

The Die Hards



THE JOURNAL OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT

(Duke of Cambridge's Own)

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THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE'S OWN)

(57)

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

"Mysore," "Serlingapatam," "Alubhera," "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," "Armentières, 1914," "Neuve Chapelle," "Ypres, 1915," "17, 18," "Gravenstafel," "St. Julien," "Frezenberg," "Bellewaarde," "Aubers," "Hooge, 1915," "Loos," "Somme, 1916," "18," "Albert, 1916," "18," "Bazentin," "Delville Wood," "Pozières," "Ginchy," "Fiers-Courcette," "Morval," "Thiepval," "Le Transloy," "Ancre Heights," "Ancre, 1916," "18," "Bapaume, 1917," "18," "Arras, 1917," "18," "Vimy, 1917," "Scarpe, 1917," "18," "Arleux," "Pickle," "Langemark, 1917," "Menin Road," "Polygon Wood," "Broodseinde," "Poelcappelle," "Passchendaele," "Cambrai, 1917," "18," "St. Quentin," "Rosières," "Avre," "Villers Bretonneux," "Lys," "Estaires," "Hazebrück," "Baileul," "Kemmel," "Scherpenberg," "Hindenburg Line," "Canal du Nord," "St. Quentin Canal," "Courtrai," "Selle," "Valenciennes," "Sambre," "France and Flanders, 1914-18," "Italy, 1917-18," "Struma," "Dorran, 1918," "Macedonia, 1915-18," "Suvla," "Landing at Suvla," "Scimitar Hill," "Gallipoli, 1915," "Rumanian," "Egypt, 1915-17," "Gaza," "El Mughar," "Jerusalem," "Jericho," "Jordan," "Tell Asur," "Palestine, 1917-18," "Mesopotamia, 1917-18," "Murman, 1919," "Dukhovskaya," "Siberia, 1918-19."

Regular and Militia Battalions.

1st Bn. (57th Foot). 2nd Bn. (77th Foot).
3rd Bn. (Royal East Middlesex 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. 505 L.A.A. R.A. T.A.
1st and 2nd Bns. Princess Louise's Kensington Regiment.

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Toku, Taranaki, New Zealand.

HONG KONG REGIMENT

British Army Post Office, 1, Hong Kong

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 TRIPLICATE, AND BE ON ONE SIDE OF THE PAPER ONLY, and signed, stating whether it is desired to publish the contributor's name or not. Rejected manuscripts, etc., will only be returned if accompanied by a stamped and addressed envelope. The Editor will thankfully receive Contributions from past or present members of the Regiment or others interested, but necessarily reserves to himself the right of publication. All communications concerning the paper, including Advertisements, should be addressed to the Editor, "The Die-Hards" Journal, The Middlesex Regiment, Inglis Barracks, Mill Hill, London, N.W.7.

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Chief Editor : Brigadier N. P. Procter, C.B.E., M.C.
Asst. Editor (Business) : Major A. W. Clark, O.B.E.

EDITORIAL

The days have gone when the quarrels and hostilities between nations not actually on the doorstep were something to fill up space in the papers when there was nothing better. The situation in Korea is a matter of grave concern to all thinking people in England, and even to the pleasure-loving and irresponsible, the efforts of nations, including our own, to make up for lost time in putting their defences upon a more realistic basis at vast expense must be a painful reminder of our responsibilities, threatening as it does such slight relaxations from austerity as have been gradually won. Even so, Korea is the other side of the world and the hostilities for a change not immediately across the Channel, but Hong Kong is very much on the doorstep, and many parents, wives and friends are watching the news from the Far East with the men of the units serving there always in mind.

In the 1st Battalion notes in this issue mention is made of those on their way to Japan on leave. Even before their notes had reached us we had seen in the press that Sgt. B. Finch and Cpl. S. Long had been killed whilst serving in H.M.S. *Jamaica*.

These N.C.O.s were two of a small party travelling as guests when the cruiser was ordered to operate on the east coast of Korea. Their holiday immediately became active service and they were assisting to supply ammunition to the guns when a shell from a shore battery struck the ship and killed them.

Our sympathy goes not only to Mrs. Finch and the relatives of both but to the 1st Battalion in which they were serving. No words can lessen the shock and pain of relations and friends in this tragic loss or adequately fill the gaps in the ranks for their comrades.

The June number was unfortunately larger than usual and in an unusual order. In the precarious state of finances we cannot afford to run to special numbers, but on this occasion both the size and the order were unavoidable. We hope that despite this the 1st Battalion notes were appreciated. They gave an excellent panorama of all the varied activities of the Battalion and included a delightful and anonymous article under the heading "Hong Kong Newsletter."

In this number will be found, we hope, an article originally published in *The Field*. The subject of the article, Mrs. Swainson, will be well known to older members of the Regiment, but we feel that the wonderful achievements of this gallant "young" lady of 71 will be of general interest to young and old.

We are grateful to those who have sent in articles for the Journal. Space has not been available for them in this number but this does not mean that we are not very thankful to have something up our sleeve for the future.

Whilst the printer is producing this number come two pieces of news of vital interest to us all.

Firstly, as all will have seen in the daily papers, the 1st Battalion The Middlesex Regiment and 1st Battalion The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders have been ordered to Korea. This is no new combination as, if my memory is correct, the 1st Battalion and the 2nd Battalion of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders were serving together in 1914. It is hard to say in a few words all that we here would wish to convey to all ranks of our own battalion and their Highland comrades. It is with pride that we hear that once more our Regiment is found ready to meet the first demands in a crisis, but pride cannot but be mixed with anxiety and sympathy for wives at home or left in Hong Kong. On behalf of all readers we wish Lt.-Col. Man and the fine battalion he commands God-speed and a speedy and safe return.

At the same time comes information from Col. Browne that His Majesty The King has been pleased to approve an alliance between the Middlesex Regiment (Duke of Cambridge's Own) and the Hong Kong Regiment. Thus one more regiment is added to the long list of those allied to us. It is, however, far more than just one addition. The bond between the two regiments was forged in dark days and fostered by the period of service of the 1st Battalion in Hong Kong, now terminated by their move to Korea. The announcement coming now will be welcomed by both regiments, and we can be sure that the Hong Kong Regiment will give to the personnel of the 1st Battalion the assistance and send off which we at home would wish to give.

STOP PRESS

MOVE OF THE 1st BATTALION TO KOREA

For many weeks—in fact, since the start of the Korean campaign—there has been much speculation as to whether troops would be sent from Hong Kong to Korea.

The Minister of Defence stated categorically that neither the garrisons of Hong Kong or Malaya would be weakened and so the news that the Battalion had been selected, together with the Argylls, came as rather a surprise.

It all started on Saturday, August 20, 1950. That evening the Battalion swimming teams were taking part in a swimming gala against their old friends the Hong Kong Regiment at the Victoria Recreation Club. Although the Battalion team were no match for their rivals, who won every event, except for the water polo, it was a most successful evening which culminated with a dance, the music being provided by the Regimental Band.

At about 11 p.m. the Commanding Officer was summoned to the telephone and was told to report to Brigade H.Q. at 9 a.m. the next morning, when he would receive some very important instructions. Little did the dancers realise that in less than a week most of them would be on the high seas bound for Korea.

On the following morning the Commanding Officer was told that the Battalion, together with the 1st Battalion The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, were



Advance Party 1st Middlesex prior to enplaning for Korea

to be the first British troops to join the United Nations Force in Korea.

Time was short and prompt action was necessary. Unfortunately, most of the Company Commanders were staying in Hong Kong for the weekend, and it was not until the late afternoon that the Commanding Officer was able to hold a full conference to plan the move.

There were many problems. To begin with the Battalion had to be reorganised into a special establishment for this operation. This meant the disbandment of "S" Company and one rifle company ("C" Company). The support weapons were to be included in "H.Q." Company. In addition, all men under 19 years of age had to be left behind. Despite this reorganisation, the Battalion was still under strength and received reinforcements from the Royal Leicesters, the King's Shropshire Light Infantry and the South Staffordshire Regiment.

The next few days were very hectic and the midnight oil was burning in the Orderly Room, Q.M. Stores and company offices and stores. History repeats itself, and once again the Mess silver was consigned to the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank for safe custody.

Life was not made easier by the number of visitors to the camp, including the Press and photographers. The Navy were getting ready to play their part and the aircraft carrier *Unicorn* and the cruiser *Ceylon* came alongside and tied up at Holts Wharf ready to receive the troops. It was learnt that the force was to sail on the evening of August 25.

On August 24 the Battalion was addressed by Gen. Sir John Harding, C.-in-C., Far East Land Forces. His talk was short and to the point: "Shoot fast, shoot

straight, and shoot to kill. But above all," he told the men, "stay and fight it out. The British Army has a great reputation of doggedly hanging on in the face of odds and refusing to be beaten. Stand your ground and fight it out. Remember the fame and nickname you earned in the Peninsular War—'Die-Hard.'"

On August 25 the Battalion entrained at 2 p.m. at Fanling Station and arrived at Kowloon just before 3 p.m. They marched on to Holts Wharf led by the Band of the Royal Leicesters and then slowly filed on to the *Unicorn*. Shortly after the Battalion had embarked they were assembled on the flight deck of the aircraft carrier and addressed by Mr. Malcolm Macdonald, High Commissioner for South-East Asia. "When you reach the battle front," he said, "remember that, although you are fighting the North Koreans, you are really fighting Russian Communism. The Korean war is part of Russian Communism's attempt to conquer the world. They want to make us slaves of Moscow. Every time you hit the North Koreans you will be striking a blow for freedom."

Shortly after this the *Unicorn* slipped from its moorings to the strains of "Auld Lang Syne" played by the Band of the Royal Leicesters. The men were lining the decks and a cheering crowd waved and shouted their good wishes as the aircraft carrier slowly nosed into midstream. Hong Kong was reluctant to see the Regiment go and many residents on the quayside were wishing them God-speed and a safe, quick return.

The Commanding Officer was amongst those to wave *au revoir* to the Battalion. He and the seconds-in-command of companies left by air early the next morning for Korea.

FROM THE COLONEL'S POSTBAG

It is now obvious that the work of deciphering all the items which the Colonel of the Regiment passes on from his postbag is going to be a serious business, and that to include in this item a tithe of the interesting news would be impossible. We shall try therefore to give priority to the news coming from less regular correspondents, unless there is something of outstanding interest from good correspondents.

The first letter I come across (they are not in chronological order) is from Lt.-Col. Norman Gilbert from P.O. Box 18, Bolgatanga, Gold Coast. He hopes to be on leave from April to June next year. Although to the town dweller he and his wife would appear to live in splendid isolation, they manage to enjoy life and to have a number of visitors. As his immediate responsibility is to the head office in London, the chain of command does not cause any headache!

I next find three volumes from the "Life of Dick Smith." As I understand from Mr. Justice Lewey that the Smith family will return from Africa fairly soon and can repeat their adventures verbally, I shall omit them from this collection, interesting though they are.

We are interested to find next a long letter from Mr. T. G. Fitzgerald on behalf of the Romford Old Comrades. This letter is full of helpful suggestions for the Journal for which we are always grateful even if they cannot always be adopted.

There are two letters from Major F. A. L. Lawrence written from his new home, "The Gables," Bransgore, Christchurch, Hants. His letter of April 21 contains information of a memorial in Sopley Parish Church (apparently the church for Bransgore) to Gen. Sir George Willis. The memorial is flanked by two flags, one captured from Arabi Pasha's tent after Tel-el-Kebir, the other being the General's personal flag which he flew as Commander, Southern District and Governor of Portsmouth.

Major Lawrence also gave news of Major and Mrs. Applebe, of whom too little is seen these days.

Finally, there is a typically Ginger Lawrence account of one of the Salt Riot incidents in Madras. I wonder how many people remember that serio-comic episode in the 2nd Battalion's tour in Madras? Perhaps someone will write an account of it for us.

From Mr. W. G. Taylor, M.S.M., is a letter saying that he hoped to visit Mill Hill on July 1 when he would bring up a group, presumably for the Museum. Mr. Taylor complains that the distance from Leigh-on-Sea is trying, but then Mr. Taylor is 83! Even if unable to travel about as he used to be he is still a keen "Diehard" and enclosed a subscription to the Journal and donation to the War Memorial Fund. Thank you Mr. Taylor.

A letter from Col. J. G. E. Reid merely makes one envious, and I recommend anyone who wants to be jealous to write to him at Dromore Road, Scarsdale, New York, for an account of how the poor officer lives there! Shades of the cookhouse, Khartoum!

The next is from Major C. Champion, of 7 Exwick Square, Whitley, Reading. The writer is now out of the Army and recently received his L.S. and G.C. Medal awarded to him in 1941 when a Lieutenant. His twin

boys are in the Navy. Was it tales of P.R.I.'s offices or father's savoury cooking that drove them into the Navy?

Then there are letters from Lt.-Col. Lerwill from H.Q. East Anglia District, Major Clayton, Lt.-Col. South, Major Whinney (a scrappy affair), Col. Walden and Col. Rooke.

I should like to quote the Colonel's remarks against a paragraph in a letter from Miss Lempriere in which she says that she has "heard of that Major E. L. Heywood," but as they are in red ink it might be dangerous!

Lastly, having struggled with a letter from Major Lionel Bengough I did make out one sentence which was worth working for, as apparently one client has been satisfied. It reads: "The Die-Hards arrived some time ago—a splendid edition that I have lent to the Secretary of a Branch of the Legion in Victoria, B.C., to which I belong."

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

"El Bodon" Ball

All being well, an "El Bodon" Ball will be held in the gymnasium at the Depot at 7.30 p.m. on Saturday, September 30, 1950.

This is the Saturday following the anniversary of the battle glorious in the records of the 77th Foot.

All past and serving members of the Regiment and their families and friends are invited to attend without invitation. No entrance fee will be charged and bar and snack facilities will be available.

In case of last minute cancellation due to reasons beyond control, those who intend to come should confirm a day or two beforehand. (Telephone FINchley 2611).

Dress for serving members, No. 1 dress or Blues, service dress or battle dress; for past members, optional.

O.C.A. Reunion Dinner

Arrangements have been made for an Old Comrades Reunion Dinner to be held on October 28, 1950, at Inglis Barracks. Full particulars from the Secretary, Middlesex Regimental Association, Inglis Barracks, Mill Hill, N.W.7.

FIELD OF REMEMBRANCE—WESTMINSTER ABBEY

For the first time the Regiment is arranging an official function this year at the National Field of Remembrance at Westminster Abbey.

The Colonel of the Regiment hopes that as many serving and past members of the Regiment as can come will assemble there at 11.50 a.m. on Wednesday, November 15, when Lt.-Gen. Sir Brian Horrocks, accompanied by the O.C. the Depot, will place his cross on the Regimental Plot.

The position will be indicated by a Regimental Flag held aloft. Dress will be uniform with medals or decorations for serving all ranks, and either uniform or civilian clothes with medals or decorations for past members.

Small individual crosses can be purchased at the site so that each individual can place his cross on the hallowed Regimental plot of ground.

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

EDITORIAL

The Battalion has now completed one year overseas and the changes have been many and far-reaching. We have all learnt a great deal and, though we say it ourselves, achieved a lot under very difficult and trying conditions. Our greatest problem has been how to employ usefully and train the National Serviceman in the eight or nine months that he is with us, and yet be ready for operations at a moment's notice. Experiments have been carried out and, at long last, we think we have found a sound solution. I will not bore you with it now as we do not kick off with the scheme until August, after the Battalion leave break. Suffice it to say that we are confident of success.

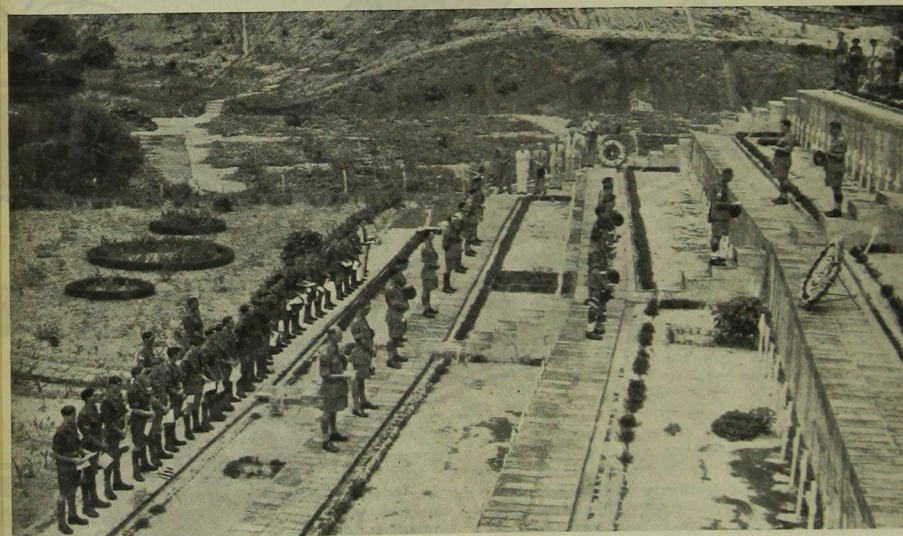
We were visited on H.M. The King's Official Birthday on June 8 by the Secretary of State for War, the Right Honourable John Strachey, M.P., accompanied by the G.O.C.-in-C. FARELF, Gen. Sir John Harding, K.C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., and G.O.C. 40th Infantry Division, Major-Gen. G. C. Evans, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O. Mr. Strachey spent about 25 minutes touring barracks and chatting to those he met. He certainly seemed to enjoy the orange squash provided by the Sergeants' Mess at the end of his trek.

The Albuhera celebrations went with a swing, starting with the Sergeants' Mess Albuhera Ball at the Kowloon Cricket Club on Friday, May 12, and ending on Albuhera Night itself. The Corporals' Club had a successful Social on Saturday the 13th, but unfortunately the weather closed in on us on Sunday the 14th,

and the Drumhead Service had to be held indoors, thereby greatly reducing the numbers who could attend.

The inter-Company athletic meeting was held on Albuhera Day. The meeting and the Albuhera Shield were both won by "H.Q." Company. "A" Company must be congratulated on being very worthy runners-up in the Shield when the dice were heavily loaded against any rifle company.

On Monday afternoon services were held at both Stanley and Sai Wan Cemeteries in honour of those who fell in the defence of Hong Kong. The services were identical, being simple and short, but most impressive. A copy of the service, which was conducted by the Battalion Chaplain, Rev. M. V. Malone, R.A., Ch.D., is given on the next page. No one could have attended these services without experiencing a feeling of great emotion and a fervent desire that he might find strength himself to emulate, if need be, those of the Regiment who have passed on. Twelve buglers of the Corps of Drums under Drum-Major Holdford sounded the Last Post and Reveille to perfection. The Deputy Commandant, Hong Kong Defence Force, Lt.-Col. J. G. Fisher, M.B.E., laid a wreath at both cemeteries on behalf of H.K.D.F., and the C.O. of the Hong Kong Regiment, Lt.-Col. H. Owen-Hughes, O.B.E., was also present with his Adjutant, Major B. G. Pugh, R.W.F. The attendance of these representatives of the Hong Kong Defence Force and Regiment was particularly appreciated by us as they took part in the defence of Hong Kong with us in December, 1941, and because the Hong Kong Regiment have applied for affiliation to our Regiment.



Memorial Service held at Stanley Cemetery on May 15, 1950

ORDER OF SERVICE

to be held at Stanley and at Sai Wan Cemeteries, Hong Kong, on Monday, May 15, 1950 (the eve of the Anniversary of the Battle of Albuhera, 1811) to commemorate All Ranks of the 1st Battalion The Middlesex Regiment (D.C.O.) who fell in the defence of Hong Kong in December, 1941, and rest therein.

