



THE
DIE-HARDS

The Journal of

THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT

(Duke of Cambridge's Own)

December 1944

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The Die Hards

THE JOURNAL OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT

(Duke of Cambridge's Own)



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THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE'S OWN)

(57)

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

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

Regular and Militia Battalions.

1st Bn. (57th Foot). 2nd Bn. (77th Foot).
 5th Bn. (Royal Elthorne Militia).
 6th Bn. (Royal East Middlesex Militia).
 Depot—Mill Hill. Records Office, Ashford, Mddx.
 Pay Office—Kensington.

Territorial Army Battalions

1/7th Bn. 2/7th Bn. 8th Bn. 30th Bn.
 1st Bn. (— L.A.A. R.A.).
 1st and 2nd Bns. Princess Louise's Kensington Regiment.
 1st, 2nd and 3rd Independent Coys.

Affiliated A/A Units of the Territorial Army

— (7th City of London) Searchlight Regiment R.A.
 — (St. Pancras) Searchlight Regiment R.A.

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

Allied Regiments of Canadian Militia.

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

Allied Battalion of Australian Infantry.

57th Bn. Preston.

Allied Regiment of New Zealand Military Forces

The Taranaki Regiment New Plymouth.

Colonel of the Regiment:

Colonel M. Browne, M.C., D.L.

Officer Commanding Depot:

Major A. W. Clark, O.B.E.

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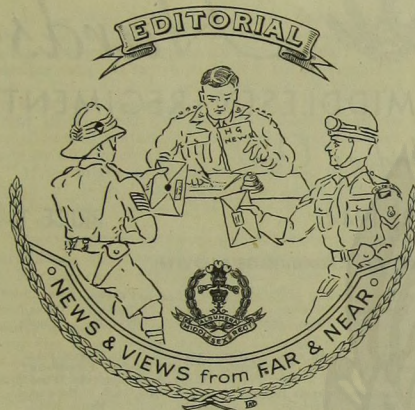
NOTICE TO CONTRIBUTORS.

"The Die-Hards" is published in March, June, September and December, and copies may be obtained by application to the Editor, enclosing 1/- for each copy, plus 2d. postage.

All Contributions *in full* for publication should reach the Editor not later than the 1st of the month previous to that of issue. CONTRIBUTIONS SHOULD BE TYPED IN TRIPPLICATE (FOR PURPOSES OF CENSORSHIP) AND BE ON ONE SIDE OF THE PAPER ONLY, and signed, stating whether it is desired to publish the 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, Bishopton Lane, Slough, Middlesex. Telephone: WORMSLOUGH 4321.

Subscriptions should be forwarded to the Editor, "The Die-Hards" Journal, to whom all Cheques and Postal Orders should be made payable, and crossed "— & Co."

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION 5/- (Post Free)



Editor : Capt. G. E. Moore, 24th Middlesex Bn, H.G.

The reception accorded to the first wartime issue of "The Die-Hards" was most heartening. Without exception all comments have been complimentary and all criticism constructive. That there have been more compliments than criticisms we take to be indicative of the fact that when our teething troubles are over we shall be a real help to our readers, and that even through this fretful period we shall inescapably be doing some good, also that we have the whole-hearted support of an ever-widening group of readers.

What we want and must have is an equally expanding circle of subscribers. At this stage the missionary work can only be done, in the last analysis, by the readers and subscribers themselves. Much personal commendation has already been evidenced, with the immediate corollary of an increase in circulation, but more must be done if our Regiment is to take its rightful place in the minds and hearts of the people of Middlesex.

We have ideas and are not afraid to put them into practice, to which fact this issue bears witness; but ideas are not, of themselves, sufficient. Like most other examples of creative art (except painting, sculpture and other kindred branches) the element of "audience participation" is necessary to complete the artist's creation.

You are our "audience," and it is to you that we look for that concrete help which can best be manifest by your efforts to gain new subscribers.

Personal recommendation is always the best form of advertisement.

We have today entered into an arrangement with Messrs. W. H. Smith's organisation whereby "The Die-Hards" will be on sale in all their shops and book-stalls in the County and at all London's main line terminals. This will help us in our distribution, and it may, quite conceivably, assist us towards getting further annual subscriptions—and there, as always, we must leave it to our readers.

Being a member of the Home Guard since its L.D.V. days, the publication of Col. Sir Edwin King's letter gives us great pleasure, and to no less

degree were we glad to receive a directive from the Colonel of the Regiment to include the following tribute in our Editorial:

"We feel impelled to express our sympathy with the HOME GUARD over their stand-down before the war is over, and the appreciation of the Regiment for the notable part they have played **not** only in guarding our shores from land invasion for four years, but in permitting us to send over the bulk of our Army to free N.W. Europe of the German stranglehold, and enable the Allied Forces to attack German soil and thus bring the war more closely home to that arrogant and pitiless foe.

"The Regiment is proud of the high efficiency of the Home Guard, which has bravely upheld all the traditions of the Regimental badge they wear, and we remember with appreciation the help the Regimental Funds have received from many Home Guard units.

"We also do **not** forget that our County Employment Scheme owes its inception to the Home Guard led by Lieut.-Col. F. B-P. Weil, Commanding the 24th Middlesex Battalion Home Guard, without whose hand the Scheme would never have reached conception."

ApocryPH THE MIDDLESEX SCHEME, we are now in a position to report that we have had three interviews with members of the Ministry of Labour and National Service at a high level, and as a result of these meetings we hope to organise a conference early in the New Year at which the civilian side of the Scheme can be propounded.

In this issue we start a series of articles on Ancient Middlesex, which are bound to be of interest. These are written by an authority on the subject and a great friend of the County, Mr. C. W. Radcliffe, C.B.E., D.L., Clerk to the Middlesex County Council. In this connection we owe Mr. Radcliffe a great debt of gratitude, for not only did he consent most readily to let us have these articles, but, when requested, made it possible for us to use the colour blocks of the Armorial Bearings of the Municipal Boroughs of the County and of the Lord Lieutenants.

These coloured illustrations of the Borough Arms will be well worth keeping for reference, as it is our intention to deal each quarter with one or two of the Boroughs, the articles being, it is hoped, illustrated by black and white drawings of the appropriate Arms, together with a full description of them.

Messrs. Gale and Polden also place us in their debt by generously allowing us to use the colour blocks of the Regimental Badge and Colours. These are also used on the front covers of a pamphlet and a booklet published by them and entitled, respectively, "History and Traditions of the Middlesex Regiment (D.C.O.)" and "A Short History of the Middlesex Regiment (D.C.O.)." Copies of these are still available from Messrs. Gale and Polden, either at Wellington Works, Aldershot, or Ideal House, Argyll Street, London, W.I. If, when applying for copies of these publications, readers will mention this Journal, it will be appreciated.

While on the subject of acknowledgments, we must mention the following persons and/or organisations without whose willingness to help, this Christmas issue could not have been so colourful

and interesting: Miss J. Heddle and Miss Morgan, of the M.C.C.; Miss Mitchell, of Evans Bros., Ltd.; Richard Clay and Co.; Capt. Collings, of the World's Press News Association; and the following national, county and local papers: "The Times," "The Daily Telegraph," "The Evening Standard," "The Newcastle Sunday Sun," "The Cambridge Daily News," "The Ayr Advertiser," "The Barrow News," "The Southern Daily Echo," "The Surrey Comet," "The West London Observer," "The Portsmouth Evening News," "The Middlesex Independent," "The Hendon Times" and "The Finchley Times."

The proposed series of articles on the Regiment's participation in the N. African and Sicilian campaigns have had to be held over as the distinguished Officer who is writing them has gone on a mission to N.W. Europe, but they will be started at the earliest opportunity. Meanwhile, we are delighted to receive from the C.O. of one of our Battalions in N.W. Europe, who, unfortunately, must remain anonymous, but through no wish of ours, a detailed account of his Battalion's part in the fighting since "D" Day up to and including the epic of ARNHEIM and the crossing of the LEK. This we have published under the "News from some of the Battalions" column.

We wrote, sending a copy of the September issue of the Journal, to General Eisenhower, Field-Marshal Alexander, Field-Marshal Montgomery and General Horrocks, asking each of them for a Christmas message for our readers, and we are very proud of the reply from the Supreme Commander-in-Chief of the Allied Expeditionary Forces. We also print Col. Dawney's reply on behalf of Field-Marshal Montgomery, and we are very appreciative of the message from "Monty" contained therein. (We also print the message received from the famous C-in-C, 21 A.G. on the 14th September in reply to a letter sent to him by the Colonel of the Regiment congratulating him on his appointment to the rank of Field-Marshal.) The replies from Field-Marshal Alexander and General Horrocks have not, at the time of writing, come to hand, but they will be included as soon as possible.

Seeing that we have, ourselves, been "stood-down" with the rest of our Home Guard colleagues, perhaps we shall be forgiven for placing on record a personal note on this melancholy subject.

That we shall miss the companionship of our fellow Home Guardsmen, as an integral part of the Armed Forces of the Crown, is an under-statement, but that we shall be allowed, nay, encouraged to develop and foster the friendships made by us with the Regular Army and among the members of our own Force is the one great solace we have. We are very aware of the privilege extended to us in being allowed to edit a Regimental Journal; all the more so that it is the Journal of the Middlesex Regiment.

For the period of the war we have lived in the shadow of a great name for which we are grateful.

We wish to all our readers as happy a Christmas as is possible in present-day circumstances, and for the New Year our earnest prayer is for speedy conclusion to hostilities in Europe.

