

# The Die Hards

THE JOURNAL OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT  
(Duke of Cambridge's Own)



VOL. VIII. No. 5

MARCH, 1948

PRICE 1/-

## 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," "Serangapatam," "Alubera," "Ciudad Rodrigo," "Badajoz," "Vittoria," "Pyrenae," "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," "17, '18," "Armentières, 1914," "Neuve Chapelle," "Ypres, 1915," "17, '18," "Gravenstafel," "St. Julien," "Frezenberg,"  
"Bellevue," "Aubers," "Hooge, 1915," "Loos," "Somme, 1916," "18," "Albert, 1916," "18," "Bazentin," "Delville Wood,"  
"Pozières," "Ginchy," "Fleurbaey," "Morval," "Thiepval," "Le Transloy," "Ancre Heights," "Ancre, 1916," "18," "Bapaume,"  
"1917," "18," "Arras, 1917," "18," "Vimy, 1917," "Scarpe, 1917," "18," "Arlieux," "Ploeghem," "Langemarck, 1917," "Menin Road,"  
"Polygon Wood," "Broodseinde," "Poelcappelle," "Passchendaele," "Cambrai, 1917," "18," "St. Quentin," "Rosières," "Avra,"  
"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," "Dofran, 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," "Murman, 1919," "Dukhovskaya," "Siberia, 1918-19."

### Regular and Militia Battalions.

1st Bn. (57th Foot). 2nd Bn. (57th Foot).  
5th Bn. (Royal Elthorne Militia).  
6th Bn. (Royal East Middlesex Militia).  
Depot—Mill Hill. Records Office, Infantry Records, Warwick.  
Pay Office—Old Infantry Barracks, Canterbury.

### Territorial Army Battalions

1/7th Bn. 2/7th Bn. 8th Bn. 30th Bn.  
1st Bn. 505 L.A.A., R.A., T.A.  
9th and 10th Bns. Princess Louise's Kensington Regiment.  
1st, 2nd and 3rd Independent Coy.  
No. 1 Heavy Support Coy.

### Affiliated A/A Units of the Territorial Army

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

### Allied Regiments of Canadian Militia.

50th H.A.A. Regiment (Prince of Wales Rangers)  
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., J.P.

### Officer Commanding Depot:

Lt.-Col. M. Crawford, D.S.O.

Agents—Lloyds Bank Limited, 127 The Broadway, Mill Hill, N.W.7.

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## NOTICE TO CONTRIBUTORS.

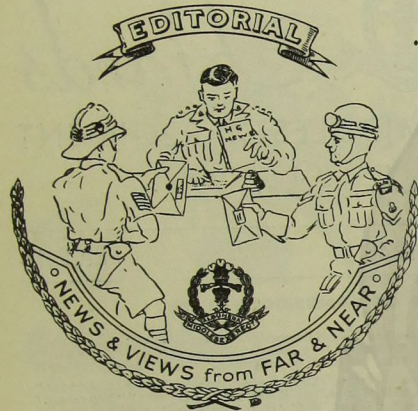
"The Die-Hards" is published in March, June, September and December, and copies may be obtained by application to the Editor.

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 IN TRIPLICATE, 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, The Middlesex Regiment, Infantry Barracks, Mill Hill, London, N.W.7.

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ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION 5/- (Post Free)





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

## EDITORIAL

We are very pleased to announce that Colonel M. Browne, M.C., D.L., Colonel of the Regiment, has been appointed High Sheriff of the County of Middlesex, for the ensuing year. This is the first time in history that anyone connected with the Regiment has held this important post, which comes next in seniority to that of the Lord Lieutenant. It is most gratifying that this honour should have been bestowed during the time in which our Colonel has been working so hard to obtain for our Regiment its rightful place within the county.

Maj. A. W. Clark, O.B.E., has taken over the Secretaryship of the Regimental Association and the Officers' Club from Maj. G. W. Kempster.

## Forthcoming Regimental Fixtures for 1948

It has now been approved that an O.C.A. gathering be held at the Lyceum Theatre on June 17, 1948, in the form of a dance. Dancing from 7.30 to 11.30 p.m. There is ample accommodation for sitting out and buffet bars are available. The Committee have fixed the cost of this entertainment at 3s. 6d. per head. Applications for tickets to be sent to the Secretary by April 30, 1948, with remittance. Two bands will be in attendance.

## "Die-Hards" Clubs

Times and places of meetings of *Die-Hards* Clubs have been published previously. Readers requiring information in respect of them should apply to: The Secretary, Middlesex Regimental Association, Inglis Barracks, Mill Hill, N.W.7.

## Medals

It is noted for information to those concerned that a number of medals, including a number of Military Medals, are still to be claimed for the war of 1914-18.

Applications should be made to the Under-Secretary of State for War, The War Office, A.G.4 (Medals), Cheltenham, Gloucestershire.

## Officers' Club Ties

Humphrey and Crook, Ltd., 22 Suffolk Street, Haymarket, London, W.1, have Middlesex Officers' Club ties in stock, price 9s. 6d. and one coupon.

## The Late Maj. E. P. Manson, M.C.

We regret to announce the death of Maj. E. P. Manson, M.C., on January 22, 1948, at Dawlish Cottage Hospital, aged 56 years. Many of our Old Comrades will remember him. Most of his service was served in the 2nd Battalion of this Regiment. Lt.-Col. L. F. Sloane-Stanley attended his funeral on January 26, 1948, and laid wreaths on behalf of the Officers' Club and Regimental Association. A letter of condolence was sent to Mrs. Manson by the Colonel of the Regiment.

## The Late Mr. C. R. Mitcham

We also regret to announce the death on December 27, 1947, of an Old Comrade, Mr. C. R. Mitcham, at the age of 68. Mr. Mitcham was Hon. Secretary of the Staines Branch of the *Die-Hards* Club until his death. A report of his funeral follows:

## Funeral of Mr. C. R. Mitcham

The funeral took place at the London Road Cemetery of Mr. Charles Robert Mitcham, of 91 London Road, Staines, whose death at the age of 68 was recorded recently. The Vicar of Staines (the Rev. C. D. R. Sharpe) officiated. Deceased was the Secretary of the Staines Branch of the Middlesex Regiment Old Comrades' Association, and four of his colleagues acted as bearers.

The mourners were the widow, Messrs. R. H. C. and A. Mitcham (sons), Mesdames F. Blay, C. Yuille, F. Dobson, F. Goodman and R. Blay (daughters), Messrs. F. Blay and A. Blay (grandsons), Messrs. J. Luckhurst and W. Hampstead (brothers-in-law), Messrs. F. Blay, senr., F. Dobson, C. Yuille and F. Goodman (sons-in-law), Mrs. R. H. C. Mitcham (daughter-in-law), Mrs. F. Blay, junr. (granddaughter), Mesdames F. Green and K. Ketchell (cousins) and Mrs. Bennett.

Others present included Messrs. W. Simmons (Chairman, Staines Middlesex Regiment Old Comrades' Association), P. Pearce (Hon. Secretary), H. Mussard, C. Browning, D. Marshall, H. Hutchinson (members of the Old Comrades' Association), Mr. G. Reed (Nottingham Order of Oddfellows) and Messrs. Parfitt and T. Rowan. The coffin was draped with the Union Jack and the bearers were Messrs. W. Mitchell, R. Pearce, J. R. Wooders and W. Hopkins.

Many beautiful floral tokens were placed on the grave, and in addition to those sent by members and friends of the family were tributes from "Friends and Neighbours" and Staines Branch Middlesex Regiment Old Comrades' Association. Messrs. F. Smith and Son carried out the funeral arrangements.

Ex-Cpl. F. Newey died on January 22, 1948. Buried at Feltham Cemetery on January 28, 1948. An Old Comrade attended his funeral and placed a wreath on his grave on behalf of the Regimental Association.

We also regret to announce the death on December 31, 1947, of ex-Sgt. W. D. Colyear and No. 6193188 late Pte. Hoole, who was killed on Christmas Day, 1947. Ex-Sgt. Howlett and ex-Pte. Wilder attended his funeral and placed a wreath on his grave on behalf of the Regimental Association.

It is with deep regret that we have to report also the death of Sgt. J. E. Matthews, of the 2nd Battalion, on December 28, 1947. Full details of his death are reported in the notes of the 2nd Battalion.

## OFFICERS' CLUB NOTES

At a Meeting of the Committee of The Middlesex Regiment Officers' Club held at the Junior United Services Club, Charles II Street, on Thursday, January 29, 1948, the following arrangements for Cricket Week were approved:

Sunday, June 13: v. Hampstead Heathens.

Monday, June 14: v. Cryptics.

Tuesday, June 15: v. Incogniti.

Wednesday, June 16: Not yet confirmed.

Wednesday, June 16: Officers' Club Dinner, Connaught Rooms (see separate notice).

Thursday, June 17: "At Home."

Thursday, June 17: Old Comrades' Gathering, Lyceum.

Sunday, June 20: v. Romney.

## Golf Meeting

The Spring Golf Meeting to take place on May 6 and 7.

## Election of Sub-Committees for 1948

The Committee approved of the following Sub-Committees for 1948:

Officers' Club Dinner: Col. R. D. Sherbrooke Walker, Maj. D. Ellis, officer at Depot to be detailed, Secretary.

Officers' Club "At Home": O.C. Depot, officer to be detailed by O.C. Depot, Secretary.

Officers' Club Golf: Lt.-Col. M. Crawford, D.S.O., Maj. G. B. Anderson, Secretary.

Officers' Club Cricket: Brig. G. P. L. Weston, D.S.O., O.B.E., Lt.-Col. J. W. A. Stephenson, D.S.O., O.C. Depot, Secretary.

## M.C.C. Season Tickets, 1948

The Secretary was authorised to purchase two season tickets to be available to Club members.

## Officers' Club Winter "At Home"

The above function was held at Claridges on November 28, 1947. At first a poor attendance was anticipated, but as the day drew near and news of it spread there was a greater demand for tickets and 108 actually were present. It was a big success, and it is a pity that distance and other difficulties prevented so many others from

attending. We can only hope that next year they will come.

Col. Browne and Mrs. Crawford acted as host and hostess. A picture of them bidding good-bye to their guests appears in this number.

Claridges catered for us in their usual competent fashion and helped to make the function the success it undoubtedly was.

Among those present were: Col. M. Browne, Brig. Rackham, Lt.-Col. and Mrs. Crawford, Mrs. Pearson, Mrs. Hayden, Mrs. Joyce Hall, Mrs. and Miss Gudgeon, Lady Lyon, the Hon. Mrs. Guest, Lt.-Col. Delcourt, Lt.-Col. and Mrs. Clayton, Col. Passingham, Lt.-Col. Green, Lt.-Col. and Mrs. Short, Col. and Mrs. Sherbrooke Walker, Lt.-Col. and Mrs. Pringle, Lt.-Col. Roberts, Lt.-Col. and Mrs. Clowes, Col. Beach, Lt.-Col. and Mrs. Johnson, Lt.-Col. Robbins, Lt.-Col. W. D. Kenyon, the Rev. and Mrs. Davies, Maj. and Mrs. Dundas, Maj. and Mrs. Cooper and family, Maj. Tuckey, Maj. and Mrs. Hughes, Maj. and Mrs. Cubitt, Maj. and Mrs. Nolda, Maj. D. V. Johnson, Maj. Herepath, Maj. Sword and Mrs. Dennistone Sword, Maj. and Mrs. Marsh, Maj. and Mrs. Dodge, Maj. and Mrs. Morris, Maj. Broadbent and Mrs. Sivain, Maj. and Mrs. Brighton, Maj. Kempster, Maj. and Mrs. Mann, Maj. and Mrs. Rich, Maj. Chattey, Maj. Hardcastle and friend, Mrs. Worton and Mrs. Hulbert, Maj. Pennell and friend, Maj. Ellis and friend, Capt. and Mrs. Galvin, Capt. Tavenor and friend, Capt. Vane, Maj. Pearce Gould, Maj. Ormiston, Capt. Rendell, Capt. Weedon and Miss Leslie, Capt. and Mrs. Smith, Capt. and Mrs. Rowling, Capt. Epps and two friends, Capt. Bywaters, Mr. and Mrs. de Gaye, Mr. and Mrs. Kerr, Mr. Billen, Capt. Grayburn, Mr. Marshall, Mr. and Miss Douthet and Lt. Moore.

## Middlesex Regiment Officers' Club Dinner, 1948

Owing to Ministry of Food regulations relating to banquets, it will be necessary this year to alter the form of the Officers' Club Dinner. This will consist of buffet type of refreshments, served at small tables. Members will pay for their own drinks at the table and there will be the usual anteroom for drinks before dinner.

No guests will be invited.

Date: Wednesday, June 16, 1948.

Place: The Connaught Rooms, Great Queen Street, W.C.2.

Time: 7.15 for 7.45 p.m.

Dress: Plain clothes or uniform.

Tickets (exclusive of drinks, but inclusive of gratuities): Members, 6s. 6d.; Non-members, 16s. 6d.

Applications for tickets (with remittance) should be made to: The Secretary, Middlesex Regiment Officers' Club, Inglis Barracks, Mill Hill, N.W.7, not later than April 30, 1948.

## Golf

Lt.-Col. W. H. Samuel is raising a retired officers' side for the meeting May 6, 1948. Will retired officers who are willing to play please communicate with him at "Greenmead," Brockenhurst, Hants.





The Colonel of the Regiment and Mrs. Crawford saying good-bye to the guests.



2nd/7th BATTALION, FIRST AND SECOND WORLD WARS.  
OFFICERS' "AT HOME"—COCKTAIL PARTY AT CLARIDGE'S HOTEL, NOVEMBER 28, 1947.  
Mrs. Smith, Lt. J. Moore, Maj. Rich, Lt.-Col. Robbins, Mrs. Rich, Capt. Douthet, Capt. Smith, Maj. Kempster.

#### REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION NOTES

Minutes of a Meeting of the Committee of the Middlesex Regimental Association at the Middlesex Guildhall on Thursday, January 29, at 2.30 p.m.

PRESENT: Brig. B. B. Rackham, C.B.E., M.C. (Chairman), Col. M. Browne, M.C., D.L., J.P. (Colonel of the Regiment), Brig. E. E. F. Baker, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., D.L., A.D.C., Lt.-Col. C. P. Rooke, D.S.O., Maj. N. H. B. Lyon, M.C., Lt.-Col. W. L. Roberts, O.B.E., M.C., Lt.-Col. G. L. Fox, T.D., Maj. H. Marsh, Maj. H. K. Hardcastle, T.D., Lt.-Col. M. Crawford, D.S.O., R.S.M. J. McLoughlin, Sgt. E. Fletcher, Mr. A. Todman, Lt.-Col. J. D. Robbins, O.B.E., Lt.-Col. T. S. Woolcombe, M.C., Col. G. Beach, C.B., O.B.E., T.D., D.L., J.P., Maj. A. W. Clark, O.B.E. (Secretary).

Apologies were received from Lt.-Col. J. G. E. Reid.

#### Minutes

The Minutes of the last Meeting, which had been circularised, were passed and signed by the Chairman.

#### Secretary

The appointment of Maj. A. W. Clark, O.B.E., as Secretary to the Middlesex Regimental Association vice Maj. G. W. Kempster.

#### Secretary's Report

The Secretary reported that 144 cases were assisted during the quarter ending December 31, 1947, at a cost of £668 7s. 2d. and was authorised by the Committee to expend £600 for the January to March, 1948, quarter.

The Committee decided that only grants were to be made and under no consideration will loans be entertained. Loans out at present should be written off against the current year. If loans already in issue were repaid at any future date they will be credited to the Regimental Association funds as donations.

The Committee decided that all monies received by the Regimental Association for the War Memorial Fund will be credited to that Fund.

#### Report of Memorial Committee

The Chairman of the War Memorial Committee reported progress and informed the Committee that the Fund now stood at over £15,000.

#### Report of Col. Rooke's Committee

This report, with Col. Browne's comment, had been circulated and the Committee adopted recommendation "A" omitting the word "also." The Secretary was instructed to arrange for tenders for this work to be submitted.

#### Report of Finance Committee

The Chairman of the Finance Committee reported on the accounts of the Association for 1947, which were adopted by the Committee.

The Finance Committee were asked to refer to the next Association Meeting the possibilities of charging rent to future occupants of the cottage homes to bring the cottages in line with those to be erected under the War Memorial Fund.

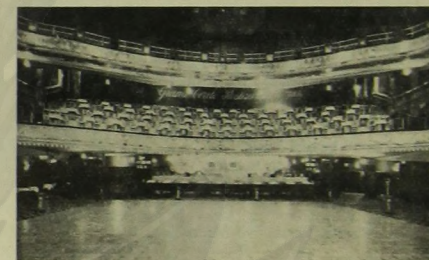
Col. M. Browne proposed and Brig. Rackham seconded that the Finance Committee be thanked for their services during the past year, who, although due for retirement, elected to be appointed for a further year.

#### O.C.A. Reunion

The Committee approved of the Reunion Meeting of the Old Comrades at the Lyceum on June 17 in the form of a dance from 7.30 to 11.30 p.m. at the cost of 3s. 6d. per head. The management to be in the hands of Lt.-Col. M. Crawford, D.S.O.



The Lyceum Theatre dance floor.



Another view of the Lyceum Theatre dance floor.

#### Roll of Honour, 1939-45

The Committee discussed the proposal for the production of a Roll of Honour for 1939-45 war, and it was decided to defer this subject for further consideration and investigation by Col. Crawford.

#### Dmr. Stagpoole's Grave

The Committee approved that a headstone and curb with appropriate inscription produced by Col. Crawford be erected on the grave of the late Dmr. Dudley Stagpoole, V.C., D.C.M., in Hendon Park Cemetery at a cost not exceeding £50, and that the O.C. 1st Battalion be approached to assist in the cost.

#### Renovation of Brass Plates in Mill Hill Church

The Committee discussed the minute for renovation of existing plates and the installation of a new plate for the 1939-45 War, and decided that no further action be taken.

The Meeting closed at 4.25 p.m.

The next meeting will take place on April 29. Agenda and time to be notified later.



## THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENTAL 1939-45 WAR MEMORIAL

### In Continuation

It has now been found that the sum required to erect 20 houses on the Enfield site will be £35,000, which means that the appeal's target is increased by a further £10,000. This is due to the rising cost of materials, wages, etc., and that, although we are very grateful to the Enfield Urban District Council for supplying the land for 99 years at a peppercorn rent, a metalled road and elaborate drainage system will have to be built before the work can commence on the first houses.

### Outstanding Contribution

At the end of December, 1947, a cheque for £500 was received from Lt.-Col. H. Phillips, M.C. This most splendid and generous gift is five times greater than any other individual contribution received up to date. Col. Phillips will be remembered as serving with the 3rd and 1st Battalions from 1912 to 1939. From 1933-36 he was Adjutant of the 1st Battalion. During 1936-39 he commanded the Depot, and in 1939 he was promoted to command the 2nd Battalion, but was prevented by ill health from taking up this appointment. Those of us who remember this all-round sportsman, always to the fore on the cricket or Rugby ground, in the hunting field, on the golf course and round the billiard table, will join with the Editor in saying, "Well done."

### Lord Lieutenant's Meeting

Early in December Lord Latham held a further meeting at the Guildhall, Westminster, in order to check the progress of boroughs, district councils, etc., and to spur these bodies into further efforts.

### Present Condition of Fund

At the time of going to press the amount collected is in the neighbourhood of £15,500. Of this amount, £7,000 has come from Regimental and Home Guard sources, £1,000 from the Army Benevolent Fund and £7,500 from the County of Middlesex.

### Comparisons

Although these continue to be odious, one is given food for thought when one reads of the sparsely populated Scottish counties already closing their Regimental memorial appeals in 1947 for having obtained sums double the amount of our original target. Our Appeals Committee must continue to work steadily so that every individual in our thickly populated county has a chance to show that there is a link between themselves and the Regiment.

### DONATIONS

(From November 5, 1947)

- £601 13s. 10d.—Feltham Urban District Council.
- £500.—Borough of Wood Green.
- £500.—Lt.-Col. H. Phillips, M.C.
- £140.—Lt.-Col. and Mrs. South (further donation).
- £100.—P.R.I., M.G. Wing, H.C.B.T.C.
- £100.—Mayor of Twickenham (further donation).
- £52 10s. 0d.—Provincial Grand Lodge of Middlesex Freemasons.
- £50.—Mayor of Twickenham (further donation).
- £40.—"R" Platoon, No. 8 Company, 21st Home Guard Battalion, Middlesex.
- £32 2s. 0d.—Borough of Willesden.
- £31 10s. 3d.—O.C. 2nd Battalion The Middlesex Regiment.
- £27 1s. 0d.—Enfield and District "100" Luncheon Club.

