



THE
DIE-HARDS

The Journal of

THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT

(Duke of Cambridge's Own)

November 1924

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COLONEL R. M. HEATH, C.M.G., D.S.O.

THE DIE-HARDS

THE JOURNAL OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT

(Duke of Cambridge's Own)

VOL. I. No. 10.

NOVEMBER, 1924.

PRICE 6D.

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

[57]

Home Counties Area

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," "Peninsula,"
 "Alma," "Inkerman," "Sevastopol," "New Zealand," "South Africa, 1879," "Relief of Ladysmith," "South Africa, 1900-02,"
 "Mons," "Marne, 1914," "Ypres, 1915," "17, 18," "Albert, 1916, '18," "Bazentin," "Cambrai, 1917, '18," "Hindenburg Line,"
 "Suvla," "Jerusalem," "Mesopotamia, 1917-18."

"Le Cateau," "Retreat from Mons," "Aisne, 1914, '18," "La Bassée, 1914," "Armentières, 1914," "Neuve Chapelle,"
 "Gravenstafel," "St. Julien," "Frezenberg," "Bellewaarde," "Aubers," "Hooge, 1915," "Loos," "Somme, 1916, '18," "Delville
 Wood," "Pozières," "Ginchy," "Flers-Courcelette," "Morval," "Thiepval," "Le Transloy," "Ancre Heights," "Ancre, 1916, '18,"
 "Bapaume, 1917, '18," "Arras, 1917, '18," "Vimy, 1917," "Scarpe, 1917, '18," "Arleux," "Messines, 1914, '17, '18," "Pulckem,"
 "Langemarck, 1917," "Menin Road," "Polygon Wood," "Broodseinde," "Poelcapelle," "Passchendaele," "St. Quentin,"
 "Rosières," "Avre," "Villers Bretonneux," "Lys," "Estaires," "Hazebrouck," "Baileul," "Kemmel," "Scherpenberg," "Canal
 du Nord," "St. Quentin Canal," "Courtrai," "Selle," "Valenciennes," "Sambre," "France and Flanders, 1914-18," "Italy,
 1917-18," "Struma," "Doiran, 1918," "Macedonia, 1915-18," "Landing at Suvla," "Gallipoli, 1915," "Rumani," "Egypt, 1915-16,"
 "Gaza," "El Mughar," "Jericho," "Jordan," "Tell Asur," "Palestine, 1917-18,"
 "Murman, 1919," "Dukhovskaya," "Siberia, 1918-19."

Agents—Lloyds Bank, Limited.

Regular and Militia Battalions.

Uniform—Scarlet. Facings—Lemon Yellow.

1st Bn. (57th Foot) Aldershot.
 2nd Bn. (77th Foot) Ahmednagar.
 5th Bn. (R. Elthorne Mil.) Mill Hill.
 6th Bn. (R. East Middlesex Mil.) Mill Hill
 Depot—Mill Hill. Record Office—Hounslow.

Territorial Army Battalions.

7th Bn. Drill Hall, Priory Road, Hornsey, N.
 8th Bn. Drill Hall, Hanworth Road, Hounslow.
 9th Bn. Drill Hall, Found Lane, Willesden, N.W. 10.

Allied Regiments of Canadian Militia.

The Peterborough Rangers Peterborough, Ontario.
 The Wentworth Regiment Dundas, Ontario.

Allied Regiment of Dominion of New Zealand.

The Taranaki Regiment.

Colonel-in-Chief :

Col. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales and Duke of Cornwall, K.G.,
 K.T., G.C.S.I., G.C.M.G., G.C.I.E., G.C.V.O., G.B.E., M.C.,
 Col. W. Gds., Colonel-in-Chief 12th L. R. S. Fus., S. Wales
 Border, D.C.L.I., P.W. Vols., Seaforth, and R. Wilts Yeo,
 Personal A.D.C. to the King.

Colonel :

Gen. Sir Ivor Maxse, K.C.B., C.V.O., D.S.O.

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NOTICE TO CONTRIBUTORS, &c.

The "Die-Hards" is published early in February, May, August, and November, and copies may be obtained through all Messrs. W. H. Smith & Son's Bookshops and Bookstalls.

All Contributions intended for publication should reach the Editor not later than the 1st of the month previous to that of issue. Contributions must be written on one side of the paper only and signed, stating whether it is desired to publish contributor's name or not. Rejected manuscripts, &c., 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 to publication. All communications concerning the paper, including Advertisements, should be addressed to the Editor, "The Die-Hards" Journal, Mill Hill Barracks, N.W.

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

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION 2/- (Post Free).

EDITORIAL

THE DIE-HARDS has now celebrated its second birthday, and embarks on its third year of existence. We thank our subscribers for their loyal support, and especially those retired officers who have contributed many of our best articles. The first issue in August, 1922, contained one photo, twenty-one pages of reading matter, and ten advertisements. The August publication, 1924, contained ten photos, forty-one pages of reading matter, and twenty-four advertisements. We consider that these figures are a proof that the Journal is a success from an editorial point of view, and that it merits a larger circulation amongst our friends in all battalions.

On November 20th Gen. Sir Ivor Maxse, K.C.B., C.V.O., D.S.O., will hand over the Colours of the disbanded 3rd and 4th Battalions to the Middlesex County Council. The battle scrolls for the Great War have been sewn on the King's Colours, which, together with the

Regimental Colours have been placed in mahogany cases ready for the presentation. The Colours will find a lasting home on the walls of the Council Chamber in the Guildhall, Westminster.

We offer our congratulations to Majors H. P. F. Bicknell, D.S.O., and W. A. Stewart, O.B.E., on their promotions to command the 2nd and 1st Battalions respectively, also to Brevet Majors M. Browne, M.C., and G. L. Brown, D.S.O., to the substantive rank of Major.

The marriage took place at St. Michael's Church, Camberley, on September 3rd, 1924, between Brevet Major O. H. Tidbury, M.C., and Miss B. M. Pearce, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Pearce, of Dunderach, Camberley, Surrey.

On Armistice Day, November 11th, a short service will be held at the Regimental Memorial, The Barracks, Mill Hill. The Officer Commanding the Depot has written to all Commanding Officers at home, suggesting that a small detachment from each battalion might attend. The service will commence at 10.45 a.m. and end with the two minutes' silence. Old Comrades and relatives of those who fell are cordially invited to attend.

Second/Lieuts. W. A. Jacob and W. C. Newton have been gazetted to the Regiment from the Royal Military College, Sandhurst, and posted to the 2nd and 1st Battalions respectively.

The Regimental Calendar for 1925 will be an original design, embracing every battle honour won by the Regiment. As the cost of production must necessarily be greater than in former years, we appeal to all our readers to help us by ordering at least one copy apiece, and suggest that the Calendar will be a most useful present to subscribers' friends.

The Calendar is sold at one shilling, post free.

One more alteration has to be made in our honours for the Great War. The 1st Battalion was present at the operations before Messines in 1914. This date

has been granted. The honour now reads "Messines, 1914, '17, '18." The amendment will be published in Army Orders at the end of the year.

The engagement is announced of Lieut. L. Steveni, O.B.E., M.C. The marriage will take place in India.

Lieut.-Col. R. M. Heath, C.M.G., D.S.O., has been promoted to the rank of Colonel. We offer him our heartiest congratulations.

◆ ◆ ◆

**COLONEL R. M. HEATH,
C.M.G., D.S.O.**

RONALD MACCLESFIELD HEATH was educated at Marlborough College, and entered the Army from the Militia.

He was gazetted on May 15th, 1897, to the 1st Bn. York and Lancaster Regiment, and promoted Lieutenant in July, 1899.

He served throughout the South African War, first in command of the Mounted Infantry Section of his Regiment in the 2nd Mounted Infantry, and in 1900 commanded the Eastern Company of the 2nd Mounted Infantry to the end of the war. He was present at the Relief of Kimberley, the operations of Paardeburg, Poplar Grove, Driefontein, Houtnek, Vet River, Pretoria, Diamond Hill, Elands River and Wittebergen. He was awarded the D.S.O., Queen's Medal with six clasps, King's Medal with two clasps, and twice Mentioned in Despatches.

He was promoted Captain into the Middlesex Regiment on August 2nd, 1902, and attached to the 2nd Battalion at Newcastle, South Africa, in September, 1902.

He joined the 4th Battalion at Dublin in October, 1902, until May, 1903.

In June, 1903, he joined the Egyptian Army and was posted to the Camel Corps, which he commanded from September, 1908, to December, 1912.

In 1908 he saw active service in the Jebel Nyima district in Southern Kordofan, and received the Egyptian medal and clasp and 4th Class Osmanieh.

In 1910 he was present at the opera-

tions against Jebels Tagoi and Katla, and awarded the Soudan medal with clasp, and the 3rd Class Medjidieh. From December, 1912, to June, 1913, he was A.A.G., General Staff, War Office, Khartoum. In April, 1913, he was awarded the 3rd Class Osmanieh.

In July, 1913, he joined the 2nd Battalion at Warley, and went to Malta with it.

When the 2nd Battalion was mobilized in October, 1914, he was appointed to command the 8th Divisional Cyclist Company, and served with it until he joined the 2nd Battalion as Second-in-Command in November, 1915. In September, 1915, he was promoted Major.

In February, 1916, he was given command of the 10th Royal Warwickshire Regiment (19th Division), and served continuously with it—except for an interval of two months in England owing to a wound—until March, 1918.

He was appointed to the command of the 56th Infantry Brigade, 19th Division, in April, 1918, and held it until the end of the war.

For his services in the Great War he was awarded the C.M.G., Brevet of Lieutenant-Colonel, the French War Cross, 1914 Star, British War and Victory medals, and was six times Mentioned in Despatches.

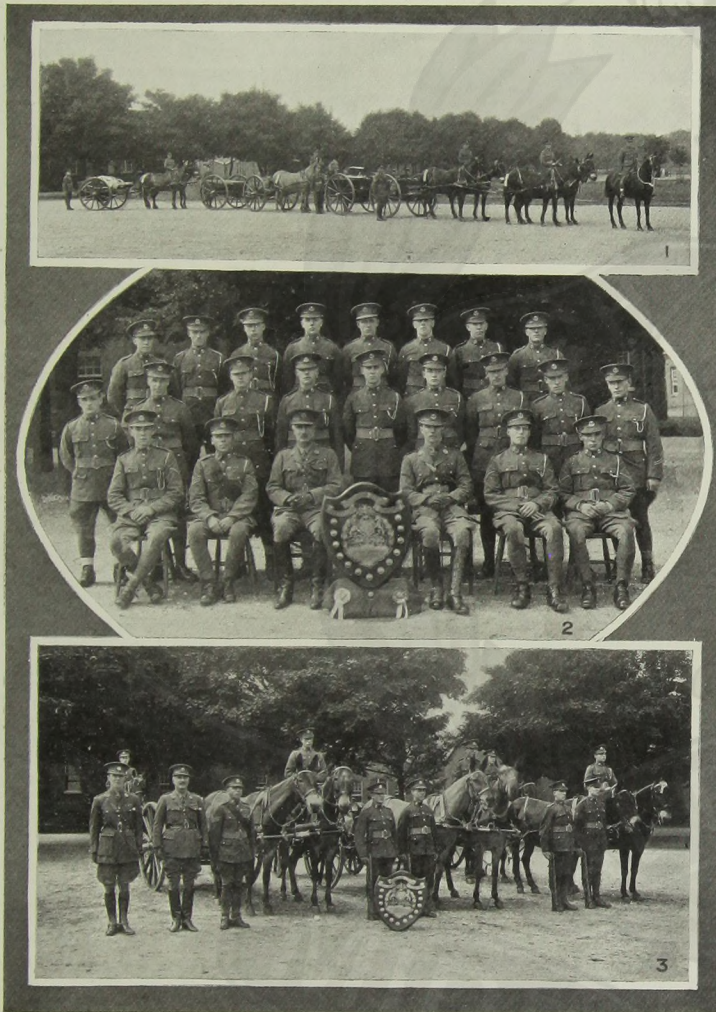
He commanded the 23rd Battalion The Middlesex Regiment in Germany from March to August, 1919; and then served with the 1st Battalion until promoted to the command of the 1st Battalion The Middlesex Regiment in September, 1920.



◆ ◆ ◆

**ALDERSHOT COMMAND
MILITARY HORSE SHOW, 1924.**

THE Transport of the Battalion was entered for three events in the Aldershot Command Military Horse Show, held at Aldershot on July 25th and 26th, 1924.



[Photos: F. Scovell, Aldershot.]

TRANSPORT SECTION, 1st BATTN. MIDDLESEX REGIMENT.
Winners of the Infantry Transport Challenge Shield,
Aldershot Command Horse Show, 1924.

On the first day the Battalion obtained 2nd place in Pairs of Mules (Stripped) Class. Four pairs were entered, and 2nd, 4th and 5th places were awarded to these.

In the Officers' Chargers, Major D. C. Percy-Smith's horse, ridden by Lieut. F. G. Parker, received 3rd prize.

On the second day the Infantry Transport Challenge Shield, open to the Aldershot Command, was held. The Battalion was awarded 1st prize in this event. The shield was previously held for two years by the 2nd Battn. East Surrey Regiment.

In addition to the above, the Battalion was placed 3rd in the Aldershot Command Chamber of Commerce Cup, valued at £150.

The result of this competition was as follows:—Royal Artillery, 1st; Hussars, 2nd; 1st Bn. Middlesex Regiment, 3rd.

FOOTBALL.

The season is quite young at present, and much cannot be written, yet our First XI have given us splendid hopes of going still farther than last year in our ultimate goal, the Army Cup.

Results of matches played to date are as follows:—

- v. Royal Engineers, lost 2—3.
- v. Royal Fusiliers, won 1—0.
- v. 3rd Brigade, R.F.A., won 5—4.
- v. Bedfs. and Herts., won 4—0.
- v. R.A.M.C., won 3—0.

These were all friendly matches; we do not start our league matches till later in the season. We paid back an old score by defeating the 3rd Brigade, R.F.A., in that they defeated us in the final of the Rhine Army Cup last season in the third replay.

We played a very interesting match on Saturday, October 11th, when we met a local team, Wellington Works, in the first round of the Amateur Cup. After a fast and interesting game we were defeated by two goals to nil.

Two Second XI matches have been played so far, and here again we have very promising talent.

Second XI matches:—

- v. Welsh Guards, draw, 0—0.
- v. Bedfs. and Herts., won 3—1.

A start has been made in the Inter-Platoon Knock-out, and we have reached the semi-finals, but at present are held up

owing to two companies being on annual furlough.

CRICKET.

Since the last issue of THE DIE-HARDS was published we have only played four matches, all of which we won. Out of the ten matches played we won six and lost four.

June 21st.—v. Welsh Guards. Won. Middlesex 102, Welsh Guards 72. Cpl. Northcott 60 not out, L./Cpl. Kennett 7 for 24.

July 16th.—v. Royal Army Medical Corps. Won. Middlesex 175, Royal Army Medical Corps, 97. L./Cpl. Sammons 47, Sergt. Farrow 32, L./Cpl. Kennett 5 for 38.

July 24th.—v. Grenadier Guards. Won. Middlesex 238, Grenadier Guards 161. L./Cpl. Sammons 86, Lieut. Worton 65, Lieut. Clowes 32, Capt. Phillips 21, Cpl. Northcott 5 for 30.

September 5th.—v. Staff College. Won. Middlesex 122 for 9 declared, Staff College 79. Lieut. Worton 32, Capt. Phillips 24, L./Cpl. O'Brien 7 for 49.

We were successful this year in playing off the Company and Platoon Knock-outs, but, owing to training, etc., the Company League was not attempted. "A" Company was successful in the Company Knock-out, defeating "B" in the final, the order being "A," "B," "Q," "G," "C" and "D." The Platoon Knock-out was won by No. 20 Platoon (the Drums), who defeated another platoon of their own company (21) in the final. To conclude the season the Corporals' Room challenged the Officers and defeated them after a very enjoyable game. Officers 41 and 101 for 2 declared; Corporals 57 and 88 for 6.

A return match was not possible, owing to the weather.

57th Cricket Caps were awarded to the following:—

Capt. Phillips, Major Pargiter, Cap Paul, Lieut. Clowes, Lieut. Worton, Cpl. Northcott, L./Cpl. O'Brien, L./Cpl. Kennett, L./Cpl. Sammons, Bdsmn. Elliott, L./Cpl. Henderson.

The following also played for the Battalion during the season:—

Sergt. Farrow, Cpl. Macdonald, Bdsmn. Hart, Pte. Lindsey, Pte. Baker, Sergt. Campbell.

"H.Q." WING.

With a company of usually about 200 strong, one would imagine that there would be plenty of material for the Journal.

This is not so. Why I cannot say. Still, we are not going to give up our column in the Journal.

At football, "Q" Company played and defeated "C" Company by 5 goals to 1.

In the Inter-Platoon match the Drums beat No. 11 Platoon. (This was at cricket.)

It is of interest to note that No. 21 Platoon reached the semi-final, being knocked out by the Drums.

Capt. Paul is now on leave, and Lieut. Hedgecoe is commanding the Company.

At present the Drums are on furlough, and the Machine Gun Platoon, who have just returned, are training hard.

The Signal Section is now commanded by Lieut. Crawford, and Lieut. Royffe has left us to go to "A" Company.

Lieut. Dobbs has been transferred to us. We are pleased, as this officer is a great sportsman.

We are also pleased to note that Capt. Lyons now belongs to "H.Q."

THINGS WE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW.

Does the Cook Sergeant make the stews and puddings by Graphs?

* * *

Whether "Ack to Emma" isn't easier than X plus Y equals 2R?

* * *

What is wrong with Rex these days?

* * *

What the Company thought when told that pay parade would be at 12.

* * *

And if they believed it?

WINGER.

"A" COMPANY.

In the shooting events held by the Brigade and Command, we are pleased to say that "A" was well represented.

After doing extremely well in the Brigade eliminating stages, ill luck dogged our footsteps at the Command meeting.

But, as experience counts, we hope to do better next year.

C.S.M. Beaman is to be congratulated on obtaining 2nd place in the Command Individual event, and it was only by a narrow margin (three points) that he missed first place.

Our cricket season has been fairly successful. In the Company Knock-out we met "B," and it was only by one of "B" players batting for four and a half hours for 43 runs, that the margin was so small.

Anyhow, we outed them. Capt. Phillips, our O.C., knocked up 30 in 15 minutes.

In the Platoon Competitions we came home third.

Chasing the leather has commenced, but we are out of the Platoon Knock-out. We hope for better luck in the Company League.

We have just lost the musketry by one of those wretched things the Education Department call decimal points.

We regret to state that we have lost two good sportsmen in Lieut. J. Dobbs and Pte. Denman, who have been transferred to H.Q. Company.

Best wishes to all for Xmas and the New Year.

No. 1.

"B" COMPANY.

We are constantly wondering whether the Company agrees with the booklet, "Unknown Surrey," when it describes Frensham as a beautiful place—the ideal spot for country walks.

I had the misfortune to point out this fact to an individual who had just returned from the Devil's Jumps and was, at the time, caressing and counting a few blisters. He threw "Unknown Surrey" out of the window!!!

We all have had our fill of this particular place.

Since our last contribution we have had one or two minor cricket matches in the Company, and Nos. 5 and 8 Platoons have distinguished themselves.

In the Platoon Football Knock-out No. 5 Platoon is still going strong, being the only one left of the Company in the competition, and our hopes are extremely high of gaining the honour for the third successive year.

The cycle club mentioned early in the year has not blossomed forth, although

many have been training under the leadership of Pte. Hance, who has still another cycle to his credit.

Many people have asked why a certain N.C.O. of the Company scrubbed out at midnight. Perhaps the sanitary squad can tell us.

There is little news at the present time, owing to the Company being on furlough.

We promise a better effort in our next contribution, when games will be again in full swing.

ENOCH.

"C" COMPANY.

Now my fertile brain has started working, I shall endeavour to indulge in the pleasure of giving you the "Doings of the past quarter."

The first is the Platoon Cricket Knock-out, and No. 11 Platoon was unfortunately knocked out by the Drums (they are used to beating things).

Next came a startling blow. We have lost our C.S.M. We refer, of course, to C.S.M. Gray. He has gone to the Depot for a tour of duty.

He has been with the Company since it was a "platoon," and the whole Company joins with me in expressing regret at losing our "Father."

C.S.M. Ayres came to us in his place for a very short while. He has now gone to a trade school. We are now wondering who will be his successor.

The next thing we come to is the Company photograph. It is still undecided whether Percy or Bill broke the camera. In any case, the result was the same. The proof was a fine study in black and white, but eventually it came out all right.

Congratulations to Sergt. Farrow and Sergt. Brockman on their promotion to substantive rank.

THINGS WE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW.

Whether "Banjo" is really going on a tour of duty at the Depot or on a trade course next week.

* * *

Who was the man who asked (referring to the Lewis gun) where the gases went after they had pushed the piston rod to the rear?

* * *

Who was the man who said that the hole in the cut-off (of a rifle) was bored so that one could break the end off the cartridges to make "dum-dums" of them?

HAWKE-EYE.



"D" COMPANY, 1st BATTALION MIDDLESEX REGIMENT.

"D" COMPANY.

Amongst arrivals during the last quarter we include two drafts who joined us in time to enjoy the pleasures of nights out in the rain when on manoeuvres. One youngster was heard to remark that "he would sooner be at the Depot, because they were taken off parade when it rained, and all meals were served on warm plates" (??)

With what bliss they must leave Mill Hill, and how their hopes are dashed to the ground.

Sergt. Lydiat, who has been acting as C.S.M. for a long period, has now been promoted to C.Q.M.S. Heartiest congratulations.

L./Cpl. Lewis has now been promoted to the "dizzy" rank of Corporal. All good luck to him in the future.

The following anecdote comes from the Company office:—

A youngster was up before his company officer for dirty brasses. As it was his first offence the O.C. said, "Admonished, but use more initiative next time." "I tried that, sir," said the youngster, "but I can't get these brasses to shine."

