

OLD COMRADES' ANNUAL DINNER

THE DIE-HARDS

THE JOURNAL OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT

(Duke of Cambridge's Own)

VOL. V. No. II

FEBRUARY, 1937

PRICE 9D.

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," "Seringapatam," "Albuhera," "Ciudad Rodrigo," "Badajoz," "Vittoria," "Pyrenees," "Nivelles," "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," "Messines, 1914," "17, 18," "Armentières, 1914,"
 "Neuve Chapelle," "Gravenstapel," "St. Julien," "Frezenberg," "Bellewaarde," "Aubers," "Hooge, 1915," "Loos," "Somme,"
 "1916," "18," "Delville Wood," "Pozières," "Ginchy," "Fiers-Courcellette," "Morval," "Thiepval," "Le Transloy," "Ancre
 Heights," "Ancre, 1916," "18," "Bapaume, 1917," "18," "Arras, 1917," "18," "Vimy, 1917," "Scarpe, 1917," "18," "Arleux,"
 "Pikem," "Langemarck, 1917," "Menin Road," "Polygon Wood," "Broodseinde," "Poelcappelle," "Passchendaele," "St.
 Quentin," "Rosières," "Aves," "Villers Bretonneux," "Lys," "Estaires," "Hazebrouck," "Bailloul," "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," "Scimitar
 Hill," "Gallipoli, 1915," "Rumani," "Egypt, 1915-17," "Gaza," "El Mughar," "Jericho," "Jordan," "Tell Asur," "Palestine,"
 "1917-18," "Murmans, 1919," "Dukhovskaya," "Siberia, 1918-19."
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 2nd Bn. (77th Foot) Portsmouth.
 5th Bn. (R. Elthorne Mil.) Mill Hill.
 6th Bn. (R. East Middlesex Mil.) Mill Hill.
 Depot—Mill Hill. Record and Pay Office—Hounslow.

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7th Bn. .. "The Elms," Priory Road, Hornsey, N.8.
 8th Bn. .. Drill Hall, Hanworth Road, Hounslow.
 9th Bn. .. Drill Hall, Pound Lane, Willesden, N.W.10.

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THE KING.

Colonel:

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Officer Commanding Depot:

Major N. H. B. Lyon, M.C.

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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 by application to the Editor at the Depot, enclosing 6d. for each copy.

All Contributions intended for publication should reach the Editor not later than the 1st of the month previous to that of issue. Contributions should be typed, if possible, and be on one side of paper only and signed, stating whether it is desired to publish contributor's name or not. Rejected manuscripts, etc., will only be returned if accompanied by a stamped and addressed envelope. The Editor will thankfully receive Contributions from past or present Members of the Regiment or others interested, but necessarily reserves to himself the right of publication. All communications concerning the paper, including advertisements, should be addressed to the Editor, "The Die-Hards," Journal, Mill Hill Barracks, N.W. Telephone: "Finchley" 1553.

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

A limited stock of back numbers are available which can be obtained on application to the Editor, price 6d. post free.

A few covers for holding Volumes I and II are available as follows: whole cloth, leather back and corners, Vol. II only, 4s. 6d. each; whole cloth, yellow cloth sides, Vols. I and II, 2s. 6d. each. These will be sent post free.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION 3/- (Post Free).

EDITORIAL



CONGRATULATIONS and good wishes to the Journal of the East Surrey Regiment on its first appearance.

This number is the first to be produced under the contract with the Combined Service Publications, Ltd. This organization already has the handling of most of the Regimental Journals, and it is hoped that under this scheme our profits, which as our readers know, go to swell the funds of the Regimental Association, will materially benefit.

We are always glad to receive any constructive criticism which readers may have to offer. All such suggestions should be forwarded to the Editor.

OFFICERS' CLUB NOTES.

REGIMENTAL GOLF MEETING

PAST V. PRESENT

Hendon Golf Club, 8th and 9th April, 1937

OFFICERS eligible and desirous of playing for the Past team, are requested to send their names, and handicap, to Lieut.-Col. W. H. Samuel, Junior United Service Club, Charles Street, London, S.W., by 1st March, 1937.

JUBILEE OF THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE ORDER

THE WAR OFFICE,
LONDON, S.W.1.

14th October, 1936.

The Distinguished Service Order, which was created by Queen Victoria on 6th September, 1886, has recently celebrated its Jubilee.

The first appointments were made on 25th November, 1886, when about 40 awards were made for services in the Sudan and in Burma. Since its inception, over 11,000 appointments have been made in the Order, and there have been over 800 awards of the Bar, which was instituted on 23rd August, 1916.

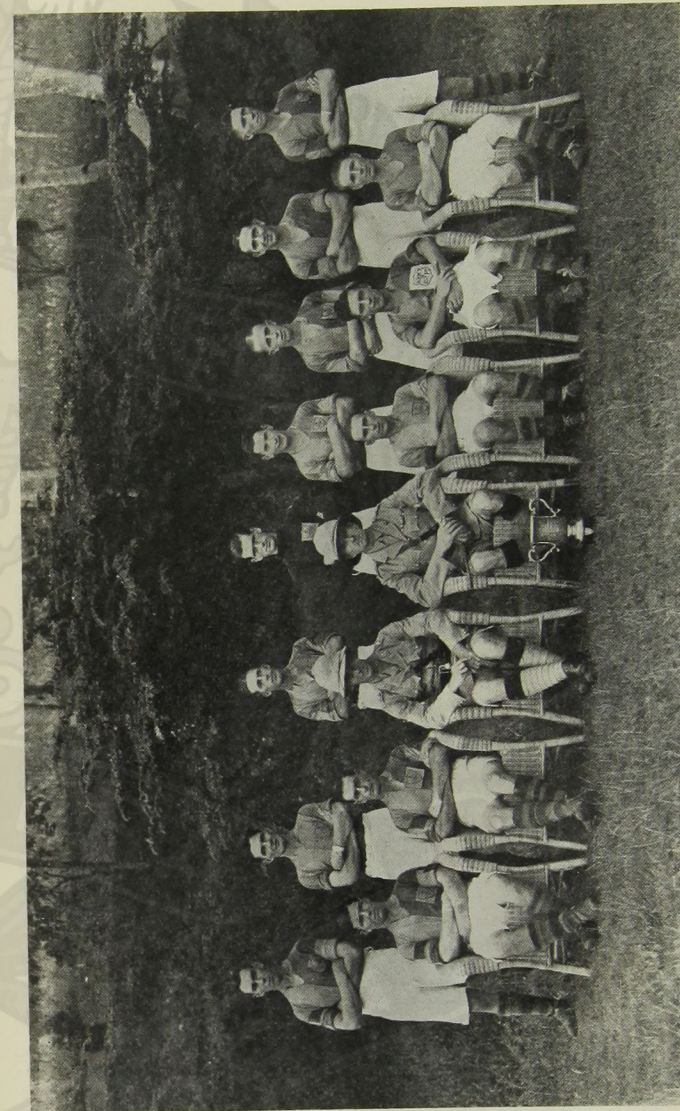
Under the conditions now prescribed by the Statutes of the Order, only Officers of the naval, marine, military and air forces of the Empire who have been specially mentioned in despatches for distinguished services under fire or under conditions equivalent to services in actual combat with the enemy are eligible for appointment.

The badge of the Order consists of a gold cross, enamelled white, edged gold, having on one side, in the centre, within a wreath of laurel enamelled green, the Imperial Crown in gold upon a red enamelled ground and on the reverse, within a similar wreath and on a similar red ground, the Royal Cypher. The badge is worn suspended from the left breast by a red riband, edged blue, of one inch in width.

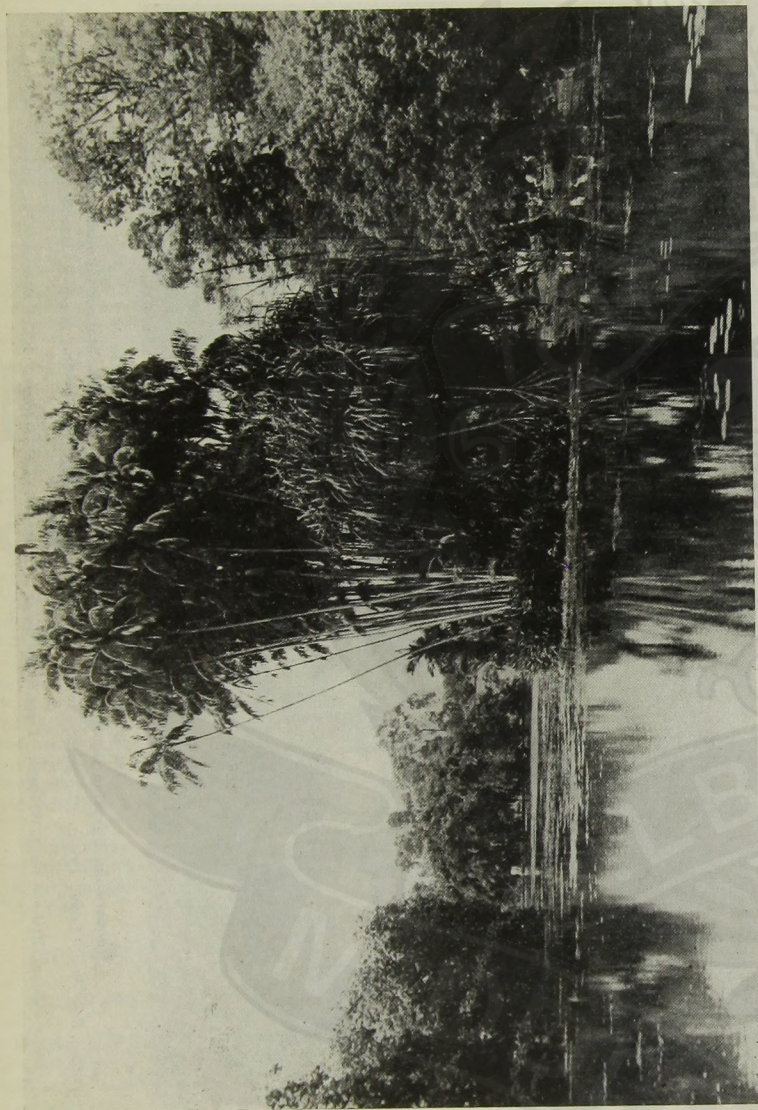
The records of the Order are maintained in the War Office.

REGIMENTAL FIXTURES

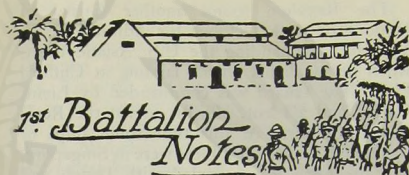
April 8th and 9th.—Regimental Golf Meeting, Hendon.
June 19th.—Depot Sports and Old Comrades' Gathering.
June 20th.—Cricket—v. Hampstead Heathens.
June 21st.—Cricket—v. Cryptics.
June 22nd.—Cricket—v. Metropolitan Police College.
June 23rd.—Cricket—v. Free Foresters.
June 24th.—Cricket—v. I. Zingari.
June 24th.—Officers' Club Dinner.
June 25th.—Officers' Club "At Home."
June 26th.—Cricket—v. Hampstead Cricket Club.
June 26th.—Officers' Club Tennis Tournament.
June 27th.—Officers' Club Tennis Tournament.
October 2nd and 3rd.—Autumn Golf Meeting, Liphook.