(All uncover)

The Commanding Officer reads the names of All Ranks of the 1st Battalion who rest in each cemetery.

The Commanding Officer then says :

They went with songs to the battle, they were young,
Straight of limb, true of eye, steady and aglow.
They were staunch to the end against odds uncounted,
They fell with their faces to the foe.

All say together :

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old :
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the doing down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.

(Two minutes' Silence will be observed.)

To be said alternately :

Padre : Out of the depth have I cried unto Thee.
O Lord; Lord hear my voice.

All : Let thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.

Padre : If thou, O Lord, wilt mark iniquities, Lord who shall stand it ?

All : For with Thee there is merciful forgiveness ;
and by reason of Thy law have I waited for Thee, O Lord.

Padre : My soul hath relied on His word ; my soul hath hoped in the Lord.

All : From the morning watch even until night let Israel hope in the Lord.

Padre : Because with the Lord there is mercy ; and with Him plentious redemption.

All : And He shall redeem Israel from all its iniquities.

Padre : Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord. May they rest in peace.

Padre says : Let us pray.

Enter not into judgment with Thy servants, O Lord ;
for in Thy sight shall no man be justified unless through Thee he find pardon for all his sins.

Let not therefore, we beseech Thee, the hand of Thy justice be heavy upon them whom the earnest prayer of Christian Faith commandeth unto Thee, but by the help of Thy grace may they escape the judgment of vengeance, who, whilst they were living, were marked with the sign of the Holy Trinity ; Who liveth and reigneth world without end.

All say : Amen.

Padre : Lord, have mercy.

All : Christ, have mercy.

Padre : Lord, have mercy.

All say :

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name ; Thy kingdom come ; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread : and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive

them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation. But deliver us from evil ; for Thine is the Kingdom, the Power and the Glory for ever and ever : Amen.

The Padre says :

May the blessing of Almighty God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost descend upon us, and remain with us, now and for ever.

All say : Amen.

(All replace headdresses and stand to attention.)

Last Post (officers salute).

Reveille.

(All stand at ease.)

The Commanding Officer lays a wreath on behalf of All Ranks of the 1st Battalion The Middlesex Regiment (D.C.O.).

We won the 27th Infantry Brigade Athletic Championships with ease on Thursday, April 6, but rather fell from grace after leading the field when we finished third out of 17 units in the Land Forces Meeting.

We finished third in 27th Infantry Brigade Swimming Meeting on Wednesday, June 28, which was disappointing, though our honour was saved by the diving of Drum-Major Holdford, the plunging of Capt. C. H. Mieville, M.C., and the acrobatics of Sgt. Corner in the Obstacle Race.

The Albuhera Loving Cup arrived in the nick of time for Albuhera Day by the hand of the captain of the *Corfu*. Its arrival made certain the success of our Albuhera celebrations. Part of the Officers' Mess silver arrived in H.T. *Devonshire* on June 3, and now we can at last feel that we have a Mess of which to be proud.

We have made a good liaison with the Royal Navy and entertained two parties from H.M.S. *Hart* at our camp in May. At this very moment we have Major J. W. Doyle, M.C., Lt. G. Sander, Sgt. Bailey and twelve junior N.C.O.s and men in the *Hart* on the way to Japan. At least this is where we think they are, as the ship was mentioned in the newspapers recently as having fired on Chinese Nationalist aeroplanes off Swatow, and now we have the Korean troubles with us. Presumably they will return shortly smothered with naval decorations !

We welcome our new Second-in-Command, Major R. A. Gwyn, Major W. P. M. Allen, M.C., Capt. R. K. Dowse (R.W.K.), Lt. R. A. Hodge, 2/Lts. C. L. Lawrence, P. A. S. Wollocombe and S. H. Fothergill, and C.S.M.s Seabrook (R.W.K.) and Copper (Royal Sussex), who all arrived in June in either H.T. *Devonshire* or *Empire Orwell*. These two ships also brought out the families of Capt. G. C. Forman, C.S.M. Tarrant, C.S.M. Timpany and Cpl. Whitely, all of whom we are delighted to have with us. We hope that many more families will be following shortly.

We were very sorry to lose Capt. G. C. Forman who returned to U.K. on medical grounds in H.T. *Empire Orwell*. We wish him and his wife and child good health and good luck. We also lost our very popular Padre, Rev. M. V. Malone, R.A., Ch.D., on posting to H.Q. North Malaya District. He has been with us since we left Mill Hill and he has always joined in with us in all

our activities and even turned play producer for us. We were proud to have him with us in the same way as we know he was proud to serve with us.

It was sad to say goodbye to R.Q.M.S. G. Blackman on retirement after 25 years' service with the Regiment, and to C.S.M. Burrell and Sgt. Hilken on medical postings to U.K. We hope we shall be seeing them all again very soon. We have also lost, temporarily, C.S.M. Jennings on compassionate leave and we hope that his reappearance at home will give the necessary tonic to his wife to enable her to fully regain her health.

We congratulate most heartily Major P. F. Newman on the well deserved award of the M.B.E. in the Birthday Honours List. The news was received with delight in the Battalion.

Beas Camp is in the throes of reconstruction and our loose boxes are being altered in brutal fashion. We hope the results will be to our complete satisfaction, though we have our doubts. As a result of these upheavals on our home ground we have "A" and "S" Companies on detachment at Lowu near the frontier. We feel they are the nearest Allied troops in the world to the Iron Curtain. This fact does not seem to worry them unduly and they make full use of the three swimming tanks in the camp in their leisure hours.



Officers' Mess cocktail party held on May 15, 1950, at Hong Kong Defence Force Mess. Lt.-Col. A. M. Man, O.B.E., and Mrs. A. de S. Clayton chatting to H.E. the Governor

"H.Q." COMPANY

We are pleased to report our very successful celebrations of Albuhera.

As expected, despite a gallant show by the opposition, we carried our pennant to the top of the pole after a most successful season. We won the Cricket Shield, Hockey Shield, Athletic Shield, Boxing Shield (1st string Welter decided), Albuhera Shield, and were runners-up in the Tug-of-War.

This was indeed a proud achievement for the Company and fitting tribute to the leadership of our Company Commander, Major J. W. Doyle, M.C., who was always there to give us full support.

In the cricket we were ably led by Lt. B. K. Clayden, who has left for U.K. to go before a Regular Commissions Board. Pte. Cullen, the mighty atom of bowling fame, was the mainstay of our attack and we shall be sorry to lose him when he departs shortly for the Parachute Regiment.

At hockey we disposed of "A" Company by 5 goals to 0, "B" Company by 5 to 1, and in the final we beat "S" Company by 6 to 2 after a hard fight.

At the moment the airstrip is under water, so our hockey, cricket and soccer activities have been disrupted. However, we have every confidence for the future in these spheres.

The athletics brought along some good talent, and with our stalwarts of the Band and Drums, together with some dark horses from the Orderly Room and other sedentary employments, we carried the day, special mention being due to Drum-Major Holdford, Sgt. Wright, Bds. Stevens, Cpl. Leat and Ptes. Reeves, Whitehead and Collins.

At tug-of-war we were not disgraced, thanks to the sterling work of Cpl. Hymas who gave up much of his time to train the team. Though we had four last minute casualties we were runners-up to "A" Company after pulling "C" Company in two straight pulls.

The boxing team also trained very hard, and special mention is due to Ptes. Jelley and Thomas, L/Cpl. Noble, Pte. "Biscuit" Saunders, Cpl. Harrison, Drm. Rudd, Sgt. Redmond, Pte. Henshaw and Pte. Campbell (A.C.C.) who together made our win possible.

In summing up our wins at sport we remember what a grand show the old timers are still putting up despite their "age and infirmity." Drum-Major Holdford, Sgt. Street, Cpl. Hymas, Sgt. "Butcher" Bailey and Cpl. Hazlewood are still "having a go" and the young lads will do well to follow their lead.

Bon voyage and best wishes to Cpl. Dickens, posted to the Parachute Regiment, Sgt. Callaghan, posted for medical reasons and Sgt. Bentley (Band), on his way to Kneller Hall, all homeward bound. A hearty welcome to Sgt. Whitley and Cpl. Caswell just arrived fresh their Signals Course in U.K. and Pte. from Rawlinson 14, who will join his brother already in this Company.

At the moment cruises to Japan are very popular and Major J. W. Doyle, M.C., Sgt. Bailey and others are enjoying the comforts of H.M.S. *Hart* for a spot of leave. No doubt our popular "Sawbones" will return with new vigour after his rest to wield a ruthless forcep on the unfortunate recipients of "Attend for Treatment." Finally we send greetings to all our past members now languishing in dear old England, and to "Die-Hards" everywhere.

SIGNAL PLATOON

During the past quarter the Platoon has been engaged in rather more concentrated individual training. This has been achieved due to the lessening of large-scale exercises and the availability of more instructors. We have been able to classify some 15 National Servicemen as Regimental Signallers, a qualification which should prove of great use in the Territorial Army.

Sgt. Whitley and Cpl. Caswell have returned from the School of Signals at Hythe, both with excellent reports. They are to be congratulated on this and their recent promotions.

There have been many changes in the Platoon of late. A great number of new arrivals have been welcomed and, with the exception of four Regular soldiers, the whole of the Platoon that set sail on H.M.T. *Dumera* have now put foot on their native soil again—such is the lot of the present Army.

The Signal Officer (Capt. H. J. A. Moore) has recently spent a month in hospital due to an operation on his leg and Sgt. Michel has carried out these duties with marked success.

The visit of the Secretary of State for War caused some stir throughout the Battalion. The Signallers' duties were not onerous, however, but merely confined to a series of warning orders on the telephone as to the approach of the cavalcade.

The hot weather, together with the rainy season, is once more upon us, with all its attendant discomforts. One soon becomes acclimatised, however, and it is no unusual sight to see each and every one of us wearing just a pair of shorts. Nevertheless, by the next issue we hope that we shall be writing our notes in a climate more akin to the civilised Cockney.

CORPS OF DRUMS

Our Albuhera celebrations went off very well, leaving memories which will forever be remembered. On May 15 the Battalion visited the war graves of our fallen comrades, and a simple but impressive service was held. Twelve buglers sounded the Last Post and Reveille, which echoed across the Stanley Peninsula and re-echoed through Stanley Prison where some Japanese war criminals are still serving their sentences. May it have been a reminder of their defeat and a "Diehard" victory.

On the morning of May 16 the Corps of Drums carried out the ceremony of Reveille Beating, and we can assure the readers that not one man slept through our "din." We headed for the quarters of the Colour-Sergeants and after surrounding their bed-cots we rendered a few tunes to ensure their wakefulness, after which a rapid exit was essential.

Our Bugle Competition took place on May 12 and the judges, who were our C.O., Adjutant, Band Sgt. Street and the Bugle Major from the K.S.L.I., found it a very close contest. Dmr. J. Cullen was the eventual winner of the C.O.'s bugle, and Dmr. Rudd the Adjutant's bugle, and to them we give our heartiest congratulations. All old Drummers will be interested to know that the Bugles are the original 2nd Battalion ones, which were last competed for in 1938. The 1st Battalion bugles were never recovered at the end of the war.

On May 15 and 16 "H.Q." Company carried off the honours by winning the inter-Company athletic meeting and the Albuhera Shield. Our congratulations go to our Officer i/c Drums, Capt. K. J. Carter (Adjutant) who led the Company hockey team to victory, Dmr. Cullen, our cricket wizard, who has no equal where bowling is concerned, and also to Drum-Major Hold-

ford, Cpls. Purdon and Leat, and Dmrs. Barnard, Harding, Edwards, Newman and Munday on their all-round sporting achievements.

We are all very sorry to lose from our midst Dmr. Cullen, who is now waiting for a posting to the Paratroopers. We wish him good luck, goodbye and *bon voyage*. Our best wishes to all ex-Drummers and Old Comrades everywhere.

INTELLIGENCE SECTION

The Battalion Intelligence Section continues to revel in all manner of divers activities, to which has been added of late the entire conscription, management and documentation of Chinese civilian labour employed by the Battalion.

This quarter the Intelligence Section has lost all its old members, namely Sgt. McGowan, who is now enjoying life at H.Q. Land Forces (rumour has it that he is trying to get a transfer to the Royal Navy!), Pte. Jones (39) has left us to go to civilian life and Pte. Butler is working for the Battalion Sniper Section. However, after all these farewells we welcome Pte. Leete, who has his work cut out with the civil labour which reaches an absolute crescendo as pay day approaches at the end of the month, Pte. Brooks, who runs the Map Department, while he has also proved himself most adept at producing "drops" for the 2 i/c, Pte. Tunstall, who keeps the Battalion Information Board posted with the latest news and marks up information on the maps as it filters in day by day, and Pte. Herbert, who revels in a wide variety of activities and takes a large share of the "odd jobs."

Sgt. J. Walden is to be congratulated on his recent promotion and he now carries on the work of Intelligence Sergeant.

The entire Section, plus the I.O.'s famous batman, Pte. Gadd, went off on a three-day patrol to Ma Wan Island, just off the Castle Peak Road. In spite of a few setbacks, such as lack of water transport and the usual deluges of rain whilst setting up camp, the patrol was quite a success.

We end these notes by wishing all old members of the Section wherever they may be the very best of luck. We shall always be only too delighted to welcome them back to the Section should they want a change of air.

M.T. PLATOON

Over the last few months the M.T. Platoon has lost many of its old faces, Cpl. Kirkpatrick and Ptes. Keywood, Ellis and Brock on demobilisation and Cfmn. Hutchinson on posting to Malaya. We wish them all the best of luck in their new spheres.

We welcome all our new members into the Platoon and wish them a happy stay. We congratulate Sgt. Butters on his recent promotion and wish Lt. B. K. Clayden all the very best of luck on his Regular Commission Board in the U.K. We welcome 2/Lt. E. B. Thomas as M.T.O. during Lt. B. K. Clayden's absence. We have been unfortunate in that a large percentage of transport has been awaiting workshops, so that replacements and workshop repairs are slowed down by the general demand. However, although our commitments

have been heavy we have managed to fulfil them with everyone working really hard.

It was very gratifying that "H.Q." Company won the Albuhera Shield after winning the inter-Company athletics on Albuhera Day. Members of the M.T. Platoon have participated in the Company teams throughout the year. Outstanding in them were Lt. B. K. Clayden, Sgt. Wright, L/Cpl. Taylor and Pte. Jelly.

The forthcoming R.E.M.E. inspection has been put back a month until August, which gives us a little more time to get everything nice and tidy. We are now in the middle of repainting, and daily the appearance of the vehicles improves. The cleanliness of the vehicles, however, is a difficult problem as the monsoon weather is now with us and varies from torrential rain to bright sunshine. This has a disastrous effect on some of the older paintwork.

REGIMENTAL BAND

As we go to press our new Bandmaster, Mr. Jackson, L.R.A.M., A.R.C.M., is just sailing for Hong Kong to take over from Sgt. Street, under whose baton we have been since the departure of Mr. Barnett. We hope that Mr. Jackson will be safely with us and settled down in his new surroundings by the time that these notes are published.

The Band has been kept quite busy during the late spring and in the early stages of summer. General activities have included the Beating of Retreat each week in conjunction with the Corps of Drums, various civilian and Army engagements intermingled with guards, Guard Mountings and butt marking at Kai Tak.

The Band has been well represented in the sporting activities of the Battalion. At the Albuhera sports meeting we were represented by Cpl. Hazlewood and Bdsms. Probert, Pantrini and Stevens in the field events.

As a matter of note, Bdsms. Stevens threw the javelin 150 feet 2 inches, which was just 15 feet behind the throw with which Major Skipwith won this event in the Army Athletics Meeting. So all you potential Olympic javelin throwers, look out! In the track events we were represented by Bdsms. Wood, Stevens, Pecksen and Duncan. Cpl. Hymas trained the Company tug-of-war team and was ably assisted by Cpl. Hazlewood and Bdsms. Dawson, Duncan and Smith. Cpl. Hymas is also the Company hockey representative, and in winning the inter-Company shield he was supported by Sgts. Street and Hilkene, Cpl. Hazlewood, L/Cpl. Cook and Bdsms. Stevens and Smith. In the Company cricket team the Band was represented by Cpl. Hazlewood and Bdsms. Forsythe and Smith.

The newly-formed dance band broke into the swing sphere with a bang on Friday, May 12, when they played at the Sergeants' Mess Dance in the Kowloon Cricket Club. Extremely good reports were given by all who were present, so come along all you swing fans; we are open to engagements, provided they are paid of course!

The Band has been blessed with some new members,

to whom we extend a hearty welcome, so Bdsms. Melhuish and Wark and Boy Lester, take a bow. And yet another thing with which we have been blessed with is promotion, the lucky people being Cpl. Hilkene to Sergeant, L/Cpl. Hazlewood to Corporal, L/Cpl. Bayton and Bdsms. Bentley (both at present residing at Kneller Hall) to Corporals, and Bdsms. Cook, Hannam, Inwards and Searle to Lance-Corporals. We also wish Sgt. Bentley all the very best of luck in his venture to Kneller Hall on a student's course. We are shortly to lose Sgt. Hilkene and Bdsms. Martin who are both being posted to the U.K. for medical reasons.

It is over a year since we sailed from Southampton and we are now more or less acclimatised in this station. At the present moment the Battalion is split up and encamped in various places. We are lucky to be left behind with the skeleton staff which is looking after the camp whilst it is being converted into a permanent training camp, all for the good we hope!

"A" COMPANY

Since the last issue of the Regimental magazine many and varied changes have overtaken the Company. The Regimental year, culminating in the Albuhera Sports, was held on the 18th hole of Fanling Golf Course. In delightful weather the Company managed to finish second to "H.Q." Company. We were particularly pleased with this effort because "H.Q." Company's strength has risen during the year to some 240 odd, while ours had dropped to as low as 56. C.S.M. Tarrant won the mile in very fine style with Pte. Johnston finishing third. The tug-of-war was won by the Company in the most convincing manner, and by our combined efforts we finished as runners-up.

The cricket competition was held before the final athletic meeting and resulted in many exciting games for the Company. In this competition we finished third. Our most disastrous match was against "H.Q." where Dmr. Cullen routed the complete side.

We fired our annual S.A. Course at Kai Tak in early June. The weather was appalling and the results obtained were indeed gratifying considering the conditions. Pte. Harris became the champion rifle shot of the Company.

On our return from Kai Tak we took over Lo Wu Camp. The camp was in a very bad state, due mostly to the continual rain and the habits of the staff of the Chinese contractor building the permanent camp. We have now been in residence for some two weeks and have managed to clean our part fairly well. "S" Company, who share the camp with us, are in a less fortunate position and are still up to their knees in mud.

The great beauty of the camp is its three swimming pools. These are becoming increasingly popular as the hot weather approaches. Their existence in the camp should prove an asset to our Albuhera swimming team.

Shortly we go on leave for some twelve days, a most welcome break, and for some of us it is the first leave for a year, so you can be sure it will be well spent.

The arrival of H.M.T. *Empire Orwell* was a happy day for C.S.M. Tarrant, because on board were his wife

and two sons. To Mrs. Tarrant and family we extend a most hearty welcome and wish them a most happy stay in the Colony.

A heavy toll of all ranks of the Company has been taken by release, courses, etc. Reinforcements have, however, arrived to take these places but not in anything like sufficient numbers. This difficulty is likely to continue and therefore it is probable that we will remain a small Company. Despite lack of numbers we enter the new Albuhera year with confidence and trust that this year we will not have to be content with second place.