Quite a good laugh is going round the Company just at present. Here's the reason. Our Company education instructor has recently returned from Shorncliffe. Being full of knowledge, he decided to test the general knowledge of the Company. Below I give you one of the questions he asked, and the answer:—

Q. Who is the eldest son of King George V?

A. Duke of Connaught—Lord Lascelles—

Our next notes will contain some sad news. One of our young-oids has been going the pace. Watch the *News of the World*.

Cheerio to all ranks. We wish you a Happy Xmas and a Bright New Year.

UNLOOKER.

BAND NOTES.

The Band, having been away for a long time, find sufficient "copy" to start a column of their own.

Here is our first effort. Perhaps the Editor will tell us what he thinks of it.

During the past few months we have been touring the seaside resorts, and have had a good time.

We have visited, amongst other places, Bristol, Lowestoft, and Torquay. At the latter place we stayed for six weeks.

That we were appreciated is shown by the fact that when our time had finished the people of Babbacombe honoured the Band by presenting the Bandmaster, Mr. J. W. Clarke, with a very handsome smoker's cabinet, and a cheque to the remainder of the men.

About 40,000 (?) people were present at this ceremony, and in a speech Mr. March, a councillor, said that the town hoped to have the same band next year.

And, what is more important to a soldier, he said that the conduct and discipline of the men had been perfect.

The inscription on the cabinet reads as follows:—

"Presented to the Bandmaster (Mr. J. W. Clarke) of the 1st Bn. Middlesex Regiment, in appreciation of pleasures received, from friends at Babbacombe, 1924."

Praise indeed.

Now that we have returned to Aldershot we are trying to settle down to our normal life.

Sport is in full swing, and it is certain that the Band will, as usual, cover itself with honours.

We are represented in the Regimental football team by Sergt. Cullen and Bdsman. Beaney, and we have many other budding players.

To all bands of the Regiment we send greetings for the coming season. We are always pleased to hear from any who cares to write to us, and promise that we will answer.

TREBLE CLEFF.

[Thank you; quite good. You did not settle down for long, did you?—EDITOR.]

WHAT'S YOURS?
Ours is news please
and double measure!



The past quarter has not provided much material for the Journal, nothing of great importance having occurred.

"Summer" time is always a quiet time from the Mess point of view. The monthly Pokey Die competitions have been won by: (July), L./Sgt. Jones; (August), R.S.M. Anderson; (September), Bdmr. Clarke. Billiards provided some mild form of excitement, tankards being won by: (August), C.S.M. Gray, and (September), C.S.M. Crouch.

At the time of writing the half-yearly Billiard Championship is being held. The result of this will be in the next issue of this paper.

It has come to my notice that I have omitted to mention L./Sergt. Fleming in my notes.

This member deserves special mention, for on April 4th of this year he won, at Portsmouth, the Army and Imperial Services Fly-weight Championship. We are very proud to know that it was a member of our Mess who had gained this great distinction.

Although very late, we offer him our heartiest congratulations.

On September 26th our late C.O., Lieut.-Col. R. M. Heath, visited the Mess to bid us farewell.

It was very obvious that he was deeply affected at having to leave the Battalion.

Two of the members gave a song, and after this the C.O. made a short speech. After a response by the R.S.M., three cheers were given and "Auld Lang Syne" was sung. We all wish our late Colonel the best of health and all good luck in the future. We also trust that we shall have the pleasure of seeing him very often.

It is with great pleasure that we note that R.S.M. Anderson has now re-engaged to serve until 1926. We wish he never had to go.

Congratulations to C.Q.M.S. Pelly, Sergt. Windsor, and Sergt. Crouch on their promotions.

C.S.M. Cullem and C.S.M. Capel have both left us, after completing 21 years' service. The former had a presentation made to him on the Rhine.

A handsome clock was presented to C.S.M. Capel by the members, as a memento of the past years.

Sergt. King has rejoined us from the Depot, and Sergt. Tisdale is out of hospital.

We regret to have to announce the death of the daughter (Antoinetta) of C.Q.M.S. Lewis.

Some very beautiful wreaths were sent by friends, amongst which was one from the Mess.

We all offer our deepest sympathy to C.Q.M.S. and Mrs. Lewis.

This being the last quarter of the year, we take the opportunity of wishing all members of all messes of the Battalions of the Regiment a Very Happy Xmas and a Prosperous New Year.

To the staff of the Journal we also extend these wishes.

THINGS WE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW.

What is a *square* roll of blankets?

* * *

When is the Jazz Band going to perform?

G.A.P.S.A.

CORPORALS' ROOM.

Something has again occurred to upset the tenor of our lives in the Mess at Aldershot. Hans Andersen has been reincarnated, and Maskelyne and Devant have been transported to the Corporals' Room. In one day the squalid misery therein has almost developed into a fairy palace of delight by the addition of new lino, tables, easy chairs, matting, pictures and better lighting. Even the billiard table has been re-turfed. I wonder if it will stand the strain. One has to book the easy chairs as one does the billiard table, and I have been given to understand that the Mess caterer would rather prefer to sleep in them than in his own bed. One part of the decorations puzzled me. We have ash trays, but they are polished and stood, on end, on the mantelpiece. Why?

Just to give you an idea how uncivilized we are at Aldershot. One of our members called at the Depot a short time ago

and made his way to the recreation room. On arrival there he heard sundry strange musical noises, and started looking into the cupboards, etc., for a supposed gramophone, and he was rather at a loss, when somebody, seeing his difficulty, pointed out to him the loud speaker installed in the rafters. I think that L./Cpl. Kennett has taken a violent dislike to wireless since that episode.

Just a straight tip to Williams to look after his laurels, as we have another budding pianist in L./Cpl. Goodall. His one-finger exercise is the bane of our lives. Whilst on the piano subject, why is it that Rawlings always loves to give us those melancholy dirges of his? Should he by mistake break into a piece of music with some "pep" in it one of these days, I can see the Mess coming down on his noble head.

Is it correct that "Iodine" declined to enter for the recent promotion examination because he wished to give some of the young soldiers a chance? "Iodine" was rather a kindly heart, as can be gathered from the following anecdote. It happened during one of his rounds of ministering to the sick. A Company Sergeant-Major's little boy was ordered to take a dose of castor oil, but would not do so until he had seen our hero take one. Needless to say, "Iodine" smilingly obliged. I wonder how many of my readers would have done likewise.

I would like to see Cpl. Holder's name in print, and to give him a little word of praise. He is the entertainment president, and he has tried his hardest to get us a little sport this last quarter. We had a jolly game of cricket with the Officers, and were lucky to win. One wonders what the result would have been had there been sufficient time, and the Officers had not declared in the second innings. You will find the details of the match in the Battalion cricket notes.

Next we have the Corporals' Rugby team—oh yes, we have a Rugby team; we do play the game which, as a rule, is only served up to the élite. It is quite true that this is only a new institution, and that several of the members have only a slight inkling of the rules; but we show a tremendous amount of promise, despite the fact that we were beaten by the

Gloucester Corporals by 28 points to 3. It was rather an enjoyable game, with several incidents of note, the most worthy being our scrum half's (Sammons) efforts to retrieve his nose from the foot of one of his own scrum (Stretton).

After the match the visitors were entertained. First the inner man was satisfied, and then a billiard competition took place, in the which we failed to gain our revenge. A very successful evening was finished off by an impromptu concert, and I was not aware until then that we had so many talented artists. Riley's rendering of that well-known monologue "Gunga Din" was really unique. I have heard several renderings of this piece before, but never like his. He brought out several striking epithets that I was in ignorance of. We also had another monologue from Gibson, "The Green Eye of the Yellow God." Our songsters were Barker, Riley, and Macdonald, and their songs were strictly military. No sob stuff.

Before closing this little budget of mine, the members have asked me, through the medium of our Journal, to convey to all members of our other messes at home and abroad their heartiest wishes for a very Happy Xmas.

All for now.

SIR GARETH.

POT-POURRI.

Scene: Battalion on manoeuvres. Dark wood at dark of night. Several indistinguishable forms slumbering.

The sentry, Pte. Perkins, approaches one wrapped in great-coat, handles same roughly.

Perkins Hi! Don't yer think it's abaht time yer relieved me?

The calm, measured tones of a *certain officer*, who emerged from the great-coat, replied, "What is it you want, Pte. Perkins?" But Perkins had fled.

A Case of Justifiable Homicide.—After having done eight miles, with another eight to do, in the blazing sun. The individual who relates with relish the different forms of cooling drinks he has sampled.

From one of the Band on an engagement at Torquay, who is taking part in an idle flirtation:

She: What is your name?

He: Donoghue.

She: Any relation to the jockey of that name?

He: Yes. I am his saddle.

* * *

THIS QUARTER'S TEASERS.

Why does the fate of Nations hang in the hands of C.S.M. Pelly?

* * *

The Optimist—The Bandsman who said the verandah outside the guard-room was similar to the promenade at Torquay, but was saved from further soliloquies by having to shout, "Halt! who comes there?"

* * *

How did the airman who bombed us with flour get to know that the stew needed thickening?

* * *

What was the accident experienced by L./Cpl. Stemp on his return to barracks a few nights ago. And does he partake of cold baths at 11.30 p.m. for the benefit of his health?

PROMOTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS.

4181065 L./Cpl. Watson, "D" Coy.: Appointed Paid Lance - Corporal (20/2/24).

2203910 L./Cpl. Soper, "D" Coy.: Promoted Corporal (16/7/24).

6188456 Sergt. G. Goodwin, "H.Q." Wing: Appointed Sergeant - Drummer (26/7/24).

6188429 Sergt. H. Lydiat, "D" Coy.: Promoted Colour-Sergeant and appointed C.Q.M.S. (15/7/24).

6192072 L.-Sergt. Brockman, "B" Coy.: Promoted Sergeant (15/7/24).

6193339 L./Cpl. C. Lewis, "D" Coy.: Promoted Corporal, (16/7/24).

6195286 Pte. R. Bayles, "D" Coy.: Appointed Unpaid Lance - Corporal (14/8/24).

6195715 Pte. Vials, "D" Coy.: Appointed Unpaid Lance - Corporal (13/8/24).

6192861 L./Cpl. S. Harnett, "C" Coy.: Appointed Paid Lance-Corporal (13/8/24).

6195275 L./Cpl. Priddy, "A" Coy.: Appointed Paid Lance - Corporal (14/8/24).

6189232 L./Cpl. Short, "B" Coy.: Appointed Paid Lance - Corporal (14/8/24).

6193321 L./Cpl. Sewell, "B" Coy.: Appointed Paid Lance - Corporal (14/8/24).

6191255 L./Cpl. Mills, "B" Coy.: Appointed Paid Lance - Corporal (14/8/24).

6538128 Pte. Bowden, "D" Coy.: Appointed Unpaid Lance - Corporal (16/8/24).

6192585 Pte. Banham, "H.Q." Wing: Appointed Unpaid Lance - Corporal (19/8/24).

6192554 Pte. Pettitt, "H.Q." Wing: Appointed Unpaid Lance - Corporal (19/8/24).

6193039 Pte. Giles, "B" Coy.: Appointed Unpaid Lance - Corporal (8/9/24).

6194545 Pte. Gough, "B" Coy.: Appointed Unpaid Lance - Corporal (8/9/24).

6195761 Pte. Barley, "B" Coy.: Appointed Unpaid Lance - Corporal (8/9/24).

6195528 Pte. Marshall, "D" Coy.: Appointed Unpaid Lance - Corporal (11/9/24).

6195895 Pte. Norman, "D" Coy.: Appointed Unpaid Lance - Corporal (11/9/24).

6188617 C.Q.M.S. F. Pelly, "B" Coy.: Appointed Acting C.S.M. (1/9/24).

6190150 Sergt. E. Crouch, "H.Q." Wing: Promoted W.O. Class II and appointed C.S.M. (1/9/24).

6188490 Sergt. E. Windsor, "B" Coy.: Appointed Acting C.Q.M.S. (1/9/24).

6188518 L./Sergt. Clift, "H.Q." Wing: Appointed Paid Lance-Sergeant (1/9/24).

6192082 Pte. J. O'Neill, "D" Coy.: Appointed Unpaid Lance - Corporal (25/9/24).

6190388 L./Cpl. H. Sammons, "H.Q." Wing: Appointed Acting Corporal (1/9/24).

7815362 Pte. Tompkins, "H.Q." Wing: Appointed Unpaid Lance-Corporal (29/9/24).

6190791 Pte. Kelly, "C" Coy.:
Appointed Unpaid Lance - Corporal
(2/10/24).

CERTIFICATES OF EDUCATION.

The undermentioned N.C.Os. and men gained 2nd Class Certificates of Education on June 2nd.

The Battalion has obtained 3 1st Class, 50 2nd Class, and 30 3rd Class Certificates in three examinations.
6194719 Pte. Ayres, 6195666 Pte. Foulger, 6194548 L./Cpl. Jenkin, 6189683 L./Cpl. Noakes, 6189707 Pte. Southgate, 6195933 L./Cpl. Turner, 6190689 Pte. Hennell, 6193936 Pte. Fletcher, 5767591 Pte. Fisk, 6195658 L./Cpl. Middleton, 6188650 L./Cpl. O'Neill, 6195945 Pte. Tyler, 6188013 L./Cpl. Wallace.

BIRTHS.

HORTON.—On 25/7/24, at Aldershot, the wife of 6192172 Pte. A. Horton, "H.Q." Wing—a daughter, Phyllis Josephine.

HOWES.—On 16/8/24, at Aldershot, the wife of 6189724 L./Cpl. A. Howes, "H.Q." Wing—a son, Alfred Adolf.

CARTER.—On 13/9/24, at Aldershot, the wife of 6189875 L./Cpl. Carter, "H.Q." Wing—a son, Frederick George.

MARRIAGES.

DAVEY—KING.—On 28/9/24, at Farnham, Surrey, 6192524 Pte. W. Davey, "D" Coy., to Florence May King.

MILLS—WHITBREAD.—On 12/11/23, at Edmonton, 6191255 L./Cpl. Mills, "B" Coy., to Evelyn Whitbread.

KING—McGRATH.—On 30/8/24, at Holborn, 6195503 L./Cpl. King, "H.Q." Wing, to Ellen Agnes McGrath.

ANDERSON—SIMMONS.—On 7/6/24, at Walworth, 6192684 Sergt. Anderson, "H.Q." Wing, to Phyllis Agnes Simmons.

DEATH.

LEWIS.—On 26/9/24, at Aldershot, Antoinetta, daughter of 6188450 C.Q.M.S. Lewis, "C" Coy.

OUR REGIMENTAL HISTORY.

ON June 30th, 1881, the 57th and 77th Regiments terminated their existence as separate corps.

Up to that date there is a record of both regiments, compiled and written by Major H. H. Woolwright.

These publications are: "The History of the Fifty-Seventh Regiment, 1755 to 1881," published in 1893; and "The Records of the Seventy-Seventh Regiment, 1787 to 1903," published in 1907.

Both these works are now out of print, and are unobtainable. The latter, unfortunately, had but a very limited circulation, and is not even to be found in the British Museum; further, it is understood that the 2nd Battalion has no copy of its own history in the Officers' Mess!

During the war, in 1916, *Country Life* published a volume entitled "The History of the Middlesex Regiment," a welcome addition to the scant records of the Corps.

There are only nine pages in this history devoted to the records of the Regiment between the years 1881 to 1914; and the last three chapters deal with the Great War only.

In the course of time a complete record of all battalions of the Regiment who took part in the Great War is to be published, but this work will not fill the unwritten gap in the history of our Regiment between the years 1881 to 1914. Except for the 2nd Battalion in the South African War of 1899 to 1902, there is no connected story in existence of the history of any battalion covering the above dates. Not a word has been written about the short but honourable careers of twenty-two years of our disbanded 3rd and 4th Regular Battalions! Is the splendid record of these two magnificent units, who covered themselves with glory in the last war, to remain unknown to future generations? It is quite possible that, with very few exceptions, there is not a copy of either history written by Major Woolwright in possession of a single officer or non-commissioned officer serving in the Regiment to-day.

This state of affairs can only be described as deplorable. Regimental history takes a most important place in the education of the young officer and soldier of to-day.

Under normal circumstances the average recruit is expected to pass the examination for the Army Third Class Certificate before he joins his unit. The necessary instruction in regimental history is provided by the officers and N.C.Os.—but from what manuals are these instructors to obtain their information?

There are no official publications on the history of their regiment, and those compiled by private sources have been out of print for over eighteen years!

It is inconceivable how this branch of education is to be carried out satisfactorily when the present-day officer and N.C.O. has to rely upon second-hand information picked up haphazard from his better-informed comrades.

Examination papers set for 3rd Class Certificates of education in military history are invariably full of questions relating to the long past records of the Regiment, and there is generally that gap between 1881 to 1914. Why is this? The reason is not difficult to discover. Because there is no written history of The Middlesex Regiment.

A MODERN DIE-HARD.



OFFICERS.

CAPT. J. R. THORP arrived on June 14th, accompanied by his wife and child, on posting to the Battalion.

The Officers of the Battalion have played the Officers of the 4/11th Sikhs twice at hockey, and after very good games lost both matches 3-1, Major T. S. Wollocombe being our only scorer in both games.

SERGEANTS' MESS.

Since our last contribution to the Journal a good many social events have taken place, in which the members have had their full share of enjoyment.

The first, and in a good many people's opinion the best, was the celebration of "Albuhera Day." Considering the fact that we are very much handicapped as regards procuring prizes, and the thousand-and-one other things necessary for an enjoyable day, everything went off swimmingly. Sergts. Hart and Sperry were in charge of the "side shows," the former looking after the coco-nut shies and the latter O.C. "Aunt Sally." There is no doubt that Sergt. Hart took off the Coster at Hampstead Heath to a T. Tony assures us all that coco-nut shies are quite a paying game, so don't be surprised to see him at Barnet Fair in actual life. The "Aunt Sally" show was also a great scream. Owing to lack of materials Pte. Jacobson dressed for the part. He was concealed in a barrel, and appeared at uncertain intervals. All one had to do then was to "fit" him with sock tied up as a ball. The prize was a cigar for each direct hit. Jacobson certainly deserves a pat on the back for facing a volley of rather hard socks, some of them very much part worn at that!

The usual sports were held, "Tilting the Bucket," Bun and Treacle Race (combined with a bottle of pop), etc.

In the evening the Sergeants held a dance, as did the Corporals and Privates. The two last mentioned will probably be described by someone else in this issue. As regards our own dance, well, least said soonest mended! I think all members will agree in saying the most popular turn (I can't possibly call it a dance) of the evening was the "Hart Lancers." Imagine a crowd of cannibals performing a grotesque dance round a victim tied to the stake, and you will get a good idea of the "Lancers." I will refrain from mentioning names, or when these notes appear in print the Band would probably have to turn out to my funeral. Some very staid and respectable members—not only of the Sergeants' Mess—performed, but I wonder what the after effect was like?

A short time ago all members and their wives were invited to a "Tennis At

Home" at the Commanding Officer's Bungalow. We all tender our thanks for a most enjoyable afternoon. Several persons played Badminton and clock golf, and quite a number of members who played the latter game think they are now quite capable of giving Vardon tips!

Keen and friendly rivalry still goes on between the members of the Royal Tank Corps' Mess and ourselves. It is with much regret that we have had to announce previously that we were defeated at tennis and billiards, but that is no excuse for the "Tanks" thinking they can give us eggs at anything. For instance, they challenged us to cricket. I don't suppose for a minute they will do a silly thing like that again. Our side batted first, the total score for the innings being 77 (a very lucky number). The "Tanks" batted and scored 36. Great work was done by C.S.M. Siddons and Sergt. Hewett, who were bowling, and also by Sergt. Capel behind the wicket.

The game finished rather early, and it was decided that each side should bat for half an hour. Six of our team were dismissed for 71 runs, and then the "Tanks" "had a go" (I didn't say they batted).

HOCKEY.

Since the last edition of the Regimental Journal little hockey has been played. The Company League was finished, and resulted, as expected, by "H.Q.2" winning without losing or drawing a game. The order of the Companies was as follows:—"H.Q.2," "A," "H.Q.1," "B," "D," and "C."

The Officers have played two games against the Officers of the 4/11th Sikhs, which were both lost by 3-1.

The Regiment played the club here in a friendly, and defeated them 8-1.

FOOTBALL.

The Regimental team is again in the final of the Poona District Tournament. This was won only two months ago by The North Staffordshire Regiment, when they defeated us after a re-play.

There are two groups in this competi-

tion, the Poona Group and the Secunderabad Group.

The Poona Group Competition has just finished, and we ran out winners after meeting The Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment, The King's Shropshire Light Infantry, and The Royal Tank Corps.

We met The Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment in the first round, and after a fairly easy game beat them 1-0. The forwards did not work well together. Pte. Budd scored the only goal.

In the semi-final we defeated the K.S.L.I. 2-0 after a very good game. Pte. Budd again scored, and also Cpl. Palmer. The latter was a good goal from a free kick.

The final was quite an easy victory against The Royal Tank Corps (3-0). The goal-scorers were Pte. Budd, Sergt. Hewett and L./Cpl. Glibbery.

The team in the three matches were:— Goal, Pte. Lincoln; backs, Cpl. Palmer and Pte. Dack; half-backs, Sergt. Wilson, L./Cpl. Neighbour and Pte. Smith; forwards, L./Cpl. Glibbery, L./Cpl. Flint, Pte. Budd, Pte. Turley, and Sgt. Hewett.

The Secunderabad Group final was again won by The North Staffordshire Regiment, and we hope to reverse the result of last season's competition in the middle of August.

CRICKET.

Our Regimental Cricket Team has not been given the opportunity of showing its form this year owing to there being no opposition in the Station. We have five matches arranged, however, in the near future against the Machine Gun School, Royal Tank Corps, and the Gymkhana Club. The Royal West Kents were to have brought over their team from Poona for a two-day match, but the fixture had to be cancelled owing to unforeseen circumstances. We meet them later on in the year at Poona.