1st BATTALION FOOTBALL TEAM, 1935-1936
Runners-up, Egyptian Command Football Competition. Winners, Malaya Command Cup
Standing, Rear Row.—Edmn. Bright. L/Cpl. Freshwater. Pte. Jones (63). Edmn. Clargo. Pte. Sheehan. Pte. Pearson. Pte. Dean and
Sitting.—Bdnn. Ryder. Sergt. Williams. Lieut. R. A. Gwyn. Lieut.-Col. O. H. Tidbury. L/Cpl. Watson. Pte. Baylis. Pte. Saw.
Absentee.—Pte. Lawlor.



THE BOTANICAL GARDENS, SINGAPORE



AFTER eight months in a station one's impression of it may be said to be fixed. Our experience from a climatic point of view is that the first five months in Singapore "get you down," and that you have to make great efforts to keep going—after that you begin to get acclimatised and regain some of your lost energy. In any case, all ranks are now in good trim, and we hope the climate will be kind to us in the future.

What we notice particularly in Singapore is that we are part of a garrison, not of a field force. We notice this not so much from our surroundings as from our training, which is wholly concerned with the defences of the island. This makes our Collective Training exercises rather different from what we have been accustomed to, and considering that they have all the same object, they are remarkable for a never-failing unexpectedness in detail.

At the beginning of September the Battalion was to have carried out an exercise generally known as the "Pomolo Scheme." This was to have been a raid, after an imaginary landing, with The Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers as our opponents. The exercise was partly to test out a certain scheme, but was also to test our individual powers of endurance. We were to operate from early dawn to dewy dusk in this Turkish bath climate and beat the enemy—no mean task. With a view to quenching our thirst in this great effort, every two men were issued with a luscious local fruit known as "pomolo," and orders were issued that it was only to be looked at until an Officer gave permission for its part or whole consumption. In such an operation no other liquid other than the contents of our waterbottles would actually be available, hence the control of the "pomolo." However, the Gods willed otherwise, for during the night preceding the appointed day, such quantities of rain fell that the area of operations was in many places six inches under water, and the exercise was called off about 8 a.m. By 9 a.m. all the pomoloes had been eaten and voted good food.

That same morning, instead of the real exercise, we had a "war game" on the floor of one of the dining halls.

Much of our time has been spent reconnoitring the beach defences. These have to be kept secret; we may not write anything about them on paper, so that we have practically to learn by heart the intricacies of the alleyways between the seaside bungalows, which cover nearly all the coast and which the owners seem to have been at great pains to make as hideously complicated as possible with carved stonework and coloured plaster.

On 10th October, "B" and "D" Companies took part in a landing at the south of the island, with the Singapore Volunteers acting as defenders. The Companies embarked on H.M.Ss. *Terror*, *Grimby* and *Folkestone*, on the evening of 10th October, and put out to sea. The ships bombarded the defences during the night, and at first light the troops disembarked, "B" Company from *Terror* and "D" Company from *Grimby* and *Folkestone*. "B" Company, commanded by Capt. B. B. Rackham, M.C., were put out of action as soon as they landed. "D" Company, commanded by Major H. W. M. Stewart, O.B.E., M.C., landed and advanced inland until held up about a mile from barracks, in which convenient situation the exercise finished. It rained hard during the night and the men had to bear considerable discomfort on the ships' decks, but it was worse for the Volunteers on shore.

Individual Training began on 1st November, after a week optimistically assigned to "rest." During the Individual Training season we are continuing a series of Command lectures, of which we have now had four. The first, on 15th August, was concerned with the rubber industry; the second was given on 8th November by the G.O.C., Major-Gen. W. G. S. Dobbie on the proposed operations behind the German Front in 1917; the third "The Development of Flying," was given on 19th November, and the fourth, "Modern Wireless" on 1st December.

The G.O.C. inspected the Battalion on 23rd October. It rained fairly heavily until the parade was finished and became very hot for the rest of the day. The G.O.C. presented the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal to Sergt. Osterholm. After parade the G.O.C. and his staff breakfasted in the Officers' Mess and later in the morning inspected the barracks. As a result the Battalion has been reported as a "First class unit."

Earlier in the month we were visited by Major Morya of the Imperial Japanese Army, late Military Attaché at Bangkok, and Col. Pichon of the French Army, on his way to assume duties of Military Attaché. They were shown the barracks, in which they showed great interest, and dined in the Officers' Mess the same night.

On 26th October the Battalion provided a Guard of Honour for H.E. The Governor at the opening of the Council Chamber. The guard was commanded by Capt. S. F. Hedgecoe and consisted of two Officers (Lieut. Hewitt, and Lieut. Gwyn carrying the Colour), and 100 other ranks. His Excellency congratulated the guard on their smartness.

Armistice Day was celebrated with two ceremonies in the town. A detachment of 24 men, commanded by 2/Lieut. H. N. C. Gudgeon, attended a service at the Cenotaph, together with similar parties from other units in the garrison; here we also provided two sentries who stood at the corners of the Cenotaph during the service. The service was read by the Rt. Rev. The Bishop of Singapore and a wreath was placed on the Cenotaph by Major H. Phillips, M.C., who was commanding temporarily. Later the Two Minutes' Silence was observed at the English Cathedral of St. Andrew. Here our Drummers and Buglers sounded the Last Post and Reveille. The following message of congratulation was received from Mr. E. A. Brown, choirmaster of the Cathedral:

"As the one responsible for the unusual arrangements at yesterday's Armistice Service, I cannot let time pass without writing you to thank you and your Regiment for the most excellent service rendered by your Drums and Bugles. I could not find you at the end of the ceremony but expressed my thanks to your Drum-Major and asked him to pass my words on to you. I have no doubt that the Archdeacon will write you upon the subject, but in case he does not, will you accept this letter of thanks in his name as well as my own, and express to the men concerned our great appreciation of a performance which, in the opinion of many of the 'old hands' was 'the best yet.'"

"Yours very sincerely,

"(Signed) EDWIN A. BROWN."

The remainder of the Battalion paraded on the barrack square for a drumhead service, conducted by the Rev. Gatehouse, C.F., and the two-minutes' silence was observed.

The Battalion found another Guard of Honour on 16th October for Admiral H. E. Yarnell, Commanding the U.S. Asiatic Fleet, when he made his official landing at Clifford Pier. The Guard was commanded by Lieut. Gwyn, and 2/Lieut. Hewitt carried the Regimental Colour. At this time some ships of the Netherlands Indies Fleet were in Singapore, and the town was crowded with Dutch and American sailors.

On 18th August and 17th November the Band and Drums beat Retreat on the Padang in front of the Municipal Buildings and were watched by a large and appreciative audience. This is now a monthly institution which is taken in turn by The Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and ourselves.

At the beginning of September H.E. The Governor, Sir Shenton Thomas, dined as a regimental guest in the Officers' Mess, together with the Hon. Mr. A. S. Small, the Colonial Secretary, and other members of his staff.

The number of dining members of the Officers' Mess has steadily declined since April, when we landed. Early in October Capt. M. Crawford went on leave to England; Major H. W. M. Stewart took his place as O.C. "H.Q." Wing. On 10th October Capt. J. B. Worton left us to go to the Regimental Depot; we are very sorry to lose him and wish him and Mrs. Worton the best of good luck and hope we may see them again in another station. On 24th October Lieut. Whiting went to Port Dickson to The Malay Regiment, to which he is seconded. The Malay Regiment has been formed during the last three years; it is a regular corps and is to take the place of the Indian Regiment usually stationed at Taiping. Some of our Officers and N.C.O.s have already visited Port Dickson as instructors for The Malay Regiment, which is now attached to this Battalion for training, so we hope to see more of Lieut. Whiting before long.

At the end of October Lieut.-Col. and Mrs. Tidbury visited China on the Transport *Dikwara*, which brought out Mrs. Stewart from the United Kingdom and was taking troops to the Far East. They had a few hours at Hong Kong and Shanghai on the outward and homeward trips, while six days in Peking enabled them to see most of the important points of interest, such as the Great Wall, the Summer and Winter Palaces, some of the tombs in the Western Hills and the Forbidden and other cities in Peking itself. From Peking the C.O. flew south by Tsingtao, stopping two days at Nanking, and then on to Shanghai,

where he rejoined the *Dikwara*; in this way he acquired a fair idea of the various types of country between these places.

On the *Dikwara*'s return voyage Capt. and Mrs. Rackham and Lieut. Peal sailed aboard her to the United Kingdom. Capt. Rackham left us to go as an instructor at the M.G. School, Netheravon, an appointment on which we congratulate him. In him we lose a very capable and valuable Officer and we wish him good luck and success. Lieut. Peal goes to the Signalling School at Catterick. We wish him as many "D's" as he can get. While we are on this melancholy topic of departures, we should mention that R.S.M. Newman is to leave us, probably in January, to go to the Regimental Depot.

Recently Mrs. Bodé, widow of the late Lieut.-Col. L. Bodé, 57th Regiment, presented to the Regiment a collection of his medals, together with his buttons and badges. These are now in the Officers' Mess.

About the middle of December Major Stewart, accompanied by Mrs. Stewart, is going to Bangkok to resume his duties as Military Attaché for about a month.

Our sport is recorded in detail elsewhere. The football season came to an end in September when, as is to be seen from the photograph of the team, we won the Malaya Command Cup, presented by Major-Gen. Dobbie.

Cross-country running has begun. This sport, which involves all, high and low, athletes and otherwise, in a common catastrophe, is very pleasing to those who dislike to see all games practised by experts alone; admittedly this satisfaction is felt most strongly by those who do not have to run.

Several of the Battalion took part in a ten-mile cross-country run arranged by the Singapore Clerical Union. The order in which our competitors finished was: 3rd, Pte. Berryman; 5th, Corpl. Keefe; 6th, L/Cpl. Boggis; 11th, L/Cpl. Lane; 12th, Pte. Mills; 16th, Pte. Heath; 17th, L/Cpl. Ellis; 21st, Pte. Norcutt; 22nd, Pte. Weekes; 28th, Pte. Jennings; 31st, Pte. Hobson; 34th, Pte. Robson; 56th, L/Cpl. McDavitt.

Rugger is again in full swing in the Battalion. The Inter-Company League has been started for the first time since leaving England and the Battalion first and second teams are improving from match to match.

Hockey is also the season's game and the Battalion team is having a very successful season.

Our present recreation ground has improved out of all knowledge during the past rains and we hope eventually to make it into a first-class ground.

In October the Scouts and Guides performed a most successful pageant, directed by Capt. Overell, with the assistance of Mrs. Lee, our Guide Captain and Sergt. Snell, our Scoutmaster. We print a full account of this separately.

The most notable addition to our amusements is the cinema, under the management of Capt. Dobbs. This is an open air performance; the machinery is housed in the N.A.A.F.I., and the spectators are seated in an open space outside. There were a few mechanical failures at the beginning, but lately the performances have been most successful. The greatest difficulty is to predict whether it will rain heavily enough to stop a performance; some hardy spirits, determined to have their money's worth, sit under ground sheets throughout torrential downpours. An enclosed cinema is now in course of construction.