During the quarter we have taken part in several Battalion exercises, all of which entailed the inevitable



Photo: China Mail

Lt.-Col. A. M. Man, O.B.E., laying a wreath at the Memorial Service held at Stanley Cemetery on May 1, 1950

hill climbing, but on the whole they were enjoyed by all ranks. Our role in the near future is expected to undergo considerable change and we are most likely to become the training Company with the role of training all new drafts, the object being to train reinforcements up to the standard required in Hong Kong. We have great talent among our N.C.O.s for all forms of weapon training and look forward to starting this new job.

We have had several promotions recently; Cpl. Eastap to Sergeant and L/Cpls. Millard and Gibbs to full Corporal. To all we offer our congratulations.

It is interesting to note the rapid turnover of all ranks within the Company. We have now only 21 all ranks who originally embarked on H.M.T. *Dumera* in June last year, a turnover of some 80 per cent.

"B" COMPANY

At the present moment our former Company Lines are literally disappearing before our eyes, and all day long a babble of Chinese voices and a loud banging of hammers can be heard. Phase II of the Building Programme, as the Army term it, has commenced. What will eventually take shape in place of our former stables is difficult at present to surmise, but we have hopes of something better and more spacious.

With the present dispersion of the Battalion, leaving only "D" Company and ourselves at Beas Stables, duties are particularly heavy. Very little training has been possible and the complete Company can rarely be assembled at the same time and place.

Since writing the last Journal notes there have been many promotions, and at one time it seemed as if the whole Company was going to get a stripe. In fact zebras would not have been in the running at all. Nevertheless, congratulations to Cpls. Hill and Wilson and L/Cpls. Amos, Barrett, Clements, Marshall and Thomas on their recent promotions.

2/Lt. G. C. Sobey and Pte. Galloway have returned once again to the Company from the U.K. L/Cpl. Noble has come back to us from "H.Q." Company and "Nobby" will, we hope, lead the Company boxing team to victory this year. Lt. G. Sander, who came to the Company as Second-in-Command, is at present away on leave visiting Japan aboard H.M.S. *Harr*.

On the sports field we have done very much better. In the hockey knockout we were unfortunate enough to draw "H.Q." Company as our opponents in the first round, but the score of 5-0 against us does not give a true picture of the run of the play. As usual, experience and skill beat enthusiasm and fervour. Outstanding for us were Capt. J. N. Shipster, D.S.O., Cpl. Potts, generally known as "Pop 'em in Potts," and Cpl. Wilson in goal.

In the basket ball competition we defeated a sorely depleted "S" Company side by one point after extra time and lost to "H.Q." Company in the final in a low scoring but very keen game. Sgt. Sharp (captain), Ptes. Paget and Moore and Cpl. Gardner played well for us. This year we hope to win this competition and all our players are practising hard for it. (It has been rumoured that the C.S.M. has been trying to master the mysteries of the game, and has even been seen to put the ball in the basket!).

The cricket competition, in which we had hoped to do well after continuous successes in friendly matches, proved to be rather a disappointment. Cpl. Card's windmill-like bowling created devastation and Pte. Newton's all-round play has been well up to Battalion standard. L/Cpl. Noble and Pte. Paget have both had some good knocks and the former kept wicket staunchly.

On Albuhera Day we competed for the inter-Company athletics shield. A fine day saw some excellent performances, and L/Cpl. Thomas eclipsed everyone except perhaps Drum-Major Holdford. He won the high and long jump and his running in the two sprint races was a joy to watch. Unfortunately these two events were relays and L/Cpl. Thomas's efforts were not enough to secure us first place. Pte. Ledger has thrown

the javelin well this season but did not hit his best form that day. This final placing in the athletics gave us fifth place in the Albuhera Shield and was an excellent effort considering the lack of opportunity for practice.

At the present moment we are all looking forward to our Company leave period and hoping that the weather will be neither too hot nor too wet.

"C" COMPANY

Since the last issue many changes have taken place in the Company. We welcome 2/Lts. D. N. Harrop and C. L. Lawrence who have joined us during the quarter. C.S.M. Burrell has unfortunately been repatriated to the U.K. as a result of a rugby accident. C.S.M. Seabrook joined us but was only with us for a month and now C.S.M. Copper is firmly installed as our Sergeant-Major.

At the time of writing these notes the Company is on detachment at Sai Kung. This is a little village on the east coast of the New Territories. The main occupation of the local inhabitants is fishing. The cove and the village itself strongly resembles a little Cornish fishing village.

We have been able to carry out very valuable training as the area is not very thickly populated. Unfortunately the weather has been very bad and nearly all training has had to be done in pouring rain. The week-ends have been the best as far as weather is concerned and boating picnics to the local islands have proved very popular. Swimming is the main sport at the moment and the Company have produced some useful swimmers. Capt. C. H. Mievill, M.C., 2/Lt. J. C. Bucknall and Cpls. Small and Cheeseman have all represented the Battalion in the inter-unit swimming championships. This bodes well for the future when the Albuhera swimming championships are held.

We are proud to announce the birth of a son to Cpl. Broom. This is the first to be recorded in Hong Kong in the Battalion since our arrival. We congratulate Cpl. Broom on this happy event.

To those who have left on release and repatriation we wish the best of luck and hope that we shall be able to keep in touch. To those who have joined the Company in the last quarter we extend a hearty welcome. We hope their stay with us will be a long and happy one.

"D" COMPANY

Since writing our last notes from Beas Stables the camp has been undergoing a transformation. A week or two ago hordes of Chinese labourers, male and female, descended on us, and the long-awaited operation, officially designated "Phase II," was under way. As this is intended to improve accommodation and generally better the living conditions, we gladly suffer the temporary inconvenience.

Those of us who were with the Company when the Battalion left England have now completed the first year of the current tour, and it is interesting to note that with so many changes having taken place only a dozen of the original Company still remain. Early in June we said goodbye to the last of the National Servicemen who joined the Company at Mill Hill prior to

embarkation. They sailed for home on the *Devonshire* and we wish them the very best of luck in Civvy Street.

On the credit side we extend a hearty welcome to 2/Lt. P. A. S. Wollocombe, Cpl. Culverwell, Ptes. Bennett (93), Bennett (11), Dickinson, Everett, Harper, Price, Simpson, Walker and White who arrived on the *Devonshire* and were subsequently posted to the Company. We also welcome Sgt. Bowyer from "A" Company and congratulate him on his recent promotion.

The most noteworthy event during the past quarter was the Albuhera celebrations, which on this occasion were combined with a Regimental Week-end. Lack of space will not permit a full description of the complete programme, but it was indeed a full one.

The Albuhera Shield competition was rounded off with an inter-Company athletics meeting, and though our final placing in the Company league was only fourth, it was in no way due to lack of enthusiasm on the part of our representatives. In this respect we were set a fine example by Major J. E. F. Willoughby, who as "anchor" man in the tug-of-war team was so obviously determined not to concede an inch!

On June 8 the Battalion was visited by Mr. John Strachey, Secretary of State for War, accompanied by the G.O.C.-in-C. FARELF. On that occasion the Main Quarter Guard consisted of Ptes. Stalley, Woodrow, Hutchings and East of "D" Company, all of whom deserve a special word of praise for their extremely high standard of turnout.

In conclusion we take this opportunity of sending best wishes to all our friends at home, particularly those who have left us and now carry on the good work with the Territorials of the Regiment.

"S" COMPANY

Our late Company Commander, Capt. G. C. Forman, was admitted to hospital some two months ago and is now on his way to the U.K. on medical grounds in H.T. *Empire Orwell* with his family. We hope he will quickly regain his health and we look forward to seeing him again soon. We take this opportunity of welcoming our new Company Commander, Major W. P. M. Allen, M.C., and we hope his stay with us will be long and happy.

We feel we put up a creditable show in the inter-Company athletics and cricket competitions, being runners-up in each case to "H.Q." Company. We finished a good third in the Albuhera Shield Competition.

We are now at Lo Wu Camp, some 2½ miles from Beas Stables. It is quite a pleasant change and we find the swimming baths in the camp a godsend in this rather hot period.

The Company would welcome any news from ex-members, so get out your pens and paper and let us know the form at home and in Civvy Street.

M.M.G. Platoon

The Platoon has virtually been re-formed since the last issue of the Journal, and indeed its name only changed to M.M.G. Platoon yesterday. However, a great deal of progress has been made and cadres have

been churning out new gunners. The Platoon is building up into an excellent team as was shown by the Annual Range Classification results and the way in which we won the Company inter-Platoon athletic shield.

We are just losing practically all the remaining original members of the Platoon; Ptes. Pratt, Mason, Butler, Yeomans and Cass on release and Pte. Dove to the Parachute Regiment. We wish them all the best of luck and to Dove "good jumping."

In August, after the leave break, the Platoon moves to Sai Kung for a fortnight's concentration at the Divisional Battle School.

We wish our late Company Commander, Capt. G. C. Forman, and his family good luck and a good journey home and we welcome, in his stead, Major W. P. M. Allen, M.C.

Mortar Platoon

The face of the Mortar Platoon has changed considerably during the last quarter and very soon the only remaining old Mortar "Diehards" of *Dumera* days will be L/Cpl. Fisher and Ptes. Low, Swindles and Harding. The next batch for the U.K. will include Cpls. Rump and Bennett and Pte. Johnson. However we have had two intakes from cadres and we welcome them with open arms.

We congratulate Sgt. Parker, Cpls. Bennett and Waters and L/Cpl. Stone on their promotions.

We were very sorry to hear that Capt. G. C. Forman, our Company Commander, was being invalided home in H.T. *Empire Orrell*. We offer our condolences and best wishes to him, Mrs. Forman and their daughter. Mrs. Forman will be able to show her husband round the ship as she arrived in it only four days previously!

We welcome Major W. P. M. Allen, M.C., as our new Company Commander and we hope that his stay with us will be long and happy.

The Platoon has done its share of field firing recently at Castle Peak and results have been quite satisfactory. Our target indication exercise with 16 R.A.F. Typhoons on June 26 was unusual and surprisingly effective. We go to the Divisional Battle School in August for a concentration with the Mortar Platoons of 27th Infantry Brigade units and we look forward to an interesting and instructive period with them.

As usual, the Platoon more than pulled its weight in the Albuhera athletic meeting on Albuhera Day and helped the Company to be runners-up to "H.Q." Company.

SERGEANTS' MESS

The quarter began with our Albuhera festivities and on Friday, May 12, the Mess held its Albuhera Ball in the Kowloon Cricket Club. It was voted a great success by all who attended, and it was the first Mess function at which Mess members wore their new white patrols. Incidentally, several members of the Mess managed—how, we have yet to find out—to get their photographs in the local press.

On Monday, May 15, C.S.M. Burrell and Drum-Major Holdford, with a party of the Battalion, visited the cemeteries at Sai Wan and Stanley, where are

buried the "Diehards" of the old 1st Battalion who fell in Hong Kong in 1941. By all accounts the ceremony was beautiful and moving, and many a thought must have travelled back to those fateful days.

The Albuhera sports held on Albuhera Day were a great success and were won by "H.Q." Company. Several members of the Mess participated and managed to show a pair of heels to their far younger opponents. In the evening the Albuhera Dinner was held. Following tradition, the officers of the Battalion visited the Mess and the Silent Toast was drunk—a moving and impressive ceremony.

At the end of the month the unit was visited by a troupe of Chinese conjurers. One of these was enticed into the Mess and drank large quantities of water, which he apparently produced from the air. It will be remembered that tears came into the eyes of several of the members at this sight. Next time they are going to persuade him to do it with beer.

Of late we have welcomed several new members to the Mess and have said goodbye to C.S.M.s Burrell and Jennings, as well as to one of the new members, Sgt. Hilken.

Our next function in the Mess is likely to be the second visit of the ladies of the Hong Kong Defence Force on Saturday, July 1, and we all hope it will be as great a success as the last visit.

In conclusion we would like to wish all past members of the Mess, wherever they may be, the best of luck and success in whatever they are doing.

CORPORALS' CLUB

We have now blossomed forth into white Mess Dress and we consider ourselves to be the fashion guide to other units in the Colony. We understand that other Clubs are following suit as fast as they can.

Our Albuhera celebrations went with a grand swing, though the dance was rather a flop through the shortage of dancing partners. However, the evening social fully made up for the afternoon setback.

We congratulate Sgts. Eastap, Butters and Hilken on their promotions, but we must express our sorrow at losing such good Mess members. We welcome to our midst Cpl. Malone from Singapore and we hope his stay will be a happy one.

We were all very sorry to hear that Capt. G. C. Forman, our late Officer i/c Club, is being invalided home. We thank him for all he did for us and wish him and his family good luck and God speed.

All members of the Club send their greetings and good wishes to all ex-members.

ATHLETICS

After the Battalion individual athletic meeting on March 25, the potential Battalion team trained daily under Major J. E. F. Willoughby. As a result, when the Battalion entered the 27th Infantry Brigade Championships on April 6, we swept the field in practically every event. The points were given as a team in each event and not individually. Consequently, although we did not have the individual winners, as a team we won most events. The results were as follows:—

100 yards :	Sgt. Walsh, 2nd ; Pte. Thomas, 3rd.	1st
220 yards :	Pte. Thomas, 5th ; Sgt. Walsh, 6th	3rd
440 yards :	Sgt. Wright, 2nd ; 2/Lt. C. A. White, 3rd	1st
880 yards :	Cpl. Smith, 3rd ; 2/Lt. E. B. Thomas, 5th	1st
1 mile :	Pte. Munday, 2nd ; Pte. Johnstone, 5th ; 2/Lt. E. B. Thomas, 10th	1st
3 miles :	Pte. Mason, 3rd ; Pte. Munday, 6th ; 2/Lt. J. M. Lock, 12th ; Cpl. Eastap, 13th	3rd
High Jump :	Pte. Reeves, 1st ; Pte. Stevens, 2nd	1st
Long Jump :	L/Cpl. Leat, 1st ; Pte. Thomas, 2nd	1st
Pole Vault :	Capt. P. J. Livemore, M.C., 1st ; Drum-Major Holdford, 4th	1st
Hammer :	Drum-Major Holdford, 1st ; Pte. Jenkins, 2nd	1st
Shot :	C.S.M.I. Timpany, 1st ; R.S.M. S. Weller, M.M., 2nd	1st
Discus :	Pte. Jenkins, 1st ; C/Sgt. O'Keefe, 5th	1st
Javelin :	R.S.M. S. Weller, M.M., 1st ; Pte. Stevens, 3rd	1st
Individual Event :		
Tossing the Caber :	Capt. P. J. Livemore, M.C., 1st.	

It was obvious that our strength lay in the field events, and as can be seen, we found no one to touch the old-timers in R.S.M. S. Weller, M.M., and Drum-Major Holdford. In fact, as was seen later, there were few in the Colony who could equal their prowess. Another outstanding feature of the meeting was that Capt. P. J. Livemore, M.C., won the tossing of the caber. He did this despite the vain attempts of representatives of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders to better him.

As a result of the 27th Infantry Brigade Athletic Meetings, a team was entered in the Land Forces Championships held at Sookunpoo Stadium on April 13, 14 and 15. As there was a total of 17 units in the Competition, heats were run off on the 13th and 14th and the finals on April 15. It was here that our weakness in the track events became apparent. Points for the competition were given only for the first four in the finals, and as a result we did not gain a single point for any track event. However, we gained 16 points for the field events, which placed the Battalion fourth. Two events, for which no points were given, namely, the pole vault and hammer, we completely dominated. If points had been given for these two events we would have won the Championship.

The results were as follows:—

Shot Put :	R.S.M. S. Weller, M.M., 1st.
Hop, Step and Jump :	L/Cpl. Leat, 2nd.
Long Jump :	L/Cpl. Leat, 2nd.
Hammer :	Pte. Jenkins, 1st ; Drum-Major Holdford, 2nd.
Pole Vault :	Pte. Jenkins, 1st ; Drum-Major Holdford, 3rd ; Capt. P. J. Livemore, M.C., 4th.
Discus :	Pte. Jenkins, 3rd.
1 Mile :	Pte. Munday, 4th.

The Albuhera sports year ended with the inter-Company athletic meeting on May 15 and 16.

Conditions for the preliminary events were far from good and rather of the calibre of the 1949 Olympic Games. Despite these setbacks, however, a concentrated programme of events was ready to be run off on the afternoon of May 16.

It was an exciting meeting in that the deciding places for the Albuhera Shield lay in the number of points gained in this meeting.

On the afternoon of the 16th the weather man smiled on us and the improvised grass track, loaned very kindly to us by the Fanling Golf Club, dried out quite

As a Team

reasonably. We were glad to welcome several guests, all of whom enjoyed an exciting afternoon's sport. After a very close struggle in each event the results were as follows:—

"H.Q." Company	1st
"S" Company	2nd
"A" Company	3rd
"B" Company	4th
"C" Company	5th
"D" Company	6th

"H.Q." Company dominated the field events with a stalwart in Drum-Major Holdford. C/Sgt. O'Keefe ran excellently in two relays and through this "S" Company were able to win these events.

"A" Company came in very strongly by winning the 1- and 3-miles, C.S.M. Tarrant showing his old form in winning a very closely contested mile.

It was a most enjoyable afternoon's sport, the only complaint being that the 3-milers stated that 16 times round a 330 yard track was a trial of a level head rather than of running ability.

At the conclusion of the meeting Mrs. A. S. J. de S. Clayton presented the athletic and cricket shields, and the C.O. the Albuhera Shield, and so ended the Albuhera sports year.

SOCCER

The football season finished in April, and consequently there is very little to report for the last quarter.

Our ground suffered considerably from heavy rain, often being the proverbial sea of mud, and only three matches were played during April. The details of these matches are as follows:—

Team	Opponents	Place	Result	Goals
1st	40th Infantry Division Signals	Home	Won	2-1
1st	Hong Kong Football Club	Home	Lost	3-4
1st	3rd R.T.R.	Away	Lost	1-3
Results :				
Won 1 ; Lost 2 ; Goals : For, 6 ; Against, 8.				

For these three games we were fortunate in having almost the same team throughout, and the improvement in our play was very noticeable, the matches against the Hong Kong Football Club and the 3rd R.T.R. being lost after extra time.

The following played during the last few games of the season: C.S.M. L. Shrubbs, M.M. (captain), C.S.M. McMillan, Sgt. Street ("H.Q."), Sgt. Hilken ("H.Q."), Cpl. Gatland ("C"), L/Cpl. Harding ("S"), Ptes. Gilliard ("C"), Moore ("S"), Bonner ("C"), Nellis ("C"), Clinch ("D"), Murrell ("S"), Burstow ("H.Q."), and Bds. Peckson ("H.Q.").

Cpl. Burbage still continues his excellent work on the side lines.

Unfortunately for the Battalion, few of these players will be available for the next season, some having gone home whilst others are due to go soon.

Sgt. Hilken and Pte. Bonner have left for the U.K. and we wish them "good footballing" for the future, at the same time congratulating Sgt. Hilken on his promotion. Cpl. Gatland is also to be congratulated on getting his second stripe.

Our first match played against the Hong Kong Football Club was a great success, even though the weather was extremely bad and the pitch in a poor condition



Photo : China Mail

Lt.-Col. J. G. Fisher, M.B.E. (Deputy Commandant, H.K.D.F.), laying a wreath on behalf of all ranks H.K.D.F. at the Memorial Service held at Sai Wan Cemetery on May 15, 1950

owing to heavy rain. However, by mutual consent the game was played, and after a very hard-fought tussle ended at full time in a draw, 3—3. In the extra time our opponents proved just a little too strong for us and won by the odd goal. They therefore won the cup which was kindly presented by Messrs. A. S. Watson and Co. Ltd., for competition between the Regiment and the Hong Kong Football Club.