The Company League is just about to commence.

Below are the scores in the only games played so far this season:—

MAJOR WOLLOCOMBE'S XI v. CAPT. WHINNEY'S XI.

Played at East Ridge Barracks, Ahmednagar, July 6th, 1924.

MAJOR WOLLOCOMBE'S XI.

L./Cpl. Berry, b Capt. Whinney	8
L./Cpl. Flint, b Capt. Whinney	5
C.S.M. Siddons, b Capt. Whinney	0
Major Wollocombe, b Pte. Lincoln	2
Sergt. Wilson, b Pte. Lincoln	14
L./Cpl. Addinall, lbw b Pte. Lincoln	24
Cpl. Myland, lbw b Pte. Lincoln	4
Bdsmn. Joyce, b Pte. Worger	1
Pte. Martin, not out	6
Bdsmn. Kemp, b Bdsmn. Goatley	0
L./Cpl. Glibbery, run out	2
Extras	6
Total	72

CAPT. WHINNEY'S XI.

L./Cpl. Beaveridge, lbw b C.S.M. Siddons	2
Bdsmn. Goatley, b C.S.M. Siddons	11
Pte. Lincoln, c Glibbery b L./Cpl. Addinall	4
Cpl. Palmer, not out	83
Capt. Whinney, b C.S.M. Siddons	0
Pte. Worger, stpd. — b Sergt. Wilson	13
Lieut. Wray, b Bdsmn. Kemp	20
Pte. Beach, not out	14
Extras	9
Total	156
Bdsmn. Milehand, Sergt. Mewett, and Sergt. Hewett did not bat.	

2ND BN. THE MIDDLESEX REGT. v. GYMKHANA CLUB, AHMEDNAGAR.

Played at East Ridge Barracks, Ahmednagar, June 14th, 1924.

GYMKHANA CLUB.

Major Wollocombe, c Goatley b Wilson	45
Capt. Whinney, c Palmer b Kemp	10
Capt. Bampfild, c Wilson b Lincoln	54
Lieut. Pain, c Kemp b Lincoln	0
Lieut. Johnson, b Lincoln	0
Capt. Guy, b Lincoln	0
Lieut. Daulet-Sen, c Goatley b Lincoln	23
Major Leith-Ross, b Lincoln	10
Col.-Comdt. Moens, lbw b Lincoln	1
Major Moore, run out	9
Mr. Hobson, not out	2
Extras	2
Total	156

2ND BATTN. THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT.

Sergt. Wilson, c Johnson b Capt. Whinney	0
L./Cpl. Flint, not out	17
L./Cpl. Addinall, c Daulet-Sen b Lieut. Johnson	6
L./Cpl. Berry, not out	4
Extras	5
Total (for 2 wkts.)	32
C.S.M. Siddons, Cpl. Palmer, Pte. Lincoln, Bdsmn. Goatley, Bdsmn. Kemp, Pte. Worger, and Bdsmn. Milehand did not bat.	

MAJOR WOLLOCOMBE'S XI v. CAPT. WHINNEY'S XI.

Played at East Ridge Barracks, Ahmednagar, July 13th, 1924.

CAPT. WHINNEY'S XI.

L./Cpl. Berry, b Cpl. Palmer	4
L./Cpl. Addinall, c Worger b Cpl. Palmer	0
Sergt. Wilson, c Lincoln b Cpl. Palmer	2
C.S.M. Siddons, b Cpl. Palmer	4
Cpl. Myland, c and b Cpl. Palmer	5
Capt. Whinney, c Lieut. Pain b Pte. Lincoln	11
Bdsmn. Kemp, b Lieut. Pain	4
Lieut. Lambert, c Lincoln b Cpl. Palmer	1
L./Cpl. Glibbery, b Pte. Lincoln	2
L./Cpl. Welsh, run out	1
Pte. Dack, not out	1
Extras	5
Total	40

MAJOR WOLLOCOMBE'S XI.

Bdsmn. Goatley, lbw b C.S.M. Siddons	1
L./Cpl. Beaveridge, c Dack b Capt. Whinney	18
Major Wollocombe, b Sergt. Wilson	33
Cpl. Palmer, b Sergt. Wilson	14
Pte. Lincoln, b Sergt. Wilson	0
Lieut. Pain, b Sergt. Wilson	0
Pte. Worger, lbw b Bdsmn. Kemp	16
Lt. Wray, c and b Sergt. Wilson	16
Bdsmn. Milehand, c Berry b C.S.M. Siddons	11
Sgt. Mewett, run out	0
Pte. Sibley, not out	1
Extras	9
Total	119

"A" COMPANY.

When "H.Q." Wing was made a separate company of its own, the sport critics predicted a rapid downfall for "A" Company by reason of losing some of its best players. But the results of the matches of 1923-24 do not show such bad results as were expected. The sporting events of the Battalion were in full swing when "A" Company proceeded to Kuala Lumpur to fire the annual course. The Selangor Club was met twice on the football field, and defeated on each occasion 3-0 and 3-1. An interesting match was seen when the Selangor Chinese Football Club succeeded, after a hard tussle, in defeating us 2-1. Although a defeat for the visitors, this was a fine game, and we wish our victors every success.

On our return to Singapore the Company having won the Garrison Cricket League the medals were presented to the team. Our stay in "The Key of the East" was rapidly drawing to a close, and all fixtures were held over until we reached our next station, Ahmednagar.

Here we lost C.S.M. F. Fane from our numbers for good on his promotion to Regimental Sergeant-Major. We were sorry to lose him, as he had always taken a great interest in our sport, and it was a great deal to do with his "coaching" that enabled us to be so successful. His place, however, has been ably filled by C.S.M. H. Siddons, who is doing his utmost to pilot the Company teams along the successful path. In Ahmednagar the Hockey League was won by "H.Q.2," "A" Company being second. In the Football League we had very bad luck, losing first place to "B" Company on goal average. The result of the cricket here is yet to come. A very good experiment was tried by our Company Commander for the upkeep of the Sports Fund, lemonade and cakes being purchased from the Regimental contractor at wholesale prices and retailed to the troops, the profits of the whole concern going into the Sports Fund. This idea has resulted in splendid success, so that the drain on our slender purses for new footballs, etc., is not so great.

THINGS WE SHOULD LIKE TO KNOW.

Corporal: "How many winds are there?"

Private: "Four, Corporal."

Corporal: "What are they?"

Private: "North, South, East and West."

(Who was the above N.C.O. and witty Private?)

* * *

Who was the Officer and N.C.O. who caused an amusing diversion in the Butts at Ahmednagar, namely:—

Officer: "Which is the shortest of markers, Corporal?" (*i.e.*, which target was shortest?)

Corporal (misunderstanding): "Private, Sir?"

(Has this man grown since?)

* * *

AN ODE TO THOSE WHO FAILED.

And it came to pass that some shooters went forth to shoot, and as they shot some bullets fell by the wayside, and the Philistines gathered together in the butts did wave banners and all manners of flags thereof to show where ye bullets did fall.

And there was one amongst the multitude who was of a lean nature and did tower over his captains, and he did shoot quick and straight, and the markers did murmur among themselves and said: "Who is this that has come amongst us to win ye prizes of gold?"

And there was a great weeping and gnashing of teeth throughout the land when it was noised abroad that ye Company had done crab; wherefore it came to pass that the Elders did gather together in the Tabernacle and did say, "Lo and behold, wherefore if it pleases the Brigade Commander we will reduce the number of points for a second-class shot." And it came to pass when the Company was gathered together, the Scribes did work out the average, and runners were sent throughout the land to tell the Commanders the average was 80 in the shade.

W. H. Cox.

"B" COMPANY.

Ahmednagar is very quiet at present, and this being our first contribution to THE DIE-HARDS we are rather at a loss for news to make a good show for the first time of asking, so to speak.

The Company is in full swing again, under the able leadership of Major D. C. Owen, D.S.O., who has taken command during the absence of Major P. Grove-White at present on leave.

Once again we are at the Fort. The last time we were here we lost our C.S.M., viz., C.S.M. Mantell, who proceeded to the Depot for promotion. We wish him all good luck and success in his new sphere of life.

Our new A./C.S.M. is not a stranger, for in A./C.S.M. Steadman we have an old "B" Company Sergeant. After leaving the Company to go to "A" as C.Q.M.S. he finds his present position more to his liking. We also wish him the best of luck and success.

The Company, finding life rather dull, held whist drives and dances with huge success, affording all attendants amusement and great delight. We hope to carry on the good work, and in future to try to have them more often. Having entered for the "Southern India Rifle Association" Competitions, the Battalion shot off for the various competing teams by Companies. We have done very well,

and now hope to proceed and secure the "Ruthven Cup" (Company team) and "Munro Cup" (young soldiers' team).

This, Mr. Editor, is all at present.

BEER KOL.

"C" COMPANY.

We must apologize for the absence of our notes in the preceding issues of THE DIE-HARDS, but we fall back on the old proverb, "It is better late than never." Of course we could make the same excuse when writing home, although it is not much use telling the "old soldiers" that we have been doing manoeuvres in a place where no life exists, as it would be like the bazaar toilet soap (it won't wash).

Since our arrival in India we have had very few opportunities to get anything going at top speed as regards sports. (Don't mention Mountain Warfare or General Inspections.) So far, we have managed to tie for third place in the Company Football League, being very unfortunate to lose the first place. We did not seem able to find ourselves at home in the Hockey League, but are looking for great improvements next season. We have great hopes of doing well in the Cricket League, and if enthusiasm or first-class advice (given us by our Company Commander) is all that is necessary, we may look for excellent results.

A shield has been presented to the Company by the Company Officers, to be played for annually by platoons, the competition being confined to cricket, football, and hockey.

The games for this season have already been played off, and the shield goes to No. 10 Platoon, who won both Football and Cricket Leagues and were runners-up in the Hockey League.

Some very keenly-contested games have been seen during the competition, and it is very pleasing to note that so many of the Company have been able to take part in them (also the dark horses that have turned out).

We congratulate Cpl. Hazeldene and Pte. Franklin (Aladdin?) on their being picked to assist the Battalion in the various hockey fixtures in India.

A very successful Boxing Competition (Novices) was arranged by the Company

quite recently, and we congratulate all who entered on the splendid show that they put up; it was three nights real good, clean boxing.

The following were the winners of their weights:—

Middle-weight.—Pte. Wiltshire beat L./Cpl. Porter, the latter retiring in the first round.

Welter-weight.—L./Cpl. Crossman beat Pte. Gilbert; a very good fight.

Light-weight.—L./Cpl. Milne beat Pte. Tandy; a good fight, but the difference in age helped the winner.

Feather-weight.—Pte. Norris beat L./Cpl. Smith; an excellent show of clean, hard fighting.

Bantam-weight.—Pte. Disbury beat Cpl. Clifford; a very close fight, with both competitors all out.

A special Six-round Contest was fought by Pte. Webber, 2nd Bn. The Durham Light Infantry (runner-up, India Championships), and L./Cpl. Cook, "C" Company, 2nd Bn. Middlesex Regiment (Battalion Bantam-weight Champion).

L./Cpl. Cook went out for his man from the first gong, and, showing good speed and hitting power, had his man down for seven and eight in the first round. The second round saw Cook the winner by a knock-out in the first half-minute.

THINGS WE WANT TO KNOW.

Is "Cadre" the name of an opera? or is it a new game of bluff played only by N.C.Os.?

* * *

What is the Blue Book one hears so much of nowadays? and are the Regimental Police on duty at the Post Office on Saturday and Monday?

BAND NOTES.

After the departure in November, 1923, of the late Bandmaster, the arduous duties of training and conducting the Band were left in the hands of Band-Sergeant Glover for several months until he proceeded to Bombay on temporary duty in charge of one of the railway bands.

Cpl. Palmer succeeded him until quite recently. Both these N.C.Os. have ably upheld the honour and traditions of the Band under difficult circumstances.

Sergt. Rand has now taken over the duties of Acting Band Sergeant.

We are expecting our new Bandmaster H. Clibbens to arrive as soon as the trooping season starts.

During the past nine months the Band has always upheld its fair name at the Officers' Gymkhana Club, race meetings, and numerous dances at the various sergeants' messes in the Garrison.

BIRTHS.

RAND.—On April 21st, 1924, at Ahmednagar, the wife of No. 6188630 Sergt. H. Rand—a son, Basil Edgar George.

WOOD.—On June 9th, 1924, at Ahmednagar, the wife of No. 6190939 Sergt. R. Wood—a son, Douglas Brian Gerald.

CERTIFICATES OF EDUCATION.

No. 6189394 Bdsman. W. Kemp, awarded 1st Class Certificate of Education, 10/4/24 (authority W.O. Letter No. 50/Certs./3419 S.D. 8, dated 12/6/24).

Awarded 2nd Class Certificates of Education at Ahmednagar, 2/6/24:—

No. 6190721 L./Cpl. H. Cassam, 6180663 L./Cpl. R. Ginnaw, 6190803 L./Cpl. W. Patterson, 6191210 Pte. W. Robinson, 6194550 Pte. W. Parry, 6192521 L./Cpl. R. Baldwin, 6192592 Pte. G. Eley, 7814141 Pte. M. Mackie, 6192676 Pte. J. Dickens, 6191590 Pte. A. Fitch, 6191673 Pte. A. Boen, 6192376 Pte. F. Wright, 6193848 Pte. W. Petch, 6189121 Pte. F. Gribble.

Awarded 3rd Class Certificates of Education at Ahmednagar, 20/6/24:—

No. 6194535 Pte. J. Byatt, 6194201 Pte. W. Williams, 6194953 Pte. T. Hisgrove, 6194768 Pte. R. Annis, 6193692 Pte. A. Fowler, 6194438 Pte. S. Dockree, 6189716 Pte. G. Pulham, 6194107 Pte. J. Tyler, 6191006 Pte. E. Crump, 6193503 Pte. J. Chester, 6192342 Pte. J. Muckell, 6191402 Pte. E. Coats, 6193089 Pte. W. Puzey, 6192154 Pte. S. French, 6192680 Pte. Painter, 6191768 Pte. W. King, 6190745 Pte. J. May, 6195657 Boy J. Thomas.

THE EX-REGULAR AND THE TERRITORIAL ARMY.

A man that's too good to be lost you,
A man that is 'andled and made,
A man that will pay what he cost you
Is learning the others their trade.

MANY N.C.Os. and men, on the completion of their twelve years' service with the Colours, undoubtedly bid farewell to the Army with feelings of regret. Though undeniably pleasant to enjoy once more the freedom of civilian life, and to be quit of the fetters of military discipline, old habits and old associations (like the Regiment) "die hard," and many regret the necessity of severing the ties with old friends and old customs that the return to civil life entails.

The numbers that attend the Old Comrades Dinners afford ample proof of this, but such reunions are few and far between. It is the object of this article to point out another way whereby the ex-Regular can not only help himself, but also the Regiment—the Territorial Army.

The Regular soldier, from his lofty professional pinnacle, is inclined to look down with good-natured contempt upon his amateur brothers-in-arms, and rather too hastily to sum them up as a "rag-time bunch." Let him come and see for himself.

In the ranks, and N.C.Os.' messes of the Territorial battalions he will find many old friends, men with long records of war service, both as Regulars and Territorials, with a sound military knowledge, keen and enthusiastic about their work. He will find good comradeship, social intercourse, and a readiness to help each other based on the same principles that he has met with in his Regular battalion.

To turn from the general to the particular, here is a general idea of the pay, terms of service, etc., of the Territorial Army:—

A Regular soldier enlisting within eighteen months of his discharge, is exempt from performing his recruit's drills, and becomes at once entitled to his service and proficiency pay, which amounts to 4s. a day while in camp, and for days spent in training or on courses. While drawing pay, a married man of over 26 is entitled to the full marriage

allowance. Messing allowances come to 5½d. a day more than in the Regular Army.

Enlistment is for a period of four years, and the obligations are:—

- (i) To attend camp for fifteen or eight days.
- (ii) To attend ten drills a year.
- (iii) To fire a Musketry Course (this takes, as a rule, one week-end).

At the end of the training year, according to the number of drills performed and the length of time spent in camp, a bounty up to £3 can be drawn.

Beyond this, in these days of unemployment, it forms an extra insurance for men unlucky enough to be out of work. There are various courses they can attend and draw their pay and allowances while so doing; also work can often be found for men who are genuinely seeking employment.

Turning to the other side of the picture, the ex-Regular is of the greatest value to the Territorial Army. With his twelve years' training behind him, he provides the "old soldier's stiffening" so necessary to all battalions, a standard that, with the short time able to be devoted to soldiering, is almost unobtainable with the young Territorial.

Again, the training of specialists is one of the greatest problems of the Territorial Army. It is almost impossible for the right men to leave their civilian job long enough to attend such courses as Machine Gun and Signalling, and here the ex-Regular soldier can be of inestimable value. He brings with him not only a sound knowledge of his work, but also the latest ideas and methods of carrying it out. A few such men increase the efficiency of Territorial specialists by 100 per cent.

Briefly, let the Regular soldier realize that when he leaves the Colours he is in possession of a store of knowledge and experience which, though of little use to him in his civilian life, is of immense value not only to the Army, but to the nation at large. "The Territorial Army is the Army of Expansion."

Let him, therefore, help both himself and his comrades by joining the Territorials.

The 7th Battalion Middlesex Regiment covers a wide area, from which our

regular recruits are drawn. They have drill halls at Hornsey, Highgate, Tottenham, and Enfield.

These halls are within easy reach of Finchley, Southgate, Wood Green, and Finsbury Park, and full particulars concerning the Battalion can be obtained from any of them. Distance is no bar to joining, as men living far away can recover their expenses for travelling to drills. H. S.

OLD COMRADES QUARTERLY CONCERT.

THE quarterly concert was held at the Veterans' Club, Hand Court, Holborn, on Friday, October 3rd, 1924.

A good gathering of Old Comrades, their wives and friends, were present and spent an enjoyable evening.

The Entertainment Committee have not yet succeeded in securing a rendezvous which is available on Saturday evenings. However, we hope to surmount this obstacle shortly.

The Ex-Member Artistes, who so kindly gave their services on previous occasions, were unfortunately not available, a fact much regretted by all those who witnessed their performances, but we sincerely hope they will give us the pleasure of seeing them again in the near future.

The committee were, however, fortunate in securing the services of The Gossips Concert Party, who presented the following capital and varied programme.

Part I.—Opening chorus, the Company; quartette, "Regular Royal Queen," the Company; song, "Nirvana," Arthur Carter; humorous, "This way and that," Harry Gibbs; song, "Orchard by the Sea," May Hewitt; humorous, "Writing a Novel," Warwick Gordon and Harry Gibbs; song, "Life has sent me Roses," Gloria Denys; humorous, "Beant going back to Devon," Warwick Gordon; duet, "Enchantment," Arthur Carter and May Hewitt; song, "Music," Nellie Gordon; concerted, "Yarns," the Company.

Part II.—Ensemble, "Walk a little way," the Company; duet, "Underneath the Trees," May Hewitt and Gloria

Denys; song, "Man!!" Nellie Gordon; song, "Invictus," Arthur Carter; trio, "When I get into Parliament"; song, "Softly awakes my Heart," May Hewitt; duet, "You'll find me there," Warwick Gordon and Nellie Gordon; humorous, "Our Bungalow," Harry Gibbs; song, "Down in the Forest," Gloria Denys; humorous, "Married Man's Blues," Warwick Gordon; closing chorus, the Company; God Save the King.

The following is a list of the Old Comrades who attended:—

Col. A. M. O. Anwyl Passingham, Lieut.-Col. W. H. Samuel, Majors Steed and Amor, Capt. H. E. Heffer, Capt. H. C. Ellis and Mrs. Ellis, Capt. and Mrs. Mallandain, Lieut. Macdonald, 2/Lieut. H. Heffer, R.S.M. Mantell, R.Q.M.S. Purcell, Mr. E. Morris, Mr. and Mrs. W. Hall, Mr. and Mrs. Taylor, Mr. O'Donoughue, Mr. and Mrs. T. King, Mr. Holwell, Mr., Miss and Master Slaughter, Cpl. Kelly, Cpl. Stewart, Cpl. Warren, Cpl. and Mrs. Hull, L./Cpl. Bearne, Mr. and Mrs. Donoughue, Cpl. Green, Mr. and Mrs. Pearce, Mr. Lance, Mr. Furness, Mr. T. Hicks, Mr. Elkins, Mr. and Mrs. Stafford, Mr. and Mrs. Digby, Mr. and Mrs. Wilkins, Mr. and Mrs. Malloy, Mr. and Mrs. Austin, Mr. and Mrs. Berry, Mr. and Mrs. McLernon, C.S.M. and Miss Gray, R.S.M. Beasley, Mr. Jones, Mr. Mears, Mr., Mrs. and Miss Safferty.

DEPOT NOTES.

TRAINING is still in full swing. There are three squads up at present. A recruit team has shot for the R.A.T.A. Challenge Cup, which we won last year, and the score is only five points less than the previous year.

Electric light has now been installed throughout the Depot, and is a welcome addition to the comfort in barracks.

A children's playground is in course of construction, which we hope will be appreciated by the married families.

The Annual Inspection of the Depot took place on Thursday, October 23rd, by Major-General Sir Henry Hodgson, K.C.M.G., C.B., C.V.O., commanding Home Counties Area, accompanied by

Lieut.-Col. B. C. Freyberg, V.C., C.M.G., D.S.O. After inspecting the squads on parade, the General made a complete tour of barracks and saw the kits of "Somme" Squad in the barrack-rooms. He visited the men's dinners and afterwards lunched with the officers. General Hodgson expressed great satisfaction with all he saw.

A draft of twenty-three recruits of Ladysmith Squad proceeded to join the 1st Battalion on October 10th.

FOOTBALL.

Football is once again in full swing. The Depot team has been entered for the Finchley and District Football League (Division II), Finchley Charity Cup, and the Bulldog Cup.

The two latter competitions are run on the knock-out system, and have not yet commenced.