"H.Q." WING

You will find all the real happenings of the Wing in the various group notes which follow this. With a specialised company like this, we find that the only way we can do such things as journal notes is to allow the various groups, who do the work, to write about it.

As a Company we regret that our last Commander, Capt. Crawford, has left us for leave in England. We all hope that he has a very enjoyable time. Now in accordance with normal tradition, to lose a Commander is really to gain a new one. This time we have gone one better as we have re-gained an old one. Major H. W. M. Stewart, who commanded the Wing in 1921, has returned to the command. We therefore extend to him a double welcome.

Lieut. Bellers, who is due to return to us in December, left us to take up an appointment at Command Headquarters.

Lieut. Peal, who relieved him as Signal Officer, has also left for the United Kingdom where he will attend a Signal Course at Catterick. Most of the other Specialist Officers have been transferred to the "House of Rothschild," i.e., The P.R.I. office, where they appear to "dabble" in dollar bills, or perhaps "paddle" is the word. We wonder if it is a new form of Vocational Training, or merely an effort to turn out some well-trained bankers

In sport the Wing has done fairly well, although in accordance with the Battalion policy, sport is spread out through the smaller units of the Battalion. This means that you will be able to read all about it in the group notes, but we feel that the Company cricket team is worthy of special mention on having won the Garrison Small Units Competition, and also the four members of the Company who have found a place in the Battalion hockey team: Lieut. Chatty, Dmr. Stickley, Bdmn. Grogan and L/Cpl. King.

This concludes the Wing notes and we wish all readers and friends the very best wishes during the coming year.

DRUMS

By the time these notes appear in print, Dmrs. Smith and Poulton will be settled down in civilian life, and we wish them all the luck of obtaining good employment.

Now that we have settled down in Singapore we are having plenty of outings and engagements. In the latter part of August, we had a very good day's outing to a little desert island that lies near to Singapore, and we hope to spend quite a few more days there in the future.

We were unlucky to get knocked out in the Platoon Cricket by No. 11 Platoon, but they were the finalists.

We failed again in the first round of the Platoon Hockey, but we had enjoyed several friendly games with the Students of the General Hospital, and other teams on the island.

The Drums are now clothed in white uniform. Together with the Band we have beaten Retreat on the Singapore Cricket Club ground and also on the Barrack Square. These Retreat beatings on the Padang are very much appreciated by the civilian population.

The G.O.C.'s annual inspection took place last month, and although the parade was held in the pouring rain, the G.O.C. congratulated the Battalion on their turn-out and the march past.

The Band and Drums attended the Guard of Honour to H.E. The Governor, Sir Shenton Thomas, when he opened the Legislative Buildings in Singapore. We also attended the Guard of Honour to the Admiral of the U.S. Asiatic Fleet, Admiral Yarnell.

Armistice Day service was held in the Cathedral in town, and we provided ten Buglers for the sounding of Last Post and Reveille. With regard to our efforts reference is made elsewhere.

In closing we wish the 2nd Battalion Drums a prosperous New Year.

DRUMS.

TRANSPORT

In our last journal notes we wrote of the trained horses we received from Australia; they have now reached the route march grade and several other unofficial grades.

We also regret to state that we look like doing without our Transport Sergeant for several months to come, as he is now attached to "B" Company, as acting C.Q.M.S. We wish him good luck in his new sphere and hope he attains promotion. This leaves us with only one N.C.O., Corpl. O'Neill, whom we hope will step into the vacancy as Transport Sergeant.

We hope soon to be able to take over our permanent stables and be on a more collected standard. The roads and foundations of the stables have already been started, and grooms and drivers gaze on the spot to be with wistful eyes. This, too, has its advantage, for then we might be able to have a lorry to bring sawdust from the mill and take the weight from our shoulders and the mileage from off our feet. So roll along February, in which month we hope the finishing touches will be over (weather permitting). Talking of weather, the weather here is extraordinary, we have occasional showers which sometimes last 24 hours, five days of the week. This has its uses for the Battalion football pitch (horses will not graze thereon!), but we must admit it looks nice.

The Battalion has been very busy of late finding Guards of Honour but the Transport Section managed to dodge them.

We wish our comrades and friends of the 2nd Battalion and in civilian life a prosperous New Year.

CREAM'O.

SIGNALS

As we proceed with these notes, 1936 draws to a close. The wheels of time move remorselessly forward, bringing changes to all and sundry, and thus we find that we also do not escape their path. Gradually the old faces go and new ones appear. Sometimes old 'uns reappear bringing with them memories happy and sometimes sad.

At the time of writing the Section is straining eyes and ears on reading all instruments in preparation for Classification. This takes place in December.

BAND

Much of our time in the last quarter has been taken up with rehearsal parades for beating Retreat on the Singapore Cricket Club ground, two guards of honour, and last the G.O.C.'s annual inspection, which for us was rather a damp affair as it rained throughout the parade. Hardly a day goes by without the usual deluge of rain, which usually comes down at the most awkward times and often interferes with some of our open-air cinema shows.

Due to so much inclement weather, most of the sports grounds have been out of play, but the hockey pitches were in good condition for the Inter-Platoon Knock-out, which we are proud to say we won fairly comfortably; the whole of the team played well throughout the competition and each player deserves praise. The first three games against Nos. 3, 9 and 2 Platoons were all won with a 3-1 score, and then a hard-fought final against No. 4 Platoon, which we just pulled off by 2-1, Bdmn. Bright getting the all-important goal.

Now we are concentrating on the Water Polo Knock-out, which we hope to win. We have managed to get practice games at Tanglin, and in the Chung Wha Pool, and our hopes are high.

Several members of the Band have gained the Royal Life Saving Society's Bronze Medallion, and L/Cpl. Ure and Bdmn. Lloyd have the Award of Merit to their credit.

Our musical efforts have earned us plenty of praise from both the Singapore Swimming and Golf Clubs, in spite of lack of practice. The Dance Band is to be congratulated on a fine show at the Island Club's first "At Home," which looks like being a permanent job.

A small Military Band was present at the Armistice Dinner of the Ex-Servicemen's Association of Malaya, at the Adelphi Hotel; the strains of "Cavalcade" were heard in the early hours of the morning, although we had some keen competition from Grandfathers Gromm and Bush.

On our last beating of Retreat at the Padang we performed before a very large crowd, including quite a number of sailors of the U.S. Asiatic Fleet, who were in Singapore for a week. We trust we did not slip up anywhere, for on dismissing we received a "Razz" with a distinct American touch. May be the Yanks use it for appreciation.

We have had a couple of launch trips, which were very much appreciated, and although the second trip was spent in the usual "wet

We are now acclimatised to Singapore and accept this heat and moisture with stoical resignation.

The unkindest trick of all that Singapore has played on us, however, was when it decided to rain at the identical time of the Battalion being inspected by the G.O.C. In fact, one might say, to use an Americanism, "tough luck." In spite of this the Battalion put up a good show and pleased the General.

However, we must return to happenings of our group. Our new Signal Officer, Lieut. Peal, sailed on the *Dikwara* on 25th November for the United Kingdom. His mission, however, is for the furtherance of we Signallers, his destination being Catterick, where he will attend a course at the School of Signals. We wish him the best of luck, although we know he will make good. He took over from Lieut. Bellers, whom we were all sorry to lose, but we hear he is returning. We still see him sometimes, so we have not lost touch with him altogether, although he holds a temporary staff job at Command Headquarters.

By the time these notes appear in print, we shall doubtless have lost several of our stalwarts, who are due to go to Blighty shortly, and we take this opportunity of bidding a fond farewell to "Mac," "Hissey," "Archie" and "Bill." All good lads and mighty sorry we are to lose them. Good-bye and good luck, and may we meet again—sometime. They will be hard to replace, both in the Signalling and sporting line.

In the field of sport we reached the semi-final of the Platoon Football Knock-out; we were defeated by a Platoon of "C" Company, after a hard game, in which we were not disgraced.

We congratulate Mc'Gann on representing the Battalion at rugby and L/Cpl. King at hockey.

Congratulations go to our Sergeant also for manipulating the movie apparatus so successfully under difficult conditions.

We are sorry for not having any immortal poems to offer you on this occasion, owing to our poet concentrating hard upon classification and leaving himself no time for writing.

We had almost omitted one thing, that being to wish Capt. Crawford luck in England on leave. We welcome our new Company Commander, Major Stewart, who has returned to his old command after a wait of several years.

We wish our contemporaries in England a prosperous New Year.

M. X. A.

weather," McEwins and Tiger helped to keep the happy spirit going on both occasions.

We welcome Radley, Dry, Winfield and Dickens, who have reached the years of discretion, and Pte. Bradford, who is attached for training.

In conclusion we hope that everyone at home had a very happy Christmas and wish them a prosperous New Year with plenty of paid jobs.

STAND CARRIER.

"A" (S.) COMPANY

We can now safely say that we have settled down in Singapore. The Singapore Ranges have now been "baptised" by our machine guns with satisfactory results, and the climate and the hilly ground are not quite so terrifying as we were led to believe. Of course, at all times during training, both of these are never entirely to the satisfaction of the soldier, but during our service abroad we have experienced much worse.

Section and Company Training are now occupying most of our time. The new surroundings add a new interest to training and the men are tackling their new problems with added zest. We have also taken part in two or three Brigade schemes and the novelty of travelling around in naval boats and journeys through the jungle have made the schemes very interesting.

Sea firing is yet another new art that we have acquired since we have been in Singapore. Being surrounded by water, this naturally is an essential, and once again, being something different from the normal, we have found it an interesting task to perform.

Sport is more prolific here than in Egypt. Now that most of the Battalion fixtures have been completed we have turned more seriously to the Company games. The civilians out here are very entertaining, and thanks to them we have been able to have several friendly games which have enabled us to get in plenty of practice for our league struggles.

In the few Company Leagues that have been completed we have fared exceptionally well, having won both the Company Football and Cricket.

At hockey our fortunes have been varied. Against "B" Company in the first round of the Small Units Knock-out, we were beaten after an exceptionally good game by the only goal of the match. It was a game in which the result was in the balance until the final whistle, and no one could begrudge "B" for their

splendid victory. We wish them the best of luck in this competition.

In the Company League we have only played one game to date, "D" Company beating us by the odd goal in three. Although these reverses were hardly expected, we are not daunted, and we hope to appease these setbacks with victories in our remaining games.

The first of a series of cross-country runs was held a few days ago. In this, however, we did not fare too well. However, by virtue of the fact that there are still two more runs to be completed before the final positions are decided, we have not given up hope of winning it. Several members of the Company have vowed to go into strict training for the next two runs, and we hope to come through with flying colours.

At rugby once again we have been fortunate to have had several friendly games with outside teams, and the results of these games have been satisfactory. There are many newcomers to the team, but these are gradually acquiring the noble art of the game, even if it is at the expense of a few thick ears and bruised shins. Our only Company League encounter has been with "H.Q." Wing, in which, after an exceptionally good and clean game, we ran out victors by 10-nil.

In the "Mons" Shield Competitions our Platoons have done well. No. 4 Platoon won the Platoon Football Knock-out with comparative ease, and the same Platoon also reached the final of the Hockey Knock-out, which they only lost by the odd goal in three after an exciting game with the Band. The remaining Platoons have all done their share, and most of them reached the latter stages of the knock-outs. We are at present leading in the "Mons" Shield, and the points that have been awarded for the various competitions are as follows: Football, 5 points; hockey, 5 points; cricket, 3 points.