- £26 5s. 0d.—Capt. R. W. Latham.
  - £21.—"D" Company, 12th Battalion The Middlesex Home Guard.
  - £21.—Mayor of Heston and Isleworth, Col. Sir Edwin King, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.L., J.P.
  - £10 13s. 3d.—M.G. Wing, H.C.B.T.C.
  - £10 10s. 9d.—Harrow East Conservative Club.
  - £10 10s. 0d.—3rd Battalion Middlesex Cadets.
  - £10.—Mrs. O. H. Tidbury, Mr. G. E. Pain, Mrs. W. J. Lindley Smith.
  - £7 6s. 6d.—Mr. F. Fenemore.
  - £5 5s. 0d.—Maj. G. R. Burrows, Mr. H. G. Poulton, Mr. A. W. Lewey, Northwood Lodge No. 4994, Royal Union Lodge No. 382.
  - £5.—Brig.-Gen. F. G. M. Rowley (further donation), Hayle St. Mary's Lodge No. 6168.
  - £3 15s. 0d.—Members of Hegeston Lodge.
  - £3 3s. 0d.—Maj. and Mrs. Weller, A.V., Maj. D. C. Nolda.
  - £2 4s. 6d.—Northwood Golf Club.
  - £2 2s. 0d.—North London Cricket Club, Mr. W. H. Dowling, Lt.-Col. J. H. Clowes, Coronation Lodge No. 5703, Capt. C. Spencer, Mr. R. E. Evans, D.C.M.
  - £2.—Maj. D. C. Lawrence, Staines Die-Hards Club.
  - £1 10s. 0d.—Col. Waite.
  - £1 5s. 3d.—Mr. A. Tadmam.
  - £1 4s. 6d.—Mr. Medoms.
  - £1 1s. 0d.—Mr. Blackley, Mr. E. B. Morley, Entertainment Officer, No. 57 P.T.C., British Legion United Club, Nottingham Ivy Leaf Branch, Mr. T. C. Cranston, Temple Mark Lodge No. 713.
  - £1.—Mr. A. R. Elwood, Mrs. Ann Dixon, Mr. B. Wyman, Mr. J. Gibbons, Mr. V. E. O'N. Owens.
  - 18s. 6d.—Sergeants' Mess, No. 57 P.T.C.
  - 17s. 1d.—Mrs. Henry.
  - 14s. 3d.—Mrs. Saville and Mr. Clark.
  - 14s. 0d.—Mr. W. Pearce.
  - 13s. 8d.—Mr. Fisher.
  - 12s. 6d.—"B" Company, 1st Battalion The Middlesex Regiment.
  - 10s. 6d.—Mr. W. R. Rosam, Miss G. M. Cooper, Mr. F. A. Overton.
  - 10s. 3d.—Mrs. Muriel Cox.
  - 10s.—Mr. A. J. Binton, Maj. H. C. Ellis, O.B.E., Mr. H. Burroughes, 20th Battalion Middlesex Home Guard, Mr. J. N. Calcutt.
  - 5s.—Mr. C. C. Balary, Mr. W. Davies, Mr. R. G. Shreeve, Maj. A. R. Klitz, Mr. G. F. Crisp, Capt. R. L. Hill, Mr. L. J. Harman, Mr. T. J. Green, Mr. W. Winny, Mr. J. Austin, Mr. F. Poweraker.
  - 3s.—Mrs. A. Dixon.
  - 2s. 6d.—Mr. H. C. Wicker.
- The state of the Fund on February 2, 1948, was £15,495 4s. 11d. This includes a sum of £460 14s. 3d. due from a £500 Covenant given by Messrs. McViney and Price.

## MIDDLESEX REGIMENTAL WAR MEMORIAL HOUSING REGISTER

Although the cottages in respect of our 39/45 War Memorial will take some time to build, the Committee would like to earmark the occupants before this work is completed, and any of our readers who are eligible and desire to benefit should make application now to the Secretary, Middlesex Regimental Association, Mill Hill Barracks, N.W.7.

It is well to remember that the building estate will be developed in Enfield, Middlesex.

## COLONEL OF THE REGIMENT'S NOTES

### 9th Middlesex Colours

On October 26 Col. Beach, Honorary Colonel of 595th L.A.A. Regiment, R.A. (formerly 9th Middlesex), and myself were taken by car by Col. Crawford to attend a most interesting ceremony of the return of the Colours of the 9th Battalion, which were handed over to the care of the Rev. G. V. Cotton at the Parish Church at Ricklinghall, Norfolk.

A large number of Old Comrades of this unit attended the ceremony, carrying out the journey by coach. The church is a most attractive building of great age. Col. Beach received the Colours, which he then handed over to the C.O., Lt.-Col. D. B. Grey, who in turn handed them over to the unit Colour Party, all of whom had served in the unit at the commencement of the war. After the church service I inspected the party of Old Comrades and the Regimental detachment. Later the whole contingent marched past me as Colonel of the Regiment. The Old Comrades were under command of Lt.-Col. Fox, who was a 9th Middlesex officer and commanded the unit, then 126th Light A.A. Searchlight, R.E., at the commencement of this war until he completed his command and handed over to Lt.-Col. Kenyon, who commanded the unit (then Light A.A., R.A.) till the end of the war. On our way out we visited the public house run by Capt. Douthet. He was away for the day, but his representative gave us welcome and refreshments. On the way home we had tea with Maj. and Mrs. Ashley Dodds at Croxton Park, one of the best pheasant shoots in Great Britain, where unit H.Q. were located during Christmas, 1939. All were very pleased to see us, and plans were made to spend a week-end there early in December next. It is a very beautiful country house and I can well understand how happy and comfortable this H.Q. was at that time.

### Regimental Museum

The medals of C/Sgt. George Gardiner, 57th Regiment, were recently bought at a public auction at Glendinings for the 1st Battalion. They consist of the following: V.C., D.C.M., British Crimea with three bars (Balaclava, Inkerman, Sebastopol), Long Service and Good Conduct and Turkish Crimea. Unfortunately, his medal for New Zealand was not with the set. We hope to have a New Zealand medal engraved and added to the set so that they will be complete as worn by C/Sgt. Gardiner.

C/Sgt. Gardiner won the D.C.M. at Inkerman on November 5, 1854. He was awarded the V.C. for two acts of gallantry on March 22 and June 18, 1855. On the first occasion he was orderly to the field officer of the day when a sortie was made by the enemy. C/Sgt. Gardiner rallied the covering parties which had been driven out of the trenches and retook them at the point of the bayonet. For this act of bravery he was awarded £5 from Lord Raglan, the British Commander-in-Chief.

The second occasion was a similar act of bravery. He kept his position in the trenches to cover the withdrawal of his comrades. He inflicted great loss on the enemy and held the position nearly all day, using dead bodies of his comrades as shelter. It is interesting to note that eight years later, in 1863, there were two

members of 57th Regiment wearing the two most coveted decorations a soldier could win, C/Sgt. Gardiner, V.C., D.C.M., and Dmr. Staggpole, V.C., D.C.M. Surely a record for any regiment.

The historian, C. L. Kingsford, in his *History of the Middlesex Regiment*, says, "Staggpole was for long the only man who held both medal and cross," and all Regimental histories omit mention of Gardiner with both. I wonder why this record was overlooked.

Sixty years later there were again two V.C.s in one Battalion, the 3rd Battalion in 1922: Col. Wallace Wright, V.C., C.M.G., D.S.O. (the C.O.), and Capt. A. M. Toye, V.C., M.C. (the Adjutant).

On Tuesday, December 10, I was asked to be present at an inspection of the Regimental Depot and No. 57 P.T.C. by Lt.-Gen. Sir Evelyn Barker, K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O., M.C., Commander-in-Chief Eastern Command. After inspecting the barracks and lunching in the Mess, the C-in-C. was present at the passing out inspection of the National Service recruits. The Drums of the Guards Training Battalion played at the march past and the advance in review order. The drill was excellent and the marching in slow and quick time very good, bearing in mind that these young recruits have only six weeks' service. The C-in-C. very kindly asked me to present certain Long Service and Good Conduct Medals and other decorations, including an award to the best recruit of the contingent. The recipients are detailed below and as I know all the older members I was very glad and honoured to perform this pleasant duty: Certificate of Mention in Despatches:

- 3852333 P/A/Sgt. T. McGowan.
- Long Service and Good Conduct Medal:
- 2692072 W.O.Cl.1 (R.S.M.) J. McLoughlin.
- Territorial Efficiency Medal:
- 3852333 P/A/Sgt. T. McGowan.
- 4124485 W/Sgt. W. Landreth.
- 5185150 Pte. T. Mulligan.
- Serbian Silver Medal for Valour:
- Ex-Drum-Major Holmes.

The C-in-C. commended the whole inspection in the highest terms in his letter of December 17, of which I publish the contents:

"This is just a line to congratulate you on what I saw in my visit to you yesterday.

"I was very impressed with the fine showing of your passing out intake on parade and I should be glad if you would let them know.

"I also thought that the general lay-out and administration of the barracks was very good; in fact, I came away with a most satisfactory feeling. It is, as you say, a great pity that P.T.C.s are to go."

On November 24 last a most interesting ceremony took place in the Officers' Mess at Inglis Barracks, at which one of the Regimental flags of our 2nd Battalion left behind in France was returned to me as their representative. The flag had been flown in the Stadium in Lille during a football competition (won by 2nd Middlesex team) and in error was left behind. A Frenchman, Monsieur Gremaux, who was then the Mayor of Lille, found the flag and hid it from the German occupation forces, thus placing himself in grave danger of losing his life or being flung into a concentra-



tion camp, there probably to die. He accepted those dangers and prevented a Regimental flag being sullied by German hands.

The Regiment feels deeply indebted to him, and to convey our feelings I made a speech of thanks to him in French, and that was no light task, and presented him with an inscribed statue of Napoleon to commemorate what he had done.

We were glad to have Lt.-Col. J. W. A. Stephenson, D.S.O., with us on this evening, as it was he who had supervised the contest in the stadium and knew the Mayor well. M. Gremaux gave us several sets of excellent photographs of the team, the ground and spectators.

They include pictures of Brig. Cecil Haydon, killed in North Africa, who was then commanding 2nd Middlesex, the Mayor and the Duke of Windsor. These sets are being preserved at the Depot. A list of 2nd Middlesex personnel present at this ceremony in barracks is given later. On meeting M. Gremaux we were not surprised at his conduct, for he was a typical fighting Frenchman, and might well have been a boxer; in fact, I am sure he must be one.

He bore a conspicuous part in the French resistance movement and we were proud to meet him. His cousin in the French Air Force was with him and a memento of the Battle of Britain in the form of an ash tray with an inscription by Winston Churchill was presented to him.

M. Gremaux's speech to us, made in French, but translated into English by Lt.-Col. Russell, follows:

"Col. Browne, Col. Crawford, Officers, Warrant Officers and men of the Middlesex Regiment: It is with a certain amount of emotion that I find myself on this November 24, 1947, in this congenial atmosphere which takes me back seven years.

"To 1939, in fact, when we once again experienced in France a state of war with Germany, and it was with great joy that our population in the North of France welcomed the numerous regiments sent from Great Britain to take the place of our armies which had moved up to the German frontier.

"In a few weeks all our villages in the north had their officers, non-commissioned officers and men, and I need not recall to you the bonds of friendship which were established with this population who had known from 1914 to 1918 a German occupation and all the misery of what one used to call the Great War.

"Contrary to what we Frenchmen had expected, the beginning of the war in 1939 bore no resemblance to what we had known in August, 1914. Weeks and months passed in a calm which was heavy with anxiety and, in fact, this period was known as the 'phoney war'.

"After several months' training the troops gathered together, whether in the regions of Roubaix-Lannoi-Hom, the regions of Lille-Lezennes-Ronchin, or again at Soclin-Gondécourt, and organised sporting competitions. Each week big matches were held and the great popularity of these induced the Ligue du Nord du Football to organise on May 5, 1940, a great day of sport, in which participated the green and black teams of the 2nd Battalion of the Royal Ulster Rifles and the red and gold of the Middlesex Regiment and two young teams picked by the Ligue du Nord du Football.

"High ranking military and civil personalities attended this important display of friendship, an occasion which was supported by a large and enthusiastic crowd in which the local population mingled with the numerous Allied soldiers who filled the stands of the Henri Jooris Stadium at Lille.

"I like to recall that one day the mighty stadium, the military bands, the impeccable turn-out of the British troops, the anti-aircraft guns protecting the approaches to the ground, the ovation with which the Duke of Windsor was received when the teams were presented to him, the Irish team of the 2nd Battalion Royal Ulster Rifles by Col. Witfells, the Middlesex team by Capt. Stevenson, the French team by representatives of the Ligue du Nord, while the National Anthems were played and the crowd stood at attention.

"After that was the march past of the band of the Middlesex Regiment.

"It may be asked why we had the privilege of arranging this great day and of having in our city the presence of such an important person as the Duke of Windsor. If my memory is correct, it was because May 5 was the Regimental day of the Middlesex Regiment, your great regiment of which the Duke of Windsor had at one time been an officer.

"Alas, this great occasion which we shall never forget was to be the last, as a few days afterwards all the friendly troops left our district to move into Belgium. Our villages became sad and it was for the civil population the beginning of great misery—evacuation, invasion, occupation.

"How often did we think during those long days of May, 1940, of all the Allied soldiers with whom we had shared our life during those six months. How great was our sorrow when we began to learn of your losses and of the sacrifices endured in order to resist the invader, of the sufferings of the civil population in England and of the aerial bombardments which attacked your families.

"For my own part I guarded a souvenir of 1940, as I had accepted the onerous charge when a few days after the departure of the Allied regiments there was entrusted to me an emblem—I should not call it a Colour, but rather a large flag—of the Middlesex Regiment, the same flag which had flown over the ground of the Olympique Lillois on May 5, 1940.

"The Germans were arriving. What ought one to do with this emblem? Make it disappear or preserve it with the risk of being discovered and of suffering deportation?

"As a former combatant of the 1914-1918 war, twice wounded, and having escaped death by a miracle, knowing how much this emblem might represent, I decided to do everything in my power to preserve it and one day to restore it.

"There is no need to enlarge on the difficulties of every kind which were encountered in the course of the occupation in my task of preserving this souvenir.

"Passed from hand to hand and from town to town when it was threatened by the visits of the Gestapo, which resulted from certain events when my factory was sequestered following the discovery by the Gestapo of English war material which the Germans valued at 60

million marks. This material consisted of 40 to 50 wireless transmitters, machine guns and material of every kind belonging to an aviation unit. Then followed the arrest of the manager of our factory, who remained for two years in Nazi fortresses.

"The brother of my nephew, who is with me today, was deported and never returned.

"All this created an atmosphere of strain and perpetual fear of the Gestapo, and very often we thought of the flag of the Middlesex Regiment and told ourselves that the day when we could restore it to you would be for us a happy day indeed.

"That day has arrived. I beg you to accept it, sir, and please do not thank me. I have only done what the hearts of former French fighting men told me to do, and which certainly every soldier, non-commissioned officer and officer of your Regiment would have done in my place if faced with the same circumstances.

"At the same time I give you certain photos of officers and men of your Regiment, which I hope all of them will be able to receive as a souvenir. Alas, I fear that some of them have fallen on the battlefields in the course of this terrible war and that these photos will be no more than a pious souvenir for their families.

"Be assured, gentlemen, that we, especially the people of the North of France, endured the German occupation with the certainty of seeing you again as victors, not only because such a victory would coincide with our liberation, but also because of the solid bonds of friendship which bind the two countries together. Were not your dead of 1914-1918 who rest in our land already constant proof, and our greatest joy of all was to see your British troops being the first to enter Lille on September 3, 1944.

"One last word: will you allow me to thank you in the name of a Frenchman who loves his country for having restored it to life and at so great a price?

"May this war be the last one, that is my dearest wish."

Members of 2nd Middlesex present:

6197249 W.O.Cl.2 (O.R.Q.M.S.) J. Wright, M.B.E.  
6196326 W.O.Cl.2 (R.Q.M.S.) G. Blackman.  
6200942 W.O.Cl.2 (C.S.M.) H. Jennings.  
6198742 C/Sgt. (C.Q.M.S.) E. Phillips.  
6197370 Sgt. A. Jones.  
6137731 Cpl. S. Maple.  
6204448 Cpl. J. Pullen.  
6197864 Cpl. M. Beedle.  
6198959 Cpl. D. Hanlon.  
6203952 Cpl. P. Dudek.  
6722931 Cpl. A. Stanford.  
6200322 L/Cpl. W. Snell.  
6757404 L/Cpl. R. Smith.  
6196359 L/Cpl. W. Peters.

I replied in suitable terms to M. Gremaux, having previously learnt the pronunciation of the difficult words from Lt. de Gaye. I saw the latter wince at some of my speech, but I think M. Gremaux understood what I said, or at least he pretended to do so. I certainly felt very deeply moved by the interpretation of his speech, which was done by Lt.-Col. R. H. Russell, of H.M. Guards, who had arranged the whole plan for this visit and to whom we are very grateful indeed.

#### General Sir Brian Horrocks

All members of our Regiment will be relieved to hear that General Sir Brian Horrocks, K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O., M.C., had a successful operation (seventh) on December 19 last.

The surgeon discovered that his recent constant internal illnesses were caused by a piece of shirt driven into the original wound by the bullet. Round this cloth a stone growth had formed, which was increasing in size and causing obstruction. Now it is removed there is confidence he will completely regain his former physical good health. He never lost his buoyant spirits.

He expects to return to duty by February 1 and to be in town during the last two weeks in March, leaving for the Rhine Command on April 1. I know that you would all wish me to convey to the General our good wishes for his speedy return to health, and our hopes for a successful command on the Rhine, where he spent some three very happy years in 1st Middlesex 25 years ago. He was then O.C. "C" Company and one of the foremost athletes in the Battalion sports team.

#### No. 57 PRIMARY TRAINING CENTRE AND DEPOT THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (D.C.O.)

The period which has elapsed since the publication of the last Regimental Journal has been one of considerable activity in this unit.

Overshadowing everything else has, of course, been the news that the Primary Training Centre is to disband in April, 1948. This is a hard blow, as, although the life of the P.T.C. has so far been short, it has not been unprofitable. Many hundreds of recruits have spent their first six weeks of Army life in Inglis Barracks, and have then passed on to all the many and varied branches of the Service. The last of the intakes arrives on February 19 and departs on March 31, and then comes the depressing task of folding our P.T.C. tents and stealing silently away to wherever it pleases the powers that be to send us.

The future of the Depot is at present wrapped in a certain amount of mystery. While it is certain that a Regimental H.Q. will remain at Inglis Barracks, the exact composition of that H.Q. has yet to be decided. It also appears most probable that we shall be allowed to retain the Officers' and Sergeants' Messes, together with the Regimental Museum. However, a great deal has yet to be decided, and it would be rash to indulge in speculation at this juncture.

To turn now to events. The chief of these was undoubtedly Christmas with its allied festivities. The first occasion was the children's party held in the gymnasium on December 20 and attended by 140 children and their parents. The afternoon started with a conjurer, followed by a shadowgraph entertainment. Then came tea, a tea which laughed at austerity and was a sight for sore eyes and a tonic for jaded appetites in these ration-ridden days. At approximately 5.15 p.m. the Christmas tree was revealed in all its glory and on and around it a mass of presents. Shortly afterwards Father Christmas arrived dressed in the traditional red suit, top boots and flowing beard, but for all that



looking just a trifle like that "pillar" of the barracks, Capt. R. W. J. Smith. He proceeded to distribute gifts at great speed and all were rapturously received. The party finished at 6.30 p.m., when many tired but happy children were taken home, and Father Christmas, relieved of his duties, drew from within his capacious gown a bottle-shaped object, the contents of which appeared to have a definitely rejuvenating effect on the "old gentleman."

That the children's party was the success it turned out to be was due to the very hard work in preparation by the Committee of our Ladies' Club, and we would like, in particular, to thank Mrs. Farrow, Mrs. Newman, Mrs. R. W. J. Smith, Mrs. Dennis and Mrs. Crawford for the many long hours they spent in preparing the presents and the Christmas tree. We have also to thank Maj. Clark for the excellent administrative arrangements. It was also very nice to note that among the most appreciative of the audience at the conjurer's display were the Colonel of the Regiment and our Commanding Officer.

Christmas Day itself was quiet in barracks, as the majority of personnel were able to go home for leave. The Christmas dinner was held on New Year's Eve and was served in the traditional manner by the officers and sergeants.

On New Year's Eve a most successful dance was held by the warrant officers, colour sergeants and sergeants of the unit. This was attended by a large gathering of members of the Regiment, past and present, headed by the Colonel of the Regiment, and there is no doubt that all those present passed a most enjoyable evening.