Results of matches in the Finchley and District League are as follows:—

- v. Barnet Athletic Reserves, away, won 3—2.
- v. King's St. Avondale "B," home, lost 1—2.
- v. Hodford Reserves, home, draw, 3—3.
- v. Barnet Athletic Reserves, home, lost 0—2.
- v. Finsbury Park R.T., home, won 4—2.

DEPOT COMPETITION.

In order to give the Football Committee an opportunity of discovering new talent, a "knock-out" competition was held in September, with the following results:—

First Round.—Depot Staff Privates beat Corporals 3—0; Ladysmith beat Somme 5—2; Sergeants, bye; Albuhera, bye.

Second Round.—Depot Staff Privates beat Albuhera 2—1; Sergeants beat Ladysmith 3—0.

Final.—Sergeants beat Depot Staff Privates 5—1.

A Depot League has now been commenced, one match of which is played each week. Results of matches so far are:—

Sergeants beat Corporals, 2—1.
Depot Staff Privates beat Albuhera Squad, 3—0.

Depot Types.



HOCKEY.

Hockey has been revived, and, judging by the admirable enthusiasm which is being shown, has come to stay.

Two practice games and one match have been played.

It was most unfortunate that the weather would only allow two practice games before our first match, as we were all very rusty. However, against the 17th Field Brigade R.A., at Hounslow, the Depot put up a really good show, and, although beaten 2—5, we were by no means disgraced.

The team on this occasion was:—Sergt. Clements, Sergt. Tungate, L./Cpl. Sando, Sergt. Burt, Lieut. Rackham, Sergt. Wilcockson, Cpl. Goss, Drmr. O'Connell, Sergt. Webberley, Pte. Johnson, Sergt. Darby.

Several matches are being arranged, and we are looking forward to a very enjoyable season.

A Hockey League on the same lines as the football will be commenced shortly.

BILLIARDS.

A Billiard Tournament for Privates has been commenced, but not yet completed. Details will be published in the next issue of THE DIE-HARDS.

WHIST DRIVES.

A series of weekly whist drives for Corporals and Privates has been commenced. Results are as follows:—

October 2nd.—*Ladies*: 1st, Mrs. Foley, 147; 2nd, Mrs. Morgan, 143; 3rd, Mrs. Hull, 138; lucky number, Miss Thomas, 109. *Gentlemen*: 1st, Pte. Moore, 150; 2nd, Pte. King, 147; 3rd, Pte. Robbins, 145; lucky number, Pte. Wilson, 102.

October 9th.—*Ladies*: 1st, Pte. Lesurf; 2nd, Mrs. Foley; 3rd, Miss Lannon. *Gentlemen*: 1st, Pte. Holland; 2nd, Pte. Blackman; 3rd, Pte. Forey.

CONCERTS.

A series of concerts will be held in the Depot Theatre during the winter.

The first is arranged for Wednesday, October 30th.

The programme will be rendered by variety companies of professionals.

SERGEANTS' MESS NOTES.

Since our last notes we are getting busy with our winter season for social events.

A whist drive and dance was held on July 31st, which proved a great success, thanks to the energies of the Recreation Committee, over which Sergt Wilcockson presides. The monthly tournament for August was "snooker," and Sergt. Wilcockson was the successful member, winning the first of our series of tankards, Sergt. Goldstraw being the runner-up.

Another whist drive and dance was held on September 26th in the Mess, to which many of our old civilian friends put in an appearance, despite the weather, which was purely English but did not damp our spirits.

Sergt. Wilcockson again came out on top in the monthly Billiard Handicap held in September, but, according to the rules, cannot take another "pot." Sergt. Clements, being the runner-up, was awarded a tankard.

C.S.M. Ayres, D.C.M., has left us for the Vocational Training Centre, and his place has been filled by C.S.M. Gray, D.C.M., to whom we offer a hearty welcome.

Our congratulations go forth to the undermentioned on promotion and appointment:—

L./Sergt. Clarke, promoted Sergeant; L./Sergt. Clements, promoted Sergeant; Cpl. Trapp, appointed L./Sergeant; Cpl. Robbins, appointed L./Sergeant.

Amongst our departures we must also place Sergts. King and Flatman, who have rejoined the 1st Battalion.

EDUCATION CERTIFICATES.

The undermentioned were awarded 3rd Class Certificates of Education at an examination held at Mill Hill on 1/8/24:

6195982 Pte. J. Allum, 6195999 Pte. E. Forey, 6196201 Pte. W. Kelly, 6196991 Pte. W. Warren, 6196189 Pte. F. Fisher, 6196198 Pte. W. James, 6196193 Pte. T. Sayers, 6196195 Pte. H. Dujardin, 6196172 Pte. W. Horley, 6196155 Pte. M. Lloyd, 6196178 Pte. A. Bedwell, 753566 Pte. L. Hayman, 6196159 Pte. L. Lawrence.

The undermentioned were awarded 3rd Class Certificates of Education at an examination held at Mill Hill on 19/9/24:

6196043 Pte. J. Chandler, 6196033 Pte. T. Driscoll, 6196039 Pte. L. Elliott,

6196034 Pte. L. MacDonald, 6196171 Pte. W. Morley, 6196157 Pte. S. Donovan, 6196180 Pte. H. Day, 6745245 Pte. J. Hinton, 6196190 Pte. T. Moore.

COURSES.

6193264 Cpl. C. Mardle, qualified to instruct in the duties of fire fighting, at Aldershot on 16/7/24.

PROMOTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS.

6196006 Pte. W. Shepherd: Appointed Unpaid Lance - Corporal (Recruit), (5/5/24).

6192171 C.Q.M.S. A. Purcell: Promoted W.O. II and appointed R.Q.M.S. (15/7/24).

6196167 Pte. L. West: Appointed Unpaid Lance-Corporal (Recruit), (14/7/24).

6192881 Pte. G. Jones: Appointed Unpaid Lance-Corporal (13/8/24).

6189095 L./Sergt. L. Clarke: Promoted Sergeant (1/9/24).

6190512 L./Cpl. Goss: Promoted Corporal (1/9/24).

6194406 L./Cpl. E. Bearne: Appointed Paid Lance-Corporal (30/9/24).

6191015 L./Sergt. W. Clements: Appointed Paid Acting-Sergeant (1/9/24).

6191494 Cpl. J. Trapp: Appointed Paid Lance-Sergeant (1/9/24).

6191726 Cpl. E. Robbins: Appointed Paid Acting Lance-Sergeant (1/9/24).

6188527 C.S.M. R. Mantell: Promoted W.O. I and appointed R.S.M. (26/9/24).

POSTINGS.

6192171 C.Q.M.S. A. Purcell: From 1st Battalion, for permanent posting (14/7/24).

6191996 C.S.M. H. Gray, D.C.M.: From 1st Battalion for tour of duty (12/8/24).

6188413 C.S.M. J. Ayres, D.C.M.: To 1st Battalion for duty (15/8/24).

6189041 Sergt. C. King: To 1st Battalion for duty (30/9/24).

6188473 Sergt. R. Flatman: To 1st Battalion for duty (30/9/24).

6193259 Cpl. H. Warren: From 1st Battalion for tour of duty (30/9/24).

6194406 L./Cpl. E. Bearne: From 1st Battalion for tour of duty (30/9/24).

MARRIAGE.

HOADLEY.—On 25/4/24, 6188444 Sergt. G. Hoadley, married at Shorncliffe.

BIRTHS.

MARDLE. On 28/8/24, at Edmonton, the wife of 6193264 Cpl. C. Mardle—a son.

CLEMENTS.—On 23/8/24, at Mill Hill, the wife of 6191015 L./Sgt. W. Clements—a daughter.

THE BATTLE OF LOOS: SUBSIDIARY OPERATIONS. THE SECOND ATTACK ON BELLEWAERDE.

(An Extract from "The History of the Middlesex Regiment, 1914-1919," now in Preparation.)

BY EVERARD WYRALL.

THE object of the secondary attack of the Second Army was to distract the enemy's attention from the main operations and hold his troops to their ground, and the official despatches speak of these intentions as having been "most effectively achieved."

The most important of these subsidiary operations began on September 25th and ended on the following day, and although the 4th Middlesex (of the 8th Infantry Brigade, 3rd Division) were not in the front line which attacked the enemy, but were held first in reserve and then in support, the action is of considerable interest to Middlesex men, for it was during the operations between September 25th and October 1st that 2/Lieut. Rupert Price Hallows,* of the 4th Battalion, won the first Victoria Cross awarded to the Regiment since the outbreak of war.

Between August 9th and the 23rd the 4th Middlesex had spent a very uncomfortable period in the line in Trenches 34 to 31. Heavy artillery bombardments, persistent bomb-throwing with trench mortars, sniping, rifle fire, and machine-gunning, characterized those fourteen days in the forward trenches, and when the Battalion reached Dickebusch all ranks were worn out. The constant vigilance necessary had been a great strain on officers and men, for the Ypres

* 2/Lieut. Hallows had previously won the Military Cross for gallantry during the actions at Hooge on July 19th/20th.

Salient at this period was a noisome, terrible place, and rarely are "quiet days" recorded in the diaries.

On Sept. 11th the 8th Brigade received orders to take over the Hooge sector on the 12th; the 4th Middlesex were to go to Ypres ramparts. These moves duly took place, and the Battalion spent several days in supplying working and carrying parties. On the 18th, however, the Battalion vacated the ramparts and moved forward into Sanctuary Wood. On the 19th, during the afternoon, the Germans very heavily shelled the Wood with both high and low-bursting shrapnel, and the Battalion was extraordinarily lucky in having only one man hit by a splinter.

The enemy's snipers were also extremely active, one of these pests, who could not be located, shooting three men. Just after dawn on the 20th three more men were killed and two wounded by the same sniper, and shortly afterwards an English bullet fired by the same man was found. Apparently he was using a new rifle, as the Battalion Diary records that the grooves were exceedingly well-marked on the bullet. The story of this persistent German's efforts continues thus:—"Our snipers went up to find him and succeeded. He was about thirty feet up a tree with a hole bored through the tree to snipe through. To-morrow we are getting the Regiment occupying the front trenches to turn a machine gun on him from both sides as soon as he starts sniping. 21st . . . The sniper did not start until 9.30 a.m., when our sniping officer went up to deal with him, in conjunction with the Northumberland Fusiliers. . . . The sniper's tree was hit by shrapnel, but he was not silenced. . . . 24th: Major Greenway and four men wounded by the sniper, who got thirteen men of various units during the day." Here the story ends, and as no further mention of the sniper's activities occur in the Diary the sequel may be assumed.

Orders for the attack on the Bellewaerde Ridge, subsidiary to the main operations at Loos on September 25th, had been received at 8th Brigade Headquarters on the 21st. The 14th Division of VI Corps was to attack Bellewaerde Farm and the trenches to the south of it with three battalions; two battalions of the 7th Infantry Brigade (3rd Division)

were to attack about Hooge Château, and the 8th Infantry Brigade from the Ypres—Menin road (inclusive) to a point opposite Stirling Castle; one Company of the 1st Royal Scots Fusiliers, of the 9th Brigade, was to attack on the right of the 8th Brigade in order to straighten out the line opposite the 9th Brigade front.

The frontage of attack allotted to the 8th Brigade was 1,500 yards, and the assault was to be made by the 2nd Royal Scots and 1st and 4th Gordon Highlanders, the 2nd Suffolk Regiment and the 4th Middlesex Regiment being held in reserve. The artillery bombardment was to take place from 3.30 to 4.20 a.m., and the infantry assault at the latter hour.

The Diary of the 8th Infantry Brigade during the preparations for, and the attack on, Hooge is very interesting, for there are many comments contained in it which throw considerable light on the operations, comments which are entirely lacking in the Battalion Diaries. "It was thought that the number of guns and the ammunition allotted to them was inadequate for the attack," is one comment, and this is followed up by another of equal importance: "Three trench-mortar batteries are also to take part in the bombardment, but the ammunition for these is also very limited." In 1915 the question of ammunition supply was acute, and the guns were strictly rationed. This shortage of ammunition is reflected in the statement that "it is doubtful if much damage has been done to his (the enemy's) wire entanglements." And yet the enemy must have suffered severely, for on September 19th (as one instance) the "usual bombardment" of the enemy's trenches at Hooge was carried out by twenty-one batteries of guns of all calibres, i.e., 8-in. howitzers, 60 pounders, 4.7-in. guns, 6-in., 5-in. and 4.5-in. Howitzers, and 18 and 15 pounders. To these bombardments the enemy replied vigorously, and on the 23rd he is reported as bombarding the 3rd Divisional trenches very heavily, shells falling at the rate of quite 100 per minute, though the astonishing thing is that in recording this bombardment the Brigade Diary records: "Little damage reported to have been done."

The 8th Brigade moved up into the trenches on the night of September 23rd, and on the same night reports that the

total number of bombs of all kinds (15,000) available for the operation was considered inadequate for the purpose. But the Brigadier, after appealing for more, was told that no more were available. Another trenchant paragraph appears in the Brigade Diary on September 24th: "The Brigade was ordered to hand over ninety pairs of wire cutters to the 7th and 9th Brigades, as none were available in Ordnance Stores for them, it being thus seen that after fourteen months of war even a sufficiency of wire-cutters cannot be obtained before an action."

At 3.50 on the morning of September 25th the final bombardment of the enemy's trenches began. In all about 112 guns poured shell on to the German positions opposite the 8th Brigade front. A comment in the Brigade Diary that many of these guns being 18 pounders they were unsuitable for wire-cutting, being too light, is not quite correct, for the field gun, with its low trajectory and firing shrapnel was found most suitable for destroying the enemy's entanglements.

Three minutes after the British guns opened fire a red rocket, followed by a white rocket, which burst into white stars, soared up into the sky from the German lines; this was the enemy's signal that he was being attacked. The German guns opened almost immediately. At 4.19 a.m. two mines were exploded under the German trenches opposite the Royal Scots. Half a minute later two more mines were fired in the same place. In these explosions a whole company of Germans (about 180 men) of the 122nd Regiment was destroyed.

At 4.20 a.m. the assault took place, Rain was falling, and, owing to the mist, the morning was darker than usual. Until just past 5 a.m. there was no news from the attacking battalions. Then, at 5.5 a.m., a message was received at Brigade Headquarters from the O.C., Royal Scots, stating that his battalion had got into the German trenches, but it was still too dark to determine the exact situation.

The 4th Middlesex recorded that about 6.30 a.m. prisoners and wounded began to dribble back from the German lines, and continued to do so for the next two hours.

At 10 a.m. the Battalion learned that, partly on account of a heavy hostile

bombardment and lack of bombs, the line was giving way. The Middlesex bombers were hard at work detonating the Brigade supply of bombs when a message was received ordering a party of bombers, with two platoons to support them, to bomb up the communication trenches leading to the Fort, which the 4th Gordons had taken in their assault, and from which they had been driven out again. The remaining two platoons of this Company ("D" Company) were also sent up to relieve the remnants of the 4th Gordons. The gallant Highlanders had reported the capture of "Fort 13" at 8 a.m., but soon after their supply of bombs, and, indeed, their reserve of bombers, ran out, and at 10.40 a.m. a message was received from their Colonel stating that the situation on his front was very serious. The Germans had broken in between his left flank and the right of the 1st Gordons, and had cut off many of his men in the Fort, though some of his battalion had retired to the original line. Throughout these early reports constant reference is made to the shortage of bombs and bombers.

Somewhere between 11 a.m. and 12 noon "B" Company, of the 4th Middlesex, was sent up to Garrison B.8 and B.8 support trenches (at the northern edge of Sanctuary Wood). The communication trenches had all been blown in by trench-mortar bombs, heavy and field-gun shells, but although both "D" and "B" Companies of the Middlesex were heavily shelled they clung to their trenches and were lucky in escaping without serious casualties.

By 2.20 p.m. the Brigade supply of bombs was nearly exhausted. Counter-attacks, made with great gallantry at first with a certain amount of success, had finally to be abandoned, for there were no bombs with which to keep the enemy off.

At about 3 p.m. "C" Company, of the 4th Middlesex, was sent up to reinforce the 2nd Royal Scots, who were in a precarious position owing to the fact that the enemy had got between them and the 4th Gordons. This company was also heavily shelled, but casualties were few.

At 4.30 p.m. the Royal Scots were forced to retire from the position they had captured and throughout the day had clung to with splendid tenacity, and thus the last of the trenches captured in the

early morning were regained by the enemy.

An hour later the 4th Middlesex was ordered to relieve the Royal Scots in B.3, B.4 and 1/2 B.7. "A" Company was sent up to 1/2 B.7, and "B" Company relieved "C" Company in 1/2 B.4 and 1/2 B.3. Casualties in the Battalion throughout the day were 5 men killed, 2/Lieut. C. A. B. Cook and 40 men wounded.

All night long the Middlesex men were hard at work repairing and re-building the trenches which, when dawn broke on September 26th, had been made once more continuous. But there was still much to be done, and so the Battalion worked all day in the firing line and communication trenches, though one point in the line—the "B.4 Salient," as it was called—had to be left, as it had been too badly damaged by the previous day's bombardment, and was too near the enemy's front-line trenches to admit of repair in daylight. When darkness had fallen, however, the working party crept out and started work on this salient, which was in the north-east corner of Sanctuary Wood, jutting out towards Stirling Castle.

Towards midnight 26th/27th the Middlesex bombers saw a party of Germans in front of them, and 2/Lieut. Farr and Sergt. Remnant, with three men, engaged the enemy and drove him back to his own lines. Lieut. Farr was badly wounded in the leg by a shell splinter on getting back to the Middlesex trenches after the bombing attack was over. This enterprise, unfortunately, started a regular artillery duel between the British and German gunners, for 8th Brigade Headquarters, under the impression that the Middlesex men were being attacked, sent the "S.O.S." signal round the field batteries, who immediately opened rapid fire, which spread to the "heavies." Soon every gun in the sector was plastering the German trenches with shell, which drew retaliation from the enemy. Working parties in rear of the firing line and ration parties at the dump were thrown into confusion, and another working party out in front of the line, at work making an old sap into a fire trench, had to be withdrawn. In several places the firing line was blown in by hostile shells, but was subsequently repaired before dawn. The duel lasted about three-quar-

ters of an hour and then died down, but not before further casualties had been suffered by the Middlesex: 2/Lieut. H. P. Ochs and 2 men were killed, another officer and several other ranks were wounded. The Battalion M.O.—Capt. A. F. Bulloch—who had been continuously with the 4th Middlesex since September 14th, 1914, was killed by a stray bullet at the "dumping ground."

When dawn broke on the 27th it was seen that the bombardment had knocked the German trenches about very badly, and a lot of dead bodies were in front of the enemy's lines. Work all day on the trenches again occupied the Middlesex, and at night the nose of the "B.4 Salient" was finished and occupied. Two more officer casualties were suffered during the day: 2/Lieut. C. M. Talbot was killed and 2/Lieut. A. D. Herbert wounded; one other rank was also killed.

The 28th was similarly a quiet day, but at night the party working at B.4 Salient encountered another German party, and bombing and rifle fire broke out, which again started a heavy artillery bombardment by both sides, and when dawn broke on the 29th the dead ground in front of the German trenches was again littered with many corpses: the guns had caught hostile working parties out in front of their trenches.

About 4.30 p.m. on the 29th the enemy sprung a mine on the left of the Middlesex front, and shortly afterwards German bombers rushed across from the northern side of the crater into the back of "B.4" (the Battalion's left trench), clearing the trench before the Middlesex bombers could get into action. A gruesome sight was seen by an officer who rushed up to the front line after the alarm had been given. He saw that the garrison of B.4 were all in the trench, but they were dead. Not one had left the trench, but, faithful to their duty, they had stood their ground until every man had been killed by the enemy's bombers. Eventually the German bombers were stopped, and a line adjusted across the B.4 Salient from Pollock Street to the middle of B.7 (the right trench of the Suffolks on the left of the Middlesex men), but leaving a gap between the two battalions.

At the moment that the mine was fired the enemy opened very heavy fire with guns and trench mortars all along the

8th Brigade front, and some of the Germans who rushed across No Man's Land were dressed in the uniforms of the 2nd Royal Scots, doubtless taken from men of that battalion captured on September 25th.

Again a shortage of bombs* hampered the Middlesex men, and after working all night detonating bombs which were sent up only in small dribbles, it was decided to attack at 2 p.m. on the 30th.

The ground lost, though only a few hundred yards in extent, nevertheless deprived the Brigade of a good observation station and gave the enemy a valuable piece of high ground.

Zero hour on the 30th had subsequently to be altered until 3.15 p.m., as the attack could not be organized by 2 p.m. The guns were to bombard the enemy's trenches for a quarter of an hour, beginning at 3 p.m., and at the close of the bombardment the assault was to be made by one company of the 4th Middlesex on the right, a company of the 2nd Royal Scots in the centre, and a company of 2nd Suffolks on the left, all companies being preceded by bombers who would work up the communication trenches.

Bombers of the Honourable Artillery Company and the 10th Liverpool Scottish were also to take part in the attack, whilst the H.A.C. was to be in close support.

Throughout the night 29th/30th the Middlesex men awaited the arrival of an adequate supply of bombs, but, unfortunately, they were not forthcoming, and as the Battalion Diary records: "It was decided to attack at 2 p.m. with an inadequate supply by higher authority." The H.A.C. could not get up into the line in time, and (as already stated) Zero hour was subsequently put off until 3 p.m. At 3 p.m. the guns opened on the German trenches, and continued for fifteen minutes. The enemy's position lay along commanding ground, and he had put out wire entanglements of considerable thickness and strength. His machine guns were well placed, sweeping the whole terrain in front of his defences, and, in

* "Attention has repeatedly been called to the lack of bombs which had hampered every operation in which the Brigade had taken part for some months past, and which has been responsible for many lives."—Extract from 8th Brigade Diary, Sept. 29th, 1915.

addition, he was evidently armed with an unlimited supply of bombs.