We have been rather unfortunate in losing two of our Officers, Lieut. F. B. Whiting leaving us for service with The Malay Regiment, and Lieut. R. A. Gwyn leaving us for "B" Company. Both of these Officers were very popular with the Company, and we shall miss them both on the training and sports fields. Both were exceptionally good sportsmen, and some of the Company even attribute our defeat in the Small Units Hockey Knock-out to the sterling game played by Lieut. Gwyn on the opposing side. We wish them the best of luck in their new environments.

We welcome Lieut. Fishbourne to the Company and hope that his sojourn with us will be a long and happy one.

In conclusion, congratulations are due to L/Cpl. Soper on his appointment, and to L/Sergt. Britton, who is at present on an M.G. Course in England; we wish him the best of luck and hope that a "D" will adorn his certificate when he returns.

A. N.



"WHAT YOU'VE NEVER HEARD
OF THE INDIAN ROPE
TRICK!"

"B" COMPANY

The Company received rather a shock this year when firing their annual course; many marksmen went down to firsts and firsts to seconds, quite a catastrophe in fact. The only excuses that can be offered are the bad light on Bukit Timah Range and the great change in conditions as compared with Egypt. Not that the other Companies did much better, far

from it. Our results were up to Battalion average, but not nearly as good as we expected. We have learnt one thing here, and that is, not to laugh at Volunteer Regiments as regards shooting. They certainly showed us a few tricks in the competition shoot. Our "Warren Shield" team got many a wet shirt training for the three-mile march and subsequently the shoot. Results of this and other matches showed what good shots the Volunteers are. This year we hope to give them a harder run for the Shield. This Company and the rest of the Battalion are taking musketry more seriously now; this extra training and a settled feeling will go a long way towards more marksmen and better competitive shooting.

The Company had an outing last November which I think will be remembered by all who attended. We went out on a big motor launch to an island off the coast. In actual fact the launch never got nearer than a hundred yards off the beach. At first she anchored just south of the island and a swift current carried the first boat-load ashore, but the little rowing boat got into difficulties owing to the current and could not return. A sampan took a few more of the party off, but, horror of horrors, in trying to place a box of apple pies and beer into it, the boat swung out a little and down went the box. It is a good job it was only one of many. The skipper of the launch (horrified, I expect, by seeing good beer going to the bottom) decided to try the leeward side of the island. Here, with the grace of Oxford or Cambridge, L/Cpl. Pace and Pte. Stemp rowed the rest of us ashore. By this time Lieut. Weedon, who was conducting the outing, had everything ready for a good meal and swimming. Apart from the fact that we had to wade out about fifty yards to get back to the launch, everything else went smoothly.

Now for a resumé of sport, of which everyone in the Company has had a lion's share. We have the making of a fine hockey team, having won our first match in the Inter-Company League. "C" Company were our opponents, whom we defeated by two goals to nil. The main feature of this match was the wonderful constructive play of Sergt. Chillery in the forward line and Pte. Finkleston in our goal. The second goal of this match was rather a lucky one, a centre from L/Cpl. Vince to Pte. Smith, who, with a hard drive, sent the ball against an upright to roll in for a goal. Our team also won their first game of the Small Units Knock-out against the formidable "A" (S.) Company; again our for-

wards shone, led by Lieut. Weedon and Sgt. Chillery, and we finished up victorious by 1 goal to nil.

Rugby, which is a new game to most of the Company, has taken on rather well. In our first Inter-Company League game we beat "C" Company by one penalty goal to nil. Strength and good heeling of the pack was in our favour. A good exhibition of how a penalty kick should be taken from 30 yards was given by L/Cpl. Hatchett, who sent the ball sailing between the posts with the greatest of ease.



Colonel: I want you to think of the Regiment as one Big Family, and me as the Father. Understand?

Recruit: "Yes, Dad."

No. 5 Platoon won the Inter-Platoon Cricket Knock-out with good scores in each game, considering that each side batted only three-quarters of an hour. The following are the results:

First Round: No. 5 Platoon, 105 all out; No. 1 Platoon, 78 all out.

Second Round: No. 5 Platoon, 89 for 6; No. 15 Platoon, 79 all out.

Third Round: No. 5 Platoon, 111 for 9; No. 4 Platoon, 102 all out.

Semi-Final: No. 5 Platoon, 81 for 7; No. 20 Platoon, 73 all out.

Final: No. 5 Platoon, 80 for 7; No. 11 Platoon, 72 all out.

The outstanding players in these games were Corpl. Denham, who made some good catches and batted well, and Ptes. Pearson and Thur-

born, who played havoc with the opponents' wickets. While on the subject of sport we must congratulate Pte. Berryman on coming in third in the Singapore Ten-mile Cross-country Run. Unfortunately we did not have many entries for the Beginners' Boxing, held in November, but wish to congratulate Pte. Wookey on winning his way to the finals and the other men who fought hard but could not quite get there.

At the time of writing we are all looking forward to Christmas, and although it is rather too late to wish our readers a happy Christmas, we wish them a bright and prosperous New Year.

"C" COMPANY

"Knock, knock!" "Who's there?" "C' Company." "C' Company what?" "Sequoia" was the first picture shown by the Regimental cinema, which latter has been very much appreciated by all. What could be better than watching some of the best known films under the night sky of the tropics? Thanks to the efforts of the P.R.I. and his staff, many of our evenings are well occupied. But night life for us in "Singo" has also been occupied by a Beginners' Boxing Tournament. It proved a task sorting out men who had never been in the Ring before, other than their usual Depot scraps. Twelve entries were eventually submitted by the Company, and although they were of pure raw material, they put up a good show. Two or three were exceptionally interesting to watch, and if taken in hand should in time take the places of those of our boxers who are going to England shortly. We congratulate all those who took part, and hope to see them wearing the Company team colours in the near future. The Open Novices' and Company Team Championships are not far off and with steady coaching, hard training, and "Dame Fortune" on our side we should gain full points towards the "Albuhera" Shield. Towards that coveted trophy we are now running second with "Don" and "H.Q."

No. 11 Platoon must be congratulated on being runners-up in both Platoon, Cricket and Football Knock-outs. Thanks to them we are proudly holding second place in the "Mons" Shield. If we had been a little more fortunate with the Platoon hockey we probably would be ruling the roost.

Rugby is the predominant sport at the moment, and we have visions of great achieve-

ments in the Company League. To 2/Lieut. Hewitt we raise our hats for he has been a regular member of the Army team in Singapore. Look for the international cap, sir.

Cross-country running has also come to the fore, and in this respect we are pleased to say that we took first place easily, beating "Don" Company by over 200 points. We sincerely hope that the results of the next two runs will also be in our favour.

To wind up our rather brief attempt at recording our doings for the last quarter, we hope that all members of the Regiment at home and abroad enjoyed their Christmas, although at the time of writing we are still looking forward to our Yuletide festivities.

BOXING

The 11th Battery R.A. challenged our Company to a match which we readily accepted. In reply we beat them by seven fights to four. L/Cpl. Ellis and Pte. "Bomber" Dowell supplied the audience with two magnificent knock-outs.

Sergt. Roseblade fought last year's amateur champion and had to go all out to win. There were some good scraps witnessed when Ptes. Bell, Bowker, and Commer took their places in the ring. L/Cpl. Boggis had a tough fighter up against him and just managed to win by a short lead. Although they put up a good show, Ptes. Hills, Izzard and McCarthy could not quite gain full points. Pte. Eaton, when about to turn the tables upon his man, suffered an injury to his eye and the fight had to be stopped.

The opposing team supplied some fine prizes, and the programme was completed with a jolly good supper. With our team fit we should hold our own when it comes to Inter-Company boxing.

"D" COMPANY

The last quarter has produced rather a change in the Company in sport and personnel. Quite a lot has been squeezed into the past three months as the following notes must show.

We should like to offer our best wishes to Capt. Worton in his new station. All regretted him leaving the Company for in the short period with us he proved himself a "pukkah sahib."

Lieut. Powell, our new Company Commander, we heartily welcome.

Early in the year the Company moved to Changi for change of air. Changi, the other side of the island, we discovered to be a pleasant place. Many of the "squadies" regretted

choosing to stay at Alexandra instead of moving to Changi as was suggested early in the year. The bungalow the Company occupied overlooked the straits that separate the island and the mainland. On the shore was the swimming pagar, and between the pagar and the bungalow the sports fields.

Everybody, Officers and men, tried and succeeded in making things as easy as possible. There was no "load" and "unload." The programme for that week was Reveille 06.00 hours (tea, believe it or not, brought round by a certain considerate individual), out of bed five minutes to seven and so, breakfast. An hour's P.T., and the rest of the day devoted to games.

How often we make resolutions and dream of how we shall spend leave; when the precious time does come round we don't know how to employ it, and poverty of imagination leaves most of us in idleness. With this in view Lieuts. Anson and Allen each arranged several competitions.

A Six-a-side Section Football Knock-out was one of the most popular and provided much fun for some of the high lights of the Company were to be seen in action notably "Almer" Dunn, who reached the zenith of his football career. The knocking-out of Sections was fairly widely distributed throughout the Company. With an eye on the N.A.A.F.I. chits "Spike" McDowell mustered his six best in one team sure of leading them to victory. However, that did not prevent him being a spectator at the final between the Sergeants and a team from No. 13 Platoon.

A Platoon Football Knock-out was also run. No. 15 Platoon beat No. 13 Platoon, but the competition was discontinued owing to—this may surprise a medico—infectious apoplexy, brought on by the heat as was afterwards suggested.

Whilst there the Company played several teams from the R.A. Brigades. Though the matches were fairly interesting the dash the team displayed in the Football League was lacking.

As no swimming bath or pagar is available at Alexandra, Lieut. Anson took the opportunity to hold an impromptu aquatic sports meeting. Though informal it must be considered as the Annual Company Meeting. As every one expected the old faces snapped up the prizes, Ptes. Mayhew and Jennings being prominent. The standard of swimming the novices displayed contains great promise for future inter-Company meetings.

To date we have had three Command Schemes. Owing to the smallness of the island and intensely cultivated plantations training is confined to a small area, and at no time were we called upon to march long distances. The first scheme took place about 19 miles from barracks and motor transport conveyed us to the rendezvous and, after the scheme, back. These rides provided much fun; it is hard to describe the peculiar humour of them. On paper a lorry load of "squadies" is hardly humorous, yet fill that old ramshackle bone-shaking mess tin with Cockneys and whether the sun shines or the rain pours down—as it did—a rich time is ahead.

The second stunt was cancelled owing to a torrential downpour.

Shortly after we carried out, in conjunction with another Company, a beach attack. The Singapore Volunteers were the defendants. Aboard H.M.S. *Folkestone* we left Keppel Harbour at eight bells; anyhow, it was eight o'clock by landlubbers' time. Though herded together like sheep, we made the most of uncomfortable quarters and despite lack of room and the darkness we were soon at ease.