The sporting activities of the unit have been many and as such are the subject of a separate contribution.

We have been extremely fortunate in receiving for the Regimental Museum two items of outstanding interest in Hitler's private telephone exchange and a photostat copy of his will and political testament. These have come from Lt.-Gen. Sir Brian G. Horrocks, K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O., M.C., to whom we are indeed most grateful. Needless to say, these unique and most valuable acquisitions now occupy a position of honour in the Museum.

Since the last issue of the Journal there have been a number of changes among the personnel of the unit. Maj. A. W. Clark, O.B.E., has left us to become Secretary of the Regimental Association. We are sincerely grateful to him for all his hard work as P.R.I. and Welfare Officer during 1947, and not least for all his help to us in the difficult days when the P.T.C. was forming. His place has been taken by Maj. H. Marsh.

Lts. D. R. B. Mackay and D. J. Kimbley and 2/Lt. D. J. Harris have left us for civilian life, and we wish them every good fortune.

A most successful dance was held in the Officers' Mess on January 10. For that evening the dining room became a dance room, while the billiard room was converted into a buffet. About 80 people were present and appeared to enjoy themselves thoroughly. The music for dancing was supplied by a band admirably led by ex-C.S.M. V. Caney, who will be remembered by many in the 2nd and 2nd/7th Battalions of the Regiment.

A forthcoming event of interest takes place on

February 10. On that day the County Commandant of the Middlesex Army Cadet Force, Col. R. D. Sherbrook-Walker, and the Officers Commanding the cadet battalions are attending a luncheon in the Officers' Mess. In the afternoon the County Commandant is to take the passing out parade of the intake due to leave this unit. For this parade we have been fortunate in obtaining the services of the band of the Life Guards.

Three more passing out parades follow before the P.T.C. finally closes, and for the information of readers we publish details below.

Date	Inspecting Officer	Band
Feb. 24.	Brig. F. Y. C. Knox, D.S.O.	Royal Artillery.
Mar. 16.	Maj.-Gen. J. C. O. Marriott, C.B., C.V.O., D.S.O., M.C., G.O.C. London District.	Brigade of Guards.
Mar. 30.	Maj.-Gen. D. G. S. Gregson- Ellis, C.B., O.B.E., G.O.C. Home Counties District.	Brigade of Guards.

Any of our readers who may care to attend on one of these occasions will be most welcome.

## SPORTS NOTES

### Winter, 1947-48

The end of the war has brought with it an end to a great deal of the stimulus and purpose in the life of the soldier and the loss of the high individual and collective morale obtained in war by vigorous training and by shared triumphs and defeats in action. This has left a gap which sports are once again going a long way to fill. So it is that the present-day visitor to the Depot will find considerable emphasis being laid on sporting activities and will realise that sport is a pleasant but important part of military life. We do not go so far as to claim that the battle honours of the Regiment have been won on the soccer pitch of the Depot, though its present state, after prolonged rain and continuous play, provides an ideal training ground for a mid-winter North African or European campaign.

Old "Die-Hards" can rest assured that the Regiment is still turning out sportsmen as good as there were in their days and that the sporting traditions of the past are being well maintained. At the time of going to press we already hold the inter-P.T.C. Rugby and cross-country cups and are waiting to play off the finals of the soccer and hockey cups. The boxing team in the semi-finals has a fine prospect for success. These successes are the more remarkable when it is considered that we are the smallest type of P.T.C. and that this is our first full season after our return to the Regimental home. It is similarly all the more sad that after such a start the end of this season will also see the end of the unit as we now know it.

The work of the Sports Officer has been simplified considerably by the interest and lead given by the Commanding Officer, by the hard work of officers in charge of individual sports, by the co-operation of all departments and by the keenness of the men. In respect of these latter, the Regular soldiers are setting a fine example to the young lads coming in, and many men who were leading sportsmen before the war are still the stalwarts of our unit sides.

At the beginning of the season a sports committee was formed with Lt.-Col. Crawford as president, Maj. Clark (then P.R.I.) vice-president, Capt. Stevens sports

officer, the Padre, Rev. A. E. Gibbins, soccer officer, Capt. Turner officer i/c Rugby, and Capt. Taverner as hockey officer. Maj. Hodding has since taken over the duties of officer i/c boxing and hockey. This committee, with team captains and company representatives, embarked on an ambitious programme, the results of which are given under separate headings below.

### Soccer

This, the most popular of winter sports, has received most attention. The first essential was to give as many men as possible, regardless of skill, the opportunity of getting one game a week. This has not been easy with only two pitches, one of which is shared with 10th Command Workshops, R.E.M.E., and the Rugby XV, and with the disparity in strength of companies. The unit was therefore split up into employments (training, "chairborne," cooks, etc.) and a healthy if not skilful inter-employment league has been in operation. Depot, consisting mainly of Holding Company personnel, stand well at the top, while Administration (mainly office workers under the captaincy of the Adjutant) remain cheerfully at the bottom. Light relief has been provided by matches between officers and sergeants and officers and corporals.

The second object was to produce a strong unit eleven of as permanent a nature as possible. This team is now standing top of the London District Mid-Week League, having lost not a single match and with an impressive goal average. It is also playing No. 50 P.T.C. (Royal West Kents) on Maidstone United ground in the final of the Home Counties District Inter-P.T.C. Cup. Regular members of the team have been: C.Q.M.S. Freshwater, captain ("H.Q."), Pte. Skinner ("H"), Pte. McCarthy ("B"), L/Cpl. Etheridge ("H.Q."), Sgt. Harper ("H"), L/Cpl. Marable ("H.Q."), L/Cpl. Beard (Training), Sgt. Grogan (Training), Cpl. Evans (Training), Lt. Foster (R.A.D.C.), Capt. Gibbins (R.A.C.H.D.), Pte. Clarke ("B"), Pte. Rees ("B"), Cpl. Jones ("H.Q."), Pte. Wakeling ("H.Q.") and L/Cpl. Storey ("H.Q.").

### Rugby

The Rugby team started last August with some half a dozen enthusiasts under the leadership of Capt. Turner and Stevens, who took a considerable risk in arranging a full set of Wednesday and Saturday fixtures for the coming season with civilian and police clubs. The hard, dry grounds at the start of the season did not assist in encouraging the less experienced and more fearful on to the field. Nevertheless, all the fixtures arranged were played and after seven defeats—the heaviest of which was, unfortunately, published in *The Sunday Times*—victory was achieved. Since then the team has vastly improved and is now quite up to average club rugby standard. We are indebted to the many clubs who have entertained us, and particularly to the Metropolitan Police, who have taught us the value of hard, clean play.

As Rugby is uncommon in many units in the Army, our experience with civilian clubs enabled us to defeat heavily our opponents in the Inter-P.T.C. Cup, which we now hold. We are now waiting to play our toughest

match of the season against the Royal Engineers Depot at Chatham for the district open finals. This was played on February 5 and we lost 24 points to nil to a better team.

Regular members of the team have been: Capt. Taverner (captain), Capt. Stevens ("H.Q."), C.S.M. Jennings ("H.Q."), Sgt. Allen (R.A.E.C.), Sgt. Mortimer (R.A.E.C.), S/Sgt. Ficietti and Sgt. Drakesford (P.S.O. staff), Lt. Jordan (Training), Sgt. Jones (Training), Sgt. "Jungle" Thompson (Training), Lt. O'Leary (Training), L/Cpl. Dickens ("H.Q."), Lt. Harris (Training), Capt. Taverner (Training), Lt. Appleyard (Training), C/Sgt. Freshwater ("H.Q."), L/Cpl. Marable ("H.Q."), Pte. Langhorne ("H.Q."), Cpl. Blair (Training) and Pte. Rickards ("B").

### Hockey

It is unfortunate that this game, which is extremely popular amongst the older soldiers, has been limited owing to the fact that the Depot pitch, ploughed up during the war, has not yet been reinstated. However, a pitch has been hired from Hendon Borough Council from time to time and sufficient games have been played to show that the unit has a first-class team, which, too, has reached the final of the P.T.C. Cup. A friendly rivalry has been set up with R.A.F., Hendon, with whom three drawn matches have been played. No matches have been lost.

Regular members of the team have been: Maj. Hodding, 2/Lt. Harris, C/Sgt. Freshwater, O.R.Q.M.S. Wright, Sgts. Grogan, Watson, Thompson and Finnis, L/Cpl. Page, Cpl. Beadle, L/Cpl. Marable and Sgt. MacGowan.

### Boxing

Great keenness has been shown in boxing during the past few months. The unit has an open boxing team and a trainees' boxing team. The former team have reached the semi-final of the Home Counties District Inter-Unit Boxing Competition and the latter are in the semi-final of the Inter-P.T.C. Boxing Competition. The trainees' team won a great victory over No. 35 P.T.C. to get into the semi-final, winning by seven fights to two, and they have great hopes of getting into the final.

Cpl. Gordon, of the P.T. staff, has displayed great energy in training both teams. The undermentioned are regular members of the teams:

Middlesex Regiment: Sgt. Webb, Cpl. Roberts, L/Cpl. Langford and Pte. McSweeney.

G.S.C. (trainees): Ptes. Farey, Mackay, Butcher, Lewis, Watson, Craig, Brockwell, Cooper, Sullivan, Green, Neave and Heath.

### Basket Ball

This sport, which the uninitiated usually imagine to be a form of ladies' netball, is, in actual fact, one of the most strenuous and skilful of our present-day games. It is becoming increasingly popular in the Services and is now played under international rules, allowing five much needed substitutes for each team. The gymnasium has



been adapted to make a court and a unit team was produced which reached the finals of the District Cup before being knocked out by No. 50 P.T.C., Maidstone.

A basket ball league has also been run within the unit, and it has been found to be an ideal game for exercising employed men who cannot be spared from work for any great length of time.

### SERGEANTS' MESS

Since the opening of the Depot and No. 57 P.T.C. on January 1, 1947, much water has flowed beneath the bridge, and events too numerous to mention in our first contribution to the Regimental Journal, but the highlights of these events are the loss of R.S.M. Painter to the 2nd Battalion, together with C.S.M. Stretton and C/Sgts. Jaques, Shrubbs and O'Keefe, whom we wish the very best of luck in their new jobs.

In their place at the Depot we welcome R.S.M. McLoughlin (ex-1st Battalion), C.S.M. Maloney (ex-Kens.) and C/Sgts. Freshwater and Phillips (ex-2nd Battalion).

C/Sgt. Paterson (Pat 29) has left us for Civvy Street. How he goes on for bones for his dog from the cook-house now, we do not know. We do miss his smiling face and his greasy brown paper parcel passing the Guard Room at the union hour of 1630 hours. But we do know that he is earning a very good living in the four bob ring at Harringay ("Spiv").

Since opening the Mess it has been redecorated and furnished as pre-war, complete with silver. Great credit is due to Sgt. Bennett, our Pioneer Sergeant, for the excellent work he carried out in the redecoration. The Mess was also very nicely decorated for Christmas, most of the members taking part in some way or other to achieve this. On December 20 a Christmas draw was held in the Mess and was attended by many serving and past members of the Mess. So great was the number of prizes that towards the end of the evening the Christmas spirit got a hold of the community and many could not have cared less if they had won a prize or not.

New Year's Eve was heralded in with a dance in the gymnasium, at which a large number of past and present members with their friends were present. This was a great success and finished with a team of officers and sergeants bringing into action in the centre of the gymnasium the Seringapatam gun from the barrack square. We were honoured by the presence of the Colonel of the Regiment, Col. M. Browne, M.C., D.L., J.P.

The annual rifle meeting was held early in 1947 and teams from the officers, W.O.s and sergeants, corporals and privates competed. Needless to say, the W.O.s and sergeants succeeded in walking away with the cup, the team being R.S.M. Painter and Sgts. Batters, Withers and Barnes.

As No. 57 P.T.C. is due to disband in the near future, it is possible that many of us will be rejoining our old friends in battalions and the E.R.E. list.

In closing we wish all members of the Sergeants' Mess, wherever they may be, the very best of luck.

### BOXING

In the first round of the Home Counties District Inter-Unit Open Boxing Competition No. 57 P.T.C. beat No. 3 P.T.C. by 15 points to 12 points at Canterbury on February 6, 1948.

No. 57 P.T.C.		No. 3 P.T.C.	
L/Cpl. Langford ..	2	Pte. Stevens ..	1
Pte. Butcher ..	2	Pte. Trew ..	1
Cpl. Roberts ..	1	Pte. Luck ..	2
Pte. Heath ..	2	Pte. Newman ..	2
Pte. Lewis ..	1	Sgt. Richards, M.M.	1
Sgt. Webb ..	1	Cpl. Fusco ..	2
Pte. McKay ..	2	Pte. Titchner ..	1
Pte. Farney ..	2	Cpl. Anderson ..	1
Pte. McSweeney ..	2	Pte. Davies ..	1
	15		12

The Commanding Officer congratulates the unit team on this excellent performance.

### 1st BATTALION THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (D.C.O.)

#### Editorial

The transitional period following the news that the Regiment was to take its place with the infantry gave rise to innumerable problems and difficulties, and this, coupled with the possibility of a run-down of the Battalion, has made life in the past three months a little unsettled. It was, therefore, a great relief when we heard in January that the Battalion would be remaining in Rhine Army and that the immediate prospect of entering into a state of suspended animation had disappeared.

During most of the quarter the Commanding Officer, Lt.-Col. J. G. E. Reid, has most unfortunately been confined to hospital and command of the Battalion devolved on Maj. N. G. Gilbert. We are happy to report that Col. Reid is now greatly restored to health and back with the Battalion. By December 17 he had recovered sufficiently to attend the extremely successful party given by the officers' Mess. The 5th Brigade Officers' Club was borrowed for the occasion and the Divisional Commander, Maj.-Gen. P. M. Balfour, C.B., C.B.E., M.C., and his staff were among the 150 guests who attended. A certain amount of Regimental silver and several dress uniforms were sent out from the Depot for the occasion.

Two other parties were given by the Battalion at Christmas, one to the children of the married families of the Battalion and the other to some 300 German children from Iserlohn. These parties were an enormous success and included a visit from Father Christmas (played with dignity and distinction by Sgt. Bailey) and a showing of Mickey Mouse films.

Christmas Day within the Battalion followed the traditional lines with the Corps of Drums starting the day by beating Reveille. Dinner, served by the officers and sergeants, was a great success, and our thanks must go to the Messing Officer (Lt. D. M. Sutherland) and his staff for presenting such a fine meal. The success of the festivities may be attributed to the vastly improved facilities and the hard work put in by the Entertainments

Committee under the direction of Mrs. N. G. Gilbert and Capt. R. E. Orr, M.C.

The Battalion held a church parade at the Garrison Church on January 4 and, led by the Corps of Drums, they acquitted themselves very well.

Sport continues to play a large part in our life, and the Albuhera Shield competitions continue with "H.Q." Company in the lead. In the Divisional competitions we have done extremely well, particularly in hockey and soccer, and this year we hope to replace the three shields we must lose when we leave 2nd Division for our new location.

Training the Battalion to fit into its new role has been proceeding satisfactorily, and a large number of young officers and junior N.C.O.s have attended courses at the School of Infantry, this being essential before we commence an elaborate training programme for the rest of the Battalion.

During the period under review we lost several old members of the Battalion, including Maj. A. R. Waller, M.C., who goes to Staff College this month, Maj. P. L. Crutchfield, who left to take a staff appointment with H.Q. 2nd Infantry Division, and Capt. L. J. Delaney, who left the Army on release. To all of them we send our best wishes for the future.

### "H.Q." COMPANY

Events during the past quarter have proceeded at a very steady pace generally, the greatest scenes of activity being in the release to Civvy Street department and in the field of sport.

It was with great regret that we said good-bye to Capt. L. J. Delaney (P.R.I.), who has chosen to sever his long service with the Regiment and the Company to go out to Civvy Street and business. His absence will be keenly felt in the Battalion and Company.

The second loss to Civvy Street was our genial hard-working Quartermaster, Lt. A. Rowe, who, after many years of service both in the T.A. and in the Battalion for the past eight years, has left us to reopen his business. We offer our good wishes to both of them.

Other notable departures from the Company to release are Lt. D. R. Young (Messing Officer), who will be a loss to the Company soccer team, Sgt. Wright (Technical Sergeant), Cpl. Eve (B.O.R.) and Pres. Briggs (Signals) and F. Cullen (Drums). Cpl. Eve in particular is a double loss, being a first-class soccer and hockey representative. Freddie Cullen, who may be remembered as Bdman. Cullen, 2nd Battalion, by older members, is also a great loss to the Battalion and Company hockey teams, whilst the Company soccer team will try in vain to replace "Fall Over" Briggs. To them and many other members of the Company who have left us recently we offer our good wishes for a successful future.

Many new arrivals are noted and we extend to them a hearty welcome. Among the many are Capt. A. D. C. Eales (Technical Adjutant), Lt. G. H. J. Drury (Q.M.), who has many years' service in the Regiment and lately served with the 7th Battalion, Lt. J. A. Swarbrick (M.T.O.), who joined us from "C" Company, Sgt. Bucknill (Intelligence Sergeant) and L/Cpl. Delaney

(Post N.C.O.). Many others too numerous to mention have joined us and, although not mentioned, are no less welcome.

We offer our congratulations to the following personnel of the Company, who, by their hard work and ability, have earned promotions during the quarter: Sgt. Boucher (Signals), Cpl. Brown (Drums), L/Cpl. Winsborough (Drums), Sgt. Davis, M.M. (Transport), Sgt. Lovell (R.E.M.E.).

### Sport

The struggle to retain our leadership in the Albuhera Shield Competition is still the Company's main sporting objective and our efforts have been well rewarded, for we go to print as the current league leaders once again. As we forecast in our last notes, keen friendly rivalry has been experienced in the soccer and hockey leagues. Although we expected to lead in the table on the last whistle of the soccer league, we found that we had to share the top of the table points with "A" Company, who, playing extremely well, caught us up in the last stages of the tournament.

The opening match of the rugger league v. "C" Company saw a very equal battle develop and the result of a draw was a fair reward.

At hockey we do most definitely claim to lead the field, as with one match to play we find ourselves at the top in a pretty secure position. The loss of Capt. Delaney, Cpl. Eve and Dmr. Cullen, as already stated, weakened the team, but, fortunately, from the many hockey enthusiasts in the Company the gaps left are well filled.

In the novices' boxing we could do no better than come third, but this position does not reflect truly the great spirit shown by the few who represented the Company.

The cross-country team, after a convincing win in the Battalion trials, came third in the Albuhera League series.

November saw the commencement of the 5th Infantry Brigade Soccer Knock-out Competition. The Company seemed destined to go far, for the first game played, against "H.Q." Company, 1st Royal Fusiliers, ended in a most convincing win for us, having scored 10 goals against our opponents' two. In the next round, however, against the Royal Horse Guards on a flooded pitch, we could not find the form required to win.

In conclusion, we offer our congratulations to C/Sgt. Waldron on his selection to represent B.A.O.R. at hockey on their U.K. tour.

The Battalion XI has varied lately owing to the loss of regular players on release, but it is hoped that the line-up in the future will be: Pte. Allen (goal), 2/Lt. Pattinson and R.Q.M.S. Etheridge (backs), Capt. Cummins, Maj. Clayden and C/Sgt. Waldron (halves), Capt. Bellers, Sgt. Pople, Cpl. Harrington, 2/Lt. Kay and L/Cpl. Winsborough (forwards). Cpls. Dow and Aylward are two very useful reserves.

In the Albuhera Shield (League) "H.Q." Company have ended winners, chiefly by virtue of two very close victories over "A" Company, the runners-up.



## RUGBY

The beginning of the Rugby season was delayed until the middle of October by severe frosts, which rendered the ground unfit for play. The Battalion XV has, on the whole, had a disappointing season, and few Battalion matches have been played. We have had fixtures with the Royal Horse Guards, 53rd Anti-Tank Regiment, H.Q. 5th Infantry Brigade, 1st R.W.F. and 2nd Division, R.E., and have emerged with a record of three games won and two lost. We were narrowly defeated by 19th Field Regiment, R.A., by six points to nil in the first round of the A.R.U. Challenge Cup Competition.

Lt. D. A. Chipp, Sgt. Lovell and Ptes. Redfern and McCrudden have all played in Brigade trial games, and Sgt. Lovell has been selected to play for B.A.O.R. R.E. in U.K.

During this season, too, Maj. C. N. Clayden has joined the Battalion, and he is to be congratulated on having been selected to represent B.A.O.R. and the Army in U.K.