MESSAGE FROM GEN. EISENHOWER

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS,
ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE,
OFFICE OF THE SUPREME COMMANDER.

DEAR CAPT. MOORE,

I value highly the privilege of sending, through the pages of "The Die-Hards," Christmas greetings to the Officers and Other Ranks of the Middlesex Regiment.

The combat record of the Regiment in this campaign is a distinguished one; a record that cannot fail to add new laurels even to its already brilliant reputation.

My Christmas wish to you of the Regiment is that soon we may have the complete victory your gallantry and your sacrifice have done so much to help attain. I profoundly hope that the New Year may see the beginning of a permanent peace in Europe and that all of you may quickly return to your home and friends, and to the rewards you so much deserve.

Good luck!

Sincerely,

(Signed) DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER.

Capt. G. E. Moore,
The Regimental Association of the
Middlesex Regiment,
Ingliston Barracks, Mill Hill,
London, N.W.7.

FIELD-MARSHAL SIR B. L. MONTGOMERY

The following message was received on the 14th September from the Commander-in-Chief, 21 Army Group. This letter was received in answer to one written by the Colonel of the Regiment, complimenting this most distinguished Commander on his appointment to the rank of Field-Marshal.

"Thank you very much for your letter. I have a very high regard for the Middlesex Regiment, and am always glad to hear of any of them who have served under me. There are several Battalions of the Regiment here in Belgium today and they are all doing very well. My best wishes to you and your Regiment."

And on the 2nd November the Editor received the following letter from Lieut.-Col. A. Dawney, the M.A. to C-in-C, 21 Army Group:

"Dear Sir,—Field-Marshal Montgomery has asked me to thank you for your letter to him of the 24th October. He very much regrets that owing to the very large number of similar requests which he has received, he cannot send you a message for your Regimental Magazine. I feel sure you will realise how busy he is at the present time, and what a large number of requests of this kind he has received. He has, however, asked me to say what happy memories he has of the Battalion of your Regiment which served under him in the 3rd Division in France in 1940, and who have now been with him once again in Normandy and Belgium.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) A. DAWNEY,

Lieut.-Col.,

M.A. to Commander-in-Chief.



A FAREWELL MESSAGE TO THE MIDDLESEX HOME GUARD FROM COLONEL SIR EDWIN KING, K.C.B., C.M.G.

Now that the end of this long war is at last coming slowly into sight, and the danger of invasion is definitely finished, it has become possible to release our gallant Home Guards from the arduous and exacting duties that they have so nobly performed, and to permit them to pass into a state of what is now officially called "suspended animation." That they are passing away for ever is quite inconceivable because no future Home Defence scheme could ever be complete without them.

And now as Chairman of the Middlesex Territorial Army and Air Force Association, the body which was, and still is for a little longer, responsible for the administration of the Home Guard, it is my earnest hope that the words will come to me to express adequately all that we owe to this gallant body of men.

It is at least possible for me to speak of them with that real and intimate knowledge that only personal association can give, for there is nothing in my life of which I am more proud than the fact that it was my privilege to raise, organise and train a sector of the Home Guard of Middlesex and to command it until the more immediate danger of invasion had passed away.

I know so well of my own knowledge the spirit of utter devotion with which the men of 1940, the founders of the force, were inspired. At least half of them were veterans of the last war, and the rest men of an age to understand what war really means. In that year the country was practically unarmed, literally ripe for destruction, an attempt at invasion was expected almost daily, and the Home Guard well knew that in that event, devoid of arms and equipment, it was doomed to destruction and could only hope to make the enemy pay as heavy a price as possible in the process. But none the less every man in the force was determined, when the expected call came, never to retreat from the post allotted to him, never to surrender but to die on the ground fighting to the last, even if his only weapon was a club or a pitchfork.

Never has any force ever been inspired by a finer fighting spirit, or a deeper and more self-sacrificing sense of duty, and never can the country be sufficiently grateful to them. Except the men themselves none can ever realise fully the strain that it placed upon them, when tired out at the end of a long day's work in factory or on the land, they had to sacrifice the rest that they so badly needed and had so thoroughly earned, and to give up their scanty leisure to hard military training.

Never have our people failed to rally like one man to the sacred call of national danger. In the days of the Spanish Armada they were organised in Trained Bands, in the French Wars as Volunteers and Armed Associations and Local Militia, in the last war as Volunteers again and in this war first in the name of Local Defence Volunteers and then as the Home Guard, which will doubtless be the name for all such organisations in the future, for never could a better name have been devised.

And now the days of danger and difficulty are passing away and the Home Guard can be released at last to enjoy once more in peace the good things of life, which they have so long denied themselves at the call of duty. In bidding farewell to our Middlesex Home Guard, I can find no words sufficient to express all that I feel. I can only say, "Farewell, my old comrades of the Home Guard, you have done your duty nobly, in accordance with the best traditions of our race. We all thank you from the bottom of our hearts for all that you have done for us. In your retirement may God grant you long life and good health and all the peace and happiness and comfort that you have so richly deserved."

(Signed.) EDWIN KING, Colonel,
Chairman, Middlesex Territorial Army and
Air Force Association.

—BN., THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT,
B.L.A.,
1ST NOVEMBER, 1944.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

I wonder if any of your readers could inform the Journal of the origin of both the words and the music of the song: "If it was not for the old Die-Hards, where would England be."

In fact, if you could publish the complete verses I feel it would satisfy a want. I am only aware of a somewhat obscene chorus.

This chorus which is extremely patriotic and regimental in nature has a good marching lilt. Although in peacetime it is not officially recognised and is never sponsored by the officers, every recruit who comes to the Depot learns it from some person or persons unknown. Presumably members of the Depot Staff, although their tour is normally only two years, pass it on from generation to generation.

I have heard ugly rumours that it is really the song of another Regiment and has been cribbed from our neighbours at Hounslow, the words "Old Die-Hards" being substituted for "Royal Fusiliers," but I hope this is not the case, as it will shatter some of my earliest Regimental memories.

Perhaps some member of the Band could tell us about the music, although I am certain they have never condescended to play it.

Yours sincerely,
Lieut-Col.
Cmdg. —BN., The Middlesex Regiment.

REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION NOTES

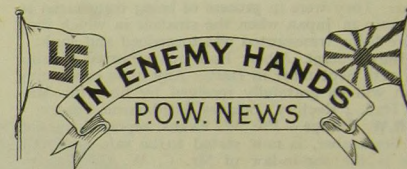
A most interesting ceremony took place at Finchley on 14th October, 1944, in connection with the "SALUTE THE SOLDIER" campaign held last March. The Mayor handed to No. 620202 Sergt. G. Rawling, D.C.M. (representing the —Bn. Middlesex Regiment), an Oak Plaque in memory of the adoption of the Battalion by the Borough for that campaign. The Colonel of the Regiment later spoke on behalf of the Regiment. Many speeches were made, all full of praise for the gallant actions and bravery of the Battalion, typified in the person of Sergt. Rawling, who won his award for gallantry in NORMANDY. The Mayor also handed to the Colonel of the Regiment a cheque for £100 for the Regimental Association funds, which will be very useful for our work. In return Sergt. Rawling presented to the Mayor of Finchley a set of miniature Colours of the —Battalion embroidered in silk and placed in a frame made by Pte. Mette, of the R.D.P. This gift was much admired. Such ceremonies do much to cement the bonds of friendship between the County and the Regiment, which we have been lately endeavouring to promote in every possible way. Many Boroughs now take a great interest in their County Regiment. In addition to this gift I have to thank the Borough of Acton for making the Association a gift of £100 to be used for such purposes as the Colonel considered fit. This sum has been allocated to assist in payment for much-needed repairs to our four Cottage Homes, which will cost approximately £200. These repairs are the first to be carried out since the beginning of the war and were urgently needed.

The undermentioned gifts have been received up to the end of November:

Unit, etc.	P.O.W. Fund		Regimental Association Fund	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Roe Green Junior Mixed School	13	5	0	
Elsworth Youth Club, Boreham Wood	2	2	0	
Keystone Knitting Mills	2	2	0	
Post 18, C.D., Finchley	25	0	0	
Regimental Pensioner Mr. Cutler		5	0	
Middlesex Battalions	24	16	9	
Middlesex Battalion		15	0	0
Hoovers' Sports Club		15	10	0
16th Battalion Middlesex Home Guard Austin Speed Fund		150	0	0
C.S.M. Soper (with a Battalion of the Kens.)		1	0	0

Grants to 17 cases have been made, total cost £97 10s. 0d. Three special parcels have been sent to three P.O.W. from next of kin at a cost of approximately £6. The ban sending parcels and cigarettes still holds good, except for such special cases as the Red Cross permits.

During November, 1944, grants amounting to £67 17s. 1d. have been made to 16 cases. £6 1s. 2d. has been spent on first parcels to three P.O.W. This was the only type allowed, and no cigarettes could be sent. The suspension being caused by transport difficulties in Europe probably caused by our bombing. It has now been rescinded and the normal practice of sending parcels and cigarettes will be resumed. The O.C. one of our Battalions has received £25 for purchase of W.T. sets for his men from the Mayor of Acton.



On Wednesday, 29th November, at the Central Hall, Westminster, the Hong Kong Fellowship held their fourth meeting. It was the first one they have been able to hold since before the summer owing to the Government's request to curtail traffic together with the non-desirability of holding large gatherings of people during the flying-bomb blitz.

This was my first opportunity of seeing for myself the Fellowship in action and of meeting Mrs. Tidbury, Mrs. Parker and Mrs. Allen.

