

# The Die Hards

## THE JOURNAL OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT

(Duke of Cambridge's Own)



VOL. IX. No. 2

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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," "Serinapatam," "Albuhara," "Ciudad Rodrigo," "Badajoz," "Vittoria," "Pyrenees," "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," "Arras, 1917," "Ypres, 1915," "Gravenstafel," "St. Julien," "Frezenberg,"  
 "Bellevue," "Aubers," "Hooge, 1915," "Loos," "Somme, 1916," "Albert, 1916," "Bazentin," "Delville Wood,"  
 "Pozières," "Ginchy," "Fiers-Courcellette," "Morval," "Thiepval," "Le Transloy," "Ancre Heights," "Ancre, 1916," "Bapaume,"  
 "1917," "Arras, 1917," "Vimy, 1917," "Scarpe, 1917," "Arleux," "Pilckem," "Langemarck, 1917," "Menin Road,"  
 "Polygon Wood," "Broodseinde," "Poelcappelle," "Passchendaele," "Cambrai, 1917," "St. Quentin," "Rosières," "Avre,"  
 "Villers Bretonneux," "Lys," "Estaires," "Hazebrück," "Bailleul," "Kemmel," "Scherpenberg," "Hindenburg Line," "Canal  
 du Nord," "St. Quentin Canal," "Courtrai," "Selle," "Valenciennes," "Sambre," "France and Flanders, 1914-18," "Italy,"  
 "1917-18," "Struma," "Doiran, 1918," "Macedonia, 1915-18," "Suva," "Landing at Suva," "Scimitar Hill," "Gallipoli, 1915,"  
 "Rumani," "Egypt, 1915-17," "Gaza," "El Mughar," "Jerusalem," "Jericho," "Jordan," "Tell 'Asur," "Palestine, 1917-18,"  
 "Mesopotamia, 1917-18," "Murmansk, 1919," "Dukhovskaya," "Siberia, 1918-19."

#### Regular and Militia Battalions.

1st Bn. (57th Foot). 2nd Bn. (77th Foot).  
 5th Bn. (Royal Elthorne Militia).  
 6th Bn. (Royal East Middlesex Militia).  
 Depot—Mill Hill. Records Office, Infantry Records, Warwick.  
 Pay Office—Old Infantry Barracks, Canterbury.

#### Territorial Army Battalions

1/7th Bn. 2/7th Bn. 8th Bn. 30th Bn.  
 9th Bn. 595 L.A.A., R.A., T.A.  
 1st and 2nd Bns. Princess Louise's Kensington Regiment.

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

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

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

#### Dominion Alliances of Canada

31st Field Regiment, Royal Canadian Artillery, Ontario.  
 21st Anti-Tank Regiment, Royal Canadian Artillery.  
 50th H.A.A. Regiment, Royal Canadian Artillery.  
 102nd (Westworth) Field Artillery, Royal Canadian Artillery.  
 The Royal Rifles of Canada.

#### 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: \*  
 Major R. C. H. Bellers.

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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 TRIPPLICATE, 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, 1mgla Barracks, Mill Hill, London, N.W.7.

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

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

### EDITORIAL

Since unit contributions for this number have been received it has been publicly announced that the 1st Battalion is to return to Hong Kong. Their advance party has already sailed.

It is a strange turn of chance that should take them back to this island that such a short time ago so greatly increased their fame, and they will be certain of an overwhelming welcome when they arrive. Readers will feel that this is not so much a time for emotionalism as for sober reflection that, in the present state of the world, danger is least where it has been decided to stand fast. This decision has now been made by His Majesty's Government.

We must realise that, whatever may be the ultimate aim of Communism in China, its success to date has, in part, been due to the ability of the Chinese Communists to offer their people a better alternative to the Nationalists. China depends a great deal on external trade, and in providing a more attractive alternative the Communists have already recognised this. Whatever may be their ultimate aims it would appear that any attempt to draw down an Iron Curtain on the whole of China, by excluding foreign trade and interfering with Hong Kong in the near future, would seriously interfere with their long-term plans.

This is not the place to comment on the wider designs of Communism and the "Cold War," but in considering Hong Kong in relation to the rest of the world, our history has always been that we are only in mortal danger when we continue to live under serious illusions and do not face up to facts. Our greatest danger today is the misconception that Communism is not the same the world over, and that there exist mild innocuous varieties who not only justifiably claim the rights and privileges of a genuine political party, but are patriots before Communists.

Thus, as this great convulsion of the human race, which overflowed in 1914, enters its third phase we must face this hard fact, and, in wishing Colonel Crawford and his Battalion God-speed we would do well to remember that they are now being called upon to play their part alongside the Army and R.A.F. in Berlin and our troops in Greece and Malaya.

There has been a considerable amount of regimental activity during the past quarter and contributions have been fuller than usual. The Editor would again like to thank all those who have written articles for this Journal. It is very important that our Regimental Journal should fulfil its objects which are, firstly, to act as a link between all members of the Regiment and affiliated units, both past and present, including units of the Commonwealth Forces, and secondly, to provide a historical record of the Regiment for past and present members,

and for future historians. In order to ensure that we get a high standard of contribution, we are in future proposing to pay a fee for articles accepted and published in the Journal. A notice giving details is found at foot of this page.

Finally, we congratulate Lt.-Col. A. E. Green on his award of the Greek Military Cross, and Colonel J. G. E. Reid on his promotion.

### NEWS FROM INDIVIDUALS

Brigr. N. P. Procter, C.B.E., M.C., has returned from Freetown, and is on leave pending retirement.

Col. W. H. V. Jones is now Inspector of Movement Control.

Col. J. G. E. Reid has been promoted substantive Colonel.

Lt.-Col. Andrew Man has relinquished his appointment as A.A. and Q.M.G., 2nd Division, B.A.O.R.

Major Garrow is commanding 69th Displaced Persons Centre at Wilhelmshaven.

Major H. Marsh, Major A. S. J. de S. Clayton and Major H. M. F. Langley have all joined the 1st Battalion. Major Marsh has returned to the Battalion from duty with the Home Counties Training Battalion, Shorncliffe. Major Clayton has just qualified at the Joint Services Staff College and Major Langley has completed his tour as Adjutant of the 7th Battalion.

Major D. C. L. Nolda has left the Home Counties Training Battalion on his appointment as D.A.A.G., F.A.R.E.L.F., Singapore.

Major Hewitt is commanding the Gambia Company, R.W.A.F.F., at Bathurst. Major Porter has joined the Nigeria Regiment.

### IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL CONTRIBUTORS

1. As an experiment one guinea will be paid for any article published in the Journal. This does not, of course, include routine commentaries such as Company Notes, and refers to future publications.

2. Although preference will be given to articles directly or indirectly connected with the Regiment (all of which have historical value), articles of general interest will also be accepted provided these are written by past or present members of the Regiment.

3. Serial articles will be paid for at the rate of one guinea for each part separately published, but the Editor reserves the right to print two parts in one if there is space.

4. In the interests of historical accuracy any historical articles must be accompanied by a covering note stating that to the best of the author's knowledge the facts contained are accurate.

5. Where articles are partly fictional the author should include a short preface for publication explaining to what extent the article is based on fact.

6. For the time being it is not proposed to lay down any guidance on the length of manuscripts.

7. Sketches and drawings will also be paid for at a rate of from 5s. to a guinea according to the merit of the contribution.

8. Further information for contributors is given at the foot of page 35.

### MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT OFFICERS' CLUB HELD AT THE DUKE OF YORK'S HEADQUARTERS, CHELSEA, ON THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 1949 AT 2 P.M.

Present: Lt.-Col. W. L. Roberts, O.B.E., M.C. (Chairman), Col. M. Browne, M.C., D.L., J.P. (Colonel of the Regiment), Lt.-Col. C. P. Rooke, D.S.O., Brig. E. E. Baker, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., T.D., D.L., J.P., A.D.C., Lt.-Col. M. Crawford, D.S.O., Lt.-Col. T. S. Wollcombe, M.C., Lt.-Col. J. D. Robbins, O.B.E., Major R. C. H. Bellers, Major H. K. Hardcastle, T.D., and Major A. W. Clark, O.B.E. (Secretary).

Apologies for non-attendance were received from: Brig. B. B. Rackham, C.B.E., M.C., Col. G. Beach, C.B., O.B.E., T.D., D.L., J.P., and Lt.-Col. A. K. Johnson, T.D.

In attendance: Lt.-Col. J. E. F. Willoughby.

1. Minutes. The Minutes of the last meeting having been circulated, were signed by the Chairman as correct.

2. Secretary's Report. The Secretary reported that:

(a) The paid membership of the Club to date was 311. Reminders were sent to non-subscribers on April 2.

(b) The state of funds to date was:

General Fund	£	s.	d.
Entrance Fees	213	6	11
Subscriptions	318	3	0
Total	£535	13	11

(c) The Officers' Club Charitable Fund was £101 18. 2d.

(d) The Secretary was instructed by the Committee to circulate copies of his report prior to the quarterly meetings, in order that they may be perused by members of the Committee.

3. Election of New Members. The Committee approved of eight members as listed by the Secretary being accepted for membership of the Club: Lt.-Col. H. W. W. Gray, M.B.E., T.D., Lt.-Col. D. J. Scott, Capt. M. F. Leonard, Capt. H. M. L. Price, Capt. C. H. T. Barber, Lt. R. A. Hodge, Lt. H. J. Evans, 2/Lt. D. F. Reddit.

4. Adoption of Accounts for 1949. The audited Accounts of the Officers' Club for 1949 were adopted by the Committee. The Chairman, on behalf of the Committee, thanked Lt.-Col. J. D. Robbins for his clear explanation of the Balance Sheet and for the state of the Funds.

5. 6th Battalion Funds. Lt.-Col. Crawford reported to the Committee that the Charity Commissioners had informed him on a recent visit that the 6th Battalion Funds were for the benefit of Regular Serving Officers only, and that all endeavours to alter the

scheme were impossible. He also reported that when the funds were transferred, a Committee composed of the Colonel of the Regiment, O.C. Battalion and O.C. Depot was to be formed to apply the funds. After a short discussion the Committee approved that Lt.-Col. M. Crawford and Major Hardcastle visit the Charity Commissioners with a view to obtaining the grant now held in abeyance until the transfer of the Funds to the Regimental Committee.

6. Officers' Dinner Club, 1949. Lt.-Col. Roberts reported to the Committee that since the last meeting he had visited the Junior United Service Club and had arranged that the dinner be held at a cost of 27s. 6d. per head, which includes one glass of port. The Committee approved of the Chairman's arrangements and it was decided that members be charged £1 0s. 0d. and non-members, £1 10s. 0d. The fund to subsidise the balance. Drinks required by members before, during and after the dinner to be paid for by members. Col. Roberts suggested, and the Committee approved, that a slip be placed on the dinner table inviting suggestions for:

(a) Venue for future dinners.

(b) Dress:

- Dinner jacket with miniature medals or uniform.
- Dinner jacket with miniatures.
- Lounge suit.

7. Election of Sub-Committees for 1949. The Committee approved of the following Committees for 1949:

Officers' Club Dinner. Lt.-Col. W. L. Roberts, O.C. Depot and Secretary.

Tennis. O.C. Depot and Secretary.

At Home. O.C. Depot, Officer to be detailed by O.C. Depot and Secretary.

Golf. Major R. C. H. Bellers, Major G. B. Anderson and Secretary.

Cricket. Major C. M. M. Man, O.C. Depot and Secretary.

8. Other Business.

(1) Election of New Member of Committee. Proposed by Col. M. Browne and seconded by Lt.-Col. T. S. Wollcombe and approved by the Committee that Brig. N. P. Procter be elected to the Committee vice Major N. H. B. Lyon.

(2) Winter Cocktail Party:

(a) Lt.-Col. W. L. Roberts proposed and Col. M. Browne seconded that a vote of thanks be recorded to Lt.-Col. Crawford and his Committee for the excellent way in which the Winter Cocktail Party was arranged.

(b) The Committee approved of a grant of £17 0s. 0d. to the O.C. 1st Battalion on behalf of Regimental guests at their cocktail party held on March 18, 1949.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 3 p.m. The next meeting will take place at the Middlesex Guildhall, Westminster, on July 28, 1949.

### THE REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT

#### OFFICERS' CLUB CHARITABLE FUND

#### INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1948

EXPENDITURE				INCOME			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To Grants	40	12	0	By Interest on Investments	13	17	9
" Audit Fee	1	1	0	Gross	12	0	9
" Excess of Income over Expenditure	36	7	6	Net	25	18	6
	£78	0	6	" Donations	2	2	0
				" Grants from Officers' Club	50	0	0
					£78	0	6

#### BALANCE SHEET AT DECEMBER 31, 1948

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.		
ACCUMULATED FUND								INVESTMENTS, At Cost:—							
Balance at January 1, 1948	1,217	17	5				£450 Australia 3% Stock, 1955 58	447	12	0					
Add Excess of Income over Expenditure for year	36	7	6				£200 Australia 4% Stock, 1955 70	213	0	0					
				1,254	4	11	£475 16s. 4d. 3% Funding Stock, 1959/69	480	11	6					
CREDITOR							(Mid-Market price at December 31, 1948: £1,174 6s. 11d.)				1,141	3	6		
Audit Fee					1	1	CASH AT BANK				114	2	5		
											£1,255	5	11		
					£1,255	5									

We have prepared the above Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Account from the Books, Vouchers and information supplied. We have verified the existence of the Assets and we certify that to the best of our knowledge such accounts are correct.

January 26, 1949.

G. DIXEY & CO., Chartered Accountants,  
98 Sackville Street, Piccadilly, W.1.







see you at the Orderly Room at 0930 hours tomorrow morning." It is an undoubted fact that a summons to the Orderly Room, however delivered, produces a qualm in even the most exemplary officers—surely the Colonel of the Regiment never had any errors of omission or commission on his conscience, yet he remarked, with feeling too, that he was always unnerved when one of those neat cards was delivered, in more spacious days, with printed on it "The Adjutant presents his compliments and wishes to see . . . at . . . on . . ." This was enough for junior officers, but there was a second and worse one starting "The Commanding Officer," and as far as I remember this did not convey any compliments. Such cards may have reached the sports fields but never, I am confident, did they intrude upon the gold course. But there we are, and it is a sign of the times that never anywhere is one entirely free from the gremlin of duty and even those who are retired can hear a voice saying "All right, golf today, but I want to see you at the sink at 8.30 hours tomorrow."

My partner and I were pleasantly engaged in taking as many holes as possible off the Samuel-South combination when out of a gorse bush came the voice, as in "Twenty Questions," saying, "And the next thing is I want to see you, etc." The results were devastating for my partner. Gone was his concentration, his smile like that of a Cheshire cat faded, his head came up and the retired officers were able to end the round less down than otherwise would have been the case. Meanwhile in the morning things had gone ill with youth, and they went to lunch well down, but in the afternoon, despite the untimely intrusion of the uniformed C.O., the tables were turned in no uncertain manner and the retired officers left the field with heads "bloody and unbowed."

Next day the normal procedure was reversed. Four-somes were played in the morning as the Battalion officers were not available since it was their turn to confer. This competition was well contested both ends. At the top Lt.-Gen. Bucknall and the everlastingly steady Anderson looked certain of winning, but lost three of the last four holes and ended three down, leaving South and Ormiston the winners with two down. At the other end, with 11 down, was a popular figure.

In the afternoon South, who had been foxing the day before, produced his most devastating golf, a score of 65, and Chattey did well to get so near to him with 67.

The scratch medal was well-earned and deserved by the Secretary, Lt.-Col. M. Crawford, which was all very right and proper. Unfortunately I have probably already exceeded the space allotted and I must refrain from giving a detailed account of some of the snappier snicks and glides I saw, but even if there were space, words would fail if I tried to describe a hole by Roly Gwyn.

We must leave the Spring Meeting, therefore, with a view of the Regimental Flag being collected by the Secretary of the Association as a Rolls Royce, procured on the temporary loan system for some astronomically mathematical financial cost, carries away various bodies, but chiefly South and Ormiston and an assortment of cups so great that when at Baker Street Station the door

was opened to let out one of the poor relations, the cups were tumbling in the gutter like chestnuts from a barrow.

#### SPRING MEETING, APRIL 29, 1949

MORNING		FOURSOMES v. BOGEY	
Lt.-Col. T. South and Major J. W. G. Ormiston	2 down		
Lt.-Gen. G. C. Bucknall and Major G. B. Anderson	3 "		
Lt.-Col. R. A. Gwyn and Capt. R. E. Guest	7 "		
Lt.-Col. W. H. Samuel and Major J. G. P. Hunt	11 "		
Brig. N. P. Proctor and Lt.-Col. A. E. Green	11 "		
Brig. B. B. Rackham and Lt.-Col. N. G. Gilbert	11 "		
Major R. C. H. Bellars and Lt.-Col. T. S. Wollocombe	11 "		
Winners: Lt.-Col. T. South and Major J. W. G. Ormiston			
(Sweep, £1 15s. od.)			