Rugger has started with renewed vigour in the New Year. On January 7 the 40th Field Regiment visited us and were beaten by eight points to six in a good hard game which our pack stood up to remarkably well against a faster and more experienced eight.

The outsiders defended well, but lacked sufficient thrust. For the Middlesex Maj. Clayden scored two tries and one convert and the 40th Field Regiment kicked two penalties.

We play the Black Watch in the first round of the Divisional Cup early in February.

## BOXING

We have been severely handicapped this year owing to the fact that our gymnasium was not ready in time for training.

However, despite these difficulties, the Novices' Boxing and the Inter-Company Novices' Competitions were held in November. The latter was won by "A" Company, with "C" Company second, "H.Q." Company third and "D" Company fourth. Both competitions were noteworthy for the display of keenness rather than skill.

In December the open competition produced the skilled boxers who went to form the Battalion team. This team was narrowly defeated by a fitter team from the Royal Fusiliers later in the month.

After Christmas it was decided to send the Battalion boxers to Wuppertal for intensive training under S.I. Callard, A.P.T.C. A much improved Battalion team returned and was unfortunate to lose by one point to the 19th Field Regiment on January 14 in the first round of the Divisional Inter-Unit Competition. Results were:

*Feather-weight.*—Pte. Kelly lost to Gnr. Douglas.

*Light-weight.*—Pte. Craze lost to L/Bdr. Banser. Pte. Robinson lost to Gnr. Connorton. Pte. Shad defeated L/Bdr. Simmons.

*Welter-weight.*—Sgt. Ellis lost to L/Bdr. Hall. Pte. Milroy defeated Gnr. Jones. Pte. Dukelow defeated Gnr. Morley.

*Middle-weight.*—D.M. Holford defeated L/Bdr. Heagne. Pte. Harrison defeated Gnr. Picken.

*Light Heavy-weight.*—Sgt. Pople lost to Gnr. Minney.

*Heavy-weight.*—Pte. McKeever lost to Gnr. Watts.

The Albuhera Shield Boxing Competition will continue in February, when the Inter-Company Open Boxing Competition will be held.

## "A" COMPANY

The main event during the past three months was undoubtedly, from a Company angle, the departure of Maj. A. R. Waller, M.C. He left us shortly after Christmas to attend the Staff College. The success of the Company during the past year, both in the field of sport and in training, have been due, in no small measure, to his hard work. We take this opportunity of wishing Maj. Waller and his family success in the future. The Company is now commanded by Maj. J. N. Shipster, D.S.O., who was formerly Company Second-in-Command.

Changes are numerous enough these days and new faces are continually appearing as fast as the old disappear, but the biggest change of all has been the shedding of our M.M.G. equipment and carriers in order to take on our new role as an infantry company.

Sport has of late been very much to the fore and we have distinguished ourselves in all branches. We shared points for the Soccer Shield with "H.Q." Company, and the following have at various times played for the Battalion: L/Cpl. Niven and Ptes. Perry (captain), Stanton, Warner, Allen, Sawden, Cope, Darbin and Bestwick, very nearly a complete side in itself.

Despite early misgivings, the Boxing Shield became ours after sharing points with "C" Company, the final result resting on the decision of the welter-weight match. Despite little opportunity for early training, the whole team did remarkably well.

Under the guidance of Sgt. Salmon our cross-country runners did well and, although beaten by "C" Company, we came second in all three Battalion runs.

Hockey at the time of writing is not yet over, but, although the shield cannot be ours, we hope to be runners-up. Lt. Kay, Cpl. Aylward and Pte. Allen have represented the Battalion during a most successful season.

Rugger has proved to be more popular than at first thought and the team, under C.S.M. Fuller, has formed together well and met with considerable success.

Limited cold print gives a poor picture of events when only bare facts can be given, but, in short, we have had a most successful winter.

Recently a very enjoyable social evening was held in the Company, and also a whisky drive. It is hoped that these activities will be continued even more frequently.

To end with, we send our best wishes to all who have left us during the past few months. Shortage of space forbids a long list of names, but the following stalwarts deserve particular mention: Lts. Traxton and R. T. Smith, Sgts. Anderson, Forgham and Morris and Cpl. Parrott, who was, unfortunately, invalided back to England.

## "B" COMPANY

## General

Since we sent in our notes for the last issue of the Regimental Journal a great deal has happened to this detachment.

First of all, the official announcement of the abolition of M.G. battalions, which has meant the reversion of the Regiment to its old traditional role of infantry, brought to an end the attachment of "B" Company to the School of Infantry, Warminster, as demonstration troops. We should really say that this was so as far as the M.M.G.s were concerned, because the 4.2-in. Mortar Platoon is still carrying on with its demonstrations at Warminster until the Royal Artillery are ready to take over the 4.2-in. mortar from us.

It was with very great reluctance and many regrets that we handed in our machine guns at Warminster, as they were weapons to which we had all become very much attached. Even now it is hard to believe that such a splendid weapon is really dead, and one cannot help hoping that it may yet reappear and still do a useful job in the Army of the future.

Before our departure from Warminster the Commandant of the School of Infantry, Col. C. P. Richardson, D.S.O., personally thanked us all in very glowing terms for the work we had carried out during the previous 10 months. We leave behind us at Warminster many good friends, and we would now like to take this opportunity of thanking all at the School of Infantry for their kindness and for a most happy association, which we shall always look back on with great pleasure.

At the time the Company was due to leave Warminster the 1st Battalion was expected to return to the United Kingdom to disband early in 1948. It was therefore arranged by the Colonel of the Regiment, in co-operation with Lt.-Col. M. Crawford, D.S.O., for "B" Company to move temporarily into the Regimental Depot at Mill Hill. It was indeed thoughtful of these two officers to have brought this about, as we feel sure that otherwise we would have spent a very uncomfortable winter in some huddled camp and without the first-class amenities provided by the Depot.

On our arrival at Mill Hill both Col. Browne and Lt.-Col. Crawford gave us a most kind and warm welcome. Col. Browne told us that he had always had a soft spot in his heart for "B" Company, as it was the first company he had been posted to when he first joined the Regiment 42 years ago. He also told us of many other interesting things about the "B" Company of those days. Since our arrival at Mill Hill we have become very much a part of the Depot and No. 57 P.T.C., many members of the Company having taken over key positions and employments in the establishment.

It was with very great pleasure that we heard recently that the 1st Battalion had been granted a new lease of life, although this means that "B" Company will now be returning to Germany in the spring. But it will be a much depleted "B" Company, as we have been running down very rapidly owing to the speed-up in the release programme. In the last three months we have lost no less than 51 of our members. Although we

cannot mention them all by name, we do take this opportunity of wishing them, one and all, the very best of luck in civilian life.

Early in November we suffered the great loss of Capt. P. W. Galvin, our hard-working M.T.O., on posting to the home establishment with a view to his eventual posting to the 2nd Battalion in Palestine. But since then we hear he has been posted to West Africa. Wherever he may be now, we all wish him the best of luck and good fortune.

## Warminster Platoon

It was with very deep sorrow and regret that we learnt of the tragic accident in which L/Cpl. Frey was involved at Warminster, and which has meant the loss of his right hand and forearm and his medical discharge from the Army. The loss of such a promising young Regular soldier in the Company is a grievous one indeed. But, in spite of this severe handicap, we do not really fear for his future in civilian life, having heard of the truly magnificent spirit and cheerfulness he showed during his time in hospital.

Before we leave the Mortar Platoon at Warminster we must not forget to congratulate two of its members on their recent marriages; they are Sgts. Buckley and Spenceley, to whom we send our very best wishes for their future happiness.

## Sport

Now to turn to the world of sport. Although we have not a great deal to report in this sphere on a Company basis, we can truly say that the old traditions of "B" Company have been very worthily upheld by many individuals from the Company in all the various forms of sport. The Company has entered two teams in the Depot and No. 57 P.T.C. Soccer League, a Company Employed team and a Regimental Employed team. The former is doing very well, having won seven and drawn one of the eight matches played to date. The Regimental Employed have not fared so well so far, having won only one of the five matches played.

Ptes. Rees, Clarke and McCarths, of "B" Company, are playing regularly for the No. 57 P.T.C. and Depot 1st XI football team, which is doing very well indeed in all the football leagues of London and Home Counties districts.

In the recent Home Counties Cross-Country Championship at Shorncliffe Ptes. Beadle and Mills and Cpl. Riley came in first, third and thirteenth respectively in the No. 57 P.T.C. and Middlesex Depot team, thereby very largely contributing to the winning of the Inter-P.T.C. Challenge Cup.

In a boxing match against the R.A.F., Hendon, just before Christmas, which the Depot won by a very easy margin, "B" Company was again very well represented by L/Cpl. Langford and Pte. McSweeney. The latter has now entered for the London District Open Boxing, in which we feel confident he will give a very good account of himself.

Although we have not been able to raise a Company hockey team this season, Maj. G. O. Porter and Capt. T.



Tarmey have played regularly for the Depot XI. Capt. P. G. V. Bellers and Cpl. Harrington were both temporarily recalled to B.A.O.R. to strengthen the 1st Battalion hockey XI, which has done extremely well this season in Rhine Army, as may be seen from their exploits reported in the 1st Battalion notes elsewhere in this Journal.

By the time our next Journal notes are in print the Company should be back in Germany again, and we can truly say that it is with very great pleasure that we look forward to rejoining the 1st Battalion after being so long away.

### "C" COMPANY

#### General

We were all sorry to lose our Company Commander, Maj. P. L. Crutchfield, when he left us to take over his new post as G.3 at Divisional H.Q. However, in his place we welcome Maj. Clayden, who will be a most valuable asset in our sports teams. However, he has left us for a while to go on leave and also play for the B.A.O.R. hockey and Rugby teams in England.

A miniature range has been built in the attic under the guidance of C.S.M. Webb. We have been optimistically, it seems, waiting for the electrician to arrive for the last couple of months in order to provide further entertainment within the Company.

We are sorry that Lt. Swarbrick left us to take over the duties of M.T.O. That means once more we have lost another first-class sportsman to the ranks of "H.Q." Company.

Lt. Chalker has departed on demob. with the hope of joining the R.A.F. Lt. Chipp is following on very shortly with only a few days to go, and very shortly after Mr. Chipp leaves Mr. Hunter goes into Civvy Street.

Mr. Hunter has now left us for England and civilian life.

Capt. Bellers continues to be attached to us, performing various duties within the Battalion and helping the Company out at hockey and rugby. We welcome Mr. Pattinson and Mr. Wallace to the Company; both, we hope, will settle down quickly and before long be actively engaged in Company functions.

We are very pleased to see Lt.-Col. J. G. E. Reid back with us after his operation, and we wish him all good health.

With Christmas and the New Year behind us, and news of our continued life after March 8, we are taking steps to shape ourselves into an infantry battalion. The greater part of our carriers have been withdrawn and we hope that shortly we shall get down to training in earnest.

#### Sport

**BOXING.** In the Inter-Company Novices' Boxing the Company produced some excellent talent, especially Ptes. Kelly, Jonson and Carey in the feather- and bantam-weights. Pte. McKeever (heavy-weight) was soon nicknamed "Bruce" after his quick disposal of his first opponent.

The Company was unlucky to lose the shield, but had the satisfaction of being equal with "A" Company on points.

Ptes. Shad, McKeever, Kelly and Kaye have boxed for the Battalion. Pte. Shad won a very good fight against a far more experienced man from the 19th Field in the first round of the Divisional Knock-out.

The Company hopes to go a long way in the Inter-Company Open Boxing the third week in February.

**CROSS-COUNTRY.** We have succeeded in winning the first two cross-country runs, the teams running exceedingly well, with Sgt. Hawkesley doing this on both occasions. Unfortunately, he has now left us on demob., so that with him and others of the original team gone we now feel a little shaky about pulling off the hat trick.

Our luck held in the third cross-country run and we had an easier win than expected. Pte. Robinson in particular is to be congratulated.

**SOCCER.** In spite of our none too spectacular position in the league, we hope to go a long way in the knock-out. Determination and plenty of spirit will, I am sure, give us victory.

**HOCKEY.** The Company hockey team can at last look to the future with confidence. Having lost all games except one in the league, we have settled down and, besides producing three Battalion players, Maj. Clayden, Capt. Bellers and Lt. Pattinson, we have some excellent material in Lts. Baily and Wallace, Ptes. Currie and Rees and L/Cpl. Stroud. The Company easily beat "H.Q." Company of the 2nd Queen's by six goals to nil.

**RUGGER.** This, we hope, will be our strongest team. Excellent results and keenness have been shown in practices, and we have a good Company fifteen with plenty of reserves which will take a lot of beating, L/Cpl. Hellon, Ptes. Bridgeman and Currie, Lt. Wallace and Ptes. Evans, Stone and Sanderson being the mainstay of the pack, whilst outside we have Cpl. Messer, Lts. Baily and Pattinson, Pte. Mouldsdales, Capt. Bellers and Maj. Clayden.

### "D" COMPANY

The great news that the Battalion will not now be entering into "suspended animation" in the spring has been received with genuine delight by the Company and we are all settling down again to face a much brighter future.

#### Training

Owing to the acute shortage of man-power, it has been difficult to carry out a full training programme. The Company has now been reorganised as an infantry rifle company and we are getting down to infantry training. It was with some regret that we said good-bye to our vehicles and mortars. The "Q" and M.T. staffs of the Company, under C/Sgt. Thom and Cpl. Ferguson, have been working overtime sorting out the large amount of equipment which had to be handed in.

A considerable amount of weapon training has been carried out, both internally within the Company and under the auspices of the Battalion W.T. staff, and the Company have fired their rifle courses on Hemer Ranges. Officers' days have been held regularly each week on a variety of subjects and have been of value to officers and senior N.C.O.s.

#### General

Maj. G. B. Ayre has rejoined the Company after four hectic months on Operation "Woodpecker." We extend a hearty welcome to Capt. R. E. Orr, M.C., who has joined as Second-in-Command from the 2nd Battalion.

Release is still taking a heavy toll of the Company strength, and it is with great regret that we say farewell to such stalwarts as Pte. Matthews, the Company Clerk, Sgt. Raycraft, our star cricketer, and "Gentleman" Pte. Jenkins, the O.C.'s batman.

We were all very sorry to see Lts. R. F. Smith and J. R. Coleman and 2/Lt. A. W. Lander also depart on demobilisation.

2/Lt. B. Hayman has gone to Brigade H.Q. as an L.O., and we hope it will not be long before we see the return of this popular officer.

C.S.M. Renwick, who has been with us longer than anyone can remember, is still bearing up well to the strain of allotting all the various duties which the Company has to provide.

#### Sport

Sport has been flourishing; in addition to all the Albuhera Shield competitions, great interest has been taken in the inter-platoon games, soccer and hockey in particular.

The Company hockey side has improved immensely this season and has played well. C/Sgt. Thom has been a tower of strength at centre half and Sgt. Pople has led the forwards with his customary skill; this N.C.O. is undoubtedly the Company's outstanding sportsman, as he plays Rugby, hockey and is a Battalion boxer.

The Rugby team has also made good progress and a useful side has now materialised.

#### Entertainments

The Company played a major part in the Christmas activities within the Battalion and a large number of volunteers assisted in the organising of the German children's party held on December 20. Over 300 German kiddies were given a very successful party in the N.A.A.F.I. Another party, for British children in the Regiment, was held on December 23.

Christmas Day itself was spent in the customary way, and we must congratulate the Battalion Messing Officer and the cooks on the excellent lunch they provided.

### CORPS OF DRUMS

At the time when these notes were being demanded from a very depressed correspondent came the good news that the Battalion was not to return to U.K. for disbandment, but would remain in B.A.O.R. Our next location is as yet undecided, but possibly by the time these notes appear we may have returned to our old stamping grounds in Schleswig-Holstein. Whilst we are simply overwhelmed with the hospitality of "A" Company, it is our fervent hope that we are spared the top floor in our next abode.

The past quarter has been singularly devoid of sensational happenings and, though a fair number of Retreat and other ceremonial activities had been arranged, the weather has been rather less than kind. However, booted and spurred in our pre-war pattern

Service dress, we have twice headed the Battalion on its three-mile march to the Garrison Church.

Unfortunately, the period has seen the departure on release of some of the founder members of the Corps. We hate to observe some of the subterfuges employed by certain members due for release in order to avoid being charmed by the Adjutant's persuasive patter into "signing on." Nevertheless, it is with real regret that we have said good-bye to so many stalwarts headed by the inimical Fred Cullen and followed by Dmrs. Harris, Meleady, White and Vincent; may they all prosper in their new lives. Still, every cloud has its silver lining and it is satisfactory to see how well Doudy, Jones, Mates, Miller and Williams are settling down.

On Christmas Day we commenced the festivities by beating Reveille, albeit a little late in the day. The satisfaction displayed by one certain person on our first rendition of "Greensleeves" was most manifest. Our effort produced a host of Christmassy cheers, particularly from "D" Company, and headed the rush to the cookhouse for an excellent breakfast. After a very satisfactory dinner we held a party in the practice room, which had been specially decorated for the purpose, and drank most of the Club's funds, and, incidentally, defeated a strong team of officers, headed by the Adjutant, at darts. We took this opportunity to present to the Drum-Major and his wife a set of silver teaspoons to mark the first anniversary of their wedding. It was very pleasant to have Mrs. Holford amongst us and we hope that both she and the Drum-Major will enjoy many more such anniversaries.

The prevailing bad weather, coupled with the acute shortage of playing pitches, has severely restricted our outdoor sporting activities. We had an enjoyable game of football with "A" Company early in the New Year, but, despite the fact that we were assisted by the Commanding Officer's son playing centre forward for us, and who scored a very fine goal—and was, we thought, robbed of a second—we lost by the odd goal in three. Regarding sport in general, pride of place must go to the Drum-Major, who boxed for the Battalion in its Army Cup tie with the 19th Field Regiment. Although drawn against a capable and younger opponent, his was one of the best wins of the evening. We also congratulate L/Cpl. Winsborough and Dmr. F. Cullen on being regular members of the Battalion hockey team, and we are pleased to see that Cpl. Doe has at last got his place after watching so many games as first reserve. Mention must also be made of Dmr. Leat playing for the Battalion football team in a number of its matches, including Army Cup games. Neither is forgotten the very good display put up for the Company by Cpl. Brown, L/Cpl. Winsborough and Dmrs. Harris and Meleady in the Inter-Company Novices' Boxing Competition. Finally, we wish Dmr. Munday and Co. every success in their training to secure places in the Battalion cross-country team.

That the Drums' Quiet Room was no paradox was amply proved to the many interested visitors who negotiated the long and winding staircase of Browne Block to its very top. While they may have come to scoff and did not remain to pray, they certainly went away impressed. All this was due to the untiring work



of Dmr. King, who also produced a wonderful set of decorations, and with the designing genius of Dmr. Harris the "Snake Charmers' Club" simply exudes goodwill, cheer and comfort. Despite the lack of fuel, it is impossible to feel cold with Harris's fireplace.

We conclude by thanking the Corps of Drums of the 2nd Battalion for their Christmas card, and to them, all our ex-drummers and our readers go our best wishes.

#### W.O.s' and SERGEANTS' MESS

With the notable exception of the Christmas holiday, the past quarter has been uneventful. The celebrations were designed to embrace the whole of the Mess and to bring together the bachelor and the married members.



A GROUP IN THE SERGEANTS' MESS

Standing (left to right)—Sgts. Davies, Draper, Osborne, C.S.M.s Remick, Rees, Sgt. Dixon.  
Seated (left to right)—Sgts. Westray, Cooper, Bailey.

On Christmas Eve and on Christmas Day the single members were entertained by the married families, and by all accounts a very enjoyable time was passed. The bachelors returned this hospitality on Boxing Day, when the Christmas dinner and social was held in the Mess, and on December 27 a dance lasting until the early hours rounded up what had been an extremely enjoyable Christmas. Our thanks go to the members of the committees who worked so hard to make the celebrations such a great success.

As always, tea and biscuits were served to the Battalion early on Christmas morning by the members of the Mess. The officers were, unfortunately, unable to do this, as their quarters are some distance from the barracks. The wind and rain made it impossible for us to play "the soccer match of the century" against the officers, but we hope to have an opportunity in the future of exchanging blows on the field.

Before serving dinner to the men the officers came to the Mess for an hour or so and a plan for coping with a crowded dining hall was evolved. The fact that arrangements were considerably more successful than last year may be attributed to the vastly improved facilities.

#### Hockey

We have played no games of our own, although we have a really substantial team, but it is hoped that other

Messes will be challenged in the near future. We have several members in the Battalion team, including C.Sgt. Waldron, who is to be congratulated on representing B.A.O.R. in the Army games in U.K.