The bombardment was very effective, so far as the enemy's trenches were concerned, and in many places the German lines were breached and tumbled by British shells, but after the advance began it was apparent that the hostile wire entanglements had not been sufficiently cut to allow the passage of troops. At 3.15 p.m. the bombing columns advanced to the attack. Along B.4 the 4th Middlesex, on the right of the attack, made good progress, and the Suffolks on the left, also succeeded in working to the north of the salient. But in the centre the Royal Scots were held up by wire blocks in the trenches, and could not get farther. It was now that the shortage of bombs made itself felt. Checks were constant as the men waited for supplies to be passed up, and presently the position became so precarious that finally the bombing columns were ordered to dig in at the most advanced position they had won, and conserve what bombs remained to repel hostile bombing attacks, which would almost certainly be made. The time was about 4.30 p.m. when the men started to dig themselves in. The line then ran from twenty-five yards from the crater in B.7 through B.S.4, B.2.S., Pollock Street, and Cranston Terrace. This line was consolidated and held. The eastern lip of the crater was held by the Germans, whose machine guns took heavy toll of the attacking troops. A 60-pounder trench mortar, which had been specially detailed to deal with the crater, broke down after firing one round, otherwise the whole of the crater might have been captured by the Middlesex men, but the real cause why the attack was only partially successful was the shortage of bombs. "Had we had an adequate supply of bombs in the first instance," records the Battalion Diary, somewhat bitterly, "the whole of the lost trenches would have been quickly and easily recaptured." During the night September 30th/October 1st two lines of trenches were dug by the Middlesex, assisted by Royal Engineers and the 4th South Lancs Regiment, but as the Sappers were late in arriving the front line could not be wired.

Many brave and gallant men gave their lives for their country on that day of hard

fighting under great disadvantages and difficulties, but none met death more bravely or gallantly than a young Second Lieutenant, whose name will for all time live in the memory of Middlesex men, for he gained for the 4th Battalion that most coveted honour to which a soldier aspires, the Victoria Cross,* the first awarded to the Regiment in the Great War.

The Battalion Diary states that "The conduct of 2/Lieut. R. P. Hallows was an example to all; he showed great coolness and resolution on this and on previous occasions." Indeed, throughout all the fierce fighting which took place at Hooge from September 25th to 30th the magnificent bravery and untiring energy of this officer was the constant admiration of all who witnessed his unforgettable cheerfulness and disregard of danger. His example to the men of his battalion was most inspiring. On four separate occasions the trenches held by him and his men were subjected to prolonged and powerful bombardments which struck terror into the hearts of the timid, but, regardless, of danger, this young Lieutenant clambered up on to the parapet amidst the bursting shells and the battered, crumbling trenches, calming the fears of his men by his reckless bravery. Again, when the attack was made, and his men were out of bombs, he went back under heavy shell fire and brought up a fresh supply. At last he was struck down (on September 30th), but still, as he lay mortally wounded and dying, he continued to cheer on his men and inspire them with fresh courage. Then the end came, which surely shows how precious a thing to him was the honour of his battalion and the glorious history of the Middlesex Regiment at Albuhera, for his last words were: "Men, we can only die once! If we have to die, let us die like men—like 'Die-Hards!'" And so he "passed over."

On October 1st the position remained the same, and the day was passed in comparative quietude. The mournful task of carrying away the dead and wounded from the trenches was done without interference from the enemy. The battered trenches were also repaired and gaps in the parapets and communication trenches made good. In the evening the 4th

* *London Gazette*, Nov. 18th, 1915.

Middlesex were relieved by the Worcesters, and during the early hours of October 2nd the Battalion reached the Rest Camp in H. 13. a. 1. 1. There were no casualties on the way back, but the men were in a state of exhaustion, and some of them found it impossible to drag their weary bodies through the six inches of slippery mud which covered the unmetaled road.

Six officers* and 32 other ranks killed, 8 officers and 119 other ranks wounded, and 117 missing—in all 16 officers and 268 other ranks—were the losses of the 4th Middlesex during this tour in the line.

The above extract from the history of the Regiment in the Great War, now being prepared by Mr. Wyrall from official diaries and such other sources as are available, is intended to give readers of *THE DIE-HARDS* a foretaste of the interest of the book.

The sub-committee of the Regimental Association superintending the publication also hope that it may stimulate more of those who served in any of the Regiment's forty-six battalions to place information at the author's disposal.

Dependence on official documents alone will make it difficult to produce a lively picture even of the greatest deeds.

Communications should be addressed to Everard Wyrall, Esq., at the Authors' Club, Whitehall Court, S.W.

The first volume is near completion, and an approximate estimate of the number of copies to be printed and bound should be made without delay. Those who have not yet filled in an order form are requested to use one of those inserted herewith.

Forms should be returned forthwith to the Secretary, Middlesex Regimental Association, The Barracks, Mill Hill, N.W.7.

The price of each of the two volumes will be 10s. 6d., but no money need be sent until the first is actually ready for issue.

* No names other than those given were obtainable from the Diaries.

7th BATTALION NOTES.

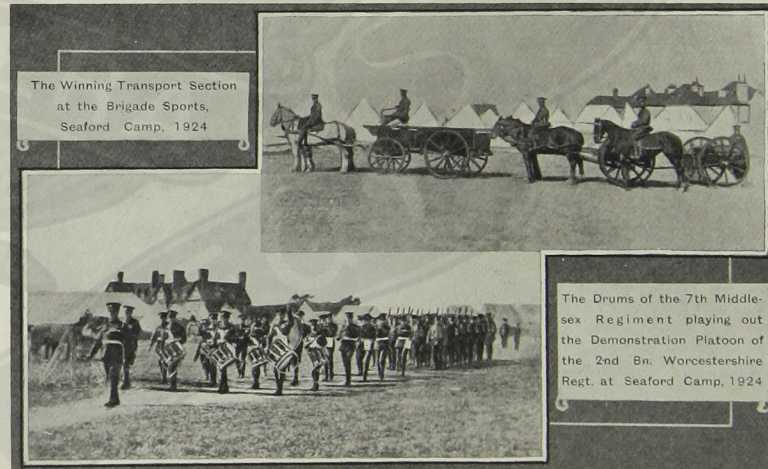
SINCE the publication of the last issue of the *Journal*, Annual Training, the great event of the Territorial year, has come and gone, and for a while we pause before the last mile-stone of the training year is reached—the paying-out of bounties.

A detailed account of the Annual Training is published elsewhere, as is also an account of the Brigade Sports. We, however, take this opportunity of congratulating 2/Lieut. Hay and Cpl. Silvey on their excellent performances in the latter. It was principally through their efforts that the Battalion gained second place. At the same time we offer our congratulations to Lieut. Hill and the Transport Section on winning the Transport Competition, and to "B" Company on their victory in the Alarm Race. Unfortunately, neither of these events counted points towards the Brigade Sports Championship.

On the afternoon of Friday, August 8th, the Battalion Sports were held. These, thanks principally to the efforts of Lieut. Hay and Cpl. Silvey, proved to be an overwhelming victory for "B" Company. It is certainly up to somebody to put in some hard training before next August, with a view to hauling down "B" Company's colours.

It goes without saying that the weather for the Brigade Rifle Meeting was vile. Steady rain made everyone soaking wet, and in little mood to appreciate the "good shooting light." In spite of this however, the meeting was a great success, and competitors turned up well. The Battalion were once again defeated by their old enemies, the Divisional Signals, in the Lord Lieutenant's Challenge Shield. Every endeavour will be made next year to wrest this honour from them. "A" Co. obtained second place in the High Sheriff's Challenge Shield, and also entered a team for the B.S.A. Guns Trophy; as most of these will be eligible to fire again next year they should do well.

On Saturday, September 20th, the Drums marched from Hornsey to Wood Green Park, and there beat "Retreat." Again they were unfortunate in the weather, but it is a start in the right direction. Under the enthusiastic handling of Sergt.-Drmr. Love, they are showing an all-round improvement, and their numbers are steadily increasing. It is hoped that they will soon be "playing" an important part in the lives of the local inhabitants. There are large tracts of country around Hornsey and Tottenham that want brightening up to such martial strains as "The Barren Rocks of Aden" and "Brian Boru" as a reminder of the existence of the 7th Middlesex.



The Winning Transport Section at the Brigade Sports, Seaford Camp, 1924

The Drums of the 7th Middlesex Regiment playing out the Demonstration Platoon of the 2nd Bn. Worcestershire Regt. at Seaford Camp, 1924

HIGHGATE NOTES.

The Sunday shoots arranged in connection with the Musketry Cup are being well attended. At the moment No. 5 Platoon have taken a strong lead, but it is hoped that good attendances for the other platoons will, at all events, give them a close fight.

With the installation of the heating apparatus in the Drill Hall, we should see an increase in the attendances at the weekly whist drives. These afford every one a chance of spending a happy evening with their friends, and should not be missed. The N.C.Os.' Mess, having now been done out, looks very snug, and there should be some convivial evenings there during the winter months.

ANNUAL TRAINING, 1924.

Annual Training this year was carried out at Blatchington Camp, Seaford, from August 3rd to 17th. Undoubtedly the most important factor in the success or otherwise of a camp is the weather, and in this respect, considering the nature of the alleged summer to which the long-suffering British Public have been subjected, we were lucky. Apart from rain on the afternoon and night of our arrival, we had only one wet morning, and on no less than three days it was quite warm.

The training was mostly devoted to the more elementary forms, a large amount of the time being spent in Section and Platoon Training. In this we were very greatly assisted by the Demonstration Platoon of the 2nd Battn. Worcestershire Regiment, who gave many valuable lessons in the handling of sections and a platoon in action. These lessons were afterwards practised by our own men with excellent results. As a consequence of this good grounding, it should be possible to devote more time to Company and Battalion Exercises next year.

The Training Cadre from the Regimental Depot, under Lieut. S. Mirams, M.C., was also present in camp, and devoted themselves to the training of some of our junior N.C.Os., who, under their able instructors, made great strides, and should prove of great use to their companies during the winter training.

On August 11th the Battalion carried out a night exercise which took the form

of an outpost scheme. This proved most successful, and was well carried out, in spite of large numbers of casualties caused by sustained and heavy attacks of midges, who advanced on both friend and foe impartially, in massed formations strongly reminiscent of the German methods of 1914.

We take this opportunity of informing all and sundry that if any of their nearest and dearest returned from camp scratching violently, it was in no way a reflection on the sanitary arrangements of the camp, but due solely to these pestiferous insects.

The entire period was not, however, devoted to work; apart from the two afternoons devoted to the sports, concerts were given in the Y.M.C.A. tent, and wonderful games of cricket between the tents, on a—to put it mildly—bumpy wicket were indulged in.

Many availed themselves of the bathing and other seaside amenities offered by Seaford and the neighbouring towns.

The sergeants entertained the officers with an excellent and well-organized concert, although they ruthlessly overwhelmed them at cricket.

There is no doubt that, on the whole, it was a successful camp, and the only improvement that can be suggested for next year is slightly warmer weather and a larger attendance.

BATTALION SPORTS, 1924.

SEAFORD CAMP.

Champion Company, "B," Highgate.
100 Yards.—1, Lieut. Hay, "B" Coy., 3 pts.; 2, Cpl. Silvey, "B" Coy., 2 pts.; 3, Pte. Ellis, "B" Coy., 1 pt.
220 Yards.—1, Cpl. Silvey, "B" Coy., 3 pts.; 2, Lieut. Hay, "B" Coy., 2 pts.; 3, Pte. Ellis, "B" Coy., 1 pt.
440 Yards.—1, Cpl. Silvey, "B" Coy., 3 pts.; 2, Lieut. Hay, "B" Coy., 2 pts.; 3, Pte. Ellis, "B" Coy., 1 pt.
880 Yards.—1, Cpl. Silvey, "B" Coy., 3 pts.; 2, L./Cpl. Scott, "B" Coy., 2 pts.; 3, Pte. Speller, "C" Coy., 1 pt.

*Full Marching Order Race.—1, L./Cpl. Purkiss, "B" Co.; 2, Pte. Thompson, "B" Coy.; 3, L./Cpl. Endersby, "B" Coy.

*Sack Race.—1, Pte. Coote, "D" Coy.; 2, Pte. B. Tack, "D" Coy.; 3, Pte. A. Tack, "D" Coy.

One Mile.—1, Lieut. Hay, "B" Coy., 3 pts.; 2, L./Cpl. Scott, "B" Coy., 2 pts.; 3, Pte. Collins, "C" Coy., 1 pt.

High Jump.—1, Sergt. Small and Pte. Ellis, "B" Coy. (tie), 5 pts.; 3, Pte. Page, "C" Coy., 1 pt.

Long Jump.—1, Cpl. Silvey, "B" Coy., 3 pts.; 2, Sergt. Small, "B" Coy., 2 pts.; 3, L./Cpl. Starkey, "A" Coy., ½ pt., and Pte. Coote, "D" Coy., ½ pt. (tie).

Tug-of-War.—1, Highgate, "B" Coy., 4 pts.; 2, Tottenham, "C" Coy., 2 pts.

*Boat-race.—1, Enfield, "D" Coy.; 2, Highgate, "B" Coy.

Battalion Championship.—1st, Highgate, "B" Coy., 42 points; 2nd, Tottenham, "C" Coy., 5 pts.; 3rd, Hornsey, "A" Coy., ½ pt. Enfield, "D" Coy., ½ pt. (tie).

* No points given for these.

LIGHTS-OUT LECTURES
FOR LIEUTENANTS

BEING

Some Salutary Sonnets for
Somnolent Subalterns.

BY AUNT AUGUSTA.

I.

THE PRINCIPLES OF WAR.

Now all young men who do aspire
To reach Field Rank or even higher
A certain knowledge should acquire
Concerning their profession.

And, therefore, if you'd make a start
I recommend you learn by heart
From F.S.R. (the second part)
The Principles of Warfare.

Upon them do not shower abuse,
You'll find them of the greatest use.
They're neither numerous nor abstruse,
The authors state this frankly.

Now listen while I tell to you
A story that is sad, but true,
About a foolish fellow who
Would never read his text-books.

This is the terrible story of Clarence
William Daw,
Who never would remember the Principles
of War.

Despite Homeric efforts to fix it in his
brain,
Invariably he'd forget objective to main-
tain.

And though young Clarence D. possessed
great personal attraction

We never could persuade him to adopt
Offensive Action;

While if upon the art of War discussion
should arise,

He'd say he thought it meant to take the
foeman by Surprise.

When exercising in the field he'd cause
great botheration

By scattering his men about, forgetting
Concentration.

In an attack he would advance in solitary
state,

Forgetting that with other troops he must
Co-operate.

The Colonel and the Adjutant would
shout till they were hoarse,

But never could persuade him to Econo-
mize his Force.

Now Clarence was a trifle stout, not
suited to agility,

So p'rhaps one should not blame the lad
because he lacked Mobility.

But Clarence is, alas! no more! How
greatly we deplore it; he

While playing with a Mills grenade forgot
about Security.

Which shows that youths who do aspire
To reach Field Rank or even higher

A certain knowledge must acquire
Concerning their profession.

WHAT'S YOURS?
Ours is news please
and double measure!

REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION NOTES.

SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR QUARTER ENDED SEPTEMBER 30TH, 1924.

Amount of grants made	£79 11 3
Number of cases dealt with	93
Number of cases assisted	40
Number of men registered for employment	498
Number of men found employment	6
Number of married couples found employment	Nil
Number of parcels sent out from Ladies' Guild	13

The Quarterly Meeting of the Executive Committee was held at the Library, Central London Recruiting Depot, Whitehall, on Saturday, July 26th, 1924.

It was decided that the following grants be made on behalf of battalions to the undermentioned charities:—

	£	s.	d.
British Legion	1	1	0
Charity Organisation Society	4	4	0
Charity Organisation Society (Registration Branch)	1	1	0
Friends of the Poor	2	2	0
Gordon Boys' Home	1	1	0
Hospital for Sick Children	2	2	0
National Association for Employment of ex-Soldiers	2	2	0
Netley Charitable Fund	2	2	0
Newport Market Training School	1	1	0
Royal Drummond Institute	2	2	0
Royal Soldiers' Daughters' Home	2	2	0
Soldiers' and Sailors' Families Association	2	2	0
Soldiers' and Sailors' Help Society	2	2	0
St. Dunstan's	1	1	0

The History Committee reported the progress made in writing the History of the Regiment, and stated that they hoped to publish the first volume early in the New Year.

It was decided that as a Roll of Honour had been issued, the names of the fallen should not be included in the History.

CORRESPONDENCE.

"Newlands,"

Nyewood Lane,
Bognor.

May 1st, 1924.

Dear Major Steed,—Having paid a donation of £2 2s. last year to the Middlesex Regimental War Memorial

Fund, I now enclose a cheque for 10s. 6d. as a subscription to the same fund for this year, and hope to subscribe this amount annually to the fund.

Yours sincerely,
(*Sd.*) H. L. WELMAN, Colonel.

GILL SCHOLARSHIP.

The Under Secretary of State, the War Office, announces that a limited number of boys may be nominated by the Army Council for admission to a competitive examination for one Gill Memorial Scholarship and a limited number of Gill Memorial Exhibitions which will be held at Brighton College on June 2nd and 3rd, 1925.

The annual value of a Gill Memorial Scholarship is £50, and that of a Gill Memorial Exhibition is £45. They are tenable for three years (the period may be extended to four years on the recommendation of the Headmaster). The total due payable for a Gill Memorial Scholarship amounts to £105 a year.

To be eligible for nomination by the Army Council, a candidate must be:—

- Under fourteen and a half years of age on June 1st, 1925; and
- The son of an officer of the Regular Army (serving or retired) or, in default of qualified candidates being available, the son of an officer of the Special Reserve or Territorial Force.

The successful candidates for the Scholarship or Exhibitions will enter Brighton College at the termination of the summer vacation.

Applications for nomination by the Army Council should reach the Secretary, the War Office, London, S.W.1, not later than April 1st, 1925 (accompanied by birth certificates and certificate of conduct covering the last two years).

Full particulars regarding the examination, and copies of former papers set, can be obtained on application to the Headmaster, Brighton College.

War Office,
September, 1924.

OFFICERS' CLUB.

A MEETING of the Executive Committee was held at the Library, Central London Recruiting Depot, Whitehall, on Saturday, July 26th, 1924.

There were present: Col. A. M. O. Anwyl Passingham, O.B.E. (chairman), Brig.-Gen. F. D. Lumley, C.B., C.B.E., Lieut.-Col. V. L. N. Pearson, D.S.O., Lieut.-Col. G. Beach, T.D., Lieut.-Col. E. E. F. Baker, D.S.O., M.C., Lieut.-Col. C. P. Rooke, D.S.O., Lieut.-Col. J. K. Maitland, M.C., Major W. A. Stewart, O.B.E., Major R. A. Slee, Capt. H. E. Foster, Capt. V. E. Stock, M.C., Major F. S. Steed, D.C.M. (hon. secretary and treasurer).

It was decided that the 2s. 6d. allocated to the Sports Branch from the annual subscriptions be used, if necessary, by the Cricket Week Sub-Committee.

It was decided that past and present officers who are not members of the Club, may be permitted to attend the Annual Dinner at a charge to be determined by the Dinner Committee.

This charge will include, in addition to the cost of the dinner, a proportion of other expenses entailed.

It was decided that the fixtures for next year be as follows:—

Cricket Week.—June 29th to July 2nd.
"At Homes."—July 1st and 2nd.
Annual Dinner.—June 30th.

8th BATTALION NOTES.

THE year's training is well advanced, and all but to a close. The Musketry has been completed under most trying conditions. Every attendance at Bisley was accompanied with heavy rain during part of the day, which does not tend towards good shooting. An increase in the number of Lewis gunners who have fired this year has been achieved, thanks to hard work at the Drill Halls in handling the gun.

The strength of the Battalion has been increased by 30 as from November 1st, 1923. At first sight this increase may appear very small, but upon an analysis the results are quite satisfactory, and we

are looking for an increase during next year's training as now the greater percentage of the Battalion is on a four years' engagement.

In spite of a total of 102 enlistments as from November 1st, 1923, there has been a constant drain on the strength on account of men becoming over age and time-expired during this period. Fifty have been discharged time-expired, 7 medically unfit, and 18 to the Regular Army.

The Battalion strength at Annual Training was a great credit to all concerned. Four hundred and forty-two other ranks attended camp (106 for eight days and 336 for fifteen days) out of the Battalion strength at that date of 504, 16 only being absent without leave.

The Annual Training at Seaford was very much enjoyed by all ranks, and we left feeling that we had learnt something. Thanks are due to the Cadre of the Depot, The Middlesex Regiment, the Demonstration Platoon, 2nd Battalion The Worcestershire Regiment, and the Specialists' Staff.

The Battalion was successful in winning the Albuhera Cup at the Brigade Sports with a very easy margin.

We congratulate "A" Company, commanded by Capt. P. F. Murray, on winning the Efficiency Cup for the most efficient Company during Annual Training.

Three Torchlight Tattoos have been held by the Battalion within the Battalion area during the summer months at Ealing, Brentford and Acton.

A week-end camp was held at Ealing in June, and was enjoyed by all ranks.

Lieut. H. C. Ellis, O.B.E. (late Captain 5th Battalion The Middlesex Regiment), has joined the Battalion as Transport Officer.

Second-Lieut. P. R. Elliott has joined the Battalion, and has been posted to "D" Company, at Uxbridge.

PROMOTIONS.

Sergt. J. Simons promoted W.O., Class II, 16/9/24.

Cpl. W. J. Reeves, "H.Q." Wing, promoted Sergeant, 5/8/24.

L./Sergt. G. Cleave, "C" Company, promoted Sergeant, 30/7/24.

L./Cpl. G. Stone, "H.Q." Wing, promoted Corporal, 3/8/24.