AFTERNOON		SCRATCH CUP AND REPLICA	
Lt.-Col. M. Crawford (Sweep, £1 2s. 6d.)	80		
Major T. W. Chattey (Sweep, 15s. od.)	81		
Lt.-Col. T. South	83		
Brig. N. P. Proctor	89		
Capt. R. E. Guest	90		
Lt.-Gen. G. C. Bucknall	91		

HANDICAP CUP AND REPLICA		83-18 = 65	
Lt.-Col. T. South (Winner, sweep, £1 17s. od.)	81-14 = 67		
Major T. W. Chattey (Runner-up, sweep, 15s. od.)	80-10 = 70		
Lt.-Col. M. Crawford	90-14 = 76		
Capt. R. E. Guest	98-18 = 80		
Lt.-Col. T. S. Wollocombe	96-15 = 81		
Lt.-Col. W. H. Samuel	91-9 = 82		
Lt.-Gen. G. C. Bucknall	99-16 = 83		
Major R. C. H. Bellars	89-5 = 84		
Brig. N. P. Proctor	102-13 = 89		
Major G. B. Anderson	107-18 = 89		
Major J. G. P. Hunt	109-18 = 91		
Brig. B. B. Rackham	117-24 = 93		
Major G. Lerwill	111-18 = 93		
Capt. D. B. Rendell			
No return: Lt.-Col. N. G. Gilbert, Major J. W. G. Ormiston,			
Lt.-Col. R. A. Gwyn and Lt.-Col. A. E. Green.			

#### MIDDLESEX REGIMENT GOLFING SOCIETY THURSDAY, APRIL 28, 1949 SERVING OFFICERS v. RETIRED OFFICERS

SERVING OFFICERS	Holes up or down	RETIRED OFFICERS	Holes up or down
MORNING			
1st Pair: Brig. N. P. Proctor		1st Pair: Lt.-Gen. G. C. Bucknall	
Major T. W. Chattey	5 up	Lt.-Col. T. South	
2nd Pair: Lt.-Col. N. G. Gilbert		2nd Pair: Lt.-Col. W. H. Samuel	
Major J. W. G. Ormiston	1 up	Col. J. K. Maitland	
3rd Pair: Major R. C. H. Bellars		3rd Pair: Capt. R. E. Guest	
Lt.-Col. R. A. Gwyn	1 up	Major G. Lerwill	
4th Pair: Capt. D. B. Rendell		4th Pair: Lt.-Col. T. S. Wollocombe	
Major A. E. D. Michell		Major J. G. P. Hunt	11 up
5 Singles: 2/Lt. B. M. Devine		5 Singles: Major G. B. Anderson	7 up

AFTERNOON		1st Pair: Lt.-Col. W. H. Samuel	
1st Pair: Brig. N. P. Proctor		Lt.-Col. T. South	
2/Lt. B. M. Devine	3 up	2nd Pair: Capt. R. E. Guest	
2nd Pair: Lt.-Col. N. G. Gilbert		Major G. B. Anderson	
Major T. W. Chattey	3 up	3rd Pair: Major J. G. P. Hunt	
3rd Pair: Major A. E. D. Michell		Col. J. K. Maitland	
Lt.-Col. R. A. Gwyn	8 up	4th Pair: Major G. Lerwill	
4th Pair: Capt. D. B. Rendell		Lt.-Col. T. S. Wollocombe	
Major R. C. H. Bellars		5 Singles: Lt.-Gen. G. C. Bucknall	
5 Singles: Major J. W. G. Ormiston	1 up		
Total	22	Total	18

Serving officers won by four holes.



Mais ce n'est pas la guerre  
C'est comme les anglais disent  
le "walk over" sanguinaire

WANTED good quality sporting and athletic equipment. Anyone who has any article of sports equipment, such as a cricket bat, or cricket pads, which is in really good condition, should write to the address given below, giving full details and the price required; at the same time, forwarding the item for sale.

The article will be placed on sale in the Second-hand Shop and, at the end of three months, the article(s) will either be returned—not having been sold—or the price required will be forwarded, if this has not already been done.

MAJOR H. A. HAVILLAND, M.B.E.,  
Quartermaster, The Warren, R.M.A.,  
Sandhurst, Camberley, Surrey.

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION HELD AT THE DUKE OF YORK'S HEADQUARTERS, CHELSEA, S.W.3, ON THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 1949, AT 3 P.M.  
Present: Lt.-Col. W. L. Roberts, O.B.E., M.C. (Chairman), Col. M. Browne, M.C., D.L., J.P. (Colonel of the Regiment), Brig. E. F. Baker, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., T.D., D.L., J.P., A.D.C., Brig. N. P. Proctor, C.B.E., M.C., Lt.-Col. T. S. Wollocombe, M.C., Lt.-Col. C. P. Rooke, D.S.O., Lt.-Col. M. Crawford, D.S.O., Lt.-Col. J. D. Robbins, O.B.E., Major R. C. H. Bellars, Major H. K. Hardcastle, T.D., R.S.M. S. Weller, M.M., Sgt. E. Fletcher and Major A. W. Clark, O.B.E. (Secretary).  
Apologies for non-attendance were received from: Brig. B. B. Rackham, C.B.E., M.C., Col. G. Beach, C.B., O.B.E., T.D., D.L., J.P., and Lt.-Col. A. K. Johnson, T.D.  
In attendance: Lt.-Col. J. E. F. Willoughby, Capt. R. W. J. Smith, Mill Hill "Die-Hards" Club, Mr. W. Raddon, Hornsey

"Die-Hards" Club and Mr. T. G. Fitzgerald, Romford "Die-Hards" Club.

1. Minutes. The Minutes of the last meeting having been circulated, were signed by the Chairman as correct.

2. Election of New Member of Committee. Proposed by Col. M. Browne and seconded by Lt.-Col. T. S. Wollocombe and approved by the Committee that Brig. N. P. Proctor be elected to the Committee vice Major N. H. B. Lyon.

3. Secretary's Report:  
(a) The Secretary reported that during the quarter ending March 31, 1949, 99 cases were assisted at a cost of £518 os. 5d., and in addition £30 os. od. was obtained from the 51st Highland Division Trust Fund to assist ex-Pte. A. J. Smith in setting himself up in business.

(b) The Secretary also reported that the Army Benevolent Fund was making a grant of £1,000 for the current year, £500 of which had been received and a further £500 to be received in July, 1949.

(c) Proposed by Brig. E. E. F. Baker and seconded by Major H. K. Hardcastle and approved by the Committee that the Secretary's application for a sum of £600 to assist necessitous cases during the quarter ending June 30, 1949, be allotted.

(d) The Secretary was instructed by the Committee to circulate copies of his report prior to the quarterly meetings in order that they may be perused by members of the Committee.

4. Adoption of Accounts for 1949.

(1) Lt.-Col. J. D. Robbins explained the balance sheets to the meeting and it was proposed by Lt.-Col. C. P. Rooke, seconded by Brig. N. P. Proctor and approved by the Committee that the audited accounts for the year 1948 be adopted. The Chairman thanked Lt.-Col. Robbins for the expert manner in which the accounts had been presented and for the personal interest he had taken in controlling the accounts of the Association. The Committee endorsed the Chairman's remarks.

(2) Proposed by Lt.-Col. M. Crawford and seconded by Lt.-Col. Robbins and approved by the Committee that an appreciation of the Secretary's work in connection with the Association accounts be recorded.

5. Report of Memorial Committee. In the absence of Col. G. Beach, Major Bellars reported to the Committee:

(a) That since January 1, 1949, to date, donations to the fund had dropped considerably: the total donations to the fund for that period being £424 8s. 5d.

(b) The Borough of Hendon's appeal for £3,000 towards the cost of two cottages had been launched and already £200 had been received.

(c) Several entertainments had been arranged including a football match versus an Arsenal XI (half the proceeds of this match will be donated towards the fund), boxing tournament at the Wembley Town Hall, a dance to be held at the Lyceum Theatre, and a collection at the Hendon Greyhound Racing Track.

(d) That roads and sewers were completed at the Housing Estate, Enfield, prior to the Easter holidays, and that quantities will not be available until about May 7, although the architect is pressing for these to be completed.

6. Name of Road at New Housing Estate. After a brief discussion it was approved that the name of the new road be held in abeyance until the next meeting. Lt.-Col. Willoughby was asked to invite suggestions from readers of the DIE-HARDS Journal.

7. Report of Journal Committee.

(a) Major R. C. H. Bellars reported to the Committee that 975 letters were sent to lapsed readers asking them to consider becoming subscribers once again. In response to this appeal 100 new subscribers were obtained. The circulation had increased during the last quarter from 900 to 1,500 copies, mainly due to increased numbers being taken by the 1st Battalion. The advertising agent is endeavouring to obtain more advertisements to increase the revenue, and has assured the Journal Committee that the income from advertisements would be increased with the March issue and that he hoped to maintain this increase.

(b) The Committee decided, after a short discussion, that the Journal Committee should be responsible for the complete running of the Journal and should make recommendations to the Executive Committee for financial assistance if required.

(c) Suggestions for improving the sales of the Journal and the nature of contributions desired for publication were invited.

(d) It was recommended that steps be taken to increase the circulation among T.A. Units, Cadet Units, "Die-Hards" Clubs and on railway bookstalls.

8. War Memorial Fund. The Committee approved that the Secretary be authorised to sign the request of the War Memorial Commissioners for remittance of dividends on behalf of the Trustees.

9. O.C.A. Reunion. The Committee approved of the arrangements made in connection with the O.C.A. Reunion on June 18, 1949, and on the recommendation of the Finance Committee the Secretary was authorised to expend a sum not exceeding £100 in connection with this reunion.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 4.25 p.m. The next meeting will be held in the Middlesex Guildhall, Westminster, S.W.1, on July 28, 1949.



THE REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT  
REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION CHARITABLE FUND

## BALANCE SHEET AT DECEMBER 31, 1948

[illegible]

We have prepared the above Balance Sheet and the attached Income and Expenditure Account from the Books, Vouchers and information supplied. The accumulated Income and Expenditure Account balance and the Assets of the Social Account have been amalgamated with the above Fund as at December 31, 1948, and are included in the Balance Sheet shown above. We have verified the existence of the Assets and we certify that to the best of our knowledge such Accounts are correct.

G. DIXEY & Co., Chartered Accountants,  
1, Bevilacqua Road, Madras 11.

January 26, 1949.

G. DIXEY & Co., *Chartered Accountants*,  
9a Sackville Street, Piccadilly, W.1.

THE REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT  
REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION CHARITABLE FUND  
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1948

EXPENDITURE			INCOME		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Grants and Allowances :			By Donations and Grants :		
Regular Forces Employment Association .. .. .	100	0 0	Army Benevolent Fund .. .. .	1,000	0 0
Middlesex Guildhall .. .. .	5	0 0	51st Highland Division Trust .. .. .	120	0 0
Loans written off .. .. .	70	13 0	Fund .. .. .	604	0 0
Sundry Charities .. .. .	39	13 0	M.C.C. Sunday Entertainment Fund .. .. .	41	3 1
Individual Cases .. .. .	2,019	3 8	P.R.I. 1st Battalion The Middlesex Regiment .. .. .	10	0 0
			P.R.I. 5th Battalion The Middlesex Regiment .. .. .	424	12 0
			Sundry .. .. .		
" Wreaths .. .. .		2,234 6 8		2,199	15 1
" Late Drummer Staggpole, V.C., D.C.M., Grave Expenses .. .. .	56	6 0		777	16 5
Less Contributed thereto by 1st Battalion, The Middlesex Regiment .. .. .	25	0 0	" Interest on Investments—Gross .. .. .		
		31 6 0			
" Repairs to Colours—St. Paul's Church .. .. .		9 2 0			
" Engraving Memorial—Ingis Barracks .. .. .		12 13 0			
" Inscribing Rolls of Honour .. .. .		40 0 0			
" Administration Expenses :—					
Postage .. .. .	55	19 11			
Printing and Stationery .. .. .	58	15 10			
Salaries and Expenses .. .. .	291	8 7			
Bank Charges .. .. .	8	11 4			
Travelling and Office Expenses .. .. .	25	4 10			
Insurances .. .. .	1	9			
Audit Fee .. .. .	18	18 0			
		459 0 3			
" Depreciation on Furniture and Fittings .. .. .		4 2 6			
" Excess of Income over Expenditure .. .. .		162 15 1			
		£2,977 11 6			

THE REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT  
RENNY CHARITABLE FUND

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1948

EXPENDITURE			INCOME		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Grants and Allowances . . . . .	460	4 8	By Interest on Investments—Gross . . . . .	707	5 2
Administration Expenses:—					
Salaries and Expenses . . . . .	97	3 3			
Postage . . . . .	6	0 0			
Audit Fee . . . . .	7	7 0			
Bank Charges . . . . .	6	13 0			
Stationery . . . . .	12	0 0			
	117	15 3			
Excess of Income over Expenditure . . . . .	129	5 3			
	£707	5 2		£707	5 2

## BALANCE SHEET AT DECEMBER 31, 1948

[illegible]

We have prepared the above Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Account from the Books, Vouchers and information supplied. We have verified the existence of the Assets and we certify that to the best of our knowledge such Accounts are correct.

January 26, 1949.

G. DIXEY & Co., Chartered Accountants,  
9a Sackville Street, Piccadilly, W.1.



THE REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT  
SOCIAL ACCOUNT

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1948

EXPENDITURE			INCOME		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Expenses of dance held at Lyceum .. .. .	222	7 8	By Subscriptions and Donations .. .. .	20	10 0
Less Contributions received thereto .. .. .	168	8 0	Sale of Diaries .. .. .	8	2 6
			Add Rebate from Army Sports Control Board .. .. .	28	12 6
„ Printing and Stationery .. .. .	53	19 8		12	12 0
	1	0 0	Less Stock at January 1, 1948 .. .. .	15	6 6
			„ Sale of O.C.A. Badges .. .. .	12	15 0
			Less Purchase thereof .. .. .	2	11 6
			„ Balance being Excess of Expenditure over Income .. .. .	17	14 10
	£54	19 8		£54	19 8

## BALANCE SHEET AT DECEMBER 31, 1948

### INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT							
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Balance at January 1, 1948 .. .. .	99	0	6	STOCK OF BADGES .. .. .	..	..	27 10 5
Less Excess of Expenditure over Income for				CASH AT BANK .. .. .	..	..	53 15 3
Year .. .. .	17	14	10				
			81 5 8				
	£81	5	8				£81 5 8

We have prepared the above Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Account from the Books, Vouchers and information supplied. We have verified the Assets and certify that to the best of our knowledge such Accounts are correct. The Accumulated Income and Expenditure Account balance, and the assets shown in the above Balance Sheet have been incorporated into the Regimental Association Charitable Fund Balance Sheet as at December 31, 1948.

G. DIXEY & Co., Chartered Accountants,

January 26, 1949.

THE REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT  
COTTAGE HOMES ACCOUNT

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1948

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR 1900			INCOME		
EXPENDITURE					
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Land Agent, Eastern Command for Rent .. ..	24	0 0	By Grant from Eastern Command in aid of Rent .. ..	22	0 0
„ Repairs and Renovations .. ..	40	13 0	„ Interest on Investments—Gross .. ..	57	8 0
„ Water Rate .. ..	5	5 10	„ Excess of Expenditure over Income .. ..	3	14 6
„ Insurance .. ..	11	15 0			
„ Audit Fee .. ..	1	1 0			
	£82	14 10		£82	14 10

## BALANCE SHEET AT DECEMBER 31, 1948

### INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT			INVESTMENTS		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Balance at January 1, 1948 .. ..	3,592	2 0	(a) At Mid-Market value at December 31, 1938 :		
Excess of Expenditure over			£250 3½% Conversion Loan ..	226	17 6
Income for year .. ..	3	0 6	£460 10s. 6d. 3½% War Stock	451	6 3
	3,589	1 6	(b) At Cost or par Value :		
Add Adjustment of Grant received from Eastern Command .. ..	11	0 0	£108 10s. 8d. 2½% National War Bonds	108	10 8
			£98 14s. 10d. 3½% Australia Registered Stock, 1961/66 .. ..	98	14 10
CREDITOR :			£250 3% Savings Bonds, 1960/70 ..	250	0 0
Audit Fee .. ..			£100 3% Savings Bonds, 1965/75 ..	108	9 9
			£588 12s. 0d. Commonwealth of Australia 2½% Registered Stock, 1967/71 .. ..	629	18 0
	£3,601	2 6	(Mid-Market price at December 31, 1948		
			£1,909 13s. 8d.)		
			NEW COTTAGE HOMES at Cost .. ..		1,653 0 7
			CASH at BANK .. ..		74 4 11
				£3,601	2 6

We have prepared the above Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Account from the Books, Vouchers and information supplied. We have verified the existence or the Assets and we certify that to the best of our knowledge such Accounts are correct.