Since September we have seen many old faces disappear, including Sgts. "Pete" Hawkesley, Morris, Fordham, Dorgan and Robertson. To these we say farewell and good luck and in their places we extend our greetings to Sgts. Brown, White, Boucher and Salmon and hope that their stay will be a happy one.

All members were pleasantly surprised a short time ago when the door opened and in walked C.S.M. Pike, of "B" Company, who was on a short visit to the Battalion.

Now that it has been decided to keep the Battalion in B.A.O.R., we hope to increase the activities of the Mess and bring it up to its pre-war level.

#### SOCCER

The Battalion XI has, on the whole, had a successful season. An interesting fixture list was compiled by Capt. R. R. T. Whitehead and L. J. Delaney at the beginning of the season and we have been fortunate in that we have played 20 games to date. Unfortunately, we lost both of these players in September, when Capt. R. R. T. Whitehead was posted to the R.A. and Capt. L. J. Delaney was demobilised. However, the team, weakened by the loss of its goalkeeper and centre forward, settled down, and the measure of its success is shown in the results of the matches.

Played	Won	Drawn	Lost
20	15	3	2

The most interesting feature of the season has been our progress to the fourth round of the Army Cup, in which we were defeated by 7th Armoured Brigade Workshops, R.E.M.E. We lost this match by the odd goal in three after a keenly contested game in which our defence was once again outstanding. In the preceding Army Cup games we had defeated the 2nd R.S.F., the 1st B.W. and the 1st Gordons. The Gordons we beat by 1-0 in a replay on their ground in Essen after a draw on our own ground. It is interesting to note that in last year's competition the 1st Gordons defeated the Battalion XI in a replay at Rensburg.

The one weakness in the Battalion team has been in the centre forward position. Many players have been tried, but none have been able to take the place of Capt. L. J. Delaney.

It is, perhaps, a little unfair to praise individuals in a team which has been noted for its all-out effort, but everyone will agree that Perry (76) (captain, half and centre) and Sgts. Lovell (right half) and Stanton (inside right) have been outstanding.

To Sgt. Farrow, Cpl. Richardson and Pte. Tatters, who left the team on release during the season, we send our best wishes for the future.

#### HOCKEY

Undoubtedly the highlight of what has so far been a more than successful season has been our progress in the Army Hockey Association Competition (the Army Cup). In the 2nd Division eliminating rounds we beat the 1st

Gordons by 1-0 on their pitch at Essen, and two weeks later we virtually annihilated the 1st Battalion The Black Watch by eight goals to nil. The final eliminating round, played against 1st Battalion The Royal Fusiliers at Wuppertal on December 1, produced one of the fastest games seen for a long while. The 1st R.F. scored early on and although after this play was seldom out of their half. We scored the equaliser through Maj. Clayden only five minutes from the end. Extra time produced no further score and the game was replayed five days later. This time our forwards were on form and scored three times in the first half without reply. The second half was evenly contested, each side scoring twice, and the Battalion eventually ran out winners 5-2, and so passed on to the semi-finals of the B.A.O.R. half of the Army Tournament, in which we have to meet the 2nd Battalion The Wiltshire Regiment at Paderborn in the near future.



Standing (left to right)—Pte. Allen, Sgt. Pople, Cpl. Aylward, Capt. Bellers, A.S.M. Letchford.  
Sitting (left to right)—R.Q.M.S. Etheridge, Maj. Clayden, Capt. Cummins, Cpl. Harrington, C/Sgt. Waldron.  
On ground (left to right)—2 Lt. Patterson, 2 Lt. Kay.  
Absent on release—Capt. Delaney, Cpl. Eve, Dmr. Cullen.

The Battalion is also in the final of the 5th Brigade Knock-out Competition, having beaten the 40th Field Regiment, R.A., by 5-0 in the semi-final. Many friendly matches have been played, none of which has been lost, and to date we have scored 62 goals in 15 matches, as against a total of 15 by our opponents.

The loss of Capt. Delaney on release in November was indeed a heavy blow. As the Battalion centre forward he had been amazingly consistent in scoring goals. As backs Cpl. Eve and Dmr. Cullen put up many fine performances before proceeding on release in December. A.S.M. Letchford's services in goal will also be greatly missed now that the L.A.D. department is leaving the Battalion.

Of the other regular players since October it is hard to select anyone for special praise, but our congratulations go to C/Sgt. Waldron and Maj. Clayden on being selected to represent Rhine Army in U.K. Our thanks go out to Capt. Cummins for his tireless efforts in improving the welfare and equipment of the team.

## 2nd BATTALION THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (D.C.O.)

### Introduction

The Battalion, having been for the last five months of 1947 comparatively unified, is once more divided. Early in December "D" Company left Karkur, where the Battalion then was, and proceeded to Acre, a troublesome Arab town in Northern Palestine, which they have since policed and guarded.

Soon afterwards the Battalion moved from Karkur, and from 1st Infantry Division, to Sumeiriya (2 miles north of Acre) for attachment to 6th Airborne Division; "B" Company was despatched to Safad, in North-Eastern Palestine, to keep the peace between the large numbers of Jewish and Arab inhabitants. "B" Company has now returned, having handed over to a company of the 1st Irish Guards, and "C" Company has left for Eilon in order to guard a section of the Lebanon-Palestine frontier. For the first time in these notes an "S" Company appears. This is, of course, due to the Battalion's recent reorganisation as a rifle infantry battalion. We were indeed sorry to say good-bye to our M.M.G.s and mortars.

It is with deep regret that we have to report the death of Sgt. J. F. Matthew, of "D" Company, who, on December 28, 1947, was killed in the Acre prison riot immediately following an attempted gaol break. We extend our sincere sympathy to his parents and fiancée.

The recent departure of our C.O., Lt.-Col. F. Walden, to take up an appointment as Colonel at H.Q. 10th Infantry Brigade in Greece has been a personal loss to each of us, as well as a very great loss to the Battalion as a whole, only compensated by the good news of his long deserved promotion. All our best wishes go with him to his new appointment. His successor is not yet known.

Recent losses to the Battalion strength have been many. The following officers, and many senior N.C.O.s, left us for release recently: Capt. D. A. Hawkins, C. C. Close, A. J. E. Burnett and E. A. Morgan, Lts. S. R. Nicholson, B. A. Cave-Browne-Cave, J. H. L. Scrivener, A. Witterick and R. R. Arscott and S/Lt. R. G. Edwards. 2/Lt. R. Baltaxe left to join the Somaliland Gendarmerie.

We welcome to the Battalion Capt. H. N. McL. Martin (who now commands "B" Company), Capt. J. G. Chiverall (in command of "H.Q." Company), Capt. R. St. G. Mc. Young ("D" Company), Capt. E. A. H. Jeffcoat (commanding the newly formed Support Company), Capt. M. F. Leonard ("B" Company), Capt. C. H. Miville, M.C. ("S" Company), 2/Lt. R. Ilan ("D" Company), 2/Lt. P. E. Ibrahim ("B" Company) and 2/Lt. P. J. A. Pielow ("B" Company). We have also been glad to welcome R.S.M. J. Painter to the Battalion.

Since our northward move the Battalion has been called upon to perform many varied internal security duties. Troublesome Acre, with its prison, has been dealt with well by "D" Company. Peace between Arabs and Jews was maintained by "B" Company at Safad. The main part of the Battalion has had an illegal ship to deal with, as well as numerous road blocks, checks, convoy escorts, flag marches and the relief of



attacked Jewish settlements. We remain at immediate notice to assist the police in carrying out any tasks mentioned above and find little time for anything else save a little sport. All ranks are reacting to the situation with cheerfulness and disciplined restraint and are making the best of it until such time as we hand over our tasks to the United Nations.

#### "H.Q." COMPANY

Since our last notes appeared in the December Journal several changes have taken place in the Company. Due to release we have lost Capt. A. J. E. Burnett (the Company Commander), C/Sgt. R. Cumper (Orderly Room Sergeant), Sgt. R. Young (Intelligence Sergeant), Sgt. E. Woolley (Signals Sergeant), L/Cpl. Crowle and Ptes. Bengé, Burford, Salisbury, Wallbank and Goddard.

Capt. Robertson commanded the Company for a few weeks until Capt. Chiverall's arrival. We welcome the latter as our new Company Commander.

At sports we have more than held our own, having been placed second in the Inter-Company Athletic Meeting and finding many of the Battalion athletic team, notably Capt. Burnett and Robertson, C.S.M. R. Tarrant, L/Cpls. Iddon and Flanagan and Ptes. Padley, Grant and Burford.

Moves during the last quarter have been over-frequent; we now find ourselves some miles north of Acre, at Sumeiriya, where we arrived on December 16 in time to settle down to Christmas festivities. These, however, had to be unavoidably curtailed due to the Battalion's operational commitments, which have continued and increased up to the present, when guards and escort duties have necessarily a much higher priority than sport.

We extend a hearty welcome to Bandmaster Thirle, the Band and boys, who joined us early in December. They have been doing commendable work in entertaining, not only us, but many units in 1st Infantry Division and 6th Airborne Division. May they have a long and happy stay with us.

The Corps of Drums has beaten Retreat several times in the last three months and has of late amalgamated with the Band on such occasions as the funeral of Sgt. Matthew. We have lost some of our number on release, namely, Ptes. Shearing, Fenning, Burford and Buckingham. We welcome Sgt. Hamlin, our new Drum-Major, and Ptes. Simmonds-Smith, Halsane and Milne.

#### "S" COMPANY

The Company was formed only after Christmas. We are, however, confident that within a reasonably short space of time the Company will become fully-fledged.

We have increased our strength from "two men and a boy" to a grand total of 75 all ranks, and still we wait patiently for reinforcements. The Company is commanded by Capt. E. A. H. Jeffcoat; C.S.M. H. Parnell is the Sergeant-Major and C.Q.M.S. B. LeMaitre (who recently rejoined the Regiment from a parachute battalion) sees to our pay and stores.

All the members of the Company are either Regular soldiers or have high age and service groups, which frees us for the present from release headaches.

The 3-inch Mortar Platoon is already up to strength, for it was transferred *en bloc* from "D" Company, who had previously trained them in handling the 4.2-inch mortar. We await the arrival now of the mortars themselves. The Carrier Platoon is in skeleton form; the drivers are under the watchful eye of Cpl Smith (38).

We have not yet shown our prowess as a company in the world of sport, but we have plenty of talent, including Sgt. Stanley, a member of the Battalion soccer team, and Ptes. Keiley and Webb, who are training with the Battalion cross-country team.

#### "A" COMPANY

Once more "A" Company figures in the Journal. It is as yet an infant Company, having been but newly formed and still lacking in numbers owing to the more urgent calls on man-power made by the recent formation of "S" Company.

Our present strength is one officer (Maj. W. A. Raindle), one sergeant, three corporals and 11 other ranks. Despite our small size, we have worries connected with losing personnel as have other companies. We have recently lost C.Q.M.S. Shrubbs, M.M. (to "B" Company), and Pte. Capell; Sgt. Preston has also left for U.K. to attend a course on the anti-tank gun prior to joining "S" Company.

Although the sporting side of life here in Palestine is overshadowed, both Maj. Raindle, and until recently C.Q.M.S. Shrubbs, M.M., were members of the Battalion hockey team.

We shall eventually grow in size until we take our place alongside the other companies of the Battalion.

#### "B" COMPANY

Since our last journal notice was written much has happened, not the least important being the loss of that firm favourite, the Vickers M.M.G., a sad loss and universally regretted.

We returned from Transjordan on November 8 and after the everlasting dust found Karkur a pleasant change. Our stay there was, however, only temporary and on December 16 we moved to a camp north of Acre.

Acre proved to be only hail and farewell, for we were on the move again within seven days as a detachment under command of a mechanised regiment of the Transjordan Frontier Force, with the destination of Safad in North Palestine. Safad, a town of nearly 12,000 Arabs and 2,000 Jews, has the reputation of a potential trouble centre.

Accommodation was found by requisitioning two houses, which were a pleasant change from tents. The big problem was, however, "Could a Christmas dinner be produced in the time and with the facilities available?" It was eventually accomplished under the most difficult circumstances and all credit must be given to our cooks, Ptes. Bryan, Franklin and Turton, and their helpers.

As was anticipated, our stay there was not without incident; for many it was their baptism of fire and for all a first-hand experience of Arab and Jewish strife, which predominates in this country. Life was, however, not without its humorous side, for who will ever forget the senior N.C.O. who, when going for cover, came

closer to the Arab sanitary arrangements than ever before?

Company sport has, unfortunately, suffered by these many moves, but we did achieve a fine result in the Inter-Company Novices' Boxing Championship by tying with "D" Company for first place, and in the Battalion Open Novices we won the majority of the events. Space, unfortunately, does not permit of giving the individual results, but all members of the Company boxing team are to be strongly congratulated.

In the world of soccer a Battalion Inter-Platoon Competition is being run and results to date are most encouraging, with Company H.Q. having won four out of their six games so far played.

Although there is not a great deal of opportunity for cross-country running, the Company has representatives in the Battalion team, as with hockey.



"B" COMPANY, SAFAD.

Capt. H. N. McL. Martin and Capt. M. F. Leonard at Company H.Q.

Release has, as usual nowadays, played its unwelcome part, and to that indefatigable enemy of our strength state board we have lost many, including Capt. C. C. Close, Sgts. Brown, Carter and Dyson and Cpl. Stubbs. To these and the many others who have left, or who will be leaving very soon, we extend our best wishes for their success in civilian life.

We were also unfortunate in losing Sgt. Bromley, a very fine boxer, to home posting. Maj. Fishbourne, who took over from Capt. C. C. Close, was only with us a short time before departing on a U.K. course, relinquishing his command to Capt. H. N. McL. Martin.

Capt. M. F. Leonard, together with Sgts. Flaherty and Cooper, Cpl. Popham and a proportion of two drafts from the U.K., have recently arrived and we extend to them all a cordial welcome.

#### "C" COMPANY

After three months in Transjordan the Company has returned to Palestine, but, though it is a relief to get

away from the extreme cold and rain, the comparative freedom of Transjordan is missed.

The Company, since its return, has been very occupied with guards and operational duties; personnel of the Company were first on the scene when an illegal ship recently beached itself, and the remainder of the Company were called upon to establish road checks.

Release has changed the Company beyond recognition and the old members are leaving fast. Amongst those recently demobilised were: 2/Lt. R. G. Edwards, C.S.M. Thomson, Sgts. Lewis, Metcalfe, Wagstaffe, Cpls. Baker and Streatfield, L/Cpl. Shrieves and Ptes. Sheard and Pirie. There are many more besides, but space will not permit of a full list. We wish them all the best of luck and we hope to see them again soon.

Sporting activities have been severely curtailed, but on the football field the Company reached the finals of 2nd Brigade Minor Units League and after a very excellent game was beaten 3-2 by 2nd Field Ambulance. Boxing has been well supported by the Company both in the Battalion Open Novices' Competition and in the Divisional Open Championships shortly to be held, for which there are four Company entrants.

The Company is once more on detachment in a very pleasant and compact hill camp at Eilon, which has every amenity. Guards are proving less arduous and the change of countryside is much appreciated; those people with the Battalion in Palestine will know how tired one becomes of the same view through the "wire."

#### "D" COMPANY

The last three months in the Company have reflected the general trend of events in this country, starting as they did in the peace-time atmosphere of Brigade training in Transjordan and culminating in the activity and the hurly-burly of aiding the civil authorities in maintaining order in Acre municipality, and more particularly in Acre prison.

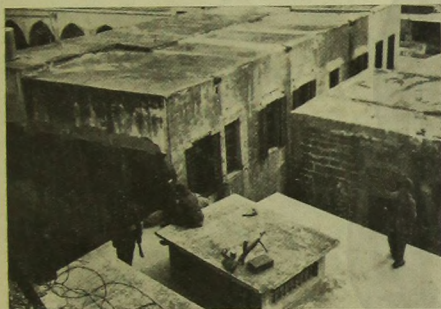
It was in the prison that the Company suffered its first fatal casualty since arriving in Palestine, and it is with deep regret that we have to record the death of Sgt. J. E. Matthew, who was killed by rioting prisoners. Every effort is being made by the civil police to bring his assailants to justice, but it is a difficult task to ascertain who in the general confusion was instrumental in his death.

While in Transjordan numerous trips were made into Amman, the capital city, to inspect the ruins which stand as witness to the Roman occupation. In addition to the value gained from the training in Transjordan, the moral effect of living in camps unbounded by barbed wire, and of being able to walk out unarmed as individuals among a friendly population, was invaluable. Of course, the natives tried and succeeded in robbing us in our camps and in their shops, but that was part of the game which has been played by the local tribesmen for thousands of years, and although, as in an often told story, the humour has worn a little thin, it is still possible to differentiate between the depredations of these people and the politically inspired outrages perpetrated by the inhabitants of our present country of residence.

One platoon took part in the searchlight tattoo



organised by 3rd Infantry Brigade for H.M. King Abdullah of Transjordan, and we are told that he was suitably impressed with the performance in general and our contribution in particular. To him the 4.2-inch mortar was still a little-known weapon. For once we could be grateful to the dust churned up by our carriers, since our minor errors were amply concealed in its enveloping screen. Normally the dust and sand devils were the bane of our existence.



"D" COMPANY, ACRE PRISON.  
No. 2 Post overlooking the Suk.

On return from Transjordan an uneventful month passed at Karkur, and then on December 7 the Company was sent on detachment to Caesar's Camp, Acre, where it still remains. It is a small camp, ideally situated on the seashore, and with spring-like weather which prevails, bathing and fishing are the order of the day. Our main commitment remains in Acre prison, which we have guarded and the windows of which we have blocked against possible escapes.

The one attempted escape which has been made since we undertook these duties was foiled by our sentries, but now that the blocking of the windows is finished our guard has been removed. It is hoped that there will be no repetition of the mass breaks which were occurring with monotonous regularity and with the efficiency of the Army release scheme before this work has been completed.

In the world of sport we have held our own, winning the Inter-Company Athletics and tug-of-war and tying for first place in the Inter-Company Novices' Boxing Tournament. We were well represented by Lt. Witterick, C.S.M. O'Keefe, Sgts. Hubbard and Houns-low, Cpl. Abbott, L/Cpl. Pearson and Ptes. Spinks, Penner, Atterbury, Trafford and Josling in the Battalion athletics team, which competed in the 1st Infantry Division Competition. We have also been well represented in the Battalion soccer team and basket ball team.

Release has taken most of the old hands from the Company. Capt. Hawkins has gone and Maj. Hutchings has resumed command of the Company. Lts. Cave-Browne-Cave, Nicholson and Witterick have also gone

and 2/Lt. Ilian has joined. Capt. Mieville, M.C., joined us, but has already left for "S" Company.

The following have also answered the call for volunteers in the national recovery drive: Sgts. Swift, Keay and Houns-low, Cpls. Collingbine, Watson, Parker, Carter, Champkin and Harwood, L/Cpls. Dackombe, Bartlett and Mills and Ptes. Atterbury, Beanland, Boyle, Booy, Goodes, Cooper, Bower, Garhard and Strachan.

The formation of "S" Company has claimed the bulk of the remainder of the old Company, so we face the New Year with new men in our new role as an infantry rifle company, confident that they will uphold the old standards of the Company.

### SPORTS

The winter's sport started in October, 1947, when we were still in Transjordan. Since then it has of necessity been relegated to the back seat, due firstly to training in Transjordan, secondly to the change over from an M.G. battalion to an infantry battalion at Karkur, and lastly by the somewhat formidable internal security duties which we are obliged to undertake here at Sumeiriya.

In the hockey sphere we managed to play off three inter-unit matches whilst at Karkur. The first, against 12th Anti-Tank Regiment, R.A., was lost 1-4, but against R.A.F., Ein Shemer, we won two games comfortably. Since our move we have played the Middle East School of Artillery, losing 2-4. In the Divisional Knock-out Competition we first defeated Divisional Signals 2-1, being ourselves later knocked out by



ROAD CHECK, "D" COMPANY, ACRE.  
Cpl. Davies, Pte. Overton, Pte. Hunt.

Divisional H.Q. We still have Maj. Raindle and C.S.M. Tarrant with us, the team being lately reinforced by Bds. Hymas, Hilkene and Geary. We lack only practice.

Our soccer team is almost entirely new blood. Whilst in 1st Infantry Division we beat Royal Lincolns 5-4 in a match of the 3rd Infantry Brigade League Competition, thus avenging our heavy defeat by the Lincolns in Transjordan. A fine game was played by Sgt.

Gunning and Cpl. Streatfield, both of "C" Company, also Pte. Atterbury, of "D" Company. At Sumeiriya we have played the Nahariya F.C. We lost 4-3 in an extremely exciting game. We shall in the near future be competing in the Divisional Football Competition, and with more practice results should be encouraging.

