development.

Perhaps our most pleasant memory was the friendly courtesy and kindness of the hundreds of Canadians and Americans with whom we mixed during our trans-Continental drive.



## DEPOT NOTES

THE quarter which has just gone out took with it our Commanding Officer.

The speed of events leading up to this parting made its significance a little difficult to grasp. Col. Phillips had become very much a part of the Depot, and there can be no one who will not feel a keen sense of personal loss at parting with one whose interest was given so whole-heartedly and sympathetically to our every aim and activity.

The news of Col. Phillips' promotion, to command the 2nd Battalion, was received with the utmost enthusiasm. This has, unfortunately, been offset by the report of his illness. We can, therefore, only wish him a speedy recovery with the hope that he may soon be restored to take his place where a well-deserved welcome has been awaiting him.

The Depot is now commanded by Major F. G. Parker. He is not a newcomer here, having already done one tour previously. Although there is probably no one here who was with him then, many of us have served with him elsewhere since; and we can, therefore, welcome both him and his family with the hope that Hitler will grant them a pleasant and uninterrupted stay.

Major Clayden is now installed as Administrative Officer and will shortly be becoming Administrative Company Commander.

Major Brodie has joined us from the Reserve to command the new Militia Company. His new task will be a novel one, for which his experiences of the world should stand him in good stead. To assist him, a considerable reinforcement has arrived from the Home Battalion and from the Reserve; while the list of Pensioners includes such well-known names as Fleming, Peck, Hart, and Green.

Lieut. Allen has recently been on leave on the Riviera. He returned extremely bronzed all over and was just in time to be best man to Lieut. Weedon, whom we congratulate on his marriage.

After his operation, Lieut. Pilley completed his convalescence here and left in the late spring. His influence here was quite considerable. Shortly after his departure Capt. Clark underwent a similar operation, from which he seems, happily, to have benefited, while Lieut. Unwin retired into Sister Agnes's and underwent certain adjustments in turn, at the hands of the nose specialist.

Lieuts. Marshall and Lyon have been living with us as T.A. Adjutants to the newly-formed 2nd Line Battalions. The latter has now handed over and returned to the Battalion, but Lieut. Marshall is still with us and we hope that his stay may become indefinite.

2/Lieut. Clinton Nolda of Cambridge University O.T.C. has been doing a month's attachment prior to obtaining a commission. He goes on shortly to the 2nd Middlesex where we wish him luck.

Messrs. Chambers and Lake have just been enlisted from civilian life and are back with us as civilian clerks after an absence of several months.

We were sorry to lose Mr. Rochester, who is now in the W.D. Constabulary. In his place we have Mr. Rossiter, late of the 1st Battalion.

A number of us visited the rehearsal of the Trooping of the Colour, where we were able to sympathise with the Guardsmen parading, as they were under a very hot sun. Parties also visited the Royal Tournament and Aldershot Tattoo, the latter entertainment being, for once, in a way, dry.

Old Comrades' Day was celebrated with the customary sports meeting, which was attended by a smaller gathering than of yore. This might, perhaps, be accountable to a number of Old Comrades being now engaged in training the new Units. Nevertheless, it is hoped that those concerned if they read THE DIE HARDS may be prompted to look us up next year.

The Cricket Week is over for another year, and whatever its accompaniment of guards, rain, and working parties, the Week provided some most exciting play. The Band was most successful in making up for missing rays of sunshine.

We were fortunate in having Capt. Stephenson and Lieut. Unwin throughout; both of whom we congratulate for their part in the county matches. We were glad, too, to see Major Clowes here again, especially as he is leaving shortly for Palestine to join the growing Middlesex contingent there.

The Officers' Club "At Home" was almost a great success, but was unfortunately marred by a last minute downpour, luckily towards the end of tea. We were glad to see Brig. and Mrs. Tidbury again. It seems no time since the former left for Palestine with his Brigade.

The first gardening prize of the year was won by Ypres Squad. It has been a struggle to get flowers to grow this year. Congratulations are due to those who have contributed to the Drummers' garden, which now provides a fine



stretch of roses from the Guardroom almost to the R.S.M.'s house.

Elsewhere considerable changes have come over the face of the barracks, notably where Militia hutting has sprung up. It cannot be said, however, that the Depot has suffered much scenically, and the R.E. are to be congratulated on having preserved the more rustic amenities so far.

The Militia huts are really quite attractive, with roofs of a tasteful green. Some will regret the passing of "Procter's Folly," where a new gym is being built, and others the disappearance of the blackberries down by the museum. But taken all in all, the Depot is still not such a black spot.

#### SERGEANTS' MESS

The early summer has been a period of great indecision. Nobody quite knew what changes would be entailed by the arrival of the Militia. It was widely hoped (or feared) that the Regular recruits, with the Depot instructors, would go to Gosport, but we have just heard that we are to be treated as an exceptional case, and so we stay on in our town-country residence. This promises to be interesting as we shall see the Militia from the start, and we can form an opinion of the boldest move since the "New Model."

In connection with their training, four old friends have been resurrected from civil life; C.S.M. F. Peck, C/Sergt. E. Green, M.M., and Sergts. E. Fleming and S. Hart are now back in harness under the re-enlisted pensioners' scheme. For many here it was like starting where we left off, and it is the earnest wish of the Mess that they will all have a very enjoyable three years here.

In addition to their arrival, we have the pleasant duty of welcoming P.S.M. S. Day and Sergt. Smallridge. Sergt. R. A. Selve has had an adventurous life since the last notes appeared. He first earned our congratulations on his promotion, then our *au revoir* on departure to the 2nd Battalion, and now he is back again after a short Small Arms' Course. The Depot cricket side will be pleased to have him bowling for them again as his only effort for them was seven wickets for about 20 runs. A less pleasant task is to wish God-speed to Tommy Tiller and his wife. He had spent 15 years in the Mess, during which, in all capacities, he proved himself a keen worker and member. He has become an Air Force warden and we extend

our best wishes to him and Mrs. Tiller for the future.

Sergt. R. Wilson has been keeping wicket for the Officers' Club, and doing it well as 15 victims in five games prove. S.I. D. Rogers, A.P.T.S., also put up an excellent show in getting his "First" with two distinctions. We are all rather hesitant in calling him "Muscles" now. Why not "Bruscles"?

The party which went to the Derby was not very successful financially, but it was a beautiful day. Some of us nearly saw the big race, although only one was clever enough to use her feminine guile on the "booky" to get a stand on his stool. It would appear that no scheme was successful and those of us who thought Gordon Richards was a good system had some heartburns, but no returns. However, C.Q.M.S. Franklin had the satisfaction of getting some money, even if it was for somebody else.

We had a Games Tournament with the local police recently. After our initial diffidence at meeting the force while they were not doing their duty, we carried on to a successful conclusion. If it is any balm on their conscience we will admit their superiority at darts, but on the billiards and snooker table we more than held our own, in fact, being perfect hosts, we conveniently forgot to record the details, and nobody was sorry. R.S.M. P. Newman received a small token of appreciation from the Superintendent, and the whole evening afforded amusement which demanded a replay, which we are to have soon.

Albuhera Day was celebrated in the typical Middlesex manner. In the morning we were the guests of the Officers, with whom we spent a pleasant hour. In turn, they attended our Cocktail Party in the evening, and we hope they enjoyed it as much as we were pleased to welcome them. The party was a change from the usual quarterly dinner and all our guests seemed to appreciate it. Our grateful thanks are extended to Mrs. Newman, Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. Kruck, and Miss Mason, all of whom worked hard behind the scenes to make the affair a success. The "Day" was concluded by an All Ranks' Dance, which was good fun for everybody.

The winter series of whist drives was ended in May, the winners being: 1, Mrs. Wilcockson; 2, Mr. Wilson, 3, Mrs. Burt.

The Mess has not yet been razed to the ground; zero hour now, we are told, is 15th July, but who can tell with the R.E.s? But we can vouch for the excellence of the final result.

The Royal Fusiliers' Mess is now nicknamed the "Hotel," and single men are advised to book up in advance for they really are homes from home.

Finally, we would like to extend our sympathy to Lieut.-Col. H. Phillips, M.C., our late C.O., on his illness, and our sincere wishes for a complete and speedy recovery.

#### SQUAD BADGE WINNERS

*Nivelle Squad*: Twentieth Week Test.—Winner, Pte. Whitehead; runner-up, Pte. Budden.

*Albuhera Squad*: Eighth Week Test.—Winner, Pte. Richards; runner-up, Pte. Carran. Twelfth Week Test.—Winner, Pte. Carran; runner-up, Pte. Richards. Sixteenth Week Test.—Winner, Pte. Morris; runner-up, Pte. Carran. Empire Test Shooting Spoon.—Pte. Bassett. Table "A" Shooting Spoon.—Pte. Carran.

*Suela Squad*: Fourth Week Test.—Winner, Pte. Scott; runner-up, Pte. Woods. Eighth Week Test.—Winner, Pte. Pearson; runner-up, Pte. Woods. Twelfth Week Test.—Winner, Pte. Pearson; runner-up, Pte. Woods. Empire Test Shooting Spoon.—Pte. Brooks. Table "A" Shooting Spoon.—Pte. Pearson.

*Alma Squad*: Fourth Week Test.—Winner, Pte. Shrubbs; runner-up, Pte. Howlett. Eighth Week Test.—Winner, Pte. Howlett; runner-up, Pte. Ashton. Empire Test Shooting Spoon.—Pte. Logan. Table "A" Shooting Spoon.—Pte. Osbourne.

*Mons Squad*: Fourth Week Test.—Winner, Pte. Green; runner-up, Pte. Christian.

#### CORPORALS' NOTES

Once again the demand for Journal notes has been pushed upon us at a moment's notice, but the present staff are greatly handicapped owing to R.E. works in progress all over the once quiet barrack area.

We have had only a few departures since the last issue, notably Cpls. Eastland and Ellwood to the Battalion at Gosport or somewhere in England, but the arrivals have been like a small-time mobilisation—Cpls. Doyle, Nicholls, Rae, and Read from the Reserve, and ten junior N.C.O.s from the Home Battalion, including Boy Donovan.

The most notable personage to arrive recently came from Yorkshire's moors, i.e., "Pudsey," who rejoices in the name of Rawlinson ("Hat-Trick Rawlo"). Cpl. Sibley and Tony also accompanied "Rawlo" to the Depot, these N.C.O.s being posted for a normal tour, the remainder for the Militia Army.

Cpls. Millichap and Peasley have just returned from Netheravon after a short holiday

at the S.A.S., and both came back with a lovely brown complexion and a "Q" ticket. Cpl. ("Yiddle") Morley has left us for the same Course, and we know that he will do his stuff in more than one way.

"Thomo," who left us for a short spell in hospital, has now returned to the fold, not much worse for his enforced stay. He leaves us shortly for a short stay with the Battalion to enquire into some queer pumps. (Lucky old "Thomo"!)

Depot Sports were held on the 24th June and although the scribe could not see very well, for some unknown reason, they tell me that it went off well, Cpl. ("Sticks") Peasley being a double winner in the One Mile and the Corporals' event. Apparently he seems quite used to these queer events judging by the ease with which he won.

The people who should be fit did not excel in the Corporals' event, 880 Yards wearing Service Dress, full Marching Order and Greatcoat in pack.

Owing to the Sports being on Saturday young Botchin could not run, but it put its queer body in a sack and hopped about for five seconds, all for no purpose.

The Depot Cricket Week followed, and Capt. J. W. A. Stephenson and company did their "dabs" in the usual style, assisted by C.S.M. Kennett and Sergt. Wilson. The Band of the 2nd Battalion were here for the week and we hope they enjoyed it as much as we enjoyed having them. Incidentally they taught us a new way of playing "brag." We extend our congratulations to the 2nd Battalion athletic team on reaching the finals of the Army Team Championships again. We shall be at Aldershot to see them win the Championships. N.B. Special note to "Kong" the miler. "Rawlo" was last in the Corporals' Race.

We close with best wishes to members of both Battalion Messes.

#### DEPOT SPORTS

On 24th June, the Depot Inter-Squad Sports were held in the barracks. On the same day, as usual, the Old Comrades were welcomed back here; unfortunately no tentage was available this year for military reasons. Under these circumstances, with rain threatening, the attendance was small.

In the morning the jumping pits were kept busy and more pluck than skill was certainly shown in the Pole Vault. But Sergts. Rogers



and Bullock showed how it could be done in various events. Pte. Saunders showed himself to be the best sprinter among the recruits, and Pte. Shrubbs the best middle distance runner. Both Shrubbs and Pte. Pearson did well in the field events.

Ypres Squad, the forming Squad, won the Tug-of-War after two very good pulls against Albuhera, the senior Squad. The Officers were most unfortunate in losing the Inter-Mess Relay, but some of the Officers want further instruction in bicycling.

#### Results as under:

Winner of "Paiba" Cup: Pte. Shrubbs.  
880 Yards: 1, Ypres Squad (Ptes. Cook, Smith, Gower, and McCarthy).

440 Yards (4 x 110): 1, Suvla Squad (Ptes. Pearson, Jones, Woods, and Marshall).

220 Yards Recruits' Final: 1, Pte. Saunders; 2, Pte. Pearson.

Sergeants' Event: 1, R.Q.M.S. C. Goodall; 2, Sergt. Smallridge.

One Mile Relay (4 x 440): 1, Suvla Squad (Ptes. Kennedy, Jones, Bowyer, and Marshall).

Sack Race: 1, Pte. Bowyer; 2, L/Cpl. Botchin.

Depot Staff Event: 1, Pte. Goodman; 2, Pte. McClintock.

Band Race: 1, Boy Brown; 2, Boy Bowles.

Inter-Mess Relay: 1, Privates; 2, Corporals.

Old Comrades' Event: 1, Mr. Lowe; 2, Mr. Sullivan.

"A" Shield: Suvla Squad.

High Jump: Tie, Ptes. Smith and Shrubbs.

Long Jump: 1, Pte. Saunders; 2, Pte. Shrubbs.

Putting the Shot: 1, Pte. McCarthy; 2, Pte. Smith.

Discus: 1, Pte. Bassett; 2, Pte. McCarthy.

Javelin: 1, Pte. Pearson; 2, Pte. Savage.

100 Yards Depot Staff: 1, Pte. Steadman; 2, Pte. Martin.

Corporals' Event: 1, Cpl. Peasley; 2, L/Cpl. Hecks.

Mile, Open: Recruits.—1, Pte. Shrubbs; 2, Pte. Bowyer. Depot Staff.—1, Cpl. Peasley; 2, Cpl. Rawlinson.

Boys' Race: 1, M. Kruck; 2, A. Endersby; 3, S. Endersby; 4, B. Clarke.

Pole Vault: Tie, Ptes. Ingimire and Richardson, 6 ft. 6 ins.; 3, Pte. Potthast.

Boys' Race: 1, Michael Kruck; 2, Frank Hathaway; 3, Derek Davis.

Girls' Race: 1, Daphne Sullivan; 2, Hazel Clarke; 3, Peggy Hathaway.

Tug-of-War: 1, Ypres Squad; 2, Albuhera Squad.

Best Squad, Suvla Squad, 65½ pts.; runner-up, Albuhera Squad, 61 pts.; 3, Alma Squad, 52 pts.; 4, Ypres Squad, 46½ pts.; 5, Mons Squad, 45 pts.

## REGIMENTAL HISTORICAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM

THE following contributions to the Regimental Museum are gratefully acknowledged.

German Clinometer. Presented by Col. W. E. Pringle, M.C.

South African War Medal (Lieut. C. B. D. Michel). Presented by Major R. W. Baker. 4th Battalion Silver Bugle (presented by Lieut.-Col. C. R. Simpson on their formation in 1900). Presented by General C. R. Simpson.

Group of Officers, 1st Battalion Middlesex Regiment, Aisne, 1914. Presented by Major R. H. Brodie.

## KEEPING THE ARMY IN THE FAMILY

### IRISH FATHER AND SONS WITH 220 YEARS' SERVICE AND 29 MEDALS

THE death of Mr. Joseph McCormack, Barrack Hill, Armagh, in his 84th year recalls the history of a remarkable military family, one that has soldiering in the blood. The McCormack's family service totals some 220 years, during which time they have won 29 medals.