G. DIXEY & Co., Chartered Accountants,

January 26, 1949.

THE REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT  
THE "DIE-HARDS" JOURNAL

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1948

EXPENDITURE				INCOME			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To Cost of Printing and Distribution .. ..	421	6	5	By Advertisements .. ..	158	10	6
Salaries and Expenses .. ..	60	0	0	23 Interest on Post Office Savings Bank Deposit—Gross ..	5	16	8
23 Bank Charges .. ..	2	5	6	23 Subscriptions .. ..	224	15	3
Stationery .. ..	14	8	0	23 Excess of Expenditure over Income .. ..	99	4	2
23 Audit Fee .. ..	4	4	0				
	£488	10	7		£488	10	7

## BALANCE SHEET AT DECEMBER 31, 1948

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
ACCUMULATED INCOME ACCOUNT :							MUSEUM, at Cost .. .. .				25	0	0
Balance at January 1, 1948 ..	436	15	2				DEBTORS :—						
Less Excess of Expenditure over Income							Units for Bulk Issues .. .. .	12	0	0			
for year .. .. .	99	4	2				Advertisements .. .. .	67	0	0			
				337	11	0	STOCK OF JOURNALS .. .. .				79	0	0
SUBSCRIPTIONS PAID IN ADVANCE ..				32	14	0	CASH AT BANK .. .. .					18	0
CREDITOR .. .. .							Post Office Savings Deposit ..	205	16	8			
Audit Fee .. .. .				4	4	0	Lloyds Bank Ltd., Current Account ..	63	14	4			
											269	11	0
				£374	9	0					£374	9	0

We have prepared the above Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Account from the Books, Vouchers and information supplied. We have verified the existence of the Assets and certify that to the best of our knowledge such Accounts are correct.

January 26, 1949.

THE REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT  
WAR MEMORIAL FUND

## RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1948

1948		£	s.	d.	By Publicity and Advertising Ex-		£	s.	d.	£		s.	d.
Jan. 1	To Balance of Fund brought forward:					penses					202	0	4
	Cash at Bank:—					Administration Expenses:—							
	Post Office Savings Deposit	500	0	0		Postage	19	5	0				
	Lloyds Bank Ltd.—					Printing and Stationery	2	0	0				
	Deposit Account	12,007	13	5		Bank Charges			5	0			
	Lloyds Bank Ltd.—					Secretary's Expenses	10	0	0				
	Current Account	770	2	4		Audit Fee, 1948			8	8			
						Sundries	1	3	10				
		13,277	15	9							41	1	10
	Less Creditors at January 1, 1948, since paid	16	18	1	13,260	Balance of Fund carried forward:							
						£19,000 2½ National War Bonds, 1949/51	19,405	6	0				
						£1,500 2½ Defence Bonds	1,500	0	0				
						1,000 National Savings Certificates	500	0	0				
Dec. 31	Interest on Investments					(Mid-Market price at December 31, 1948, £21,142 10s. od.)	21,405	6	0				
	Net	81	15	11		Cash at Bank:—							
	Interest on Post Office Savings Bank Deposit—Gross	85	13	4		Post Office Savings Bank Deposit	3,585	13	4				
	Interest on Bank Deposit					Lloyds Bank Ltd.—Current Account	1,535	8	1				
	Gross	28	16	10	196		26,526	7	5				
						Less Creditor—Audit Fee, 1948	8	8	0		26,517	19	5
	Donations (including income from 7-year Covenants)	3,009	9	7	10,929								
	Collections in Cinemas												
	Less Expenses in connection therewith	634	17	8									
					2,374								
					£26,761						£26,761	1	7

NOTE—Seven year Covenants  
June 16, 1947, £71 8s. 7d.  
per annum Gross.  
August 30, 1948, £214 5s.  
8d. per annum Gross.

The above Account has been prepared from the Books, Vouchers and information supplied. We have verified the assets of the Fund, and certify that to the best of our knowledge such Accounts are correct.

January 26, 1949.

G. DIXEY & Co., *Chartered Accountants*,  
9a Sackville Street, Piccadilly, W.1.





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

Back row (left to right)—Lt. G. Sander, 2/Lts. J. C. Bucknall, M. R. M. Devine, H. J. Evans, Lt. K. J. Carter, Capt. R. St. G. McC. Young, Lt. B. K. Clayden, 2/Lt. C. E. R. Ousey, Lts. P. J. Livenore, M.C., K. J. Jeffery, R. A. Hodge, 2/Lt. G. Kitchener, Lts. G. E. St. Clair, B. A. M. Pielow, 2/Lt. E. B. Thomas

Front row (left to right)—Capt. C. H. Mittle, M.C., V. A. Thomas, M.C., G. Kent, E. A. H. Jeffcoat, Majors D. Sax (Adjutant), G. Lerwill, M.C. (2 i/c), E. C. Kendall-Sadler, T.D., Col. M. Browne, M.C. (Colonel of the Regiment), Lt.-Col. M. Cratford, D.S.O. (Commanding Officer), Majors H. Marsh, P. F. Newman (Q.M.), A. E. D. Mitchell, Capt. J. N. Shipster, D.S.O., J. M. Longstaff, R. J. P. Cummins

Chelsea Barracks, March 16, 1949

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

## EDITORIAL

The Battalion is still busily employed on public duties in the London area. But unfortunately we are considerably dispersed, with detachments normally located in Chelsea, Mill Hill and Pirbright. Companies during their tour of duty at Pirbright have been carrying out their annual weapon training and results to date have been most satisfactory.

"D" and "S" Companies under the command of Major E. C. Kendall-Sadler, T.D., moved by road during the Easter weekend to Windsor, where they are now employed on castle duties there. The men are thoroughly enjoying these duties and Windsor at this time of the year is very pleasant.

We have had a strenuous games season this quarter and have consequently entered for a goodly number of tournaments.

The boxing team fought well against the 1st Battalion the Welsh Guards. At the conclusion of the match both battalions had each scored 16 points, but as the Welsh Guards managed to win more individual bouts than ourselves they were declared the winners. Ptes. Woodman ("C" Company) and White ("S" Company) boxed in the Army Individual Open Boxing Championships at Aldershot.

Our cross-country team put up a good show in the London District meeting; they were second, being beaten by the 1st Battalion the Scots Guards. Ptes. Paget ("B" Company) and Cpl. Salmon ("D"

Company) gained second and third individual places respectively and were selected to run in the Individual Army Cross-Country Championships.

Under the captaincy of Lt. P. G. V. Bellers the Battalion hockey team has had a goodish season with many hard and keenly contested games. Lt. B. K. Clayden has represented the Battalion in the London District Trials.

In between public duties we have managed to compete with the social side of life. A regimental cocktail party was held at the Depot Mess during March, for the successful organisation of which our thanks go to Majors R. C. H. Bellers, E. L. Heywood and E. C. Kendall-Sadler, T.D.

On February 24 the Corps of Drums under Drum-Major Holford beat Retreat at the Royal Hospital, Chelsea. We were delighted to have the Colonel of the Regiment with us on this occasion. The men, in addition to the amenities provided in and around London, have also had their evening socials in the form of dances and whist drives.

As in previous editorials we have had a number of departures and arrivals in officers and warrant officers.

We were very sorry to lose on release Capt. Bob Cummins. He is a great loss to us in all spheres of work and especially on the hockey field. He is very much missed by his many friends—both officers and men. We wish him all success in civilian life, but as he will be in business in London, we hope we shall see him on many occasions.

Capt. E. A. H. Jeffcoat has left us to take up the appointment of adjutant of the 7th Battalion vice Major

H. M. F. Langley, who has now joined us and is commanding "H.Q." Company. We offer these two officers our best wishes in their new appointments.

Release has claimed 2/Lt. Ronnie Alford, who joined the Battalion on its formation in July last year from the East Surreys. During his short stay with the Battalion he made many friends and we wish him, too, all good luck in civilian life. Also 2/Lt. D. F. Reckitt who joined us from the Royal Sussex Regiment has gone on release and will be attending the next course at the St. Martin's School of Art, Charing Cross.

Amongst our warrant officers we are delighted to welcome the arrival of R.S.M. J. McLoughlin. He is well known to many of the Regiment as a former R.S.M. of the 1st Battalion and also of 57 P.T.C., and the Group Basic Training Battalion, the Royal West Kents, at Shorncliffe. He is universally acknowledged to be one of the best drill instructors in the British Army today and his return to the Battalion is most opportune. To R.S.M. McLoughlin and his wife we offer our best wishes and the hope that their stay with the amalgamated Battalion will be a long and happy one.

Bandmaster J. E. Thirle has been selected for a commission and is now on the staff of the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst; we offer him our congratulations on his promotion. Due to his efforts and those of the late Band president (Capt. R. J. P. Cummins) and Drum-Major Holford we got a most satisfactory annual Band report from the Directors of Music, Kneller Hall.

We have also had to say good-bye to C.S.M. E. Soden, who has decided to try his hand in civil life. In his place C.S.M. E. Pike has arrived from B.A.O.R. where he was employed with a German Labour Unit.

Amongst our arrivals we are very happy to have Major H. Marsh back with us after a tour of duty with the H.C.T.B., Shorncliffe. Major A. E. D. Michell has also recently joined us from the East Surrey Regiment. We welcome him to the Battalion and congratulate him on his recent marriage. We are pleased to have back Major A. S. J. de S. Clayton who has joined us from the Joint Services Staff College. He has been appointed O.C. "B" Company. We offer our best wishes to Lt. K. J. Jeffery and 2/Lt. G. Kitchener on joining the Battalion.

Band-Master L. J. Barnet, late Black Watch, has recently joined us from the Boys Technical School, Chepstow. We offer him our congratulations on his forthcoming marriage and hope that he will be very happy in the Battalion. C.S.M. F. Hammond has arrived and takes over duties in "D" Company vice C.S.M. R. Lomax who has been posted to the 7th Battalion, Hornsey.

And so life goes on! In fact, we live from day to day. We seem to be continually on the move with Companies scattered and no firm base. Life is pretty hectic and administration is made none too easy with this continual confusion of sub-units within the Battalion. Main thing is we are all the time very busy and find our present role most interesting.

## "H.Q." COMPANY

Since the last issue of our notes life in "H.Q." Company has been comparatively uneventful. The Com-

pany has been by no means idle as personnel have worked hard and continuously on regimental and public duties, whilst employers have wrestled with the usual difficulties—shortage of staff, frequent postings and releases, etc. A welcome break in our routine was when we commenced our annual weapon training at Pirbright. The range was allotted to us for a month and parties of approximately 50 were sent weekly to fire. The first party proceeded under Capt. J. M. Longstaff and all enjoyed their stay in the country.

Major M. Langley has joined us from the 7th Battalion, of which he has been adjutant. He is shortly to take over the Company from Capt. Longstaff. We welcome him back to the Battalion. The duties of second-in-command of the Company have been performed by Capt. W. A. C. Digby, Royal Fusiliers, who left after a very short stay to become Transport Officer at 28 Infantry Brigade, and Lt. K. J. Jeffery, the Queen's Royal Regiment, whom we welcome to the Battalion.

We welcome to the Company Band-Master L. J. Barnett, who has come from the Boys' Technical School, Chepstow, to take over the Band; C.Sgt. Ure, who was in the old 1st Battalion at Hong Kong and has rejoined us from Shorncliffe to take over C.Q.M.S. duties from



The Central Press Photos Ltd.

The first sentry to be posted by the Battalion at Buckingham Palace. 21070659 Pte. M. Hudson, "H.Q." Company, October 1, 1948





The first King's Guard to be mounted by the Battalion. Leaving Chelsea Barracks on October 1, 1948. Captain of the Guard, Major N. G. Gilbert



The first King's Guard to be mounted by the Battalion. Leaving Chelsea Barracks on October 1, 1948. Captain of the Guard, Major N. G. Gilbert

C/Sgt. Taylor; Sgt. Avery, who has been serving with the Royal Sussex Regiment, and has joined us to become Provost Sergeant; Cpl. Salked, who came from "A" Company to become N.C.O. i/c. Dining Hall; Pte. Godwin, who came from "A" Company to become Company Clerk; and Sgt. Morris, R.E.M.E., attached to the M.T.

We wish the best of luck to A.Q.M.S. Flavell, R.E.M.E., the Battalion Armourer, who has gone to the R.E.M.E. Training School, and we congratulate him on his recent marriage; Sgt. Thorogood, the Provost Sergeant, who has gone to "D" Company; Cpl. Maple, Battalion Sports Storeman, an old member of the Battalion who has gone to Shorncliffe; Cpl. Shone, Cpl. Pullen and Pte. Trew, all of the Orderly Room, who have been released; Sgt. Lee, R.E.M.E., on posting; and Pte. Thomason, A.C.C., who did much boxing, who has now proceeded on release.

Band-Master J. E. Thirtle has left us to become Director of Music at the R.M.A., Sandhurst. We wish Mrs. Thirtle and himself all good luck.

We congratulate the following on their well-earned promotion: Cpl. McGowan (Orderly Room) to sergeant; L/Cpl. Walden (N.C.O. i/c. Boys), L/Cpl. Buckland (M.T.) and L/Cpl. Turner (Pioneers) to corporal; and Cpl. Morris, R.E.M.E., to sergeant.

L/Cpl. Hinshelwood has been playing soccer regularly for the Army. Pte. Nicks of the Sports Store achieved fame as an ice skater with his sister when they won the British Amateur Pairs Figure-Skating, the European Amateur Pairs and came fifth in the World Amateur Pairs. We congratulate Pte. P. J. Smith on his marriage.

#### SIGNAL PLATOON

The Signal Platoon are now at Pirbright undergoing an eight-week's signal cadre. All-day schemes are held twice a week and the keenness shown by the platoon is most encouraging. It is a common sight to see signallers swarming up telegraph poles with the greatest of ease. Pte. Mackay appears to hold the record coming down; he simply lets go and drops! In the third week examination the average was 87 per cent., with Ptes. Pole Mills, Paterson and Irwin-Hunt returning the best results.

Football is played most evenings and so far we are unbeaten. "D" Company on training at Pirbright were reputed to have refused to play us! Ptes. Chesney, Mackay, Mills and Sgt. Callaghan are the stars.

At the time of writing Lt. B. K. Clayden is handing over to Lt. H. J. A. Moore, who has just returned from the Signal School, Catterick. Sgt. Michel and L/Cpl. Whitley are attending a course there on May 5 and we wish them every success. We were particularly glad to see Sgt. Michel again, who a few months back was badly burnt. Sgt. Callaghan holds the fort at Pirbright and hopes to go to Catterick in August.

Pte. P. J. Smith is an old 2nd Battalion signaller we see little of, as he operates the switchboard at the Tower of London; rumour has it that he likes the job, especially the excellent food that is provided!

Unfortunately only a mere dozen of the platoon are Regulars, but we hope that Lt. Moore, Sgts. Michel and Callaghan will be able to "persuade" a few more

to sign on. A few weeks ago Lt. B. K. Clayden and Sgt. Michel beheld a wondrous sight—a full G.1098 of signal equipment, brand new and up to date.

#### SPORTS NOTES

Since the last publication of the journal "H.Q." Company has resumed its previous efficient role in sports once again.

The Company hockey team, including Battalion players Major G. Lerwill, M.C., Capt. R. J. P. Cummins, Lts. P. J. Livemore, M.C., K. J. Carter, B. K. Clayden, O.R. Q.M.S. Waldron and Pte. Jenkins, beat "D" Company in the final by 7-0. Lt. Livemore, M.C., scoring five excellent goals, reminiscent of B. Singh of the Olympic Games. In the Company boxing competition we did well, narrowly losing second place to "A" Company, who managed to press-gang six more boxers than we did! In the cross-country run, held within a stone's throw of the barracks, the Company distinguished itself by winning with comparative ease. Now that the cricket season is almost upon us the Company is confident that it will be able to put up a good show. From the Battalion side of last year we still have Lt. B. K. Clayden, Sgt. Bailey (of M.I. Room fame) and Drm. Cullen, who will form the nucleus of the side.