In the 40th Infantry Division knockout competition we received a bye in the first round, won our second match against the 40th Infantry Division Signals but were defeated by our old opponents the 3rd R.T.R. in the third round. In this match there was again at full time a draw, 1—1, but in extra time the 3rd R.T.R. gained the two winning goals.

It was hoped to complete the Brigade inter-unit championship before the season ended, but unfortunately it had to be cancelled owing to the other football engagements of all units. We hope to prove our worth next season in a similar championship. The 1949-50 season has ended and we feel that we have done quite well considering the environment and other difficulties with which we have had to contend. We look forward to a successful season next year and hope to be able to put in plenty of training before the season starts.

Finally we congratulate ex-L/Cpl. Larkin on gaining a place in the Hastings Football Club team, and will be glad to hear from former Battalion players, especially if they have made any progress in the football world since they left the Battalion.

HOCKEY

The main interest during the last quarter was centred on the Albuhera Shield inter-Company competition, which provided some exhilarating games. In the first round "B" Company drew "H.Q." Company, the

favourites, and "C" Company played "D" Company. "B" Company put up a very good fight and rather confounded the experts by holding the score to 1—1 for a considerable time; but in the second half "H.Q." found their form and scored three quick goals for a final score of 4—1. "C" Company were unfortunately unable to play their only really experienced player, 2/Lt. J. C. Bucknall, and were beaten 7—1 by "D" Company, six of whose goals were scored by C.S.M. McMillan.

In the second round "H.Q." managed to keep on top of "D" Company throughout most of the play, though there were some very hearty exchanges, the final score being 3—0 to "H.Q." "A" and "S" Companies had a very close match in which "A" Company emerged the winners 2—1. The final between "H.Q." and "S" Companies found the former at the top of their bent, and though "S" fought back hard they could only score 2 goals against "H.Q.'s" 5.

In the draw to decide fifth and sixth places in the competition "B" Company won fairly comfortably 2—1 against "C" Company. The match for third and fourth places proved what was probably the most even and narrowly contested game of the tournament. From an early 1—1, "D" Company drew ahead to lead 3—1 at half-time, but in the second half "A" Company drew level, and it was only a few minutes before full time that "D" Company managed to pull the winning goal out of the bag.

The final placing and points awarded were: 1st: "H.Q." 12; 2nd: "S" 10; 3rd: "D" 8; 4th: "A" 6; 5th: "B" 4; and 6th: "C" 2.

Our only outside fixture was against the 3rd R.T.R. at Sai Wan on March 31; a very close game played in a light film of rain which was very refreshing and ended 1—0 in our favour, our goal being scored by Sgt. Hilkene. Next season we shall still have most of our 1st XI players with us and we are looking forward to another very successful and enjoyable series of matches.

CRICKET NOTES

Owing to the lack of suitable grounds in the New Territories, cricket has played second fiddle to other sports this season. The Kowloon Cricket Club, however, kindly allowed us to play two matches on their ground, both of which we lost to the 1st Royal Leicesters and 4th Hussars. Later on in the season we journeyed over to the Island and played the Carrier Platoon of the Hong Kong Defence Force. Although Dmr. Cullen was away playing for the Army, there was no excuse for our timid and hesitant batting. With only 14 runs scored and four batsmen already back in the pavilion, 2/Lt. E. R. de B. Vare and Lt. B. K. Clayden came together for a partnership that lasted just over 100 minutes, for them to produce only 40 runs. Both batsmen were very much subdued, and when they were both caught, the side collapsed and we were all out for 63 runs. The Carrier Platoon went on to score 160 runs for the loss of only five wickets. Incidentally, the Carrier Platoon includes nearly all the Hong Kong University cricket side, and so our eclipse was not as bad as it sounds!

In the second innings we fared little better, the side collapsing after making only 49 runs. The bright spot in the whole season was Dmr. Cullen's eventual inclusion in the Army team after repeated trials. Although he only played six matches for the team, he thoroughly justified his inclusion by taking 36 wickets for a cost of only 4.6 runs a wicket. Playing for the Rest of the Colony against the Champions of the Colony he played quite excellently to take six wickets for 50 runs in 24 overs.

"H.Q." Company won the Albuhera cricket shield most convincingly. Dmr. Cullen again bowled to take 16 wickets for 19 runs in the three matches, and in addition had a batting average of 25. In the final, played under wretched conditions reminiscent of Old Trafford, "H.Q." Company scored 95 runs whilst "S" Company made 36 runs, which was almost double the numbers of runs that "A," "B," and "C" Companies had made between them against "H.Q." Company.

SHOOTING

In December, 1949, an inter-Services rifle meeting was held at Stone Cutters Island between the Royal Navy, Army, R.A.F., Royal Marines and Hong Kong Police Force.

Capt. E. C. Osborne, 2/Lt. G. Norton and Cfmn. Harris (R.E.M.E. attached) were selected to represent the Army team in the meeting, and played their part in gaining the Army second placing in the final results.

The highlight, so far as the Battalion shooting team is concerned, has been the 40th Infantry Division Rifle Meeting held at Kai Tak on April 26, 27 and 28. In all 17 units and some 250 entrants took part in the Meeting and the Battalion may well be pleased with the results obtained.

In the unit team matches the results were as follows: Individual unit team match: 2nd; Unit Section team match: 7th; Officers' and Sergeants' team match: 7th; Young soldiers' team match: 6th.

In the individual shooting matches the following were the results: Individual infantry rifle match (178 entries): 2/Lt. G. Norton, 6th; Young soldiers' individual rifle match (60 entries): L/Cpl. Butters, "D" Company, Pte. Swain, "A" Company—both tied for 6th place; Individual pistol match (40 entries): Capt. P. J. Livemore, M.C., 8th.

In the final results of the Divisional Inter-Unit Championships and Challenge Cup the placings were as follows: 1st: Royal Leicesters, 42 points; 2nd: K.S.L.I., 38 points; 3rd: 1st Middlesex, 36 points.

The Battalion is looking forward to the future when it is hoped there will be more such meetings and we can reverse the placings and give battle once more to our old rivals the K.S.L.I. and Royal Leicesters.

SWIMMING

The swimming season started this year with the Battalion in the happy position of having its own swimming pool at Lo Wu. The pool or pools at Lo Wu are going to prove most valuable for training.

The team this year is much weakened by the loss of

Cpl. Baker and Pte. Macdonald but hopes to give a good account of itself.

On June 20 an individual championship was held in the Y.M.C.A. pool. This meeting was most successful and several new swimmers were discovered. It is to be hoped that as a result of this meeting the Companies will be able to select good teams for the Albuhera meeting to be held in August.

On June 28 the Brigade inter-Unit meeting took place. The object of this meeting was to select the Brigade team for the Divisional Meeting. The Battalion unfortunately lost to the 1st Royal Leicesters and 1st Argyle and Sutherland Highlanders' teams. However, Drum-Major Holdford with his usual perfect diving won the diving event and Capt. Mieville won the plunge. Both these are to be Brigade representatives at future meetings.

Water polo has not yet started but the Battalion team is already in vigorous training. We hope that this training will bear fruit when the competitions take place next month.

BATTALION SADDLE CLUB

There has been much discussion on the formation of a Battalion Saddle Club ever since we set foot in Hong Kong last July. However, the words "expense and time" cropped up so frequently that nothing came to pass.

However, a new impetus was given when the Divisional Commander expressed a desire that officers should be able to ride, and stated that financial aid would be provided. Immediately, Lt. B. A. M. Pielow, who had been behind the original suggestion, became officially Officer i/c Equitation and was told to get moving.

In a remarkably short space of time two ex-racing ponies from Happy Valley Racecourse were hired and are now comfortably stabled at Lo Wu. They are being well looked after by Cpl. Rump and Pte. Watkins.

Fourteen officers have joined the Club so far and are sharing the running expenses. The initial expenses have been met by a grant from the Divisional Commander. It is intended that other ranks should also join the Club, and it is hoped that a grant will be forthcoming shortly from the W.V.S. to cover the cost of their riding.

Rumour has it that a horse show will be held later in the year and we hope to take a very active part in it.

The Club may be new but it has got off to a first-rate start and shows every indication of being a most flourishing concern.

ENTERTAINMENTS

The long-awaited rebuilding of Beas Camp is making a considerable difference to the normal functioning of entertainments in the Battalion. Only three Companies are actually living in camp and our numbers are consequently reduced. Nevertheless, the Monday evening visits of Miss Stevens of the W.V.S. are as popular as ever, and she now makes an additional trip on Thursdays to "A" and Support Companies at Lo Wu Camp.

Film shows are well attended on Tuesdays and Saturdays, and the A.K.C. give performances at Lo Wu

on Wednesdays. We are hoping that when the new Beas Camp has risen Phoenix-like from the ashes of our familiar stables, we shall have a better cinema than the Dining Hall, which is extremely hot by 9 o'clock in the evening. Shows in the open are not always possible owing to the vagaries of the weather, but we have them whenever practicable. Sgts. Wright and Butters, and other willing helpers, continue to give their services to the running of the cinema, for which we are very grateful.

Whist drives are held under the eyes of Ptes. Thomas and Volden now that Pte. Ovenden has left us.

Our final place in the New Territories Army Table Tennis League Championships was third, and next time we hope to do even better than that. In an inter-Company tournament run recently by Pte. Mann, "H.Q." Company, under his captaincy, were successful after some very good matches.

Entertainment from outside sources started off on May 1 with a Chinese professional troupe of conjurers, acrobats and jugglers who, after a rather slow start, gave us some first-class entertainment. But the real highlight of the season has been the visits of the "Aces" Concert Party on May 22 and June 15. Their excellent and highly polished shows were greatly appreciated. We hope that the tremendous applause that they received was some recompense to them for the very great amount of time, trouble and often expense they go to in putting on shows for troops throughout the New Territories. We are looking forward to the time when they can visit us again.

DEPOT NOTES

This quarter is always a busy one for the Depot and its small staff. In addition to Cricket Week, the Officers' Club Dinner and At Home, and the Old Comrades Reunion, we have had a further draft for ten days of young soldiers on their way to Hong Kong, the Annual Inspection by the G.O.C. London District, Cadet Camps, a full barracks for eight days during the meat strike, a party of 35 National Servicemen on their way to the Territorial Army and finally, the last straw, the closing of all books and ledgers for periodical auditors inspection.

Keeping our fingers crossed, we hope August and September will go by quietly, letting us get on without interruption with the taking over and furnishing of the 32 new married soldiers' quarters, now nearing completion. In this connection it is hoped that War Office approval will be given to us to employ two extra civilians to assist with the heavy fuel issues to quarters weekly.

We have been very pleased to welcome R.S.M. Painter from the 7th Battalion, who relieved C.S.M. Maloney who had been acting R.S.M. for some months. Sgt. Fawcett has left us for civilian life and Ptes. Merlock and Fleckney are about to do the same on completion of their pre-release courses. We welcome Sgt. Carrol in Sgt. Fawcett's place, and on the civilian establishment, Mr. Francis in the Orderly Room, Mr. Cundale in the Quartermaster's Office and Mr. Offen as Pioneer.

Our cricket activities have been restricted by pressure

of work and the meat strike, but we have played Amhurst Cricket Club (result: a win, 60—52, L/Cpl. Marable 27), and 10 Command Workshops, R.E.M.E. (result: lost, 108—95, R.S.M. Painter 23, Bond 20). On July 23 we played the 7th Battalion. An unusual match ensued owing to last minute difficulties in the 7th finding a side and to rain. The Depot made 139 for 5 wickets declared (R.S.M. Painter 39, Major Bellers 34, Major Heywood 22), and then in pouring rain, and in need of water wings and a floating ball, proceeded to sink the visitors for only 6 runs, or swims, the second lowest score ever made on the ground. The return match later in the season is expected to be an interesting encounter.

Our association with the Middlesex Cadets has been interrupted by Cricket Week and the meat strike, but the Massed Drums of the Middlesex A.C.F. and the 3rd Cadet Regiment had week-ends here, and on July 22, 100 boys of the 5th Cadet Regiment spent a useful week-end. On the last occasion we were pleased to see Lt.-Col. Taggart, the new C.O., and Col. Sherbrooke Walker, the Commandant. The weather was poor but a useful programme of lectures and weapon training was carried out under cover and a church service for the boys held in the Chapel.

L/Cpl. Males and Pte. Gray, dressed resplendently in 1914 full dress uniform, represented the Regiment at the Old Contemptibles' Jubilee at the Albert Hall on June 24.

The Annual Inspection went off well, we are glad to say, and a most favourable report was received. The G.O.C. London District (Major-Gen. J. A. Gascoigne, C.B., D.S.O.), visited the new officers' and other ranks' married family quarters, the Museum and Sergeants' Mess, and later lunched in the Officers' Mess with the Colonel of the Regiment.

MUSEUM NOTES

Mr. F. Endicott, late R.S.M. in the Middlesex Regiment, has very kindly presented to the Museum his full-dress tunic and sash.

He wore the tunic and sash during 1912—1914, and they are still in first-class condition.

Mr. J. Cove, late 11th Battalion The Middlesex Regiment, has very kindly presented two framed photographs of the Colours and Colour Party of the 1st Battalion The Middlesex Regiment (D.C.O.). which were taken in India in 1909.

Mr. H. C. Bentley, brother of the late Major G. W. Bentley, has very kindly presented several framed photographs of Regimental groups. One very interesting photograph is of the officers of the 1st Battalion The Middlesex Regiment taken in France in 1914.

Major G. W. Bentley was killed in action whilst serving with the 1st Battalion in France in 1914.

A most valuable collection has been made to the Museum during the last few weeks of some fragments of the Colours which were carried in action by the



57th at Albuhera. These fragments form the centre-piece of an antique wooden shield which is embossed with carvings of laurels and "57th."

This shield was obtained through the kind services of Col. C. H. Pank, C.M.G., D.S.O., T.D., A.D.C., and Lt.-Col. J. Avison, who served during the 1914-1918 War with the 8th Battalion.

Capt. George Johnson presented to the Museum three volumes of *Navy and Army Illustrated*. These books are most interesting and are on view in the Literature Room.

THE REGIMENTAL CRICKET WEEK

The Regimental Cricket Week took place at the Depot from June 18 to 25, amid the traditional background of tents, flowers, Regimental silver, a band and innumerable small boys. Once again the hard work and careful planning of Major Clark, Major Bellers and the Depot staff, all of whom set to from dawn to dusk daily throughout the week, was responsible for the unqualified success of the proceedings.

So far as the cricket itself went, the results were, on the whole, disappointing. That it would be a hard job to raise sides strong enough to meet our opponents was a foregone conclusion, but as events turned out, the Regimental side was "on paper" by no means weak, and we had reason to expect better things than our one solitary win. The absence of Major Ormiston had a most demoralising effect on the batting which was lamentably unreliable. The bowling was unspectacular, but the bowlers stuck to their task well, and Lt.-Col. Unwin's 20 wickets for 11 runs apiece was a really good performance. R. H. Wollocombe, playing on a birth qualification, was a valuable addition as an all-rounder. The fielding improved out of all knowledge as the week progressed, and even the stiffest non-benders were getting well down to the ball by June 25.

The first match, against Hampstead Heathens on the 18th, resulted in a defeat. Our opponents, who brought a side of more than usual strength, batted first and declared for 267 for 4 wickets. Wollocombe was the best of our bowlers and his 3 for 72 was a very creditable performance. Our batting started well and the first five batsmen played confidently, but apart from Lt.-Col. Green, no one else was able to face the bowling of Smith and Webster, and the side was all out for 147.

On June 19 we met the Cryptics, and were a trifle unlucky not to force a win. At the close we were five short of their total, with 2 wickets to fall. The Cryptics batted first and scored 269 for 8 declared. Our bowlers kept at it well and shared the wickets between them. Our batting also was much better balanced, and Capt. Goldman, in his only appearance, knocked up an attractive 59, while Wollocombe made 56 in convincing style.

The Incogniti match resulted in another tight finish. We batted first, and thanks to a good innings by Lt.-Col. Clowes, 70, and R. H. Wollocombe, 51, totalled 196. Incognito passed our total with the last man in on the stroke of time. Lt.-Col. Unwin's 5 for 54 was the best of our bowling.

On the 21st we were crushingly defeated by the Free Foresters. We batted first and were fairly rattled out for 47. Gardner, 7 for 10, and Greenwood, 3 for 36, bowled unchanged. Our batting was most disappointing as, although Lt.-Col. Stephenson was forced to withdraw at the last moment, this was almost our strongest possible side. The Foresters lost no time in passing our total, which they did before lunch. This must surely be a record?

The 1st Zingari paid us the compliment of bringing down as strong a club side as one is ever likely to meet. Batting first they scored 245, and it was some satisfaction to have got them all out. In reply we could only manage to total 123, thanks to Lt. R. D. Jupp, 36, and Col. Weston, 26. It was nice to see Lt.-Col. and Mrs. Lionel

Isherwood among the spectators, though we were sorry to hear that the Colonel has retired as a playing member.

On the 25th we recorded our solitary win, beating the Romany by 6 wickets. Romany batted first, and thanks to a fine bowling performance by Lt.-Col. Unwin, were all out for 74. We replied with 75 for 3 declared. In their second attempt, Romany declared at 141 for 6. In our second innings we totalled 187 for 4. Lt.-Col.

THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT v. HAMPSTEAD HEATHENS (June 18, 1950)

Hampstead Heathens C.C.				
F. Mennim, st Man, b Wollcombe	..	..	..	17
J. Webster, c Man, b Wollcombe	..	..	..	73
G. Shuttleworth, c Weston, b Wollcombe	..	..	..	16
A. Bush, run out	..	..	..	40
M. J. Daly, not out	..	..	..	48
A. L. War, not out	..	..	..	62
N. B. Smith, did not bat	..	..	..
D. Massey, did not bat	..	..	..
R. W. Skene, did not bat	..	..	..
M. J. Makin, did not bat	..	..	..
P. B. Berliner, did not bat	..	..	..
Extras	..	..	..	11
Total (for 4 wickets declared)	..	..	..	267

BOWLING				
Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	
Lt.-Col. E. J. Unwin	10	3	32	—
Col. G. P. L. Weston	13	3	53	—
R. H. Wollcombe	15	1	72	3
C. L. Lloyd	12	1	80	—
Lt.-Col. A. E. Green	1	—	8	—
Major M. P. Weedon	4	—	11	—

The Middlesex Regiment

Major M. P. Weedon, c Makin, b Webster	..	..	..	15
Major P. L. Pearce-Gould, b Webster	..	..	..	23
Capt. W. A. W. St. George, c Skene, b Webster	..	..	..	17
Lt.-Col. E. J. Unwin, b Webster	..	..	..	49
R. H. Wollcombe, st Warr, b Webster	..	..	..	17
Col. G. P. L. Weston, c Warr, b Webster	..	..	..	3
Lt.-Col. A. E. Green, c Smith, b Webster	..	..	..	13
Major C. M. M. Man, c Makin, b Smith	..	..	..	4
Major R. C. H. Bellers, b Smith	..	..	..	1
C. L. Lloyd, b Webster	..	..	..	0
Capt. D. K. Cattell, not out	..	..	..	4
Extras	..	..	..	4
Total	..	..	..	147

BOWLING				
Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	
J. Webster	31	16	48	8
N. B. Smith	20	6	50	2
R. W. Skene	8	1	26	—
P. B. Berliner	5	1	19	—

Result—Hampstead Heathens C.C. won by 120 runs.

THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT v. THE CRYPTICS C.C. (June 19, 1950)

The Cryptics C.C.