I went with the Colonel of the Regiment, General Rowley and Major Porter, a member of the Regiment who had only recently escaped from Italy into Switzerland and who, on arriving at LYONS had been flown back to this country by the American Air Force.

I don't think any of us, except Col. Browne, realised what we were going to witness; it was certainly a revelation to Major Porter and myself. The atmosphere of kinship was so intense that it could almost be felt. The close attention which was given to the speakers was almost religious in intensity.

The President, General A. E. Grassett, C.B., D.S.O., M.C., was unable to be present as he has for some time been the Director-General of Civil Affairs in N.W. Europe, so Admiral Sir Charles Little, G.B.E., K.C.B., one of the Vice-Presidents, took the chair. Pending the arrival of the chief speaker of the afternoon, Colonel Oliver Stanley, Secretary of State for the Colonies, the Chairman made several announcements of interest to the meeting, one of which was to the effect that Col. Browne, on behalf of the Regimental Association, had promised to defray the expenses of the hire of the Central Hall for the afternoon.

In our next issue we will give a more detailed account of the speeches, but we must report the great emphasis placed by all speakers on the fact that the tremendous amount of time, thought and work given by the Government to the P.O.W. question in all its ramifications is still not realised or appreciated by the next-of-kin of the prisoners, let alone the general public.

Mr. King, the Controller of the Far East Section of the B.R.C.S., spoke most interestingly, and then for twenty minutes answered questions from members of the audience.

The organisation of the meeting was extraordinarily good, and it was quite easy to see that the contingent of relatives of the men of our Regiment was by far the largest of those present.

Among the details received of individual prisoners of war the following information is published.

Far East.—Notification has been received by the parents of Cpl. R. J. C. Pearce, of 35 Wilberforce Road, West Hendon, and Cpl. T. Simpson, of 48 James' Street, Barrow, that their sons must be presumed to have lost their lives while prisoners of

war. They were in process of being transferred to a camp in Japan when the steamer in which they were being transported was torpedoed and sunk.

Italy.—Sergt. Albert Hall was reported missing on 12th September in Italy. Any news concerning him will be gratefully received by his wife, Mrs. D. Hall, 4 Rectory Cottages, Fishbourne, Sussex.

N.W. Europe.—Pte. W. Evans, reported missing in September, is now stated to be safe and well. He is the son-in-law of Mr. C. W. G. Watson, headmaster of Pennington C.E. Mixed School, and of Mrs. Watson, of "Highfield," Milford Road, Pennington. Mr. and Mrs. A. L. T. Nemes, of 6 Crescent Way, North Finchley, have been notified that their eldest son, Sergt. William Nemes, of the 1st Airborne Division, who was previously reported missing at ARNHEIM, is now a prisoner of war. Before the outbreak of the war he was a member of one of our Territorial Battalions and with them he went to France. Returning from there he was transferred to a paratroop unit, in which he saw service in North Africa, Sicily and Italy.

Pte. Ken Brisley, who has recently been repatriated from Stalag IX A.H., near Cassel, has opened a shop in Hampton High Street, close to two other ex-P.O.W.s, both of whom were with him at the same prison camp, and both of whom now run The Duke's Head public-house. Brisley had four tough years in Germany. The Germans did not give him an artificial leg after his amputation so he made one for himself out of an old crutch and some plaster-of-paris.

TERRITORIAL ASSOCIATION NOTES

It is with the deepest regret that the Association has to report the death of Major W. W. Burton.

Major Burton was appointed a member of the Association in 1941, and for many years prior to his appointment rendered the most valuable service in the many spheres of the Association's activities. Since the outbreak of war he gave full-time voluntary service—embracing Command of a Home Guard Battalion—provision of accommodation for the Home Guard—Army Welfare and Cadets.

His death is a great loss to the Association, and all those with whom he came into contact will sorely miss his ready and valuable help and guidance, and the charming manner and cheery word he had for everyone.

At the annual meeting of the Association held on 6th November, 1944, Col. Sir Edwin King was unanimously re-elected Chairman for the ensuing year, and Group-Capt. A. S. W. Dore unanimously re-elected Vice-Chairman.

The main work of the Association during the next few months will be in connection with the Standing Down of the Home Guard. During the period the force has been in being the Association has at all times received the closest co-operation and help from the Sector and Battalion Commanders, and this has contributed in no small measure to the smooth working of the Administration. The Association feels sure that this close co-operation will continue in the heavy task of concentration of weapons, stores, etc., and the completion of records, accounts, de-requisitioning of buildings, return of furniture and the many other services rendered necessary consequent upon the Stand Down.

Farewell parades may be held up to and including the 3rd December, 1944. On that day a Central Parade will be held in London, at which all Middlesex Battalions and Batteries will be represented.

A Certificate of Service, signed by His Majesty the King will be issued to all members of the Home Guard serving on 3rd December, 1944, and to all past members who apply to the Territorial Association concerned. All such applications from past members should include full particulars of their service in the Home Guard.

It is anticipated that in the County of Middlesex alone, the Territorial Association will be called upon to issue some 100,000 Certificates. This, in itself, is a great task, but with the co-operation of all concerned, will be dealt with immediately and completed at the earliest possible moment.

SHORT HISTORY OF OUR REGIMENTAL BADGE

The Middlesex Regimental Badge consists of a wreath of laurels with the Prince of Wales' feathers in plume at the top of the wreath, and the words "Ich Dien" on a scroll below the feathers. Below appears the coronet and cypher of the Duke of Cambridge, and towards the base of the wreath the word "Albuhera" on a scroll.

The laurel wreath and the word "ALBUHERA" form part of the badge in memory of, and awarded to the Regiment for, the famous action at ALBUHERA on 16th May, 1811, at which battle the Colonel of the Regiment 57th Foot (now 1st Battalion Middlesex Regiment (D.C.O.)) called on his men to "Die hard," and from those words the title of the "Die-Hards" has sprung and now covers all Units of the Regiment.

The Prince of Wales' feathers in plume with the motto "Ich Dien" below, originally were awarded to the 77th Foot. It is believed that this honour was first introduced by Lieut-General Lord Cavan (an ancestor of the present Field-Marshal the Earl of Cavan) in 1808, when he was appointed Colonel of 77th Foot (now 2nd Battalion). In 1810 he obtained Royal permission to bear this plume on the Colours and Appointments of the 77th Foot, it having previously been so worn without permission.

The Duke of Cambridge's coronet and cypher is connected with H.R.H. The Duke of Cambridge, former Commander-in-Chief of the Army. On 20th June, 1876, Her Majesty Queen Victoria approved of the 77th Foot being in future called The Duke of Cambridge's Own Regiment, and permission was given on 14th December, 1876, to bear his coronet and cypher on the Colours and on the Badge of the former 77th Foot (East Middlesex Regiment).

In 1881, the two separate Regiments, the 57th West Middlesex Regiment and the Duke of Cambridge's Own Regiment, were formed into one Regiment called The Duke of Cambridge's Own (Middlesex Regiment) with the Badge as now worn.

That title was changed after the Great War to the present name, The Middlesex Regiment (The Duke of Cambridge's Own).

The Territorial Infantry Units of the Regiment wear the same Badge as also have the Home Guard of the County since their formation. The former 9th Battalion T.A., which is now a Light A.A. Regiment R.A., continues to wear the Middlesex Regimental Badge.



HONOURS ON THE COLOURS

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

King's Colour:

"Mons"; "Marne, 1914"; "Ypres, 1915, '17, '18"; "Albert, 1916, '18"; "Bazentin"; "Cambrai, 1917, '18"; "Hindenburg Line"; "Suvla"; "Jerusalem"; "Mesopotamia, 1917-18"

Regimental Colour:

"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"



FROM THE STAINED GLASS WINDOWS IN THE GUILDHALL



COAT ARMOUR OF
THE LORD ROCHDALE
+
LORD LIEUTENANT &
CUSTOS ROTULORUM
MIDDLESEX



THE ARMORIAL BEARINGS OF MIDDLESEX

In 1910 the County Council received from the College of Arms permission to bear arms. That this had a news value is evidenced by the following quotation from the "Times" of 7th November of that year. Heraldry is a most fascinating subject, and the following description of the County's Arms is a good example of the unique and individual language used in Heraldry. So much so that we have felt it necessary to append a translation of the Blazon into everyday language.

Blazon of the Arms

GULES.—Three seaxes fessewise in pale proper, pomelled and hilted or; points to the sinister, and cutting edge upwards. In chief a Saxon Crown in gold.

Which being interpreted is:

Description of the Arms

RED.—Three curved broad-bladed swords (having a notch in their backs), horizontally, one above the other, all in colour and shape true to the actual model, pomelled and hilted in gold; points to the left and cutting edges upwards. In the upper portion of the shield a Saxon Crown in gold.

Here is that the "Times" had to say:

"The SAXON CROWN is now for the first time introduced into the arms. This is the earliest form of crown recorded in connection with any English Sovereign. It appears on the silver penny of Æthelstan (925-940). The coin, which may be seen in the British Museum, was minted at Winchester, and Æthelstan was the first English Sovereign—REX TO(TIUS) BR(ITANNIAE) appears on the coin—to issue an ordinance whereby only one coinage was permitted throughout his kingdom. His crowned head appears on these coins, whereas the heads of his predecessors, including his grandfather, King Alfred (871-901), were shown on their coins either without any metal ornament, or simply adorned with a fillet or plain diadem.