#### BAND

During the past month a number of important changes have taken place in the Regimental Band. Firstly, Bandmaster Mr. J. E. Thirtle, having qualified for a commission, has left us in order to become Director of Music at the R.M.A., Sandhurst. We all congratulate Mr. Thirtle on his new appointment and wish Mrs. Thirtle and himself all the very best for the future. At the same time we would like to thank him for the loyal service he has given to the Band. Both the Regiment and the Band extend a hearty welcome to Mr. Thirtle's successor, Mr. L. J. Barnett, who, we hope, will spend many happy years of service with us.

The Band President, Capt. R. J. P. Cummins, has left us for civil life. We understand he is to be employed in the banking firm of Messrs. Henry Schroder of Leadenhall Street, London. In this new sphere of life we feel confident he will succeed, and we all wish him all good luck. Capt. Cummins' successor is Major Marsh. We feel sure that there is no need to make any comments about Major Marsh as, having served with the Regiment for many years, he is already very well known to us all. We have every confidence in his guidance. Owing to public duties we have had very little time for band practice or other activities. In spite of this, we have played three outstanding games of hockey. Firstly, we were challenged by the Band of the King's Shropshire Light Infantry, the result being 5-1 in our favour. Secondly, we played our own Corps of Drums. This also ended in a victory for us, the final score being 3-1. Finally, the Band and Drums combined to meet "B" Company in the league; this combination made us an excellent team and we managed to win 7-1. Providing that a suitable time can be arranged, the Band is open to a challenge from either the Battalion team or any combined section within the Battalion.

On March 4 the Band was inspected by Capt. Roberts,



the Director of Music, Kneller Hall (the Royal Military School of Music). On this occasion the Band was in excellent form in spite of the very limited time we have for band practice these days. We have been informed recently that the Band was graded "Good." Such a report in these days, when most infantry bands are in a state of flux, is a gratifying compliment to our progress. We intend to maintain this standard and hope we shall be able to improve upon it.

### CORPS OF DRUMS

These notes begin with the sad news of the loss of an old friend, Capt. Bob Cummins, who has been our guiding star since the formation of the Corps of Drums in Germany in 1946. It was a hard job getting started and his interest and enthusiasm was a great source of encouragement to us all. During our stay in Germany and since arrival at Chelsea, the Corps of Drums has given many public performances and we now have a large public to perform before during the guard-changing ceremony at Buckingham Palace. The present high standard we have achieved is very largely due to Capt. Cummins, and we all take this opportunity of thanking him and wishing him the very best of luck in civil life.

Drum-Major Holford continues to produce new talent, in spite of a constant change of personnel and we would like him to know how much his painstaking efforts, understanding and patience with the younger members of the Corps of Drums have contributed in making us one of the most efficient units in the Battalion.

We now welcome Major H. Marsh as our new officer i/c. Corps of Drums and we hope his stay with us will be a long and happy one. Many old "Die-Hards" will remember him in "C" Company, which he then commanded.

Since our last notes we have lost several more old friends and found some new ones; those returned to civil life are Drms. Wood, Clarke, Smith, Williams, Parkinson, Jones and Winstanley, to whom we wish the very best of good fortune and hope we shall meet again at reunions. In their places we now welcome Drms. Newman, Barnard, Jones 22 and Etherington and, judging by present results, they are settling down happily in their new jobs.

We have taken part in several engagements during the last quarter and the outstanding one was when we beat Retreat at the Royal Hospital, Chelsea. It was a most heart-warming sight to see the old soldiers' faces as we entered the Royal Hospital grounds dressed in scarlet, and one can imagine some of the memories it must have brought back to those old-timers. They must have enjoyed it since we have been asked to perform again on May 31, by which we hope to be able to produce a well-dressed Corps again.

We shall be broadcasting on the B.B.C. Home Service on Albuhera Day, May 16, when we sound Reveille at 7.15 a.m., and it is hoped that lots of our old friends will listen-in to us then.

For those who would like a permanent record of our performances last year, there are still available a number of gramophone records which can be obtained from Chelsea Barracks or from the Old Comrades' Association at Mill Hill.

We are maintaining our sporting record, having defeated the M.T. 3-0 and "A" Company 7-1 at soccer, whilst Drms. Leat and Halsall have played in the Battalion side.

Cpl. Brown, L/Cpl. Winsborough and Drm. Leat have represented the Battalion at hockey and Cpl. Fleckney reached the finals of the Battalion Novices boxing (featherweight), but unfortunately had to withdraw owing to an injury sustained in the semi-final round. We congratulate him on his promotion to corporal.

We have a full list of engagements ahead of us, including football matches, Retreat beating, Old Comrades' reunions, at which parades we hope to see many of our old comrades.

A warm welcome is extended to Bandmaster Barnett, who has recently arrived from the Boys' Technical School, Chepstow, and we hope that we shall have the benefit of his advice and musical assistance for a long time to come.

### M.T. PLATOON

Time has passed quickly since the last issue of the journal; so fast, in fact, that it has seemingly left us with little news. Our main interest, apart from the usual routine work, has been M.T. Cadre No. 2, which terminated towards the middle of April. On Wednesday, April 6, the Practical Test was held at Mill Hill, and on Thursday, April 7, a written paper was set at Chelsea Barracks.

We congratulate Cpl. Buckland on his well-earned promotion, and Cpls. Baker, Snell and F. Flanagan on gaining their substantive rank. Our accident rate is, thank heavens, not high. Pte. Bloom, however, is only just recovering from leg injuries received in a motor-cycle accident on Hampstead Heath.

Sgt. Davis, M.M., continues to administer to the "Wing" and it can be said that we are a happy and contented band. Sgt. F. Lee of the R.E.M.E. has left us, his place being very ably taken by Sgt. W. Morris, R.E.M.E., whom we heartily welcome. L/Cpl. Smart is soon to join the happy throng of married men, and we offer him our best wishes.

We continue with our high standard of sporting prowess, considered by all as a definite obstacle. On the hockey field Lt. J. Livemore, M.C., Sgt. Davis, M.M., Cpl. Buckland, Ptes. Jenkins and Edwards 89 are all fairly permanent members of the Battalion team. We intend to be well represented in the forthcoming Albuhera Day sports. Pte. Jenkins is a good all-rounder, capable of pole-vaulting 9 ft., throwing the discus 110 ft. and the hammer 90 ft. and this is not all, either, as Pte. Walker is eagerly awaiting his chance at the 440 yds. and 880 yds. We are watching Cpl. Buckland, the two Edwards's, Pte. Dawe (shot) and Pte. Payne.

On Wednesday, February 10, about a dozen of the section spent an enjoyable evening on the miniature range. Pte. Wilkins won the pool bull competition and Ptes. Cook and Tomlins the straightforward shooting competition. We have been unable to hold a regular weekly shoot owing to the fact that the range has not been available.



"OLD SOLDIERS NEVER DIE"

Many "Die-hard" readers will have mourned the "passing on" of the Vickers M.M.G. Their lamentations have proved a little premature. The photograph above was taken in January, 1949. It shows a section of the Carrier Platoon of the 1st Battalion hard at work picking up the threads left by their predecessors in 1947.

Although the gun may have started to "fade away" it has now taken on a new lease of life, as far as the Regiment is concerned, under the able instruction of Sgt. Cooper and Cpl. Foster.

Left to right: Pte. Prince, Cpl. Foster, Pte. Cannon, Pte. Ashdown, Pte. Williams, Pte. Stanford, Pte. Oakley, L/Cpl. Fox, Sgt. Cooper.

During the recent painting and drawing exhibition, Ptes. Dawe, Saunders and Morin, Cpls. Snell and Flanagan and Lt. Livemore proved that the M.T. can compete at the finer arts. Pte. Dawe won the first prize, Lt. Livemore second prize and Cpl. Snell third prize, making what the P.R.I. jokingly called "an M.T. benefit."

Pte. Goodfellow is proving an asset to the Battalion; he is mainly responsible for the formation of a Battalion concert party and is, also doing great work for the dance committee.

Previous notes have been made of our gallant Sgt. Davis and his torch-bearing effort, but we would like to add our congratulations on his bearing and deportment.

### SUPPORT COMPANY

During the last quarter the Company has had a very busy time. The Carrier and Mortar Platoons have both been on three weeks' field training at Pirbright. The training was invaluable and both platoons reached a satisfactory standard.

During March the Company as a whole proceeded to Pirbright to fire the annual range course. The weather was excellent during the period and the final results were satisfactory. Congratulations go out to Cpl. Nobes, who obtained the highest individual score of 108 points out of a possible 120 with the rifle.

The training of detachment commanders and gun

numbers of the Anti-Tank Platoon has progressed and all ranks have reached a reasonably high standard. Eight members of this platoon commenced Carrier driving instruction under Sgt. Hummerston in mid-February and, considering the short time they have been under instruction, they show great promise of becoming really capable drivers. They have already proved themselves by "lifting" the Anti-Tank Platoon on the Company's move to Windsor. It was their first outing from Inglis Barracks and, although carrying provisional licences and festooned with "L" plates, the Carriers moving through Good Friday's traffic conveyed their passengers safely to Windsor without mishap!

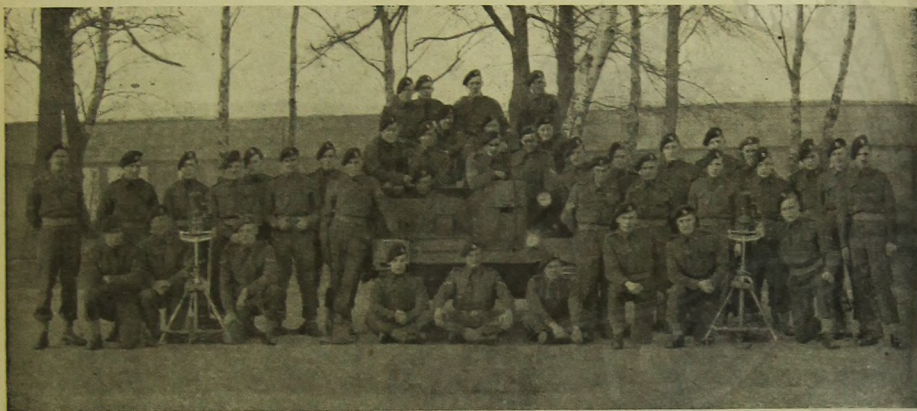
The Assault-Pioneer Platoon have done little Pioneer work, because both Lt. Forman and Sgt. Bignell were attending a course at Ripon. Now that they have both returned it is hoped they will be able to start training once again and pass on their extensive knowledge.

As already mentioned the Company has now moved to Windsor in partnership with "D" Company. We have taken over the duties of guarding Windsor Castle. The guard commitments are heavy, but we are looking forward to be able to finish off individual and specialist training and, also, prepare for Albuhera Day sports.

The Company's congratulations are sent out to Lt. P. G. V. Bellers, who is now the proud father of a baby daughter, and also to Lt. J. S. C. Flavell, who was married on March 5.

We welcome C.S.M. White to the Company from the





1st BATTALION THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (D.C.O.)  
3rd MORTAR PLATOON, PIRBRIGHT CAMP, JANUARY, 1949

"Buffs" and say farewell and *bon voyage* to Sgt. Bartholomew, who has now left the Army and is on his way to Australia.

#### "A" COMPANY

In February the Company spent two weeks at Pirbright, which were devoted to field training. The Company again visited Pirbright in April and spent an entire week on the ranges, firing rifle and bren for star-classification pay.

Pirbright provides a very welcome change from public duties and is very much enjoyed. The Company, which is provided with accommodation in the lines of the Guards' Training Battalion, is free of duties and able to concentrate on training. Indeed the complete Company is on parade, which is impossible at Chelsea, owing to the many and varied duties.

We congratulate C.S.M. Tarrant on receiving a "Mention in Despatches" for services in Palestine. C.S.M. Tarrant also took part in the Royal Guard of Honour which was inspected by H.M. The King, and reported in the last issue of the journal.

Since the last issue of the journal changes have occurred within the Company; 2/Lt. Reckitt has been demobilised and 2/Lt. Ginsberg, Sgt. Deamer, Cpl. Cook and L/Cpl. Vincent have joined the Company. The following have left on postings and demobilisation: Sgt. Toms, Cpl. Besbrode and L/Cpls. Lee and Saul.

Promotions are as follows: Lance-sergeants, Lefevre, Partridge, Steward, Lloyd; corporal, Bennett; lance-corporals, Yerby, Vincent, Weaver, Smallman.

The Company won the Inter-Company basketball competition and was placed fourth in the inter-Company hockey league. C.S.M. Tarrant has played regularly for the Battalion hockey team.

Due to many difficulties little Battalion rugby has been played. Second-Lieutenants Thomas and Evans,

Sgt. Carter and Cpl. Bennett have played, however, and been selected to train for the Battalion seven-a-side team.

Ptes. Harvey, Richards, Hartshorne and Payne have all played fairly regularly for the Battalion football team.

The Battalion obtained second place in the London District Swimming Gala when the Company was represented by 2/Lt. Thomas, C.S.M. Tarrant, Cpl. Whitely and Pte. Pegg.

The Company is now going into training for athletics which are to take place shortly.

#### "B" COMPANY

Since our arrival at Chelsea it has been virtually impossible to continue normal Company training, due to the pressure of public duties. It was, therefore, both a welcome break and an ideal opportunity to weld together into a Company team, when we proceeded to Pirbright in January for section and platoon training. A great deal was accomplished during our three short weeks' stay, not least of which was the friendly, if spirited, rivalry that was established between No. 4 and No. 5 Platoons and which has shown little sign of abating since our return.

Since that time the Company has been unfortunate in losing Major I. H. Battry, M.B.E., who after an all too short period with the Company has been posted to the R.A.F. Staff College, Bracknell. We take this opportunity of wishing him every success on his course and a speedy return to the Battalion on its completion. The Company is now temporarily commanded by Capt. J. N. Shipster, D.S.O.

The Company has also recently lost C.S.M. Soden, who is now on a pre-release course after 18 years' service. C.S.M. Soden was a prisoner of war under the Japanese for 3½ years and has been with the Company since his return. We wish him every success in civilian



1st BATTALION THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (D.C.O.)  
BATTALION BOXING TEAM, PIRBRIGHT CAMP, FEBRUARY, 1949

Top row (left to right)—Pte. White, "S" Company, Pte. Walker, "B" Company, Pte. Harrison, "B" Company, Pte. Rutty, "C" Company.

Middle row (left to right)—L. Cpl. Avery, "D" Company, Pte. Argent, "A" Company, Pte. Noble, "B" Company, Pte. Farey, "S" Company, Pte. Parsons, "A" Company, Pte. Cartwright, "H.Q." Company, Pte. Hill, "H.Q." Company, Pte. Penny, "S" Company, C.S.M. Marks, A.P.T.C.

Front row (left to right)—Pte. Griffiths, "A" Company, Pte. Saunders, "H.Q." Company, Capt. Cook, A.P.T.C., Lt.-Col. M. Crawford, D.S.O., Lt. K. J. Carter, Pte. Woodman, "C" Company

life and hope that he will visit us as and when he can. At the same time we take this opportunity of welcoming 2/Lt. Kitchener to the Company.

The Company wish to congratulate some of its members for representing the Battalion at sports. They are C/Sgt. Shrubbs, M.M., and Pte. Heritage in soccer, Cpls. Crowther and Perkins, Ptes. Paget and O'Donovan, Battalion cross-country team; and Capt. Shipster, D.S.O., Battalion hockey XI.

Our prospects in the Albuhera Shield Competition are bright, as quite a large proportion of potential talent has been unearthed, and with 2/Lt. C. E. R. Ousey as anchor man in our tug-of-war team the Company believe it will stand firm against all-comers.

Lastly we take advantage of this opportunity to send best wishes to all past members of the Company wherever they may be.

#### "C" COMPANY

##### Training

Since the last issue of the journal the Company, under the command of Major A. E. D. Michell, has

been down to Pirbright on weapon training. By working long hours each day we were able to classify the Company in just under a week. We were a little unfortunate with the weather, as a ground mist did, on occasions, hold up the firing.

Prior to moving to Pirbright on March 22 the Company marched from Chelsea Barracks to the Depot of the East Surrey Regiment at Kingston, in order to zero rifles and brens. We completed the march in 2 hours 40 minutes, not stopping until we were in the Richmond Park area. We left Chelsea at 7 a.m. and were fortunate in having quite good weather for the march, although it did rain slightly towards the end of the day.

Having completed our section and platoon training before Christmas, 1948, we now look forward to Company and Battalion training at a later date.

##### Sport

In the sporting world within the Battalion, the Company has been rather unfortunate, in that we have had three near misses to Battalion "wins." In the Battalion Individual and Inter-Company Boxing Com-



petition we were second, "A" Company having beaten us in a close finish. Pte. Woodman won his weight, and Ptes. Harrison, Ratty and L/Cpl. Pascoe were runners-up.