Blackshaw, st Man, b Wollcombe	..	..	..	21
White, b Marable	..	..	..	61
Carr, b Unwin	..	..	..	39
Steele, b Wollcombe	..	..	..	0
Sharpe, st Man, b Weston	..	..	..	60
Beldham, b Green	..	..	..	3
Letts, b Marable	..	..	..	49
Cawkwell, c Pearce-Gould, b Weston	..	..	..	19
Bishop, not out	..	..	..	2
Carroll, did not bat	..	..	..
Allen, did not bat	..	..	..
Extras	..	..	..	15
Total (for 8 wickets declared)	..	..	..	269

Stephenson batted beautifully for 59, and Capt. St. George's 62 not out made one wish he could spare the time for more matches. Lt. P. C. Kay's 42 was some reward for his splendid fielding throughout the Week.

Before closing this account our thanks are due to R.S.M. Painter for his hard work in the scoring box and compiling statistics. Although this is his last season as a serving soldier, it is hoped to see him for many years to come at the Week.

BOWLING				
Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	
Lt.-Col. E. J. Unwin	9	3	26	1
Col. G. P. L. Weston	10	—	33	2
R. H. Wollcombe	17	—	75	2
C. L. Lloyd	10	—	45	—
L/Cpl. J. Marable	19	1	72	2
Lt.-Col. A. E. Green	2	1	3	1

The Middlesex Regiment

Major M. P. Weedon, b Bishop	..	..	..	15
Major P. L. Pearce-Gould, b Bishop	..	..	..	25
Lt. A. I. F. Goldman, c Cawkwell, b Allen	..	..	..	59
Lt.-Col. E. J. Unwin, lbw b Letts	..	..	..	35
R. H. Wollcombe, st Carroll, b Allen	..	..	..	56
Lt. P. C. Kay, c Carr, b Sharpe	..	..	..	27
Lt.-Col. A. E. Green, run out	..	..	..	25
Col. G. P. L. Weston, c Carr, b Bishop	..	..	..	1
Major C. M. M. Man, not out	..	..	..	7
L/Cpl. A. Marable, did not bat	..	..	..
C. L. Lloyd, did not bat	..	..	..
Extras	..	..	..	13
Total (for 8 wickets)	..	..	..	264

BOWLING				
Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	
Bishop	16	2	60	3
Cawkwell	13	—	62	1
Letts	9	—	39	2
Sharpe	3	—	23	1

Result—Match drawn.

THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT v. INCIGNITI C.C. (June 20, 1950)

The Middlesex Regiment

Lt.-Col. J. H. Clowes, b McClure	..	..	..	70
Major P. L. Pearce-Gould, b Cook	..	..	..	19
Major M. P. Weedon, c Jessop, b McClure	..	..	..	19
Lt.-Col. E. J. Unwin, b Barclay	..	..	..	4
R. H. Wollcombe, not out	..	..	..	51
Lt. P. C. Kay, c Barclay, b Cook	..	..	..	15
Lt.-Col. A. E. Green, c Jessop, b Cook	..	..	..	9
Col. G. P. L. Weston, run out	..	..	..	6
Major C. M. M. Man, st Bavin, b Jessop	..	..	..	10
Major R. C. H. Bellers, b McClure	..	..	..	0
L/Cpl. A. Marable, c Bavin, b McClure	..	..	..	6
Extras	..	..	..	—
Total	..	..	..	196

BOWLING				
Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	
R. M. Barclay	7	1	37	1
J. G. Cook	11	—	35	3
A. Jessop	16	3	61	1
G. C. Melluish	4	—	25	—
J. S. McClure	8	1	32	4

Incogniti C.C.

J. G. Cook, b Weston	..	..	..	6
G. C. Melluish, b Unwin	..	..	..	9
A. J. W. Bavin, c Weedon, b Wollcombe	..	..	..	19
P. V. S. Moon, c Unwin, b Wollcombe	..	..	..	21
J. O. E. Steele, b Weston	..	..	..	32
A. Jessop, c Kay, b Unwin	..	..	..	58
T. Q. Abel, b Unwin	..	..	..	24
J. S. McClure, not out	..	..	..	25
R. M. Barclay, lbw b Unwin	..	..	..	1
A. Young, c Kay, b Unwin	..	..	..	4
E. S. Snell, not out	..	..	..	20
Extras	..	..	..	—
Total (for 9 wickets)	..	..	..	198

BOWLING				
Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	
Lt.-Col. E. J. Unwin	20	4	54	5
Col. G. P. L. Weston	14	1	60	2
R. H. Wollcombe	8	1	35	2
L/Cpl. A. Marable	7	1	29	—
Lt.-Col. J. H. Clowes	1	1	—	—

Result—Incogniti C.C. won by 1 wicket.

THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT v. THE FREE FORESTERS CRICKET CLUB (June 21, 1950)

The Middlesex Regiment

Lt.-Col. J. H. Clowes, b Greenwood	..	..	..	13
Major P. L. Pearce-Gould, b Gardner	..	..	..	0
Lt. R. D. Jupp, b Gardner	..	..	..	13
Lt.-Col. E. J. Unwin, b Gardner	..	..	..	1
Major M. P. Weedon, b Greenwood	..	..	..	0
Lt. P. C. Kay, b Greenwood	..	..	..	0
Lt.-Col. A. E. Green, c Mennim, b Gardner	..	..	..	7
Col. G. P. L. Weston, b Gardner	..	..	..	11
Major C. M. M. Man, b Gardner	..	..	..	0
R.S.M. J. E. Painter, not out	..	..	..	0
L/Cpl. J. Marable, b Gardner	..	..	..	0
Extras	..	..	..	1
Total	..	..	..	47

BOWLING				
Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	
C. F. Greenwood	10	3	36	3
H. B. C. Gardner	9.2	4	10	7

The Middlesex Regiment—2nd Innings

Lt. P. C. Kay, c Fox, b Goodall	..	..	..	26
Major P. L. Pearce-Gould, not out	..	..	..	15
Lt. R. D. Jupp, not out	..	..	..	18
Extras	..	..	..	—
Total (for 1 wicket)	..	..	..	59

Rain stopped play.

Free Foresters C.C.

H. F. W. Fox, c Marable, b Jupp	..	..	..	50
D. Iomax, c Marable, b Clowes	..	..	..	38
F. Mennim, c Unwin, b Clowes	..	..	..	9
J. P. M. Hope, c Painter, b Unwin	..	..	..	44
E. W. Swanton, c Marable, b Weston	..	..	..	37
H. B. C. Gardner, not out	..	..	..	55
G. F. Grace, c Man, b Unwin	..	..	..	5
K. S. Mackenzie, c Marable, b Unwin	..	..	..	8
K. M. Goodall, did not bat	..	..	..
A. H. Musson, did not bat	..	..	..
C. F. Greenwood, did not bat	..	..	..	16
Extras	..	..	..	—
Total (for 7 wickets declared)	..	..	..	262

BOWLING				
Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	
Lt.-Col. E. J. Unwin	6.5	—	33	3
Col. G. P. L. Weston	8	1	47	1
L/Cpl. J. Marable	7	—	63	—
Lt.-Col. J. H. Clowes	8	4	23	2
Lt. R. D. Jupp	5	1	22	1
Lt.-Col. A. E. Green	5	—	21	—
Major M. P. Weedon	5	—	23	—
Major P. L. Pearce-Gould	2	—	14	—

Result—Free Foresters won by 215 runs.

THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT v. I. ZINGARI CRICKET CLUB (June 22, 1950)

I. Zingari C.C.

Major G. F. H. Archer, c St. George, b Marable	..	..	..	42
C. Clover-Brown, c Man, b Wollcombe	..	..	..	22
M. T. Turnbull, b Marable	..	..	..	38
W. N. Coles, c Pearce-Gould, b Clowes	..	..	..	6
Capt. J. A. T. Sharpe, b Unwin	..	..	..	24
Capt. D. R. de C. Transenter, c St. George, b Wollcombe	..	..	..	35
Lt.-Col. E. Remington-Hobbs, c Man, b Wollcombe	..	..	..	21
Capt. M. E. H. Linton, c & b Unwin	..	..	..	15
Capt. D. W. M. Gay, b Unwin	..	..	..	9
J. G. Dunbar, b Unwin	..	..	..	21
Major W. G. Lyon, not out	..	..	..	11
Extras	..	..	..	—
Total	..	..	..	245

BOWLING				
Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	
Lt.-Col. E. J. Unwin	18.4	4	49	4
Col. G. P. L. Weston	9	4	32	—
Lt. R. D. Jupp	5	—	22	—
R. H. Wollcombe	19	2	97	3
L/Cpl. J. Marable	8	3	19	2
Lt.-Col. J. H. Clowes	3	1	15	1

The Middlesex Regiment

Lt.-Col. J. H. Clowes, b Dunbar	..	..	..	0
Major P. L. Pearce-Gould, c Linton, b Gay	..	..	..	0
Lt. R. D. Jupp, b Lyon	..	..	..	36
Lt.-Col. E. K. Unwin, c Sharpe, b Dunbar	..	..	..	0
R. H. Wollcombe, c Remington-Hobbs, b Gay	..	..	..	10
Capt. W. A. W. St. George, b Gay	..	..	..	4
Lt. P. C. Kay, c Transenter, b Gay	..	..	..	1
Major M. P. Weedon, lbw b Dunbar	..	..	..	16
Col. G. P. L. Weston, c Sharpe, b C. Brown	..	..	..	26
Major C. M. M. Man, c Linton, b C. Brown	..	..	..	6
L/Cpl. A. Marable, not out	..	..	..	7
Extras	..	..	..	17
Total	..	..	..	123

BOWLING

Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wickets	
Capt. D. W. M. Gay	13	2	31	4
J. G. Dunbar	9	2	24	3
Major W. G. Lyon	4	1	14	1
Capt. J. A. T. Sharpe	4	—	26	—
C. Clover-Brown	3.4	1	10	2

Result—I. Zingari won by 122 runs.

THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT v. ROMANY CRICKET CLUB (June 25, 1950)

Romany C.C.—1st Innings

P. F. Longton, b Unwin	..	..	..	5
J. B. Robinson, lbw b Weston	..	..	..	25
K. Unwin, b Unwin	..	..	..	0
J. D. Percival, lbw b Weston	..	..	..	5
J. V. Kell, c Kay, b Weston	..	..	..	4
E. N. Evans, b Unwin	..	..	..	2
T. W. D. Percival, c Weedon, b Unwin	..	..	..	2
W. G. James, b Unwin	..	..	..	19
D. N. Watney, lbw b Unwin	..	..	..	2
S. R. Lang, c Marable, b Unwin	..	..	..	6
A. S. Young, not out	..	..	..	0
Extras	..	..	..	4

Romany C.C.—2nd Innings

J. D. Percival, c Man, b Stephenson	13
K. Unwin, c Kay, b Stephenson	3
J. V. Kell, c Stephenson, b Marable	25
J. B. Robinson, c Man, b Marable	53
P. F. Longton, c St. George, b Green	6
W. G. James, b St. George	27
T. W. D. Percival, not out	6
E. N. Evans, did not bat	
S. R. Lang, did not bat	
A. S. Young, did not bat	

Extras 8

Total (for 6 wickets declared) 141

BOWLING

	Over	Maidens	Runs	Wickets
Lt.-Col. J. W. A. Stephenson	5	1	16	2
Col. G. P. L. Weston	5	1	19	2
L/Cpl. J. Marable	6	—	29	2
Major M. P. Weedon	4	—	28	—
Lt.-Col. A. E. Green	4	—	23	1
Capt. W. A. W. St. George	2.1	—	18	1

The Middlesex Regiment—2nd Innings

Lt.-Col. J. R. B. Worton, c & b Watney	15
Lt. P. C. Kay, run out	42
Major M. P. Weedon, c Kell, b Evans	3
Lt.-Col. J. W. A. Stephenson, c Kell, b Longton	59
Capt. W. A. W. St. George, not out	62

Extras 6

Total (for 4 wickets) 187

BOWLING

	Over	Maidens	Runs	Wickets
J. B. Robinson	2	—	26	—
E. N. Evans	4	—	35	1
D. N. Watney	8	—	43	1
W. G. James	4	—	24	—
J. V. Kell	3	—	29	—
P. F. Longton	1.5	—	24	1

Result—The Middlesex Regiment won by 6 wickets.

BOWLING AVERAGES

	O.	M.	R.	W.	A.
Lt.-Col. E. J. Unwin	80.2	18	234	20	11.7
Lt.-Col. J. H. Clowes	12	6	38	3	12.6
Lt.-Col. J. W. A. Stephenson	17	4	33	2	16.5
Capt. W. A. W. St. George	2.1	—	18	1	18
Lt.-Col. A. E. Green	12	1	55	2	27.5
R. H. Wollcombe	59	4	279	10	27.9
Col. G. P. L. Weston	63.1	10	257	8	32.125
L/Cpl. J. A. Marable	47	5	212	6	35.3
Lt. R. D. Jupp	10	1	44	1	44
Major P. L. Pearce-Gould	6	2	14	—	—
Major M. P. Weedon	13	—	62	—	—
Mr. C. L. Lloyd	22	1	125	—	—

BATTING AVERAGES

	No. of innings	Times not out	Highest score	Total runs	Average
Lt.-Col. J. W. A. Stephenson	2	1	59	62	62
Lt. A. I. F. Goldman	1	—	59	59	59
Capt. W. A. W. St. George	4	2	62*	108	44
R. H. Wollcombe	4	1	56	134	44.6
Lt. R. D. Jupp	3	1	36	67	33.5
Lt.-Col. J. H. Clowes	3	—	70	83	27.3
Lt. P. C. Kay	6	—	42	111	18.5
Major P. L. Pearce-Gould	7	1	28	106	17.6
Lt.-Col. E. J. Unwin	6	—	49	90	15
Lt.-Col. J. R. B. Worton	1	—	15	15	15
Major M. P. Weedon	4	—	19	68	11.3
Lt.-Col. A. E. Green	4	—	26	45	11.25
Col. G. P. L. Weston	5	—	26	47	9.4
Major C. M. M. Man	6	1	13	40	8
L/Cpl. J. A. Marable	3	1	7*	7	3.5

ALSO BATTED

Major R. C. H. Bellers	2	—	1	1
R.S.M. J. E. Painter	1	1*	1*	1
Mr. C. L. Lloyd	1	—	1	1
Capt. D. K. Cattell	1	1	0*	0

* not out

CATCHES

Major C. M. M. Man	6
L/Cpl. J. A. Marable	5
Lt. P. C. Kay	4
Lt.-Col. E. J. Unwin	3
Capt. W. A. W. St. George	3
Major M. P. Weedon	2
Major P. L. Pearce-Gould	2
Col. G. P. L. Weston	1
Lt.-Col. J. W. A. Stephenson	1
R.S.M. J. E. Painter	1

STUMPINGS

Major C. M. M. Man	3
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TOTAL RUNS SCORED

Middlesex Regiment—1,098 runs for loss of 55 wickets.
Opponents—1,456 runs for loss of 54 wickets.

OFFICERS' CLUB DINNER, 1950

The Officers' Club Dinner was held at the Junior United Service Club, Charles II Street, S.W.1, on Friday, June 24, 1950.

The following members, whose names are printed in alphabetical order, attended:—

Col. M. Browne, M.C., D.L., J.P. (Chairman).
Lt.-Gens. G. C. Bucknall, Sir Brian G. Horrocks.
Brigadiers E. E. F. Baker, E. W. C. Flavell, H. A. D. Murray,
G. H. C. Pennycook, N. P. Procter, O. H. Tidbury.
Cols. N. M. Blair, G. Beach, W. D. Coles, S. F. Hedgecoe, J. K. Maitland, A. M. O. A. Passingham, R. D. Sherbrooke-Walker,
G. P. L. Weston.
Lt.-Cols. A. de Chimay, J. H. Clowes, H. Cook, D. Y. Cubitt,
J. T. Dear, E. W. F. de Salis, A. H. Farley, G. L. Fox, H. W. W. Gray, A. E. Green, T. A. Hall, J. A. A. Howell, J. James-Cook,
A. K. Johnson, W. D. Kenyon, G. Lerwill, S. Mirams, A. Pritchard,
W. E. Pringle, F. Gordon-Parker, W. L. Roberts, J. D. Robbins,
T. H. Reddy, S. H. Short, W. H. Samuel, E. N. Trevor, E. J. Unwin and T. S. Wollcombe.
Majors G. Brinley Ayre, R. H. B. Allott, R. C. H. Bellers, I. R. Burrows, B. K. Cattell, A. W. Clark, J. H. Chiverall, A. C. Dundas,
C. F. Denton, W. D. Ellis, H. K. Hardcastle, E. L. Heywood,
A. T. Jones, R. A. Kaye, H. P. Lambert, A. F. Lockwood, C. M. M. Man, H. Marsh, P. F. Newman, P. L. Pearce-Gould, M. K. Pearson,
H. J. Pennell, H. L. Saunders, E. F. Thompson, A. R. Waller and A. V. Weller.
Capt. C. H. T. Barber, S. R. Bonnamy, D. K. Cattell, W. R. Dawe, L. C. D. Doidge, R. E. Guest, R. D. Hutchings, E. A. H. Jeffcoat, G. Kent, M. E. W. Morton, H. M. L. Price, J. R. Riseley,
E. Rowson and G. C. Webber.
Lts. R. T. Douthet, E. P. de B. Vare, E. C. Graham, O. G. Johnson, W. R. Tomkinson and W. N. Vare.

Officers' Club "At Home"

The "At Home" was held at the Junior United Service Club, Charles II Street, S.W.1, on Saturday, June 24, 1950. Nearly a hundred members and their guests attended.

Forthcoming Events

Golf. The Autumn Golf Meeting takes place at the Hendon Golf Club on Friday, October 27, 1950, followed by a Cocktail Party in the Depot Officers' Mess, Inglis Barracks, Mill Hill, N.W.7. (Particulars in respect of the latter have been circulated by the Secretary).

O.C.A. REUNION, 1950

The Reunion was held at the Depot on Saturday, July 1, and a record number of 500 to 600 Old Comrades attended.

The Drums of the 7th Battalion, T.A., played on the square, by kind permission of Lt.-Col. A. E. Green, who had that day gone to camp with the Battalion.

A VISIT TO MILL HILL

Drum-Major Poulter has produced a splendid Corps of Drums, which includes many Old Comrades.

An excellent tea provided by N.A.A.F.I. was served in the gymnasium and drill shed nearby, and the Regimental Museum was crowded with visitors wishing to see the recently acquired portion of the Colours of the 57th carried at the Battle of Albuhera.

Once again the attendance of officers and their families was disappointing, but we were very pleased to see Mrs. Tidbury, Lt.-Col. and Mrs. Gordon Parker, Brigadier Procter, Lt.-Col. Roberts, Major Whiting and a few others.

To mention everybody would fill the Journal, and only a few remarks will be included here. The Colonel

A visit was made recently to the Depot at Mill Hill. Upon arrival the old barracks appeared to be very strange as many alterations had taken place during recent years and several new buildings have apparently been erected here and there. When once inside the main entrance one is confronted with very quiet and peaceful surroundings, the old time activities of the training of recruits, together with other military duties had disappeared, barrack rooms once beehives of life were closed, bolted and silent. What a contrast with that up-to-date model barracks of nearly 50 years ago.

Having got my bearings, the Museum was located, tucked away in a quiet spot at the back of the barracks.



OFFICERS' CLUB DINNER, 1950

of the Regiment was heard to comment that there should be a rule that no Old Comrade should be allowed to cut off their moustaches or beards. We hardly knew ex-R.S.M. Taylor and Mr. Dunstone without their historic adornment. Col. Rooke has often mentioned that he felt that he might see Mr. Taylor float away on his moustache like an aeroplane, and as for Mr. Dunstone, we hope by the next Spion Kop Reunion in January he will again appear like the prophet of old in the Bible.