At midnight a bombardment began between the ships and shore batteries. The major portion of the Company was sleeping directly beneath the port guns and was most rudely awakened. For a split second we thought the darned tub had gone up and many amongst us had a glimpse of what real panic must effect. Few stayed on deck for the next salvo. Aircraft was out, too, laying smoke screens in front of the searchlights to protect the boat. The smoke, floodlit by the colours of the rainbow as it gently fell and enveloped the searchlights' beams, resembled a mighty cascade, giving an impression of what Niagara, floodlit, must look like. About dawn we took off in the whale boats. To add to the confusion that such a manœuvre must nearly always entail, several boats separated and beached at various places; one or two could not approach the shore nearer than three hundred yards, the landing party having to wade in waist-high. In retrospect one can appreciate the difficulties that confronted the Anzacs at Anzac Cove.

The rugby season is in full swing and without attempting to boost our team we can safely say the Company has a most formidable team. Lieut. Powell, Serpts. Hopwood and Wadsworth, Corpl. McDowell and Ptes. Jones and Berry play for the Battalion; these, coupled with others of several years' experience, have to date proven unbeatable. However, a

great many faults, silly ones, still persist in the team, a brilliant movement being too often spoilt by one or two forwards, and especially by three-quarters, passing the ball in a haphazard way, as though the devil in person was in front of them. On more than one occasion a wide-a-wake player of the opposing team has taken advantage of this bad pass-balling and effected a try.

In spite of boundless enthusiasm and hard work by the executives our Company standard of hockey is still the same—mediocre. Few Companies in this Battalion have had as many fixtures as "Don." With the exception of, perhaps, one forward, not one of the others is an opportunist and as it is rather difficult to dribble a whole defence it ceases to be a wonder that so few goals are scored by our forward line. Another handicap is the need of a good centre-half; our present one is more of a forward than a defensive player. Two steady and reliable backs would help the team considerably. Now, we may as well admit we need a new team.

In the Hockey League we have played two matches to date: "A" (S.) Company and "H.Q." Wing. Contrary to what was generally expected and the utter disgust of "A," we beat them 2—1. How we giggled. Full of high hopes we met the Wing and suffered a reverse, losing 0—5. To go beyond the borderline of the sublime, Lee's emotions at Appomattox could hardly have equalled our skipper's (Sergt. Wadsworth) as he left that inglorious field.

In the Platoon Hockey Knock-out none of our Platoons reached the final. Nos. 14, 15 and 16 Platoons ceased to have an active interest after the first round. No. 13 Platoon reached the third round and lost to the Band.

We congratulate Ptes. Mayhew and Berry on securing their places in the Command water-polo team. Unfortunately, Pte. Mayhew is a time-ex wallah and the Company in the near future will miss his talent for coaching.

The Inter-Platoon water-polo has started and is rather a secret affair. Quite a number who take no interest in any other sport and are keen on aquatics feel that they are being shown the cold shoulder. No ballyhoo as in other sports.

On several occasions a Company Inter-Platoon cross-country run has been arranged. Everybody, from O.C. Company to the most notorious scrounger, was in the field.

On 23rd November the first Inter-Company cross-country run was held. Our first man, L/Cpl. Sturdy, was seventh in the Battalion.

The Company secured second place with 966 points.

In the Beginners' boxing competition the Company sported twenty entries. As was to be expected, there was very little scientific boxing, though lots of courage and determination to "hit, as hit." We congratulate everyone who entered and did their share for the Company; in particular Ptes. Robinson, Chacksfield and Bartlett—the first two on winning their weights and Pte. Bartlett on being runner-up to Chacksfield.

On 26th November the Company arranged a series of fights with the 7th Heavy Battery, R.A., from Changi. There were 10 fights in all and the Company won six.

As the Gunners had only one string in the welters, their welter sportingly agreed to fight both our strings, Ptes. Markham and Wilson (18). The first fight of the evening was the first string of the welters, Pte. Markham and S/Bdr. Kemp. Sizing-up Markham in the first few seconds of the fight he avoided the close fighting the latter desired. Kemp, an exceedingly cool merchant, kept Markham away by right- and left-hand jabs. Cornering Markham in the second round a vicious jab to the chin floored him. Though making a gallant attempt to continue the fight, the judge awarded Kemp a technical knock-out.

The next outstanding fight of the evening was Pte. Rowntree's. Both men were good, the gunner inclined slightly to be a slogger. Feinting alternately with right and left, Rowntree continually broke through the defence of the gunner and subjected him to severe punishment. Both men were congratulated on their fine fight.

Kemp, in the last fight of the evening, met Pte. Wilson. "Tug," hard as nails, tried to mix it, but the gunner, after taking one of his hits on the side of the head, thought differently. The first two rounds were undoubtedly our man's; the last, Kemp's, who forced the fight in this round. In excuse for the gunner—who knew his job—he was obviously tired, having fought Markham previously.

We wish the best of luck to Sergt. Tiller in his new Company. Also those transferred to "A" (S.) Company. Before long we expect to see "Brian," the football centre-forward of "A" Company.

The following summary of the more important fixtures and the results may prove interesting:

RUGBY			
v. Pulau Brani	..	Lost	0—9
(Trial for Company team)			
v. R.A.M.C.	..	Won	6—0
v. St. Andrew's School	..	Won	21—0
(Crack civilian team)			
v. St. Andrew's School	..	Drew	3—3
v. H.M.S. <i>Herald</i>
v. Raffles College	..	Won	18—8
v. 22nd Heavy Battery R.A.	..	Lost	0—6
(Company 2nd XV)			
v. 3rd A.A. Brigade	..	Drew	3—3

HOCKEY			
v. "H.Q." Wing	..	Lost	0—5
v. "A" Company	..	Won	2—1
v. "C" Company	..	Drew	3—3
v. Pulau Brani	..	Won	1—0
v. Pulau Brani	..	Won	1—0
v. Clerical Union	..	Lost	0—1
v. St. Joseph's School	..	Lost	1—4
v. Ordnance Depot	..	Won	3—0
v. "B" Company, R.I.F.	..	Lost	0—3

BOXING			
"D" COMPANY		7TH HEAVY BTRY., R.A.	
	Pts.		Pts.
Feather: Pte. Panting	1	Bdr. Pedley	2
Light: Pte. Noble	2	Bdr. King	1
Pte. Geist	1	Bdr. Hammond	2
L/Cpl. Du Heume	2	Bdr. Desmond	1
Welter: Pte. Markham	1	S/Bdr. Kemp	2
Pte. Wilson	2	S/Bdr. Kemp	1
Middle: Pte. Cornford	2	Bdr. Bridges	1
Pte. Rowntree	2	Bdr. Broadley	1
Pte. Roberts	1	Bdr. Coles	2
Lt.-Heavy: Pte. Berry	2	Bdr. Trainer (disq.)	0
	16		13

SERGEANTS' MESS

The spate of invitations to dances and parties from all parts of the Command at this season of the year reminds us that our fortnightly dances and whist drives are well into their sixth month. They are great favourites with all the visitors who come from the islands of Blakang Mati and Pulau Brani and the outlying stations of Changi and Seletar. On these occasions the façade of the Mess is floodlit with high-power lamps frosted in the Regimental colours.

On 12th December the monthly Mess dinners were resumed, and we look forward to future ones, hoping they will be as enjoyable and successful as this one was.

We have lost two of our members, Sergt. Mason having gone home to do a spot of recruit nursing at the Depot, and Sergt. Smith being posted to the Home Battalion. We wish them happiness in their new surroundings.

On 17th January we lose, with real regret, our "tuan-besar" in the person of R.S.M. Newman, who goes home to the Regimental Depot. We shall all miss his kindness, geniality and camaraderie. To him and Mrs. Newman we extend our heartfelt wishes for happiness in their new surroundings.

Sergt. Paterson (36) and family arrived from Egypt on H.T. *Dikwara* on 28th October and he has already settled down to enjoy life in Malaya.

We offer our congratulations to C/Sergt. Christie on his promotion to that rank (wot abaht they there 'osses now, Jack?), to Sergts. Ramsden and Sheffield on attaining full rank, to L/Sergts. Wadsworth and Blackman on getting the pay for the third one, and to L/Sergt. O'Neill (Christie's successor with the long-faced gentlemen) on entering the Mess.

Mah Jong having fallen into disfavour its place has been taken by darts. Many members are real top-notchers at the game, but in a friendly match with our near neighbours, The Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, we lost by 7 games to 2. However, we await the return game with confidence.

Many members are fast developing into excellent public speakers, thanks to their regular attendance at the monthly debates held in the Regimental Institute, detailed reference to which will be found elsewhere.

"BIG BEAR."

CORPORALS' CLUB

Very little of interest has happened during the last quarter. We have been having a fortnightly social which has been, as everyone will agree, a great success, and we hope they will continue to be so in the New Year.

No Inter-Mess sports of any description have been played owing to the members being in Company or other teams, and their time has been taken up in Inter-Company, Inter-Platoon games, but we hope to make up for it in the New Year.

We welcome L/Cpl. Soper to the Mess once again. We also offer our congratulations to the members of the Mess who have left us for the Sergeants' Mess, and we are very sorry to lose them, especially Corpl. O'Neill, our oldest member.

To close, we send our best wishes for a happy New Year to all our brother N.C.O.s in the 2nd Battalion.

J. P. S.

RUGBY

The rugby season has been in progress some two months now, and although the Battalion cannot produce a record of overwhelming victories, we have at least succeeded in holding our own. If the standard of Battalion and Company teams can go on improving at their present rate, we should have a really good side next season; at the moment, however, the Battalion team have a lot to learn, particularly the forwards in the art of wheeling.

Our best effort was about a fortnight ago, when we succeeded in drawing with the Royal Engineers, who have an extremely good and heavy pack of forwards; the vociferous cheering by our supporters on this occasion can hardly have had its equal since we came abroad, and must have taken some of our veteran members back to the "Aldershot days" (?).

2/Lieut. Hewitt is to be congratulated on playing regularly for the Army; 2/Lieut. Gudgeon earned his place at the beginning as a wing threequarter, and we are now hoping that he may get back into the team as an inside threequarter. Never before have the Battalion had such a splendid opportunity of learning the game, and we hope next season to fill many more places in the Army side.

Results of Battalion matches:

v. R.A. (Blakang Mati) ..	Lost	5—19
v. H.M.S. <i>Herald</i> ..	Won	18—0
v. Straits Settlements Police ..	Won	3—0
v. Royal Air Force ..	Lost	3—8
v. Medical College ..	Won	13—6
v. 3rd A.A. Battery ..	Lost	0—3
v. Royal Engineers ..	Drew	0—0
v. 9th Heavy Battery ..	Lost	0—13
v. Royal Inniskilling Fus. ..	Won	35—0
v. R.A. (Blakang Mati) ..	Won	9—0

SWIMMING

Our activity is still limited by the lack of a swimming bath. The bath promised us, which should have been ready in October, has yet to appear. We have a contract with the proprietor of a local Chinese bath, which we are allowed to use twice a week in the morning, otherwise there is the Tanglin bath, two or three miles from barracks; to go there regularly by bus becomes expensive in the fullness of time, and all of us do not feel equal to riding a bicycle, in this country.

When we first arrived there was a surprising number of men who had not passed their swimming test; the number of these is slowly being reduced by Companies on their weekly

parades, although at the present rate of decline it looks as if it will never be as small as it was in Moascar.