Mr. McCormack had a wonderful record of service under the Crown. He joined the Royal Horse Artillery in 1869 as a boy of 14 and ultimately became Trumpet Major. At the Golden Jubilee review at Aldershot in 1887 he, as Trumpet Major of "A" Brigade, Royal Horse Artillery, held the proud position of right hand man of the British Army.

On completion of his Army service Mr. McCormack was appointed Barrack Warden of the Depot at Armagh, where he served for 30 years, and on his retirement he joined the Ulster Special Constabulary, of which he was Quartermaster for five more years—thus he served the Crown continuously for 56 years. He held the medals for Long Service and Good Conduct and for Meritorious Service.

In 1935 Mr. McCormack had the honour of being presented to His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester on the occasion of the latter's visit to Belfast.

## 1/7th BATTALION NOTES

IT is always a good rule when telling a story to begin at the beginning, and we must therefore take the reader back through time to the 1st April, upon which day, appropriately enough, the last edition of these notes, red hot from the Orderly Room typewriter, was sent to vex the Editor at Mill Hill. On that day the Battalion wanted a few less than 50 men to complete its War Establishment. Some days before, orders had been issued to practically the whole of the Field Force Units to complete to War Establishment and then to duplicate themselves as quickly as possible.

For a week or so recruiting did not seem very much better than usual and one was inclined to regard the newspaper accounts of queues of recruits at drill halls with considerable scepticism. After a short while, however, the steady Press propaganda and the various recruiting drives started to take effect and recruits began to pour in at every drill hall so that within six weeks of the expansion being ordered the 2/7th Battalion had been completed to its full War Establishment and a waiting list opened.

The work of enlisting this great number of recruits was, of course, very considerable, and it fell with particular force upon the Officers and the Permanent Staff, some of whom found themselves seeing attestation forms in their dreams. The peak of recruiting was reached at the end of April, when over 100 men joined in a single night. The applicants were of all ages and included one gallant old gentleman of 76 who had been discharged from the Army somewhere in the 'eighties, and two hopeful youngsters aged 14½ who had heard about the Boys' anti-tank rifle!

Having obtained the men the next problem was to form the 2/7th Battalion out of them. Major Mirams was promoted to Lieutenant-Colonel and took over the command of it, whilst a somewhat optimistic effort was made by the War Office to appoint a T.A. Officer to the Adjutancy, on conditions which savoured very strongly of "heads I win, tails you lose." This having proved quite unsuccessful, a Regular Officer of the Regiment, Lieut. P. D. H. Marshall, was sent to us at short notice. Thereafter the story of the 2/7th Battalion belongs by right to its own notes.

Despite our pre-occupation with the expansion, training has continued unabated and most of those who joined before the spring have

All seven sons of the McCormack family served in the Army, five of them in the Royal Artillery, and the family have a record between them of over 220 years' service; they hold 29 decorations and medals.

The old gunner is survived by his widow, six sons, and two daughters, Mrs. Sandford, wife of Capt. G. D. Sandford (now serving with the R.A.F.), and Miss McCormack, Armagh. His eldest son, R.S.M. W. J. McCormack, also joined his father's old regiment, serving with the Royal Artillery for 21 years, afterwards becoming Captain and Quartermaster of the U.S.C. He is now Barrack Warden for Omagh and Armagh and holds, after 27 years' service with the Crown, the Long Service and Good Conduct Medals, the Meritorious Service Medal, the 1914-15 Star, and the two Great War Medals.

Q.M.S. A. P. McCormack, who was Artillery Clerk, served with his father's regiment for 24 years, being now employed in the Royal Dockyard. He holds the 1914 Star, the Great War, the Long Service, and the Durbar medals.

Sergt./Tpnr. S. McCormack also joined the Royal Regiment and is now on pension after 26 years' service. He holds the 1914 Star and the two Great War medals—adding to them the N.W. Frontier and the Long Service medals.

Capt. J. V. McCormack, M.C. (retired), was another gunner, and in addition to the M.C. has the 1914 Star and two Great War medals. He had 22 years' service and is now Personal Assistant to the Director of Public Relations at the War Office.

R.S.M. H. L. McCormack is still serving as R.S.M. of the 19th Field Regiment, Royal Artillery, and holds the 1914-15 Star, two Great War and the Long Service and Coronation medals. He is the shortest man in the British Army, being 4 ft. 11 ins. in height.

Major E. V. McCormack, Royal Corps of Signals, is still serving. He has 17 years' service and is at present on the Indian Frontier.

The late Pte. E. T. McCormack was in the R.A.S.C. for two years, and for three years with the U.S.C.

It is remarkable for both a father and son to hold the Meritorious Service Medal, which is very rare. There are five medals for Long Service and Good Conduct in the family.

A still further gunner member of the family is Bdr. I. McCormack (a grandson) who is now serving in the 24th Field Regiment, Royal Artillery.



now done a fair amount of machine gun work. Two Officers and several N.C.O.s have been to Netheravon and a Field Duties' Cadre has been held. As a result the work done on recent T.E.W.T.s has been very good indeed.

At the time of writing our principal pre-occupation is with camp, which is now very near. We are assured of record numbers but of very little else. Tents will doubtless materialise from somewhere and so we hope will the 2/7th Battalion's rifles; gas respirators, clothing, and machine gun stores, but higher authority is at present just a trifle non-committal about all these things. However, in the words of the immortal lady doctor, "Matters will adjust themselves."

Our "Personal Column" is rather a long one. Lieut.-Col. Mirams' promotion to the command of the 2/7th has left us without a Second-in-Command and the duties of that arduous appointment are now temporarily split up among several Officers who add them to their other labours. The Assistant Adjutant, into whose unwilling care the main Battalion Account has been confided, pursued an elusive 15s. for some hours and then rashly threatened to tear his hair. It does not appear that he was able to accomplish this feat.

Three Officers, 2 Lieuts. J. C. Binns, D. S. Haig, and D. A. M. Street, have joined us and we trust that their stay with us will be long and happy. In addition we welcome the large number of new Officers who have joined the 2/7th Battalion, and who are at present living with us. Many of them are experienced machine gunners from the Officer Producing Group, and another is a former Adjutant of a Machine Gun Battalion, so that there is no lack of talent among them.

In addition to Lieut.-Col. Mirams, whose well-deserved promotion has also brought about his regrettable removal from our midst, two other Officers, Capt. and Q.M. C. F. Denton and Lieut. P. S. Ingham, have succeeded in avoiding just retribution for their crimes for eight and three years respectively, and we have, therefore, to congratulate them on having a little more brasswork to clean. More promotions are pending, but in view of the congestion in the columns of the *London Gazette*, they may be expected to coincide with the next appearance of Halley's Comet.

#### "C" COMPANY

These notes start off in a cheerful tone as our old friend, the International Situation,

together with the doubling up of the T.A., has provided us with an undreamed-of number of good recruits, so many in fact that our trained men are a mere handful in comparison. Of course, such a number descending on us in a body put the smooth running of the Company out of joint for a time, but now they have left us for the 2/7th we can settle down with the business of training as machine gunners. It is hoped that those going have enjoyed their short stay with us, and we would like them to know that they will always be welcome whenever they are round our way. Though they were not with us for long, every one connected with their training, as well as the men themselves, can be justly proud of the high standard already attained.

Many changes in personnel have taken place since the last notes appeared. We heartily congratulate C.S.M. Howard on his promotion to the Permanent Staff, but his leaving us is a real loss to the Company. It is very difficult to put appreciation into words without sounding like an epitaph, and we don't think he would like that, so we find ourselves tongue-tied, or should it be word-bound? To serve as a reminder, should one be necessary, of the splendid work he put in for the Company. The Company gave him a small present.

Congratulations to C.S.M. Powell who has left his Quartermaster's desk with a sigh of relief heard miles away. He should like his new job better. Congratulations also to the new "quarterbloke," C.P.M.S. Leggett, who has taken over the job and worried look. Whether the said worried look is caused by the job or is issued from the stores is a thing that every one wonders. We once heard a fairy story of a "Quarter" who sang as he worked, but that was a fairy story.

There is also something new in "C" Company. We have a Permanent Staff Instructor! This is C.S.M. Williams, who is daily making us realise how much we have been missing in that direction compared with other Companies.

There have been a lot more promotions, and to attempt to mention them would take up too much space, but congratulations to them all, especially those who have just started on the uphill climb, and we would repeat to them the words of a much wiser scribe, "By their works ye shall know them."

Every one was disappointed that our new headquarters were not officially opened, the reason mainly being that it would have been followed by a dance, but we made up for this

by running a Company Social on a scale new to the Battalion. This was intended for members of the Company, their friends, and the A.T.S. only, but a lot of people from other Companies got wind of it and flocked around. Mind you, we do not flatter ourselves but we realise that the A.T.S. were the attraction.

Even though the R.S.M. refused to sing his new song, the evening appears to have been quite a success, judging by the demands for another. Our thanks are due to R.S.M. and Mrs. Colton for looking after the catering so well, and to Sergt.-Major Williams for decorating the hall.

#### "D" COMPANY

Since the May issue tremendous changes have been seen at Park Lane, Tottenham. When the call came to double the T.A. the local lads were seen in their true colours, with the result that we all but trebled our numbers in a few short weeks, reaching the quite unusual strength of 375. Old hands will recollect that the Battalion was only 300 strong in 1928, a fact which accentuates the changes that have taken place in our Volunteer Army.

The 2/7th Middlesex (shades of the Great War) was then formed, and to facilitate training we staggered our parades, the 1st Battalion retaining its old evenings, Tuesdays and Thursdays, and the 2nd Battalion parading Wednesdays and Sunday mornings. A large amount of extra work has had to be put in by the N.C.O.s, but they have responded very well.

We heartily welcome Major E. W. C. Flavell, M.C., who will command "D" Company of the 2/7th, together with the other new Officers, and hope we will be of assistance to their Company until they move to the new drill hall at Edmonton.

The task of training the Company in such a small space has been difficult, but fortunately we have been lucky with the weather and have been able to use our "square." Incidentally, we have flood-lit our parade ground so as to be able to use it all the year round.

To add to our difficulties, in the middle of the recent rush we had a change of P.S.I., C.S.M. Makewell taking over from C.S.M. Brett, who has gone to Battalion H.Q. Capt. Scott Lowe was also away for a fortnight at the Small Arms School, Netheravon, on an M.G. Course. However, we have come through a

hard test well, and feel that a good job of work has been done.

Now for camp, which this year should be of great interest to all ranks. It is rumoured that we shall have a large collection of trucks G.S., and that the Company Commander will run around the countryside in a two-seater "Baby" Austin. M.G. Training will be a pleasant change from our old stuff, and it seems a pity in some ways that we are not doing a month's training like our A.A. friends.

#### 2/7th BATTALION NOTES

THE original 7th Battalion has been duplicated and the "Duplicate Unit"—to use the official designation—is up to strength in Officers and men, and is to be a Machine Gun Battalion. Its title is to be "2/7th Battalion The Middlesex Regiment (D.C.O.)" and this is as it should be as it is the successor of the 2/7th which was raised in 1914 and which was subsequently disbanded after a most honourable record of service.

The Commanding Officer of the Duplicate Unit is Lieut.-Col. S. Mirams, M.C., who served for over 20 years with the 4th and 1st Battalions and who—until his appointment to command—was Second-in-Command of the 1/7th.

We are most fortunate in that Major G. A. H. Bower has been able to return to us as Second-in-Command. His many years of devoted and loyal service with 1/7th Battalion is too well known to need repeating here.

The Adjutant is Lieut. P. D. H. Marshall (of the 2nd Battalion) and one would think that he had had many years of experience as an Adjutant, instead of this being his first appointment. He is the first to acknowledge the great assistance he has received from Major Clark, the Adjutant of the 1/7th Battalion.

Lieut. Q. M. Jones has come to us from the 2nd Battalion and his knowledge of the Regular and Territorial Armies is bound to be a valuable asset to the Battalion.

Most of the Officers have had previous experience (some war experience), and a large proportion have a very good knowledge indeed of the Vickers Gun.

The Permanent Staff consists of:

R.S.M. Poulter (late C.S.M. of the 2nd Battalion) who brings with him many years of



experience. A former Drum-Major, the task of forming the Corps of Drums is entirely in his hands.

C.S.M. Howard (formerly of the 1/7th Battalion).

Sergt. Edwards (formerly of the 1/7th Battalion).

Sergt. Maloney, 1st Battalion.

Cpl. Cast, The East Surrey Regiment.

They have all settled down to their several jobs with the greatest enthusiasm.

Sergt. MacDowell, of the 2nd Battalion, has been of the greatest assistance in taking Training Cadres of Officers and N.C.O.s, and we shall be very sorry indeed when he returns to the 2nd Battalion. We are much obliged to the 2nd Battalion for sending him to us.

The men are first class, of good physique, and very keen indeed to learn.

Everything is going very smoothly considering the difficulties inseparable from forming a Duplicate Unit, and all ranks are looking forward to giving a good account of themselves in camp at Wannock during the first two weeks in August.

Col. Pringle and everybody in the 1/7th Battalion have been most helpful in every way (often at very great inconvenience to themselves) and, to all of them, we say, "Thank you very much." Without you we could not possibly have made the considerable progress which we have already made."

### 1/8th BATTALION NOTES

IN a short space of time the old 8th Battalion has gone and in its place have risen two others. During this period we of the 1/8th Battalion passed and are still passing through a strenuous period. As a result of the enormous volume of work recently it is regretted that all contributions will, of necessity, be brief this issue.

Two Companies ("B" and "D") of the old Battalion were transferred to the new 2/8th Battalion and in their place we have raised another at Hounslow ("B" Company, Lieut. Pattison). These two Companies have been raised with the splendid assistance of "H.Q." Company in the case of the former, and "A" Company in the case of the latter. One cannot speak too highly of the work put in by the Officers, W.O.s, and N.C.O.s of these

two Companies, who were often working far into the night getting recruits sworn in and generally trying to sort some semblance of order out of apparent chaos.

Twelve Officers of the old 8th Battalion transferred to the 2/8th Battalion. These are being replaced as quickly as possible and we extend a warm welcome to 2/Lieuts. Kaines, Latham, Barr, and Roach who have recently been gazetted to the Battalion on first appointment. We hope that several more gentlemen will be gazetted to us before long.

We shall be in camp this year with the 2/8th Battalion for the first and probably the last time, so we hope that everything will go well. We wish to say that the heavy work of the last few months has been considerably lightened by the noble assistance rendered by the 41st Middlesex Company A.T.S., who are attached to Battalion Headquarters, and we extend our most sincere thanks to Mrs. Cookson, the Company Commander, and the members of the Company.

### "H.Q." COMPANY

The old order changes, and we still miss very much Major Ellis, but we wish him the best of luck with the 2/8th Battalion to which he has been transferred and hope that he will come and see us sometimes.

The unfortunate author of these paltry phrases belongs to the new order, and so is almost completely unacquainted with the stirring deeds which have no doubt been perpetrated by "H.Q." Company during the last few months. However, judging by the noise of the Band and Drums, the hoarseness of the R.S.M., and the amount of signalling equipment over which we have tripped, every one must have been exceedingly busy.

We feel that our Transport Section should be heartily congratulated, for by a clever series of strategical accidents they have managed to reduce the number of trucks on charge to one. We feel that now Lieut. K. T. V. Russell has assumed his old position as Transport Officer, and is trying his hand as a driver, there is every hope that we shall shortly have to return to the shore.

We hope to make a larger contribution in the next number but regret that our literary talent is at the moment diverted to filling in innumerable forms and returns with which the "Powers Above" are inundating us.

### "A" COMPANY

Recent events in the now old 8th Battalion history have naturally had their repercussions in the life of this Company. With the formation of the new Battalion new Companies have been laid down and a general reshuffle of Officers, N.C.O.s, and men has resulted.

We are particularly sorry to lose Lieut. Pattison and 2/Lieut. McFarlane. To the former, who has now taken over command of the new "D" Company (Feltham), we extend our best wishes for continued success in the new venture, whilst the latter, we trust, will be very happy in his new duties at Northolt.

Fortunately our severance is not complete and we shall look forward to seeing them both again in camp.

Of our W.O.s and N.C.O.s, C.S.M. Raynsford has gone to Feltham to take over the training of recruits there and he has been ably assisted in his task by the N.C.O.s lent to him by this Company.