It was a hot day and further refreshment was soon sought in the Crawford Hut and the Sergeants' Mess. The extra stocks of beer brought in for the occasion were unfortunately inadequate for the thirsty multitude and by about 9 p.m. the Depot had been drunk dry.

However, a good time had been had by all, many old acquaintances had been renewed, and the Reunion was accounted a great success.

Immediately you enter the Museum one is confronted with many effigies bearing the uniforms of various designs of periods dating back many years. Each effigy bears a label or ticket which gives a brief description and period of its uniform. There are also Armoury and Literature Sections, together with many other interesting exhibits of various kinds, all bearing some connection with the Regiment and its long, proud history, both in war and peace.

A visit is certainly worth while, as one cannot help being impressed with the exhibition, which certainly creates the atmosphere of a miniature Madame Tussaud's. The only effigy needed to equal Tussaud's is that of a Metropolitan Policeman just inside the entrance door.

After leaving the Museum, a visit was next made to the Sergeants' Mess, where a good collection of silver was housed in two large class cases, safely secured under lock and key. The various inscriptions on cups and

shields gave one a gentle and pleasant reminder of bygone days.

Finally, at the Officers' Mess I not only saw an amazing display of silver belonging to the different Battalions of the past, but also some beautiful paintings, including the famous original painting "Steady, the Drums and Fife," by Lady Butler. This wonderful painting was hung in a very prominent position in the Mess.

So ended a most interesting and enjoyable morning's visit, during which every assistance was accorded me by the Colonel of the Regiment and the Secretary of the Old Comrades' Association, which was indeed yet another example of the true spirit of our great and noble Regiment, a spirit we all cherished so much while serving in the Regiment.

Is it expecting too much for each and all of us Old Comrades to continue to cherish and encourage those that come after us to give support to the Colonel of the Regiment and Association by being a subscriber and solicit new subscribers to *The Die-Hards* Journal, visit the Museum, attend Old Comrades functions as often as possible, and last but by no means least, keep in touch with one another for the sake of those bygone happy days?

Once a "Die-Hard" always a "Die-Hard."

F. ENDICOTT.

MIDDLESEX REGIMENT REPRESENTATIVES AT THE ARMY RIFLE ASSOCIATION BISLEY MEETING, 1950

There were four representatives of the Regiment taking part in the Army Meeting this year. They were Major G. C. Dawson from H.Q. Northumbrian District, and Lt. L. C. Sharpe, Cpl. E. Steward and Pte. W. Reeves from 1st Royal West Kent Home Counties Training Battalion.

The practice week took place in wonderful weather and results were very promising.

The match week, however, was not quite so pleasant as far as weather conditions were concerned, the Roupell Cup (Individual Rifle) and Worcester Cup (L.M.G. Pairs), both being fired in pouring rain.

Major Dawson fired in the Revolver Thirty Cup Competition, qualifying for the XXX and firing in the final stage.

Lt. Sharpe was placed 42nd out of 397 in Class A (Officers, W.O.s and Sergeants) of the Henry Whitehead Cup (Individual Rifle).

7th BATTALION THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (D.C.O.)

The main events during the past quarter have been the arrival of the first batches of National Servicemen and the attendance of the Battalion at Annual Camp in the Stanford Area.

We have now received 60 National Servicemen from different units, all of whom live locally. We welcome these men into the Battalion and we trust they will enjoy their four years' stay with us.

Camp this year was in the Stanford Battle Area from July 1 to 15. The training facilities were first class but the amenities provided were, it is regretted, not up to the usual standard of T.A. Camps. However, it is hoped that next year we shall once again attend a camp near a seaside resort.

Despite difficulties, Families Day in camp was a great success. Sixty-five relatives and Old Comrades came up in two coaches, arriving about midday. N.A.A.F.I. produced a good lunch and tea for all and in the afternoon the usual sports were organised by Capt. Rawles and Daniels. The Old Comrades Race, to run 50 yards, drink a pint of beer and return, was very popular. Prizes were presented by Mrs. A. J. Hughes and the visitors left at 7 p.m., arriving at Hornsey at 11 p.m., after a very enjoyable day.

During camp we had a number of visitors, including the Colonel of the Regiment, Col. M. Browne and the Honorary Colonel of the Battalion, Brigadier H. A. D. Murray.

A very pleasant and most amusing afternoon was spent when the officers beat the Sergeants at cricket. Most of the amusement was supplied by C.S.M. Whitcombe who was borrowed for the occasion to pack the Sergeants' team. His running between the wickets was certainly amusing to watch, but his partner must have been a bit fogged and dizzy with his instructions as to whether to run or not.

Another amusing interlude was when the N.C.O. acting as umpire nearly gave the C.O. as "run out" until he was loudly reminded by the spectators that the other stripe he is looking for, and in fact those he is already wearing, might be in jeopardy, so instead of lifting his hand he just scratched his head. The final score was as follows:—

Officers	
Capt. V. G. S. Oehl, c Morgan, b Perry	0
Lt. D. J. Blackler, c & b Colbourne	23
Major A. J. Hughes, b Perry	59
Lt.-Col. A. E. Green, b Colbourne	12
Lt. R. J. Leighton, c Howes, b Perry	0
Capt. E. G. Daniels, b Colbourne	6
Lt. A. E. Bird, not out	4
Capt. H. E. Rawles, did not bat	0
Capt. L. F. Baker, did not bat	0
Capt. R. A. Dowling, did not bat	0
Capt. E. A. H. Jeffcoat, did not bat	0
Extras	9
Total	113
Sergeants	
C/Sgt. Hones, b Hughes	0
Sgt. Hills, b Green	1
Sgt. Harris, c Green, b Hughes	11
C.S.M. Perry, c Blackler, b Green	0
Sgt. Colbourne, b Hughes	3
C.S.M. Whitcombe, b Blackler	21
R.S.M. Pike, st Oehl, b Hughes	0
Sgt. Richards, c Daniels, b Hughes	10
Sgt. Hutchings, c Green, b Blackler	0
C.S.M. Tostavin, not out	9
C.S.M. Morgan, st Oehl, b Hughes	0
Extras	3
Total	58

On another occasion the Officers and Sergeants combined team was well and truly beaten by a team of Corporals and Privates. The latter batted first and scored 98, out of which Cpl. Wotton scored 39 and Pte. Barry 27. The innings of the Officers and Sergeants was a

complete collapse, the total being 45, Cpl. Wotton taking six wickets for 23 runs.

"H.Q." Company

The past three months has seen the formation of Support Company, and with it the loss of the 3-in. Mortar Platoon from this Company.

Capt. P. F. Edwards left us to go to the Reserve and we welcome Capt. E. G. Daniels as Company Commander in his place.

Drums

The Battalion having proceeded to camp on July 1, we, the Drummers, were fortunate enough to have an engagement at Inglis Barracks on that date and therefore we did not proceed to camp until Sunday, July 2. We did not realise at the time that an extra day in North London was a godsend; that realisation came after we had arrived at that remote Camp Area they call Bodney North.

We thoroughly enjoyed playing a programme at the Old Comrades "At Home," and we were very pleased indeed to meet some real old soldiers and friends, some of whom were ex-Drummers.

Having settled down at the camp we were able to put in some real good hard practice which helped us considerably. Sgt. F. Gribble, who had a pair of Army boots on for the first time for a couple of years, developed sore feet but managed to keep his spirit up both to and from the Drums training area.

Drum. Stewart was so broken-hearted during the camp period, owing to the fact that he had left his girl friend behind, that he was seen roaming round the camp at 3 o'clock in the morning singing "Dreaming, oh my darling love, of thee."

Cpl. Sayers had a little trouble in handling Drum. Howes whom he had to keep under control by blowing him around the hut now and again. We do not know whose turn it is to pay next, but we think this will entail another blowing battle.

We should like to point out that Cpl. Sayers weighs about 17 stone, while Drum. Howes is about as fat as a match stick with the wood scraped off, and it was this that enabled Cpl. Sayers to blow him about.

During our stay we found a small country hotel named "The Swan," situated about two miles from the camp and lit only with oil lamps. The proprietors were a grand old lady and gentleman and they certainly made the Drummers very welcome.

We were commended on having the best and cleanest hut in camp, and on one occasion the 2 i/c said he had purposely looked for faults but could not find any. This was very gratifying as the Drums are expected at all times to be an example to the Battalion.

We congratulate the N.C.O. i/c Hut, Cpl. Sayers, also the Drummers, for so grand an effort under not very good conditions.

We had Sgt. Gilyat and Cpls. Powell and Lee, all of the Band, with us both at practice and playing of "Retreat." They were great stalwarts and helped us on all occasions when playing out.

We beat "Reveille" and "Retreat" during our stay

and were congratulated by the C.O. both on our playing and turnout.

We congratulate Bdm. Thomas on his purchase of a greyhound during our stay and hope to hear that it has won a few races at the White City before long. Unfortunately the collection of this masterpiece caused Sgt. Gilyat, Cpls. Powell and Lee and Drum. Howes to miss the last truck from camp and they therefore had to come home with the rear party.

Cpl. Lee must be congratulated on the great achievements he performed as Post Corporal on an odd-looking W.D. cycle which had no mudguards; you can guess what he looked like when it rained.

Congratulations to Cpl. Sayers whose wife presented him with a son. We understand he has already started on a flute.

We nearly lost Drum. Caddis (Jock) at camp, for as soon as he saw the kilts and heard the pipes of the London Scottish he thought that he was back home again. He started to do the Highland Fling and talked to us in some queer language, "Long may yer Lum Reek." We felt very sorry for our Company Commander who had to put up with him as batman at camp.

In closing we wish the 1st Battalion Drummers the very best of luck and hope to see them in England again shortly.

Signals

After many arduous weeks of constant packing we eventually arrived at Bodney North with only a deficiency of "Tape, Insulating."

Serious work began soon after our arrival when we were called upon to "get some communications between the Orderly Room and the outside world." This was successfully accomplished, much to the dismay of the O.R.s., Sgt. Colbourne.

Most of the training went smoothly except for the time lost in searching for L/Cpl. Payne in the long grass. This was eventually overcome by ordering him to erect a long aerial, thus making him visible both to us (and the attackers).

The night scheme under very tiring conditions showed that our winter training had not been forgotten, both men and sets working well enough to provide constant communication throughout.

Pte. Shaw's presence was missed at camp but he is to be congratulated on becoming the father of a "wee bonnie lassie."

We look forward to the start of the next T.A. year with confidence and feel that we can now welcome and absorb our new N.S. Signallers.

Motor Transport

The M.T. Platoon has been training hard during the last quarter and in addition to the normal Battalion week-ends at Pirbright we have spent several Sundays there training "S" Company carrier drivers on the Chobham Ranges; on other Sundays we have performed long convoy runs and spent some useful time on maintenance. In a T.A. Battalion this is a constant headache.

At camp we found ourselves rather hard pushed, especially during the second week when unfortunately

most of our drivers had to return home. Several members of the Platoon went out with Rifle Companies on Field Firing Days and showed them how things should be done.

The Platoon had an excellent party during the first week at "The Windmill," a local pub much patronised by certain members of the Battalion. It is presumed that this was not the only occasion on which members of the Platoon tasted the local brew, since when the Company Commander inspected the lines on the last day he discovered a large number of empty beer bottles concealed under mattresses. It is understood that the Company Commander is still looking for Ptes. Moran and Wilson.

We congratulate Cpl. King and L/Cpl. Thompson on their promotion.

When we next write our notes our first drafts of N.S. men will be with us, bringing with them, we hope, some more drivers and experienced fitters. We welcome Lt. J. G. Gunnell as M.T.O. in the place of Capt. E. G. Daniels who is now our Company Commander.

"S" Company

Support Company was formed in June this year, only a few weeks before Annual Camp. We welcome Capt. J. Hands as our Company Commander and Sgt. Kendrick as our P.S.I. Despite the fact that we have only been formed a few months, we can already show the Battalion which is the best Company. The only other person in our Company H.Q. at present is C/Sgt. Payne, the most popular N.C.O. in the Company, since it is he who calculates our pay and allowances.

M.M.G. Platoon

The M.M.G. Platoon was formed in the early spring of 1950 as part of "C" Company. From the start it was one of the most enthusiastic and hard working sections of the Battalion, parading regularly twice a week. Thanks to this keenness and to the excellent instruction of Sgt. Harris, the Platoon was well grounded by the time the Battalion went to Camp, by which time it had been transferred to the newly formed "S" Company.

In camp a Brigade composite M.M.G. Platoon was formed and it was at once obvious that the M.M.G. Platoons of the other two Battalions were not up to our standard. This was most gratifying since the other Battalions had formed their M.M.G. Platoons six months or more before we had. Credit is due to Sgt. Harris and the gun numbers for their keen spirit, especially the N.C.O.s.

At camp, training was hard and long and a tremendous amount of work was accomplished in spite of the weather. The Platoon was firing almost daily on the field firing ranges and the improvement of the standard of fire control was finally praised by the Brigade Commander who had spent a considerable time with the Brigade M.M.G. Platoon.

3-in. Mortar Platoon

The 3-in. Mortar Platoon got down to serious training at camp during July when Lt. P. Garrett joined us as Platoon Commander and Instructor. Our numbers are

still very small, but what is lacking in quantity is made up by the enthusiasm of the few. Our instructor has set a high standard of training and as a result there have been many weary nights of section drill, the long carry and fire control discipline during this year's Annual Camp at Bodney, Norfolk. One particular incident which will never be forgotten was a dark cold night in May when our Platoon Commander had the happy idea of a long carry, so, piling us into a truck, complete with our horse harness, we drove to Hampstead. There, having girded ourselves in yards of webbing and steel frames, plus items of 3-in. mortar equipment, he calmly ordered the truck back to Hornsey empty, leaving us with a nice quiet evening stroll of some four miles. The language was not printable but it must be recorded that our Platoon Commander did take a turn with the load. The most difficult part was explaining to our wives why we rolled home at midnight.

The Platoon is still very keen, having entered our second year, and we look forward with interest to having the National Service lads join us, thus enabling us to build up a complete Platoon.

Anti-Tank Platoon

The Anti-Tank Platoon, like the rest of the Company, was brigaded for camp with the London Irish and London Scottish. But whereas they were trained men, our men had hardly seen a gun. However, after having dragged guns all over the place, over impossible obstacles and at impossible speeds, the Anti-Tank Platoon began to take shape. Everybody in the Platoon attended camp, although some only stayed for a week, and all enjoyed the training.

Back at the Drill Hall we look forward to having the N.S. men with us and hope by next camp to be at least at half strength. With the keenness and enthusiasm of the Platoon as it is now we hope by next camp to have acquired a better name than the "Babies of the Company."

"A" Company

The Company found the training at camp very enjoyable and worth while, at the same time it proved that they were not physically fit. (Too much N.A.A.F.I. beer?) However, Cpl. Potipher found sufficient energy to help skittle out the officers and Sergeants when they played the other ranks at cricket the second week.

Pte. Kitchen, though missing from the outdoor training, certainly put in some very good training on the officers as a cook. As they are still living it can justly be said that his cooking is at least average.

"A" Company are on their toes to welcome the National Servicemen and it is hoped they will go to camp in greater numbers next year.

"B" Company

The Company re-formed at Enfield after a period of ten years on April 15, 1950.

We restarted with a very small cadre consisting of Capt. H. E. Rawles as O.C., Lt. A. E. Bird, C/Sgt. Howes and Cpls. Leahy and Webb, with C.S.M. Lomax as P.S.I. The latter named is due to leave the Army very

[Continued on page 249]



595th L.A.A./S.L. REGIMENT, R.A.
(9th Battalion The Middlesex Regiment, D.C.O.)
T.A.

Presentation of New Colours, May 13, 1950

On behalf of H.M. The King, new Colours were presented to 595th L.A.A./S.L. Regiment, R.A. (9th Battalion The Middlesex Regiment, D.C.O.), T.A., on Saturday, May 13, 1950.

His Majesty was represented by Lt.-Gen. Sir Brian G. Horrocks, K.C.B., K.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., who was Adjutant of this Unit in 1926.

A large crowd of 3,000 relatives, friends and past and present members of the Regiment had gathered in perfect weather to witness the ceremony, which took place at the T.A. Centre, Kingsbury, N.W.9. After Lt.-Gen. Sir Brian Horrocks had been received with a General Salute, he inspected the parade, which, flanked by two guns, consisted of the three Batteries of 595th Regiment, a large contingent of the Old Comrades' Association (O.C., Col. J. N. Lamont, M.C., T.D.), 33rd (Middlesex) Cadet Battery, R.A. (O.C., Capt. F. P. Smith), No. 1 L.A.A. Troop and the Legion of Frontiersmen (O.C., Capt. F. Rodney-Stone).

The parade was commanded by Lt.-Col. H. W. W. Gray, M.B.E., T.D., Commanding Officer, 595th L.A.A./S.L. Regiment.

To the music of "Old Lang Syne," played by the Corps of Drums, 7th Battalion The Middlesex Regiment, T.A., the old Colours were trooped, and then followed the solemn Drumhead Service when the new Colours were consecrated by the Rev. H. C. Davies, M.B.E., M.C., R.A., Assistant Chaplain-General to the Forces.

After presenting the new Colours to the Regiment, Gen. Horrocks, addressing the parade, made particular reference to the fact that as a unit in the Royal Regiment of Artillery, its guns, which were on parade, were their Colours, and the Unit's pride in their Colours was shown in the excellent dressing of the guns. He went on to

refer to the splendid record of the Regiment since it first went into action 139 years ago. It had fought with honour and distinction in all parts of the world, and the last notable occasion being at Nijmegen Bridge in 1944.

Gen. Horrocks also expressed his great pleasure at seeing both the Old Comrades and the Cadets at the parade.

The new Colours were received with a General Salute, and the ceremony concluded with an impressive march past of the parade to the strains of the Middlesex Regimental March and "The British Grenadiers."

Over 2,500 guests were entertained to tea by the Regiment in the Drill Hall and its environs. Among the many distinguished guests present were Col. M. Browne, M.C., D.L., J.P. (Colonel of The Middlesex Regiment), Col. G. Beach, C.B., O.B.E., T.D., D.L., J.P. (Hon. Colonel 595th L.A.A./S.L. Regiment), Brigadier G. R. Mockler, D.S.O. (82nd A.A. Brigade), Brigadier B. B. Rackham, C.B.E., M.C., D.L. (Middlesex T. and A.F.A.), the Mayor of Wembley, the Vice-Chairman, Harrow U.D.C., and Sir Donald Somervell.

The proceedings were fittingly brought to a close by a Regimental banquet, which was held in the evening to commemorate the occasion. Presentations were made to Col. Beach, the Hon. Colonel, on the completion of 50 years association with the Regiment, and to Lt.-Col. Gray, who has now relinquished his command. It is of considerable interest to note that Col. Gray has served with the 9th Battalion The Middlesex Regiment (T.A.) for 26½ years, first joining as a Private. The Regiment is now commanded by Lt.-Col. J. T. Dear, T.D., lately Second-in-Command.

Permission has now been received for the old Colours (which were presented in 1913) to be laid up in the Middlesex Guildhall, and this ceremony will take place on Wednesday, October 25, 1950, when an escort from the Regiment will take the Colours to the Guildhall and hand them over for safe keeping and custody.

HONOURS AND AWARDS

"London Gazette," June 20, 1950

Lt.-Col. H. W. W. Gray, M.B.E., T.D., 1st and 2nd Clasp to his decoration.

Lt.-Col. J. T. Dear, Major H. H. Grey, Capt. A. D.



Buckland-Nicks and Capt. W. B. Hammond, Efficiency Decorations.

"London Gazette," June 13, 1950

Lt. (Hon. Capt.) G. D. Llewellyn and Lt. (Hon. Capt.) R. P. Rhodes, Efficiency Decorations.