We have now begun life-saving classes again, directed by L/Cpl. Butt, assisted by L/Cpl. Holdford and Pte. Tarrant. These have been very successful, and now include parties from other units, and even such remote places as Blakang Mati. There have been two examinations up to now, and altogether sixteen candidates have obtained the Bronze Medallion and Intermediate Certificates, and three the First Class Instructors' Certificate.

In the middle of October a swimming tournament was held between the Malaya Command and the Hong-Kong Command. At water polo Ptes. Stemp, Mayhew and Berry were chosen from the Battalion to represent the Command, and Ptes. Stemp and Buckle took part in the 50 Metres Team Race. Both these events were held in the Singapore Swimming Club's pool. The Singapore Swimming Club have been very generous, not only in allowing us to use their pool, but in playing against and entertaining the Battalion water polo team from time to time.

We hope soon to begin the Inter-Platoon Water Polo Knock-out Competition for the "Mons" Shield, which may, perhaps, discover some hidden talent.

THE LOT OF A CYCLE ORDERLY.

IT has been decided that one of the numerous cycle orderlies of the Battalion should put his thoughts on paper, so here goes.

The trials and troubles of a cycle orderly in this country are very numerous; for instance, if one is not soaked in the effects of manual labour, otherwise sweat, you can safely say that you will need more than the ordinary covering of the ground-sheet to keep out the rain that does occasionally come from the blue skies above, at least twice a day, and, furthermore, when you least expect it.

But now that the rainy season has started, we, that is us cycle orderlies, are waiting for the sanction of Headquarters to the effect that we can go about our normal duties in bathing costumes. Of course, hills and dales are not known in this part of the world, that is, there are very few dales, but plenty of hills to make up for them. It is in the opinion of most of the cycle orderlies that this is a country where one

is always pushing hard uphill, but seldom gets a steady ride down.

It is our delight to climb the hill leading up to the "spacious dwellings" of the other ranks. I say spacious because they are very nicely set apart on various nob's of land that we call gradients, and gradients of this calibre are very much against the grain of us orderlies. There are not many who can manage this wonderful feat. If one does manage to get up without dismounting, it is only because we have heard that wonderful call to the cook-house.

Not for the food, mind you—nay, only to put our mouths to the ever-breaking soup bowls which hold the only beverage that the cook-house produces, shall we call it TEA, just for this article, anyway.

But now we are drifting away from the subject. We mostly find that our main trouble comes in the way of "punctures"; seeing that we have many trips to Tanglin it does not bring us great pleasure when we find that we have developed one of these so-called holes, and have still a mile or so to do, to avoid the annual morning shower, and what a shower! Of course, we can only depend upon the generosity of the Company sports storeman whether we can mend these punctures or not, that is if he has an old football bladder that has been condemned by the Sports Officer. If so, we can usually find a piece of string to tie the unfortunate discarded tubing on with, but despite these setbacks we seem to manage quite well.

L. WRIGHT, Pte.,
"B" Company.

THE WANDERING MID.

(Spasm 4)

LAUGHTER AND TEARS

YEA, verily, not only did the Tribe of the Mid leave behind them "Section Posts" and "Platoon Areas" as a mark on the face of the earth, they did also leave their mark on the minds of the other tribes with whom they did meet in their wanderings. They did cause many tears to flow from the eyes of them and did also cause pains to be felt in the bellies of them. Yea, this did come to pass as is chronicled hereafter.

In the year MX 177, and in the cold month of January, the Tribe did set foot in the land of the Israelites and did plant themselves in

the Holy City thereof. Here the family of the Emmgees did make too much noise and they were detached into lodgings at the place of Sarafan, distant three full days' road pressing. There did they find life lacking in gaiety and monotonous, so that all the Emmgees did become angry with themselves and have many stoppages.

Then it did come to pass that one of the minor leaders did get bitten with an idea and he did laugh aloud. The Father of the Family did thereon demand to know the reason for this laughter and it was told to him and verily I say unto you he also did laugh long and loud, and say "Get to it" and it was so.

Then after a short week of secret preparation the family did assemble in the place of feeding and were entertained by some of their members to a variety of songs and funny acts at which they did yell and clap and did ask for more, saying, "Hail! a concert party." Then it did come to pass that news of this did travel to the Father of the Tribe and to the Holy City. Thereon the Father of the Tribe did say, "Come unto us so that we may witness this thing that ye have done," and once more it was so.

The Father and his advisers did enjoy the spectacle and did decree that all the five families would do likewise and entertain each other, and once more it was so, and for the rest of the year there were no more long faces within the Tribe.

In the following year, MX 178, the Tribe did pack up their traps and wander into the land of "The Pyramid" and did settle in a dark and dismal fortress. Here they were joined by the female and juvenile portion of the Tribe and great was the joy thereof. After many months the long faces did again appear in the Tribe and there was much groaning and grouching. And again it came to pass that another minor leader did collect together some of the Tribe, male and female, and did produce another concert. This changed the long faces into broad faces and the pains returned and the tears of joy began to flow from the eye, and everyone lived happily for that year.

The year MX 179 saw the Tribe wandering southwards through the same land to the place named Moascar and here they lived very happily for two years. During these two years the long faces only appeared twice, and each time they were quickly changed into smiling faces by the concert party and life was indeed made good thereby.

The year MX 181 saw the Tribe take ship for the distant land of Singapore and the concert party did keep the Tribe happy on the ship with acting and funny sayings. The land of Singapore does not suit all the Tribe of Mid, and the long faces appear oftener and longer than ever before. So the concert party has much work to do because of this. Not only does the concert party, hereafter called "Entertainers," drive the long faces from the mashes of the Tribe, they also, helped by the Tribal Musicians, cause the Civic Tribe of this land to have much pain under the ribs and many tears in their eyes through laughing at the antics of them.

Thus have the Entertainers become an important part of the Tribe. Thus have they grown and flourished through the years and thus do they leave their mark on the peoples of the earth.

W. SNELL.

1/10th BATTALION O.C.A.

SUCCESSFUL RE-UNION

NEARLY two hundred Old Comrades of the 1/10th Battalion Middlesex Regiment gathered at the Royal Hotel, Southampton Row, on Saturday, 12th December, on the occasion of the eighth annual re-union. Mr. H. F. Reddick (Chairman of the Association for 1936) presided, supported by Col. C. F. W. Dimond and Lieut.-Col. F. Hosken—who both were in command of the Battalion during its service in India—and a number of other Officers.

After the toast of "The King" had been honoured, the Chairman, in an appropriate sentence, submitted that of "Absent Comrades."

In a brief speech, the Chairman congratulated the members of the Association on turning up in larger numbers year after year. This, he said, all pointed to that spirit and comradeship, which was such a marked characteristic of their Battalion. The success of those annual gatherings rested very largely on the Hon. Secretary, and everyone of them felt very grateful to Lieut.-Col. Hosken for the work he had put in in organising that particular gathering. They were also indebted to their Treasurer (Mr. A. C. Chidley), whose enthusiasm was unequalled. His work for the Association as well as for other organisations con-

nected with the Battalion, could not be properly estimated. Those annual gatherings owed a great deal to the Secretary and Treasurer, and he felt he ought to pay that small tribute.

Major Overbury was elected Chairman of the O.C.A. for 1937, and Lieut.-Col. Hosken and Mr. A. C. Chidley re-elected Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer respectively. The Secretary announced that there were present old comrades from Blackpool, Oldham, Weymouth, Norwich, Preston, Birmingham, Northampton, Worcester, Southwold, Wolverhampton, Grimsby and Port Talbot. He said he desired especially to thank Capt. Munford and Sergt. Fowler, who had been immensely helpful.

Mr. A. C. Chidley (Hon. Treasurer), giving his financial statement, said he was glad to be able to announce that they were finishing up the year with a credit balance of £2 7s. 1d., largely due to the generous members, who felt they ought to do a little more than pay the ordinary subscription.

Capt. A. Bowker, M.C., proposing the toast of "The Middlesex Association," said they all knew its activities in the direction of assisting men who had served in the Regiment. They were glad to welcome their late Commanding Officer, Col. Dimond; Capt. F. A. L. Lawrence, of the Middlesex Regimental Depot at Mill Hill, and also Capt. McIvor, of the 2/10th Middlesex Battalion, which brought great credit and honour to the Regiment. Twenty-two years ago that day the 1/10th was being transported to India on the *Royal George*. Their numbers must inevitably grow smaller, but their enthusiasm would never waver.

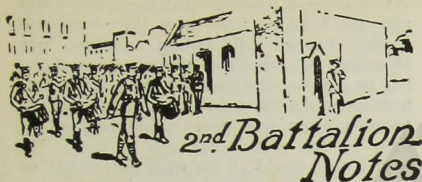
Col. Dimond, in acknowledgment, said it was very gratifying to know that they were still "going strong." Recruiting nowadays was affording the authorities the gravest anxiety, but he believed the youth of the country was as sound at the core as ever, and that should the occasion again arise they would respond as those he saw around him did in 1914. He hoped they would all do what they could to induce their younger friends to join some branch of His Majesty's Forces.

Capt. F. A. L. Lawrence, giving some details of the work done by the Middlesex Association in relieving old comrades in distress, said every man who was entitled to wear the badge of the Middlesex Regiment was a member of the Middlesex Association, and he appealed for a larger interest.

Capt. N. B. McIvor, who also responded, said he never felt he was a mere guest at any function in connection with the Middlesex Regiment, and only those who had served in it knew exactly what that meant. He congratulated the 1/10th on its O.C.A. and the happy feeling of camaraderie which was so apparent.

"The Chairman" was the last toast, and Capt. Bramall voiced the feelings of all present when he said that C.S.M. Reddick—essentially a product of the 1/10th Battalion—had won, not only the esteem and regard, but the deep affection of them all by his tact and usefulness.

Replying, the Chairman thanked all, and especially those who had contributed to the musical programme, for their efforts, which had once again resulted in a thoroughly successful re-union.



WE must begin with an apology for the fact that, owing to the greater part of the Battalion being on furlough from the early days of December, the notes from various sources had to be called for even earlier than usual, and at an unusually long period prior to the publication of the journal. Actually the notes will still be up-to-date as a small number only of men has remained in Victoria Barracks during December, and no important events of any nature as regards the internal life of the Battalion have taken place during the month.

During the quarter steady progress has been made towards the completion of our re-organisation as a Mechanised Machine Gun Battalion, and we look forward with confidence to the future. The majority of the men of the Battalion are now well on the way towards becoming trained machine gunners, and even those who never handled a machine gun before, and some of whom never thought that they would be likely to do so, are becoming quite knowledgeable on the intricacies of Small Arms Training, Volume III, and the Vickers Gun Handbook.

A few vehicles only have been received by the Battalion up to now for the instruction of personnel in driving and maintenance, and the total number of cars, lorries, trucks, and motor-cycles, which is to be issued in due course, constitutes rather an alarming proposition, but in this direction also we are confident that all difficulties will be conquered in time.

Meanwhile the number of Officers and N.C.O.s attending Courses, and the number and variety of such Courses, tends continually to increase, and this necessarily has seriously reduced at times the numbers available for duty with the Battalion, but this is an inevitable result of the re-organisation.