L./Cpl. F. C. Hillier, "A" Company, promoted Corporal, 24/6/24.
 L./Cpl. T. A. Owen, "A" Company, promoted Corporal, 24/6/24.
 L./Cpl. A. J. Thomas, "B" Company, promoted Corporal, 13/6/24.
 L./Cpl. S. J. Austin, "D" Company, promoted Corporal, 21/7/24.
 L./Cpl. G. Woodhouse, "D" Company, promoted Corporal, 21/7/24.
 L./Cpl. A. S. Church, "D" Company, promoted Corporal, 21/7/24.

"H.Q." WING.

The Company Commander's Annual Outing for N.C.Os. and men who have performed forty drills by July 1st took place on July 19th, and this year took the form of a trip to Wembley. Unfortunately, out of the sixteen who were entitled to be in the party only about ten were able to get away early enough to join it. These included Sergts. Weaver, Woodthorpe and Power, and, accompanied by Capt. Palmer, the R.S.M., and Bandmaster Coleman, left Hounslow by lorry at 3 p.m. On reaching the Exhibition the whole party first visited the representation of Zeebrugge at the Government Pavilion, after which they broke up into groups of four, each of which went their own sweet way well provided with the means of subsistence for the rest of the day. The rendezvous was at the Wembley Park entrance at 9.45 p.m., and all were punctual except—their shame, be it said—three Sergeants, who suffered the penalty of having to find their own way home. Everyone enjoyed the trip, but only to one was it given to see the R.S.M. going "Over the Falls."

Doubtless some mention of camp will be found in other columns of this Journal, but the subject cannot be passed over without some reference to the achievements of "H.Q." Wing there. The strongest Company in camp, it carried its many various duties (it is hoped) with complete satisfaction. It also took its part in sports not without distinction.

A number of competitors for "H.Q." took part in the Brigade Sports, and did well, notably L./Cpl. A. Baker, who won the Long Jump with a jump of 19ft. 7in., and Pte. Harrowell, who ran third in the Cross-country.

The "H.Q." cricket team won the Battalion Cricket Cup after beating first "C" Company, then "D" Company, and finally "A" Company, in a most exciting match, in which C.Q.M.S. Roberts distinguished himself both with bat and ball.

During the month of July "H.Q." Wing took part in Torchlight Tattoos held at Brentford, Ealing and Acton, the Regimental Band supplying the music.

A large number of recruits have joined "H.Q." Wing this year, and are turning out extremely well, but, unfortunately for the Company, seven of the best have already joined the Regular Army. Good luck to them.

Dances have been continued in the Hounslow Drill Hall throughout the summer with great success, and preparations are now being made to have a bumper winter season. Dances are held every Monday and Saturday, and on the last Saturday in each month are enlivened by competitions and fancy dress carnivals. Electric fans, lime lights and other novel effects are provided; in fact, it is so up to date that at each visit one looks round to see what new attraction has been installed.

The Regimental Band has just concluded a great season, and the greatest credit is due to Bandmaster Coleman, who, by able leadership, tactful management, and downright hard work, has brought the Band to a pitch of efficiency that has probably never before been attained. Amongst many engagements, the Band obtained a contract with the local Council to play weekly in the Recreation Grounds of Hounslow, Heston, and Isleworth, and on September 6th played in the Stadium at Wembley on the occasion of the great rally of Middlesex Buffaloes.

The Annual Prize-giving of "H.Q." Wing will be held shortly before Christmas, and on the same day it is hoped to give a tea in the Drill Hall to the wives and families of all married members of the Company.

"A" COMPANY.

Since "A" Company last dashed into print, another camp has come and gone, and we are back at Hampton once more trying to reconcile ourselves to the rapid

approach of winter and the least interesting part of Territorial training.

Despite the weather (and even that most miserable element put up a better show at Seaforth than it did elsewhere apparently) the 1924 camp was voted by all ranks to have been the best since the war. This, of course, will be more readily understood when it is known that "A" Company won the Efficiency Cup, which, as its name implies, goes to the most efficient Company at camp, as well as providing several competitions in the Brigade Sports, and thus enabling the Battalion to win the Albuhera Cup once more.

On the whole, we think a more enjoyable camp could not be imagined, and we only hope that we shall be as lucky in 1925, wherever we may go. We are already looking forward to it.

Congratulations to C.S.M. Westley on obtaining the highest aggregate in the Brigade Rifle Meeting at Bisley on September 7th, thus winning the Cheylesmore Cup, and to "B" Company on winning the Lewis Gun Trophy.

"B" COMPANY.

On Friday, June 28th, the last day of Ealing's Fete, "B" Company and the Battalion Band and Drums headed the procession through Ealing. His Worship the Mayor and Corporation followed the Company, escorted by detachments of "A" and "B" Companies and "H.Q." Wing.

Prior to the march, the parade was inspected in the Courtyard of the Town Hall by His Worship the Mayor.

Strength of parade:—Capt. W. H. Parmeter, Lieut. P. R. Pattison, Lieut. D. R. Pattison, Lieut. R. W. Heanly, and approximately 150 other ranks.

On conclusion of the march through Ealing, "B" Company and detachments proceeded by lorry to the week-end camp, arranged for June 28th/29th at Hanger Hill.

The Company and Battalion Drums paraded at the Drill Hall on Sunday, August 3rd (strength, 2 officers and 80 other ranks), and proceeded to Hounslow via Northfields Station, leaving Drill Hall at 10 a.m.

The sports in camp saw the usual members of the Company, Pte. Hooper, Cpls. Huntingford and Gosling, well to the fore both in the Battalion and Brigade Sports Meetings.

The Lewis Gun Match, open to the Brigade, was won this year by the Company with the score of 116.

The dancing season opened this year with a most successful dance on September 13th, at which the following officers of the Battalion and friends were present:—Capt. R. E. Newbery, M.C., Lieuts. D. A. Jewson, P. R. Pattison, R. W. Heanly, P. R. H. Elliott, and R. H. G. Boys. Its success was greatly due to the efforts of the Dance Committee.

The Annual Prize Distribution and Concert will be held on Tuesday, December 23rd, 1924.

YELLOW FLASHES.

O.C. "B" Company had better luck with his charger at the Annual Training this year, though he could not get out of the habit of telling about his mare.

* * *

There is no foundation for the rumour that the R.S.M. and the Bandmaster have taken up golf. A man may surely wear white boots without being a cricketer!

* * *

The passing of the Yellow Flash from our right shoulder straps is regretted by nearly all. From this time Yellow Flashes will only be seen (by the kindness of the Editor) once a quarter in THE DIE-HARDS.

* * *

It is said the authorities trembled, At the very large numbers assembled. I am talking, of course, Of that very fine force On the day the 8th Middlesex Wembled.

* * *

1st *Awestruck Subaltern*: "What's all that blue smoke pouring out of the Orderly-room?"

2nd *Awestruck Subaltern*: "Hush! It's the C.O. quietly, but firmly, discussing field boots with the author of last quarter's Yellow Flashes."

SONGS OF THE DAY.

MILITARY FASHIONS.

There's no doubt that whatever our critics may say,
There is plenty of life in the Army to-day.
Every time that the postman rat-tats on
the door
New dress regulations arrive by the
score.
And society ladies would faint if they
knew
The out-of-date fashions the Army
eschew.

Chorus—

Oh! go where you can
You can easily guess
A Military man
By the cut of his dress.

Instructions are issued regarding the size
And the shape and the colour of collars
and ties;
The wearing of spurs and the number of
holes
In the uppers of boots and the thickness
of soles,
And particular care must be taken to see
That our breeches are four inches deep at
the knee.

Chorus—

Oh! go where you can
You can easily guess
A Military man
By the cut of his dress.

Of all regiments in the Army List now,
There is none better dressed than the
"Die Hards," I vow,
Our chin-straps and badges all look very
neat,
And the way our equipment fits on is a
treat.
But the worst of it is that the fashions, I
fear,
Will be altered again by the end of the
year.

Chorus—

Oh! go where you can
You can easily guess
A Middlesex man
By the cut of his dress.

MIDDLESEX AND SUSSEX
INFANTRY BRIGADE RIFLE
MEETING.

The Middlesex and Sussex Infantry
Brigade Rifle Meeting was held on
Sunday, September 7th, 1924, with the
following results:—

Inter-Battalion Competition.—1st, 44th
(H.C.) Divisional Signals, score 513; 2nd,
7th Bn. Middlesex Regt., 504; 3rd, 4th
Bn. Royal Sussex Regt., 484.

High Sheriff's Challenge Shield.—1st,
"B" Coy., 4th R. Sussex Regt., 250;
2nd, "A" Coy., 7th Middlesex Regt.,
227; 3rd, 44th (H.C.) Div. Signals, 227.

B.S.A. Guns, Ltd., Challenge Trophy.
—1st, "D" Coy., 9th Middlesex Regt.,
186; 2nd, "D" Coy., 8th Middlesex
Regt., 146; 3rd, "C" Coy., 9th Middle-
sex Regt., 128.

Lewis Gun and Hotchkiss Cup.—1st,
"B" Coy., 8th Middlesex Regt., 116;
2nd, "D" Coy., 9th Middlesex Regt.,
115; 3rd, "B" Coy., 9th Middlesex
Regt., 87.

Machine Gun Trophy.—1st, 9th
Middlesex Regt. (No. 2 Team), 309; 2nd,
9th Middlesex Regt. (No. 1 Team),
289; 3rd, 8th Middlesex Regt., 284.

Cheylesmore Cup.—1st, C.S.M. West-
ley, "A" Coy., 8th Middlesex Regt., 56;
2nd, Lieut. D. A. Jewson, "C" Coy., 8th
Middlesex Regt., 50; 3rd, Sergt. Richard-
son, 44th (H.C.) Divisional Signals, 41.

Championship.—1st Bdsman, Bennett,
4th R. Sussex Regt., 40; 2nd, C.S.M.
Westley, 8th Middlesex Regt., 39; 3rd,
Lieut. Lindsey, 7th Middlesex Regt., 36.



RANDOM RECOLLECTIONS.

III

IN *Blackwood's* January number this
year an article, evidently written by a
Gunner, brought to mind that peaceful
frontier expedition in which the 2nd
Battalion participated, when stationed at
Quetta, in the early spring of 1893,
I think (or was it '92?). The Khelat
column was composed of a Moun-
tain Battery, the 2nd Battalion, and
a few Indian Cavalry, with a
political officer and a few etceteras,

the whole under the command of the
Quetta C.R.A. (Col. Aitken). Prior to
departure, the Battalion was inspected by
the G.O.C. Division, Lieut.-Gen. Sir
George Luck, who had just succeeded
Sir George White in command of the
Division on the latter's appointment as
Commander-in-Chief, East Indies. Con-
siderable excitement prevailed in Quetta,
as it was quite an open question whether
the Khan would part with his money-bags
without demur. The removal of the
money-bags, which were, in fact, the
hoarded subsidy paid him for years by
the benevolent British Raj, was decided
on by way of a gentle reminder to the
Khan that wholesale execution of his sub-
jects was not regarded as a popular
pastime by the Government of India.

At that time the 2nd Battalion was
commanded by Lieut.-Col. H. D. Wade-
Dalton, whose two hobbies were shikar
and photography, and I still have the
series of photos taken by him on the
march to, and at, Khelat, not the least
interesting of which is a group of the
officers of the Battalion while in camp
there.

So far as I recollect, the distance from
Quetta to Khelat is about 80 miles (out-
side British territory after the first
march), which was accomplished without
incident in five or six marches. Our first
casualty (2/Lieut. W—) occurred in
camp the second day out—he fell over a
taut rope and broke his collar-bone, and
was very disgusted at being sent back to
Quetta, I remember. It was pretty hot
by the time camp was reached each day,
but there was generally a good running
stream quite handy, and the appointed
bathing-place was very quickly being
thoroughly appreciated by all ranks.
Except for fruit gardens, mulberry,
peaches and grapes, and a little cultiva-
tion just round the mud-built villages, the
country was most uninteresting, rocky
and sandy—especially sandy, and the
track followed could not be dignified by
the name of road.

As related in *Blackwood's*—to the
Gunnery fell the task of locating and
passing out the treasure; to the infantry
the more tedious job of escorting it back
to Quetta.

The preparations for the return took
some little time; I think it was consider-
ably over a month before the snake-like

column of loaded camels, in single file of
course, was to be seen winding its way
back in the direction of Quetta. The
treasure, all in rupees, none of those
currency notes we used to see at times,
very many lakhs of it (one lakh equals
100,000), I have no idea how many, had
apparently been dumped by the Khan in
his cellars in the bags in which he had
received them from the Quetta Treasury.
For convenience of loading on camels in
the usual loading-nets, the bags were
sealed up in old ammunition boxes: some
of the bags were very rotten, also the
boxes, and no doubt there was some
"wastage" *en route*, but probably not so
much as there was in the cellars when
bags broke.

At length all was ready; the Gunnery
returned independently, leaving our
section with one company (Major Belling-
ham's) behind at Khelat, where they
remained several months. It was by this
time very hot indeed during the day,
which necessitated a very early start
before daybreak, and by the time camp
was reached camels unloaded, treasure
stocked, and tents pitched, all had had
enough to go on with; sauntering along
at a camel's pace was a deadly, wearisome
business. The whole column, when on
the move, must have strung out over
three or four miles.

The only excitement on the return
march occurred in the dark one morning
as camp was being struck, when a man
was cut over on the outskirts of camp by
a ghazi or, more probably, a rifle thief.
He got clean away in the dark, but not
with a rifle. And so back to barrack
routine.

IV

Another "recollection" which belongs
to about the same period as the foregoing.
I must trust you, Mr. Editor, not to give
me away, as I do not know to what extent
I may have rendered myself liable to
penalties under Military Law in that I,
knowing full well that — was a
deserter from the 2nd Battalion D.C.O.
Middlesex Regiment, did not hand the
said deserter over to military custody, but
as the sequel occurred ten years later per-
haps proceedings would have been time-
barred. I think it was usually difficult
in those days to fill the "trade" appoint-
ments in a regiment in India. Be that as

it may, I should think it must have been unprecedented for the Sergeant Tailor and Pioneer Sergeant to desert! However, they did so, together, from Quetta, and, moreover, got clear away, which is the more remarkable considering the isolation of the place. My little tale concerns the latter, Pioneer-Sergt. Thompson (he doubtless had several other names in different units).

Thompson had enlisted in India, and I fancy there was more than a mere suspicion he had "served" before. He was not at all a young man, and obviously an old soldier. However, there was probably some difficulty about filling the Pioneer Sergeant's appointment—it had been vacant a considerable time—and Pte. Thompson had the necessary trade qualifications, so, probably to his intense annoyance, he found himself one fine morning a Sergeant, and shouldering his battle-axe at the head of the Pioneers. Quite shortly afterwards, finding his views of *work* and the C.O.'s by no means coincided, he deserted with his pal the tailor. Ten years later, I was sitting in my office in Calcutta when who should march in but ex-Pioneer-Sergt. Thompson, now calling himself Onions. I recognized him the minute he came into the room, but lay low and drew him on to tell me all about himself, and what had brought him to come round begging. Of course, he told the usual tale, lost his papers, etc., and that his regiment—not, of course, the Middlesex—was then at Kamptee, which, curiously enough, was, I think, the station where he had enlisted in the 2nd Battalion. After I had let him have a good innings, I said: "Well, Thompson, and what do you think I can do for you?" upon which Sergt. Thompson looked like having a fit, and asked what I knew about him, which he made no attempt to deny. He also told me how they had managed to make a clean get-away, but I have forgotten the details. It's a small world we live in.

"DOUBLE SEVEN."



9th BATTALION NOTES.

CAMP.

HAVING read my "Daily Telegram," I feel that to report the camp of 1924 correctly one should begin after this fashion:—On arriving at Seaford I visited Lieut.-Col. Beach's Battalion, where I found the C.O. surrounded by his bright young Company Commanders (here should come the names of these future Fochs) busily discussing the question, Should diamonds be squashed or square?

I found the Transport Officer inspecting the fine animals he had just taken over, and I was pleased that every horse had four legs and a head, and some even had tails.

On August 3rd 350 straphanging, "late extra" reading civilians—to quote C.E.A.—dressed in khaki went to Seaford Camp.

On August 17th 300 soldiers, with well-fitting and highly-polished equipment, marched away from Seaford and returned to Willesden, certainly better soldiers, certainly healthier, certainly smarter, and, we hope, certainly keener.

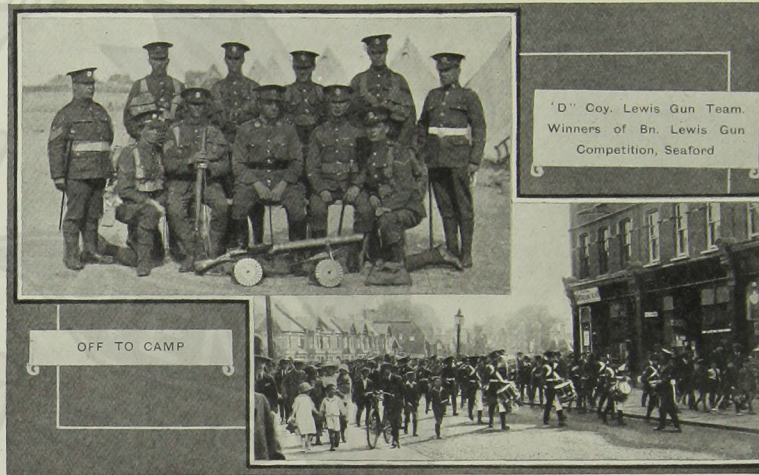
What had happened in the meantime?

First, it rained, almost as soon as we arrived—rained as though it had never rained before and never wanted to stop. However, with the exception of a few unfortunates whose tents leaked, the rain failed to drown anyone. It decided to reform, and for the rest of camp behaved considerably.

On one morning training had to be confined to the camp area, but otherwise it was not interfered with, and on no occasion did the Battalion get a soaking.

Last, it rained. Poured as we left Seaford, after permitting us to get to the station practically unspotted, and, as if to signal the end of training, no sooner had the Battalion been dismissed at Pound Lane than the skies opened and the waterworks began.

For the first week a Demonstration Platoon of the 2nd Battalion The Worcestershire Regiment gave demonstrations each morning, which were followed by Platoons, under Company arrangements, and there can be no doubt that the rapidity of the progress made was largely due to demonstration—and imitation.



Meanwhile ten young N.C.O.s. were placed under Lieut. S. Mirams, M.C., and the Training Cadre of the Depot, to the very obvious advantage of their efficiency, and, we hope, in the future of their Companies. The ten selected were:—"A" Company, L./Cpl. Impey, Pte. Gorman (since transferred to the Regular Army); "B" Company, L./Cpl. Batty, Pte. Fisher; "C" Company, L./Cpl. Booker, L./Cpl. Lander; "D" Company, L./Sergt. Doughty, L./Cpl. Devereux, L./Cpl. Read, and L./Cpl. Gray, and we congratulate them on being judged the best section in the Brigade by the O.C. Training Cadre.

After a quiet but valuable week, the more-testing second week began.

On Monday morning outposts were explained and practised. After dinner, Companies prepared to go out for the night on an outpost scheme. This was, in a way, the "big show" of the training, as the night out was made the occasion for exercising, not only the O.C. Companies and Platoons, etc., but also the Seconds-in-Command and C.Q.M.Ss., who seldom got the opportunity of carrying out in peace their rôles in war.

An excellent piece of ground had been found for the exercise, allowing a tactically possible situation, with convenient barns in the locality for the night bivouac.

The forces, Brown ("B" and "D" Companies, under Capt. Fox) and White ("A" and "C" Companies, under Capt. Findlay), obviously meant business, and with everybody keen the show started off with every prospect of success, and this was fulfilled. One or two unusual incidents occurred, but for the most part everything was carried out regularly. The two most noticeable incidents were the Hunnish use made by one of "C" Company's patrols of the local inhabitants to screen their reconnaissance of a "D" Company post. The other was the super-gallantry of another patrol commander, who rushed within five yards of a sentry group, and though dead about twenty times could not be caught by the umpires, and eventually captured a complete enemy patrol on his own, and returned to Company Headquarters full of life, driving his captives before him, minus his own patrol, one of whom was picked up an hour or so later about three miles away.

By 1 a.m. the opposing armies were asleep in their bivouacs. Peace had been declared.

After breakfasting in their barns, Brown and White, now united, started for home, only to find that a hostile force—on this occasion the Drums, under Major Tupper—had occupied the ground between, and insisted on disputing the

advance of the Companies. Having been driven off by White, they reappeared and argued the matter with Brown.

On Wednesday the Brigade Sports were the chief event, and on Thursday the Brigade Commander inspected the Battalion. A description of the former will be found elsewhere, and inspections are inspections, and need no further comment than that it passed off more or less normally.

Friday saw an attempt on the part of the 7th and 9th Battalions to lower the colours of their combined Drums. Once more the Drummers proved a most obstinate enemy, and although outnumbered and finally impired off the landscape, they inflicted dreadful losses on the Allies.

On Saturday morning two competitions took place; a Lewis Gun Competition first, which was won by "D" Company, with a team commanded by L./Sergt. Porter, with a "C" Company team, under L./Sergt Maloney, second. This was followed by a Guard-mounting Competition, which the Brigade Commander, Col. R. E. Solly-Flood, C.M.G., D.S.O., kindly judged. On this occasion "C" and "D" Companies changed places, but "A" and "B" Companies were not



C.S.M. DENTON. BOY MAQUIRE.
The Long and the Short of it.

much behind, and judging by the enormous improvement made in the turn-out of the Guards of the Battalion during camp the judge's job will not be easy next year.

Before closing notes on this year's camp, mention must be made of the great advantages gained by the attachment to the Brigade of specialist officers in Machine Gun Transport and Signals. Their assistance was invaluable. Their reports on our specialists were most satisfactory, but the Machine Gun Platoon and Signal Section were both handicapped by their weakness in personnel, which, we hope, will be overcome by next year, and let us hope that the Transport will have animals next year worthy of the labour and care bestowed on them by the Section.

And now for winter training and twelve months waiting for next August and camp.

BATTALION SPORTS, JULY 26TH, 1924.