A REMARKABLE PAIR

"Tokyo" came to Mrs. Swainson under reprieve from sentence of death

Reprinted by kind permission of the Editor of "The Field"

It is doubtful if there can have been many stranger coincidences than the fate which brought Mrs. Swainson and her favourite horse, "Tokyo," together. Mrs. May Sheldon Swainson, wife of Lt.-Col. F. E. Swainson, of The Middlesex Regiment, was born at Landloes, Montgomeryshire, in 1878, and was the daughter of Capt. N. G. Beadnell of the same Regiment. May Beadnell, as she then was, first came to India at the age of four, and has been very closely connected with the country ever since. Her father, Capt. N. G. Beadnell, retired from the Middlesex Regiment in 1869, after completing 11 years' service in the Army, a great portion

of which was spent in India. On retiring from the Service he took to a civilian occupation, first as a cinchona and afterwards as a tea planter in South India. He later opened up and eventually became the owner of Summerdale Tea Estate, near Ootacamund in the Nilgiris. Here it was that May Beadnell first learnt to ride, but not in an orthodox manner; she learnt to ride on calf-back, which she considers far better training than being initiated on a pony like the normal child. To this rough start, Mrs. Swainson later attributed her ability to ride even the most unmanageable horse, and, during her long and successful riding career she has experienced many of them.

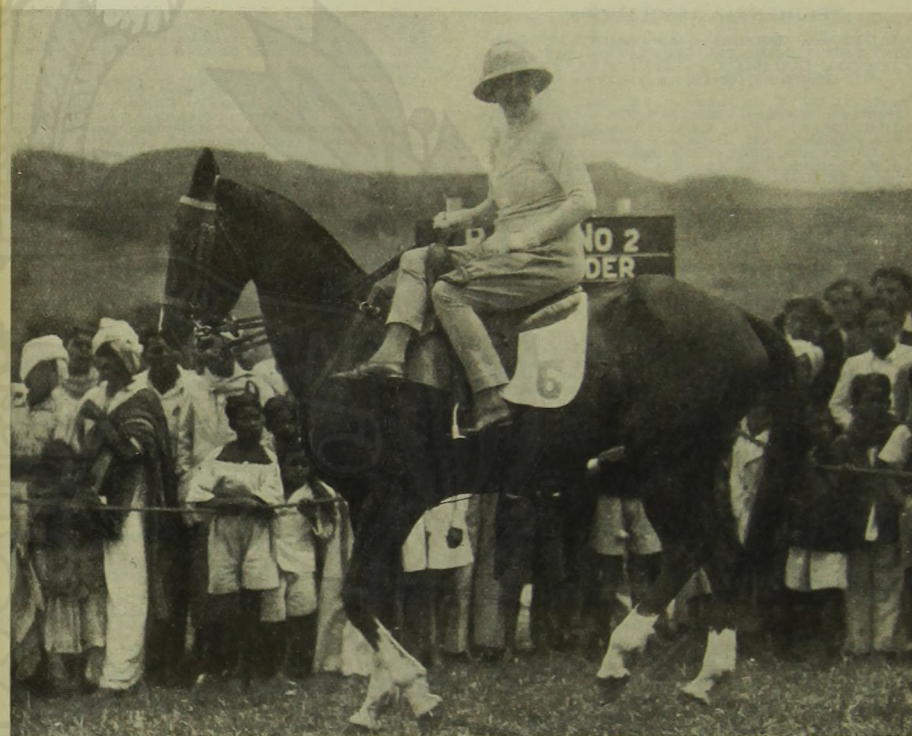
At the age of 22 May Beadnell married 2/Lt. F. E. Swainson of her father's old Regiment. The ensuing years saw long tours of service on the North-West Frontier, North and Central India, as well as Burma, Singapore, Ireland, England, Europe (for the 1914-18 World War), Egypt, and finally back to India again. Lt.-Col. Swainson, who saw a great deal of active service with his Battalion in France, and was very severely wounded at Loos in 1915, retired from the Army in 1924 to the picturesque hill-station of Ootacamund in the Nilgiri hills. From now onwards Mrs. Swainson was able to devote more of her time to those hobbies which interested her most, namely riding in any form, shooting—big and small game—and breeding pointers. There can be few places left in the world today which can better Ootacamund for one so keenly interested in these occupations. So it was quite natural that she, who had been brought up to riding on the tricky Ootacamund downland country, soon became one of the keenest followers of the Hunt and notorious for her "hell-for-leather" downhill gallops following hounds.

Before going any further, however, it would be as well to introduce "Tokyo," a black, country-bred gelding, aged nine years, standing 15½ hands. This horse, bred in the Mysore State stud farm at Kunigal, was originally destined for the Maharajah of Mysore's personal stable, but was cast because he had unfavourable markings which were considered unlucky. So "Tokyo" was eventually bought for the Governor of Madras' bodyguard stable, but here he found no favour as he was considered an unsafe ride, having thrown many experienced riders who had attempted to control him. As a result of being reckoned quite unmanageable, "Tokyo" was offered to Mrs. Swainson as a gift. Had she refused this offer, then the horse was to be put down the following day, for he was considered far too dangerous a customer even for the most experienced horseman over the Ootacamund hunting country.

In this manner "Tokyo" came into Mrs. Swainson's possession in June, 1949, with a reprieve from the death sentence. This pair then set out to make Ootacamund Hunt history.

The following season—1949—must have been Mrs. Swainson's lucky year and, incidentally, "Tokyo's" too, for between them they won the following races connected with the Ootacamund Hunt Club.

On September 17 Mrs. Swainson won the Ladies' Hunt Cup easily. The image of this grand old lady (aged 71) galloping downhill to the winning post on "Tokyo" far ahead of all other competitors, most of



Mrs. Swainson is a great believer in riding side-saddle. She is waiting, with Tokyo, for the weigh-in at the Ootacamund point-to-point.

whom were more than 35 years her junior, will remain in the minds of those who saw that race for many years to come. This, incidentally, was the 49th anniversary of the Swainson's wedding day.

On September 24 the Hunt Club gymkhana flat races were held. In the Hunt Plate, a distance handicap for hunt horses, "Tokyo" started from scratch, 40 yards behind the next handicapped horse. When riding up to the starting post, a small boy, waving a stick vigorously, caught the horse's eye and frightened "Tokyo," who proceeded to bolt, complete with his jockey. Appreciating that it was of no use trying to stop him, Mrs. Swainson let the animal have his head and completed a circuit of the course before bringing him back to the starting post again. In the ensuing race, "Tokyo" went mag-

nificently from the start and overtook his lesser handicapped competitors to win easily.

This was not their only success in the flat races that season, for they also won the "Sloc" Memorial Cup in grand style a week later.

Mrs. Swainson is a great believer in women riding side-saddle. She, herself, has done this from the commencement of her riding career, which was 66 years ago, and would not change for anything.

Both Mrs. Swainson and "Tokyo" are going strong, and who knows what they have got up their sleeves for the coming hunting season? It may be that they are planning yet another win in the Ladies' Hunt Cup as a most acceptable fiftieth anniversary present for the Colonel.

O. GARRETT.

REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION HELD AT THE MIDDLESEX GUILDHALL, WESTMINSTER, S.W.1, ON THURSDAY, JUNE 8, 1950, AT 2.15 P.M.

Present: Lt.-Col. W. L. Roberts, O.B.E., M.C. (Chairman), Brigadier N. P. Procter, C.B.E., M.C., Col. G. Beach, C.B., O.B.E., T.D., D.L., J.P., Lt.-Col. C. P. Rooke, D.S.O., Lt.-Col. T. S. Wollcombe, M.C., Lt.-Col. A. E. Green, D.S.O., O.B.E., Lt.-Col. G. L. Fox, T.D., Lt.-Col. J. D. Robbins, O.B.E., Major H. K. Hardcastle, T.D., Major R. C. H. Bellers, R.S.M., J. Painter, Sgt. E. Fletcher, Mr. A. Todman, Major A. W. Clark, O.B.E. (Secretary).

Apologies for non-attendance were received from: Brigadier E. E. F. Baker, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., T.D., D.L., J.P., A.D.C., Brigadier B. B. Rackham, C.B.E., M.C., D.L. and Lt.-Col. M. Crawford, D.S.O.

The Chairman welcomed Lt.-Col. Fox on his attendance after his recent operation and trusted that his health would continue to improve.

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

2. **Secretary's Report.** The Committee approved of the Secretary's report which was circulated with the agenda, and approved of the grants made during the quarter ending March 31, 1950, to the value of £568 8s. od., and authorised the Secretary to expend a sum not exceeding £600 during the current quarter ending on June 30, 1950.

3. **Finance Committee's Report.** Col. Robbins reported that during the previous quarter nothing abnormal had occurred, and he informed the Committee that the Chairman of the Association and he were visiting the Brokers in the near future to discuss Investments generally.

4. **War Memorial Committee's Report.** Col. Beach informed the Committee that the licence to build had now been approved and signed, and that the architects had given the contractors instructions to proceed with the plans for construction. He was hopeful that a start will be made to erect the cottages within three months, but emphasised the fact that there may be some further delay due to certain materials being in short supply.

5. **Journal Committee's Report.** Col. Beach explained that the income from advertisements had decreased considerably during the past few years. The Committee were considering changing the advertising agent in an endeavour to increase the revenue from this source.

A vote of thanks was passed to Col. Beach for his past services as Chairman of the Journal Committee and decided to accept his resignation which he himself had proposed.

The Committee approved that Brigadier Procter assume the Chairmanship, together with responsibility for production of the Journal.

Brigadier Procter explained the position of the Journal at the present time and informed the Committee that he was taking up the question of reduced numbers purchased by the 1st Battalion. The Committee approved that no reduction in the composition of the Journal be made, and that it should be subsidised from Association Funds if necessary.

6. **Remembrance Day.** Major Bellers informed the Committee that the British Legion will not issue their programme for Remembrance Day until August and that they would forward a copy of instructions and plans later. The matter to be brought up at the next meeting.

7. **Name of Site of Memorial Cottages.** The Chairman read a letter from Col. Hedgecoe recommending that the new site be named after the late Lt.-Col. H. W. M. Stewart, D.S.O., O.B.E., M.C., who commanded the 1st Battalion during and after the fall of Hong Kong until his death in Japan whilst a P.O.W. Lt.-Col. Rooke then asked the Committee if the name of the late Col. L. A. Newham, G.C., M.C., had been considered. Brigadier Procter asked the Committee to consider that the estate be given a Regimental title and not an individual's name, and that the name of each cottage be the name of a deceased member of the Regiment who had performed exceptional duty in the Regiment.

After lengthy discussion it was proposed by Lt.-Col. Rooke, seconded by Brigadier Procter and approved by the Committee, that the name of the road be deferred for discussion at the next meeting when members will be asked for recommendations.

NOTE.—The Colonel of the Regiment reminds all members of the Committee that the Lord Lieutenant, the Patron of the Regimental War Memorial Fund, has promised the Mayors of Boroughs and Chairmen of Urban District Councils that where their subscription to the Fund has reached or exceeded the sum required for a cottage, their Borough or District name shall be allotted to a cottage. In considering names for the cottages this promise must be fulfilled.

8. **Pakistan Cemeteries.** The Chairman explained correspondence from the High Commissioner of Pakistan and the British War Graves Commission referring to the upkeep of soldiers' graves. It was proposed by Brigadier Procter, seconded by Lt.-Col. Fox and approved by the Committee, that no further action be taken at the moment.

9. **Regimental History.** Brigadier Procter recommended that the report of the Regimental History Sub-Committee, circulated to members of the Regimental Association, be adopted. The Regimental Association discussed the report and made the following observations:—

(a) It was unlikely that as many as 700 copies of the History would be sold at Gale & Poldens price of 30s. per copy.

(b) That neither the Association Charitable Fund nor the Renny Fund were permitted by their rules to advance the large sum of money required for financing the publication. (Total sum required, including author's fee, would approximate the considerable sum of £2,000).

(c) As the purpose of the History is to perpetuate the glorious achievements of Battalions of the Regiment, it is most desirable that the copies should be produced with suitable dignity and not in an inferior edition.

In order that the production of the History should be further examined, it was decided that the following exploratory steps be taken:—

(a) That Brigadier Procter should ascertain from Gale & Poldens what lesser numbers than 700 they would produce as a minimum (down to 100 copies) and the corresponding price for the reduced numbers.

Also that he should assess what economies might be effected by reducing certain specifications.

(b) That Major Bellers should draft a letter for signature by the Chairman of the Regimental Association to be addressed to the Trustees of the Fund of all Regular and Territorial Service Battalions associated with the Regiment asking them if they will asist in the scheme by offering a donation, loan or subsidy in order to finance production costs.

(c) That an attempt should be made to obtain a rough estimate of how many copies would be sold.

That this could be effected by a brief circular to be sent out by the Secretary to all officers of the Officers' Club stating that it is proposed to publish a History of the Regiment in the 1939-45 War at a cost of approximately 25s. per copy, and asking officers to state on an attached slip whether they were prepared to purchase a copy at this price.

(d) The Regimental Sub-Committee was asked to examine the results of the proposals in (a), (b) and (c) and make a report at the next meeting of the Regimental Association.

After further discussion it was decided that the subject be deferred to the next meeting.

10. **Assistant Secretary.** The Committee approved that the Assistant Secretary's (Mrs. Baker) salary be met from Regimental Association and Renny Funds as recommended by the Finance Committee (i.e., £100 p.a. from each Fund).

11. **Tenant for Vacant Cottage.** The Committee examined the applications for the vacant cottage home at Mill Hill, and as a result of the voting it was approved by unanimous vote that the cottage be allotted to Mr. G. A. Comber (a Boer War veteran).

There being no further business the meeting closed at 4.25 p.m. The next meeting will take place at the Middlesex Guildhall on September 7, 1950, at 2.15 p.m.

A. W. CLARK, Major,
Secretary, Middlesex Regimental Association.

OFFICERS' CLUB

MIDDLESEX OFFICERS' CLUB
MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT OFFICERS' CLUB HELD AT THE MIDDLESEX GUILDHALL, WESTMINSTER, S.W.1, ON THURSDAY, JUNE 8, 1950, AT 4.30 P.M.

Present: Lt.-Col. W. L. Roberts, O.B.E., M.C. (Chairman), Brigadier N. P. Procter, C.B.E., M.C., Col. G. Beach, C.B., O.B.E., T.D., D.L., J.P., Lt.-Col. C. P. Rooke, D.S.O., Lt.-Col. T. S. Wollcombe, M.C., Lt.-Col. A. E. Green, D.S.O., O.B.E., Lt.-Col. G. L. Fox, T.D., Lt.-Col. J. D. Robbins, O.B.E., Major H. K. Hardcastle, T.D., Major R. C. H. Bellers, Major A. W. Clark, O.B.E. (Secretary).

Apologies for non-attendance were received from: Brigadier E. E. F. Baker, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., T.D., D.L., J.P., A.D.C., Brigadier B. B. Rackham, C.B.E., M.C., D.L., and Lt.-Col. M. Crawford, D.S.O.

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

2. **Secretary's Report.** The Secretary's report having been circulated with the agenda was accepted by the Committee without comment.

3. **Election of New Members.** The Committee approved that the officers enumerated below be elected as members of the Club: Capt. B. J. Alexander, M.C., 2/Lt. E. P. de B. Vare, 2/Lt. P. H. Denning, Major S. C. Jay, 2/Lt. S. J. Rosenkranz and Capt. W. N. Vare.

4. **Resignation of Members.** The Committee acknowledged with regret the resignations of Major J. R. C. Kenyon, M.C., Major F. J. Nunn, M.C., Capt. M. G. Brock and 2/Lt. D. F. Reckitt.

5. **6th Battalion Funds.** Major Hardcastle reported that he was now in possession of the Draft Deed from the Charity Commissioner, and was awaiting its final ratification. No income from this Fund had been received to date.

6. **Autumn Golf Meeting.** The Committee approved that the Autumn Golf Meeting take place at Hendon Golf Club on Friday, October 27, 1950, and a Cocktail Party be held in the evening in the Depot Officers' Mess at a cost of 15s. per head. The Secretary to circulate members of the Club.

7. **Officers' Club Dinner, 1951.** Proposed by Lt.-Col. Green, seconded by Brigadier Procter and approved by the Committee, that the Officers' Club Dinner for 1951 be held at the Junior United Service Club.

8. **Grant—Officers' Association.** The Committee approved of the Chairman's action in making a donation of £20 os. od. from the Officers' Club Charitable Fund to the Officers' Association in appreciation of their assistance to ex-officers of the Regiment.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 5.10 p.m.
A. W. CLARK, Major,
Secretary, Middlesex Regiment Officers' Club.

WAR MEMORIAL FUND

List of donations from February 2 to July 31, inclusive:—

	£	s.	d.
Messrs. McVitie & Price, Ltd., (4th payment on Covenant less Income Tax)	39	5	9
O.C. 595 L.A.A./S.L. Regiment, R.A. (9th Battalion The Middlesex Regiment, D.C.O.)			
T.A. (further donation)	25	18	9
Hornsey "Diehards" Club (sale of collecting stamp cards)	25	8	6
Mr. H. G. Carr (collected from friends of the late Sgt. P. Thres)	14	0	0
P.R.I. 1st Battalion The Middlesex Regiment (D.C.O.)	9	19	6
Chairman, Urban District Council of Enfield Enfield & District Horse Society (further donation)	5	0	0
Mrs. E. Gudgeon	3	3	0
O. N. Martin, Esq., Mr. J. N. Peck (In memory of the late Sgt. P. Thres)	2	2	0
Hornsey "Diehards" Club (collecting box)	2	0	0
Mr. & Mrs. P. Thres	1	10	0
A. C. Chidley, Esq. (further donation), Mr. F. W. Morris, Major H. W. Brighton	1	1	0
Col. A. M. O. A. Passingham (stamp collecting cards), Ealing "Diehards" Club, Lt.-Col. E. P. Shanks, Mr. & Mrs. D. Ridley	1	0	0
Major A. E. Sheldrick, Mr. G. W. Taylor	5	0	0

THE ARMY CRUSADERS (ARMY OFFICERS) ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL CLUB

A meeting was held at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst, on May 4, 1950, with the object of reviving the above Club.

The objects of the Army Crusaders are:—

1. To give officers an opportunity of interesting themselves in Army football and of getting games of the type to which they are accustomed.

2. To run a series of matches against as many soccer playing Public Schools as possible.

3. To play the officers of the sister Services.

4. To further the true amateur spirit of the sport. Membership of the Club is open to officers of the Regular Army (including National Service officers),

Reserve of Officers and Territorial Army, and Officer Cadets of the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst.

The rates of subscription are as follows:—

Life membership: £2 2s. od.; Annual membership: 5s. od.

It is hoped to defray any match expenses incurred by individual players.

Several fixtures have already been arranged for the season 1950-51, the first one for October, 1950. These fixtures include a match against the officers of the Royal Navy. Although no fixtures are being arranged in the north of England at present, it is hoped to arrange a fixture list with schools in the north later on.

It is hoped to arrange at least one trial match in the Aldershot area in the second half of September. Officers desirous of playing next season are asked to submit their names before August 1, 1950, if possible.

Applications for membership or for further information should be sent to:—

Capt. N. W. Watson, R.A.E.C.,
Hon. Secretary,
Army Crusaders Football Club,
Royal Military Academy Sandhurst,
Camberley,
Surrey.

OBITUARIES

It is with deep regret that we have to record the death of No. 3257 Pte. H. F. Manning, who died on April 6, 1950. He served in "C" Company, 4th Battalion, and was a prisoner of war in Great War I. Our deepest sympathy is offered to his widow and family.