We hear continual rumours of a move from Southsea to Gosport in the near future, and there is certainly no doubt that the Battalion will be moving across the water next winter. It is probable that the majority of the Battalion

would prefer to remain in Southsea; there are many disadvantages in being stationed in barracks in a large town, miles away from any open country, but it would seem that Gosport has all the disadvantages of Southsea and a good many more as well, while Victoria Barracks are probably to be preferred to the so-called "new" barracks at Gosport. However, we must make the best of it, and the Battalion has certainly not been unlucky in the matter of stations since arriving home in 1931.

To turn to sporting activities, full accounts of the doings of the Battalion soccer and rugby teams appear separately; the soccer team has done well on the whole recently in the various local tournaments and leagues, but sadly disappointed in the second round of the Army Cup, when it was defeated unexpectedly by the Rifle Brigade in a close game at Gosport. Previously we had won our match in the first round—for the first time since the Battalion came home—after an exciting match with R.A.O.C. Depot, Hilsa, during which extra time was necessary.

Corpl. Delaney and Bdmn. Phipps are to be congratulated on representing the Army on several occasions.

The Boys' soccer team has shown promise and has been successful in two rounds of the Army Cup, defeating The Rifle Brigade and The Queens.

The Battalion rugby XV has reached the third round of the Army Cup, after accomplishing good performances in the preliminary and first two rounds, notably their victory over The Royal Tank Corps Centre, when an exciting game was played in spite of most inclement conditions.

In the third round we met the 5th Battalion Royal Tank Corps, last year's winners, and went down to them after a good fight.

We must again congratulate Lieut. Unwin on his being chosen to play in English International Trials—for the "Probables" and for "England," which gives great hopes this season—and Lieut. Beath on his successful appearances for Hampshire. Both these players have been representing the United Services regularly, and several others of the Battalion XV have been appearing in representative games as stated in the rugby notes.

In hockey we have again got through the first round of the Army Cup Competition, defeating the R.A.O.C. Depot by 3-2, and we were similarly successful in boxing, against The Rifle Brigade—the results of the fights

are stated later—and are due to meet The Green Howards in the second round of the Army Boxing Competition early in January at Portland.

A draft of 93 other ranks is to leave England for Singapore on 5th February, and we wish them all the best of luck abroad. Capt. F. Walden will also be proceeding on the same troopship and we are sorry that he cannot return to this Battalion, of which he was Adjutant in India.

We also extend our best wishes to 2/Lieuts. Pullman and Langley, who have already left us for foreign service.

Major Newnham is still in Palestine as D.A.A.G., 1st Division, but, in view of recent developments, we hope to see him back with us soon; Lieut.-Col. Bucknall will be rejoining in January from the Royal Naval Staff College, but unfortunately for a short time only as he is to take up an appointment at the R.M.C. in Canada very soon.

We were all sincerely sorry to lose Major Wollocombe, who retired on 25th November with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel, and extend our best wishes to him and his family.

Major Wollocombe joined the 2nd Battalion from the 4th at Singapore in 1922 and, except for a period of two years as an Instructor at the Small Arms School, Pachmarhi, remained with the Battalion until it came home in 1931, when he took over command of the Depot. He returned to the Battalion as Second-in-Command at the end of 1934. He joined the Regiment in 1908 and was Adjutant of the 4th Battalion at the outbreak of war in 1914, and served with it as Adjutant at the battle of Mons, in which the 4th Battalion took a distinguished part, and during the retreat from Mons. At one time he was the youngest Adjutant in the Army.

Subsequently during the War he commanded the 11th Battalion Middlesex Regiment for over a year, and a Battalion of The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment for over a year. We hear that he is now living at Mill Hill and hope that he will find time to visit the 2nd Battalion frequently.

MECHANISATION

Two Cadres have been run in driving and maintenance up to date, and some 35 N.C.O.s and men have become fully licensed drivers.

Two Subalterns have been on a Driving and Maintenance Course at Aldershot, and four Sergeants and one Corporal on a similar Course

at Feltham, under the R.A.S.C. Several more Officers and N.C.O.s will shortly be going on both "Wheel" and "Track" Courses under the R.A.S.C. and R.T.C. respectively.

Considerable difficulty was experienced at first in running Regimental Driving and Maintenance Cadres, as the only instructional vehicle was a very ancient 30 cwt. six-wheeler Crossley.

The situation has now greatly improved as the Battalion has had for the past two months eight new 15 cwt. Guy Trucks, and one dual control 15 cwt. Learners' Morris.

Another Regimental Cadre commenced on 4th January, 1937, and we hope to have another 30 drivers fully licensed in six week's time.

"A" COMPANY

At the present period the barracks present a very deserted appearance owing to the majority of the Battalion being away on annual furlough.

There is very little of interest to report for the last quarter.

On returning to barracks from Camp, practically the whole of the Battalion settled down for a period of Machine Gun Training, and judging by the size of the parade there must be very few who have not some knowledge of the intricacy of "on this spot" "mount gun." In addition, driving and maintenance classes are in full swing in preparation for the complete mechanisation of the Battalion, which is now beginning to assume definite shape.

Since our last notes we have had an addition of one draft from the Depot, to whom we extend a hearty welcome, and trust that their stay with us will be very pleasant, although we regret that some of them are already earmarked for transfer to the 1st Battalion, which will again sadly deplete our numbers.

2/Lieut. C. M. Man has joined us from Cambridge University, and to him we also extend a hearty welcome. He will be a welcome acquisition in the sporting world. At the present moment he is in temporary command of the Company during the absence of Capt. C. C. Musselwhite on leave.

Sergt. Newstead has now left us, after serving 21 years in the Regiment. We extend our best wishes to him for the future.

2/Lieut. A. O. Pullman has also left to join the 1st Battalion. Although his stay with us was so brief, he made his presence felt by the interest which he took in the Company.

In conclusion, may we take this opportunity of wishing everybody connected with the Regiment a very prosperous New Year

"B" COMPANY

Firstly we must apologise to our readers for lack of material to build up notes for this quarter owing to little having happened since our last issue. However, we will do our best and give the events in their order.

We are pleased to welcome our Company Commander, Capt. E. T. Pain back to the fold once more from furlough. He has now taken over the reins again from Capt. P. E. C. Tuckey, who was acting during his absence.

Intensive Machine Gun Training is still in full swing, and some really promising gunners are in the making. The men show great keenness, and, considering the fact that this type of work is quite new to them, great credit is due to them for their progress.

Whilst on the subject of machine guns, our heartiest congratulations go to C.S.M. Jones and Sergt. Green on their "D.s." to Sergt. Kennett on his Q.1 at Netheravon, and especially to Sergt. Green, who returned a record score for the School, only losing 9 marks throughout the entire Course.

Driving and Maintenance Courses are progressing by leaps and bounds and the arrival of a new fleet of trucks one morning just after breakfast caused great excitement. So great was the interest shown by the outsiders that Sergt. Scott nearly had to fall back on the police to form a cordon round his "family" to prevent any trial runs. It is said that "Scotty" goes out after dark each night and counts his trucks before retiring for the night—such is fickle Dame Rumour.

The Company's first football match in the newly-formed "Rabbits" League, was a great success. We beat "A" Company by the score of 8-1. Some of the newer joined members of the Company came to the front in great style and big things are expected of them in the future.

Congratulations are due to the Regimental boxing team in beating The Rifle Brigade in the first round of the Army Inter-Unit Team Boxing Championships at the Garrison Gymnasium. They only lost two fights out of fifteen and finished the evening with three knock-outs, our sole representative, Corpl. Trotobas, claiming what was considered the best knock-out of the evening.

We still have several members on Courses, Sergt. Ison and Corpl. Griffiths are at the Small Arms School, Hythe, learning all about the new light machine gun, the Bren, and L/Sergt. Moore is at the Small Arms School, Netheravon, learning the new anti-tank gun. We hope that he will not fall to pieces with the "humping" about that he will have to do.

By the time that these notes appear in print the Battalion will have had, and we hope enjoyed, their annual furlough, and so in conclusion we wish everybody a happy but hard-working New Year—and long life to mechanisation.

"C" (S.) COMPANY

Waxing sentimental, we have just realised that twelve months have elapsed since we left Colchester and arrived at this quaint old-world fishing hamlet. Kindly Mr. Daniell is a faded memory, for we worship now at the shrine of Brickwood, of Long or Lake, while a devout few of the cognoscenti make obeisance to that of United. But we digress; in any case the local brewers are not giving us any rebate for this handsome advertisement, so away with them.

With the projected re-organisation the Battalion has become exceedingly Vickers-minded. One can hardly swing the proverbial Persian by its tail in any part of the barracks without its impinging on some earnest students of "Emma Gee." Even such shy and retiring creatures as Pioneers, Cooks and Q.M. Storemen have been observed mounting gun on more or less various types of ground. The law of libel prohibits us from mentioning the name of the somewhat muddled Bandsman, who, when told to go "up a fifth," tried to fix a clinometer on his instrument.

Life in the Company itself has been even and uneventful. The majority of our N.C.O.s have been instructing the N.C.O.s and men from the Rifle Companies in their Individual Training, which will be carried on by the Rifle Companies themselves after Christmas and annual furlough.

Of organised inter-Company competitions in sport there has been very little, but we feel that our system of ensuring that every man in the Company who really wishes to play gets at least one game of some sort during the week is worthy of mention. By that means the division into Company first team representatives and spectators is avoided, and we do not

now see the old familiar faces on the sports grounds every time.

Corpl. Delaney has represented the Army and Hampshire at Association football, while 2/Lieut. Beath has represented Hampshire at rugby. Congratulations to them both, as also to L/Cpl. Cummins on his Q.1 at Netheravon.

Corpl. Payne has left us for the Depot, and Corpl. Tye left on 13th January for a period of attachment to The West African Frontier Force. Our best wishes go with them both, and we hope that they will not forget the old Support Company.

The latter sentiment we extend to those of our ranks who are now serving abroad. We should like to assure them that they are not forgotten. With these lovely thoughts in our extremely benevolent hearts, we bid you good-bye, good luck and good hunting, you cad.

"D" COMPANY

As these notes are for the last quarter of the year, and as this year has been rather a busy one for the Battalion, it is thought that a brief review of the past events would be appreciated. Most of the Company are young soldiers and they, at times, must have felt rather bewildered at the various duties which they were called upon to perform, in most cases, immediately they joined the Battalion.

The Company were at Gomer carrying out the Annual Weapon Training Course when a draft from the Depot joined them there. On returning from Gomer they were immediately switched away to undergo Manœuvre Training at Lyndhurst. Here another draft joined the Company and they were taken straight on to training. We pause here to congratulate them on the wonderful way in which they carried out their arduous duties. The training was very hard, indeed, but the amount of sickness was very small. All honours to these youngsters.

On returning from Lyndhurst another draft joined us. They were immediately sent to Gomer to join the remainder of the Company to finish off their A.W.T.C. On returning from Gomer the Company immediately started to carry out Machine Gun and Mechanical Transport Training in preparation for the change over.

One can see that the Company, together with the remainder of the Battalion, have had rather a hectic time. As a result of this chopping and changing quite a number of men in the Company spent some time with us before

settling down to the normal barrack room life, and to bringing themselves up to the high standard of efficiency obtained throughout the Battalion in drill and turn-out. Anyway, they are now settling down, and it is felt that before very long they will be a credit to the Regiment. Everyone is now looking forward to a well-earned annual furlough, which commences on 5th December.