If anyone wants to lose money they need not bother to take the Stadium and run a Bloomfield—Gibbons contest. All that is necessary is to apply at the Drill Hall, Pound Lane, Willesden, and ask to be allowed to organize the 9th Battalion's Sports. It's a sure way of preventing too large a bank balance accumulating. If full details are required, ask P.R.I., as it is not intended to go into the whole sad details here.

The weather did its best to put a damper on the Sports by raining most of the night previous, and giving those engaged in getting the ground ready a good soaking on Saturday morning, to say nothing of odd showers during the afternoon.

Mr. G. J. Furness had very kindly lent his field behind Roundwood House for the Sports, and a more pleasant setting would be hard to find around Willesden.

A committee of Sergeants had arranged for a variety of side shows and entertainments, and a bevy of the Battalion's most beautiful supporters were in attendance to supply the onlookers with programmes, whilst a formidable array of officials were present to control the crowd of (a) spectators and (b) competitors.

The rush under (a) began at 3 p.m.

and ended at 3.1 p.m., a small boy who arrived at the gate to the field by mistake being seized and given a ticket of admission in exchange for 6d.

Under (b) the crowd never materialized, and from first to last the ratio of officials to runners was always 2 to 1 at the minimum.

The Committee much regret that there was a runner who did not get a prize, and that by an oversight they omitted to have a consolation race for him.

However, if the Sports provided nothing else, they did give us one very good finish—the Open Mile—in which Cpl. Woolley ran Pte. Burrows very close in a great race.

The results were as follows:—

100 Yards.—1, Lieut. Townell; 2, Lieut. Furlong; 3, Pte. A. J. Bush.

220 Yards.—1, Lieut. Furlong; 2, Lieut. Townell; 3, Pte. Boston.

800 Yards.—1, Pte. Burrows; 2, Capt. Sherwood; 3, Pte. Doughty.

100 Yards Boys' Invitation Race.—1, Shelley; 2, Hitton; 3, Skeeton.

Open Mile.—1, Pte. Burrows; 2, Cpl. Woolley; 3, Capt. Sherwood.

Girls' Race.—1, N. Arnold; 2, F. Martin; 3, E. Keen.

Three-legged Race.—1, Sergt. Turner and Pte. Boston; 2, Pte. Bush and Pte. Harrison; 3, Pte. Howes and Pte. Purdy.

Boys' Race.—1, Childs; 2, Weekes.

Battalion Mile.—1, Pte. Burrows; 2, Cpl. Woolley; 3, Capt. Sherwood.

440 Yards.—1, Pte. Doughty; 2, Pte. Lindon; 3, Capt. Sherwood.

Band and Drum Race.—1, Drmr. Setters; 2, Drmr. Brodie; 3, L./Cpl. Tavener.

At the conclusion of the Sports, Mrs. Furness kindly presented the prizes.

BRIGADE RIFLE MEETING.

The Brigade Rifle Meeting took place on September 7th, in miserable weather. All the events on the programme were completed, and, on the whole, the results most satisfactory.

The outstanding achievement was the success of the Machine Gun Platoon, whose two teams were first and second, No. 2 team beating No. 1 team. The latter were a little unfortunate, as, owing to a rather excusable mistake on this occasion, they presented 38 good rounds

to the 4th Sussex, next to them, which might have made a big difference, especially for the T.A.R.A. Machine Gun Competition, for which these scores counted.

Next in order of merit comes the Recruits' Team Competition, which was won by "D" Company, with "C" Company third. The scores for this also count for the T.A.R.A. B.S.A. Competition, and though there should be better scores done by battalions firing under better conditions, we can but hope for the best.

In the Lewis Gun Competition the results were entirely satisfactory, although none of the Battalion teams succeeded in winning.

The places obtained were: "D" Company, 2nd, one point behind the winners; "B" Company, 3rd; "C" Company, 6th; "A" Company, 7th; and "D" Company 2nd team, 11th.

The shooting of the Battalion and Company teams in the Lord Lieutenant's, High Sheriff's, and Individual Competitions was bad; all the best shots had a complete day off.

Perhaps this is all for the best, and next year we hope they will be unable to miss the bull.

DRUMS.

On Monday, July 28th, a test and competition was held for buglers of the Battalion, and resulted in the following drummers and boys qualifying, and thereby gaining the awards of 10s. approved by the Commanding Officer for qualified buglers:—Cpl. Brooks, L./Cpl. Tavener, Drmr. Brodie, Jenkins, Austin, Ettridge, Wapshott, and Boy Smith.

L./Cpl. Tavener won the competition for the Commanding Officer's Bugle, and becomes the holder for the year 1924/25.

It is hoped that by the time these notes are published the bugle, and also the Sergeant-Drummer's sash and staff will be completed, and an occasion will then be found for all those interested to see these additions, which should add very much to the appearance of the Drums on parade.

Did anyone at Seaford fail to see the Anti-aircraft Section in action? If so, free demonstrations can be arranged on

application to the Anti-Air Vice-Commodore.

Just published, "The Tactics of a Skeleton Enemy," by D. Rummer.

"D" COMPANY.

The return of "D" Company from Annual Training is always a cause of excitement in Hendon, for — er — several reasons. The Oldest Inhabitant has it that the only nice young fellows to be seen in the town during the period are either those from other districts, or those on the Company "waiting list!" Let us say no more; abler pens than ours have discussed the relation existing between the number of men of military age in Hendon and the strength of "D" Company.

The great willingness displayed by all the men was remarkable; there was not a working party called for, but, in the words of the poet:—

"D's," not to reason why
'D's' but to stand and cry:
'I can do it, sir.'"

"Infantry Training," Volume I, is a very interesting book, but there are parts of it which must not be taken too

seriously. That phrase, "The converse of interest is monotony," had evidently gripped the imaginations of "our friends across the road" ("C" Company). They certainly dispelled whatever monotony there might have been. The only criticism we have to offer is that the hour might have been more suitably chosen.

Still, it was a good show for one shilling.

We are indebted to an N.C.O. for the following hints on the arresting of an Armed Desperado:—

1. When chasing the A.D., you find that he can run faster than you, snatch up an empty rifle, and you will find that it adds several m.p.h. to your speed.
2. If the A.D. still evades you, leave him severely alone, and he will give himself up of his own accord.

The end of camp saw the Brigade Sports and Battalion Competitions, in both of which "D" Company distinguished themselves. They won the Lewis Gun Competition, and were second in the Guard Competition. The Cadre Platoon Competition was won by No. 4 Section,



MACHINE GUN TEAMS, 9TH BATTALION.
1st and 2nd Brigade Machine Gun Competition.

which was composed entirely of men from the 9th Middlesex, made up as follows:—

- "A" Company sent 1 man.
- "B" Company sent 1 man.
- "C" Company sent 2 men.
- "D" Company sent 3 men.

The dance season has now commenced. Dances are being held at the Drill Hall, Algernon Road, Hendon, every Friday evening at 7.30, the Regimental Band being in attendance. We hope that our "comrades-in-arms" will give us all the support they can.

At the time when these notes were written, C.S.M. C. Green, our P.S.I., was seriously ill. We offer our condolences both to him and his family, and our best wishes for his speedy recovery.

Who was the C.Q.M.S. who possessed a "walking out" bayonet, which does not fit his rifle, and how many ceremonial parades has he missed on this account?

* * *

Who was the Platoon Sergeant, straight from Hythe (?), who, after obtaining permission for his men to smoke, said, "you can smoke, them as has cigarettes; them that hasn't must go through the motions in their own time"?

* * *

DEAD G.WOUND.

"Damme!" the officer exclaimed,
Was ever anything worse named?
"Dead Gwound" a pawadox must be,
For here frowm death and Chous you're
fwee.

* * *

TO THE SEAFORD KITTEN.

A musician I heard of at Seaford,
Had a wonderful way with a keyboard.
But at 1 a.m., please
He would rattle those keys,
And the neighbouring lines, well! they
were bored.
(No, Sergt. Seymour, this does not
refer to you.)

* * *

Is it true that marquee climbing is to be included in next year's sports? and, if so, are the Subaltern Officers going to practice over the Drill Hall during the Winter Training period?

BRIGADE SPORTS, 1924.

The Sports of the Middlesex and Sussex Brigade were held on the Brigade parade ground, Blatchington Camp, Seaford, on August 13th, and, strange to say, the sun shone on the scene, although visitors informed us that it was raining at most places that day.

Owing to the absence of the 4th Sussex, who had already completed their training, interest centred chiefly on the struggle between the three Middlesex battalions for the possession of the Albuhera Cup. This takes place each year at camp. It resulted last year in a tie between the 8th and 9th Battalions.

The decision to come into line with the Army Athletic Association and decide the championship on relay and team races added a fresh interest, in that it was impossible to foresee which battalion would be able to accommodate itself to the new conditions best.

There was no doubt by the end of the day. The 8th Battalion finished with a large margin to spare.

The meeting opened with a 400 Yards Relay. Lieut. Townell gained a good lead in the first 100 yards; the race was never in doubt, and ended in an easy victory for the 9th Battalion, with the 8th Battalion and 44th Divisional Signals 2nd and 3rd respectively.

The Two Mile Relay was more interesting. Pte. Burrows (9th) handed over a useful lead to his second string, Lieut. Heffer, but Pte. Gill (8th) and Lieut. Hay (7th) ran very well, and, overtaking Lieut. Heffer, had the race to themselves, Pte. Gill eventually winning by a fair margin.

The 800 Yards Relay was a repetition of the first race, and Lieut. Townell again starting the 9th off with a lead, each string increased the lead to allow Lieut. Furlong a quiet run home. The 8th Battalion and 44th Divisional Signals again filled 2nd and 3rd places.

Meanwhile, a stern struggle was being waged between a crowd of enthusiastic sack-racers, to decide their championship. From the very commencement the odds appeared to be heavily on Sergt. Turner (9th), the holder, whose sack style strikes the eye at once as that of a champion. Heat after heat and round after round were run off, until legs were

coming through sacks, and competitors were running a species of hobble skirt race rather than a sack race. Unperturbed, the champion continued to streak up the course each round, and finally retained his title by defeating Pte. Riversell (8th) and Pte. Bush (R.A.M.C.) in the final. Riversell is another coming champion, and, with another's year's practice, might easily wrest the title from Sergt. Turner.

The Transport Turn-out Competition (1 G.S. wagon and 1 limbered G.S. wagon) must have been a nice problem for the judges, seeing that under present conditions only the cleanliness of animals and vehicles, condition and fit of harness and turn-out of drivers can be judged, but as long as some units can only have their vehicles for the period of the camp, and animals of strange shapes are provided for the fortnight only, this must be so. However, the judges arrived at a decision, and placed the teams in the order 7th, 9th, 8th. Next year a competition for the horse of the most original shape or make might be introduced. It is certain that this year competition would have been keen, though "The Goat" would probably have taken the palm.

After the Turn-out Competition a limbered G.S. wagon of each unit took part in a Driving Competition, which was won by the 9th Battalion limber, driven by Cpl. Harris, with the 7th Battalion second and 8th Battalion third.

Before returning to the two-legged events, there was a special event for Officers who had been attending the early morning Rodeo. Saddling and bridling their horses, competitors then rode round the course to the Brigade-Major, who set them the task of drawing a panoramic sketch of the country in front of them. Having completed this masterpiece, they remounted, rode round the course again, passed between two hurdles, and finally over—or through, in some cases—a jump. All competitors finished the course, but from the time of arrival of the winner, Lieut. Tait, R.A.M.C., attached 7th Battalion, to the arrival of the last competitor there was a good margin, and it was not without considerable encouragement that some of the animals could be persuaded to look at the jump.

The Land Boat Race, which followed, was won by the 9th Battalion, with the 7th Battalion second and 44th Divisional Signals third.

The 7th Battalion gained an excellent victory in the 880 Yards Relay, in which both their strings ran very strongly; whilst in the Mile Relay Pte. Gill again finished first for the 8th Battalion.

The Long and High Jumps both went to the 8th Battalion, as also did the Tug-of-War, in which their team of "Glaxo Babies" once more proved themselves invincible, as far as the Middlesex and Sussex Brigades are concerned.

The Cross-Country Race was over three miles of country of difficult going, and was won by the 8th Battalion, whose team was well packed, a great contrast to the 9th Battalion, whose first man, Pte. Burrows, led from first to last, but whose other strings finished in very lowly places, which was not altogether surprising seeing that two of them had only just finished the One Mile Relay, and had not had time to recover. The 7th Battalion, who were second, were also well together.

The Alarm Race, for which only two teams entered, was won by a team from the 7th Battalion.

The Low Hurdles provided the best race of the day, a great struggle between Lieut. Pattison, 8th Battalion, and Lieut. Hardcastle, 9th Battalion, the second strings, ending in a win by inches for the former.

At the conclusion, the Brigade Commander, Col. R. E. Solly-Flood, C.M.G., D.S.O., presented the medals and prizes.

How everything was arranged in such a short time is known to the Committee alone, but events went off with the smoothness of well-thought-out organization, and only a larger and more enthusiastic audience was required to make the meeting a real success.

440 Yards Relay.—1st, 9th Middlesex (Lieut. Townell, Lieut. E. Wright, Capt. Proctor, and Lieut. Furlong); 2nd, 8th Middlesex (Cpl. Browning, Cpl. Green, Sergt. Fairclough, and Pte. Fisher); 3rd, 44th Divisional Signals (Signalmen Britain, W. J. Jones, Tully, and Thomas).

Two-mile Relay.—1st, 8th Middlesex (Ptes. Hooker and Gill); 2nd, 7th Middlesex (L./Cpl. Scott and Lieut. Hay);

3rd, 9th Middlesex (Lieut. Heffer and Pte. Burrows).

Sack Race.—1st, Sergt. Turner, 9th Middlesex; 2nd, Pte. Riversell, 8th Middlesex; 3rd, Pte. Bush, Field Ambulance.

880 Yards Relay.—1st, 9th Middlesex (Lieut. Townell, Lieut. Wright, Capt. Proctor, and Lieut. Furlong); 2nd, 8th Middlesex (Cpl. Browning, Cpl. Green, L./Cpl. Baker, and Pte. Maitland); 3rd, 44th Divisional Signals (Signalmen Britain, W. J. Jones, Tully, and Fielder).

Transport Competition.—1st, 7th Middlesex; 2nd, 9th Middlesex; 3rd, 8th Middlesex.

Transport Driving Competition.—1st, 9th Middlesex; 2nd, 7th Middlesex; 3rd, 8th Middlesex.

Special Event for Officers.—Tait (?).
Land Boat Race.—1st, 9th Middlesex; 2nd, 7th Middlesex; 3rd, 44th Divisional Signals.

880 Yards Relay.—1st, 7th Middlesex (Lieut. Hay and Cpl. Silvey); 2nd, 44th Divisional Signals (Signalmen Tully and Brittain); 3rd, R.A.M.C. (Cpl. Clarke and L./Cpl. Pearson).

High Jump.—1st, 8th Middlesex (Lieut. Pattison and Sergt. Frost); 2nd, 44th Divisional Signals (Capt. Mackenzie and L./Cpl. Jones); 3rd, R.A.M.C. (Cpl. Willis and L./Cpl. Pearson).

One Mile Relay.—1st, 8th Middlesex (Ptes. Gill and Hooper); 2nd, 7th Middlesex (Cpl. Silvey and L./Cpl. Scott); 3rd, 9th Middlesex (Capt. Sherwood and Lieut. Hogg).

Long Jump.—1st, 8th Middlesex (Cpl. Gosling and L./Cpl. Baker); 2nd, 44th Divisional Signals (Capt. Mackenzie and Signalman Morris); 3rd, 9th Middlesex (Lieut. Wright and Cpl. Thompson).

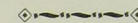
Cross-Country.—1st, 8th Middlesex (Scott, Nash, Hogan, and Harrowell); 2nd, 7th Middlesex (Ellis, Langford, Lieut. Murray, and Tack); 3rd, R.A.M.C. (Bush, Fremlin, and Read).

Alarm Race.—1st, 7th Middlesex (Sergt. Cooper, L./Cpl. Endersby, Ptes. Law, Taylor, Rockall, C. E. Thompson, and D. Thompson); 2nd, 8th Middlesex (Cpl. Lovett, Ptes. Gosling, Purdy, A. Jones, Langhorne, Tidby, and Meads).

Low Hurdles.—1st, 8th Middlesex (Lieut. Pattison and Pte. Fisher); 2nd, 9th Middlesex (Lieut. Hardcastle and Cpl. Thompson); 3rd, 7th Middlesex (Sergt. Small and Pte. Scarce).

Tug-of-War (Final).—1st, 8th Middlesex (Sergt. Cleave, Cpl. Reed, Sergt. Verth, Pte. Winter, L./Cpl. Taylor, Cpl. Judd, Sergt. Jennings, and L./Cpl. Hardsworth).

Albuhera Cup.—1st, 8th Battalion, 25 pts.; 2nd, 7th Battalion, 12 pts. 3rd, 9th Battalion, 11 pts.



LINES

ADDRESSED TO THE 77TH REGIMENT, ON THE OCCASION OF THEIR LATE GALLANT CONDUCT IN PORTUGAL.

Extract from "The Star," November 14th, 1811.

AND has at length indulgent Fortune smile
At length around your ardent brows entwined
Th' un fading Wreath of everlasting Fame?
Sweet is the rapture of the Soldier's breast;
The joy, that thrilling thro' the Warrior's veins,
Beams in the eye, and glows upon the cheek,
When Fate propitious bids the morning dawn,
And pour her radiance o'er the wish'd for Plains,
Where opportunities, so long withheld
Of nobly winning an immortal name,
For which, his soul still fed the secret hope,
Crowd in at length upon his eager grasp!
Those hopes were yours, how fondly realiz'd,
The hostile squadrons, that in throngs around
Your firm collected ranks, so oft essay'd
To break the noblest phalanx ever form'd,
By many a bleeding witness have proclaim'd:
Onward they pressed their num'rous hosts in vain;
Dismay'd they fly, and pour the distant threat;
A little band of Freedom's dearest sons
Rolls back the tide of war on Gallia's Slaves!
Ye Shades of Heroes! Valour's hapless train!
Ye, that with hope-flush'd cheek, and ardent gaze
First view'd the spot 'round which the gloomy
Scheld

Wafts from its bosom pestilence and death:
Ye, that with fairest prospects of renown,
With bosoms burning in your country's cause;
Health on your brow, and strength in ev'ry limb,
First sprung exulting on the hostile shore,
And perish'd vainly in life's vig'rous morn,
The tainted breeze your only enemy!
Oppos'd alone by dire disease's train!
These were your brethren, o'er your timeless
grave

They mourn'd in tears that Valour's self might
own,
And as they press'd the sacred sod, their vows
Were pour'd in anguish to the frowning skies,
For worthier foes than Walcheren could yield!
Oh! by the triumphs of that well-fought day
That on the deeds of your surviving friends
Stamp'd deathless fame in WELLINGTON'S applause,
Those vows at length were heard by pitying

HEAV'N!
As 'midst those Plains, still bless'd with Free-
dom's smile,

Where Gallia's lustful tyrants rage in vain,
 Their souls long pining for the Warrior's meed
 Felt ev'ry transport vict'ry yields the brave,
 And years of hopeless languor were forgot!
 But you, preserv'd from that ill-fated field
 Where, unrefresh'd by Glory's cheering Sun,
 The Flow'r of England droop'd the sick'ning head;
 As, pleas'd you view War's crimson banner wave,
 And pow'rful in an injur'd Nation's cause
 You bid Eraganza's royal line be free,
 The thanks a grateful country can bestow,
 And honours suited to such deeds be yours!
 And as, while panting up the steep ascent
 Thro' toil and pain you win your glorious way,
 Oh! turn not scornful from the Muse's bow'r,
 But listen to the echo of her lyre,
 And sounds that vibrate to a virtuous theme!
 Nor yet disdain his praise, who late rejoic'd
 To share with you the perils of the field!
 For he, whose heart thus pours the strain sincere
 Hath trod with you o'er India's burning soil,
 With you hath breath'd the pestilential air
 And mourned at Walcheren o'er the frequent
 grave,
 While health, that there first fled his youthful
 prime
 Scarce yet resumes her seat upon his cheek!
 Yet still this transport can his bosom know,
 To catch perchance the Muse's transient smile,
 And wake the Lyre to deeds he shar'd before!
 Cheltenham, Nov. 6, 1811. G. M'N.

THE SOUTH AND TENTH MIDDLESEX OFFICERS' CLUB.

The Annual Dinner of the Club will be held at the Constitutional Club, Northumberland Avenue, on Friday, December 12th, 1924. Particulars will be forwarded shortly to all members of the Club. Any other former officers of the old South Middlesex V.R.C., or of the four battalions of the Tenth Middlesex Regiment, who would like to attend the dinner should communicate with Major C. Jarrett, 440, Strand, W.C.2. Membership of the South and Tenth Middlesex Officers' Club entails a subscription of only 5s. a year, and this includes the subscription to THE DIE-HARDS Journal for one year.

ENGLISH CHURCH AT YPRES.

It will be remembered that Field-Marshal Earl Ypres on August 4th, the tenth anniversary of Great Britain coming into the Great War, made a stirring

appeal, in his speech to the League at Ypres, for an English church to be built there.

This most valuable suggestion was followed up at once and strongly commended by the Archbishop of Canterbury and other representatives of the Church of England and the Army, in a letter to the Press of August 7th.

To many people, we believe, it was startling to learn from Lord Ypres that nowhere "in the whole battlefield area" has the Church of England any place of worship "of a permanent character." It seems hardly creditable that our country should not have built *one* church to the memory of those who lie there at rest.

Lord Ypres was referring of course to the large number of pilgrims who go all the year round from our islands and Dominions to visit the graves of our armies in Flanders, and have no place, as he expressed it, "into which they can come for prayer and remembrance of their dead, and there in peace and quiet feel that appeal to Service and Sacrifice of which we are ever conscious."

Apart from those to whom Lord Ypres referred, we must remember that there are now six hundred men employed by the Imperial War Graves Commission in No. 1 Area (Ypres Salient) to tend these cemeteries, and 200 of these men live near Ypres.