It is also with deep regret that we have to record the death of No. 3031 Sgt. J. Ryan, who died on May 18, 1950, aged 80 years. He was cremated at Hendon Park Cemetery on May 24, 1950. Major E. L. Heywood and Sgt. Bignall attended the service and a wreath was placed in the Garden of Remembrance on behalf of the Regimental Association.

Sgt. Ryan enlisted on October 21, 1890, at Hounslow and was discharged to pension on October 20, 1911. He re-enlisted in the Labour Section, Royal Engineers, as a sergeant on August 30, 1915, and was discharged in 1919.

He was selected to occupy one of the Regimental cottages for some years and was an occupant until his untimely death.

His wife died three days prior to his death and our deepest sympathy is extended to his daughters.

The death has also occurred of the late No. 6435 C/Sgt. N. A. L. Bailey on July 19, 1950, after a long illness, aged 80 years. A representative from the Depot attended his funeral on Saturday, July 22, and placed a wreath in the Garden of Remembrance at Mortlake Crematorium on behalf of the Regimental Association.

C/Sgt. Bailey enlisted in the Royal Munster Fusiliers on October 5, 1889, and was later transferred to the Middlesex Regiment. He saw service with the 2nd Battalion and was discharged to pension on May 28, 1912.

He was a keen sportsman and played cricket with the Battalion team and was Battalion Shot. During the Great War he was P.S.I. with the 8th Battalion and served with the R.A.F. from April 1, 1918, to August 22, 1919. He was awarded the following medals: South Africa, General Service and Victory Medals, 1914-18, Meritorious Service Medal and Long Service and Good Conduct Medal. He was also Mentioned in Despatches in 1902 for skill and prompt action in assisting to prevent the capture of a patrol at Beacons Hill.

Our deepest sympathies are extended to his widow and family in their sad loss.

The death is also recorded of the late Sgt. P. Thres who died suddenly on June 29, 1950. A burial service was held at Chingford Church on July 3 followed by a cremation in the Enfield Crematorium.

No wreath was sent, and in confirmation of his wishes his relatives and friends have forwarded to the Memorial Fund sums amounting to £19 2s. od.

Sgt. Thres served in the 9th Battalion and was a member of the O.C.A. of that branch.

Our deepest sympathies go out to his relatives and friends with grateful thanks for their donations to the War Memorial Fund.

We regret to record the death of Mr. Tom Sewell on June 22 after a long illness at his home at Thorpe Bay.

Tom Sewell, who was 68, spent the early part of his life at sea, eventually becoming a ship's purser. The last voyage he made was from Australia to England in a convoy, the escort of which was detached to deal with the German cruiser *Emden*.

Coming to London he heard Victor McLaglen, the film actor, who was then an officer in the Middlesex Regiment, making a recruiting speech in Trafalgar Square. Tom Sewell joined up and was sent to the 4th Battalion where he quickly became a sergeant and was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal in 1916. He was wounded soon after and returned to England. He was then commissioned to the 11th Battalion (Col. Wollocombe's).

He was a very popular member of "C" Company. His knowledge of wine and food and how they should be prepared and served made an invitation to "C" Company's Mess a joy to be remembered. In the line and out they fed like fighting cocks under Sewell's management. He became bombing officer to the Battalion and was shot in the head at Cambrai in 1917. However, he survived this and on his return to England saw no more active service.

He was cremated at Golders Green on Monday, June 26. Flowers were sent by the 11th Battalion and the Officers' Club, of which he was a member.

Major J. G. P. Hunt represented the 11th Battalion and buglers from the 7th Battalion sounded the Last Post and the Rouse.

"And so he passed over and all the trumpets sounded on the other side."

J.G.P.H.

ROMFORD "DIE-HARDS" CLUB

6192075	Cpl. Timson	1st Bn.	1920-1928
6473	L/Sgt. W. Sams	4th Bn.	1900-1914
	Cpl. H. Judge	3/8th & 23rd Bns.	1915-1918
6198231	Pte. W. Vidler	1st Bn.	1927-1934
9789	Pte. W. Brazier	3rd & 4th Bns.	1904-1920
9372	Sgt. E. H. Bodington	1st Bn.	1903-1925
3116	Pte. H. Till	3rd & 4th Bns.	1906-1919
7394	C.S.M. A. J. Burton	3rd Bn.	1901-1922
6198422	Pte. T. G. Fitzgerald	1st Bn.	1928-1935

The above send their compliments to all those with whom they were acquainted during the periods of their service, and can be contacted through the Hon. Secretary Romford "Die-Hards" Club, 142 Osborne Square, Dagenham, Essex.

MILITARY WIDOWS' FUND

President: THE ADJUTANT-GENERAL TO THE FORCES
Room 634,
Lansdowne House,
Berkeley Square,
London, W.1.
June 28, 1950.

Dear Sir,

May I draw your attention to the above Fund, which exists for the benefit of married officers and others with dependent children, and ask that it might be brought to the notice of such of them as may be serving in the Unit under your Command.

An officer who becomes a subscriber assures, in the event of his death whilst serving overseas, that his widow receives the sum of £900. The subscription is £3 per year.

The Fund previously existed in India, where it operated for over 100 years for the benefit of the families of officers of the British Service, and its assets (amounting to over £100,000) were handed over by Trust Deed to a newly constituted fund in the United Kingdom in 1949 with the same object, viz:

"To provide a sum of money for the immediate needs of the widows and children of subscribers to the Fund who died when serving overseas and to alleviate the distress of such relatives without having recourse to the process of circulating subscription lists."

Membership is open to all officers holding commissions in the Regular Army (British Service) on the active list and who are serving in a command other than those located in Great Britain, Ireland and the Channel Islands.

An officer can become a subscriber to the Fund from the moment he embarks for an overseas command. The benefit is payable to his widow, should he die while on the strength of an overseas command. The rate of subscription and the amount of the benefit are based on the present ability of the Fund to meet commitments, and they are both liable to variation should actuarial examination prove this to be necessary. Due

notice would be given before any changes were made. The benefit is payable immediately without any formalities and subject only to verification of the report of a member's death. It is payable only to his widow or an agent appointed by her. If he is a widower with dependent children or an officer whose marriage has been dissolved with dependent children, he may become a subscriber and the benefit is payable to his children.

Dependent children are regarded as those under 21 years of age and, if daughters, unmarried at the time of the subscriber's death. Step-children and legally adopted children are included.

It should be noted that the benefit is payable regardless of where the widow is residing at the time of her husband's death, does not take into account a subscriber's financial position, nor is the Fund concerned with other commitments into which he may have entered.

The Fund is impressed with a Charitable Trust, and the United Services Trustee is Custodian Trustee. A Committee of Officers on the Staff of the Adjutant-General's Department at the War Office administer the Fund as Managing Trustees under his Presidency.

I enclose a supply of leaflets and would be grateful if a copy could be handed to any officer who is interested.

A copy of the Constitution and Rules, and the Standing Orders are issued to all subscribers.

I will be glad to answer any enquiries.

Yours faithfully,
R. R. WALKER,

Secretary.

LADY GROVER'S HOSPITAL FUND FOR OFFICERS' FAMILIES

The following summary concerning the above Fund is given for the information of serving and retired officers.

1. Object:

The Fund is to assist members by securing nursing benefits

- For their wives and children (sons up to 18 years of age and daughters up to 21 years of age or until their marriage—whichever occurs first);
- For mothers and unmarried sisters of bachelor members if dependent on them.

2. Members:

The following are eligible to join:—

- All Commissioned Officers wherever serving and all retired Commissioned Officers of the Regular Army (and other Services).
- Widows of the above.
- Unmarried daughters when over the age of 21 years of the above.

NOTE.—Officers who hold Temporary Commissions are eligible to join the Fund.

3. Annual Subscriptions:

	£	s.	d.
Captain and under ..	1	7	6
Major and above ..	1	11	6
Widows ..	1	1	0
Unmarried daughters ..	1	5	0

with certain provisos.

4. Benefits:

Grants to assist in defraying the expense of residence in, or attendance at a nursing home or hospital in Great Britain and Ireland, or in the case of serving officers, at a nursing home or hospital in any station abroad where they may be serving: in the case of retired officers, in a nursing home or hospital in India, or in any Dominion, Colony, Protectorate or Mandated Territory.

The amount of the grant to be actual expenses incurred up to £8 8s. od. weekly, after the first week.

The Fund does not pay doctors' fees or those for certain special treatments. Where a nurse is employed privately, up to £5 5s. od. a week may be paid. Maternity and certain other cases are not eligible for grants. Benefits are not for more than six weeks in any one year.

Full information can be obtained from:

The Secretary,
Lady Grover's Hospital Fund for Officers,
14 Spencer Hill,
London, S.W.19.

THE RESTORED STATUE TO EARL HAIG

In 1931 the people of Montreuil-sur-Mer erected a statue in their little town in Northern France, where Field Marshal Earl Haig had set up British General Headquarters in the 1914-18 War. This statue of Lord Haig was executed in bronze by the sculptor Landowski and showed the Field Marshal astride his favourite mare, "Miss Ypres."

In 1940 the Germans melted down this statue but left undamaged the concrete plinth on which it stood. Each year during the occupation of France the people of Montreuil would assemble on Armistice Day before the concrete pedestal and pay homage to a great commander.

In 1945 a public subscription was opened to raise funds for the restoration of the statue. Bronze for it was taken from captured German guns and the necessary money was soon collected. Fortunately, the mould for the original figure had been preserved by the sculptor, and from this the new statue was cast.

On June 25, 1950, Sir Oliver Harvey, the British Ambassador in Paris, and M. Phalempin, who represented the French Government, unveiled the restored statue before a large crowd in the market place at Montreuil. In this cobbled square were assembled detachments of French and British Regiments. Field Marshal Earl Haig had been closely associated with the Royal Horse Guards, the 17/21 Lancers and the King's Own Scottish Borderers. These Regiments were all represented. There were also representatives from the Army Council, the Dominions, the British Legion and delegates of the Franco-British Society. The present Earl Haig, the son of the Field Marshal, and the latter's daughters were also present.

The ceremony of unveiling was simple and moving. To many of the veterans who were present, the grey, overcast skies added to the realism of the memories of the Somme landscape.

After the statue had been unveiled wreaths were laid at its base and schoolchildren filed past to adorn the surrounds with flowers.

To close the ceremony the military detachments marched past the British and French authorities. This small parade was led by the Band of the 7th Hussars and proudly in the rear marched the French and British veterans of the First World War.

Perhaps the most moving feature of the whole ceremony was the depth of sincerity underlying the genuine desire for close Anglo-French understanding and friendship. Both the British Ambassador and the Prefect of the Pas de Calais emphasised the importance of this in the speeches they delivered.

M. Phalempin, the Prefect of the Pas de Calais, in the course of his speech said:

"I would ask you all to cast your eyes round this square and note how much the French people, and particularly the French war veterans, are at one with you in this moving ceremony.

"For here in this country, where the still visible wounds of a more recent conflict have not succeeded in wiping out the traces of what is known today as the Great War, and particularly in the Department of the Pas-de-Calais, where so many French and British soldiers fell side by side, expressing even in death the moving brotherhood of fighters, the passage of time cannot tarnish the memory of Field Marshal Douglas Haig, however dark the days.

"The proof is that after 1940, when the original statue of the Field Marshal, solemnly inaugurated in 1931, was removed by the Germans, the people of Montreuil faithfully assembled each year on Armistice Day before his granite pedestal—all that remained—to pay tribute as before a Cenotaph.

"It was unanimously agreed in 1945 to reproduce the statue and to return it to its plinth. Thanks to the initiative of Inspecteur-General Pelletier, previously Sous-Prefect of Montreuil and the prime mover of the 1931 ceremonies, a public subscription was started to which the State, several Departments and many French towns gave support.

"Thus, in spite of all the difficulties, the town of Montreuil-sur-Mer, the Department of the Pas-de-Calais and the whole country have the pleasure, only five years after the end of hostilities and exactly ten years after the destruction of the original statue, of giving back to Field Marshal Haig, one-time Commander-in-Chief of the British Armed Forces in France, his place of honour in this town which he himself had chosen in 1916 for his Headquarters.

"Should anyone be surprised at the loyal affection of the people of Montreuil for the Field Marshal, let me merely recall that in dividing his time between the nearby Chateau of Beaufort and his Command Headquarters in the old Military School, the British Commander-in-Chief had become a very familiar figure in this peaceful city. Having soon become accustomed to the discipline imposed by his presence, the inhabitants, both old and young, treated him with respectful esteem. They would often see him ride past, coming from his house or carrying out some inspection, and that is why the lifelike masterpiece of the sculptor Landowski arouses so much emotion in many of the old Montreuillois, as it doubtless does for the relations and companions in arms of the Field Marshal.

"Surely such a tribute is due to this great military leader, this cool, courageous man who had such clear vision and foresight. Perhaps the finest example of the latter can be found when, in the dark hours of the Doullens Conference in March, 1918, he did not hesitate to sacrifice his personal prestige when faced with the crucial question of supreme command of the Allied forces.

"The self-denial he then displayed was certainly one of the determining elements of victory and he was soon rewarded by commanding the battle which, from August to November, 1918, took the British Forces from the Somme to the Belgian frontier, allowing them to liberate the north of France and to take a considerable number of prisoners and material.

"So, once more, success crowned the joint efforts of our two countries, closely united by adversity.

"May the free countries of Europe be continually inspired in times of peace by this close and trusting co-operation which led our two countries to victory in 1914-18. As the President of the Republic stated recently to the British Parliament, we, the British and the French, who in another war would once again be in the front line with its attendant dangers and sacrifices, have both the right and the duty to launch this appeal to hope and commonsense. This appeal is based on our staunch and undying friendship which our recent treaties have further strengthened, but which draws its main force from a common civilisation and a common adherence to democratic principles.

"For, let there be no doubt about it, on this close co-operation depends not only their own future, but also in very great measure world peace, which commanders like Field Marshal Douglas Haig and Marshal Foch have known how to give back to us, and the keeping of which is the aim of all men of good will."

To our Readers

Considerable inconvenience is caused to both the Editor and to the Reader owing to the fact that changes of addresses are not notified at once. If you change your address please let us know and so be sure of receiving your Journal regularly

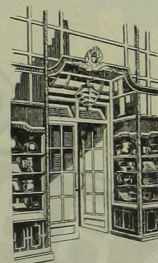
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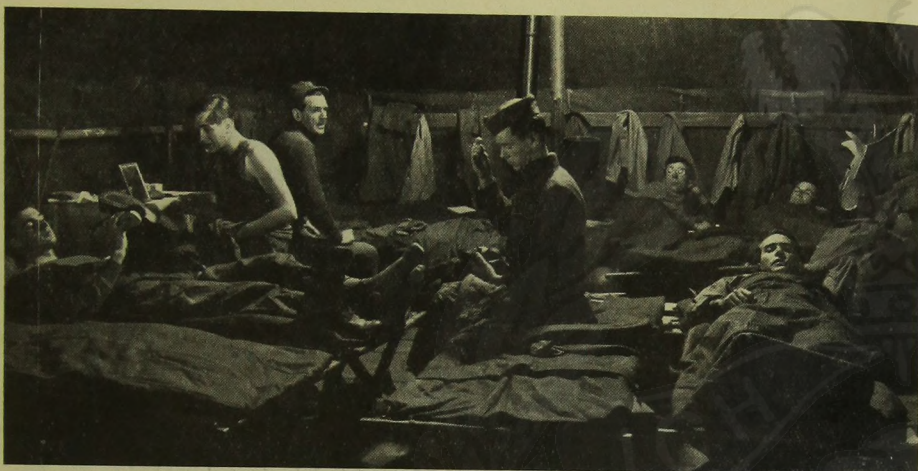


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TAPS TIME

From the film "Battleground."

Jerome Courtland, Don Taylor, Douglas Fowley, Marshall Thompson, Guy Anderson, John Hodiak and Ricardo Montalban get ready to "sack in" in a scene from Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's super-production, "Battleground." Van Johnson and George Murphy are co-stars in the film. William A. Wellman directed. Dore Schary produced, with Robert Pirosh, author of the original and screenplay, as associate producer.



LET'S GO

From the film "Battleground."

Just as Van Johnson (near door) returns with breakfast . . . in Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's "Battleground." Left to right: Ricardo Montalban, George Murphy, Richard Jaeckel, James Whitmore, Douglas Fowley, Don Taylor, Van Johnson, Jerome Courtland and Marshall Thompson. Super-production, based on historic defence of Bastogne during Nazi 1944 breakthrough, has cast headed by Van Johnson, John Hodiak, Ricardo Montalban, George Murphy and Marshall Thompson. William A. Wellman directed. Dore Schary produced, with Robert Pirosh, author of original and screenplay, as associate producer.

"BATTLEGROUND"

Dear Sir,

The enclosed stills are from the film "Battleground." Briefly, it is a fighting man's story of the "Battle of the Bulge" at Bastogne, written by a Sergeant who fought with the trapped 101st Airborne Division, and it was technically supervised as a film by men who were in the battle. The cast is mainly professional, with Van Johnson, John Hodiak, Ricardo Montalban and George Murphy leading. The film has been produced with great sincerity and, without resorting to cheap theatricals, provides a balanced story of front-line action, human drama, and humour—with no punches pulled.

In view of the important part played in this battle by the British Army, it is felt that you might consider it worthy of mention in your Regimental magazine.

Yours faithfully,

R. A. LEE,
Publicity Department.
M.G.M. Pictures, Ltd.

7th Battalion, continued from page 238

soon and we wish him all the best of luck as a civilian, at the same time we welcome C.S.M. Tostevin in his place.

In the eight-week period before camp we received the following recruits in the Company: Hudson, Barnard, Owen, Leighton, Ellingworth and Hayden, all of whom have had varying degrees of former service.

We should like to congratulate both Hudson and Barnard on their appointments to Lance-Corporal; they have both had previous experience as N.C.O.s.

Having only been re-formed eight weeks before proceeding to camp we were rather "thin on the ground," nevertheless, both the officers, C/Sgt. Howes and Cpl. Webb attended the whole 15 days, Cpl. Leahy 10 days, L/Cpl. Barnard and Pte. Leighton the first eight days and L/Cpl. Hudson the last eight days.

Much could be said about the camp period, but whatever our personal feelings, the training area was first class and many lessons were learned.

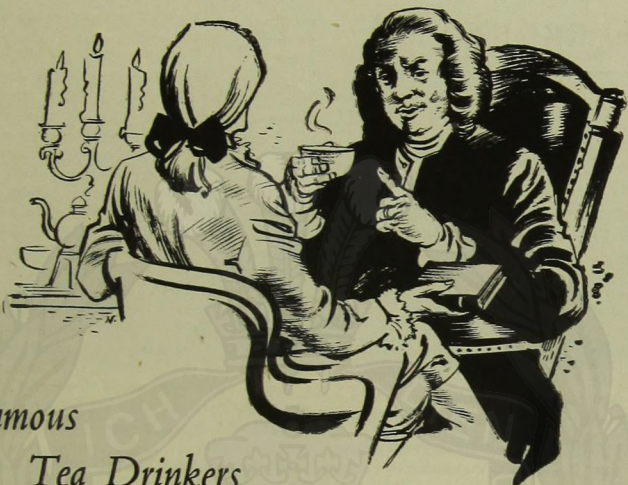
There has been some "wishful thinking" with regard to where we shall attend for Annual Camp next year, but we sincerely hope that it will be by the silvery sea once more.

On September 5 we will see the first parade of our National Servicemen; nine have already been posted to the Company and we shall have approximately 20 by September 15.

We extend a hearty welcome to them all and hope that when they have got to know us they will become volunteers.



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



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