Our comparatively new rugby team has taken shape since we were at Karkur. It is usually composed of Maj. I. R. Burrows, M.B.E., and Hutchings, Cpts. Leonard, Mieville, Jeffcoat and Clayden, 2/Lt. Dawe, Sgts. Hummerstone, Collinson and Bartholomew, Cpls. Browne, Nash and Stephenson and Ptes. Davidson, Smith, Lloyd, Powell, Riley, Staples, Trew and Morley. At Karkur we played one match against R.A.F. Ein Shemer, and another against 84th Field Regiment, R.A. Although we lost both games, they were enjoyed by the team, which gained much experience from them.

Having kept our precious boxing ring with us since Kefar Vitkin days, we made good use of it by holding a Battalion Novices' Competition at Zarka, Transjordan. Although the standard was not high, deficiencies in that respect were more than amply compensated by the spirit shown. The winners were: Bantam-weight, Pte. Meekley ("C" Company); feather-weight, Pte. McVann ("H.Q." Company); light-weight, Pte. Davidson ("B" Company); welter-weight, L/Cpl. Nash ("H.Q." Company); middle-weight, Pte. Salisbury ("H.Q." Company); heavy-weight, Sgt. Bromley ("B" Company). This competition was followed by the Inter-Company Novices' Team Competition held at Karkur in December, in which "B" and "D" Companies tied for top place with equal points. We also fought R.A.F., Ein Shemer, and succeeded in winning every fight.

At Sumeiriya the Battalion Open Competition took place. There were many surprises and the winners were as follows: Fly-weight, Pte. Taylor ("B" Company); bantam-weight, Pte. Mills ("B" Company); feather-weight, Pte. Olerenshaw ("B" Company); light-weight, Pte. Montague ("H.Q." Company); welter-weight, L/Cpl. Shrieves ("C" Company); middle-weight, Pte. Murray ("H.Q." Company). Up to the present we have won our way into the Divisional Open Team finals and are doing comparatively well in the Divisional Individual Competition, due in no small measure to the sound training of C.Q.M.S. A. Lowe.

### HOME COUNTIES BRIGADE TRAINING CENTRE

Since the last issue of the Regimental Journal the Machine Gun Wing of Home Counties Brigade Training Centre, which was at Crowborough, has disbanded.

Now, the National Service man destined for the Middlesex Regiment is trained at Shorncliffe in a composite company consisting of Buffs, Royal Fusiliers and "Die-Hards." This company is commanded by Maj. Stephen Rose, who is a Royal Fusilier, and the following represent the Middlesex Regiment: Lt. Legge, Platoon Commander; Sgt. Burrell, Platoon Sergeant; Sgt.

Hyde, Platoon Sergeant; Cpl. Kent, a well-known personality from the 2nd Middlesex, who still plays a first-class game of rugger; Cpl. Morton.

Since the link up of the three regiments in the one company four mixed platoons have passed through, and there are at present three undergoing training.

At the end of his training every recruit competes for a shooting medal and the bayonet of honour; the latter is awarded to the best recruit. Up to date a Middlesex recruit has always won the shooting medal, and on the last occasion Pte. Beridge, of the Middlesex Regiment, won both the bayonet of honour and the shooting medal. The photograph below shows Pte. Beridge with the bayonet of honour and his platoon, which won the inter-company competition.

An interesting point in the history of the three regiments which form this company is that they all share the Albuhera battle honour. In consequence of this the company rest room is called the Albuhera Room. This room contains trophies and pictures of the three regiments. We were fortunate in recently obtaining some excellent coloured prints from the Officers' Mess, Mill Hill. It is hoped that very shortly we will be able to add to these with the machine gun cup and bronze plaque won by the late M.G. Wing, Crowborough, in the Army Rifle Association Non-Central Machine Gun Competition for 1947. The members of the winning team were:

Captain: Lt. D. M. H. Ferguson.

No. 1 Sub-section: Cpl. S. Cole and Ptes. R. Broderick and R. Pedder.

No. 2 Sub-section: Cpl. G. Woodage and Ptes. E. Hollingworth and M. Allen.

No. 3 Sub-section: L/Cpl. R. Bishop and Ptes. T. Humphreys and C. Smith.

No. 4 Sub-section: Cpl. C. Epps and Pte. L. Redman and T. Joyce.

The Regiment is also represented in "H.Q." Company, particularly in the M.T. Platoon, as well as the Drafting and Holding Companies.

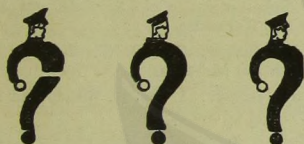
The matter of great moment at present is the future of the Training Centre, which is to be taken over by the 2nd Battalion The Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment on April 1. There is great speculation as to what shape the cap badge of the permanent staff will take. The more optimistic of us hope to retain our own Regimental badges, while the less hopeful aver that we will all have to wear an "Invicta"; a third party is all for having a Group badge, not at all daunted at having to change their present emblems for "The White Cliffs of Dover."

At a recent inspection of the Centre one of the Company Commanders asked the inspecting officer (a very distinguished soldier) what his opinion was of this vexed question. Somewhat alarmingly the answer came back, "One must learn to change one's cap badges." To this a slightly less distinguished soldier replied, "Let us all wear two cap badges"! Perhaps our future and our salvation lie in an infantry badge.





A group from the Home Counties Brigade Training Centre



#### A JOB-FINDER'S DAY

Employers in any large industrial town often start the week by trying to fill vacancies and may often think, "Those ex-Servicemen are just the chaps to get on with the job; I'll ring up the Regular Forces Employment Association as soon as I get to the office and see what they can do."

In the Association's office the Job-finder and his clerk are dealing with the telephone and morning mail and searching the register of men waiting for jobs to match them with the requests made by employers. This is done carefully or else the employer will lose confidence and the men get fed up. Each man selected must then be given precise instructions. Soon visitors begin to arrive. Some are men fresh out of the Services and others having had a job want another. Others again, still in the Service, come to ask about local employment conditions. The first interview takes place in the friendliest of atmospheres, for the Job-finder and his clerk know well how to make men feel at home. More often than not the man leaves the office with an interview arranged with an employer; if not, his qualifications have been noted so that he can be informed

as soon as his particular kind of job comes along.

The Job-finder's day is a varied one. For instance, Brown, who had been out of the Service for a time, had been placed in employment as a grocer's roundsman. This job suited him admirably because he liked an open-air life, was given a van to drive, and was not bothered by too much supervision; the only snag was that he had to travel a distance to and from work because he lived some miles away. Suddenly Brown disappeared, to the annoyance of the employer, and also to his regret, because he liked him. A few days later there was a timid knock on the Job-finder's door. Brown came in with a sheepish smile. "Ah," said the Job-finder, "I've been worried about you. What happened about that job?" Brown replied, "I was sick. No, I didn't let the employer know; I forgot to." "Now, my lad," retorted the Job-finder, "I'm sure that was not the reason, because your people would have told the employer. Let's have the truth, because your boss, though sorry to lose you, is annoyed with me for sending him a dud." "Well," said Brown, "tell you the truth, I was fed up. I stayed away one day and then didn't like to go back." This led to some friendly advice about letting himself, the Association and the employer down, and after a while they were chatting away like old friends. Brown's courage had by this time fully returned and he blurted out, "To tell you the truth, sir, my girl didn't like me working away from the village and coming home late each evening, so I stayed away." This interview led to the Job-finder ringing up the employer and as a result Brown was on the job again next day.

#### 7th BATTALION NOTES

During the past quarter the Battalion has made very small progress in the matter of obtaining recruits. It would appear that the official restriction on the type of man who may now be recruited into the T.A., coupled with the obvious disinclination of the recently demobbed soldier to continue in the profession, will bar any great increase in our numbers until the arrival of the National Service men in early 1950.

A very successful Alamein Night reunion party was held at H.Q., at which approximately 130 serving members, Old Comrades and their wives and friends attended. The evening was spent in talking over old times and was interspersed with variety turns and music, and all present agreed that it had been a most successful evening.

In so far as it was possible, the traditional Christmas festivities were taken part in and a large number of members attended at H.Q. on Christmas Eve, Christmas morning and Boxing morning.

A most successful New Year's Eve dance was held at H.Q. and, in spite of the difficulties of travel, nearly 250 people were present. As far as records show, this was the first New Year's Eve on which the Battalion had arranged a special function, and it was very well received by all present. The Entertainments Committee, in view of the lateness of the dance, made provision for getting guests home by hiring a large motor coach, which toured the area round H.Q. until all were safely home.

For the first time since 1939 the Battalion children's party was revived, and on Saturday, January 10, the Battalion entertained some 45 children and their parents to tea, games and a film show, which was followed by the arrival of Father Christmas down the chimney. Lt. H. E. Rawles, who was Father Christmas, then proceeded to distribute presents to all the children present, after which they were given a balloon, toffee apple and a trumpet before leaving for bed about 6.15 p.m.

#### 10th BATTALION NOTES

1ST/10TH, 2ND/10TH, 3RD/10TH BATTALION BRANCHES OF THE OLD COMRADES' ASSOCIATION REMEMBRANCE SERVICE, NOVEMBER 16, 1947

Once again the Old Comrades of the above branches and their friends gathered for their Service of Remembrance at Chiswick Parish Church, where hang their Battalion Colours. They numbered well over 100 and were joined by the local branch of the British Legion.

The service, specially arranged by the Vicar, the Rev. A. H. Rees, Hon. Chaplain to the British Legion, was a good one, with a number of hymns which old soldiers know and sing heartily. Wreaths were received by the Padre and placed by him under the respective Colours while Last Post and Reveille were blown by a bugler detailed by Lt.-Col. M. Crawford, D.S.O., commanding No. 57 P.T.C. and Depot The Middlesex Regiment. After the service there was a social reunion in the church hall lent by the Vicar and refreshments were again provided through the generosity of Mrs. P. Cumming and Mrs. Lovegrove, good friends of the 2nd/10th branch.

A collection made in the hall amounted to £3 10s. 2½d., which was handed to the Vicar for the church funds. All the arrangements were made by the Hon. Secretary of the 2nd/10th branch, Archie Cumming.

Old Comrades should note that, through the interest of Padre Rees, the Colours in the church have been rehung in better positions and in a better way. The poles have been repainted and refitted, which work was done by Messrs. Nicholls Bros., of Church Street, Chiswick, without charge as a tribute to the Regiment.

The grateful thanks of the Old Comrades of the three branches are offered to all the kindly helpers named above.

B. K. C.

#### LETTER RECEIVED BY THE EDITOR

British Consulate-General,  
Canton.

July 7, 1947.

DEAR COL. BROWNE,

Reference your letter of March 22, 1946, and my reply of April 12, 1946.

At last I have succeeded in getting an opportunity to go down to Hong Kong and have those long-promised photographs of the 25th Battalion The Middlesex Regiment seen to. I enclose a few of the results and hope they may prove of interest to "Die-Hards" at home.

I had an awful job clearing the twigs and grass away, but the monument and inscription are still well preserved, as you can see.

Why this lonely spot on the pass between High West and Victoria Peak was chosen is hard to say, unless it is that the small grassy plateau in its vicinity was used as a sort of fresh-air camp by the Battalion during its stay in Hong Kong. It is fortunate, too, that the inscription was not effaced or obliterated by the Japanese, with their penchant for removing every English sign or notice in the colony from street names to shop signs.

With best regards.

Yours sincerely,  
THOMAS P. JACKSON,  
British Pro-Consul.



One of the photographs submitted by the British Pro-Consul



# ROYAL MILITARY MEMORIAL CHAPEL, SANDHURST SECOND WORLD WAR MEMORIAL

It is intended that the proposed Memorial should commemorate all the Officers of the British Commonwealth and Empire who gave their lives in the Second World War, whether they were trained at Woolwich, Sandhurst or one of the War-time Officer Cadet Training Units, and whether they held Regular, Territorial or Emergency Commissions.

His Majesty the King has graciously signified his approval of this plan, which is to be carried out in the following form:

- A Book of Remembrance containing the names of the fallen.
- Oak pews to replace the present chairs in the main body of the Chapel. These pews are to bear on the panels and ends the carved crests of Regiments and Corps.
- A new Organ in place of the present unsatisfactory one.

A collection is being made by the Secretary of The Middlesex Regimental Association, Inglis Barracks, Mill Hill, N.W.7. Any of our readers desirous of subscribing should forward their subscriptions to him at the address given. A sum of £49 has been collected to date from Units and members of the Regiment.

## OFFICIALESE

"With pen and with pencil we're learning to say  
Nothing, more cleverly, every day."

(Sent by an anonymous subscriber.)

"The old days have gone for good; things will never be the same again," and England divides into those who say so wistfully and with regret, and the other half with triumphant satisfaction.

But we are a stolid race, and fundamental changes, changes that will alter the widening pattern of our way of life, habits and speech, do not happen over night. They may appear to us to do so, but we are confined to the present. "Now" allows no perspective. Changes overtake us more by stealth than by revolution, and not all are for the better.

Therefore, if we are at all mindful of the world about us, it is as well, from time to time, to stand back a little and observe those changes which are the more insidious because they are the less obvious.

The recent statement in a London newspaper that a special dictionary was being produced to enable Civil Servants to write in a readily understood form was of particular significance because it contained an important admission. Why, in the name of all the writers of the last five centuries, and of posterity, should this be necessary? Had not Caxton filled this need in 1490; and, if not, what about Samuel Johnson? And yet in 1948 there is being printed a work that will, so to speak, reverse the vulgar use of a dictionary, unscramble the batter of official jargon and bring writers back to the open pastures of simple words that are understood by all.

But do not suppose that, because of their frank and wholesome admission, the Civil Service are solely responsible for the present state of affairs. All over the

country countless corporations, local authorities and boards of control have been busy for a long time, and something has been happening to the written word that is not for the better. A change has been insinuating itself with relentless assiduity for a number of years, and it is time stock was taken.

But first let us examine a sample of prose with the "new look." "Consequent upon the continuation of the drought, in order to introduce a measure of control to ensure equitable distribution, and as a temporary measure, pending the issue of further instructions, the Water Board, under instructions from the Ministry of Health, have found it necessary to terminate the facilities hitherto extended to educational establishments and recreational clubs for the consumption of the Board's water in connection with swimming pools and the watering of playing fields."

This is, of course, a triumph for the author, and one can perhaps imagine the practised jargonist dictating to his stenographer with all the flow and confidence of a splendid orator, but with this difference. His sword is not his tongue, but the sanctity of the printed word on thousands of pamphlets and forms, thrust through the letter boxes of hundreds of defenceless homes throughout the country. To command respect his word must bear the strong pontifical imprint of authority.

On the principle that familiarity breeds contempt he has been at pains to avoid words in conversational use. Thus "because" must become "consequent upon" and "end" "terminate."

"... and on his pen fustian sits plumed."

Further, he must take care that the construction of each sentence is such that it has but one meaning which is not understood at first sight. This ensures that each paragraph is read twice and the import absorbed.

It should not be difficult, therefore, for even the most casual reader to recognise the author who has learnt his English in office hours, and who can write but not read.

But of what use is it to talk about tracking down the perpetrators of this hybrid language? Each one of us in the Army must have, at some time, enjoyed the safe satisfaction of letting our pen run along the summits of elegant variation. Have we not "instructed personnel" to "proceed" on leave at the "termination" of a course, and have we not gone further and "publicised" it in orders? Yet which of us seriously had in mind the vision of Cpl. Brown, in full dress, proceeding to his home in Hackney, carrying a banner and led by a band? Cardinal Wolsey proceeded from the Palace of Whitehall to the Palace of Westminster, but not, I think, Cpl. Brown to Hackney.

## ADMISSION TO THE ROYAL HOSPITAL, CHELSEA

The Royal Hospital,  
Chelsea, S.W.3.  
September 10, 1947.

DEAR SIR,

I have to draw your attention to the fact that there will shortly be further vacancies in the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, for Army pensioners who comply with the conditions stated in the attached Form 42 entitled

"Admission to the Royal Hospital, Chelsea." I also add a sample form of application.

Applicants will be expected to be able to look after themselves and to be willing to undertake light work if physically capable. They will probably be accommodated during the next year or so with the Chelsea Hospital Detachment at Leatherhead, until such time as bomb damage at the Royal Hospital has been made good and the quarters affected are ready for their reception, when they will be returned to Chelsea.

It should be impressed on any of your members who are interested that the Royal Hospital is not a hospital in the medical sense, and that men whose condition would necessitate their immediate or early admission to the Infirmary as permanent bed patients would not be eligible.

Conditions of life, at the present day, at the Royal Hospital are described in the accompanying article entitled "Life at the Royal Hospital," which may be of interest to editors of Regimental journals.

Applicants should write to the Secretary, Royal Hospital, Chelsea, S.W.3, stating their ranks on discharge, Regimental numbers, Regiments or Corps, and approximate dates of service, when a form of Application for Admission will be sent to them, if eligible.

Yours faithfully,

M. H. FITZGERALD,  
Assistant Secretary.

(Editor: Further details may be obtained from The Secretary of The Middlesex Regimental Association, Inglis Barracks, Mill Hill, N.W.7.)

\* \* \*

The Royal Hospital was founded some centuries ago to provide a home for a limited number of Army pensioners who were considered deserving of admission. There are always more applicants than there are vacancies, and all applications are carefully scrutinised before the names are selected for inclusion on the waiting list. Once the names appear on that list the men are considered, in rotation, as vacancies occur.

There are a number of conditions attached to eligibility, thus:

(a) Only life Army pensioners of good character are admitted and preference is given to those who had the best Army characters and who rendered the longest Army service.

(b) Subject to the above proviso, first choice is given to men drawing pension for disablement directly connected with Army service, such as wounds, injuries on duty, or attributable disease, provided that they are unable to work.

(c) After this come men whose pensions are not for attributable disablement, but who are, nevertheless, unable to earn and are 55 years of age or more.

(d) Each applicant must provide testimonials from local people to whom he is known to prove that he has been of good character since his discharge from the Army. He must also confirm that he is free from the

responsibility of supporting a wife or children. He may not marry whilst an in-pensioner.

Any pensioner who wishes to be considered for admission to "in-pension" should apply on the "Form of Application for Admission to the Royal Hospital" (Form 43), obtainable from the Secretary on request. This should then be completed in all respects, including the medical report on the third page by a doctor, and returned to: The Secretary, The Royal Hospital, Chelsea, London, S.W.3.

It should be clearly understood that "out-pension" ceases on admission to in-pension, whether it is for service, disability, or dependants, or is a special campaign pension. Instead, in-pensioners are provided with board, lodging, clothing, medical attendance, nursing and other comforts, and a money allowance. Whenever possible, they are given a holiday, during summer, at Netley, near Southampton. If they are receiving non-contributory old age pension, this ceases on admission; if contributory old age pension, this will continue to be drawn by the pensioner. Any able-bodied man capable, in the opinion of the Physician and Surgeon, of performing light tasks to help in the maintenance of the Hospital must agree to take his share of such duties.

Men selected for admission are allowed travelling expenses to Chelsea from places in Great Britain and Ireland.

An in-pensioner may leave the Hospital and return to ordinary civilian life by permission of the Board of Commissioners and would normally resume the out-pension which he ceased to draw when he was admitted. Any man may be discharged by order of the Board for misconduct and his out-pension may, or may not, be restored either at the former or at some lower rate.

It is emphasised that the conditions attached to admission are designed to ensure that the Hospital remains, as it has been for so long, a real and comfortable home for old soldiers, and no unreasonable restrictions are imposed.

## LIFE AT THE ROYAL HOSPITAL

Those who have never seen a Chelsea Pensioner in the flesh will, nevertheless, be familiar with his picturesque uniform, which has been employed so often for advertising purposes. Who has not seen a rubicund pensioner, larger than life, on the poster hoardings, either quaffing a pint of ale or smoking a reflective pipe? Nor are these advertisements altogether misleading, since a pint of beer is included in the daily ration, and on certain days of the week it may be commuted, if desired, for tobacco.

The Royal Hospital, Chelsea, which has been the home of the Chelsea Pensioners for over 250 years, is not, of course, a hospital in the modern sense of the word, but rather a hostel or retreat, though it does include an infirmary for the sick and bed-ridden. It was founded by King Charles II in 1682, in the days when the Army numbered under 10,000 men, and was intended to accommodate all the Army pensioners. With the increase in the Forces, and consequently in the number of pensioners, many of the latter had to be



placed on out-pension, and at the present day the Army out-pensioners number over 90,000, whereas the establishment of in-pensioners has always been restricted to about 500. To be admitted, an old soldier must either be qualified by long service or have been "broken in the wars," that is to say, he must be in receipt of a pension either for service or wounds. In practice the great majority of those admitted are widowers who, feeling lonely in their old age, turn to the companionship of their old comrades.