Naturally during the early days of its formation the new Company entailed a certain amount of additional work for the staff at Hampton Hill, but our genius for organisation, Sergt.-Major Turton, has made it his personal affair to see that the change-over has been conducted with as little disruption to the work of this Company as possible, and everyone concerned has shouldered his responsibilities with the utmost goodwill which has greatly lightened the burden of the respective Company Commanders.

Whilst on the subject of work we would mention that on the night when it was generally supposed that conscription would be introduced, the staff at Hampton Hill, comprising the Company Commander, Subaltern Officers, P.S.I.s, C.Q.M.S., and Company Clerks, were all hard at work signing on the unusually heavy batch of recruits until 1.30 in the morning, and not a soul suggested leaving until the last man's papers had been duly signed by the Company Commander, which ably demonstrates the spirit of co-operation and good feeling which is such a notable feature in the life of this Company.

The training of the men in "A" Company is, of course, in the hands of our P.S.I., Sergt.-Major Turton, and it is very worthy of mention that the men have absorbed his careful instruction through their N.C.O. instructors with creditable speed. The training of the Company is going on unabated in spite of everything. The old members are on the Vickers guns and

already 75 per cent. of the Company have qualified in Part I on the 30 yards' range. The recruits, who are receiving their instructions direct from the P.S.I., are of a commendably high standard of fitness and intelligence and the smartness of their work fully reflects the capabilities of their instructor.

On Sunday, 11th June, a large party of recruits and trained men proceeded to Bisley by trucks and motor coach to practise on the ranges. Some who were receiving their "bleeding" on the open range distinguished themselves by their keenness and consistency, the others who comprised our teams for the "High Sheriff's" and "Young Soldiers' Cups, had a satisfactory practice and although the results of these competitions will be published after this article goes to print, we forecast plenty of keen competition from both our teams.

Regarding the subject of special training for N.C.O.s, we would mention that Cpls. Drabble and Matthews recently attended at Regent's Park and took a Course in Range-finding and Bren gun work respectively. Sergt. Armes spent an instructive fortnight at Netheravon and we are pleased to record that all three have benefited greatly from their experience. The latter appears to have had a particularly enjoyable time between Courses and has returned to Company H.Q. singing the praises of bowls, as he appears to have been the only member of the camp to have discovered the whereabouts of the necessary woods.

Turning to the lighter side of the Company's life, our Sports Club under the direction of 2/Lieut. McShane is now in full swing and we hope to do great things in the future at camp and elsewhere in this direction. The cricket team has played several matches and acquitted themselves well. On the 17th June the team sallied forth into Bushey Park to meet the challenge of a side brought down by Lieut. Reddy. The visitors won the toss and batted first. In the first over Cpl. Hill took two wickets, but following this encouraging start Lieut. Reddy's two sons settled down to a comfortable partnership and were mainly responsible for the handsome total of 178 all out. After an excellent tea provided for us by Mrs. Turton in the drill hall, we found we had 75 minutes in which to win the game. Once again Lieut. Reddy's sons played havoc with us, this time with the ball, and it was fortunate for us that 6.30 p.m. came when it did, leaving us with 65 on the board for 9 wickets, the result being a draw.



It is intended to enter our football team in the Richmond League for the forthcoming season, and our boxing and tug-of-war teams will soon be under training.

We extend a warm welcome to 2/Lieut. Kaines who has recently been gazetted to the Battalion on first appointment and posted to this Company and we hope that he will be very happy with us.

#### "B" COMPANY

Following on the doubling of the Territorial Army a new Company was formed at Hounslow under the command of Lieut. J. A. Hamilton.

"B" Company drills in the hall of St. Stephen's Church and we are very much better off than some others as we are next door to "H.Q." Company.

We are up to establishment and have close on 100 men on parade twice a week, while our 35 machine gunners posted from "C" Company appear on Tuesdays and Thursdays at Battalion Headquarters.

A Cadre Course of 14 men from the Company parade under the R.S.M. on Mondays and Wednesdays, and soon we hope they will become very efficient and valuable instructors.

We welcome 2/Lieut. Barr who has recently been gazetted to the Battalion on first appointment, and C.S.M. Hicks as P.S.I., and we trust that their stay with us may be long and useful.

Being a very new Company such things as sports have not yet materialised, but under 2/Lieut. Barr as Sports Officer we are going to show the other Companies something good at camp.

As, doubtless, all other Companies are doing, we apologise for our very brief contribution this time.

#### "C" COMPANY

Many things have happened since our last notes appeared. We have had many changes and we regret losing our Company Commander, Capt. T. L. Marks, who has now taken over command of "H.Q." Company. We wish him luck in his new command and hope that the variation will not bewilder him too much.

Capt. Marks has served with this Company almost continuously for the last ten years, and he first took command in 1931 while still a 2/Lieutenant.

Another loss is our P.S.I., C.S.M. Jones, who has been appointed as Lieut. and Q.M. of the new 2/7th Battalion, and although we are extremely sorry he has gone we know that he will prove himself a true "Die-Hard" and do well.

2/Lieut. Pillivant has been posted to the new "D" Company (Feltham) and we know he will work for them as hard as he worked for us. His duties included that of Company M.T. Officer and this duty he fulfilled very well.

Lieut. C. W. Summers, who has been with this Company for some time, has taken over command, and we have been fortunate enough to have posted to us C.S.M. Trestain as our P.S.I. After a bad start in their quarters we hope C.S.M. Trestain and Mrs. Trestain will settle down comfortably and remain with us for a long time.

Expansion looms large in the mind of every Territorial these days, and many changes have, of necessity, been made, and, as we feel sure that they will appear in detail elsewhere, we will deal only with matters affecting this Company.

There has been a tremendous influx of recruits and at one time we were 180 strong, but several members were posted to the two new Companies "B" and "D." Our old Hounslow Platoon went with the batch and although their stay with us was short, they did a lot of good for the Company for which they have our deepest thanks.

The recruits have been divided into training Squads as follows:

Albuhera Squad—Squad Commander, C.S.M. Browning.

St. Julien Squad—Squad Commander, Sergt. Shrieves.

Frezenberg Squad—Squad Commander, Sergt. Pearce.

Langemarck Squad—Squad Commander, L/Sergt. Dunn.

There are about 14 men in each Squad and competition is keen. In the near future competitions for Squad drill, arms drill, and musketry will take place to decide who are the winners of the Recruits' Cup for 1938/39.

We assisted the Staines National Service Committee in a recruiting drive recently and from what we can gather the parade proved a great success. A demonstration of an M.G. Section getting into action was given on the Lammars, at which there was an audience of some 300 people. The demonstration was well

done and we congratulate heartily Sergt. Pearce and his Squad.

As we feel space will be precious in this issue of THE DIE-HARDS we will close with thanking Mrs. Lomer, O.C. 2nd Middlesex Company, A.T.S., for the work the members have put in at the drill hall, trying to make it a better and brighter place.

#### 2/8th BATTALION NOTES

WE are relying upon the kindness of the Editor to find space in the Journal for this, our first contribution. Within a very short space of time we have been born and are already very much alive, and we must record our appreciation of the assistance given by our parent Battalion, the old 8th Battalion and now the 1/8th Battalion, who have helped us to get going. We are starting life with a number of their Officers and N.C.O.s, now transferred to our strength, and thus we consider that we have been well and truly launched.

Our Battalion Headquarters at present are with the 1/8th Battalion at Hounslow, but we are moving to the Manor House at Northolt on or about the 10th July, which has been taken for our new Headquarters. Ultimately we hope to see an imposing new drill hall spring up on this site, which is an admirable and most suitable one. In the meantime two large hutments are being erected in the grounds.

Lieut.-Col. R. D. Sherbrooke-Walker, who will be well known to many of our readers on account of his former service in the 8th Battalion, has come to us as Commanding Officer, and we wish him a long and successful command. Another Officer who has "come back" is Capt. E. C. K. Sadler who has been appointed Adjutant.

New Companies have been formed at Northolt ("H.Q." Company, Lieut. Elliott), Hayes End ("A" Company, Lieut. Hall), Wealdstone ("C" Company, Capt. Miskin), while "B" Company (Capt. Blair), Ealing, and "D" Company (Capt. Hartley), Uxbridge, both of the old 8th Battalion, complete our establishment.

Until drill halls are provided, our newly-formed Companies are carrying out their training at Schools, where large class rooms become drill halls and playgrounds become parade grounds on two nights every week. Small houses have been hired for Company

Offices, Stores, etc. In spite of labouring under enormous difficulties, training is progressing well and all ranks are pulling their weight and showing great enthusiasm.

Except for Band and Drums, we have now stopped recruiting and we hope to go to camp at Dibgate in July over 600 strong. Drill, rifle exercises, lectures, visual training, driving instruction, and recreation are now in full swing in the recruit Companies, and the issue of clothing and equipment will, we hope, soon be completed, but we hope our friends at Roxeth are keeping in touch with Father Time.

It will be a great boon to us to spend our first camp alongside our parent Battalion, and the opportunity thus afforded for social intercourse should cement a close co-operation and good comradeship for the future and, we hope, keen rivalry in sporting events.

We take off our hats to the girls in khaki for the clerical assistance they are giving us and it is rumoured they may be coming to camp, so we shall have to be prepared to "face powder."

We must not close our contribution without a word of welcome to our new Quartermaster, Lieut. W. C. Fletcher, late R.Q.M.S. of the 2nd Battalion, and to R.S.M. Ambrose who formerly served with The Buffs, also to Sergt. Cassaday, late of the Gordon Highlanders, who has been posted to us as a P.S.I.

We had Sergt. Knight of the 2nd Battalion lent to us for three months. He proved a great help and worked extremely hard in raising an organising "H.Q." Company.

To be well clothed, well fed, and well trained is to be on the high road to efficiency, and with the experienced Officers, W.O.s, and N.C.O.s at our disposal, and the excellent material in other ranks enlisted, we hope very soon to become a further credit to the Regiment and worthy to share the title "Die-Hards" with our Regular and Territorial brothers of other Battalions.

#### "A" COMPANY

It has been remarked that the more famous the man, the more insignificant his birthplace. We, of "A" Company, at Hayes End, feel no need of catchwords or trite sayings to help us into print for the first time for, in spite of the fact that our own birthplace was an eerie, ill-lit house in Hayes End, modesty will not prevent our claiming to be already famous. We blow no trumpets of our own, we ask no one to accept us, but, like a personage known to us all, we feel that a place in the sun is



assured to us, though we by no means admit (unlike the same personage) that it is due to Providence or Divine Graciousness. It is due to the work, and the very hard work in most cases, of members of "D" Company at Uxbridge. We would like to acknowledge our indebtedness here and to offer our very sincere thanks to all those who toiled so hard for us, particularly C.S.M. Bell, Serjts. Bowden, Woodhouse, and Jones, Cpl. Graham, and the 12th Middlesex Company A.T.S. of Uxbridge, who all gave up so much time to us at Hayes End.

With a war strength Company of recruits our training has, of course, been purely elementary and, in spite of the fact of its admitted boredom, it has been gratifying to see how keen our men have shown themselves, both to learn what they have been taught and what they later hope to be taught. Our average parade attendance has been 80 other ranks. So keen are they that we constantly fear that the absence of a drill hall of our own, and of essential equipment and facilities for social occasions, may damp their ardour. We hope not, but we nevertheless beg those in authority to give us what we require to defend our country.

Lieut. T. A. Hall of the Royal Norfolk Regiment, who has been attached to "D" Company and whom we have long considered one of us, and who, we understand, very soon *will* be one of us, has taken over command of the new Company. We wish him good luck in his command of "A" Company and hope that he will never regret his decision to join the "Die-Hards."

2/Lieut. P. A. Warren of "D" Company has been posted to us, and Lieut. Warrell, now on the Reserve of Officers, is attached to us for training.

We are pleased to welcome our new P.S.I., Sergt.-Major Cassaday, late of the Gordon Highlanders, whose military career began 25 years ago. He was wounded twice, in 1916 and 1917, captured in 1918, escaped and was unfortunately recaptured on the Swiss Frontier soon after. In 1923 he went to the Gold Coast Regiment and served with distinction until 1926, when he returned to the "Gordons." Since then the Army has been a memory only. Now he returns to harness again, this time with the Middlesex, where we hope his stay will prove a happier and securer one.

A week ago "D" Company invited us to a darts match and, although we were unable to

win, the result as published in a local newspaper was, to say the least, a little inaccurate. We have decided, reluctantly, since "D" Company were our hosts, to drop our action, already in the hands of our solicitors, of gross misrepresentation. We shall win next time.

At camp this year practically every member of the Company hopes to compete in the sports—a tug-of-war team of thirty-odd men should prove a difficult proposition for any Company—and we shall then be given an opportunity to show (before witnesses) what "A" Company has done and can do.

A Savings Club has been started and proved a great success, except in the case of one or two men who have been transferred to Northolt and have imagined that their savings are now lost and gone forever.

Will other Companies who would care to meet us, either for darts or cricket, please communicate with our P.S.I., and those who propose to take part in the sports in camp buy new and faster running shoes?

#### "C" COMPANY

Reading the history of the Armed Forces of England, one comes across instances of Regiments having been raised in strange or unusual places and circumstances. When word went forth to double the T.A., "C" Company of the 2/8th Battalion The Middlesex Regiment saw the light of day in a butcher's shop at Wealdstone. Quite appropriate from one point of view, but we would rather not dwell on that. Five weeks later we were up to strength.

In this shop-cum-recruiting office, Capt. Miskin, our Company Commander, assisted by C.Q.M.S. Evans, Cpl. Hibberd, and L/Cpl. Herbert, put in a tremendous amount of work (in Capt Miskin's case, every night of the week). C.S.M. Rowe also lent valuable assistance in the early days.

Meanwhile Sergt. Castle was attending to the training of the recruits at a school some ten minutes' walk from the office. Steadily our numbers grew, and we were lucky to count among them men who had had previous service in the Regular and Territorial Armies, O.T.C., and Cadet Corps. These, in some cases, were able to assist Sergt. Castle in the instruction.

We welcome Sergt. Crump from "B" Company as our P.S.I., and congratulate him on his appointment. We feel we have an excellent Company H.Q. and with the material

at our disposal are confident that "C" Company will soon rank as one of the most efficient Companies in the T.A.

Judging from the returns we are expecting an excellent attendance at Annual Training; all but a few are to do the full 15 days.

We were fortunate in having our drill hall near that of the 9th Battalion at Wealdstone, who kindly allowed us to borrow all their available rifles and this, together with the two Vickers guns lent by "B" Company, has permitted us to reach, on the one hand, quite a fair standard in arms drill, and on the other, to instil in the men enthusiasm for the Vickers.

Then we said good-bye to our butcher's shop and moved to a disused dairy, and here we are where, but a few short weeks ago, echoed the crash of milk churns. Our Company Office is reached by an almost vertical staircase and by performing a graceful (with practice) half loop and roll at the top. C.S.M. Crump one evening descended rather more quickly than intended and now he treads on all the steps—not just the top one. Ultimately we expect to take over the 9th Battalion's drill hall and naturally things will be far more comfortable and convenient than at present, but we shall have some interesting times to look back on in the days to come.

BULL AND COW.

#### "D" COMPANY

Since the 1st June we have been transferred to the new Battalion and are now "D" Company, 2/8th Battalion.

Recruiting is naturally the first point that comes to mind when writing the Company's notes. While not only completing our own Company, we have recruited for "A" Company (Hayes End) and "H.Q." Company (Northolt), and Sections have helped to recruit for the Oxford and Bucks. Light Infantry, and the local Council A.R.P. It has been hard work for everybody, but owing to our indispensable P.S.I., Sergt.-Major Bell, and other willing helpers, organisation has quickly appeared out of what seemed complete chaos. While extending a hearty welcome to all newcomers to the Company, we must, at the same time, wish Officers, N.C.O.s, and men, whom we are unfortunately losing to other Companies, much success, with the hope that we shall have the pleasure of seeing them in the near future in social or other activities.

In spite of the heavy work entailed in re-

cruiting, our M.G. training has proceeded successfully and at last a light appears out of what seemed at first complete darkness. The long evenings have allowed us to do some of our training in the open which, whilst adding interest to our work, is also more instructive. We are also lucky in that two of our Officers, Capt. Hartley and 2/Lieut. Ellis, and one N.C.O., L/Cpl. Dell, have returned to us from a two-week M.G. Course at Netheravon, and we are sure that what they have learned there will be of great assistance to us. Again we are fortunate to have the use of the 30-yard range at the R.A.F. Camp, Hillingdon, on several Sundays, and so we are able to see the gun in action and to fire it ourselves.