"A" Company beat us again in the finals of the Battalion Inter-Company Basket Ball Competition by 14-10.

In the Battalion cross-country run held on February 2, the course being some 3½ miles in length in the Battersea Park area, "C" Company again had to be content with second place. This time "H.Q." Company beat us by only a few points.

In preparation for the forthcoming Albuhera Sports Meeting "C" Company has already begun training, using the Duke of York's Headquarters and the invaluable Battersea Park. We can only hope that this time we will have better fortune, and win the Albuhera Sports. If we do not it will not be for the lack of trying.

#### Personalities

Major G. Lerwill, M.C., has left the Company to take up the duties of second-in-command. In his place we welcome Major Michell to the Company. Second-Lieutenant J. Hedgely has joined us from the Royal Sussex Regiment at Shorncliffe, and L/Cpl. Pentony has been posted to us from "D" Company. We have a new Company Clerk, namely Pte. Coskry, late of "H.Q." Company.

L/Cpl. Leese and Pte. Barton left the Company on March 4 to be demobbed. L/Cpl. James, for so long our Company Clerk, has been spotted and claimed by the Orderly Room, and we wish to offer him our best wishes in his new appointment. Sgts. Flaherty and Gould, together with Cpl. Bromilow, have been posted to the H.C.B.T.C. at Shorncliffe.

We congratulate Cpls. Pascoe, Hook and McHenry on their promotion, as well as L/Cpls. Reynolds, Ratty, King, Hyland and Heavens on the award of their first stripe.

#### "D" COMPANY

Though still stationed at the Depot, we have had two moves during the past three months and on both these occasions we proceeded to Pirbright. The first time was in February when we were there for 18 days carrying out platoon training and field firing; the second time was in March when we spent a week carrying out our annual weapon training. On each occasion we were extremely well looked after by the 1st Battalion Scots Guards.

On April 15, 1949, we moved with "S" Company to Victoria Barracks, Windsor, to take over the guard duties at Windsor Castle from the 1st Battalion Welsh Guards, an honour which we greatly appreciate. All ranks are particularly happy at this move, which is making a pleasant change from life in London; we expect to remain at Windsor until relieved by, in all probability, the 1st Battalion Irish Guards about mid-June.

In the field of sport we have still held our own, in spite of losing on posting quite a number of our stalwarts. We battled our way into the final round of the Inter-Company Hockey Tournament when we were

beaten 8-0 by the Battalion "giants," "H.Q." Company. In spite of the score it was by no means a rout; we went down fighting to the last and the team is to be congratulated on its great show and dogged performance.

Cpl. Salmon is also to be congratulated on his excellent effort in the London District Cross-Country Championships, in which he gained third place.

Cpl. Wright has given up the blessings of bachelorhood for those of matrimony on the occasion of his marriage recently to Miss Alice Jefferson; we wish them both every happiness for the future. We welcome to the Company Sgt. Thorogood (formerly Provost Sergeant) and Cpls. da Costa and Smith (both from "A" Company) and we hope that their stay with us will be a long and happy one.

We offer our congratulations to Major G. Lerwill, M.C., on his appointment to second-in-command and likewise to his predecessor, Major N. Gilbert, on his promotion to lieutenant-colonel, though we regret that this has necessitated him leaving the Battalion.

#### SERGEANTS' MESS NOTES

As these notes open we are in the unhappy position of having our members scattered to the four winds, with "S" and "D" Companies stationed at Inglis Barracks and one other Company detached for a week at a time on weapon training at Pirbright. In the near future both Companies from Mill Hill are off to Windsor on public duties, so the possibility of the Mess being together as a whole seems a remote one for some time to come.

On February 28, R.S.M. Overy left us to take over another appointment and our regret at seeing him go was only compensated for by our pleasure in welcoming R.S.M. J. McLoughlin back into the fold. We join as a whole in wishing R.S.M. Overy the best of good fortune and trust that he will not forget us wherever he may go. To R.S.M. McLoughlin we extend the heartiest of greetings and hope that his stay will be a long and happy one. One incident of note, but of a far more unfortunate character, occurred in February when Sgt. Michel was involved in a serious accident in his quarters at Mill Hill and was badly burnt about the face and hand. Our sympathies went out to Mrs. Michel at this time, and we are happy to say that at the time of writing Sgt. Michel has made a good recovery and is on his way back to duty, though a bad scar will always remain as a grim reminder of a very lucky escape from more serious injury.

To turn to the social side we have taken part in two functions just recently in which our reputation for hospitality has been greatly enhanced. The first of these was a visit to Streatham Vale Sports and Social Club in a darts fixture. Our hosts gave us a grand evening and although we lost the match by the odd leg in three a convivial time was had by all. This was on March 3 and a return was fixed in the Mess for March 17 when, at the end of the evening, we had taken our revenge to the tune of two legs to nil. In a witty little speech of thanks, the club secretary, Mr. Thatcher, paid us the compliment of saying that he and his team mates had never had such an enjoyable evening and, in view



W.O.s, C/SERGEANTS AND SERGEANTS, 1st BATTALION THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (D.C.O.)  
Back row (left to right)—Sgts. Deakin (R.A.E.C.), Luke, Bailey, Culpin (R.A.E.C.), Deamer, Smith, Davis, M.M., Dodkins.

Second row (left to right)—Sgts. Burgess, Jones, Waterfield, Corner, Carter, Thorogood, Burland, Bartholomew, Toms, Biggs, Cranfield.

Third row (left to right)—C/Sgt. Ure, Sgt. Hammerstone, C/Sgts. Redpath, Thom, Taylor, Moody, M.M., Sgts. Budden, Kenrick, McGowan, Strange, Jones, Flaherty, Cooper, G., Carlier.

Front row (left to right)—D.M. Holford, A.Q.M.S. Flavell, C.S.M.s Lomax, Soden, White, Jennings, B.M. Thirle, Col. M. Browne, M.C. (Colonel of the Regiment), R.S.M. McLoughlin, Lt.-Col. M. Crawford, D.S.O. (Commanding Officer), R.Q.M.S. Blackman, C.S.M.s Fuller, Tarrant, McMillan, O.R.Q.M.S. Waldron, C/Sgt. Griffiths.  
Chelsea Barracks, March 16, 1949

of this and other complimentary words, no time was wasted in arranging a rubber match to be played at Streatham on April 7. Other events now being arranged are a dance to be held in the Mess during April and a cricket match against our Streatham friends at Mill Hill on May 29, providing the ground is available.

Mess life otherwise proceeds serenely on its uneventful way, although just recently the magic words of "pong that cabbage," etc. have been more noticeable by their absence. The fact that "Snipenose Griff" is at present on leave happens to be purely coincidental! A billiards table has now been installed, thanks to R.S.M. McLoughlin, and is in constant use, much to the chagrin of C.S.M. Jennings, who is usually too late for a game or else unfortunate in trying to find someone who does not know his reputation. Sgt. Burland has had visits from old friends of the Mess in 2nd Echelon, B.A.O.R., and we have been glad to entertain a number of old "Diehards," including "Busty" Hull, Johnny Quick and "Drummy" Denison. To these and all other Old Comrades, as well as to all Middlesex T.A. Messes, we extend a cordial invitation to visit us, requesting only that if you are coming in strength, please let us know in advance.

Finally, our jovial caterer, Sgt. Carter, continues to keep the flag flying and tries unsuccessfully to draw the last half gallon out of the barrel.

#### CORPORALS' CLUB

The activities of the Corporals' Club have of necessity been restricted by the continued pressure of public

duties and the loss of Companies on detachment at Windsor and Pirbright. Nevertheless, arrangements are being made to hold a dance in the near future, together with other social events in connection with Albuhera Day celebrations.

In the field of sport, we have been well represented in all the Battalion teams and offer our special congratulations to L/Cpl. Hinshelwood for being chosen to represent the British Army F.A. XI; Cpl. Salmon, for finishing third in the London District Cross-Country Championship; Cpl. Baker and L/Cpl. Rickeard, for good performances in the War Office Swimming Gala; Cpl. Brown, for consistent good play in the Battalion Hockey XI; and Cpl. Avery, for his efforts in training and representing the Battalion boxing team.

Congratulations are due, also, to the 32 members who have been promoted to corporals since the last issue of this magazine.

In conclusion, we welcome to the Club many new members and extend to those who have left us our best wishes for the future, wherever they may be.

#### BOXING

Early in the year Companies commenced training for the Individual and Inter-Company Boxing Championships which were held in the gymnasium, Chelsea Barracks. A large number of entries were received for the competition and accordingly it was held over three days—January 26-28. Competitors put up an excellent show.

The 2nd Battalion boxing belts were presented to the



winners of each individual weight and the winning Company was awarded the Inter-Company Boxing Cup. The C.O. presented the prizes.

WINNING COMPANY: "A" Company.

INDIVIDUAL WINNERS:

Bantam-weight	Pte. F. Woodman	"C"	Company
Feather-weight	Pte. L. White	"S"	"
Light-weight	Pte. Thomason	"H.Q."	"
Welter-weight	Pte. B. Penny	"S"	"
Middle-weight	L/Cpl. J. Avery	"D"	"
Light Heavy-weight	Pte. N. Bryant	"A"	"
Heavy-weight	Pte. S. Farey	"S"	"

RUNNERS-UP:

Bantam-weight	Uncontested		
Feather-weight	Cpl. C. Fleckney	"H.Q."	Company
Light-weight	Pte. T. Walker	"B"	"
Welter-weight	Pte. E. Craze	"A"	"
Middle-weight	Pte. A. Rutty	"C"	"
Light-Heavy-weight	L/Cpl. C. Pascoe	"C"	"
Heavy-weight	Pte. G. Harrison	"S"	"

Ten entries were put forward for the London District Individual Amateur Boxing Championships, which were held at the beginning of February. In this competition our boxers were very successful. Pte. Woodman won the final of the bantam-weight series; Pte. White and Pte. Saunders met each other in the final of the feather-weight series, which Pte. White won.

Ptes. Penny, Noble and Farey all reached the semi-finals of their respective weights. The semi-finals and finals of this competition were held at Seymour Hall, London, W.1.

On February 7 the Battalion boxing team commenced training for their first contest in the Army Inter-Unit Team Boxing Championships and shortly afterwards proceeded to Pirbright to carry on training at the London P.T. School.

Those selected to train were: Pte. Woodman ("C" Company), Pte. White ("S"), Pte. Saunders ("H.Q."), Pte. Noble ("B"), Pte. Griffiths ("A"), Pte. Penny ("S"), Pte. Craze ("H.Q."), Pte. Hill ("H.Q."), L/Cpl. Avery ("D"), Pte. Rutty ("C"), Pte. Cartwright ("H.Q."), Pte. Farey ("S"), Pte. Parsons ("A"), Pte. Harrison ("C"), Pte. Walker ("B") and Pte. Argent ("A").

In the draw for the London District Section of the Army Boxing Championships the Battalion were selected to meet the 1st Battalion Welsh Guards on February 28 at Chelsea Barracks. The Battalion team boxed well and points at the conclusion of the match were equal, 16—16. The match was accordingly judged on the results of individual bouts, which were Welsh Guards 6 bouts and ourselves 5 bouts. The 1st Battalion Welsh Guards are therefore to be congratulated on winning the London District section of the Army Boxing and also the semi-final of Group "B" (Eastern Command) series.

The Battalion boxing team are to be congratulated on a very close contest, boxed hard, cleanly and in an excellent spirit.

Ptes. Woodman and White were selected to box in the Army Individual Open Boxing Championships held at Aldershot on March 29-31.

Summing up, it is fair to say that during the season the Battalion boxing activities have developed tremendously and that the nucleus of a good boxing element for next season has been formed.

## RUGGER

On January 22 we went away to Croydon and played the A. & T. R.F.C., whom we beat by 11—8. Our points were acquired by Pte. Holding, Cpl. Shone (tries) and a drop goal by Pte. Knight. One try was converted by Lt. B. K. Clayden. The game was a fairly fast one and there was a tremendous effort by our opponents to cross our line in the closing minutes of the game. However, the forwards rallied round and held them off in a fierce struggle which took place along a line five yards from our touch-down.

On February 23 we played the 1st Battalion K.S.L.I. at Regents Park, but unfortunately lost 6—3 after a really hard-fought game. Lt. Devine, C.S.M. Jennings and Lt. Clayden played well in what essentially was a game fought out in the loose scrum. Our three-quarters, unfortunately, failed to get going and spoil chances by running across the field.

We enjoyed the hospitality of "E" Division, Metropolitan Police on February 26 at Hendon. This was an extremely good hard-fought game and, in spite of the fact that the Battalion lost 3—11, it was by no means a walk-over. The score at half-time was love-all, with the Battalion fighting back well against a very big, heavy and experienced side. C.S.M. Fuller, who was called in to play at the last minute, did yeoman work with C.S.M. Jennings in the second row, but an absence of twelve months from the game had left him somewhat unfit. Pte. Harding scored our only try, which he did well from a short punt ahead. Lt. Devine once again excelled in the loose scrums. However, there were several of our regular players absent from the field, including Lt. B. K. Clayden, Lt. Evans, Lt. Livemore and Pte. Arnold, all of whom are forwards. Unfortunately, they were all committed elsewhere on various Battalion duties. With them the result might well have been a different one.

On April 23 the Battalion played in the Middlesex County R.F. Union seven-a-side competition. We came up against the R.A.F., Danesfield (who went to the semi-finals), and were beaten 16—0. Second-Lieutenant Bucknall played extremely well and was unfortunate not to score for us in the first half. We missed very much Capt. N. Clayden and Lt. Devine from the team; they were both injured in training games the previous week.

The Battalion team in this match was composed of 2/Lt. H. J. Evans ("A" Company), C.S.M. Jennings ("C"), 2/Lt. J. C. Bucknall ("C"), Pte. J. Chubb ("A"), Pte. R. Knight ("C"), Cpl. J. Bennett ("A") and Lt. B. K. Clayden ("H.Q."), captain.

## HOCKEY

In spite of public duties, we have managed to have an enjoyable hockey season. Our record to date is 5 games won, 1 drawn and 7 lost. At first sight this does not appear to be very good, but we have no cause for complaint and we must not indulge in any hard luck stories. The fact is that we have had a series of close, well-fought games and have usually been able to give a good account of ourselves.



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

## BATTALION HOCKEY TEAM

Top row (left to right)—C.S.M. Tarrant, "A" Company, Pte. Jenkins, "H.Q." Company, Lt. P. J. Livemore, M.C., "H.Q." Company

Second row (left to right) Standing—Capt. J. N. Shipster, D.S.O., "B" Company, Dmr. Leat, "H.Q." Company, O.R.Q.M.S. Waldron, "H.Q." Company, Cpl. Brown, "H.Q." Company, Lt. K. J. Carter, "H.Q." Company, O.R.Q.M.S. G. Wright, "H.Q." Company

Front row (left to right)—Major G. Lerwill, M.C., "H.Q." Company, Lt. P. G. V. Bellers, "S" Company, Capt. R. J. P. Cummins, "H.Q." Company

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26, v. A.A. GROUP AT WOOLWICH.

WON 3—2.

The Battalion led after about ten minutes in this hard game by a goal from Lt. Livemore, who got a direct pass in the circle as a result of a free hit by O.R. Q.M.S. Waldron.

No. 1 A.A. Group scored twice in the second half with good goals by their centre-forward. Our remaining goals from Lt. Livemore and Cpl. Brown also came in the second half during some fierce battering of the A.A. goal-mouth. However, the only person injured was L.Cpl. Simpson, a spectator, when he got bruised by a hit before the game began.

Middlesex: Pte. Jenkins; Major G. Lerwill, M.C., Dmr. Leat; Capt. R. J. P. Cummins, O.R. Q.M.S. Waldron, O.R. Q.M.S. Wright, M.B.E.; Pte. Edwards, L.Cpl. Buckland, Lt. Livemore, Cpl. Brown and C.S.M. McMillan.

No. 1 A.A. Group: Capt. Wharry; Bdr. Kennedy, Lt. Mills; 2/Lt. Tucker, Capt. Leyden, Major Pontarch Jones; Capt. Gardall, Capt. Stiff, Capt. Kinton, Major Brady and Major Beach.

Umpire: C.Q.M.S. Thom (Middlesex).

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, v. EASTERN COMMAND AT HOUNSLOW. LOST 2—3.

A very close, strenuous game in which we tried to avenge our defeat by "H.Q." Eastern Command in the Army Cup and were very nearly successful.

Lt. Livemore scored our first goal from a corner, and C.S.M. Tarrant scored the other by a brilliantly quick follow-up after another corner shot by Lt. Livemore. Our forward line combined fairly well and looked dangerous and we stormed the Eastern Command circle many times.