The buildings, designed by Sir Christopher Wren, are arranged round three quadrangles, which stand in spacious grounds of over 60 acres, thus forming a pleasant retreat amid London's busy streets. The buildings were badly damaged by bombs during the late war and are now in course of being restored, but, owing to the priority given to housing, the work will necessarily take some years to complete. Meanwhile, as there is room for only about 200 pensioners at Chelsea, a large building at Leatherhead, formerly occupied as a school for the blind, has been taken over to provide additional accommodation. This annexe, which stands in its own grounds, is administered like the Royal Hospital, and has proved very popular with the "recruits" who are mostly sent there.

The Royal Hospital has a distinguished Governor in Gen. Sir Clive Liddell, who is assisted by a Lieutenant-Governor and staff, organised somewhat like a regiment, in which selected pensioners serve as N.C.O.s. Though run on military lines, the duties are light, and every allowance is made for physical infirmities, while the parades are limited to those for church and pay.

The basic pay is 1s. 9d. per week for those who receive the contributory old age pension and 3s. 6d. per week for those who do not, but it is hoped that the latter rate may shortly be raised. Pensioners may also earn additional money as N.C.O.s, or in various light employments, and when on leave they are paid ration allowance at the rate of 2s. 6d. a day. In the Royal Hospital pensioners are required to wear uniform, but on furlough they may wear civilian clothes if they wish. The ration is as generous as the present restrictions will permit, while other amenities provided on the premises include allotment gardens, a bowling club, billiards, a lending library, and a supply of daily newspapers and periodicals. In short, it may be said that the whole object of the Royal Hospital is to make the Chelsea Pensioners as comfortable and happy as possible.

## 15th SCOTTISH DIVISIONAL HISTORY

It is hoped to publish the above towards the end of 1948. Those desiring copies should apply to Maj.-Gen. Barber, H.Q., Highland District.

## RECOLLECTIONS OF AN OLD SOLDIER

By Hugh Doherty

CONCLUSION

### The Back-Acher

An interesting article on the D.S.O. by Capt. Hill (December, 1946, issue) mentions General Gatacre and brings back memories. At the Depot (1893) the old sweats talked much about him and later when I reached the 2nd Battalion in India I found his name a byword with the old soldiers. A product of the Middlesex Regiment, which he joined in 1862, they were proud of having served under him and talked of his tireless energy and ability to work men to the last of their endurance. Hence the nickname. He knew neither fear nor fatigue.

Then came the plague. Bombay was the first and principal sufferer; many ran away from the terror only to spread it farther afield; death took a heavy toll of those that remained; panic prevailed. Government looked round for a man of action and found one in General Gatacre, then in command of the district.

Placed in charge, he enforced measures which were sound but strongly resented by the people. This led to much abusive comment in the native Press, followed by the murders of Mr. Rand, a plague Commissioner, and Lt. Ayhurst, a friend. Any readers who were at that time serving in the Bombay Presidency will remember this brutal affair and its repercussions. The measures adopted to stop the plague were successful.

I know the General came to grief in the South African War. Capt. Hill mentions two failures, and no doubt is right, but I only know of one. At a time when the situation was bad he, a Divisional Commander, but with less than a brigade (instead of a division), essayed a night march and attack on the Boers at Stormburg and, misled by his guides on unknown ground, was himself surprised and forced to retire with heavy loss. Surely a gallant failure.

It is said old soldiers never die; they only fade away. There must be a number of veterans still with us who served in the Middlesex in Gatacre's day. I know three who show little signs of fading: Mr. R. E. Evans, D.C.M., mine host of "The Red Lion" at Hillingdon, Mr. M. W. Farrow, Brighton, and Mr. W. R. Rosam, Worthing.

### Tattooing

In the Army tattooing was very popular in my time. A man was not considered a proper soldier unless plastered and the old sweats were proud of their picture galleries. Designs ranged from the simple ring on finger to the famous fox and hounds on thigh and buttock. Much favoured on the upper arm was a heart with a girl's name beneath. Often a line would be tattooed through the name and the next in favour substituted. I have seen as many as four names on one arm. Occasionally the heart was shown pierced with a dagger. Some favoured birds, others reptiles. One man had the Ark tattooed on his chest, with animals all over his body, but not "two by two." The most heroic design was, of course, the fox and hounds. The fox itself was not tattooed, only the brush and, of course, the hounds. Few could boast this adornment, the operation being too painful.

### Kipling's "Soldiers Three"

These were still to be found in the county regiments 50 years ago. We had Ortheres, Mulvaney and Learoed in the 2nd Battalion, albeit under other names. I found myself occupying the cot adjoining Stanley Ortheres himself. His name, however, was "Whack" Harris, a lovable Cockney with all the characteristics of Kipling's man. He took charge, showed me how to do things, how not to and kept me in my place. What he did not know about the Army and the Regiment was not worth knowing. We drank together occasionally, and he did this as if conferring a favour. One of India's compensations was the grand thirst which the heat engendered. Beer was heady, but it was cheap and, above all, safe. I have in a party fired over the grave of a comrade who the previous day was as fit as myself—the result of drinking a bottle of bazaar "pop."

### Shylock

Every company had its "barrack room lender." He was useful and had of necessity to be a scrapper. Loans were for a week and rarely exceeded one rupee, to be returned on pay day, plus two annas interest. This seemed reasonable enough to us, but my granddaughter tells me it represents 650 per cent. per annum, which, if correct, would surely make Mr. Dalton shudder.

### Law

There was also a "barrack room lawyer" in every regiment who, with the gift of the gab and a smattering of Army law, would expound on the rights and wrongs of everything. He was most voluble when in the canteen, and probably the originator of that hoary yarn (and its sequel) about the private (asserting his rights) who told his C.O. that he could not drill two ducks. Does that tale survive? And are recruits still called on to "hands up anyone who can play cricket," those responding being sent off to peel potatoes? What about the recently arrived who timidly asks for week-end leave. Is he told, as he was 50 odd years ago, to wait until his number is dry?

### Sport

The 2nd Battalion was much like the 1st. We got nowhere at football, but had a very good cricket eleven, and for two years an outstanding tug-of-war team who during that period took everything before them, or perhaps I should say dragged everything behind them. They were, I think, trained by Lt. McEwan, who had many original ideas. He used a whistle instead of his hands to signal the moves. Ultimately we were defeated by the Royal Irish Rifles in the Southern Command Sports at Poona. Polo was played by our officers. I cannot remember if they did so as a team. Some were outstanding, particularly Capt. Barnardiston and Rowley. This was the time when Capt. H. de B. de Lisle, of the Durhams, was methodically training a team which was to surprise the much vaunted cavalry combinations and put the P.B.I. at the top of the polo world in India. Infantry laboured under great difficulties, as they had nothing like the number of ponies at their disposal as cavalry.

### A Dancing Regiment

As lighter sport or gay recreation dancing is superb. The 2nd Battalion in my time was quite a dancing Regiment. I have indulged all my life. Ballroom "hops," as we misnamed them, were popular and these old-time dances so much more sociable and gay than the modern stuff, where one is handcuffed to one partner all the time. Variety is charming. Those were the days.

Opportunity was given us by the Anglo-Indian community, who were the upper subordinates in railway, postal, Customs and other Government services. These hospitable people had many daughters on their hands. Brunettes of all shades with clipped sing-song speech and eyes that belied their seeming demureness. Always chaperoned, Mamma keeping a wary eye on her charges and seeing to it that they got no opportunity to be too generous in their favours. They were no catch-as-catch-can affairs. Programmes were provided, little pencils attached, introductions necessary. One booked partners on the floor and in advance. An attractive girl's programme was filled in no time. Two dances, perhaps three, were the respectable limit with any one girl. If you had more, Mamma, always on the look-out, would likely as not ask what your intentions were!

### "The Small Book"

This was issued to every man on enlistment. It began with particulars of the owner and identity marks. There were pages for qualifications, certificates, promotion, pay, clothing, savings bank, service abroad and a will form. In the book before me "Middlesex" is not mentioned. The owner (still with us) is No. 2498 and joined "The 57th Regiment of Foot" at Hounslow on October 8, 1888, and in the record he served in such strange places as Kilkenny, Waterford and Limerick before Gibraltar, South Africa and India.

There are in the book notes from the Army Act, which make curious reading today, such as:

"Soldiers who cannot write must make their mark, such mark to be witnessed."

"Soldiers must not marry without the C.O.'s written sanction, must have seven years' service and two good conduct badges."

"Soldiers' orphans may be accepted at the Royal Military Asylum if the father in respect of character was satisfactory."

Among "offences," most of which were penal, is "Drunk on the line of march."

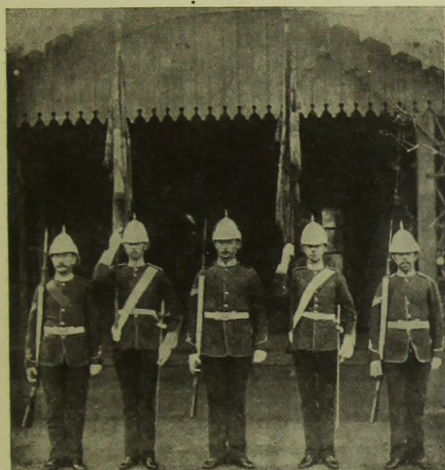
The book contains signatures of 18 different officers of the Regiment, most of whom have passed on.

### Discharge

When my seven years' period expired I was abroad, so in keeping with enlistment terms had to serve a further year; and still another year after that because we could not catch the elusive De Wet (Boer War). This left me with three years as a Reservist at sixpence a day.

Having fallen for a girl in India, I decided to take my discharge there, and did so. Her mother, however, was not a believer in love at first sight and persuaded the daughter to have a second look. Between them they





1 2 3 4 5  
All 1st Battalion men. Photo taken at Wellington, Nilgiris, Southern India, 1897.

1. C/Sgt. Farrow (later Captain and Quartermaster).
2. 2/Lt. Ramsay (later Major-General).
3. C/Sgt. Palmer.
4. 2/Lt. Cochran (later Lieutenant-Colonel).
5. C/Sgt. Rosam (later Captain and Quartermaster).

decided I was what the insurance people term "a bad risk," and that was that.

Meantime, having forfeited my passage home, I had remain in India, which I did for a further 30 years. I have no regrets.

On final retirement I got in touch again through the Regimental Association, visiting the Depot on such occasions as Albuhera Day and sporting events.

It was on one of these visits that I discovered the Regimental Museum, which attracted me much, though cramped and lacking light.

Then came the last war and a break of several years until the reunion (December, 1946), when I met Maj. Kempster, who suggested and encouraged the writing of these recollections.

I had often wondered (when the bombs were falling) whether the Museum had been destroyed. This year (1947), on the occasion of a passing out parade, I visited once again and had my answer. I found the repository trebled in size and out of all recognition, with plenty of room, ample light and much to see. It is indeed a credit to whoever is responsible. There is only one thing lacking—"Inventory, soldiers, for the use of, one."

The old albums and photographs fascinated me. In one of the former I came across a picture of the memorial at Spion Kop, with names of comrades I well remember. I have in my possession a photograph taken prior to the burial at Spion Kop, which I think might fittingly complete that page in the album. I will send it on. Note the pith helmets of Kipling's men. This particular

photo was banned at the time, but that was long ago and we have all seen much more harrowing pictures since then.

Another (to me) interesting exhibit is the muster roll of the 1st Battalion of 1895, in which my own name appears. Reading the names revived and brought back to mind many long forgotten faces—we the youth of 50 years ago.

Meantime, and as I browsed, the youth of today were doing their stuff on the adjoining square. For once I was "late on parade," which in my time was rated about the same as "drunk on the line of march." However, nobody bawled at me, "Hi, you! Yes, you! Name? Orderly room tomorrow."

The drill was good; nothing surprising about that. What did interest me was the delightfully informal way in which General Horrocks, who took the salute, had a few words with the sentries near him (the lads in old-time uniforms). Time marches on.

#### ANZAC DAY IN AUSTRALIA

425, Wellington Street,  
Clifton Hill, N.8,  
Victoria,  
Australia.

Secretary,

Middlesex Regimental Association.

DEAR MAJOR,

I was indeed very pleased to receive your note. We learned of your severe cold and lack of warming materials through our newspapers. We sincerely trust that before this your weather has improved and more of the amenities and necessities of life are available to you.

We have also been reading serious statements of your food shortage. It is doubtful if we are in a position to judge just what conditions really are in England at present because of the many varying statements made by your leaders and our own.

A short time ago a copy of THE DIE-HARDS, December, 1946 issue reached me. It was good to see the old journal once again. I am passing it round to other member of our Association.

This year Anzac Day, April 25, and Anzac Sunday, April 27, were days of much activity for the 57/60 Battalion Association.

As you doubtless know, Anzac Day is Australia's national day and is a close holiday throughout the Commonwealth. All over the country civic authorities and various organisations, particularly Ex-Servicemen's Associations, conduct commemoration services. In Melbourne there is no sport or theatres, hotels and shops are closed and only essential industries and businesses are open.

The soldiers' day starts off with the "Stand to" at dawn and takes place at the Shrine of Remembrance. In this service there is a solemn simplicity which is very impressive, and somehow it captures the spirit of "stand to" of war years. There are no speeches, only the hushed talk of the men, a quiet laugh, close comradeship. The State Governor (Sir Winston Dugan) leads the official party, who pass through the collected troops

to place the wreath on the Inner Shrine just at dawn. The Last Post is sounded and then Reveille. The troops then file through the Shrine to pay silent homage to the coppers who did not return.

The afternoon sees the march of ex-Servicemen of both wars. This year in spite of heavy rain and a rather cold breeze there was a muster of 30,000. The marchers assemble at R.V.s in the city area and march to the Shrine of Remembrance where they are joined by members of the public in a commemoration service. All religions and leading men of the State and city participate. The Governor is always one of the speakers. This year the other speaker was Gen. Sir Thomas Blamey, our war-time C-in-C.

The old battalion was represented in this march. At the moment we have no operative units so we cannot parade our colours. The colours are at present lying in the Church of the Epiphany in Northcote, one of the areas from which we did draw our troops.

On Anzac night we held the battalion reunion. It was the best reunion we have had since the unit was disbanded. Our ex-C.O., Lt.-Col. R. R. Marston, D.S.O., E.D., who is a member of the Association, was with us. We did not forget our British comrades and in his short talk the ex-C.O. made mention of the glorious tradition of service of your Regiment and the many deeds—and losses—which have gone into the making of our own. We had a grand evening and the sinking of a few gallons did much to enliven the party.

On Anzac Sunday the ex-members of the 57/60 Battalion made the annual pilgrimage to the Shrine of

Remembrance. You will notice that acts of remembrance and homage to our fallen comrades culminate at the Shrine, and this is so with most activities of this nature in Melbourne. We had a very simple service conducted by our Padre, Chaplain G. F. Rumble, with a short address given by our ex-Brigade Commander, Brig. H. H. Hammer, C.B.E., D.S.O. and bar. All members of the parade filed into the Inner Shrine at the completion of the service, which was held on the entrance steps, and a wreath was placed on the Rock of Remembrance. The Last Post and Rouse were sounded, and the ceremony was finished. The service is short but it leaves a deep impression.

I am enclosing a copy of the form of service which I hope will be of interest to you.

I am also enclosing two snaps. One is of the Shrine of Remembrance, but does not do it justice because it is in a beautiful setting, and the other shows the crowd of people waiting to pass into the Shrine on the afternoon of Anzac Sunday.

I seem to have written at length and I do hope I have included something of interest to you.

By the way, I passed your letter to Lt.-Col. Marston, and I think you may soon receive a note from him.

I will be looking forward to hearing from you again.

Lots of luck and good wishes to yourself and your Association from myself and the 57/60 Battalion Association.

Yours fraternally,

NORMAN M. WALKER.

#### S.S.A.F.A.

SSAFA Married Families Club, at 14/16 Nevèrn Square, Earl's Court, London, consists of three houses which have been knocked into one providing accommodation for 100 people.

There is a spacious lounge, two dining rooms, and a children's nursery, where the children may be left while the parents go out by themselves. The bedrooms are various sizes, catering for a variety of families. For instance, for the Serviceman with a large family there is a bedroom with a double bed for the parents, two single beds for the larger children and two cots for the babies. Other bedrooms cater for smaller families. There is also a laundry room and a library. All this is supplied for the charge of 5s. per person for bed, bath and breakfast, children of five years and under are half-price. Supper is available at 1s. 6d. each, and a mid-day meal on Sundays is 2s.

The atmosphere is bright and gay, and to those who wish to avail themselves of a short trip to London, they could not do better than stay at this Club.

Her Majesty Queen Mary, President of the Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Families Association, visited the premises recently and was most interested and asked many questions.



## SENIORITY ROLL OF WARRANT OFFICERS AND N.C.O.s.

Rank	Name	Location	Date of present promotion
W.O.I. (R.S.M.)	McCormick	E.R.E.	7/1/42
W.O.I. (R.S.M.)	McLoughlin, J.	Depot	19/6/46
W.O.I. (R.S.M.)	Weller (M.M.), S.	1st Middlesex	25/6/46
W.O.I. (R.S.M.)	Rose, A.	Depot	26/8/46
W.O.I. (R.S.M.)	Painter, J.	2nd Middlesex	29/11/46
W.O.I. (R.S.M.)	Overy, P.	7th Middlesex	1/3/47
W.O.I. (Bd. Mr.)	Thirle, J.	2nd Middlesex	26/12/41
R.Q.M.S.	Blackman, G.	Depot	12/10/43
R.Q.M.S.	Graham (M.M.), L.	Depot	1/4/45
R.Q.M.S.	Strachan, R.	1st Middlesex	14/4/45
R.Q.M.S.	Abell, R.	E.R.E.	21/5/46
R.Q.M.S.	Etheridge	1st Middlesex	
R.Q.M.S.	Tostevin, L.	E.R.E.	8/6/46
R.Q.M.S.	Cooper, A.	2nd Middlesex	14/8/46
Q.M.S.	Wright (M.B.E.), J.	Depot	4/9/42
Q.M.S.	Shearlaw, J.	E.R.E.	5/7/47
C.S.M.	Maloney, P.	Depot	1/12/39
C.S.M.	Marke	E.R.E.	20/2/40
C.S.M.	Marshall, H.	E.R.E.	6/7/30
C.S.M.	Smith, J.	E.R.E.	18/6/41
C.S.M.	Wray, A.	7th Middlesex	15/10/41
C.S.M.	Donovan, P.	Depot	25/4/43
C.S.M.	Reece, H.	1st Middlesex	21/5/43
C.S.M.	Drillon, M.	E.R.E.	10/6/43
C.S.M.	Fegan, D.	X List	27/6/43
C.S.M.	Scott, A.	Depot	8/7/43
C.S.M.	Blacknell, S.	E.R.E.	23/1/44
C.S.M.	Pike, E.	1st Middlesex	19/2/44
C.S.M.	Jennings, H.	Depot	9/8/44
C.S.M.	Fuller, E.	1st Middlesex	17/8/44
C.S.M.	McDavitt, T.	X List	16/1/45
C.S.M.	Renwick, R.	1st Middlesex	23/12/45
C.S.M.	Hastie, A.	(M.G.) H.C.B.T.C.	18/2/46
C.S.M.	Webb, M.	1st Middlesex	21/4/46
C.S.M.	Murphy, J.	(M.G.) H.C.B.T.C.	18/5/46
C.S.M.	Du-Heaume, L.	Depot	11/6/46
C.S.M.	Steljes, J.	E.R.E.	12/7/46
C.S.M.	Tarrant, R.	2nd Middlesex	27/8/46
C.S.M.	Stretton, R.	2nd Middlesex	30/8/46
C.S.M.	Seton, A.	Depot	7/9/46
C.S.M.	Hammond, F.	Depot	8/12/46
C.S.M.	Vant, I.	—	28/4/47
C.S.M.	Kelly, J.	Depot	14/6/47
C.S.M.	Wild, M.	Depot	10/10/47
C.S.M.	O'Keefe, C.	2nd Middlesex	
C.S.M.	Carlier, H.	2nd Middlesex	17/6/47
C/Sgt. (O.R.S.)	Waldron, F.	1st Middlesex	20/2/47
C.Q.M.S.	Frolich, F.	E.R.E.	7/5/41
C.Q.M.S.	Soden, E.	1st Middlesex	3/9/41
C.Q.M.S.	Whiting, P.	—	9/11/42
C.Q.M.S.	Day, F.	E.R.E.	17/12/44
C.Q.M.S.	Ravenscroft, F.	E.R.E.	6/9/45
C.Q.M.S.	Biggell, G.	1st Middlesex	14/1/46
C.Q.M.S.	Phillips, C.	Depot	21/1/46
C.Q.M.S.	Powell, F.	E.R.E.	12/2/46
C.Q.M.S.	Freshwater, C.	Depot	22/3/46
C.Q.M.S.	Hockley, G.	2nd Middlesex	27/3/46
C.Q.M.S.	Jacques, F.	2nd Middlesex	1/5/46
C.Q.M.S.	Honey, F.	E.R.E.	13/5/46
C.Q.M.S.	Kershaw, A.	(M.G.) H.C.B.T.C.	1/7/46
C.Q.M.S.	Redpath, F.	1st Middlesex	20/7/46
C.Q.M.S.	Shrubbs (M.M.), L.	2nd Middlesex	3/9/46
C.Q.M.S.	Taylor, A.	Depot	9/9/46
C.Q.M.S.	Griffiths, F.	2nd Middlesex	3/11/46
C.Q.M.S.	Ure, W.	(M.G.) H.C.B.T.C.	2/1/47
C.Q.M.S.	Pynaert, H.	E.R.E.	11/1/47
C.Q.M.S.	Lomax, R.	1st Middlesex	23/1/47
C.Q.M.S.	Self, R.	(M.G.) H.C.B.T.C.	16/2/47
C.Q.M.S.	Smith, L.	E.R.E.	29/3/47
C.Q.M.S.	Milne, W.	E.R.E.	29/3/47
C.Q.M.S.	Thom, J.	1st Middlesex	28/4/47
C.Q.M.S.	Whitehead, G.	E.R.E.	13/5/47
C.Q.M.S.	Roubicek, O.	E.R.E.	25/9/47
C.Q.M.S.	Ginzberg, C.	E.R.E.	25/3/47
C.Q.M.S.	Falkenleek, M.	E.R.E.	3/4/47
C.Q.M.S.	Fisher, E.	E.R.E.	4/4/47
C.Q.M.S.	Lewkowicz, R.	E.R.E.	2/5/47
C.Q.M.S.	Hamilton-Smith, R.	E.R.E.	2/5/47
C.Q.M.S.	Engel, K.	E.R.E.	9/5/47
C.Q.M.S.	Stern, H.	E.R.E.	19/3/47