Owing to our training and recruiting the social side of the Company seems to have taken rather a back seat but, nevertheless, our cricket team has again come to the fore, and while having a fair amount of local fixtures at the same time challenges other Companies.

We close especially looking forward to camp this year, as we fear this may be our last with the Battalion south of the road.

### 9th BATTALION NOTES

(60TH SEARCHLIGHT REGIMENT)

IN the old days, and by these we mean the not so very far off infantry days, it was comparatively easy to write Battalion notes for the Regimental Journal, but now, in this age of light, it is extremely difficult to turn the beam on the activities of the Battalion as a whole, largely because Companies have become, by the new role allotted to them, of a rather retiring and independent nature.

We well know that it is usual in writing Territorial notes for the Journal that most people commence with a grumble at having to set pen to paper, but with us the scribe is willing, and, should you marvel at the paucity of his effort, it is not due to inert slothfulness but rather to that lack of communication between Companies similar to three separate and distinct corners of a very dark part of darkest Africa.

Whitsun was spent under canvas by two of our three Companies and, according to reports, much has been learnt in the art of illuminating the sky, and we must deny that any of the "Q" Captains so far have reported sick with house-



maid's knee, although when we go out on embodiment on the 13th August (No. 430 Company on the 10th September), it would not surprise us if they all did, knowing their duties as we do.

A gentleman from the *Willesden Chronicle* has been lingering here on many evenings, and the results of his labours may be seen in that paper (one cartoon per week), entitled "Stars of the 9th," or some such title, and under this celestial group are to be found the Commanding Officer, the Adjutant, members of the Permanent Staff, and "Scottie."

We noticed this evening that a fleet of motor cycles had arrived to take up room in our already overcrowded stores, and before long, no doubt, we will rival the Corps of Signals at Olympia. However, before commencing this, it is a comforting thought that each Company has a Medical Officer on its establishment.

The number of Officers in the Battalion is steadily increasing, so much so that it is too much to ask the Editor to allow us the space to refer to them individually. However, we welcome them all to the Battalion and have no doubt that before long their names will be figuring prominently in the Company notes.

The work which has to be done before we are called up is an appalling thought, and even writers of *THE DIE-HARDS* notes have a job to do, so we must leave our readers to look out, we hope, for a more comprehensive record of our doings in the next issue.

Finally, we have a very sad note to sound, for Col. A. H. Bindloss, who relinquished command of the Battalion in 1909, died just a fortnight ago, and last week the very sudden and unexpected death of our Honorary Colonel, Col. W. P. Hewett, came as a great shock, especially to those who had the privilege of serving under him both during and after the War. We will say no more here for memoirs of these ex-Commanding Officers will, we hope, appear in this issue of the Journal.

#### NO. 429 SEARCHLIGHT COMPANY

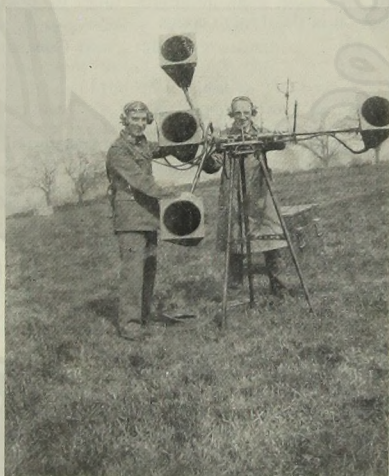
Training has proceeded very much apace since our last notes were written. Six detachments with reserves and three new detachments in the process of formation was the position then; now the new Company has been organised into four Sections and the full complement of 24 detachments has come into being.

This was made possible by the inrush of recruits at the last sub-crisis, which brought

us up to and over full strength, and although all these newcomers have not yet become fully-fledged geni of the lamp they are settling down very nicely to the work with commendable keenness.



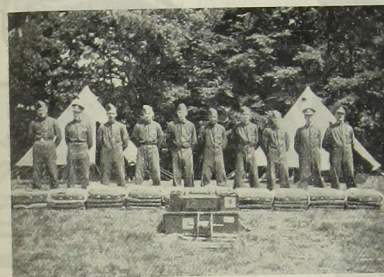
Welcome though this increase in numbers was, it was not without its thorns. The longest and prickliest of these was the question of accommodation. Two into one won't go as every schoolboy knows, but by parading the trained detachments on Tuesday evenings and the semi-trained on Thursday evenings this difficulty was overcome.



During April and May night runs have been the order of the day—or rather night—two detachments going out to local sites each parade night. These runs have been very well attended and have proved popular judging

by the late return to the drill hall on more than one occasion. As a consequence more than one cook has been accused of burning the midnight soup.

Manning drill has been carried out each Sunday morning, and in addition two or three detachments have been out each week-end for camp. The great event has been the Whitsun camp when Company Headquarters and the Detachment Commanders, fledged and embryo, with lights moved out under canvas. In



the evenings aircraft was flying and the detachments did some excellent work in picking up the target and following it.

Perhaps the two most noteworthy items of this camp, however, were that for the first time we had an Officers' Mess running, and a canteen. The inauguration of the Mess happened to coincide with a birthday and both events were suitably celebrated.

At the moment the question of tradesmen is very much to the fore and Section Commanders may be seen compiling lists of candidates to appear before the Trade Testing Boards that sit almost nightly. When these results have come in we shall be all set for the big event—embodiment.

#### NO. 430 SEARCHLIGHT COMPANY

Training, including week-end camps, has proceeded very satisfactorily during the period, and on the whole we have been fortunate in the weather experienced.

Two Trade Testing Boards have been held, and it is a matter for congratulation that a high percentage of those presenting themselves for examination as S.L.O.s passed the test successfully.

Recruiting is proceeding well and, at the time of going to press, the Company has passed its peace establishment.

There have been no outstanding events, but the Company has recently found a detachment to take part in a local A.R.P. display.

We are looking forward to our period of embodiment from 10th September to 8th October with confidence, and feel that by that time we shall have reached such a standard that we shall be able to obtain the fullest benefit from the training in camp, although we are told that the training grant is running short and, therefore, we shall not be able to have the number of week-end camps that we had hoped.

We extend welcome to 2/Lieuts. Blair, Dowlen, and Buckland-Nicks on being recently gazetted and posted to No. 430 Company, also to Major Chapman, who has been appointed Administrative Officer. Major Chapman, who has just retired from the Regular Army after commanding a Battery of Field Artillery, attended a camp at Myrtle Grove with the Battalion in 1931 and, therefore, is not a complete stranger.

We also offer our heartiest congratulations to 2/Lieut. Sneath on his engagement, and wish him and his fiancée long life and prosperity.

#### NO. 431 COMPANY

So many things have happened since we last went into print it is difficult to know where to start on this quarter.

Every week-end since Easter has been spent on Searchlight Training at Potter's Crouch near St. Albans, and as a result of this great strides have been made in the Company's Training progress.

We are up to Establishment in trained Engine Hands and Searchlight Operators, and there is a large number in addition who have passed the Trade Tests for both these branches.

Nearly all of our trades' vacancies are filled and those that remain will almost certainly be filled at the next test.

The efficiency of the men is almost entirely due to the week-end training, as the experience gained has been very valuable to all ranks and has given everybody great confidence in themselves.

Searchlight Training is not the only thing we have been learning at week-ends. Detachment sites are all on or near farms and great interest has been shown in farm work, so much



so that on one particular farm the pigs got to know a certain Sergeant so well that they came running at his whistle. The usual rude remarks were passed regarding "friends," but we prefer to believe the one about re-incarnation.

On 13th August we are going to St. Neots for the month's training provided for by Parliament. One or two visits have been made to the area and judging by appearances a very pleasant month will be spent by all, but perhaps we shall be in a better position to discuss this on our return. Great preparations are being made for sports, etc., and there is quite a lot of talk about fishing. There is a river quite near which is reputed to be a very good spot. Previous Companies have made some very good "bags." We offer our heartiest congratulations to Major B. L. Sutcliffe on attaining his majority, and Capt. J. G. H. Canning on his promotion. We welcome to the Company 2/Lieuts. Dillon, Greyburn, Hodge, and Hesketh on their first posting.

SPOTTER.

COL. W. P. HEWETT, T.D.

(Honorary Colonel, 9th Battalion The Middlesex Regiment)

The Officers and Old Comrades of the 9th Battalion who represented it at the Memorial Service for Lieut.-Col. Bindloss on 3rd July, had barely left the Church when the news came to them of the terribly sudden death of their Honorary Colonel, Col. W. P. Hewett ("Henry" to his many friends). The shock was the greater as Col. Hewett at the age of 63 was apparently the picture of robust health and strength, and full of life, energy, and laughter. He was commissioned to the old 9th Middlesex Rifle Volunteers in 1897, and took over command of the Battalion from Col. Blumfeld in March, 1918, when the Battalion was on active service in Mesopotamia. After the successful conclusion of the siege of Nedjif, when the Battalion was moved up to Akab and things were quiet, Hewett went home on leave and so had the bad luck to miss the final phase of the campaign in October, 1918. On the other hand the rather heart-breaking task of C.O. of the reformed 9th, and the making of it into a trained Unit out of the Cadre of the War-time Battalion, fell upon his shoulders. He put his usual thoroughness into the job, and when he handed over the command to

Col. Beach, in 1922, the Unit was well up to the standard of a good Territorial Battalion.

From the end of the War until the day of his death Hewett was a hard-working member of the County of Middlesex Territorial Army and Air Force Association, and it may well be that the work involved during the last two years as Chairman of the Recruiting Committee, in addition to his work as senior partner in a firm of city solicitors, had, all unknown to himself, undermined his health after a severe attack of influenza in the early part of the year. From February, 1937, Hewett had been Honorary Colonel of the 9th Battalion, and all ranks, both serving soldiers and Old Comrades, will miss his cheery presence and infectious laugh. Those of us who are left from the old days feel they have lost a good friend and comrade, and that some of the *joie de vivre* went out of their lives with his passing.

#### LIEUT.-COL. A. H. BINDLOSS

To the young Territorial soldier of to-day, any reference to the Volunteers of the early nineties is like going back to bows and arrows, but to-day's Territorial Army is none the less built on a rock, and that rock is the Volunteer Force born in mid-Victorian days under the threat of invasion by Napoleon III, and recreated in 1908 to become the Territorial Army. The few surviving Officers of the 9th Battalion who were commissioned to the little four Company Unit (in the days of the eight Company Battalions), then known as the 9th Middlesex Rifle Volunteers (Harrow Rifles), will ever cherish the memory of the big, upstanding, fair-haired, blue-eyed senior subaltern, full of fiery energy and enthusiasm, Harold Bindloss. He was gazetted to the Battalion in 1891, and in spite of the demands on his time daily and nightly—he was M.O. to the Harrow School and had a big practice outside—he was largely instrumental in keeping the local Battalion on its feet and in its final merging into the 5th West Middlesex Rifle Volunteers in 1897. So that his ambition to see the little Unit become a big one was realised when the four Company Units were abolished by the War Office and became part of the full-sized Battalions of those days. To him and to his brother Officers it was a great day when the command of the 5th was given to Lieut.-Col. Henry Harris, who up till then had been Major Commanding the 9th Middlesex R.V. From that day the 5th never looked back, and

when the Territorial Force was created and the 5th West Middlesex Rifle Volunteers became the 9th Battalion The Middlesex Regiment ("Die-Hards"), Bindloss threw himself whole-heartedly into his work as senior Major. In 1904, Col. Harris had given up command of the 5th West Middlesex, having successfully fused the old 9th into it, and the command devolved upon Major P. J. Middleton, Bindloss being unable to give the necessary time to the job. Col. Middleton, towards the end of his tenure of command, had the task of converting the 5th, who were a volunteer Battalion of the 60th Rifles (K.R.R.C.), into a line Battalion, which he most successfully accomplished, and in 1908, after the first training of the Battalion as line-men instead of riflemen, handed over to Bindloss, who determined to find the necessary time demanded of a Territorial C.O. This he did for one year only—the strain on him to get through his professional work and the soldiering was too great, and at the end of 1909 he

reluctantly gave up his command and his beloved soldiering.

In August, 1914, nothing could hold him back. Unable to get an infantry job, he offered his services as a subaltern in the R.A.M.C., and as such this ex-Lieut.-Colonel went through four years in France, coming out alive but battered, and a Major R.A.M.C. Undoubtedly those four years, though he had the good luck whilst mainly in the front line never to be hit, shattered his robust frame, and the tragic death of his only daughter some years later broke his heart, though his ardent spirit survived and he did some ten years of self-sacrificing work at the Health Ministry and with the Church Army. To his old friends and comrades his passing was no surprise, but to them his memory will ever be green, whilst life survives, as one who threw himself whole-heartedly into what he regarded as his duty, as a staunch friend and comrade and a deeply religious man in the fullest sense of the word.



## REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION NOTES

### PROCEEDINGS OF A MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

HELD AT THE HEADQUARTERS, LONDON  
RECRUITING ZONE, WHITEHALL

ON 26TH APRIL, 1939

*Present.* Col. M. Browne, M.C. (in the chair), Col. E. E. F. Baker, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., Lieut.-Col. W. W. Jefferd, Lieut.-Col. C. P. Rooke, D.S.O., Lieut.-Col. W. H. Samuel, Major H. Phillips, M.C., Major N. H. B. Lyon, M.C., Capt. F. A. L. Lawrence, Lieut. W. H. P. Allen, R.S.M. P. Newman, R.S.M. R. Parsler, R.Q.M.S. C. Goodall, Mr. J. E. Whalley, Mr. J. Wilcockson, and Mr. E. Crouch.

Apologies were received from Col. G. L. Brown, D.S.O., and Col. A. M. O. Anwyl Passingham, O.B.E., D.L., for absence.

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

2. *Secretary's Report.* The Secretary's report for the quarter ended 31st March, 1939, was read and passed. It was proposed by Col. Samuel and seconded by R.S.M. Parsler that the sum of £100 be allocated to the relief of necessitous cases during the ensuing quarter. (Carried.)

3. *Election of Chairman.* On the motion of Col. Samuel, seconded by Col. Jefferd, Col. M. Browne was re-elected Chairman of the Committee for the next twelve months. (Carried.)

4. *Subscriptions of New Battalions.* It was proposed by Col. Baker, and seconded by Col. Rooke, that Commanding Officers of any Battalion of the Regiment formed for, or during, a war, should be asked by the O.C. Training Centre to make an effort to collect subscriptions from their Battalions for the Association. The Chairman undertook to draw up a letter on the subject for circulation to the Committee for their approval at the next meeting.

5. *Mobilisation Arrangements.* A resolution which had been drawn up detailing the action to be taken by the Secretary in the event of Mobilisation being ordered was discussed and some amendments to it were proposed. It was decided that the Chairman, in conjunction with

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Gipsy Corner, Victoria Road,  
Acton, W.3

143 Bow Road, E.3

52a Deptford Bridge, S.E.8

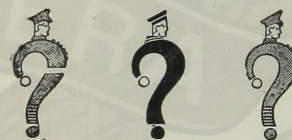
48-56 Station Road, Wood Green,  
N.22

the O.C. Depot and the Secretary, should draft the resolution embodying these amendments and circulate it to the Committee for approval at the next meeting and that in case of Mobilisation being ordered before the date fixed for the next meeting, the Secretary should act in accordance with the new resolution. (Carried.)

6. *Legacy.* Capt. H. E. Foster. It was proposed by Lieut.-Col. Jefferd and seconded by Major Phillips that the generous legacy of £500 bequeathed to the Association "for general purposes" by the late Capt. H. E. Foster be paid into the Cottage Homes Fund in the first instance and then transferred into the Association General Fund as part repayment of the money spent by the Association on the building of the two new Cottage Homes. (Carried.)

7. *Case of Distress.* The particulars of a case of distress were brought to the notice of the Committee and on the motion of R.S.M. Newman, seconded by R.S.M. Parsler, the Secretary was instructed to write to various charity organisations likely to be able to assist and to report the result of his enquiries to the next meeting. (Carried.)

8. *Vote of Thanks.* A vote of thanks was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Major Phillips, and carried unanimously, to Col. Jefferd and Capt. Whinney for their work on the Committee as members. The former on relinquishing command of the 2nd Battalion and retiring to New Zealand, the latter on his resignation from the Committee after five years as a member.