"The coins of Æthelred II (979-1016), with whom the Danish Kings Sweyn and Cnut disputed for the crown of England, show him with a high pointed helmet. Edward the Confessor (1042-1066) and Harold II (1066) introduced on their coins certain additions to the crown as worn by Æthelstan. In one design we find little arches placed on the rim between the two balled spikes. In another the spikes are connected across the top of the Crown and approximate in shape to the modern Imperial Crown.

"This modification or 'difference' (heraldically speaking) adopted by the Middlesex County Council in their ancient badge is, therefore, of interest from an historical point of view. The introduction of the Saxon Crown is also singularly appropriate at a period when we have on the throne of Great Britain a Duke of Saxony, who is also the son and grandson of a Saxon Duke.

"Kent, Essex (including Middlesex), and East Anglia (Norfolk and Suffolk) undoubtedly derived their County organisation from their old status as Kingdoms.

"The SAXON STABBING-KNIFE (seax) has been strangely distorted and exaggerated by 'heraldic' artists. It was in fact only about 5½ inches to 8 inches long in the blade, and (with

or without a cross-hilt) was worn at the belt, in much the same way as the Norwegians carry their knives today for general use. It was the earliest form of the much longer 'Scramasax.' Both of these weapons may be seen in English and European museums.

"The County traces its origin to the severance of London from the East Saxon kingdom, which originally included Essex, Middlesex and part of Herts, and was practically identical with the ancient diocese of London. At the end of the strife between Guthrum, the Danish King of East Anglia and King Alfred, London reverted to the latter, and the western half of the East Saxon kingdom (thenceforward called Middlesex) was cut off to form a special district round the future metropolis of the world.

"A pamphlet published in 1780 by Sir John Hawkins, a former chairman of the Middlesex Quarter Sessions, urged the claims of Middlesex to the arms of the East Saxons. Col. Otley Perry F.S.A., a Justice of the Peace for Middlesex, and the author of 'Rank, Badges and Dates in Her Majesty's Army and Navy,' was recently invited by the Chairman of the County Council to suggest a suitable heraldic 'difference' or modification of the East Saxon Badge. His design was unanimously recommended to the County Council by a special sub-committee, presided over by the Duke of Northumberland. The County Council adopted the design in July last, and have since obtained a grant of it from the College of Arms." (Extract from the "Times" of 7th November, 1910).

THE HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT OF MIDDLESEX

by C. W. RADCLIFFE, C.B.E., D.L., Clerk of the Peace and Clerk and Solicitor to the County Council.

Part One

Middlesex Before the Norman Conquest

Very little is known of prehistoric life in the area which was afterwards to be known as Middlesex, and it is probable that the low-lying sections of the County were mere swamps, while the clay subsoil that constituted the greater part of the County was covered with impenetrable forests. The remains of a camp have been found at ENFIELD and of a mound at RUISLIP, while others at KINGSBURY and HOUNSLOW were reported to have existed before building development obliterated all traces. Air photography has been responsible for locating some evidence of early occupation in STANWELL and EAST BEDFONT. Traces of Grims Dyke are found along a line running north east from CUCKOO HILL, west of PINNER, to WEALD WOOD, west of STANMORE, and at one time it was thought that this marked the boundary of the Catuvellauni tribe. More recent excavations, however, have shown that it could not have been dug earlier than the fifth century.

The invasion of the English coast by Julius Caesar fifty-five years before the birth of Christ was merely in the nature of a raid, and the Roman forces did not penetrate far inland. In the following year, however, Caesar marched his army northwards towards the Thames. Whether he crossed at LAMBETH or at BRENTFORD is a point on which much controversy has raged, but in any event

he must have traversed the County in order to reach the capital of the Catuvellauni, known as Oppidum Cassivelauni and said to be situated near WHEAT-HAMPSTEAD in Hertfordshire.

After his notable victory over this powerful tribe Cæsar imposed a heavy tribute and withdrew his army back to Gaul, leaving traces of his occupation at LALEHAM and SHEPPERTON, and allowed Britain to look after its own affairs.

There is no evidence that the tribute which Cæsar imposed was ever paid, and we may imagine that the country lived in comparative peace for over a century.

Whether London existed at all at this date is open to some doubt, though, as its name has a distinctly Celtic origin, it is probable that some sort of settlement had been established, perhaps merely consisting of fishermen.

Changes which had an important effect on the development of London, and incidentally on the County of Middlesex, were brought about by the removal of the capital of the Catuvellauni to Colchester, where the town of Camulodunum had been established before Cunobelinus (the Cymbeline of Shakespeare) became the chief of the tribe. As a result of this change, the roads leading from the Kentish ports, which crossed the Thames either at LAMBETH or farther west, were diverted to a ford or possibly a bridge at SOUTHWARK, and so led eastwards to Colchester. London was thus left in the apex of a triangle formed by these roads, and, no doubt, this situation encouraged its development.

In A.D. 43 the famous Roman Emperor Claudius sent Aulus Plautius with a well-equipped army of 40,000 men to undertake the conquest of Britain. His campaign was entirely successful, and before long he had subdued the whole area south of the Humber and east of the Severn. During this campaign, Prasutagus, king of the people living in Norfolk and Suffolk who were known as the Iceni, submitted to the Roman rule without joining contest, and as a reward was allowed to retain his kingdom. On his death he bequeathed half his possessions to the Roman Emperor and half to his daughters. The Roman ruler in Britain was not satisfied with this arrangement and endeavoured to obtain the whole of the kingdom of the Iceni, which so infuriated the warlike Boadicea, widow of the late king, that in A.D. 60 she raised an army and sacked Colchester. Flushed with success, she marched on to St. Albans, while, fortunately for her, Suetonius, the Roman general, was with his army in Wales and before he could reach the south London was already in the hands of the victorious British Queen.

Her success was short-lived, for when Suetonius reached the south with a large portion of his forces, he completely overthrew the rebellious tribe and slew their gallant leader. Nobody can say exactly where this action took place, but all the authorities seem to agree that the borders of Middlesex and Hertfordshire were the most likely places. Two places have been known as "Boadicea's grave," one being between HAMPSTEAD PONDS and HIGHGATE PONDS, and the other near BENTLEY PRIORY in HARROW WEALD, but excavations have failed to establish the claim of either of these places.

For two centuries after these events England flourished under Roman rule and the City of London began to take shape. According to the earliest-

known description of London, given to us by Tacitus, the Roman historian, it was, in A.D. 61, "a city teeming with merchants and busy with the trafficking of wares."

In Middlesex much was done, no doubt, to reclaim the swampy ground and to cut down some of the forests. As London grew so did the neighbouring agricultural area prosper. Roads were rapidly built and improved, and today Watling Street and Ermine Street form the foundation of our great arteries to the north-west and north-east, while the Via Trinobantica which ran from STAINES (then known as Pontes from the fact that it crossed the Colne and the Thames by bridges) to the west, is followed by the route of the old Bath Road.

The position of London prevented the growth of any big towns in the County at this time, and STAINES and Sulloniacaæ at BROCKLEY HILL are the only places which can warrant such a description. Traces of Roman settlements have, however, been found at HARMONDSWORTH, KINGSBURY, ACTON, CHISWICK, and at BENTLEY PRIORY, with others at HAREFIELD, HANWELL and EALING which are not quite so easy of identification.

The raids by the Franks and by the Saxon pirates in 285, their defeat in 296, and the incursions of the Picts, Scots, Saxons and Attocotti during the fourth century must have made their effect felt on the County, as more often than not London, the principal stronghold of the defenders, was the objective of the intruders.

When the Roman empire was threatened with destruction at its centre, the Roman troops were gradually withdrawn from Britain and the natives were bidden to defend themselves. Their plea to Rome for help in 496 against the invasion of Hengist and Horsa was disregarded, and a Jutish kingdom was set up in Kent. We know little of the events which occurred during the next century until Middlesex emerges in 527 as part of the East Saxon Kingdom. Its overlordship changed from time to time, but from 664, except for a brief period after the battle of Burford in 752, it remained under the King of Mercia until that kingdom was merged with the Kingdom of England under King Egbert in 827.

The County system was not introduced into England until 900, but nearly two centuries earlier the first reference to Middlesex is found in a charter in 704, when the King of the East Saxons granted a piece of land in TWICKENHAM "in the Province which is called Middelseaxon."

It is probable that the County also suffered under the Danes in 851, when London was burned to the ground, and in the campaign waged by Alfred in 871 to avenge this defeat, but after this brave monarch had accomplished his object the County must have lived under peaceful conditions until 1002, when the Danes, led by their King, Sweyn, successfully attacked our shores. Although Sweyn was elected King of England in 1013, he died the following year and the English recalled Ethelred, who ruled until his death three years later. Edmund Ironside, his son, was then elected king by the citizens of London, but Canute landed on the east coast with a large force and immediately set siege to Ironside and his supporters within the walls of the city. After the gallant Ironside had repulsed many attacks he eventually escaped and was able to collect his army, which had been in Wessex.

With these he returned towards London and defeated Canute at BRENTFORD, though only to survive a short time before meeting death by murder at Oxford. After this Canute managed to persuade the people of England to elect him king, no doubt by virtue of his marriage with good Queen Emma, widow of Ethelred, and he continued in power until his death in 1035.

During the rule of Harold and Hardicanute, both sons of Canute, the County appears to have remained unmolested, and on the latter's death in 1042 Edward, the son of Ethelred and Emma, was elected to the throne. Better known as St. Edward the Confessor, he had great influence over the people of Middlesex and was responsible for the building of the original Westminster Abbey. His death in January 1066 led to the invasion and conquest of the whole country by William of Normandy, better known as William the Conqueror.