C.S.M. Tarrant played an excellent game and was quite untiring in both attack and defence. Both wings had several good runs and got the whole forward line into action quite well, although centering was at times rather weak. Lt. Livemore seemed well at home at centre-forward and played a good game. He has a good fast, scoring shot in the circle.

We were playing against an experienced team with an especially good forward line and an outstanding centre-half. Our halves and backs did well to prevent them scoring more often and Lt. Norton in goal (conscripted at the last moment before the team left Chelsea Barracks) did wonders in charging out his opponents, usually with a war cry on his lips.

Once he gets his eye in he should make a reasonable goalie, but he needs to curb his rushing out of goal unless he has a proper understanding with his backs. Both backs played excellently and the half line, missing O.R. Q.M.S. Wright (sick) had a tough time keeping the opposing forwards in check.

Eastern Command scored their winning goal a few minutes before time and we just could not catch them up again.

Middlesex: 2/Lt. Norton; Major Lerwill, M.C., Dmr. Leat; Capt. R. J. P. Cummins, O.R. Q.M.S. Waldron, L/Cpl. Winsborough; Lt. P. G. V. Bellers, C.S.M. Tarrant, Lt. P. J. Livemore, Cpl. Brown and Lt. B. K. Clayden.

MARCH, v. 1 A.A. GROUP AT ACTON.

LOST 1—3.

Although we started well we soon found that we were up against a team of good individual players who, when they combined, were extremely difficult to stop.

C.Q.M.S. Ure, making his first appearance for the team played a sound game and scored our first goal in the first quarter of an hour. We continued to press a lot during the first half and had a few near misses in the goal-mouth. Lt. Carter played hard but obviously did not like the unaccustomed position for him at centre-forward.

The opposing centre-forward was very difficult to hold and when left for a fraction of a second in the circle was most dangerous. He scored twice with first-class shots, giving Lt. Norton in goal no chance at all.

The weather deteriorated into sleet and a snow-storm towards the end of the game, when the A.A. pressed again and again and succeeded in foiling our backs, who did not combine quite so well as they usually do.

We missed Lt. Livemore and Lt. Clayden in the forward line but, as it was, our forwards combined fairly well and carried the attack up to the circle, but usually just failed to press it finally home.



WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9, v. R.A.F. AT HENDON.  
WON 2—1.

This was an enjoyable game on a rather bumpy ground on the airfield against our old rivals. Our forwards showed a lot of life and combined well, but it was not an easy pitch to dribble over and so long passes were found to be more effective.

Our scorers were Lt. Livemore and Lt. Carter, who both played well. Drm. Leat in the unaccustomed position of left wing did well and was quite fast. His usual position is back, but perhaps he would make a better half or forward.

Capt. Shipster, in spite of shrapnel in his leg, which should ban him from playing at all, was very lively and energetic and played a good positional game at back.

Pte. Jenkins in goal appears to be quite a find, and played a very steady game and was very confident. O.R./Q.M.S. Wright seemed determined to score on this his last game with us—he was often to be found amongst the forwards. However, although he did not score, he played a fine game and we shall be sorry to lose him from the team.

Middlesex: Pte. Jenkins; Capt. J. W. Shipster, D.S.O., Major G. Lerwill, M.C.; Capt. R. J. P. Cummins, O.R./Q.M.S. Waldron, O.R./Q.M.S. Wright; Lt. P. G. V. Bellers, Lt. Carter, Lt. Livemore, Cpl. Brown and Drm. Leat.

MARCH 17, v. KING'S TROOP, R.H.A., AT REGENTS PARK.  
DRAWN 1—1.

This was not a very good ground on which to play, resulting in a close game which was rather scrappy at times. C.S.M. McMillan scored our goal. The forwards worked quite well together, except in the circle. L/Cpl. Lloyd played well in his first game for the team.

Middlesex: Pte. Jenkins; Drm. Leat, Major G. Lerwill, M.C.; Capt. R. J. P. Cummins, O.R./Q.M.S. Waldron, C.Q.M.S. Ure; L/Cpl. Lloyd, C.S.M. McMillan, Lt. P. J. Livemore, Lt. Carter and Cpl. Brown.

SATURDAY, MARCH 19, v. ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL.  
LOST 2—3.

For this game we did not have a full team, but nevertheless we put up a good performance and had an enjoyable game.

#### Inter-Company Hockey League

Final placings in this competition were: 1st, "H.Q." Company; 2nd, "D" Company; 3rd, "H.Q." Company II; 4th, "B" Company; 5th, "A" Company; 6th, "C" Company. "S" Company did not compete as they were formed after the start of the competition.

The final game, "H.Q." Company v. "D" Company was played at Acton on Tuesday, March 16, and resulted in a win for "H.Q." by 8—0. "H.Q." having a large number of Battalion players, were too good for "D." Pte. Shields in "D" goal was outstandingly good and saved many goals. Scorers for "H.Q." were Lt. Livemore (5), Lt. Carter (1) and Sgt. McGowan (2).

"H.Q." Company: Pte. Jenkins; Drm. Leat, Major

G. Lerwill, M.C.; Cpl. Buckland, O.R./Q.M.S. Waldron, C.Q.M.S. Ure; Lt. B. K. Clayden, Lt. Carter, Lt. Livemore, Sgt. McGowan and Pte. Edwards 89.

"D" Company: Pte. Shields; L/Cpl. Merritt, L/Cpl. Simpson; Capt. Young, C.Q.M.S. Thom, Cpl. Scott; Cpl. Salmon, Cpl. Weller, Sgt. Jones and C.S.M. Lomax.

Umpires: 2/Lt. Bucknall and L/Cpl. Aymes.

#### Other Games

"H.Q." Company are the best off as far as hockey talent is concerned and they have managed to get some platoon games going. The Corps of Drums have a good side and so have the M.T. In a match between the two teams on March 23 the Drums beat the M.T. 2—0 after a very good game. Our Band also have some good players and in March beat the Band of the 1st Battalion K.S.L.I. 5—1.

#### Prospects for Next Season

We hope to have the bulk of our present team with us next season, but naturally we are looking round for young talent. We are sorry to see Capt. R. J. P. Cummins proceed on release as he has been a stalwart of the hockey team, both in the U.K. and B.A.O.R., for many years. We shall also miss O.R./Q.M.S. Wright of the Depot, who has often helped us out lately and has been a regular member of the Battalion team.

#### SOCCER

The season 1948-49 has proved to be a difficult one for the Battalion. The first half of the season until Christmas was quite successful, the Battalion losing only two matches. We were until that time the only team to take points from the Field Wing, R.A., the strongest side in the London District League and this season's Cup winners.

The second half of the season, however, proved more difficult. Owing to continual dispersion and moves of Companies in connection with training, the team became somewhat disrupted. Consequently the team was changed from week to week and, despite the enthusiasm of the players our loss in points was considerable.

On the few occasions when the regimental team was intact the games took on the aspect of the first half of the season.

In the last results published by the London District Sports Committee the Battalion was placed fifth, a drop in two places since last Christmas.

The regular team this season has been: Cpl. H. Gould ("S" Company); Cpl. K. Pascoe ("C"), L/Cpl. D. Larkin ("S"); C/Sgt. Shrubbs ("B"), L/Cpl. A. Hilkene, L/Cpl. J. Marable (Depot); L/Cpl. Hinshelwood ("H.Q."), Pte. Manser ("A"), Pte. Wallis ("C"), Pte. Harvey ("A") and Pte. Hartshorne ("A").

Other players who have frequently represented the Battalion are Sgt. Jones ("D" Company), L/Cpl. Bryant ("A"), Bds. Stapleton ("H.Q."), Bds. Forsythe ("H.Q."), Drm. Leat ("H.Q."), Pres. Richards ("A"), Heritage ("B"), Lingwood ("A") and Paget ("B").

Our goal scorers this year have been Pte. Wallis 19, Pte. Harvey 17, L/Cpl. Hinshelwood 7, L/Cpl. Marable 6, Pte. Manser 3, Pte. Hartshorne 3, Pte. Heritage 3, C/Sgt. Shrubbs 1.

L/Cpl. Hinshelwood has represented the Army in numerous games and Pte. Wallis has played for London District.

We are sorry to lose L/Cpl. Bryant, Ptes. Hartshorne and Manser, now demobbed, and Pte. Harvey at present on a pre-release course. We wish them the best of luck for the future and good footballing wherever they may be.

#### Season's results:

Games Played	W.	D.	L.	Goals F.	Goals A.
21	10	2	9	59	72

#### Company Soccer

Company soccer has also suffered during the season for the same reason and also due to the fact that our grounds at Mill Hill have had to be placed out of bounds for considerable periods at a time, owing to their very muddy condition. This prevented the normal running of the Inter-Company League games and Companies have consequently been able to play only occasional friendly matches.

It is to be hoped that next season will see more settled conditions and that the Inter-Company Shield can once again be introduced.

#### CROSS-COUNTRY

As a result of the Battalion cross-country trial, 15 of the best runners, together with "D" Company, proceeded to Pirbright for intensive training. The reason for this move was to train for the London District Cross-Country Championships which took place on Friday, February 18.

The officer in charge of the team was 2/Lt. Thomas and, with the help of Cpl. Salmon and Cpl. Riley, a training programme was drawn up. The team then settled down to strenuous training. All 15 members worked and trained extremely hard and all due credit must be given to each man's effort.

As a result of form and several trial runs 10 men were picked to represent the Battalion in the London District Championships.

A few hours previous to the run Lt.-Col. M. Crawford, Major G. Lerwill and Major I. H. Battye and representatives of the Battalion arrived to watch the race, and this built up the morale of the team immensely.

The course was over rough country and six miles in length. After an extremely hard and close fight the Scots Guards won by a narrow margin, the Battalion coming second and the Guards Depot, Caterham, third.

Pte. Paget and Cpl. Salmon ran extremely well and were placed second and third respectively and, as a result of this, Pte. Paget and Cpl. Salmon were selected to compete as individuals in the Army Cross-Country Championships held in March.

#### SWIMMING

As a result of a War Office Swimming Gala held at St. George's Baths, London, on March 15, the Battalion gained the following results: (a) 2/Lt. Thomas first in the pole fight; (b) Cpl. Baker and L/Cpl. Rickeard second and third in the Individual Medley; and (c) the Medley team third in the finals.

The team was under the management of 2/Lt. Thomas. The outstanding swimmer of the team was Cpl. Baker ("S" Company), who competed in all events, team and individual.



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

BATTALION CROSS-COUNTRY RUNNING  
TEAM — PIRBRIGHT — FEBRUARY, 1949

Top row (left to right) standing—Pte. Wells, "D" Company, L/Cpl. Card, "A" Company, L/Cpl. Isaacs, "B" Company, Pte. Paget, "B" Company, Cpl. Salmon, "D" Company

Front row (left to right) sitting—Pte. Williams, "B" Company, Pte. O'Donovan, "B" Company, Pte. Nash, "H.Q." Company, 2/Lt. E. B. Thomas, "A" Company, Cpl. Perkins, "B" Company, L/Cpl. Avery, "D" Company, Pte. Saxbee, "H.Q." Company



Weird and wonderful tricks



## DEPOT NOTES

Work has now commenced on building six pairs of officers' quarters in the barracks. Two are on the road to the Guard Room and four are to be on the south side of the road to the Officers' Mess. Seven of the 16 new other ranks' married quarters have now been occupied.

On February 23 five of our newly-joined officers visited the Depot. They went over the Museum, saw the Mess silver, and were given a lecture on regimental history by Capt. Smith. The visit started with an interview with the Colonel of the Regiment, and it is hoped that similar visits will be made in future.

On February 26 a course was run for some 20 senior cadet officers. Great interest was shown by all the students and all declared the course was most valuable to them. They stayed a night in the Mess, and instruction included drill, officers' duties, man management, methods of instruction and administration. O.C. Depot visited the 3rd Cadet Battalion on March 10 after the presentation by the Colonel of the Regiment, and was much impressed by the keenness of all members. On March 18 the Depot carried out a Certificate "A" examination for 60 boys of Mill Hill School; the standard was high and all passed successfully.

The Depot was very pleased to welcome many Old Comrades to the church parade on March 13 and to see them march past the Colonel of the Regiment.

The Depot Officers' Mess has seldom looked better; brilliantly decorated with regimental silver and flowers of all kinds, for the 1st Battalion cocktail party on March 18. A selection of silver had been displayed at Hendon at the Gaumont Theatre reception for the Lord-Lieutenant of Middlesex ten days before. It was under the care and vigilant eye of Major Heywood, whose pains to make a really good show were much appreciated.

During April the Middlesex County Cadet Units have been holding week-end summer camps in the Barracks. These have been well attended and so far Tottenham Grammar School, 461 A.A. (C.) Regiment, R.A., and the 1st Cadet Battalion have been.

As we go to press we hear that the 1st Battalion is to return to these barracks shortly. We hope that their stay will be longer than at present appears likely.

## Squash Notes

On March 29 the officers challenged the masters of Mill Hill School to a squash match on the school courts.

Though the results were a victory for the school by four matches to two, some very close games were played, and both sides had to call upon their utmost efforts and skill.

Major Lerwill had forgotten little of his cunning at the game, last displayed at championship level in India. Major Heywood showed his usual skill and terrific energy in a match fought to the end against Phillips. (Rumour has it that the walls are to be specially strengthened for him in future to withstand the bumps they receive.) Major Bellers and Lt. Carter took too long to counter the cunning services and drop shots of their opponents and failed to win a game in their matches. Capt. Shipster took his match to the full five games

against Wiglam and went down with the flag flying, and Major Chattey scored our second win in a very skilful and hard-fought game against Turnbull. We hope to arrange a return match and avenge our defeat. The results were:

Major Lerwill	.. 3	Mr. Duncan	.. 1
Major Bellers	.. 0	Mr. Mead-King	.. 3
Major Heywood	.. 2	Mr. Phillips	.. 3
Lt. Carter	.. 0	Mr. Stanham	.. 3
Major Chattey	.. 3	Mr. Turnbull	.. 1
Capt. Shipster	.. 2	Mr. Wiglam	.. 3

For many years Mill Hill School have kindly allowed us to use their courts, and the Depot is fortunate to be able to avail themselves of the privilege. We value very much our connection with the school and its cadets and hope that other sporting fixtures will be arranged with them.

## THE ZULU WAR, 1879

BY MAJOR R. C. H. BELLERS

I have recently come across some letters written during the Zulu War by my father, then a subaltern in the 57th Regiment, to his father, Col. R. B. Bellers of the 50th Regiment. They throw some interesting sidelights on active service with the Regiment in this little-known war.

The 57th were amongst the first reinforcements to arrive after the disaster of Isandlwana on January 24, 1879, and landed at Durban on March 11.

They immediately marched north to relieve a detachment of the Buffs at Etshowe who had been cut off by the Zulus, and formed part of the force under Lord Chelmsford which was concentrated at Fort Pearson on the Tugela River.

They started from there at the end of March in the pouring rain. On April 1 they experienced their only engagement with the Zulus at Ginginhlovo, entering Etshowe the following day. They then returned to Ginginhlovo and "laagered" until April 25, being without tents and in considerable discomfort. With them were the 60th, 91st, 3rd and 99th with naval detachments armed with Gatling guns.

"Camp Ginginhlovo,

"My dearest father, "April 19, 1879.  
"It is three weeks now since I wrote from the Lower Tugela. I have been too uncomfortable to settle down to write. Here we are stuck about 16 miles from the river and I have nothing but what I brought when we started from Etshowe. Two convoys have come up but my things have been left behind both times!... We began our march into Zululand on March 29... our last night on the Tugela was very uncomfortable as we had scarcely struck tents and stowed them all away when it came down to pour and went on all night... "Our marching was very slow owing to the length of convoy and the roads. Every little stream delayed us about an hour.

"We started every morning about 6.30 and toiled slowly along, frequently going out of our way to avoid a bit of bush. It was quite unnecessary, I think, because the country is on the whole so completely open that the

cavalry should have seen there was no danger; not a single Zulu did we see the whole way. It was very tiring work, as we got in to laager between four and five, and then had to get rations, wood and water and dig a trench around the laager. The white troops always bivouaced between the trench and the wagons, and the blacks were inside with the cattle and horses. We then had to be told off to alarm posts and get something to eat, by which time it was time for sleep. Besides one company on outpost at night a whole company had to be standing to its arms all night—that was taken by turns for an hour, and one's night's rest was invariably broken up at 4 a.m., when every man was under arms and stood-to till daylight, then dress and march again.