### ADVICE TO SERVING MEN FROM A PORTER AT A BLOCK OF FLATS

**SPEAKING** at the 53rd Annual General Meeting of the National Association an ex-Warrant Officer, Royal Air Force, said that it does give confidence to serving men to know that there are people in business and engaged in

public work, not only in London but all over the country, who are doing their best to help ex-Service men to obtain employment. He continued:

"With regard to my own experience, I had the pleasure of being the first man to join the Royal Flying Corps or sign an attestation paper. Since my discharge, after 24 years' service, I have found that the Association is still doing its utmost for ex-Service men. I was discharged five years ago and, with the splendid record given me by the Officer Commanding Records, I was fortunate enough not to go on to the unemployment list. I arrived at the Association offices at 9 o'clock on the same morning that I received my discharge from the Air Force. At 10 o'clock I was in employment, thanks to the Association, and I am still in the same job.

"I find that a great many ex-Service men think that the wages they are offered are not enough. I served for 24 years in the Royal Flying Corps and the Royal Air Force, and for 18 years of that time was a Warrant Officer (First Class), and I knew that on my discharge I had to take what was going and try to get something better if I was not satisfied. I started in my job at £2 5s. od. a week (at the present time I get about £6 a week), but I was satisfied. I did as I was told and I realised that there was a little dirty work to be done now and again, in the way of cleaning up. One finds quite a number of ex-senior N.C.O.s do not like the idea of doing it. They are not the men that such people as managers of blocks of flats or hotels want. No doubt my experience in the Air Force taught me that there were certain little jobs which one had to look after. In civil life one cannot give orders in the same way as one can in the Services, but there are ways and means of getting men to work without ordering them about. Several men from the Association have come to me, wanting work and saying they had not had any work for many months, and I have offered them jobs at £2 10s. od. a week, but they would not take them. I know it must be very trying to the job-finders of the Association to send people to different places seeking employment and to be told by the prospective employers that the men are not suitable, owing to the wages they can afford to offer the men.

"I have also found that a number of men commute their pensions which, I think, is a very unwise thing for any ex-Service pensioner to do. Time after time men seeking employment have told me that they have done 21, 23, or 25 years' service and got a reasonable



pension—probably 25s. to 30s.—and have commuted it for some reason, thinking that they were going to make a matter of a few hundred pounds straight away; they have lost practically all their pension and, therefore, do not reap any benefit from the time they spent in the Service.

"I think that ex-Service men who intend to try to obtain employment in hotels or blocks of flats will find it very useful to have a slight knowledge of any foreign language and to be able to do such things as put in a new fuse and put a washer on a tap; that saves a great deal of inconvenience in blocks of flats and prevents it being necessary to call in an electrician or plumber from outside, who may not be available on Sundays or holidays. It is only a simple matter, but it is helpful when a man can do such a thing and it pleases the manager."

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

### 3rd BATTALION DINNER

ON 6th May, at the Goat and Compasses Hotel, Euston Road, London, 68 of the old 3rd Battalion assembled for their Annual Dinner, and a very enjoyable evening was spent.

Before the assembly the following telegram was sent to the King's Secretary, Buckingham Palace. "The 3rd Battalion Middlesex Regiment Old Comrades assembled on the 6th May, at the Goat and Compasses Hotel, Euston Road, for their Reunion Dinner offer their humble duty to the King and God-speed to their Majesties on their journey to Canada." The following reply was received during the dinner. "Please convey to the members of the 3rd Battalion Middlesex Regiment Old Comrades' Association, dining together this evening, the sincere thanks of the King and Queen for their kind and loyal message of good wishes. Private Secretary."

On the toast "The King" it was noted that the vocal chords of all were in good trim and made one wonder at the good quality of the tea that must have been brewed for the occasion. On the toast "The Regiment" the whole company must again have appreciated that brew by the way they let themselves go with "Success to the Old 'Die-Hards.'"

In a few well spoken words, as he invariably puts over, Col. Miller (in the chair) voiced the thanks of the company to the Secretary, and in reply the Secretary thanked the Chairman and the company for the support they have always given him.

Members and their wives were present as follows: Col. Miller and Drew, Majors Lyon, Phillips, Heywood, and Joyce, Major and Mrs. Carvell, Capt. Johnson and Perkins, Mr. and Mrs. Blackman, Messrs. Whiting, Gibson, Clelland, Baldry, Horner, Easter, Roots, Flawith, Kerswill, Furniss, Bevis, Simpson, King, Stannett, Hollingsworth, Sullivan, Northam, Mitchell, Mitchell (jun.), Duncan, and Roffee, Mr. and Miss Pearson, Messrs. Adams, Harrison, Holmes, Lowe, Greene, Ladd, Q.M.S. Finch, Messrs. Danes and Cox, Mrs. Bishop, Mr. Bird, and Miss Smart.

We still have room for members of the old 3rd Battalion and any who served in the Battalion, at any time, can receive particulars from Mr. G. W. Kerswill, The Barracks, Mill Hill.

### 4th BATTALION REUNION DINNER

THE Fourth Annual Dinner was held at the Allenby Club on the 27th May, and was attended by 40 members, the President, Col. Anwyl Passingham, was unable to attend, but our Vice-President, Lieut.-Col. Wollocombe, was a very able deputy.

The dinner was honoured by the visit of General C. R. Simpson, C.B., the first Commanding Officer of the Battalion, who presented a Silver Bugle to the branch, which was given to Col. Wollocombe by the Chairman, Mr. Donoghue, for safe keeping at the Regimental Depot at Mill Hill.

A speech was made by General Simpson who said he presented the bugle to the Battalion for the C.O.s bugler and hoped that if ever the Battalion was raised again that the bugle would be returned to the Battalion. He also brought memories to the members present as the Commanding Officer and as the Brigadier at Aldershot in 1909-1911.

Our Vice-President, Col. Wollocombe, also spoke of the old days, as did the Chairman, Mr. Donoghue, and Capt. Perkins.



[Photo by E. Sharp, 221 Westminster Bridge Road, London]

3rd BATTALION DINNER



We were very pleased to see Mr. Smith and Mr. Murphy, again doing the long journey from Leeds. They have nobly supported us at all our dinners, also Capt. Stannett, Messrs. Coldicott, Hopwood, Pearce, Crowley, Cowper, R.S.M. Newman, and many others. Fuller and Gray with Archer kept us alive about the football team with Harigan, so the old spirit still lives again.

We hope to have our next dinner at Mill Hill, and further particulars will be published in due course.

A.T.F.

## 2/10th BATTALION MEMORIAL TO BRIG-GENERAL V. L. N. PEARSON, D.S.O.

ON Sunday, 21st May, 1939, after Church Parade at the Depot, Old Comrades of the 2/10th Middlesex Regiment made a presentation to the 1st Battalion of a Silver Drum in memory of Brig-General V. L. N. Pearson.

About 120 Officers and men of the 2/10th Battalion were present on the Parade, as well as the Depot Staff and recruits. The Drum was presented, in the first instance, to Mrs. Pearson, who was present with her son. Major C. Jarrett, D.S.O., T.D., in making the presentation said:

"We are assembled here to-day to do honour to a gallant soldier and a great gentleman. General Pearson, who died last January, commanded the 2/10th Battalion of the Regiment from the summer of 1916 in Egypt and Palestine, and we, old members of that Battalion, served under him also when he commanded our Brigade and our Division. We were proud to serve under him and we wished to show our appreciation by some gift to the Regiment.

"It seemed to us that the most appropriate form this could take would be a drum. Drums and the Middlesex Regiment are very closely associated in history and we are proud that our own Battalion has been privileged to add two battle honours to those which are gloriously inscribed thereon.

"I will now ask Mrs. Pearson to present this Drum to the Regiment on behalf of the 2/10th Branch of The Middlesex Regimental Association."

Mrs. Pearson handed the Drum to Col. M. Browne, M.C., who received it on behalf of the 1st Battalion, and said:

"I am deeply honoured at having been chosen to accept this Drum on behalf of Lieut.-Col. Newnham and all ranks of the 1st Battalion The Middlesex Regiment.

"It is a memorial to Brig-General Pearson who commanded the 1st Battalion from 1928 to 1932, and was conspicuous throughout his service for his devotion to the Regiment and to Military Duty. I feel confident that whenever this Drum shall beat it will be an inspiration for, and a call to, loyal service to all ranks in the 1st Battalion.

"I can imagine no better memorial to this Officer, for Brig-General Pearson himself displayed in an outstanding manner those qualities this Drum will call forth."

Mrs. Pearson then thanked the members of the 2/10th Battalion for the Drum and, accompanied by her son, inspected the Old Comrades.

## DRUMS AND DRUMMERS IN THE BRITISH ARMY

By R. MAURICE HILL

THE drum is said to have been introduced into this country by the Crusaders, who brought back drums captured from the Saracens as souvenirs of their campaigns in the Holy Land. Certainly no other instrument in the whole band is more closely connected with the British Army's long history, for the commissions issued to Colonels authorising them to raise regiments in the early days of our Regular Army invariably instructed them to obtain the required number of recruits "by beat of drum." The drums of the British Army have been heard in every part of the world, and many interesting legends, songs, and stories have been woven round the men or boys who played them. One of Rudyard Kipling's best stories, "Drums of the Fore and Aft," deals with two drummer boys of the Victorian era, and the oldest regimental march in the British Army—that of the old First Foot, The Royal Scots—is an old song called "Dumbarton's Drums."

When new Colours are presented to a regiment they are invariably placed upon an altar of stacked drums. Among the papers of

the Lord Chamberlain's department preserved at the Public Record Office is a Warrant, dated 2nd June, 1661, "for painting Twenty Five drums of Our Regiment of Foot Guards in Dunkirk," also an account for £24 in respect of the embroidery of 24 red tunics for the drummers of the same regiment, which is now The Grenadier Guards. These drummers of the Merrie Monarch's days must have been lusty lads, for Sir Sibbald Scott records that after a review of the London Trained Bands in Hyde Park, "the King's Health was drunk at the head of every regiment with drums beating, and so enthusiastic was their hilarity that, the Toast having been duly honoured, they beat out the bottoms of their drums." In 1694 a Warrant was issued which gave permission "to presse or cause to be impressed from time to time such numbers of Drums and Fifes as shall be necessary for His Majesty's service by sea or land," but the drummers of the Trained Bands (the Territorials of the period) were to be exempted from this impressment.

The drummer in an infantry regiment is usually able to take his turn as a bugler as well. Bugle bands are a special feature of rifle or light infantry regiments, while the ordinary regiment of infantry of the line has a drum and fife band, as also do the five regiments of Foot Guards. Scottish regiments and some Irish regiments have pipe bands of which expert drummers are an essential feature.

Just 300 years ago the Hon. Artillery Company gave a display of military exercises at the Merchant Taylor's Hall, London, and it is recorded that their music on this occasion consisted of one fife and two drums. In the first half of the eighteenth century the kettle-drums of the Royal Artillery band were so large that they had to be carried in a special horse-drawn carriage. According to Francis Grose, an eighteenth century antiquarian and historian, "The fife was adopted by the Guards in 1743, but the infantry of the line (or 'marching regiments' as he calls them) did not adopt the fife until 1747." He adds, "The first regiment that had it was the Nineteenth, then called The Green Howards, and I well remember a Hanoverian youth, an excellent fifer, being given by his Colonel to Lieut.-Col. Williams, then commanding that regiment, at Bois-le-Duc in Dutch Flanders."

In the eighteenth century drummers wore, first of all, a tall mitre-shaped cap, and later (from 1768 onwards) a bearskin cap similar to those of the Grenadiers. The drummer's jacket was of the colour of the facings of his

regiment, heavily ornamented with lace. These highly distinctive jackets of blue, green, buff, white, or yellow stood out so plainly in contrast to the prevailing scarlet of the rest of the regiment that heavy casualties were always sustained in action by the drummers being sniped, and so in consequence of these losses the drummers were put into red coats like the rest of the infantry.

In the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries many regiments had fantastically dressed negroes as drummers. An old print published in 1829 shows the big drummer of the Grenadier Guards—a be-whiskered negro in a red coat with blue facings and much gold braid. His trousers were of white duck (these were worn in summer by all regiments at that time). The most striking feature of his head-dress was a huge gold laced turban, surmounted by a gilt crescent, from which arose a tall plume, the summit of which was at least 18 inches above the top of his head.

The inspection report of the 27th Foot (1st Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers) at Guernsey in 1798 mentions that among the drummers was a boy under age, the orphan of a late Drum-Major, and that four little orphans, "cloathed as fifiers," were "mustered as privates." To some extent this custom of taking soldiers' orphans as drummers still exists, for many of the boys of The Duke of York's Royal Military School who enter the drummers or band boys are the sons of men who have died in the service of their country. Tucked away in the Public Record Office, these old-time Inspection Reports record the opinions of long-forgotten Generals, whose remarks, sometimes adverse, sometimes complimentary, enable us to conjure up visions of our regiments as they were in the days of long ago. Present-day drummers of the 1st Battalion King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry may be interested to learn that the inspection report of their battalion, the old 51st Foot, in 1775 says: "Drummers and Fifiers beat and play well, and are good looking young men and a great ornament to the Regiment."

When the 27th Foot (1st Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers) were crossing to Belgium in 1815, they found a stowaway on board their troopship. He was the nephew of the Band Sergeant, and had run away from home to join his uncle's regiment. Though under age, he was allowed to take the place of a drummer who had been taken ill, and within a month of joining the regiment young Haughton (for that was his name) had seen more than half his comrades



killed or wounded on the field of battle when the Inniskillings earned from the Duke of Wellington the memorable tribute, "That was the regiment which saved my centre at Waterloo." Haughton was still living nearly 80 years afterwards, being one of the last survivors of Wellington's victorious army.

Some of these juvenile drummers of "eighteen hundred and war-time" had many dangers and hardships to contend with, but they were gallant lads, and though many of them met a soldier's death at an age when modern Education Acts will not release a youngster from school, there were others who survived to reach the veteran stage. Many readers will be familiar with Lady Butler's famous painting, "Steady, the Drums and Fifes!" which shows the canary-coated "skin-bashers" and "snake-charmers" (to give the drummers and fifers their barrack-room nicknames) of the 57th Foot at the Battle of Albuhera, when the gallant Middlesex Regiment won its famous nickname of "The Die-Hards." On that May morning the 57th had paraded 600 strong; when the battle ended, they still held their ground, but over three-quarters of them had become casualties. General Beresford, in his despatch, reported, "It was observed that our dead, particularly the 57th Regiment, were lying as they fought in ranks, and every wound was in front." It is a tradition in the regiment that on the day after the Battle of Albuhera, the rations for one company were drawn by a drummer boy, who carried them away in his hat.

At another engagement in the Peninsular War the 34th Foot (now 1st Battalion The Border Regiment) captured their namesakes, the 34th Regiment of French Infantry, together with their Drum-Major's staff and a complete set of side drums, which are still in the possession of The Border Regiment. Each year, on the anniversary of the Battle of Arroyo-dos Molinos, a ceremonial parade is held at which the youngest drummer boy, dressed in the uniform of 1811, carrying the staff which was once carried at the head of Napoleon's 34th Regiment of France, and temporarily acting as Drum-Major, gives the order "Troop the French Drums." When the 34th went out to the Crimean War, the captured French drums were still in daily use, and as the 34th of France were also serving with the Allied Army before Sebastopol, the drums were whitewashed, lest the sight of these trophies should rouse unfriendly feelings in the breasts of our French comrades in arms. The 19th Foot, then

called the 1st Yorkshire North Riding, but now the Green Howards (Alexandra, Princess of Wales's Own, Yorkshire Regiment), captured some Russian drums in the Crimea, and it is a regimental custom to "troop" these at the ceremonial parade held on the anniversary of the Battle of the Alma.

In the New Zealand War of 1863, Dmr. Dudley Stagpool of the 57th Foot (now 1st Battalion The Middlesex Regiment) established a record which still stands unbeaten, though 76 years have passed and many wars of far greater magnitude have been fought in that time. Within the short space of one week this gallant drummer won first the Distinguished Conduct Medal, then the Victoria Cross, each for separate acts of bravery in saving wounded comrades. For many years Dmr. Stagpool was the only man entitled to wear both the V.C. and the D.C.M.; others have since gained both honours but no other soldier has yet won both within the short space of a single week.