Christianity had been introduced into England as early as the second century, and it is related that Lucius built a church in Cornhill in A.D. 179, when London was created a bishopric. It is probable, however, that the Faith was not generally adopted until about seventy years later, when the Roman Emperor decreed that persons throughout the empire should be allowed to consecrate buildings for the purpose of carrying on their religious worship. But Christianity did not proceed along easy paths, and the martyrdom of St. Alban just outside Verulamium illustrates the opposition which had to be overcome.

The Council at Arles in 314 was attended by the Bishop of London, who signed the canons which were drawn up on that occasion.

We know little further about the development of Christianity in England until the arrival of St. Augustine in 596, when for a few years converts from paganism are supposed to have been numerous. During this revival, Saebert, king of the East Saxons, is reputed to have begun the building of St. Paul's Cathedral, but on his death in 616 the County relapsed into its former pagan condition. Sigebert III, who had previously been converted, restored the Christian religion, and in 656 appointed a Bishop of London, but the diocese cannot be considered as permanently established until the consecration of St. Erkenwald in 674.

From this date onwards it seems clear that Christianity became generally widespread, and there is no reason to suppose that the County of Middlesex failed to follow the general trend of opinion. In his *History of Middlesex*, written in 1810, Daniel Lysons refers to evidence of Saxon work being found in many of the churches of the County, but in the recent survey by the Royal Commission on Historical Monuments, no reference is found to buildings of a date earlier than the twelfth century.

As far as is known, no monasteries or priories were established in Saxon times within the boundaries of the present County, although the great Abbey founded by King Offa at St. Albans, Westminster Abbey, Canterbury and St. Paul's Cathedrals all held large areas of land within the confines of the County.

Norman and Mediæval Middlesex

The development of the County during the Saxon regime had no doubt been considerable, and probably vast areas of swamp had been regained, more roads had been built, and forests had been

cleared, while London in particular had grown into a large and flourishing city.

As has been the case in succeeding centuries, the City of London dominated the development of Middlesex, for by the nature of its situation London has always formed the market for Middlesex, both in regard to supplies and labour.

When William of Normandy landed at Hastings in 1066, Middlesex was a typical agricultural area and possessed no town of any importance.

The news of William's victory at Hastings over the Saxon forces of Harold spread quickly to London, where a Council of State was at once called. By this time the northern army, which Harold had left when he hastened south, was rapidly approaching the city, and neighbouring inhabitants sought the protection of its walls as was their custom in times of danger. Two courses therefore presented themselves to the chief men of the city: either to admit the victory of William and submit to him, or to fight it out. They decided on the latter course, and elected Edgar, the grandson of Edmund Ironside, as their King.

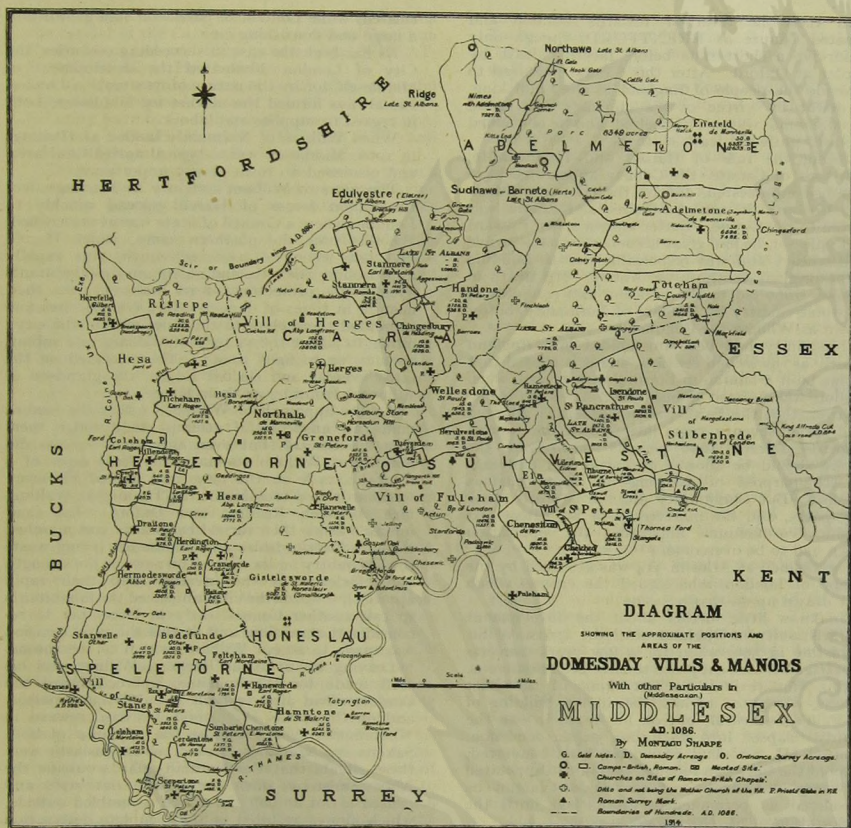
On the approach of William's forces the Saxons made an unsuccessful attempt to dislodge them from Southwark, but even this small success did not tempt William to make the fatal error of a frontal attack on the city, and he led his army westwards to a crossing of the Thames at Wallingford, between Reading and Oxford. The Conqueror's army then turned eastwards and marched through Hertfordshire and Middlesex, laying waste to the country on its way. The news of the strength and efficiency of the invaders and their rapid approach towards the city influenced the inhabitants to call another Council early in December to reconsider the position, and at this the vital decision was made to accept William's claim to the throne.

Leaving his army at Barking, William and his staff made for Westminster, where Edward the Confessor had already built his abbey and palace, and on Christmas Day, 1066, he was crowned in Westminster Abbey amidst the applause of both Saxons and Normans. In fact, so enthusiastic were these shouts that the Norman guards outside the Abbey mistook them for hostile outbursts and caused a riot among the crowd assembled outside, which almost resulted in the complete destruction of the neighbouring houses.

Soon after his coronation, William proceeded to secure his position, and his first step in this direction was to build the Tower of London so as to protect him from the raids of the Norsemen, and at the same time to overawe the citizens and their neighbours. He also ousted the Saxon landowners and divided the country among his own faithful followers.

This task having been accomplished, he set in motion the compilation of one of the most remarkable books in history, that is to say, the Domesday Book. This book—or rather books, for there are two of them—is still in existence, and may, in peacetime, be seen at the museum of the Public Record Office in Chancery Lane. It was a complete survey of such parts of England as had submitted to his rule, and sets out the name of the holder and the approximate area of each manor, its value and the name of the previous holder in the time of Edward the Confessor.

From a study of the part which relates to the area of the present County of Middlesex, we are



able to form a fairly clear idea of its condition at this date. The County was divided up into six Hundreds just as it is today, with the exception that the Hundred of Isleworth was then called the Hundred of Hounslow.

The following places are mentioned by name: HORNSEY, WEST TWYFORD and WILLESSEN in the Hundred of Ossulstone; HARROW, HENDON and STANMORE in the Hundred of Gore; HAMPTON and ISLEWORTH in the Hundred of Hounslow; EDMONTON, ENFIELD and TOTTENHAM in the Hundred of Edmonton; COLHAM, COWLEY, CRANFORD, DAWLEY, WEST DRAYTON, GREENFORD, HANWELL, HAREFIELD, HARLINGTON, HARMONDSWORTH, HAYES, HILLINGDON, ICKENHAM, KINGSBURY, NORTHOLT and RUISLIP in the Hundred of Elthorne; and ASHFORD, BEDFORD, CHARLTON, FELTHAM, HANWORTH, KEMPTON, LALEHAM, SHEPPERTON, STAINES, STANWELL and SUNBURY in the

Hundred of Spelthorne. (In this para: the names of the Hundreds have been given their modern spelling, Ed.)

It is probable that ACTON, BRENTFORD, CHISWICK and EALING fell within the large area of FULHAM, while SOUTH MIMMS formed part of the Manor of ENFIELD; FINCHLEY was joined with HORNSEY; EDGWARE probably belonged to HARROW; HESTON to ISLEWORTH; NORWOOD to HAYES; LITTLETON to LALEHAM; TEDDINGTON to STAINES and UXBRIDGE to HILLINGDON.

The chief landowners were the Bishop of London, who owned EALING, FINCHLEY and HORNSEY; the Abbot of Westminster, who held ASHFORD, COWLEY, GREENFORD, HANWELL, STAINES, SHEPPERTON, SUNBURY, HENDON and certain privileges in LALEHAM; the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's, who had WEST DRAYTON, WEST TWYFORD and WILLESSEN; the Abbot of Holy Trinity, Rouen,

in Normandy, who held HARMONDSWORTH; the Archbishop of Canterbury, who owned HAYES and HARROW; whilst of the lay lords, Geoffrey de Mandeville was by far the most important, and he held NORTHOLT, PERIVALE (Greenford Parva), EDMONTON, ENFIELD, HADLEY and ICKENHAM; Roger, Earl of Arundel, held COLHAM, DAWLEY in HARLINGTON, HILLINGDON and ICKENHAM; William Fitz Ansculf held CRANFORD; Richard Fitz Gilbert, Earl of Brioux, held HAREFIELD; Ernulf de Hesding held KINGSBURY and RUISLIP; Walter Fitz Other held EAST BEDFORD and the overlordship of WEST BEDFORD and STANWELL; Roger de Rames held CHARLTON and LITTLE STANMORE or WHITCHURCH; Earl Mortain held FELTHAM, LALEHAM, KEMPTON and GREAT STANMORE; Walter de St. Waleric held HAMPTON and ISLEWORTH; Judith, the widow of Waltheof, held TOTTENHAM. This Waltheof was the son of Seward, Earl of Northumberland, who defeated Macbeth, the usurper of the crown of Scotland, immortalized by Shakespeare; when Gospatric, who had been created Earl of Northumberland by William the First, was deprived of his title, the Conqueror granted this Earldom, together with the Earldoms of Huntingdon and Northampton, to Waltheof, but he was arrested for a conspiracy against the King and beheaded at Westminster.

AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

We are proud to announce the details of the following Decorations and Awards made to members and former members of the Regiment up to 20th November, 1944:

Commander of the British Empire

Brigadier B. B. Rackham, M.C., for distinguished services in connection with the landings in NORMANDY.

Distinguished Service Order

Brigadier G. Flavell, formerly in the Middlesex Regiment, was awarded this decoration for his action in the Airborne Invasion of ARNHEM.

Lieut.-Col. A. E. Green, who was commanding one of the D.L.I. Battalions in N.W. Europe, and who was wounded in a successful attack on the ALBERT CANAL by his Battalion, whilst reorganising the position won, has been given this decoration.

Military Cross

Major J. R. C. Kenyon, for gallant and distinguished services in N.-W. Europe; Capt. D. E. Blayney, Lieut. D. Fulton, Lieut. E. S. Mortimer, A/Capt. R. E. Orr, Lieut. H. G. Wells.

Military Medal

Sergt. Mulcahy, Sergt. Russell, A/Sergt. G. E. Jenner, Cpl. H. Edmed, Cpl. Harewell, Pte. T. Cross, Pte. Leah, Pte. R. V. J. Robinson.

British Empire Medal

Cpl. B. E. C. Aldridge.

Bar to D.F.C.

A/Squadron Leader Gilbert Campbell, D.F.C., a native of Maybole, Ayrshire, has been awarded a Bar to the Distinguished Flying Cross. Campbell served with the Royal Scots Fusiliers in 1939 and transferred to our Regiment. He later transferred to the R.A.F., was commissioned in 1941, and was awarded the D.F.C. in April, 1943.

—BN., THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT.
B.L.A.,
1ST NOVEMBER, 1944.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

In your recent September issue, you mention that on the 16th May, 1944, there was published for the first time "The Die-Hards' Prayer." Although this may have been the first time that this particular set of verses was published, there have certainly been other Die-Hards' Prayers.

In 1940 the Rev. Philip Sprent, Chaplain to one of our Battalions, designed a Prayer Card, a copy of which he presented gratis to every member of the Battalion. It contained prayers for various occasions, and among them, entitled the Die-Hards' Prayer, were the words of St. Ignatius Loyola, founder of the Jesuits, and now used as a prayer by the Church of England. They read as follows:

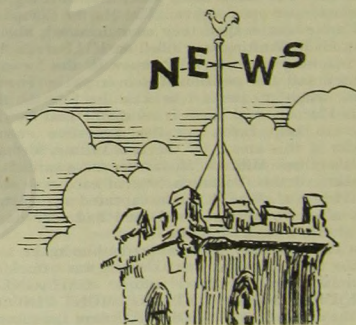
"Teach us, good Lord, to serve Thee as Thou deservest; to give and not to count the cost; to fight and not to heed the wounds; to toil and not to seek for rest; to labour and to ask for no reward, save that of knowing that we do Thy will, through Jesus Christ our Lord."

I do not think there was any historical reason for adopting this prayer under our sobriquet, except that the words exemplified the spirit shown by the 57th Foot on 16th May, 1941.

The same card was introduced into this Battalion in 1942, and both these Battalions do refer now during Church Parades, etc., to this prayer as the Die-Hards' Prayer. I am sure there will be many like myself who will prefer the words they knew first to the more topical verses read at Harrow.

Perhaps some of your readers could inform the Journal if similar Die-Hards' prayers appeared in the Crimea, Maori, South African, or the Great War, 1914-1918.

Yours sincerely,
Lieut.-Col.,
Cmdg. —BN., The Middlesex Regiment.



FROM SOME OF THE BATTALIONS

The Battalion went into action in the early morning of the 26th June, our last sub-unit having landed the previous day. Our landing had been spread out and delayed by the gales, which were nearly the cause of disaster to the whole operation. One of the two things we shall chiefly remember about the "journey to the front" is that intolerably

long wait aboard ship off the NORMANDY beaches. The other is the terrific send-off London gave us on our way to the docks. We have had our share of cheering crowds in the liberated towns over here. But nothing has equalled the warmth of that send-off. We still talk about it. We don't forget it.

From 26th June to 25th July we were continuously in action, and during this period our Division took part in some of the fiercest fighting of the whole campaign. Our first operation was the attack on CHEUX and ST. MAUVIEU. Our Division followed up the leading Division (in which was another of our Battalions) and took over the CHEUX sector from it. Our machine guns and heavy mortars were in action right from the start, and we suffered our first casualties on the 27th, when a Tiger tank got in among one of our Platoons. The Platoon Commander concerned had atrocious luck. He hit the tank twice with Piat bombs, but they bounced off owing to the angle at which he was firing. This CHEUX area was rather sticky, and the village of CHEUX itself a most unpleasant spot. Quite apart from the heavy mortaring and shelling, the discomfort caused by the dust (and if it wasn't the dust it was the mud!) and the smell of dead cattle was enough to damp anybody's spirits. But all ranks behaved like veterans and soon settled down to front line life in this warm sector. The appetite for digging did not require much stimulating.

It was rather disappointing machine gun country, though the M.G. Companies were constantly in action. The mortars found it much more to their taste and were already building up the reputation which had caused the General to call them "the best Mortar Company in the British Army."

The next big event was on 10th July, when our Division attacked MALTOT and the famous HILL 112. Some of the bitterest fighting in Normandy took place during the next few days. The results were that MALTOT was taken but not held, and that HILL 112 was shared with the Germans. Our M.G.s did a great deal of firing, on occasions over open sights. The Mortar Company fired more bombs than they ever dreamed about. Lieut. F. R. Waiting was killed on HILL 112. He was manning a mortar O.P. up with the forward infantry and the position was overrun by enemy tanks. Right to the last he was directing the fire of his Platoon, and there is no doubt that he did much to help break up the successive enemy attacks in this area. Of the two Military Crosses and the three Military Medals so far awarded to members of this Battalion, one of each was won on HILL 112. MALTOT was captured again later. Soon after we were relieved, and had four days' rest after a month in action.

On the 30th July we were in the line again, and for the next fortnight our Division was attacking continually in its new sector. CAHAGNES, JURQUES, ONDERPONTAINE, MONT PINCON and the crossing of the NOIREAU were the successive objectives. We played our full part in all these successful attacks and are proud to be able to speak about the victory at MONT PINCON, one of the great episodes of the campaign. In both the first and the last of these attacks the Battalion fired as a single unit, and not split up among Brigades. On the first occasion we had the job of keeping the enemy quiet on a hill which overlooked a road essential to our advance. For over

24 hours our M.G.s fired on this target, expending over a quarter of a million rounds. This proved to be well worth while. Traffic along this road was not interfered with, although it was learnt afterwards that the Germans were holding the hill in strength. We must have kept their heads down very successfully.

While this had been going on, the big American and British advances out of the bridgehead had been taking place. We now had a further short period out of the line, during which time PARIS was freed and the rapid Allied advance went on as far as the SEINE. It was on the 25th August at VERNON on the Seine that we next went into action. The crossing there by our Division has been described as a "little classic." Complete surprise was achieved, a substantial bridgehead secured in spite of the commanding high ground on the other side, and two bridges built. We fired what must have been the first mortar bombs and M.G. bullets across that river. Some of our machine-guns were sited in houses on one side and were firing at the enemy on the other bank. A few days later the armoured columns which made the advances to BRUSSELS and ANTWERP passed through us. We were proud to have helped to make possible this victorious advance; sorry to be left behind. One cause of our satisfaction was the thought that we had helped in the destruction of the majority of the flying-bomb sites.

Our next big action was the great thrust from the MEUSE-ESCAUT CANAL through EINDHOVEN to NIJMEGEN and beyond. The advance was led by a famous Armoured Division. Our Division was the Infantry Division which followed immediately behind. For two days we moved forward along the single road which was frequently cut behind us. We reached NIJMEGEN on the 21st September, the day following the capture of the bridge by the Guards. The next day the Division crossed the WAAL and, passing through the armour, became the leading troops. The fighting for the next two weeks was bitter. Some of our M.G. Platoons were sited alongside the foremost infantry sections and were using their personal weapons as often as their machine-guns. One Platoon in particular has received very high praise from the infantry they were supporting. Most of the Battalion also took part in the big fire plan which covered the withdrawal of the 1st British Airborne Division from across the LEK.

That brings the story of this Battalion almost up to date, but by the time that this gets into print we hope that we shall be well on our way into GERMANY.

A few days ago we were honoured by a visit from the General in whose Corps we have been since before the crossing of the SEINE at VERNON. He toured the Battalion's positions and said some very complimentary things about us. He was able to renew acquaintance with several officers and men who knew him as a Regimental Officer. We feel proud to be serving under this distinguished member of our Regiment.