Our idea is to build first the chancel end of the church, and then extend it if necessary to hold about two hundred people. The building might be plain to begin with, and be later adorned with regimental and other memorials as time goes on.

We have been deputed to make the appeal for funds to carry out this absolutely necessary work, and it is with the utmost confidence that we do make this appeal for an English church, which we owe to the Memory of Service and Sacrifice.

Cheques can be made payable either to Bishop Bury, c/o the Rev. B. Staunton Batty, Commissary, Christ Church Vicarage, Down Street, London, W.1; or to Field-Marshal Lord Plumer, through Lieut.-Col. Poole, 36, Eaton Place, London, S.W.1, and should be crossed "Lloyds Bank (6, Pall Mall, S.W.1)"; or can be paid direct to the

Bank, for the Ypres Memorial Church Fund.

We are, yours truly,
 HERBERT BURY,
North and Central Europe.
 PLUMER, F.M.

BALANCES OF DECEASED OFFICERS AND SOLDIERS UNDISPOSED OF BELONGING TO THE REGIMENT.

Re-publication of the names of soldiers of the Middlesex Regiment whose personal estate is held for distribution amongst the next of kin or other entitled.

	£	s.	d.
Pte. H. Waddington	1 8 0
Pte. G. W. Baxendale	0 17 2
Pte. W. C. Cox	1 9 2
Sergt. J. Walker	0 1 0
Pte. D. Ford	3 3 6
Pte. G. Norris	39 15 5
Pte. A. H. G. Gould	7 4 8
Pte. J. Hecker	9 8 2
Pte. W. G. Hicks	9 13 9
Pte. J. Sansum	1 14 11
Pte. H. W. Negus	3 16 0
Pte. R. C. Williamson	5 12 6
Pte. J. Dindus	8 2 3
Pte. J. Miles	6 7 7
Pte. E. C. Schulte	31 4 6
Pte. A. Broad	7 16 3
Sergt. A. Brown	52 2 3
Pte. W. Concamon	28 0 6
Pte. W. G. Hulbert	1 15 7
L./Cpl. F. B. Hurman	23 1 8

OBITUARY.

PASSING OF VETERANS.

Extract from "The Hawera Star," New Zealand, July 17th, 1924.

There passed away at the Hawera public hospital on Tuesday evening one who had seen active service in many parts of the world—namely, Patrick Talty, at the great age of 84 years. A native of Ireland, he joined the 57th Regiment (Die-Hards) in 1856, when 19 years of age, and very soon after that was under fire, for he saw service in the Crimea the same year. His Regiment took an active part in the suppression of the Indian Mutiny in 1857-58, and subsequently left

direct for New Zealand to assist in the Maori war, arriving in the early sixties. On the Regiment arriving in New Zealand, Talty was drafted to Taranaki with a detachment, and he was present at many engagements against the Maoris in different parts of the province, including the historic attack on Sentry Hill redoubt in 1864, when Major Butler and his small force of Die-Hards accounted for over forty of the enemy. After leaving the Imperials in 1867, having served eleven years, Talty joined the colonial forces, and saw a good deal of fighting in South Taranaki. He was present at Te Ngutu-o-te-Manu in 1868, when disaster overtook the colonial forces. Altogether the late Veteran Patrick Talty saw more service than falls to the lot of most men, and through it all he maintained the highest character. So far as is known he leaves no relatives in New Zealand, his wife having predeceased him many years ago. Strange to say, he possessed only the New Zealand war medal, which was awarded to him as recently as 1911; but that he was entitled to others there can be no question.

The funeral will be a military one, leaving the Catholic Church at 2 p.m. tomorrow. It is to be hoped that as many Maori war and South African veterans as can attend will do so.

Mr. R. A. Cooke, late Bandmaster of the 2nd Battalion, died suddenly on April 22nd, 1924, on board the S.S. *Kashgar* whilst on his way to Singapore to take up an appointment as Director of Music to the Sultan of Johore. Mr. Cooke came from an old military musical family. He was the eldest son of Mr. R. A. Cooke, Bandmaster of the 104th Royal Bengal Fusiliers in 1863.

He enlisted in 1888, joining the 2nd Battalion K.S.L. Infantry. With this Regiment he saw active service in South Africa, and was awarded the Queen's and King's Medals.

In 1904 he left the K.S.L.I. as Band Sergeant, and entered Kneller Hall to study music.

He was appointed Bandmaster to the 2nd Battalion Middlesex Regiment in 1908, and served continuously with it until he was discharged in January last.

He was a fine musician, an excellent instructor, and devoted to the Band and

Regiment, which he served faithfully for sixteen years.

Whilst in Egypt Lord Allenby personally congratulated him on the way the Band rendered its programmes.

At Singapore H.R.H. The Prince of Wales presented him with a silver match-box, inscribed with the Royal monogram and crest.

The Sultan of Johore also gave him a silver cigarette case for services rendered to the State.

Mr. Cooke married the daughter of Col. J. M. Bett, Corps of Commissioners, Newcastle-on-Tyne. He leaves two sons and a daughter.

We offer to Mrs. Cooke and her family our deepest sympathy in her great bereavement.

PARNALL.—On September 7th, at Bourne End, Bucks, Capt. Robert Henry Parnall (late 5th Battalion Middlesex Regiment), only son of the late Robert Parnall, Esq., J.P., of "The Cottage," Llanstephan, Carmarthen, aged 48.

SENIORITY ROLL OF WARRANT OFFICERS' AND N.C.O.'S.

Rank.	Name.	Battalion.	Date of present promotion.
R.S.M.	H. Anderson, M.C.	1st	1/5/20
R.S.M.	F. Fane	2nd	29/9/23
C.S.M.	R. Mantell	Depot	26/9/24
Bdmr.	J. Clarke	1st	26/6/16
R.Q.M.S.	P. Coles	2nd	20 9 20
R.Q.M.S.	A. Clarke	1st	5/11/20
R.Q.M.S.	A. Purcell	Depot	16/7/24
C.S.M.	W. Beasley	9th	30/1/15
C.S.M.I.M.H.	Cartwright	1st	6/11/15
C.S.M.	C. Green	9th	18/4/16
C.S.M.	J. Walker	8th	3/7/16
C.S.M.	J. Ayres, D.C.M.	1st	12/4/17
C.S.M.	W. Beaman	1st	1/9/17
C.S.M.	H. Gray, D.C.M.	Depot	4/9/17
C.S.M.I.M.H.	Baker, D.C.M.	2nd	10/1/23
C.S.M.	S. Cox	2nd	9/7/23
C.S.M.	H. Siddons	2nd	29/9/23
C.S.M.	E. Crouch	1st	1/9/24
C.O.M.S.	F. Pelly	1st	8/10/16
C.O.M.S.	A. Lewis	1st	1/11/16
C.O.M.S.	E. Tully	1st	22/6/20
C.O.M.S.	W. Gray	Depot	1/8/20
C.O.M.S.	J. Walters	2nd	2/2/22
C.O.M.S.	F. Cushion	2nd	2/2/22
C.O.M.S.	J. Cooke	1st	12/10/22
C.O.M.S.	C. Davis	2nd	1/12/22
C.O.M.S.	G. Wigginton	2nd	10/1/23
C.O.M.S.	S. Steadman	2nd	23/7/23

Rank.	Name.	Battalion.	Date of present promotion.
C.Q.M.S.	H. Lydiat	1st	15/7/24
C.S. (O.R.S.)	R. Fox	1st	1/4/24
Sgt.	C. Shaw	7th	31/9/12
Sgt.	W. O'Brien	Depot	7/9/14
Sgt.	C. Kent	2nd	21/9/14
Sgt.	F. Sparkes	8th	25/9/14
Sgt.	W. Sperry, M.C.	2nd	23/12/14
Sgt.	T. Cox	1st	9/1/15
Sgt.	E. Windsor	1st	6/2/15
Sgt.	E. Boddington	1st	19/3/15
Sgt.	C. Denton	9th	14/4/15
Sgt.	J. Goldstraw	Depot	26/4/15
Sgt.	F. Rose	8th	2/5/15
Sgt.	T. Smith	2nd	10/6/15
Sgt.	E. Green, M.M.	1st	24/6/15
Sgt.	F. Campbell, D.C.M.	1st	11/7/15
Sgt.	A. Baynham	8th	13/10/15
Sgt.	C. Cook	R.M.C.	19/10/15
Sgt.	G. Hoadley	20/11/15	
Sgt.	E. Burns	2nd	17/12/15
Sgt.	R. Flatman, D.C.M.	1st	24/3/16
Sgt.	H. Manders	8th	22/2/17
Sgt.	A. Spriggs	2nd	18/4/17
Sgt.	L. Hills	2nd	26/4/17
Sgt.	C. King	1st	2/8/17
Sgt.	W. West	2nd	10/9/17
Sgt.	H. Rand	2nd	27/10/17
Sgt.	W. Green, D.C.M.	1st	18/12/17
Sgt.	G. Goodall	7th	17/7/18
Sgt.	J. Tugate, D.C.M.	Depot	19/9/18
Sgt.	C. Parsons, M.M.	1st	13/10/18
Sgt.	E. Pain	1st	26/10/18
Sgt.	King	1st	18/11/19
Sgt.	C. Mabb	1st	19/9/19
Sgt.	W. Moore	1st	7/11/19
Sgt.	S. Speakes	1st	1/5/20
Sgt.	H. Glover	2nd	1/5/20
Sgt. (O.R.S.)	W. Filley	2nd	1/5/20
Sgt.	C. Cox	2nd	1/5/20
Sgt.	A. Walker	2nd	1/5/20
Sgt.	A. Mayhew	2nd	1/5/20
Sgt.	W. Palmer	2nd	1/5/20
Sgt.	W. Nokes-Bourne	2nd	1/5/20
Sgt.	E. Margreaves	2nd	15/5/20
Sgt.	W. Willard, M.M.	1st	3/11/20
Sgt.	E. Heath	1st	20/11/20
Sgt.	J. Wilcockson	Depot	30/11/20
Sgt.	J. Cook	2nd	30/11/20
Sgt.	E. Blake	2nd	1/2/21
Sgt.-Dmr.	G. Goodwin	1st	1/7/21
Sgt.	H. Darby	Depot	25/8/21
Sgt.	E. Walsh	7th	25/8/21
Sgt.	J. Hart	2nd	25/8/21
Sgt.	S. Stevenson	1st	25/8/21
Sgt.	H. Hart	2nd	9/1/22
Sgt.	E. Kelly	9th	20/11/27
Sgt.	W. Thompson	2nd	9/1/22
Sgt.	G. Capel	2nd	9/1/22
Sgt.	S. Wilson	2nd	9/1/22
Sgt. (O.R.S.)	A. Finch	Depot	1/2/22
Sgt.	H. Tisdale	1st	22/1/22
Sgt. (O.R.C.)	C. Stewart	1st	23/4/23
Sgt.	F. Hill	2nd	22/8/23
Sgt.	S. Colbourne	2nd	6/10/23
Sgt.	V. Osterholme	1st	18/10/23
Sgt.	R. Mewett	2nd	12/12/23
Sgt.	W. Leatherby	2nd	12/12/23
Sgt.	W. Connors	2nd	12/12/23
Sgt.	H. Hewett	2nd	10/1/24
Sgt.	T. Massey	2nd	12/1/24

Rank.	Name.	Battalion.	Date of present promotion.
Sgt.	F. Peck	2nd	1-11/4
Sgt.	E. Shaw	Depot	19/1/24
Sgt.	G. Anderson	1st	20/2/24
Sgt.	G. Cullen	1st	20/2/24
Sgt.	H. Farrow	1st	7/5/24
Sgt.	J. Griffen	1st	11/6/24
Sgt.	V. Brockman	1st	15/7/24
Sgt.	L. Simmonds	2nd	24/8/24
Sgt.	L. Clarke	Depot	1/9/24
A./Sgt.	W. Clements	Depot	1/9/24
L./Sgt.	L. Fairchild	2nd	*5/12/21
L./Sgt.	E. Lambert	1st	*1/2/22
L./Sgt.	V. Morley	1st	*29/8/22
L./Sgt.	W. Fletcher	2nd	*1/2/22
L./Sgt.	E. Burt	Depot	*1/9/23
L./Sgt.	S. Tibbs	1st	*3/11/23
L./Sgt.	W. Rogers	1st	*1/9/24
L./Sgt.	G. Clift	1st	*12/1/24
L./Sgt.	S. Mason	2nd	*12/1/24
L./Sgt.	C. Banfield	2nd	*12/1/24
L./Sgt.	C. Taylor	Depot	*12/1/24
L./Sgt.	J. Rowland	2nd	*9/2/24
L./Sgt.	A. Russell	1st	*16/2/24
L./Sgt.	B. Gray	1st	*20/2/24
L./Sgt.	A. Lawrence	1st	*20/2/24
L./Sgt.	E. Jones	1st	*9/5/24
L./Sgt.	E. Flemming	1st	*24/8/24
L./Sgt.	P. Bennett	1st	†22/5/24
L./Sgt.	F. Draper	2nd	*12/12/23
L./Sgt.	G. Bone	2nd	*30 8/24
L./Sgt.	W. Cobbett	1st	†30/1/23
L./Sgt.	J. Trapp	Depot	*1/9/24
L./Sgt.	Robbins	Depot	1/9/24
Cpl.	W. Overton	1st	1/5/20
Cpl.	R. Green	1st	1/5/20
Cpl.	J. Sharman	2nd	1/5/20
Cpl.	H. Wilson	2nd	1/5/20
Cpl.	A. Clifford	2nd	15/5/20
Cpl.	A. Ward	1st	13/6/20
Cpl.	W. Raindle	1st	19/11/20
Cpl.	T. Page	1st	20/11/20
Cpl.	W. Bennett	1st	30/11/20
Cpl.	E. Aird	2nd	30/11/20
Cpl.	L. Baker	2nd	30/11/20
Cpl.	J. Bray	1st	29/12/20
Cpl.	F. Thompson	1st	1/7/21
Cpl.	R. Newcombe	1st	1/7/21
Cpl.	G. Horrex	Depot	1/7/21
Cpl.	R. Holder	1st	18/7/21
Cpl.	S. Hawkins	1st	—
Cpl.	F. Stacey	Depot	25/8/21
Cpl.	C. Misso	1st	25/8/21
Cpl.	E. Hazledene	1st	25/8/21
Cpl.	H. Thomas	1st	26/10/21
Cpl.	C. Rawlings	2nd	4/12/21
Cpl.	W. Harwood	2nd	4/12/21
Cpl.	H. Dare	2nd	9/1/22
Cpl.	W. Richardson	2nd	9/1/22
Cpl.	T. Tiller	2nd	9/1/22
Cpl.	H. Clark	2nd	9/1/22
Cpl.	E. Alford	2nd	9/1/22
Cpl.	G. Stone	2nd	9/1/22
Cpl.	H. Ruff	2nd	10/1/22
Cpl.	W. Floyd	1st	21/2/22
Cpl.	H. Barker	1st	7/3/22
Cpl.	R. Stutledge	2nd	17/11/22
Cpl.	J. Steward	Depot	1/4/23
Cpl.	G. McDonald	1st	1/4/23
Cpl.	H. Warren	Depot	1/4/23
Cpl.	A. Jones	1st	10/4/23

Rank.	Name.	Battalion.	Date of present promotion.
Cpl.	A. Brauy	2nd	1/5/23
Cpl.	F. Button	2nd	4/7/23
Cpl.	H. Myland	2nd	4/7/23
Cpl.	F. Buckley	2nd	4/7/23
Cpl.	W. Bratby	2nd	21/8/23
Cpl.	W. Palmer	2nd	12/12/23
Cpl.	C. Ganer	2nd	12/12/23
Cpl.	W. Morris	2nd	12/12/23
Cpl.	C. Newton	2nd	12/12/23
Cpl.	S. Ingle	2nd	12/12/23
Cpl.	G. Hatfield	2nd	12/12/23
Cpl.	C. Mardle	Depot	19/12/23
Cpl.	C. Young	1st	19/12/23
Cpl.	W. Travarthen	1st	19/12/23
Cpl.	W. Duckmanton	Depot	19/12/23
Cpl.	J. West	1st	11/1/24
Cpl.	H. Gibson	1st	11/1/24
Cpl.	E. Lione	2nd	12/1/24
Cpl.	W. Grace	2nd	12/1/24
Cpl.	T. French	2nd	12/1/24
Cpl.	C. Olden	2nd	12/1/24
Cpl.	T. Hannah	1st	2/2/24
Cpl.	O. Phelps	1st	5/2/24
Cpl.	T. Fuller	2nd	9/2/24
Cpl.	G. Egan	1st	16/2/24
Cpl.	J. Stretton	1st	20/2/24
Cpl.	Kelly	Depot	12/3/24
Cpl.	W. Northcott, M.M.	1st	18/3/24
Cpl.	E. Norman	1st	7/5/24
Cpl.	E. Howard	2nd	14/5/24
Cpl.	W. Tibble	1st	11/6/24
Cpl.	C. Lewis	1st	16/7/24
Cpl.	G. Goss	Depot	1/9/24
Cpl.	C. Soper	1st	16/7/24
Cpl.	R. Wood	2nd	23/8/24
A./Cpl.	H. Sammons, M.M.	1st	1/9/24
L./Cpl.	W. Forshaw	1st	*10/7/20
L./Cpl.	J. Murphy	1st	*20/8/20
L./Cpl.	A. Sando	Depot	*1/1/21
L./Cpl.	B. Pope	1st	*1/4/21
L./Cpl.	F. Clarke	1st	*1/4/21
L./Cpl.	F. Carter	1st	*6/4/21
L./Cpl.	J. O'Brien	1st	*18/6/21
L./Cpl.	J. O'Neill	1st	*19/6/21
L./Cpl.	H. Channon	1st	*21/11/21
L./Cpl.	D. Jones	1st	*6/6/22
L./Cpl.	C. Kingdom	Depot	*12/10/22
L./Cpl.	G. Skeats	1st	*12/10/22
L./Cpl.	J. Peters	Depot	*31/10/22
L./Cpl.	W. Swindon	1st	*28/11/22
L./Cpl.	G. Rawlings	1st	*20/3/23
L./Cpl.	A. Reed	1st	*1/4/23
L./Cpl.	R. Ecclestone	Depot	*4/4/23
L./Cpl.	W. Tomkins	1st	*13/7/23
L./Cpl.	W. Curl	1st	*13/7/23
L./Cpl.	G. Staines	1st	*27/7/23
L./Cpl.	G. Green	1st	*6/9/23
L./Cpl.	A. Stenning	1st	*6/9/23
L./Cpl.	A. Williams	1st	*6/10/23
L./Cpl.	G. Foley	Depot	*13/10/23
L./Cpl.	A. Fowler	1st	*15/2/24
L./Cpl.	Kennett	1st	*15/2/24
L./Cpl.	A. Hames	1st	*15/2/24
L./Cpl.	W. Eldrett	1st	*15/2/24
L./Cpl.	G. McGlone	1st	*15/2/24
L./Cpl.	P. Edwards	1st	*15/2/24
L./Cpl.	W. McMurdie	1st	*15/2/24
L./Cpl.	A. Bartram	1st	*15/2/24
L./Cpl.	C. Wallace	1st	*15/2/24

<p>Lieutenants. Wells, E. T. W. 1Mar.19 Ellis, H.C., O.B.E. 2Mar.19 Murray, P. F. 28Mar.19 Rees, D. L. 16Dec.22 Boys, R. H. G. 5July22 Jewson, D. A. 12Aug.23 Maclure, J. G. 1Mar.24</p> <p>2nd Lieutenants. Wells, R. B. 29July22 Pattison, P. R. 1Nov.22 Pattison, D. R. 13Nov.22 Murphy, D. B. 7Apr.23 Heanly, R. L. S. W. 28July23 Elliott, P.R.H. 22July24</p>	<p>Adjutant. Thorne, Capt. M., Loyal R. 1May22</p> <p>Quartermaster. Dymore, H., M.C., Lt. 19Apr.20</p> <p>[Uniform—Scarlet. Facings—Lemon Yellow.]</p> <p>Cadet Units affiliated. 2 Cadet Bn. Midd'x R. 2-2 Cadet Bn. Midd'x R.</p>	<p>9th Battalion (Territorial). "South Africa, 1900-02." Drill Hall, Pound Lane, Willesden, N.W.10.</p> <p>Hon. Colonel. Blumfeld, J. L., TD Lt. a. 10 Jan. 22</p> <p>Lt.-Colonel. Beach, G., TD Lt. a. 17Aug.22</p> <p>Major. Tupper, G. W. H. TD Lt. a. 7Jan.21</p>	<p>Captains. Lamont, J. N., M.C. 1June16 Findlay, L. F. 25Oct.21 Fox, G. L. 17Aug.22 Abbott, C. E. (Prov.) 25Oct.22 Sherwood, H. 22Oct.22</p> <p>Lieutenants. Cleugh, D. W. 14Feb.21 Hardcastle, H. K. 2Feb.23 Hogg, F. G. 31Mar.23 Furlong, I. E. 11May23 Hewson, A. S. 9June23 Townell, S. H. 25June23 Wright, L. C. 24Dec.21 Wright, E. W. 24Dec.21</p>	<p>2nd Lieutenants. Heffer, H. 17Mar.24 Furness, G. J. B. 30July24</p> <p>Adjutant. Procter, N. P., M.C., Capt. Middx. R. 1Mar.24</p> <p>Quartermaster. Lawson, E. C., M.C. (Capt. Res. of Off.) Lt. 15July24</p> <p>[Uniform—Scarlet. Facings—Lemon Yellow.]</p> <p>Cadet Unit affiliated. No. 1 Co. 3 Cadet Bn. Midd'x R.</p>
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OLD COMRADES' DINNER.

It has been decided to hold the Old Comrades' Dinner in the winter months in future. The 1925 Dinner will take

place on Saturday, February 28th. Further particulars as to time, etc., will be published later.

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