When Magdala, then capital of Abyssinia, was attacked by British troops on Easter Monday, 1868, it was found that the Engineers had forgotten to bring the scaling ladders. While these were being sent for, Dmr. Michael Magner (a young and active member of the 33rd Foot, now 1st Battalion The Duke of Wellington's Regiment) climbed on the shoulders of Pte. Bergin of the same regiment, thus gaining access to the city wall, then helped his comrade to scramble up and together these two daring soldiers attacked the Abyssinian guard at the gate, put them to flight, and opened the gate for the British troops to enter. It was mainly due to the courage of these two brave soldiers that the town was captured and the campaign brought to a close with trifling losses. Magner and Bergin each received the Victoria Cross.

Two drummers won the V.C. in the Great War—Dmr. Wm. Kenny, 2nd Gordon Highlanders, being decorated for bravery at the First Battle of Ypres in October, 1914. On five occasions he saved wounded men, twice he saved machine guns from capture by the enemy, and on numerous occasions he volunteered to carry urgent messages—all under heavy fire. Dmr. Spencer John Bent, 1st Battalion East Lancashire Regiment, won his V.C. near Le Gheer, on the night of the 1st/2nd November, 1914. After his Officer, Platoon Sergeant, and Section Commander had been knocked out, young Bent took command, and "with great presence of mind and coolness, succeeded in holding the position." The official account adds

that "Dmr. Bent had previously distinguished himself on two occasions, on 22nd and 24th October, by bringing up ammunition under heavy fire, and again on 3rd November, when he brought into cover some wounded men who were lying exposed in the open."

## A MONS DIARY

### TENTH INSTALMENT

#### THE BATTLE OF LE CATEAU

IN Sir John French's Dispatch dated 7th September, 1914, he said that this was the most critical day. He said, "At daybreak it became apparent that the enemy was throwing the bulk of his strength against the left of the position occupied by the 2nd Corps and the 4th Division (this Division had only just arrived in the firing line for the first time the evening before). At this time the guns of four German Army Corps were in position against them and Sir Horace Smith Dorrien reported to me that he judged it impossible to continue his retirement at daybreak (as ordered) in face of such an attack. I sent him orders to use his utmost endeavours to break off the engagement and retire at the earliest possible moment as it was impossible for me to send him any support, the 1st Army Corps being at the moment incapable of movement."

"The French Cavalry Corps under General Sordet was coming up on our left rear early in the morning and I sent an urgent message to him to do his utmost to come up and support the retirement of my left flank, but owing to the fatigue of his horses he found himself unable to intervene in any way."

"The artillery, although outnumbered by at least four to one, made a splendid fight and inflicted heavy losses on their opponents."

"At length it became apparent that if complete annihilation was to be avoided a retirement must be attempted and the order was given to commence it about 3.30 p.m. . . ."

"Fortunately the enemy had himself suffered too heavily to engage in an energetic pursuit . . . I say without hesitation that the saving of the left wing of the Army under my command on the morning of the 26th August could never have been accomplished unless a commander of rare and unusual coolness, intrepidity and

determination had not been present to conduct the operation personally."

It had been raining all night but the day was fine and very hot. We got to work on the trenches and arranged for food, water, and ammunition to be stored in each trench. The soil was easy and the trenches were soon dug, but not before the shells began falling. I was sent back to the village by Major Finch to arrange for buckets and biscuit tins, etc., for the storage of water in the trenches, also to make arrangements for the ammunition supply.

At about 6.45 or 7 a.m., just before we set to work on the trenches, a message arrived from Thorp, "May I retire as the enemy's artillery is playing on my position?" I showed this message to the C.O. and he told me to reply "retire at once." He was only there as a warning post and not as a fighting one, a point which he did not seem to realise quite. He got back without losing a man and was so exhausted that he asked permission to lie down in the Mess house, where he stayed all day until forced to get up by a shell entering the roof. As I was going back to the trenches at about 7.30 a.m. I was given the following message by the Brigade Major. "The following message received from Third Division. Timed 7.25 a.m., dated 26-8-14. Information is just received in Paris 40,000 French Troops are on the march from Arras to Cambrai. Distance from Arras to Cambrai 18 miles." This was good news and was received with cheers by the men when I gave it to Major Finch, who read it to them. They were beginning to feel more secure now for the trenches were pretty well finished and our guns were hard at work in rear. The sound of our guns behind cheered them up a lot, as they felt that they were not in for the disastrous shelling that they had had at Mons. Major Finch and I returned to our billets with "B" and "D" Companies and left "A" and "C" Companies in the trenches. Aeroplanes were flying about over the village so we had to keep under cover to try to make the enemy think that the village was unoccupied. Our Transport had to be left on the road, however, as there was nowhere else to put it.

My next duty was to arrange for communication with the trenches. I sent two signallers to each of the trench Companies and kept the remainder in hand at Battalion H.Q.

Our Headquarters were in a sunken road under cover and looking out over the trenches which were on the next hill about 200 yds. away.



This sunken road led across country to a cutting on the next hill about 50 yds. below the trenches. The two reserve Companies closed up into the sunken road with their head at Battalion Headquarters, and here we spent the rest of the day until we were ordered to retire. Soon I received a message from the O.C., Royal Scots, timed 9.30 a.m., "My observer reports enemy's infantry entering a village 1,400 yds. in my direct front. Lieut. Henderson reports that there is a large gap in our line to his right unoccupied which requires some infantry badly. I confirm this." This referred to a trench which "C" Company had started and the siting was not considered good so it was given up. The C.O. explained this to Col. McMicking, whose Headquarters were only about 40 yds. from ours, by a message which I took him.

At about the same time I got another message from the Brigade as follows: Dressing Station will be established at the Church aa Please send any medical personnel you have there at once." We had only three left out of 16. These were accordingly sent to the Church. I went back now to see about getting dinners up to the trenches and found the Veterinary Officer doing Medical Officers' duties as all our Medical Officers had been lost. When I was coming back a shell hit the roof of a house near which an ammunition cart was standing horsed, but no driver was on it. The horses bolted and I just had time to cross a little bridge at a curve of the road before the whole concern came charging past. They cannoned from one side of the bridge to the other and still went on until they were stopped by two other ammunition carts, also horsed, which they crashed into. Somehow or other no damage was done. How they escaped damage I don't know. I went back to H.Q. and sat down in the hedge, presently dinners came up for the trench Companies. They left us but never got up to the trenches. One "dixy" (cooking tin) was left about 100 yds. from us on the track and was the source of much amusement when a shell landed close beside it without doing any damage to it, and later on in the afternoon another shell did exactly the same thing.

We had a little observation post on the bank just above our heads, and we all took our turn watching there. It was a fine sight to see the dense columns of the enemy advancing and our guns bursting shells right on top of them. Bullets were whizzing over our heads and also shells, shrapnel, and H.E. The scout on watch,

a man with a great sense of humour, brought me about half a dozen pears which he was very pleased with, and said "The Germans have hit something, sir."

Our Artillery Brigadier rode up into the sunken road just at this time. He had been doing a personal reconnaissance in the open, right across the front, and his horse had been badly hit but just managed to take him back to the village. Why he was not hit himself I don't know. Our own Brigadier came up next and asked to be shown the Royal Scots' H.Q. I showed him and left him there.

The enemy were by this time collecting large masses of men bang in front of us, about 800 yds. away in some farm buildings, and we expected a vigorous attack, but they met the fire of the Royal Scots and Gordon Highlanders, who were on our left, and it stopped them.

Finding our flank a bit strong they appeared to change the direction of their attack and advanced across our front. The C.O. now sent the trench Companies a message telling them to reserve their fire until the enemy got to within 500 yds. unless a very special target was offered. There were one or two bursts of rapid fire which I expect were pretty effective as I saw Capt. Oliver through my glasses with his head up over the top of the trench personally conducting it. In order to cheer up the trench people the C.O. sent them the following message at 11.15 a.m., "We are more than holding our own aa Caudry still in our hands and has been reinforced aa Aeroplane reports no German reinforcements coming up aa The French troops are fighting east of Cambrai aa." Caudry was on our left flank which was rather drawn back to take on the turning movement of the Germans, which was strongly pressed. This flank was, I believe, reinforced by the lines of communication troops which included our 1st Battalion.

Col. McMicking was wounded about this time and the Brigadier called me to show the stretcher party where he was. This I did and he was taken to the Church which was shelled later with a lot of wounded in it, including Col. Cox of the Royal Irish. Col. McMicking was wounded a second time here and somehow was left behind on the roadside whither he was taken from the Church. I went back to the Mess with Major Finch and got quite a good lunch at about 11.30 a.m. The C.O. had his soon after us and we returned to the sunken road again, where we stayed for the rest of the battle. We tried to get Thorp

up and out of the house which we thought might be shelled, but he was too exhausted to move. Nothing much happened for a bit after lunch. I think the Germans must have been feeling the pressure of the French troops as there was quite a lull in the operations. We sat there talking and joking and began to get quite bored. The men soon produced some bread and marmalade and gave us a slice each.

Soon after this, as our artillery had done so much damage to the Germans, presumably, the most colossal artillery duel took place and the enemy made a dead set at our heavy guns, which were in position just on the right of the village. The slaughter that took place in the village in consequence was terrific. All our transport horses were killed, also a number of our Drivers, and hardly a single house was left with a roof on it. Our Mess was blown almost completely flat, and our poor, unfortunate landlady and her daughter were killed. A shell fell through the roof of the stable in which were our riding horses. It fell and exploded right in the middle of them, but only touched one and my Burberry which was on the saddle on my horse's back. The horse hit was Major Abell's, which Major Finch had taken on after his had been killed. The order to retire was at last given, and in such a way, I think, as to cause a certain amount of alarm, by various Staff Officers and in consequence the whole Brigade, and I daresay the whole Division, got up and retired at the same time, contrary to all teaching as no one was left to cover the withdrawal of the remainder as should be done in such circumstances. This might have had serious consequences but we all streamed along a road parallel to the fighting line for a short distance instead of retiring at right angles to it. Units became hopelessly mixed up in the process but soon they were sorted out again and ready for anything. It was a very difficult business this sorting out though. The C.O. sent a message to the trench Companies to retire as best they could. This they did in the face of a very hot fire, but as we had already discovered that the Germans could not shoot, their losses were only about 12 men between them.

During the artillery duel described above a shell burst on the opposite bank to the one on which we were sitting and sent a tremendous volume of smoke and dust, etc., up into the air which all came down on us but no one was hit. I have a small piece of that shell's nose-cap, which hit my boot, as a trophy, as it was, as far as I am aware, the first piece of stuff from the Germans which actually hit me.

We heard that when the shell had gone through the roof of the stable our horses had stampeded and bolted, so I did not look for mine when we retired. I went back with Major Finch. Presently his groom came up and brought a horse which he had caught and gave it to the Major. He refused to ride on without me, and as we wanted to try to collect our men I ran alongside him.

A team of Gunner horses came along and a driver offered to give me a lift on one. I did not want to ride along with a team so he unhitched one, which I mounted and I rode on with Major Finch. Presently the C.O. came along riding my horse, which he had found tied to a tree. What had become of my groom I don't know, he was lost but turned up later. The road through the village was absolutely ghastly, dead and wounded men and horses strewn about all over the road, and limbers, guns, ambulance wagons, water carts, and all kinds of things running away down the road and bumping into one another, and mostly driverless. I marched on that evening feeling as fit as a fiddle, although I was nearly done when I went into action. An enemy is a wonderful stimulant. I walked a good deal of the way and lent my horse to other Officers to ride. It was a nice old horse but very sluggish after my own.

Another thing that interested us from our sheltered position was the complete unconcernedness of four big cows which were grazing by the side of our trenches quite oblivious to the dangers that they were in. They were lucky, in fact, for they did not mind the shells or bullets flying round about them all the day. One was killed late in the day, but the others were still going strong at the end of the show.

*(To be continued)*



## CORRESPONDENCE

CANNINGTON,  
WESTERN AUSTRALIA.  
31st March, 1939.

To the Editor of "The Die-Hards"

DEAR SIR,

I was interested in the letter of Major E. A. Bennett published in the February issue. When the 1st Battalion was stationed in Wynburg, South Africa, in 1897, a small draft was sent to join the 2nd Battalion in India, and was wrecked on the way in the *Warren Hastings*.

The N.C.O. in charge was C/Sergt. F. Piens, who had been selected as R.S.M. of the 2nd Battalion. He was some time afterwards promoted Lieutenant and Quartermaster.

Piens was C/Sergt. of "I" Company when Major Bennett was a subaltern in the Battalion at Aldershot in 1887. I well remember marching past the late Queen Victoria at the Jubilee Review on the long valley—quite a long time ago.

Yours faithfully,  
T. W. HAMMOND.  
Late R.Q.M.S., 1st Battalion.

"ALBUHERA," 11, KENNEDY ROAD,  
MAYBUSH, SOUTHAMPTON,  
28th March, 1939.

DEAR SIR,

Herewith P.O. 3s., annual subscription for Regimental Journal.

Re Major Bennett's letter, the name of the N.C.O. mentioned was C/Sergt. Franz Piens, who was joining the 2nd Battalion on promotion to R.S.M., and afterwards made Quartermaster of the Battalion.

It was with regret that I read of Col. J. Grove White's death, he joined the 57th on eve of embarkation for Ceylon.

Yours faithfully,  
A. STEPHENS.

"RYEGRAS," LYNTHURST ROAD,  
BROADSTAIRS,  
KENT.  
5th May, 1939.

DEAR SIR,

I am sending these few lines trusting you will not be offended. The enclosed is

about my wedding. As you will see, I am proud of my father's connection with the old 77th. You should have a Drum (Russian) which he captured. I have his bugle, medals, and discharge papers. He was in the War Office at that time.

Yours faithfully,  
GREGORY MCGILL.

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## FIFTY YEARS MARRIED

## BROADSTAIRS COUPLE'S ANNIVERSARY

On Saturday many congratulations were extended to Mr. and Mrs. G. McGill, of "Ryegrass," Lynthurst Road, Broadstairs, on their golden wedding anniversary.

Mr. McGill was the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. T. McGill and was born in London, while his wife was the daughter of the late Mr. A. Buff, who was a farm engineer, and the late Mrs. Buff. They were married in London on 4th March, 1889.

Mr. McGill's father served in the 77th, The Middlesex Regiment, and won the D.C.M. at the age of 15½ years. He served through the Crimean War and held the Crimean Medal, with Inkerman, Alma, and Sebastopol clasps. He also held the French Military Medal and the Turkish Medal.

For many years Mr. McGill was in the woollen trade, being well known in London, and came to Broadstairs with his wife 12 years ago. They have three sons and six daughters, six grandchildren, and one great-grandchild. Mr. McGill is 71 years of age and his wife 70, and both enjoy good health.

During the recent crisis when the call came for volunteers, Mr. McGill offered his services as an air raid warden. He has completed the first course in connection with A.R.P. work, and is shortly to take a course in first-aid work.

Saturday was reunion day, most of the members of the family gathering to wish their parents happiness. Another visitor was Father Martin de Vidts. Among the letters of congratulations received was one from Alec McGill (who is no relation) and Gwen Vaughan, the radio stars.

30th May, 1939.

To the Editor of "The Die-Hards"  
The Middlesex Regiment,  
The Barracks,  
Mill Hill, N.W.7.

DEAR SIR,

As you know, we have had in our employment here, since 1928, F. E. Holmes, who served with the Regiment for many years.

He recently had intimation that he had been awarded the Meritorious Service Medal and to-day he has shown me a letter from the War Office, in which the following occurs:

"The King has been graciously pleased to confer on you, as a reward for your long and highly meritorious service in the Army, an Annuity of £10."

I thought that you would like to know about the medal and the annuity, as it might be of interest to put it in the Journal.

Holmes told me that his record of service is that he joined in August, 1885, and served until April, 1908; he then immediately went on to the Recruiting Staff, London, where he served until February, 1928, so that he had continuous service, in one form or another, for 43 years. He came to us shortly after he retired from the Recruiting Staff and has been with us over 11 years.

Yours faithfully,  
S. CEDRIC SMITH.

## OBITUARY

MAJOR HENRY BOURCHIER WRAY  
SAVILE, M.C.

IT is with deep regret that we announce the death of Major Henry Bouchier Wray Savile, M.C., which occurred on Sunday, 14th May, at his residence, Locksheath Manor, Southampton.