Rank	Name	Location	Date of present promotion
Sgt.	Westray, W.	1st Middlesex	10/3/47
Sgt.	Burgess, C.	1st Middlesex	10/3/47
Sgt.	Pearl, J.	1st Middlesex	10/3/47
Sgt.	Bromfield, J.	1st Middlesex	10/3/47
Sgt.	Hawkesley, P.	1st Middlesex	10/3/47
Sgt.	Luke, G.	1st Middlesex	10/3/47
Sgt.	Osborne, A.	1st Middlesex	10/3/47
Sgt.	Dodkins, R.	1st Middlesex	10/3/47
Sgt.	Watts, T.	1st Middlesex	10/3/47
Sgt.	Drapers, F.	1st Middlesex	10/3/47
Sgt.	Walmsley, E.	1st Middlesex	10/3/47
Sgt.	Gray, K.	1st Middlesex	14/3/47
Sgt.	Turner, P.	Depot	5/4/47
Sgt.	Crittenden, L.	H.C.B.T.C.	5/5/47
Sgt.	Barron, R.	H.C.B.T.C.	12/5/47
Sgt.	Thrower, S.	H.C.B.T.C.	12/5/47
Sgt.	King, R.	2nd Middlesex	23/5/47
Sgt.	Sale, C.	2nd Middlesex	23/5/47
Sgt.	Reed, A.	H.C.B.T.C.	1/6/47
Sgt.	Sharp, G.	2nd Middlesex	12/6/47
Sgt.	Buckley, M.	1st Middlesex	11/7/47
Sgt.	Thoroughgood, J.	1st Middlesex	11/7/47
Sgt.	Perkins, W.	Depot	13/7/47
Sgt.	Whitfield, G.	Depot	
Sgt.	Fawcett, H.	Depot	
A/Sgt.	Young, R.	2nd Middlesex	14/2/47
A/Sgt.	Bibbs, J.	2nd Middlesex	2/4/47
A/Sgt.	Widdow, E.	2nd Middlesex	8/4/47
A/Sgt.	Farrow, R.	1st Middlesex	11/4/47
A/Sgt.	Forgham, D.	1st Middlesex	11/4/47
A/Sgt.	Gould, J.	1st Middlesex	11/4/47
A/Sgt.	Morris, R.	1st Middlesex	11/4/47
A/Sgt.	Sheldrake, D.	1st Middlesex	11/4/47
A/Sgt.	Drammer, D.	E.R.E.	11/4/47
A/Sgt.	Hounslow, R.	2nd Middlesex	26/4/47
A/Sgt.	Cooper, G.	2nd Middlesex	5/5/47
A/Sgt.	Bevan, W.	2nd Middlesex	5/5/47
A/Sgt.	Dodridge, G.	1st Middlesex	7/5/47
A/Sgt.	Metcalfes, H.	2nd Middlesex	17/5/47
A/Sgt.	Doak, S.	2nd Middlesex	17/5/47
A/Sgt.	Wagstaffe, K.	2nd Middlesex	17/5/47
A/Sgt.	MacLaren, J.	2nd Middlesex	17/5/47
A/Sgt.	Pratt, W.	2nd Middlesex	17/5/47
A/Sgt.	Swift, W.	2nd Middlesex	17/5/47
A/Sgt.	Atrill, W.	1st Middlesex	22/5/47
A/Sgt.	Raycraft, J.	1st Middlesex	22/5/47
A/Sgt.	Cubitt, R.	1st Middlesex	22/5/47
A/Sgt.	Bloose, G.	1st Middlesex	22/5/47
A/Sgt.	McGowan, T.	Depot	6/4/47
A/Sgt.	Hubbard, M.	2nd Middlesex	6/6/47
A/Sgt.	Smith, T.	2nd Middlesex	6/6/47
A/Sgt.	Lewis, W.	2nd Middlesex	6/6/47
A/Sgt.	Miles, J.	1st Middlesex	13/6/47
A/Sgt.	Law, P.	1st Middlesex	13/6/47
A/Sgt.	Anderson, L.	1st Middlesex	13/6/47
A/Sgt.	Dorgan, D.	1st Middlesex	13/6/47
A/Sgt.	Platt, E.	2nd Middlesex	17/6/47
A/Sgt.	Fogarty, P.	2nd Middlesex	17/6/47
A/Sgt.	Curtis, F.	2nd Middlesex	17/6/47
A/Sgt.	Dyson, J.	2nd Middlesex	17/6/47
A/Sgt.	Jenkins, H.	2nd Middlesex	17/6/47
A/Sgt.	Pederson, E.	2nd Middlesex	17/6/47
A/Sgt.	Rainford, J.	2nd Middlesex	17/6/47
A/Sgt.	Brodey, J.	2nd Middlesex	17/6/47
A/Sgt.	Moore, J.	2nd Middlesex	17/6/47
A/Sgt.	Bucknill, J.	1st Middlesex	20/6/47
A/Sgt.	Milross, H.	1st Middlesex	20/6/47
A/Sgt.	Federicks, G.	1st Middlesex	20/6/47
A/Sgt.	Dew, P.	Depot	23/6/47
A/Sgt.	Bromley, K.	2nd Middlesex	27/6/47
A/Sgt.	Cumbers, L.	X List	28/6/47
A/Sgt.	Walters, A.	2nd Middlesex	6/7/47
A/Sgt.	O'Connor, W.	E.R.E.	17/7/47
Cpl.	Bailey, W.	1st Middlesex	6/5/40
Cpl.	Turner, W.	2nd Middlesex	24/4/41
Cpl.	Wetherley, W.	1st Middlesex	18/10/43
Cpl.	Dickenson, J.	Depot	4/6/44
Cpl.	Browne, W.	2nd Middlesex	29/9/44
Cpl.	Cooper, G.	H.C.B.T.C.	26/5/45
Cpl.	Smith, W.	1st Middlesex	25/7/45
Cpl.	Baker, R.	1st Middlesex	3/8/45
Cpl.	Maple, S.	H.C.B.T.C.	9/10/45
Cpl.	Wilmot, B.	Depot	19/11/45
Cpl.	Conway, A.	Depot	19/11/45
Cpl.	Morris, D.	Depot	19/11/45
Cpl.	Carpenter, R.	H.C.B.T.C.	19/11/45
Cpl.	Jennings, V.	H.C.B.T.C.	19/11/45
Cpl.	White, H.	1st Middlesex	15/12/45
Cpl.	Bridgeman, C.	1st Middlesex	14/2/46
Cpl.	Cole, S.	H.C.B.T.C.	25/2/46
Cpl.	Minoque, P.	H.C.B.T.C.	25/2/46

Rank	Name	Location	Date of present promotion
Cpl.	Dyer, A.	Depot	3/3/46
Cpl.	Skinner, F.	2nd Middlesex	13/3/46
Cpl.	Bennett, E.	2nd Middlesex	2/5/46
Cpl.	Chappell, W.	1st Middlesex	4/5/46
Cpl.	Enticnap, J.	2nd Middlesex	5/5/46
Cpl.	Hollingsworth, G.	1st Middlesex	10/5/46
Cpl.	Pullen, J.	Depot	13/5/46
Cpl.	Dixon, W.	E.R.E.	13/5/46
Cpl.	Masters, E.	1st Middlesex	17/5/46
Cpl.	Eaton, R.	H.C.B.T.C.	3/6/46
Cpl.	Newton, R.	H.C.B.T.C.	3/6/46
Cpl.	Latham, C.	H.C.B.T.C.	5/6/46
Cpl.	White, R.	H.C.B.T.C.	5/6/46
Cpl.	Duncombe, G.	Depot	5/6/46
Cpl.	Urmson, J.	1st Middlesex	7/6/46
Cpl.	Ashdown, N.	E.R.E.	7/6/46
Cpl.	Frapwell, D.	2nd Middlesex	7/6/46
Cpl.	Fairbrass, A.	E.R.E.	12/6/46
Cpl.	Emm, R.	E.R.E.	21/6/46
Cpl.	Williams, W.	E.R.E.	2/7/46
Cpl.	Bushnell, W.	1st Middlesex	9/7/46
Cpl.	Hill, R.	1st Middlesex	13/7/46
Cpl.	Farrow, R.	E.R.E.	11/8/46
Cpl.	Smithwaite, F.	2nd Middlesex	15/8/46
Cpl.	Woodger, J.	1st Middlesex	16/8/46
Cpl.	Rolfe, J.	2nd Middlesex	21/8/46
Cpl.	Ratcliffe, W.	Depot	29/8/46
Cpl.	Wimbury, J.	H.C.B.T.C.	23/8/46
Cpl.	Epps, C.	H.C.B.T.C.	25/8/46
Cpl.	Kennedy, R.	1st Middlesex	24/9/46
Cpl.	Murray, J.	1st Middlesex	24/9/46
Cpl.	Didymus, C.	1st Middlesex	27/9/46
Cpl.	Warburton, W.	2nd Middlesex	8/10/46
Cpl.	Wells, R.	Y/2 List	10/10/46
Cpl.	Birch, K.	1st Middlesex	20/10/46
Cpl.	Dixon, J.	1st Middlesex	25/10/46
Cpl.	Bishop, W.	Depot	27/10/46
Cpl.	Herbert, E.	E.R.E.	29/10/46
Cpl.	Smith, M.	H.C.B.T.C.	29/10/46
Cpl.	Chandler, S.	Depot	30/10/46
Cpl.	Neal, R.	H.C.B.T.C.	1/11/46
Cpl.	Woodage, G.	H.C.B.T.C.	1/11/46
Cpl.	Amor, S.	E.R.E.	18/11/46
Cpl.	Wright, L.	E.R.E.	19/11/46
Cpl.	Waldie, J.	Depot	4/12/46
Cpl.	Charlett, S.	Depot	11/12/46
Cpl.	Eppes, T.	H.C.B.T.C.	12/12/46
Cpl.	Harvey, H.	E.R.E.	27/12/46
Cpl.	Clark, D.	X List	1/1/47
Cpl.	Dudek, P.	E.R.E.	17/1/47
Cpl.	Ellis, D.	E.R.E.	11/2/47
Cpl.	Gravenor, T.	1st Middlesex	19/1/47
Cpl.	Parkes, J.	1st Middlesex	19/1/47
Cpl.	Tripp, R.	Depot	6/2/47
Cpl.	Morton, W.	H.C.B.T.C.	11/2/47
Cpl.	Kerlake, B.	H.C.B.T.C.	11/2/47
Cpl.	Fisher, W.	H.C.B.T.C.	11/2/47
Cpl.	Eyebars, R.	H.C.B.T.C.	11/2/47
Cpl.	Faier, A.	H.C.B.T.C.	11/2/47
Cpl.	Keefe, F.	H.C.B.T.C.	11/2/47
Cpl.	Kerlake, B.	H.C.B.T.C.	11/2/47
Cpl.	Duckcombe, G.	H.C.B.T.C.	11/2/47
Cpl.	Adams, J.	H.C.B.T.C.	11/2/47
Cpl.	Wright, W.	H.C.B.T.C.	11/2/47
Cpl.	Cross, F.	H.C.B.T.C.	11/2/47
Cpl.	Fielding, J.	H.C.B.T.C.	11/2/47
Cpl.	Saunders, D.	H.C.B.T.C.	11/2/47
Cpl.	Stafford, J.	H.C.B.T.C.	11/2/47
Cpl.	Neaves, R.	H.C.B.T.C.	11/2/47
Cpl.	Ward, R.	H.C.B.T.C.	11/2/47
Cpl.	Slade, D.	H.C.B.T.C.	11/2/47
Cpl.	Davis (M.M.), W.	1st Middlesex	11/2/47
Cpl.	Rolls, E.	Depot	12/3/47
Cpl.	Biggs, K.	2nd Middlesex	14/3/47
Cpl.	Smythe, B.	2nd Middlesex	14/3/47
Cpl.	Black, J.	Depot	14/3/47
Cpl.	Woolger, H.	2nd Middlesex	14/3/47
Cpl.	Griffiths, T.	H.C.B.T.C.	20/3/47
Cpl.	Burghall, J.	1st Middlesex	27/3/47
Cpl.	Jones, M.	1st Middlesex	7/4/47
Cpl.	McIntyre, D.	1st Middlesex	7/4/47
Cpl.	Salmon, S.	1st Middlesex	7/4/47
Cpl.	Langford, R.	1st Middlesex	7/4/47
Cpl.	Penfold, A.	1st Middlesex	7/4/47
Cpl.	Richardson, W.	1st Middlesex	14/4/47
Cpl.	Baker, J.	2nd Middlesex	26/4/47
Cpl.	Champion, C.	2nd Middlesex	26/4/47
Cpl.	Collingbone, G.	2nd Middlesex	26/4/47
Cpl.	Player, S.	2nd Middlesex	29/4/47
Cpl.	Stimson, S.	1st Middlesex	30/4/47
Cpl.	Parker, T.	2nd Middlesex	5/5/47



Rank	Name	Location	Date of present promotion	Rank	Name	Location	Date of present promotion
Cpl.	Miller, R.	2nd Middlesex	5/5/47	A/Cpl.	Thorpe, R.	2nd Middlesex	17/5/47
Cpl.	Lawford, J.	2nd Middlesex	5/5/47	A/Cpl.	Brown, R.	2nd Middlesex	17/5/47
Cpl.	Smith, G.	2nd Middlesex	5/5/47	A/Cpl.	Stubbs, S.	2nd Middlesex	17/5/47
Cpl.	Baker, H.	2nd Middlesex	5/5/47	A/Cpl.	Davis, B.	2nd Middlesex	17/5/47
Cpl.	Vallance, R.	1st Middlesex	12/5/47	A/Cpl.	Horne, P.	2nd Middlesex	17/5/47
Cpl.	Boucher, A.	1st Middlesex	12/5/47	A/Cpl.	Simpson, R.	2nd Middlesex	20/5/47
Cpl.	France, W.	2nd Middlesex	16/5/47	A/Cpl.	Warr, P.	2nd Middlesex	20/5/47
Cpl.	Carter, P.	2nd Middlesex	20/5/47	A/Cpl.	Abbott, S.	2nd Middlesex	20/5/47
Cpl.	Hummerstonne, D.	2nd Middlesex	20/5/47	A/Cpl.	Kennedy, L.	2nd Middlesex	20/5/47
Cpl.	Savill, D.	2nd Middlesex	20/5/47	A/Cpl.	Smith, R.	1st Middlesex	20/5/47
Cpl.	Witchalls, G.	2nd Middlesex	20/5/47	A/Cpl.	Stanley, F.	2nd Middlesex	22/5/47
Cpl.	Housey, G.	Y/1 List	31/5/47	A/Cpl.	Holley, E.	2nd Middlesex	22/5/47
Cpl.	Tye, L.	2nd Middlesex	1/6/47	A/Cpl.	Williams, J.	2nd Middlesex	23/5/47
Cpl.	Buckle, E.	H.C.B.T.C.	5/6/47	A/Cpl.	Phillips, H.	1st Middlesex	23/5/47
Cpl.	Kay, H.	2nd Middlesex	7/6/47	A/Cpl.	Roberts, T.	Depot	30/5/47
Cpl.	McIntyre, J.	Depot	9/6/47	A/Cpl.	Heap, C.	2nd Middlesex	2/6/47
Cpl.	Wright, L.	H.C.B.T.C.	16/6/47	A/Cpl.	Stanley, E.	2nd Middlesex	2/6/47
Cpl.	Jones, W.	H.C.B.T.C.	16/6/47	A/Cpl.	Watson, P.	2nd Middlesex	6/6/47
Cpl.	Eve, J.	1st Middlesex	27/6/47	A/Cpl.	Morton, W.	2nd Middlesex	11/6/47
Cpl.	Anderson, J.	1st Middlesex	2/7/47	A/Cpl.	Howard, B.	1st Middlesex	13/6/47
Cpl.	Belton, W.	1st Middlesex	19/7/47	A/Cpl.	Miller, H.	1st Middlesex	13/6/47
Cpl.	Bown, V.	1st Middlesex	19/7/47	A/Cpl.	Clift, A.	1st Middlesex	13/6/47
Cpl.	Burland, J.	1st Middlesex	19/7/47	A/Cpl.	Groves, S.	1st Middlesex	13/6/47
Cpl.	Harrington, J.	1st Middlesex	19/7/47	A/Cpl.	Ferguson, T.	1st Middlesex	13/6/47
Cpl.	Hawnt, S.	1st Middlesex	19/7/47	A/Cpl.	Hanlon, J.	1st Middlesex	14/6/47
Cpl.	Jones, C.	1st Middlesex	19/7/47	A/Cpl.	Phillips, E.	1st Middlesex	14/6/47
Cpl.	Kindred, R.	1st Middlesex	19/7/47	A/Cpl.	Hillier, C.	2nd Middlesex	17/6/47
Cpl.	Sibley, P.	1st Middlesex	19/7/47	A/Cpl.	Ellis, E.	2nd Middlesex	17/6/47
Cpl.	Mansfield, J.	1st Middlesex	19/7/47	A/Cpl.	Proctor, F.	2nd Middlesex	17/6/47
Cpl.	Mitchell, K.	X List	28/8/47	A/Cpl.	Coleman, J.	2nd Middlesex	17/6/47
A/Cpl.	Keyworth, A.	2nd Middlesex	5/5/47	A/Cpl.	Osborne, R.	2nd Middlesex	20/6/47
A/Cpl.	Carter, F.	2nd Middlesex	11/5/47	A/Cpl.	Bassett, J.	E.R.E.	27/6/47
A/Cpl.	Morris, J.	2nd Middlesex	17/5/47	A/Cpl.	Soper, P.	Depot	30/6/47
A/Cpl.	Shelton, J.	2nd Middlesex	17/4/47	A/Cpl.	Skinner, W.	2nd Middlesex	11/7/47
A/Cpl.	Summers, J.	2nd Middlesex	17/5/47	A/Cpl.	Whiteley, H.	2nd Middlesex	23/7/47
A/Cpl.	Collinson, F.	2nd Middlesex	17/5/47	A/Cpl.	Hanlon, D.	Depot	11/8/47
A/Cpl.	Matthew, J.	2nd Middlesex	17/5/47				

It would be greatly appreciated if subscribers would bring to the notice of O.C. Depot, The Middlesex Regiment (D.C.O.), Inglis Barracks, Mill Hill, N.W.7, any omissions, errors or corrections considered necessary.



May we remind our readers of the claims of our advertisers? We suggest to readers that if they will look through the advertisements in this number, they will find that every one of their ordinary or extraordinary needs is met, and met handsomely, by a firm which has the extra attraction of supporting our Journal. In short, remember that there is always news, and good news too, in our advertisements.