"On the morning of the 1st we were lying on the brow of a hill from 7 a.m. till 3 p.m. to cover the crossing of a river, then marched two miles and laagered again. We had a beastly wet night, a tremendous thunderstorm going on and we were nearly washed away... At about 5.30 a.m. the regiment formed up in column outside their entrenchments, so as to get out of the mud, which was about a foot deep inside. The cooks were just bringing up some hot coffee, which we all needed badly, having been wet all night, when the native scouts came running in saying the Zulus were coming. We had time to march quietly into our place in the trench again when the firing began on the other side of the laager. There can be no doubt that our scouts could not have done their work properly or we should have known they were coming long before; as it was the Zulus were nearly in the middle of some of the cooking parties before the alarm was given. They should have been seen at least three miles away as they advanced on a side which was quite open and sloped gently up to the laager. The principle attack was not made on our side, and here they made a mistake as we could not see them until they were 70 yds. away.

"About ten minutes after we were formed they came swarming up on our side, skirmishing up the hill splendidly, but we had a tremendous blaze at them and they retired over the brow of the hill for a few minutes and then tried again. A few only succeeded in getting behind some bits of bush some 50 yds. off, and their fire was very weak and wild, nearly every bullet going over our heads; as far as I was concerned I did not feel at all that there was any danger; my chief feeling was pity for the poor brutes who came on so splendidly. We could not feel nervous when so few were hit; only three men and one officer were wounded. One of the men was in my company, badly hit in the shoulder and will not recover I am afraid. Our Colonel made a great mistake in having the men form deep in the trenches so that the rear ranks made the front ones rather unsteady by firing too close to them. But on the whole the 57th were fairly cool, very much so, I believe, in comparison to the other regiments; the General says he specially mentioned us for steadiness in his despatch.

"The whole thing only lasted an hour and directly the Zulus showed signs of retiring our natives were sent out from the inside of the laager. They were pukka brutes and just as bad as any Zulus; it was perfectly

disgusting to see them all surrounding a miserable, wounded Zulu and having a dig at him.

"Our mounted infantry, who went with them, say all they did if ever a Zulu turned on them would be to stop and about 15 all fire at him, but would not venture to go on till he was dead or ran away again. There were a tremendous lot of them killed; they say now 1,200; I did not believe there were so many at first, but the poor brutes are scattered all over the country for miles, and we found lots in marching back from Etshowe three days later. There were over 400 buried just outside the laager, between 70 and 80 yds. on our face. They were certainly splendid men; some of them got within 30 yds. of the trenches right in front of a Gatling gun. I don't believe any European troops could equal the way they skirmished up the hill.

"They are not half so well armed as I thought; there were very few breech-loaders among them, and many I'm sure had nothing but assegais.

"This is a long rigmarole about a little skirmish which you will have seen lots about in the papers...."

Further extracts from letters will follow in later journals.

## SHORNCLIFFE NOTES

Since the last issue of THE DIE-HARDS journal the gallant band of Middlesex Other Ranks, here at Shorncliffe, have lost all their officers. Major D. C. L. Nold to Singapore to take up his appointment as D.A.A.G., F.A.R.E.L.F., last month.

Major H. Marsh has also left us to join the 1st Battalion at Chelsea Barracks.

We shall miss both Mrs. Nolda and Mrs. Marsh on the wives' committee, which is still going strong, but with many new faces.

Sgt. A. Burrell and Sgt. W. Finnis keep a firm but fatherly hand on the National Service men of "C" Company, and Sgt. Stacey helps to keep the organisation of "2" Company hanging together. Sgt. Whitfield will not let any of us have our passes before 1630 hrs. on a Friday and his beret, much ironed, is admired by all.

In spite of the difficult life of a Regimental Police N.C.O., Cpl. A. DeVeue manages to keep his boots up to the gleaming Die-Hards standard. "Spike," Cpl. J. Moran, still upholds the Regiment in the boxing ring. We hope his injury is soon righted and that he will fight again in the near future.

We congratulate Sgt. and Mrs. Crittenden on the birth of Clive Leslie, at Shorncliffe. No doubt the Government has already booked him for the 1969 intake. Or will he be a Middlesex Regular?

The hockey team has never recovered since C. Sgt. Ure left us for the 1st Battalion. For his information, his golf sticks, still at Shorncliffe, are getting rusty for lack of use; also the trombone he left behind him.

Pte. Whittall, the absentminded absentee clerk, still has words with Pte. Stebbings, postings clerk in the local Battalion Orderly Room, where they are upholding the Middlesex name as two very smart young soldiers.

We all hope that we get some officer or officers of the Regiment soon, to lead us on our way, and we all join in wishing all Die-Hards everywhere the best of luck.



### THE ARMY BENEVOLENT FUND

Although the Army Benevolent Fund is now approaching the fifth anniversary of its creation, there is still a large number of people interested in the Army who are ignorant of the Fund's existence or unaware of its objects.

During the last war large sums of money accrued from the surplus N.A.A.F.I. profits and from the gifts of people anxious to express their appreciation of, and gratitude to, the Army for their splendid achievements in the various theatres of the war.

In order that this money should be equitably distributed the Army Council created the Fund in the summer of 1944, with Field Marshal The Earl of Cavan as its first President, and a Board of distinguished officers and civilians.

Unlike the Royal Naval Benevolent Trust and the R.A.F. Benevolent Fund, the Army Fund does not deal directly with the needs of the individual. With a network of corps and regimental associations scattered all over the British Isles, in addition to the Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Families Association and the Forces Help Society, there already existed the necessary machinery for investigating the needs of individuals and of giving the immediate and adequate assistance which each case deserved. The charitable funds of corps and regimental associations, which in pre-war days found it hard to meet the needs of the comparatively small regular and Territorial Army, were, in most cases, quite unable to deal with those of an Army which, at the height of the war, numbered four to five million men and women.

The task which the Army Benevolent Fund set itself, therefore, was to ensure that these funds were given adequate financial help in order that as many cases of hardship as possible should be relieved. The amount of money now being distributed by the Army Benevolent Fund should enable assistance to be given to individuals on a scale which should make it possible for them to make a fresh start. Very many regiments, if they had to rely entirely on their own resources, could only give such small amounts to individuals as would have no permanent effect on their future.

Nearly one and a half million pounds have already been given by the Army Benevolent Fund to the many charitable organisations which alleviate distress among soldiers and their dependants. It has been decided that priority in making grants shall be given to corps and regimental benevolent funds, and in consequence it is becoming necessary to reduce the amounts to be given to combined service associations. It is, unfortunately, clear that demands to alleviate individual distress are steadily increasing and, in spite of help from the Fund, corps and regimental funds may find it difficult to meet all the demands made upon them. It is hoped, therefore, that regimental funds may be partly replenished from local resources, from members and ex-members of the Regiment, or from friends who have a special interest in contributing to the needs of the less fortunate.

Help is also being given to the many organisations concerned in the training of the disabled and the care of the aged and of orphaned children. Furthermore, by making grants to appropriate organisations, the

Army Benevolent Fund is contributing towards the education and technical training of those young people who have either served in the Army or whose parents have done so. Many of these young people, who can ill afford to pay the fees at universities and training colleges, are being helped with money provided by the Army Benevolent Fund to qualify for professional and business careers, and many children orphaned by the war are thus able to obtain the education which their fathers would have provided for them.

The object of this article is to give a short account to all soldiers, ex-soldiers and their friends in order that they should have a greater knowledge of the work being done by the Army Benevolent Fund.

### ROYAL CHELSEA HOSPITAL

No. 7236 ex-Sgt. D. Palin was admitted into the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, as an in-pensioner on November 30, 1948, and 6890 Pte. S. D. Cass on January 4, 1949. Pte. Cass served in the Regiment from 1899 to 1917 and was awarded the Queen's South Africa Medal, the 1914 Star, the 1914-18 War Medal and the 1914-18 Victory Medal.



### RECORD OF SERVICE OF EACH OF THE IN-PENSIONERS IN CHELSEA HOSPITAL

Sgt. (ex-L/Cpl.) L. E. Hurst (right of group)—South Africa, 1901, two years' service; Discharged May 29, 1902, as medically unfit; Admitted to Royal Hospital, June 5, 1942, then aged sixty-three. I/P. A. J. C. Truster (second from left)—South Africa & Queen's and King's Medals; Served 16 years 180 days; To out-pension June 28, 1934; Admitted to the Royal Hospital, August 19, 1947, then aged seventy-nine. I/P. E. Boulton—South Africa and Queen's Medal; Great War and Victory Medals; Served 15½ years, partly in Rifle Brigade and Royal Fusiliers; Admitted to Royal Hospital, April 13, 1948, then aged seventy-two years. I/P. (ex-Sgt.) D. Palin (left of group)—South Africa and Queen's Medal; 1915 Star, Great War and Victory Medals; 20 years and 11 months' service; To out-pension, November 5, 1908; Admitted to Royal Hospital, November 30, 1948, then aged seventy-seven. I/P. S. D. Cass—South Africa and Queen's Medal; 1914 Star, Great War and Victory Medals; 18½ years' service, partly with Labour Corps; To out-pension, March 18, 1920; Admitted to Royal Hospital, January 4, 1949, then aged seventy-one.

### OBITUARIES

It is with deep regret that we have to record the following deaths:

Major D. C. Owen, D.S.O., died April 5, 1949. Major F. A. L. Lawrence attended the funeral and a wreath was sent from the Officers' Club.

Ex-Pte. Edward John Bent, killed accidentally by an electric train at Finchley on April 17, 1949. The funeral was attended by Capt. R. W. J. Smith and representatives of the Depot laid a wreath on his grave.

Ex-C/Sgt. Coleman, D.C.M., died on May 2, 1949. Representatives from the Depot attended his funeral and placed a wreath on his grave.

Ex-Sgt. D. Milton died on May 21 and was cremated at Golders Green Crematorium on May 25, 1949. Representatives from the Depot attended the service and a wreath was laid in the Garden of Remembrance.

Our sympathies are extended to the relatives of the above in their sad bereavement.

### 77th REGIMENT

In 1879, when the 77th Regiment of Foot (the East Middlesex) Duke of Cambridge's Own was stationed in Dublin the officers entertained the leading officials and gentry at a military ball.

In those days so much attention was paid to the social life of the Regiment that the principle Dublin newspaper published a leading article describing the ball. An extract from the article is published below:

"Last evening Col. Kent and the officers of the 77th (Duke of Cambridge's Own) Regiment gave a Ball at Richmond Barracks. The gallant Corps, during their brief sojourn in the Irish capital, have well maintained the prestige of the old 77th, and the splendid entertainment which they have just added to the list of their numerous hospitalities will be recorded as one of the most pleasing and brilliant in the annals of the Regiment. The Ball took place in the exercise and reading rooms, within the barracks square at Richmond. The great room in which the men exercise had been placed under skilful hands and anything more unlike its former self could scarcely be imagined than the appearance it presented last evening. Chief among the decorations of the magnificent apartment was the regimental trophy. Beneath the magnificent colours recently presented to the Regiment by His Royal Highness The Duke of Cambridge were piled the brass drums which the 77th captured at Alma, with trophies of other fields whose names shine out in letters of gold, alike on the banners of the Corps and in the history of British arms. The floral devices on the walls and around the mirrors were of the most rare and beautiful kind. The spaces between the handsome lace curtains which hung around the hall were occupied by battle scenes, in some of which the 77th stood well to the front. The Band of the Regiment was stationed in a corridor communicating with both ballroom and supper room, so that the fine music could be heard equally in either. The spacious reading room was converted into a supper and retiring room and was elegantly appointed for this purpose. The apartment was carpeted, the floor being strewn with rare skins and rugs, while lounges, ottomans, etc., of

the most elegant description were provided. The walls were decorated with very handsome flowers and evergreens, and between the wreaths and floral decorations were hung what may be termed the fine art collection of the Regiment—portraits of the illustrious chiefs who have commanded the Corps in many fields of glory in which the 77th figured prominently. Right over the entrance to the saloon hung the portrait of the brave Picton, who led the Regiment at Waterloo, and fell there. One of the most interesting of the collection is a painting in which Col. Egerton forms the chief figure. It recalls the memory of a gallant officer who commanded at Alma and Inkermann. Poor Egerton was killed at the capture of the Russian rifle pits—a feat of daring proudly recorded by the survivors of the 77th. Holding a high place amongst the portraits of those whose careers have been identified so closely with that of the Regiment hangs the picture of "The Arab," a fine old war steed, until recently known and beloved by every man in the Regiment. The animal travelled with the 77th twice to India, through England and Ireland, had served in Australia and the Cape, and came home at last to die, after a long and faithful service, in which he had borne his rider many times with safety through paths of death and glory. The supper tables were arranged with exquisite taste, the magnificent cups, etc., which the Regiment have won by their skill in rifle shooting forming a most imposing feature in the decorations. Two of the cups which were awarded in the inter-regimental matches of 1874 and 1877 attracted the attention of all-comers. They were magnificent trophies, of which the 77th may justly feel proud. The corridors were neatly and suitably arranged as a promenade. There were also minor retiring rooms."

### ARMY ART SOCIETY

The Society held its seventeenth exhibition, the second since the war, during the month of October last in the Imperial Institute, Kensington, S.W.7. The exhibition was open to the public for three weeks and the attendance was most satisfactory. No check of numbers could be made but more catalogues were sold than ever before. The exhibition was a great success. Four hundred and thirty-six works were shown but over 100 could not be accepted for lack of space. The standard was high—of many of the works very high indeed—especially among the water-colours and sculpture. Sixteen works were sold.

The Society's next exhibition will be held in the Imperial Institute during October this year. Receiving day will be Monday, October 3. The exhibition will be open to the public for three weeks.

All ranks of the Army and Royal Marines, past and present, permanent or temporary, who are not already members of the Society are eligible to submit works for consideration on receiving day. The fees payable are a submission fee of 2s. 6d. on each work submitted and a hanging fee of 5s. on each work shown. Exhibitors will be considered by the Committee for election to membership of the Society.

All ranks of the Royal Navy and Royal Air Force, and of other Armed Forces of the Empire, may also



submit works and may also be considered for election as associates.

The Rules and all further particulars may be obtained on application from the Honorary Secretary, Col. L. N. Malan, O.B.E., 2 Iverna Gardens, London, W.8. March, 1949.

### REGIMENTAL COLOURS

The following is a colourful description, published in *The Times* on May 9, 1876, of the laying of the Colours of the 77th Regiment of Foot in St. Paul's Cathedral, subsequent to the Crimean War.

The Commanding Officer, Col. Kent, later became Gen. Kent, and was the Colonel of the Regiment during the years 1900 to 1921.

Yesterday an interesting ceremony was observed in the City of London, exciting much interest for the time among all who happened to witness it—namely, the march through the City to St. Paul's Cathedral of an escort of 100 men with the Band and Drummers of the 77th (East Middlesex) Regiment, of Crimean renown, under the command of Col. Kent. The escort, which bore the Colours of the Regiment, tattered and torn, had come from Woolwich on their way to the Cathedral, and the Lord Mayor, who had been previously apprised of the ceremony, presented himself, with the members of his family, to welcome them as they passed. It was a noticeable incident that Col. Kent, in command of the Regiment, was mounted on the handsome chestnut horse which bore him all through the Crimean campaign and which is, in consequence, a great favourite in the Regiment. A guard of honour of the City of London Militia, under the command of their Colonel, Alderman Sir William Rose, was in attendance on the occasion. Col. Kent, speaking from his horse, in reply to a complimentary address from the Lord Mayor, said his Lordship had paid them a very great compliment, and one of which any regiment in Her Majesty's service might well be proud. They knew that their countrymen and countrywomen in their generous confidence thought if, unhappily an occasion arose, the Army would emulate the glories of the past and transmit to their descendants, enhanced and not impaired, a glorious inheritance. He (Col. Kent) most emphatically stated, in the name of the noble Regiment he had the honour to command, that their confidence was not misplaced, for the longer the Regiment served the more they prized the protection of life and property, the good order and respect for law which we enjoyed under the beneficent rule of our much-beloved Queen. The Regiment, as the Lord Mayor had justly reminded them, were going to place their old Colours over the monument—graven by no ignoble hand—which recorded how many brave officers and men of the 77th had died for the honour of their Queen and country, all of whom were his (the Colonel's) own dear personal friends and comrades, and the chief of whom was that most accomplished soldier and gentleman to whom his Royal Highness so feelingly alluded the other day—the late Col. Graham Egerton, one of the finest fellows that ever wore a red coat, who fell with his poor boy-captain, the young, the gallant, the lamented Lempriere, at the capture of the Russian rifle pits which were taken by the 77th Regiment, and

with which they were associated in all the records of the memorable siege of Sebastopol. The Regiment were on their way to place them in the grand old Cathedral—dedicated to the greatest of the apostles and hallowed by the dust of Wellington, Nelson, Collingwood and Picton, who was their Colonel when he, foremost fighting, fell at Waterloo. They were going to deposit them there, and they feel that they could not have a more fitting resting-place—none more in conformity with their own feelings—none where they would be better cared for or more secure; for there no foreign foe dared come. At the conclusion of the ceremony the Regiment was marched to St. Paul's Cathedral, the Lord Mayor accompanying it on foot, and there they were so placed as to line a great part of the nave and the whole of the choir; producing an interesting pictorial effect, which was still more enhanced when the Dean, receiving the tattered and torn Colours of the Regiment, one of which in particular had been so riddled with gunshots and wear and tear as to present a miserable thing of shreds and patches, reverently laid them on the altar, and then delivered a suitable address to the Regiment, at the conclusion of which—the choir meanwhile singing an appropriate hymn—the men were marched to the part of the Cathedral where the old Colours were reverently placed over the monument erected to the memory of the officers and men who gallantly fell in the Crimea. Altogether the ceremony was very interesting and at times touching, and probably will be long remembered by all who witnessed it.