Major Savile, who was the son of Capt. H. Savile, R.N., was born on 24th June, 1892. He was gazetted to The Middlesex Regiment as 2/Lieutenant on 20th September, 1911, promoted Lieutenant on 1st January, 1914, and Captain on 1st October, 1915. He was made Temporary Major on 13th March, 1916, until 30th June, 1916, and attained his majority on 17th December, 1932. He was made local Lieut.-Colonel on 20th November, 1935.

Major Savile served in France and Belgium from 5th November, 1914, to 1st July, 1916,

and from 18th April, 1917, to 23rd June, 1917, during which time he was wounded three times. He received the Military Cross, the 1914 Star and Clasp, the British War Medal, and the Victory Medal.

Major Savile served in the Cyclists Corps from 18th December, 1914, to 24th February, 1916, and was Staff Captain, Aldershot Command, from 4th February, 1919, to 23rd July, 1919. He served as Adjutant twice during his service; to the 4th Battalion from 4th August, 1919, to 14th July, 1924, and to the 7th Battalion (T.A.) from 8th February, 1924, to 7th February, 1928.

Major Savile was employed under the Colonial Office from 20th April, 1928, to 4th April, 1931, being assistant Staff Officer, Straits Settlements from 20th April, 1928, to 18th May, 1930. Then he returned to the 1st Battalion at Cairo and Ismalia, taking command of "C" Company which, during that period, won the "Albuhera" Shield and became the Champion Company, the first time for many years.

On 20th November, 1935, Major Savile was appointed Commandant of the Federated Malay States Volunteers, and at the time of his death was on leave under the Colonial Officer preparatory to assuming command of the 2nd Battalion at Gosport on 1st June.

The funeral was at the Swaythling Crematorium on Wednesday, 17th May, at 11.30 a.m. It was attended by the Officers of the 2nd Battalion and 200 other ranks, with the Band and Drums. Brevet Col. M. Browne, M.C., Majors H. Phillips, M.C., E. L. Heywood, and C. C. Musselwhite were also present. Wreaths were sent from All Ranks, 2nd Battalion The Middlesex Regiment, Officers' Club, The Middlesex Regiment, Col. G. L. Brown, and Major N. H. B. Lyon.

## MAJOR N. E. G. WILLOUGHBY

We regret to announce the death of Major Noel Edward Grey Willoughby, at Chancel End House, Heytesbury, on 18th May, 1939. He was buried at Heytesbury on 22nd May. A wreath was sent to the funeral by the Officers' Club.

Major Willoughby joined the 4th Battalion (Royal East Middlesex Militia) in 1890. He went to South Africa with that Battalion in 1900 and obtained a Regular commission with the 2nd Battalion that year.

He was appointed Transport Officer with Grenfell's column.



In 1907 he left the 2nd Battalion and joined the 6th Battalion, with which Battalion he served till 1915, when he went out to the 2nd Battalion in France. He retired in 1920.

He had the Queen's South African and the King's South African Medals with four clasps, and the 1914-1915 Star, General Service, and Victory Medals.

We offer our sincere sympathy with his family.

#### LIEUT. H. L. CHEVENS

The death of Lieut. H. L. Chevens was announced briefly in the February number of *THE DIE-HARDS*. There was no more loyal or enthusiastic member of the small band of Officers, kept together by their pride and affection for their old Unit, who served together in the 2nd Battalion during the last year of the War.

Harold Leon Chevens was born in London in 1883. On leaving school he sailed for South Africa in 1900 to join a firm of Government transport agents and he was soon proceeding up country with animal convoys, attached to General Methuen's Division. Later he was commissioned to commandeer cattle and it was while on this duty with an escort of Leicestershire Mounted Infantry that he and his party were captured by Boers under General De La Ray. Deprived of their horses, they made their way some 25 miles to a railway line, where they were picked up by a train.

After the war, in which he earned the Queen's Medal, he was with the Mounted Police in Johannesburg, and in 1906 he returned to England. Eighteen months later he was again in Africa, commissioned to the British East African Police. It was during this period of his life that he suffered an experience which undoubtedly affected his health and was the probable cause of his later trouble. On *safari*, accompanied only by his bearers, he was charged by some elephants and his party scattered. Separated from the natives he was lost in the jungle till found in a state of high fever by some of the Swahili tribe, who made him a bed of straw in a tree and nursed him back to health. He was always amused to tell how amply the Swahili considered themselves repaid by the gift of two tins of condensed milk. Meanwhile in Nairobi his death had been presumed, but news of his rescue came through and a relief party was sent to bring him in.

Returning to England in 1912 he married Margaret Mary, daughter of Major E. Robinson of the Indian Army, and settled down to a less adventurous life in London.

When the Great War came he was invited by Lord Wolverton, Honorary Colonel of the 10th Battalion, to apply for a commission in that Unit. After serving with the 4/10th, he was posted to the 10th King's Royal Rifle Corps in France, with which he was twice wounded. The first time he insisted on remaining on duty, but the second was far more serious and, invalided to England, he narrowly escaped the amputation of a foot. On leaving hospital he was marked for permanent Home Service, but with characteristic determination, contrary to orders, he got out to France again by a ruse. Attached to the staff of the 2nd Canadian Division he was lent to the American Expeditionary Force as an instructor in animal management and transport duties. In June, 1918, he joined the 2nd Middlesex.

At a time of changing loyalties, when a large number of Officers from different disbanded Units and Corps found themselves thrown together in new surroundings, he set an outstanding example to his brother Officers. Somewhat older than most of a very young lot, he exerted a steadying influence on those who were naturally sad at the disappearance of their Units and who did not at first take kindly to service in a Regular Battalion. A most conscientious Transport Officer, he never sent his men and animals where he was not willing to lead them, and he used to the full his opportunities of getting to know the Officers of all Companies both in the line and out of it. His care for the Transport and his fondness for animals were a byword in the Battalion. There can have been few, if any, better Transport Officers in France. Certain it is that in a competition judged during the autumn of 1918 by inspections held without warning in the Transport lines, on the line of march, in weather wet or fine, the Transport of the 2nd Middlesex was given second place in the whole of the VIII Corps, and during this period the Battalion was probably the most heavily engaged Unit of the formation. Lieut. Chevens was mentioned in dispatches for his service in the 2nd Battalion.

After the War he settled down again in London and rarely missed the informal dinner held each year by the War-time Officers of the Battalion. A few years ago he was absent owing to a serious illness, but his old friends were delighted by his unexpected attendance the

following year, apparently completely recovered. He was, however, forced to take life more quietly.

He supported enthusiastically the proposal to visit Douai at Easter, 1938. His old pride in the 77th and his keen desire that his wife and his daughter, Pat, should see something of his part in its splendid achievements made him determined to bring them on the tour. Thus it was that after 20 years his brother Officers and their families had the great pleasure of knowing him and his family on an occasion of rare intimacy. But the keen wind on the Vimy Ridge did its work in deadly fashion and a few days later he was stricken with grave illness. Strength of will and grit gave him what seemed a miraculous recovery; to the amazement and joy of his friends he came to the reunion on the 20th anniversary of the capture of Douai. Only his family knew what the effort cost him.

Just before Christmas this same determination took him to his work though the weather was bitter and he was quite unfit for it. In a few days he was fighting for his life once more. His weak state of health told heavily against him and the unequal struggle ended on 9th January.

A soldier at heart, with intense pride in the Regiment, Harold Chevens will be remembered chiefly for his indomitable spirit, for his love of animals, and for his interest in and his refusal to let down any of his friends.

At the funeral the Regiment was represented by Col. E. E. F. Baker and six Officers who served with him in the 2nd Battalion. The service was taken by Capt. the Rev. A. Montgomery Mann, who gave his address in simple but moving terms.

#### MR. ARCHIBALD HUGH CAMPBELL

We regret to announce the death of No. 10933 Pte. A. H. Campbell, who served for 12 years in the 3rd Battalion.

Before the War he was with the Battalion in Hong Kong, Singapore, and India, and during the War he served with it all through, gaining the 1914-15 Star, the General Service, and Victory Medals.

He was buried at Barking Cemetery on 25th May, 1939. A Bugler from the Depot, with a wreath from the Regimental Association, attended the funeral.

We tender our sympathy to his family.

#### MR. WILLIAM LOWE

We regret to announce the death of No. 12597 Pte. William Lowe, who died on 18th June as the result of an accident whilst working on the railway, being crushed by an engine at a coaling stage after slipping on a piece of coal.

He enlisted in the 4th Battalion in 1908 and afterwards transferred to the 3rd Battalion and served in China, Singapore, India, France, Mesopotamia, and Salonika.

He was buried at Bow Cemetery. A Bugler from the Depot, with a wreath from the Regimental Association, was present at the funeral.

We offer our deep sympathy to his wife at the loss of her husband in such tragic circumstances.

#### EX-SERGT.-INSTRUCTOR MASON

We regret to announce the death of one of the few survivors of the Zulu War of 1879, namely Ex.-Sergeant-Instructor Mason, who died at Pett Street, Woolwich, on 8th July, aged 83.

He joined the 77th Regiment in 1875 at Woolwich and served 23 years with the Colours. He had a semi-military funeral at Woolwich on 14th July. We offer our sincere sympathy to his widow, four sons, and two daughters.



# 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 5/5/39)

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. F. Britton	Cpl. 25/12/33
*B.M. W. Kifford	10/8/38	L/Sergt. P. Hopwood	Cpl. 20/4/34
*C.S.M. A. Russell (Supn. F.M.S.V.F.)	1/4/31	*L/Sergt. J. Painter	Cpl. 8/5/34
*R.Q.M.S. W. Randle	C.S.M. 13/6/35	L/Sergt. T. Bayly	Cpl. 5/12/34
	R.Q.M.S. 2/11/37	L/Sergt. A. Moore	Cpl. 15/2/35
*C.S.M. F. Stacey	4/7/36	L/Sergt. F. Hiscocks	L/Sergt. 16/12/36
*C.S.M. R. Challis	2/11/37	Cpl. J. McGrady	6/12/35
*C.S.M. W. Green	13/12/37	Cpl. F. Shaw	12/12/35
*C.S.M. W. Tibble	2/2/38	Cpl. P. Crowley	12/12/35
*C.S.M. E. Paterson	7/3/39	Cpl. S. Clark (Supn. Sch. Sigs.)	30/4/36
P.S.M. R. Bayles	1/10/38	Cpl. F. Hammond (40)	25/5/36
P.S.M. F. Donovan	1/10/38	*L/Sergt. R. Lomax	Cpl. 4/7/36
P.S.M. J. Ramsey	1/10/38	Cpl. W. Lane	L/Sergt. 1/10/38
*P.S.M. W. Bean	7/3/39	L/Sergt. R. Burkitt	Cpl. 23/4/37
C/Sergt. (C.Q.M.S.) W. Christie, M.M.	Sergt. 1/5/20	Cpl. F. Hammond (64)	23/4/37
	C/Sergt. 7/7/36	Cpl. L. Savagar	9/5/37
*C/Sergt. (C.Q.M.S.) R. Colbourne	Sergt. 6/10/23	Cpl. A. Borrow	2/6/37
	C/Sergt. 20/2/37	Cpl. C. Freshwater	1/9/37
**C/Sergt. (C.Q.M.S.) L. Priddy	Sergt. 18/9/31	Cpl. A. Ellis	16/12/37
	C/Sergt. 1/10/38	Cpl. T. Baker	6/1/38
C/Sergt. (C.Q.M.S.) E. Paterson	Sergt. 8/9/33	Cpl. T. Harvey (Cpl. M.T. Stores)	2/2/38
	C/Sergt. 1/10/38	Cpl. R. White (Cpl. M.T. Stores)	15/2/38
*C/Sergt. (C.Q.M.S.) S. Smith	Sergt. 30/7/32	Cpl. A. Pace	16/2/38
	C/Sergt. 7/3/39	Cpl. J. Ringe	16/2/38
*C/Sergt. (O.R.S.) P. Hale	Sergt. 19/10/33	*Cpl. T. McDavitt (Cpl. M.T. Stores)	16/2/38
	C/Sergt. 5/11/38	Cpl. L. Graham (Cpl. M.T. Stores)	16/2/38
*Sergt. A. Russell	16/2/30	*Cpl. P. Sturdy	16/2/38
*Sergt. C. Soper	17/12/30	Cpl. J. Sheen	22/3/38
Sergt. J. Quick (Pioneer)	23/4/31	*Cpl. F. Ayres (Cpl. M.T. Stores)	24/4/38
*Sergt. H. Kruck (Depot)	24/8/32	Cpl. R. Powell	23/5/38
Sergt. J. Little	19/10/33	Cpl. C. Kiefer	24/5/38
*Sergt. J. Bond	17/6/34	Cpl. G. Robins	18/7/38
Sergt. P. Edwards (Band)	5/3/35	Cpl. H. Kidby	7/8/38
*Sergt. V. Cooper (M.T.)	15/5/35	Cpl. G. Tattam	1/10/38
Sergt. B. Bedward	24/8/35	*Cpl. A. Moody	5/11/38
*Sergt. (O.R.C.) R. Chaplin	27/11/35	Cpl. W. Ure (Band Cpl.)	11/1/39
Sergt. S. Bullock (Depot)	1/7/36	Cpl. W. Finnis	11/1/39
*Sergt. H. Ramsden	7/7/36	*Cpl. A. Hoare	11/1/39
Sergt. L. Sheffield	3/8/36	Cpl. T. Perry	11/1/39
*Sergt. P. Maloney	17/12/36	Cpl. C. Holdford	11/1/39
*Sergt. G. Bayford (Signals)	27/2/37	Cpl. C. Haynes	10/3/39
Drum-Major G. Jeffree	22/5/37		
*Sergt. R. Overy	16/10/37		
Sergt. T. Castle	8/11/37		
*Sergt. H. Parnell (Provost)	6/1/38		
Sergt. J. Riches	2/2/38		
Sergt. W. Poulter (Cook Sergt.)	24/4/38		
Sergt. H. Naylor (Officers' Mess Sergt.)	1/10/38		
Sergt. E. Fuller	1/10/38		
*Sergt. H. Marshall	5/11/38		
Cpl. S. Phelan	15/9/31		
L/Sergt. R. Blackman	Cpl. 26/7/32		
	L/Sergt. 13/5/36		
L/Sergt. J. Burgess	Cpl. 3/2/33		
	L/Sergt. 16/10/37		
Cpl. E. Soden	3/5/33		

\* 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. G. Hodgson	14/10/36	L/Cpl. J. Dunsdon	3/5/38
L/Cpl. R. Pointer	11/1/37	L/Cpl. E. Caslake	5/5/38
L/Cpl. J. Turner	12/6/37	L/Cpl. W. Bumpstead	5/5/38
L/Cpl. C. French	2/7/37	*L/Cpl. F. Jones	5/5/38
L/Cpl. A. Keeler	29/1/38	L/Cpl. G. Adams	5/5/38
*L/Cpl. A. Waldron	10/3/37	L/Cpl. L. Bowker	24/5/38
L/Cpl. L. Staley	12/6/37	L/Cpl. W. Fox	25/5/38
L/Cpl. R. Langford	23/10/37	L/Cpl. A. Seton	5/6/38
L/Cpl. F. Wilmer	23/11/37	L/Cpl. W. Reeves	2/7/38
L/Cpl. C. Payne	11/1/37	L/Cpl. R. Shore	2/7/38
L/Cpl. R. Harris	12/6/37	L/Cpl. H. Burnett	11/7/38
L/Cpl. D. Amos	30/7/37	L/Cpl. F. Houghton	15/8/38
L/Cpl. W. Heath	7/8/37	L/Cpl. J. Dawes	10/10/38
*L/Cpl. A. Manning	7/8/37	L/Cpl. G. Rawling	25/10/38
L/Cpl. G. Chelu	7/10/37	L/Cpl. C. Noble	25/10/38
L/Cpl. W. Thompson	8/2/38	L/Cpl. G. Vallance	31/10/38
*L/Cpl. C. Thorley	17/3/38	L/Cpl. J. Robertson	31/10/38
L/Cpl. C. Matthews	27/4/38	L/Cpl. W. Phillips	1/11/38
L/Cpl. J. Webster	26/5/38	L/Cpl. J. Crow	4/11/38
L/Cpl. A. Rasmussen	30/10/37	L/Cpl. C. Wright	12/11/38
L/Cpl. W. Dee	23/11/37	L/Cpl. W. Wood	14/11/38
L/Cpl. R. Dyson	15/10/37	L/Cpl. A. Maton	3/12/38
L/Cpl. A. Miller	6/12/37	L/Cpl. D. Charles	3/12/38
L/Cpl. G. Soames	29/11/37	L/Cpl. S. Gilham	3/12/38
L/Cpl. S. Apps	6/12/37	L/Cpl. G. Barkway	9/12/38
*L/Cpl. W. Stone	13/12/37	L/Cpl. G. Merton	9/12/38
L/Cpl. E. Collier	1/3/38	L/Cpl. F. Green	20/12/38
L/Cpl. A. Hobson	31/3/38	*L/Cpl. A. Goode	23/12/38
L/Cpl. P. Barron	15/4/38	L/Cpl. R. Bolingbroke	5/1/39
L/Cpl. J. Rich	21/4/38	L/Cpl. J. Shepherd	5/1/39
L/Cpl. C. Betts	18/1/38	L/Cpl. E. Colebeck	13/1/39
		L/Cpl. L. Bennett	7/2/39
		L/Cpl. C. Holmes	10/2/39
		*L/Cpl. G. Morton	10/2/39
		L/Cpl. A. Gibbs	10/2/39
		L/Cpl. T. Metcalfe	11/2/39
		L/Cpl. A. O'Neil	11/2/39
		L/Cpl. R. Dickens	15/2/39
		L/Cpl. E. Commerford	22/2/39
		L/Cpl. T. Johns	10/3/39
		L/Cpl. J. Dormer	21/3/39
		L/Cpl. W. Toms	28/3/39
		L/Cpl. J. Rimmer	6/4/39
		L/Cpl. A. Jousiffe	14/4/39
		L/Cpl. R. Dandridge	15/4/39
		L/Cpl. W. Mills	17/4/39

Dates against L/Cpls. are the dates of first appointment.