(The foregoing was contributed by the Commanding Officer of the Battalion concerned, but, owing to Censorship, we are not allowed to divulge either his name or the Battalion's number. However, we thank him for making time, during all his activity, to let us know of his Battalion's participation in these stirring events, Ed.)

WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA ?

The phrase used as a title to this article is a favourite colloquialism these days, but in this case it is a great deal more. It is a really serious proposition which has a wealth of interest for you.

The Middlesex Flying Club, sponsored by members of "X" Sector, Home Guard, has for its aim the provision of that link which will enable you to maintain and extend in peace—and under the happiest auspices—the friendships you have made in war.

It was more than two years ago that a Committee was set up to investigate the possibility of establishing a Flying Club after the war for the particular enjoyment of those who have served in "X" Sector of the Home Guard. Since then the idea has grown almost out of all recognition.

This may be the first time you have heard of the Middlesex Flying Club, but it certainly won't be the last time.

What follows describes as briefly as possible the purpose behind this "big idea" in the hope that you, too, will decide to become one of the Founder Members of the Club—the first of its kind ever established in our country.

When victory has been won, the Middlesex Flying Club will be established with as little delay as possible.

Already a limited company has been formed—limited by guarantee (of one shilling for each member) and providing that any profits must be used only for furthering the objects of the Club and the interests of its members.

The following extract from the Articles of Association of the Club explains precisely who may apply for membership:

Qualification for election to membership of the Club shall be any person serving or who has served in the Home Guard, The Middlesex Regiment, the Royal Air Force, the Fleet Air Arm and the Territorial Association, or any relation of such person, who resides, or who has resided, in the County of Middlesex, or any firm, partnership or company registered under the Act, who carry on, or at any time has carried on, business, or maintains or at any time has maintained, an office, or whose registered office is, or any time has been, situate in the County of Middlesex, or whose principal, partner or a director thereof, resides, or at any time has resided, in the County of Middlesex.

Considerable progress, too, has been made towards completing arrangements for the use of the splendid flying field at Denham, Bucks, which is within easy reach of all parts of the County and of the Metropolis itself.

Wing-Commander Myles Bickerton, the owner of the property at Denham, is co-operating in a most generous way, and has given the Committee every kind of encouragement during the preliminary negotiations. He has also honoured the Club by becoming one of its first Vice-Presidents.

In addition, it may be confidently anticipated that the Air Ministry will give this venture every encouragement and financial aid on the termination of hostilities. The Royal Aero Club authorities are also showing a friendly interest in the project. In fact, they have promised that the Middlesex Flying Club shall be represented on the General Council of Light Aeroplane Clubs which operate under the aegis of the Royal Aero Club.

It will be appreciated, however, that it will take some little time to put into being the plans for the establishment of the Flying Field, since Government controls and various wartime conditions cannot be expected immediately to adjust themselves. But when the Flying Field is ready, facilities will be available for all members to fly for pleasure or on business to every part of the world.

There will be hangars to accommodate members' own aeroplanes, and there will be machines available for hire by anyone holding a pilot's licence. In addition of course, competent pilots will be ready to give instruction to any members who want to learn to fly.

After the war, commercial firms will undoubtedly wish to carry out a great deal of their business by means of air transport. The Middlesex Club, therefore, intends to provide special facilities for business houses to use the airfield as a transport centre for their personnel. The advantages of this scheme will be readily apparent to the executives of many firms in the County of Middlesex.

It must not be imagined from the foregoing that the Middlesex Flying Club is to cater only for those interested in the art and practice of aviation, although it seems certain that their name will be legion after the war. The Committee have in mind the provision of the complete Country Club, where every member and his family will find his (or her) recreational needs provided for under the most pleasant conditions in the happier and more carefree days to come.

It is natural to expect that a Club of this description will obtain a large measure of support from those young men—and women—who at the present time are doing such a splendid job in the air in the service of their country; but at the same time it is the intention of the Committee that the Club shall give every possible facility for enjoyment to those who do not happen to be interested in flying.

On the estate there is a commodious club house, and in this and the surrounding grounds all kinds of recreational and social activities will be made available to members and their friends, who will have the use of a swimming pool, several tennis courts and putting greens. In the club house itself there will be a restaurant, snack bars, buffets (licensed, of course), card rooms, writing rooms and lounges. It is hoped, too, that before long it will be possible to establish a library, in the collection of which particular attention will be given to books on the art, craft and history of flying, and textbooks on all kinds of sport.

"Hotel" accommodation will be provided in the club house, so that friends from any part of the world may meet for pleasure or for business discussions without the necessity of travelling into London. This feature of the amenities will, no doubt, be particularly appreciated by the directors of firms or their representatives.

The possibilities of the Middlesex Flying Club are immense and the Committee look forward with confidence to the time when it will be recognised as the foremost centre for private flying activities and other recreational and sporting pursuits in the South of England.

Any of our readers who are interested enough to require more detailed particulars of this County's own Flying Club should write, NOT to us, interested though we are in this venture, but to the Hon. Sec. of the Middlesex Flying Club, Lt.-Col. H. Smith, O.B.E., 311 East Lane, Wembley, Middlesex.

THE LATE MAJOR W. W. BURTON

The passing away of Will Burton will cause a great gap amongst his many friends.

He first became connected with Middlesex about fifteen years ago, in the first place as Staff Officer for Cadets, when Colonel Beach was Commandant. In this connection he rendered most valuable work and at the time when the Government disowned the Cadets Will Burton came forward and did a lot to support the movement.

This was the beginning of his activities which then spread to being a very active member of the Territorial Association, the Cadet Committee and many other Committees connected with the Association.

Anybody who wanted sound advice would go to him and get it in a charming way.

When war broke out, Will Burton gave up a large part of his private business in order to be able to devote his whole time to the County.

He raised and commanded a Battalion of the Home Guard, and then gave it up in order to assume important voluntary work with the Association. He became Deputy Welfare Officer for the County, and in this capacity was largely responsible for the success of Welfare in Middlesex.

During the last two years it could easily be seen that he was a very sick man, but he gallantly carried on his duties until the very end. He was an exceedingly able and sound person, and in addition a most lovable man whom everyone took to and looked up to.

For myself, I have lost a grand friend, whose wise counsel was of the greatest value, and it is very sad that he should be taken away so early in life, as he would have rendered still greater service to the County which he loved so well.

A. M. O. A-P.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY CADET COMMITTEE

It is reported with very great regret that Major W. W. Burton, a member of the Committee and a staunch and active supporter of the Middlesex Cadet Force for a number of years, died on the 16th October, after a long illness.

Major Burton's work in the County is very well known, and he will be greatly missed.

At the meeting of the Committee held on 6th November, 1944, the resignation of the Chairman, Col. Sir Edwin King, was received with much regret.

Sir Edwin has been Chairman of the Committee since its formation in 1941 and prior to that was Chairman of the original Territorial Army Association Cadet Committee and the County Cadet Association. His services to the Cadet movement in general and the Middlesex Cadet Force in particular over a long period, are well known, and his able guidance of policy in the County is largely responsible for the continuity of the Cadet Force in Middlesex through the various phases.

The Committee is fortunate in the appointment of a successor to Sir Edwin as Chairman. Brigadier E. E. F. Baker was unanimously elected, and with his past experience and very real interest in the Cadet Force, a wise choice has been made.

Major G. H. Leeds, who for the past 18 months has so ably carried out the duties of Administrative Officer for Cadets, has had to relinquish the appointment owing to being recalled by his pre-war employers.

CASUALTY LIST

The Colonel of the Regiment regrets to announce the following casualties:

OFFICERS—Killed

Capt. P. G. A. Borthwick, of the Rifle Brigade, serving with the Regiment, Lieut. D. Pritchard, Lieut. J. T. Smith, Lieut. F. Wallwork.

Died of Wounds

Lieut. T. O. K. Cross, Lieut. Dixon.
Previously Reported Wounded Now Reported Died of Wounds

Lieut. L. T. Atkins.

Died of Wounds as Prisoner of War

Major P. A. R. Anson.

Wounded

Major Ian Campbell, Major H. B. Neve, M.C., T/Major H. M. F. Langley, Capt. D. E. Blayne, M.C., Capt. D. Brotherton, Capt. J. A. Churchill, Capt. I. D. Marjoribanks, Capt. L. Preston, Capt. Q. T. Robinson, Capt. M. H. Tempamy, T/Capt. G. A. Binney, T/Capt. A. A. R. Fenwick, Lieut. L. F. Baker, Lieut. D. E. Bloomer, Lieut. D. Clark, Lieut. G. F. Dearbergh, Lieut. J. L. Drake, Lieut. P. F. Edwards, Lieut. D. B. Fraser, Lieut. H. W. J. Flack, Lieut. J. Kamofsky, Lieut. R. H. Lake, Lieut. L. W. McKay, Lieut. J. Maroulis, Lieut. R. D. Morgan, Lieut. M. N. Penfold, Lieut. J. M. Sargent, Lieut. P. K. Slocombe, Lieut. C. E. E. Spencer, Lieut. B. H. Richardson, Lieut. J. J. Ryan, Lieut. D. B. Wilson, Lieut. D. Winn, 2/Lieut. J. F. Riley, 2/Lieut. C. F. Rogers.

Prisoners of War

Lieut. W. G. Cullimore, Lieut. J. A. Lowman.