### DONATIONS TO THE MEMORIAL FUND

FROM FEBRUARY 1, 1949, TO MAY 31, 1949, INCLUSIVE		£ s. d.	
555	3 10	Borough of Brentford and Chiswick.	
428	2 7	Urban District Council of Staines.	
290	16 2	Urban District Council of Potters Bar.	
20	0 0	Lt.-Col. E. N. Trevor, T.D., sale of stamp collecting cards.	
19	2 0	101st Middlesex Home Guard Social and Welfare Club.	
16	3 3	2nd Middlesex Battalion Home Guard, per Messrs. Johnson, Killick and Parr-Head.	
9	0 6	Mayor of Hounslow, sale of stamp collecting cards.	
9	0 0	Messrs. Brian Sutcliffe & Partners, sale of scrap metal on site.	
8	0 6	Kings Hall Community Association.	
6	0 4	595 L.A.A. Regiment, R.A. (Mx.), T.A., further donation.	
6	0 0	Major R. C. H. Bellers, sale of the effects of the late 2/Lt. P. M. Lyon.	
5	0 0	Enfield and District Horse Society.	
3	5 0	Mr. W. L. Sinclair.	
3	0 0	Maags Pokey Die-Fiends, further donation.	
		101st Middlesex Home Guard, A.A., Battery Social and Welfare Club.	
2	8 4	Major H. J. Dawson, M.C.	
		Mrs. A. Horne in memory of her Father, the late ex-C. Sgt. G. Whelan (10 Canadian dollars).	
2	2 0	Edgar J. Staff, Esq.	
2	0 0	Major R. A. Slee.	
1	12 8	No. 6 Platoon, "A" Company, 2/7th Bn., Middlesex Regiment.	
1	10 0	Major J. G. P. Hunt, sale of stamp collecting cards.	
1	5 0	Hornsey Die-Hards Club, collecting box.	
1	0 0	Major I. D. McLean.	
1	0 0	Uxbridge and District Die-Hards Club, further donation.	
		Mrs. H. W. Samuel, sale of stamp collecting cards.	
		Major C. F. Denton, T.D., sale of stamp collecting cards.	
15	0 0	Capt. E. N. Applebe.	
10	0 0	Lt.-Col. E. N. Trevor, further donation.	
		Mr. D. Clifton.	
7	6 0	Collecting box (Secretary's office).	
5	0 0	Mr. W. Davies.	
		Mr. J. Heston.	
2	6 0	Mr. C. A. W. Baker.	
2	0 0	Mr. A. W. Sharp.	

### PRICES OF COMMISSIONS

The following is an extract from the Army List of 1859, showing the amounts of money paid by those who wished to be commissioned officers in Her Majesty's Army.

When one realises that money in those days was valued at over five times its present-day value, it is staggering to think how much an individual had to pay for the privilege of becoming an officer.

### PRICES OF COMMISSIONS

Rank	Full price of Commissions		Difference in value between the several Commissions in succession		Difference in value between full and half-pay	
	£	s.	£	s.	£	s. d.
Life Guards:						
Lieutenant-Colonel	7,250	0	1,900	0	—	—
Major	5,350	0	1,850	0	—	—
Captain	3,500	0	1,715	0	—	—
Lieutenant	1,785	0	525	0	—	—
Cornet	1,260	0	—	—	—	—
Royal Regiment of Horse Guards:						
Lieutenant-Colonel	7,250	0	1,900	0	—	—
Major	5,350	0	1,850	0	—	—
Captain	3,500	0	1,900	0	—	—
Lieutenant	1,600	0	400	0	—	—
Cornet	1,200	0	—	—	—	—
Dragoon Guards and Dragoons:						
Lieutenant-Colonel	6,175	0	1,600	0	1,533	0 0
Major	4,575	0	1,350	0	1,352	0 0
Captain	3,225	0	2,035	0	1,034	3 4
Lieutenant	1,190	0	350	0	632	13 4
Cornet	840	0	—	—	300	0 0
Foot Guards:						
Lieutenant-Colonel	9,000	0	700	0	—	—
Major, with rank of Colonel	8,300	0	3,500	0	—	—
Captain, with rank of Lieut.-Col.	4,800	0	2,750	0	—	—
Lieutenant, with rank of Captain	2,050	0	850	0	—	—
Ensign, with rank of Lieutenant	1,200	0	—	—	—	—
Regiments of the Line:						
Lieutenant-Colonel	4,500	0	1,300	0	1,314	0 0
Major	3,200	0	1,400	0	949	0 0
Captain	1,800	0	1,100	0	511	0 0
Lieutenant	700	0	250	0	365	0 0
Ensign	450	0	—	—	150	0 0
Fusilier and Rifle Regiments:						
1st Lieutenant	700	0	200	0	365	0 0
2nd Lieutenant	500	0	—	—	200	0 0

### THE VICTORY (EX-SERVICES) CLUB

President—Field-Marshal The Lord Chetwode, G.C.B. O.M., G.C.S.I., K.C.M.G., D.S.O.

Hon. Treasurer—James A. Malcolm, Esq., O.B.E.

Chairman—The Marquess of Carisbrooke, G.C.B., G.C.V.O.

Secretary—Lt.-Col. A. P. Watkins, M.C.

Telephone—Paddington 4474

Telegram—Victoclub, Padd.

Please address all correspondence to:

The Secretary,

73-79 Seymour Street,  
Marble Arch,  
London, W.2

DEAR SIR OR MADAM,

I have pleasure in informing you that the Club is now open at its new premises, as above.

SITUATION. The new Club is within two minutes'

walk of Marble Arch Tube Station; from there, second turning on left up Edgware Road.

It is a *Membership Club* and Ex-Servicemen and Ex-Servicewomen are eligible to join (irrespective of rank). Membership year is from April 1 to March 31. Membership fee 10s. per year. (5s. January 1 to March 31.) Life Membership £5.

AMENITIES. The following amenities are provided by the Victory (Ex-Services) Association and Club:

Welfare Bureau. Advice free on all problems, including employment.

Bedroom Accommodation. 200 single beds for ex-Servicemen or for ex-Servicewomen. (Rooms may be booked for up to ten days only, i.e. not for permanent residence.) Charges: 5s. to 9s. per night (breakfast is not included). There are no double rooms for married couples; these cannot be provided until a new wing has been built.

Club Lounge.

Library.

Ballroom Lounge.

Dining Rooms. Seating for 300. All meals are charged for separately from bedroom charges. Breakfast a la carte, Lunch 2s. 3d. Dinner 2s. 6d.

Tea Lounge. Self-service Buffet for Snacks, Teas, etc.; also Bar.

Smoking Room.

Ladies' Lounge.

Ladies' Drawing Room (residents only).

Bar and Bar Lounge.

Billiards Room, with three full-sized tables.

Darts and other games.

The building is centrally heated, with hot and cold water in bedrooms.

Accommodation available and can be booked for Meetings, Reunions, Dinners, etc., for Old Comrades and other Service organisations. We supply catering services.

Notice to Potential Members. If you have no friends who are members to propose and second your application for membership, please fill up the application form leaving the proposer and second lines blank. Send (or bring) the application form, together with your Release or Discharge Papers and the sum of 10s. (Ordinary Membership Fee) to the Secretary. Your Release or Discharge Papers will be returned to you by registered post.

Temporary Membership. The Committee have decided that as a provisional measure, which is subject to amendment or cancellation at any time, individuals may be considered for election as Temporary Members, for a period of seven days, upon the payment of 2s. 6d., instead of the annual subscription of 10s. (Full paying members will be given priority in the allocation of bedroom accommodation, etc.)

Under Club Law there must be an interval of at least 48 hours between the nomination and admission of an applicant for membership. This regulation applies to the admission of Temporary Members as well as all other Members.

The procedure of applying to become a Temporary Member is the same as that for application for full membership.



### WAR MEMORIAL COTTAGE HOMES

It is now necessary to decide on the name for the War Memorial Cottage Homes, which are to consist of 20 cottages at Chase Farm, Lavender Hill, Middlesex. Will any reader who may have a suggestion to make please forward it to the Editor, Inglis Barracks, Mill Hill, N.W.7. The name that is finally accepted will, of course, become the postal address and should, therefore, be short. Suggestions so far made have been:

Albuhera Close or Ridge.

Inglis Place.

Diehard Ridge.

If you do have a suggestion, please send it along.

### THE OLD SILVER RING LIVERPOOL SOLDIER'S EERIE EXPERIENCE

Pte. Terence Humphreys, whose home is 7 South Street, Liverpool, 8, is at present in the Middle East. He is at G.H.Q. and is stationed at Fayid in the Suez Canal Zone of Egypt, where he is employed as a typewriter mechanic. In his workshop, surrounded by stacks of all makes of typewriters awaiting repair, he manages to put about three per day back into service. It was whilst serving with his Battalion, the 2nd Middlesex Regiment, in Palestine that Terence had what can only be described as a most unusual experience.

In February, 1948, his platoon were digging slit trenches near the town of Acre on a site known as Napoleon's Hill. Some conversation took place as to why it was called Napoleon's Hill, when someone remarked that he had heard that Napoleon and the Turks had met in battle in the area. At that moment one of the diggers said, "Whoever it was, here they are," and uncovered a withered skeleton. On further investigation many skeletons and skulls were found, and among the bones Terence found a silver ring with a small blue stone set in the shank. He cleaned it up and as it fitted he decided to keep it as a souvenir.

That night, on returning to camp, he showed his prize to several of his friends, many of whom advised him to go and put it back where he found it or he would have bad luck. Terence laughed at all the talk of hauntings and went to bed wearing the ring. Always a sound sleeper, that night he woke up four times with a start, feeling extremely nervous and frightened. In the morning he decided that his broken night had been caused by the excitement of the previous day.

This waking in terror continued for three nights

and started to worry him, and on going to bed on the fourth night he decided to take the ring back on the following day as he was beginning to think there was something in what his pals had said.

At 2 a.m. he again woke with a start, with no feeling of fear, but with what he describes as a wonderful sense of relief, as he discovered the ring was no longer on his finger. An intensive search took place at dawn, but the ring was never seen again.

### REMINISCENCES 1940

By CPL. W. SNELL

Ceremonial guards are nothing new to old members of the 2nd Battalion as during our stay in Roubaix, Northern France, we mounted the first guard ever seen by the French population much to the amazement and often visible horror of the French troops stationed in the town.

The main entrance to the Exhibition Buildings, where we were billeted, had a most ornate gateway and we made it even more so by the addition of a huge maroon and yellow archway bearing the legend "2nd Battalion The Middlesex Regiment (D.C.O.)" in letters visible a mile off. The Regimental flag flew from one of the turrets and double sentries marched across the entrance with a bearing that had to be seen to be believed, considering that the men spent most of their time digging trenches and anti-tank traps. The buildings of the Exhibition were made of three-ply wood, so fires were out of the question and the heating of irons and the drying of webbing and wet uniforms were the big problem. This was surmounted by the Q.M. as usual, electric irons arrived in force, and things went very smoothly. We mounted guard before a larger crowd than ever we have at Buckingham Palace, and hundreds of people used to remain outside the gates until evening just to see the sentries being changed and doing their patrols.

One day a single German raider came over the town and whether he saw our archway or just was lucky he carried out a small scale attack. A bit of shrapnel came through the Orderly Room roof and missed the Adjutant (Capt. A. E. Green) by very little.

Soon after this we had to leave Roubaix, as the weather deteriorated to such an extent that it was impossible to live in the wooden houses without heating and we went back to our lace factory at Gondécourt. Here, every method of keeping heat in the body was tested to the utmost. Many and varied were the contraptions that we used, and the coal supply of little coke-dust eggs smelt terribly until they got nicely red. When in England we had no idea of what a winter was like in Northern Europe; we were warned but did not believe that such weather could be. It is only when the moisture in one's eyes freezes and it becomes agony to breathe in that one begins to wonder. We were issued out with a cup of boiling tea at "gunfire," and if we did not drink it immediately the fact of carrying it 50 yards to our billet turned it into a block of ice in the cup. It was then that I saw 100 per cent. anti-freeze mixture frozen into a solid blue block. We had 18 inches of ice

on the road running past the billet. One of the main factors that preserved us was, I think, the plentiful and cheap supplies of rum which could be obtained in the local cafés and the omelettes consisting of a dozen eggs at a time, not to mention the juicy "bif-steaks and ships" which the café keepers always managed to provide for the equivalent of 2d. or 3d.

### CALLING ALL SERVICEMEN (PART III)

In earlier articles we have followed the fortunes of Pte. Blank and his brother Sid and shown how they were both able to obtain good permanent jobs with the help of the National Association. You may think, perhaps, that Pte. Blank and Sid were lucky in happening to live in the town where the National Association Branch Office was situated. You may wonder what happens to the man who lives in a remote part of the country. A Branch Office is often responsible for a considerable area covering at least one county; how does Major X, the Jobfinder, deal with the problem?

He covers the area on a systematic programme of tours and visits. Men in outlying villages can either come to one of the larger towns in his immediate vicinity or to one of the smaller towns near to his home. Arrangements are made so that he can be interviewed privately, registered on the spot, and in some cases placed during the Jobfinder's visit. The movements and programme of Major X are known by all Employment Exchanges in the area and the Branch Office address is displayed in all Post Offices in case men may not know to whom to write.

Let us take the case of Pte. Bloggs, who lives in the remote village of Little Weasel, situated some 20 miles from the National Association Office. As we know, Pte. Bloggs received his postcard about the National Association at the Demob. Centre and duly posted it. On its arrival at the National Association office Major X, the Jobfinder, at once informed Pte. Bloggs by post that he would be visiting the town of Weasel in the Wold, situated about two miles from Pte. Bloggs' home, on a given date and gave him a time and place for an interview. Pte. Bloggs was overjoyed at the interest taken on his behalf and at the prompt action taken on the receipt of his card which, at the time of posting, he had regarded as "just another bit of red tape and another form to fill in."

On the appointed day Pte. Bloggs caught a bus and arrived at the meeting place, a small room specially set aside for the use of Major X on his visits. A number of other men were waiting to see Major X. It was soon Pte. Bloggs' turn and he was greeted by a cheery, "Well, Bloggs, I am glad you have come along while you are still on leave, it gives me plenty of time and you are still not subject to the Control of Engagement Order. I'll fix you up with something." He sat down and at once felt at ease. Jobs were discussed in the various factories and firms in the neighbourhood and Pte. Bloggs was amazed at the detailed knowledge of the area and the various firms and their employment managers displayed by Major X. So impressed was he that he remarked "You seem to know more about this district than I do, and I've lived here all my life."



Carried away by his job

"It's my job to know all this, my lad," replied Major X, "all the men I place are carefully selected with due consideration to their capabilities, qualifications and wishes so that not only they, but the employers also, will be satisfied and come to me for more. That's how it works," he added, "complete confidence on both sides."

Pte. Bloggs selected a job which attracted him and Major X rang up the employer and arranged an interview for that very afternoon. Pte. Bloggs was delighted. "It is nice to think we are looked after like this when we leave the Service. We were told that it's our own Association and it certainly looks like it," he thought. He was given an introduction card and off he went. On the way he met a friend who remarked, when he heard where Bloggs was going: "You won't get anything there, I've tried." "Did you go through the National Association and have an introduction card?" Bloggs replied. "No," his friend answered, "I heard about the National Association but I thought I could do better myself. I wish I had now, I would feel rather a fool going there now after being out of the Service for so long." "Don't you believe it," Bloggs insisted, "Major X, the Jobfinder, is in the town now. He'll fix you up. He knows more about the work here than any of us." His friend, greatly heartened, promised to do as he suggested, and hurried off.

Bloggs got his job and is now happily settled and thinking of getting married.

Cases like the above are constantly happening.

Don't forget, make every use of your Association which you support when serving. Wherever you may live in the British Isles there is a branch of the National Association at your service.





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