# SENIORITY ROLL OF N.C.O.s (Home Establishment), August, 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. C. Trestrain	8th	12/10/38
*B.M. C. Dennis	2nd	25/3/33	*P.S.M. J. Chillery	2nd	1/10/38
*R.S.M. R. Parsler	2nd	1/5/38	*P.S.M. S. Day	Depot	1/10/38
*C.S.M. J. Hart	9th	20/1/26	*P.S.M. C. 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
				(Sergt. 20/3/28)	
*C.S.M. H. Wright	8th	24/2/34	Sergt. A. Boen	Depot	13/4/29
*C.S.M. C. Donaldson	9th	15/6/35	C.Q.M.S. R. King	Supn., Fire	
*C.S.M. E. Hazeldine	Depot	27/2/37		Bde., Bordon	27/3/39
*C.S.M. C. Kennett	2nd	15/6/38			(Sergt. 5/7/29)
*C.S.M. W. Kemp	7th	16/6/38			

\* In possession of First Class Certificate of Education.

\*\* 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.
Sergt. F. Nash ..	8th	11/12/29	L/Sergt. A. Ball ..	Depot	12/10/38
*C.Q.M.S. L. Honeybun ..	2nd	15/6/38	(Cpl. 5/1/36)		
(Sergt. 13/8/31)			*L/Sergt. G. Blackman ..	2nd	2/11/38
*C.Q.M.S. S. Thompson ..	2nd	16/6/38	(Cpl. 23/1/36)		
(Sergt. 30/9/31)			L/Sergt. H. Griffiths ..	2nd	9/11/38
*C.Q.M.S. L. West ..	2nd	27/1/39	(Cpl. 16/4/36)		
(Sergt. 10/12/31)			Cpl. W. Millichap ..	Depot	3/8/36
Sergt. J. Harper ..	Depot	19/4/32	L/Sergt. M. Trotobas ..	2nd	1/10/38
*C/Sergt. S. Smith ..	2nd	7/3/39	(Cpl. 26/8/36)		
(Sergt. 30/7/32)			Cpl. A. Ellwood ..	2nd	28/10/36
*Sergt. H. Kruck ..	Depot	24/8/30	*L/Sergt. R. Cummins ..	2nd	1/10/38
Sergt. J. Scott ..	2nd	3/9/32	(Cpl. 17/12/36)		
Sergt. (S.M.C.) F. Housden ..	Depot	3/5/33	Cpl. V. Bint ..	2nd	20/2/37
Sergt. A. Mason ..	2nd	22/6/33	L/Sergt. S. Parry ..	2nd	22/11/38
Sergt. R. Wilson ..	2nd	8/7/33	(Cpl. 8/6/37)		
*Sergt. H. Ison ..	2nd	10/5/34	Cpl. J. West ..	2nd	31/7/37
*Sergt. J. Bond ..	2nd	17/6/34	Cpl. C. Kenny ..	2nd	27/8/37
*Sergt. (Bd. Sergt.) E. Jennings ..	2nd	1/3/35	*Cpl. J. Hinch ..	2nd	5/10/37
†Sergt. J. Smith ..	Depot	9/6/35	*Temp. Sergt. H. Jennings ..	2nd	1/5/39
*C.Q.M.S. W. Snell ..	2nd	22/11/38	(L/Sergt. 11/12/38)		
(Sergt. 13/6/35)			(Cpl. 16/10/37)		
Sergt. A. Hows ..	2nd	15/6/35	Cpl. L. Sibley ..	2nd	30/11/37
Sergt. A. Whitcombe ..	7th	16/6/35	Cpl. C. Harris ..	2nd	13/12/37
Sergt. A. Williams ..	2nd	28/7/35	Cpl. C. Peasley ..	Depot	21/1/38
*Sergt. R. Jenkins ..	9th	23/1/36	*Cpl. A. Bettell ..	2nd	8/4/38
Sergt. S. Bullock ..	Depot	1/7/36	*Cpl. A. Blan ..	2nd	1/5/38
*Sergt. E. Moir ..	O.T.C. London		Cpl. R. Williams ..	2nd	19/5/38
Uni.		28/10/36	Cpl. G. Hockley ..	2nd	15/6/38
Sergt. A. Brett ..	7th	20/2/37	Cpl. W. Fletcher ..	2nd	16/6/38
†Sergt. (O.R.S.) J. Wright ..	2nd	8/6/37	Cpl. A. Rose ..	2nd	25/6/38
†Sergt. (Sig. Sergt.) T. Jenkins ..	2nd	8/6/37	Cpl. A. Bursill ..	2nd	27/8/38
Sergt. R. Etheridge ..	2nd	10/11/37	Cpl. R. Turner ..	2nd	7/8/38
Sergt. R. Smallridge ..	Depot	13/12/37	*Cpl. F. Pryor ..	2nd	15/8/38
†Sergt. W. Day ..	2nd	1/5/38	Cpl. J. Jones ..	2nd	25/8/38
Sergt. W. Makewell ..	7th	16/6/38	Cpl. G. Paimer ..	Depot	1/10/38
*Sergt. A. Wray ..	2nd	25/8/38	*Cpl. C. Clenshaw ..	Depot	1/10/38
Sergt. H. Elcombe ..	Depot	12/10/38	Cpl. G. Rouse ..	2nd	1/10/38
Sergt. (S.M.C.) W. Claxton ..	2nd	23/10/38	Cpl. J. Rawlinson ..	2nd	12/10/38
Sergt. F. Knight ..	2nd	2/11/38	†Cpl. A. Lowe ..	2nd	2/11/38
†Sergt. W. Smith ..	2nd	22/11/38	*Cpl. C. Jarvis ..	2nd	9/11/38
Sergt. (Pioneer Sergt.) D. Baker ..	2nd	6/12/38	Cpl. E. Stebbing ..	Depot	15/11/38
*Sergt. (D.M.) J. Ceaton ..	2nd	8/12/38	Cpl. J. Riseley ..	2nd	22/11/38
*Sergt. V. Thomas ..	2nd	11/12/38	*Cpl. H. Jennings ..	2nd	9/12/38
Sergt. H. Buckland ..	8th	7/3/39	Cpl. A. Morley ..	Depot	11/12/38
Sergt. H. Tye ..	R.W.A.F.F.	1/5/39	Cpl. A. Hudson ..	2nd	16/12/38
*Sergt. L. McDowell ..	2nd	1/5/39	†Cpl. H. Clay ..	2nd	11/1/39
*Sergt. R. Selfe ..	Depot	1/5/39	†Cpl. F. Hogg ..	2nd	11/1/39
*Sergt. (O.R.C.) W. O'Connor ..	2nd	1/5/39	*Cpl. E. Phillips ..	2nd	11/1/39
Sergt. L. Delaney ..	2nd	1/5/39	Cpl. W. Hummerstone ..	2nd	11/1/39
L/Sergt. J. O'Neill ..	2nd	16/12/36	Cpl. R. Newton ..	2nd	11/1/39
(Cpl. 13/8/31)			Cpl. C. Farrington ..	2nd	7/3/39
*L/Sergt. E. Wadsworth ..	Depot	3/8/36	*Cpl. N. Islip ..	2nd	22/3/39
(Cpl. 15/11/32)			Cpl. R. Taylor ..	2nd	2/4/39
L/Sergt. G. Endersby ..	Depot	27/2/38	Cpl. R. White ..	2nd	1/5/39
(Cpl. 2/6/33)			Cpl. H. Robinson ..	2nd	1/5/39
Cpl. C. Carpenter ..	P.A.D. Sch.		Cpl. S. Blacknell ..	2nd	1/5/39
Fort Tregantle		5/5/34	Cpl. A. Budd ..	Depot	19/5/39
L/Sergt. J. Stickley ..	2nd	15/6/38			
(Cpl. 10/6/34)					
Cpl. (Band Cpl.) R. Stretton ..	2nd	16/3/35			
*Cpl. H. Eastland ..	2nd	24/8/35			
*Cpl. C. Keefe ..	2nd	28/11/35			

\* In possession of First Class Certificate of Education.

† Passed in two subjects for First Class Certificate of Education.

‡ Passed in one subject 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

Rank and Name.	Battalion.	Date of present promotion or appointment.	Rank and Name.	Battalion.	Date of present promotion or appointment.
L/Cpl. H. Burchell ..	2nd	18/10/36	L/Cpl. S. Coleman ..	2nd	29/3/38
L/Cpl. V. Chambers ..	Depot	19/11/36	L/Cpl. A. Thomas ..	2nd	21/6/38
L/Cpl. E. Haynes ..	2nd	20/2/37	L/Cpl. J. Drury ..	2nd	11/7/38
†L/Cpl. B. Irons ..	2nd	8/6/37	*L/Cpl. A. Gillinder ..	2nd	31/7/38
L/Cpl. E. Lindeman ..	2nd	24/11/37	L/Cpl. F. Parton-Old ..	2nd	2/9/38
*L/Cpl. A. Haste ..	2nd	21/1/38	L/Cpl. W. Jacobson ..	2nd	11/10/38
L/Cpl. R. Reeder ..	Depot	18/2/38	†L/Cpl. F. Griffiths ..	2nd	18/10/38
L/Cpl. C. Farrington ..	Depot	22/3/38	L/Cpl. E. Summerfield ..	2nd	4/11/38
(A/Cpl. 11/1/39)			L/Cpl. J. Reeve ..	2nd	3/12/38
L/Cpl. H. Thomas ..	Depot	19/5/38	†L/Cpl. D. Allingham ..	2nd	7/12/38
L/Cpl. P. Donovan ..	Depot	16/6/38	L/Cpl. W. Jackson ..	2nd	17/12/38
†L/Cpl. F. Bird ..	2nd	16/6/38	*L/Cpl. R. Kennedy ..	2nd	20/1/39
L/Cpl. B. Duggan ..	2nd	16/7/38	L/Cpl. G. Hatchett ..	Depot	20/1/39
†L/Cpl. H. Thompson ..	2nd	30/7/38	L/Cpl. T. Peters ..	2nd	23/1/39
T/Cpl. J. Barter ..	2nd	1/5/39	L/Cpl. W. Hamlin ..	2nd	24/2/39
(L/Cpl. 18/8/38)			*L/Cpl. M. Gower ..	2nd	24/2/39
T/Cpl. C. King ..	2nd	19/5/39	L/Cpl. L. Ash ..	2nd	24/2/39
(L/Cpl. 25/8/38)			L/Cpl. C. Potter ..	2nd	24/2/39
L/Cpl. E. Green ..	2nd	1/10/38	L/Cpl. E. Sharp ..	2nd	24/2/39
*L/Cpl. W. Pratt ..	Depot	1/10/38	L/Cpl. J. Miles ..	2nd	24/2/39
L/Cpl. J. Harwood ..	2nd	1/10/38	L/Cpl. L. Brown ..	2nd	24/2/39
L/Cpl. L. Chapman ..	2nd	1/10/38	L/Cpl. W. Jones ..	2nd	24/2/39
L/Cpl. J. Papworth ..	2nd	8/10/38	L/Cpl. S. Jones ..	Depot	24/2/39
L/Cpl. R. Skinner ..	2nd	12/10/38	†L/Cpl. F. Jones ..	2nd	24/2/39
L/Cpl. C. White ..	2nd	18/10/38	L/Cpl. D. Farnsworth ..	2nd	24/2/39
L/Cpl. G. Parker ..	2nd	18/10/38	L/Cpl. E. Dickson ..	2nd	24/2/39
L/Cpl. J. Murphy ..	Depot	2/11/38	L/Cpl. P. Hutson ..	Depot	24/2/39
L/Cpl. W. Oakes ..	2nd	9/11/38	L/Cpl. J. Oakes ..	2nd	24/2/39
L/Cpl. S. Maple ..	2nd	15/11/38	L/Cpl. E. Powell ..	2nd	24/2/39
L/Cpl. W. Berry ..	2nd	20/11/38	L/Cpl. R. O'Brien ..	2nd	24/2/39
L/Cpl. A. Harvey ..	Depot	22/11/38	L/Cpl. E. Bradshaw ..	2nd	24/2/39
L/Cpl. R. McNeill ..	2nd	6/12/38	†L/Cpl. E. Swaine ..	Depot	24/2/39
L/Cpl. C. Clarke ..	Depot	11/12/38	L/Cpl. E. Hunt ..	Depot	24/2/39
L/Cpl. L. Clarke ..	Depot	15/12/38	L/Cpl. F. Quarrell ..	2nd	24/2/39
*L/Cpl. V. Caney ..	2nd	15/12/38	L/Cpl. S. Bartle ..	2nd	24/2/39
L/Cpl. C. Monk ..	2nd	16/12/38	L/Cpl. W. Heeks ..	Depot	24/2/39
L/Cpl. J. Casey ..	2nd	7/3/39	L/Cpl. D. Scott-Farnie ..	2nd	24/2/39
L/Cpl. J. Whitney ..	2nd	20/3/39	L/Cpl. J. Jones ..	2nd	24/2/39
T/Cpl. P. Fegan ..	2nd	1/5/39	*L/Cpl. C. Heyward ..	2nd	24/2/39
(L/Cpl. 22/3/39)			L/Cpl. W. McArdell ..	Depot	24/2/39
L/Cpl. G. Bailey ..	2nd	2/4/39	L/Cpl. S. Findley ..	2nd	30/3/39
†L/Cpl. W. Webb ..	2nd	2/4/39	L/Cpl. G. Douglas ..	2nd	30/3/39
L/Cpl. A. Stanford ..	2nd	14/4/39	L/Cpl. S. Atkins ..	2nd	19/5/39
L/Cpl. W. Watkins ..	2nd	1/5/39	L/Cpl. F. Grundy ..	2nd	19/5/39
L/Cpl. A. Tarbuck ..	Depot	1/5/39	L/Cpl. J. Goulding ..	2nd	23/5/39
L/Cpl. H. Botchin ..	Depot	1/5/39	L/Cpl. L. Cox ..	2nd	23/5/39
L/Cpl. B. LeMaitre ..	2nd	19/5/39	L/Cpl. R. Redding ..	2nd	23/5/39

\*In possession of First Class Certificate of Education.

† Passed in two subjects for First Class Certificate of Education.

‡ Passed in one subject for First Class Certificate of Education.

#### UNPAID LANCE-CORPORALS:

L/Cpl. H. Ellams ..	2nd	19/5/36
L/Cpl. T. Brooker ..	2nd	11/8/37





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