N.C.O.s AND OTHER RANKS

Killed

C.O.M.S. J. G. Hastie; Sergts. W. Ellison, F. Godfrey, W. Head, S. F. Holloway, H. W. S. Luxton, A. McLeod, E. W. G. Short and H. F. Thompson; A/Sergts. J. H. Harris and R. Lyus; L/Sergts. J. E. Cross, C. Percy and S. Stevens; Cpls. F. S. Bushnell, C. F. Busnell, H. Chappell, R. S. Fraser, P. Crowhurst, D.C.M., — Harewell, M.M., A. V. Symonds; L/Cpls. D. Collard, R. Cross, J. Robinson, C. Rees and J. P. Wallace; Ptes. B. P. J. Alexander, A. Argyle, A. Baker, V. Baker, A. Barlow, J. L. Barrett, A. Blatcher, A. Brown, E. K. Buckle, W. H. Burt, J. H. Chapman, A. Cleave, G. J. Coulson, F. J. Cullen, G. Davis, J. M. Donnelly, T. A. Dugan, E. C. Durban, F. Eyles, H. R. Feltham, F. D. Ford, W. Ford, E. W. Graham, A. G. Green, E. Green, A. Grey, W. J. Halo, J. L. Hobden, R. Hughes, T. Jeffrey, S. MacDonald, W. W. Morris, C. Nelson, S. Newton, D. C. Parry, R. F. W. Perry, R. F. J. Pritchard, S. M. Rance, W. Ravenscroft, S. A. Savage, G. S. Sidey, H. T. Smith, R. L. Swannell, G. Topham, J. W. Tovey, A. E. Twiss, R. W. Wallace, H. J. Warden, G. Whittles, C. J. Williams, J. W. West, W. Wood, A. W. Yardley and T. Yates.

Died of Wounds

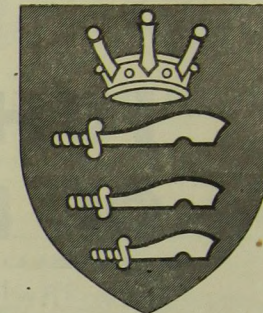
C.S.M. M. N. Bell; Sergt. L. Harris; L/Sergt. L. G. H. Bulleid; Cpls. W. A. Caterer, R. Fredman, J. D. Cox, W. Roullier; L/Cpl. C. West; U/L/Cpl. L. H. Reed; Ptes. G. Bell, A. E. Belton, B. R. Chesterman, F. Edwards, W. C. Gilbert, W. E. Gingell, C. Greenwood, K. Hill, W. F. N. Hatherly, R. S. Jennings, F. Y. Lesage, P. McCarthy, H. McNulty, T. Miles, R. H. Moss, N. D. Newing, H. A. L. Quest, J. T. Rogers, G. A. Smith, A. Tankard, R. Trussell, E. Turner, E. A. A. West, and E. A. White.

Died

Pte. C. Leonard.

Wounded

C/Sergt. A. F. J. Gray; Sergts. A. Buck, H. P. Bradford, F. G. Freeman, H. Deverill, L. H. Du Heaume, G. C. Gillett, G. A. M. Greenland, P. R. Hale, R. C. Pearce, W. Pike, H. T. Robinson, F. F. Waite, A. Weeks; L/Sergts. H. G. Brent, H. A. Clarke, G. H. Claydon, C. Fairbrother; A/L/Sergt. C. J. L. Durkin; Cpls. C. G. Bird, D. Blake, F. W. Brock, R. Burton, G. A. Clarke, H. A. Clark, S. Cook, A. E. Day, T. A. Gower, J. Greene, L. G. Gritt, D. N. Jackson, H. Johnson, F. Leaney, F. May, D. C. Reading, H. F. Smith, R. E. Tillinghast, J. Walker, J. Welsh, and E. N. Wilcox; A/Cpls. F. L. Lane and R. A. W. Tilbury; L/Cpls. G. C. Berridge, J. Charlton, H. J. Clark, R. W. Edmonds, D. Gould, J. Halford, D. M. Jeal, W. S. Jeffries, E. P. Levy, J. J. Mendoza, W. Murphy, T. Roberts, J. L. Sayers, E. C. Stevens, F. W. J. Wakenhall, W. C. Willison, F. Wood, A. F. Bell, P. K. Lambert, T. I. Tanner, and J. E. Watts; Ptes. D. Annison, A. Appleby, R. H. Arnold, S. E. Askey, L. G. J. Barber, H. T. W. Barter, H. Batchouski, A. J. Baucutt, E. A. Baylis, R. Beddell, L. W. Berry, S. R. Biggs, R. Bodell, F. A. Bosisto, J. A. Boyce, F. B. Blowers, J. Breeze, C. C. Bradish, K. A. Bray, W. J. Bridgman, R. Brookman, E. K. Buckle, G. V. Cash, J. G. Caldwell, G. T. Chandler, A. J. Chappell, R. W. Child, A. J. Chillingworth, H. Close, T. Cluff, J. J. Conway, J. S. Cotton, J. A. Cowland, H. S. Craft, R. A. Cristofoli, J. G. Crowhurst, D. A. Cruttenden, V. Dacosta, V. G. Dalgano, C. Daniels, C. Davies, G. Davis, G. F. Deacon, D. H. Darmer, T. A. Dugan, L. Dunne, L. B. Easton, W. E. Eccles, A. E. J. Fabray, K. G. Fellows, A. G. Fisher, C. H. Fisher, D. Fishman, C. J. Frampton, R. N. Franek, B. Friedlander, C. Furzer, N. P. Gant, D. Garraway, E. W. J. Grisbrook, W. J. Groom, J. Hawkes, C. T. Hawksworth, R. J. Heasman, T. J. Henley, J. W. G. Hibberd, W. J. Higgins, G. Hill, T. Hodgkinson, R. Homewood, G. D. Horn, C. Howard, L. Howick, L. Jackson, R. Jackson, E. G. James, D. G. Johnson, C. Jones, H. J. Keirl, A. Kelly, L. F. Lambe, L. Leah, G. Levitt, J. Little, G. C. Little, J. C. Loates, G. Lowther, F. R. Lucas, L. J. Marshall, J. Mathews, A. O. McDean, E. T. McDowell, G. McStammers, J. Mitchell, W. C. Monckley, D. T. Morris, V. Murphy, A. Nash, A. H. Naulder, D. W. G. Norton, A. G. Norwood, A. V. Owen, D. Owen, A. Parratt, D. C. Parry, T. F. Painter, C. F. F. Percy, L. W. Phillips, S. J. Pike, J. W. Pither, F. Plumpton, A. Porterfield, W. J. Priest, M. L. Preston, E. Pretty, F. H. Pullen, R. Radcliffe, A. I. Redford, J. S. Reynolds, P. Richards, J. A. Roberts, W. Robson, E. W. Rose, R. G. Rowley, R. H. Royce, H. J. Russell, C. H. Sanders, D. V. Seal, L. Sessions, J. Shanks, W. Shea, A. J. Shuffield, J. A. Simmons, A. H. Singfield, A. E. Smith, H. T. Smith, E. Snelgrove, A. A. Snowden, D. Sollinger, T. E. Sparkes, A. V. Stone, W. G. Stubbings, W. J. Stone, L. F. Swatton, F. Thomas, G. T. Thomas, E. Thornhill, C. Tilly, R. S. Tover, W. J. Treacher, R. D. Tyler, I. R. Urquhart, R. C. Waghorn, J. L. Wallace, T. H. Warder, E. A. Warland, W. R. Warman, L. A. White, F. J. Wiggins, L. W. Williams, J. Wilson, M. R. Woodworth, N. J. Wethmar, J. Wray, G. W. Yelland and R. H. Youngman.



ARMY CADET FORCE NOTES

Since the September issue of this Journal was published two events of great interest to the Cadet Force have taken place. On 24th September, at the Wembley Stadium, the big Inter-Battalion Athletic meeting was held.

In spite of a very wet morning, the afternoon was dry, although very cold, and considering the weather conditions, it was a most enthusiastic meeting.

Mr. Elvin, of the Wembley Stadium, and Mr. Jack Hylton, the well-known impresario, presented special Cups for competition, and General Sir Guy Williams, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., presented the prizes at the end of the afternoon's events.

	A. J. Elvin	Jack Hylton	Junior
	Cup	Cup	Cup
1st Battalion ..	1st	1st	1st
2nd Battalion ..	3rd	3rd	4th
3rd Battalion ..	2nd	2nd	3rd
4/6 Battalion ..	6th	6th	5th
5th Battalion ..	5th	4th	—
7th Battalion ..	4th	7th	2nd
8th Battalion ..	9th	—	7th
9th Battalion ..	8th	6th	—
— A.A. Regt. ..	7th	5th	6th

From the above it will be seen that the 1st Battalion won the Championship, the Senior and the Junior Cups, whilst the 3rd Battalion were the runners-up for the Championship and the Senior Cups, and the 7th Battalion were the runners-up for the Junior Cup.

It must be remembered, of course, that these events are open to all Units and, therefore, many of the Cadets did not have the same opportunities, either for coaching or practice, as the School Companies, of which the 1st Battalion is made up.

The other item of interest was the Recruiting Drive which took place throughout the County between 15th October and 15th November. Up to the time of going to press this has proved to be very successful and results are still coming in.

A third function, which will have taken place by the time this is in print, but which will not happen in time to be reported in this issue, is the Grand All-Star Concert at His Majesty's Theatre on Sunday, 10th December, which was being organized under the combined auspices of the Middlesex and Surrey Army Cadet Force. A very fine bill had been arranged, which includes such famous stars as Anne Shelton, Teddy Brown, Jack Train, Maudie Edwards, Carl Barritau and his Band, etc. A report of this Concert will appear in the March issue.

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MIDDLESEX

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