We feel ourselves to be one of the most seasoned Companies in the Army in gas warfare. Volunteers were called for to proceed to Porton to carry out tests of mustard gas. About 30 of the Company volunteered and spent a week at Porton doing nothing except having drops of mustard gas on their arms. It holds a pleasant little reward of six days extra leave. It is interesting to note that of the volunteers called for from the Battalion, 90 per cent. came from this Company.

This opportunity is taken to congratulate the Company on being the Best Shooting Company for 1936. A jolly good start which we all hope will be kept up.

We welcome Sergts. Colbourne and Moir to the Company from the Depot, and we are very sorry to lose Sergt. Beaveridge, who has been posted to the Depot.

Last, but not least, the men of the Company who were members of the Battalion boxing team which so successfully defeated The Rifle Brigade in the first round of the Army Team Boxing Championships, are to be congratulated on their wonderful display.

It is rather late, but we wish all old members of "D" Company who have left us for abroad, etc., a prosperous New Year, assuring them that they are not forgotten.

BAND

Thoughts of furlough naturally supersede all others at this time of the year, so we will ask your indulgence should these notes be rather brief and not very interesting. In any case we do not think there is a great deal to write about even if the "grey matter" could be persuaded to function.

First we must hand out the congratulations (see Band Notes of the previous quarter—if still in possession) to Corpl. and Mrs. Stretton on the birth of a daughter, also to Band Sergt. and Mrs. Jennings on the birth of a son. We are glad to relate that both fathers are doing well, though an occasional yawn during the day betokens untold bedtime stories. (Is a baby's cry really musical? This debatable topic

should no longer be a mystery in the Band!). Band Sergt. Jennings is further to be congratulated on obtaining his "first," no mean feat for an "old soldier."

We have to welcome from Kneller Hall our one and only "Bagpipe"—to wit, Bdmn. Gower, who has been on a Course for the past eighteen months. His return gives our instrumentation a distinct fillip in tone. Whilst talking about the Hall, L/Cpl. Lewin, of The Hampshire Regiment, who has been attached to us for the last two months, has returned there as a student, and we would like him to know that we extend our best wishes for his ultimate success. Boy Brown has also departed for the same place as a pupil, and we shall follow his progress with a really paternal interest. Here's wishing them both good luck.

In the realm of sport events are rather quiet. An Inter-Group Cross-country Run held recently was won by Bdmn. Caney (more power to his legs). That shows what a windy instrument the saxophone is. With a great and mighty roar we sound a fanfare of trumpets for "Phippo," who is now an almost automatic choice for the Army at right back. We are naturally very proud of him, and feel his success is well merited. Long may he reign.

The anticipated Band inspection has been postponed until the New Year. Woe is us! We are looking forward (who said that?) to the Director's visit, as his remarks are bound to be illuminating, if not flattering.

We cannot end without raising a cheer for the Boys on their great deeds in the Boys' Army Cup. In progressing as far as they have, they gave the *coup de grace* to their local rivals, The Rifle Brigade and The Queen's Royal Regiment. Who next "little man"?

DRUMS

Before we write anything about our past experiences, we must first inform our readers that we are about to depart on a month's furlough. In print the word "furlough" sounds dull and almost despondent, but what a really thrilling time it indicates. On 5th December, practically all the Drummers will be heading for the jolly old "Smoke," and we are certainly going to enjoy ourselves. A melancholy note strikes us—by the time these notes are in print we will have had our month's leave, but that's enough about that.

"H.Q." Wing recently held their Inter-Group Cross-country Run for the Clock. We are glad to say that owing to the excellent

attempts by L/Cpl. Jones, L/Cpl. Tarr, Dmr. Ceaton and Pte. Redding, who finished second, fourth, fifth and sixth respectively, the Drums finished a close second. The event consisted of four journeys around the Southsea Common, and many were the cries of agony after the first two laps. To the spectators it seemed that quite a number of the runners had eaten large portions of Lyndhurst duff on the day of the race.

"Old Soldier" Dmr. Lewin is even still after a boxing belt, but up to now he has only succeeded in winning a few stitches in the lip. Joking apart, though, we heartily appreciate Dmr. Lewin's great show of pluck in each boxing tournament, and although he has over 16 years' service, he is still game with his "mitts."

We have recently acquired several newcomers in the Drummers' ranks, while several Boys have just come on their service. We welcome that notorious individual, Pte. Redding, to the Corps with some trepidation (for he never buys any matches). His constant request for a light has earned him the name of "Professor of Lights," but we are relieved to hear that he is about to purchase a lighter with his furlough money.

Congratulations to L/Cpls. Tarr and Burdell on becoming the Commanding Officer's and Adjutant's buglers respectively, and also to Dmrs. Ceaton, Firman, Thorley and Neville on their recent appointments. We also congratulate L/Cpl. Humberstone on his promotion, and hope he is successful as N.C.O. i/c Boys.

We are both proud and pleased to inform readers that the Boys have won their way through to the fourth round of the Army Boys' Football Cup, and sincerely hope they go much farther in this competition. Reaching the fourth round equals the previous record for any Boys in the Regiment, and they still have a chance of going further.

There seems little more to say now, so we will close wishing all 1st Battalion Drummers the best of luck.

BUNGO.

SIGNALS

On returning from Camp we were augmented by ten new men to form a new class; they are well under control now and have the makings of good signallers.

The old class keep their hands in, in the usual manner, and find time to have social evenings at the local hosteleries.

The Inter-Group Cross-country Run resulted in "Big Ben" remaining at home. Someone wants to know if Nelson's monument can be shifted for something or other.

Sergt. Smith is at present on a "greaser's" Course at Feltham, and is due back in February; we wish him luck and no punctures on his return.

We congratulate L/Cpl. Jennings on passing his 1st Class Map-reading. He won't have to trust to the tramlines any more.

The "old cow hands" hold frequent bunk-house nights, and they say that "Gertie Green," the gangster Gaucho (or Gertcher), is one of the belles of the Bar 2ve.

We congratulate L/Cpl. Rawlinson on his Army rugby trial. We all hope to see him there when the big things come along.

We welcome back to the fold, L/Cpl. Peasley, and Ptes. Snell and Thompson, who have rejoined us from hospital, fit and strong.

"Thomo" has an idea of taking a "spare part"; we wish him the best of luck (he'll need it).

To all our friends at home and abroad we extend our heartiest wishes for a happy New Year.

DOTS.

EMPLOYED

This being one of our infrequent incursions into print we will endeavour to carry out the cardinal virtues of message writing by being brief, sharp and to the point.

Of topical interest we have nothing to offer. Machine Gun Training is still the rage, but to the great relief of those afflicted with this form of persecution, like many other good things, it is coming to an end.

Many thoughts nowadays are devoted to the subject of annual furlough, where to go and how much to catch the "quarter bloke" for.

Sporting activities have mainly been confined to various games of knock-out hockey on the Square, organised by that bright spirit yclept Bishop (no connection with the clerical gentlemen of the same name).

The "Rabbits" Football League up to the present has not been very successful in digging us out of our holes. We have lost to "C" (S.) Company 2—1, and beat "A" Company 3—1, so honours are fairly even, but this talk of our sporting prowess must seem very "small beer" in comparison with the exploits of the various Battalion teams, so it is best that

we cover our heads and retire discreetly from the scene. Before doing so it would probably be of interest to mention that we beat "C" (S.) Company in a friendly rugger match by 6—3. We take great pride in this achievement, the humbling of the mighty, but in mitigation of the downfall of the Support Company we must mention that their two stars, Lieuts. Unwin and Beath did not play, so probably we have nothing to crow about after all.

The Miniature Rifle League is now in full blast under the auspices of our S.I.M., who is evidently of the opinion that the Companies get the shooting badges, but only the Wing can do the real shooting.

Any inquiries upon the new "chit" system inaugurated in our fraternal gathering should be addressed to Corpl. Copelin (commonly known as "Sid"), but must be accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope. Replies are liable to be a trifle delayed owing to the fact that the aforementioned Sid's "fan mail" has greatly increased since his return from Camp, and consequently his supply of stationery has been depleted.

Congratulations to Col.-Sergt. Deane and L/Sergt. Wright on their increase in the ration strength, and to "Doughie" on quitting the state of "single bliss" for that of "double harness."

Sergt. Short, having completed a Course of "wurk" at the Vocational Training Centre at Hounslow, has now left us to put what he has learnt into practice, and with him go our best wishes.

Having exhausted all our available items of small chat and topics of interest we will close with the hope that Christmas passed off in the traditional festive fashion, and that none of the New Year resolutions have yet been broken.

DEPLOYED.

BOYS

"There's a good time coming" is a well-known phrase, and in our case our good time will be a month's leave. For the last few months we have all been "mossing up" our small change for this great event. Many of us are thinking of opening up private businesses with our month's pay, for we all had a pleasant surprise when we were told how much we were to draw.

The great thing we are eager to inform our readers is our success in the Boys' Army Football Cup so far. In the second round we defeated the Rifle Brigade 2—1 after a most

thrilling game in which we had a very hard struggle towards the end, when the score was 1-1. In the third round we beat The Queen's Royal Regiment 1-0, after an equally exciting match. We were very thankful when Boy Minchin, our diminutive goalkeeper, saved a hot penalty and we were overwhelmed with enthusiasm when Boy Brown scored our winning goal. We have not yet been informed as to our next opponents, but whoever they are, we will meet them with great hope of defeating them also.

We congratulate Dmr. Ceaton on his attaining the age of 18, and also on his appointment. By the time these notes are in print Boy Streat will have become a man, so we will take this opportunity of congratulating him.

We welcome L/Cpl. Humberstone as the successor to L/Cpl. Tarr as N.C.O. in charge of boys, and we are sure that he will be a success, as he did quite a considerable time on boy service himself.

Our recruiting march at Southampton seems to have met with some success, for we have recently been strengthened by the arrival of two great he-men in Boys Fellowes and Cooper. These two huge individuals are only 9ft. 6ins. between them and their total weight would hardly flatter the turkeys we hope to get for Christmas dinner. We are sure, however, that as soon as they have had a few meals of "Marina Duff," "Queen Mary Duff" and all the other "Duffs," excluding "Duff Cooper" (with apologies to that worthy gentleman), they will soon begin to expand.

We have reached the end of our tether, so we will close, wishing all our readers a happy New Year.

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL

This football season was started in Camp at Lyndhurst by playing three friendly matches in preparation for our Amateur Cup match against Bournemouth. As a result of these games it appeared that our team would be in tip-top form. We won the friendly games quite easily against R.A.F., Calshot (twice) and Lyndhurst. Our forwards were in good scoring form.

We arrived back from Camp and played Bournemouth in the Amateur Cup, and won by 5-1, the team playing a good game.

We then commenced to play our league matches in the U.S. League, Division I.

The first game was against the Royal Marines, our old friends, at Eastney, and we

went there full of confidence, but were sadly shaken when we lost by the odd goal in three.

We won the next game, against H.M.S. *Vernon*. After this match we started to lose, losing three matches by 1-0—first against Winchester City in the Amateur Cup, second against H.M.S. *Victory* and third the R.A.F., Gosport.

Our next match was the first round of the Army Cup and, for the first time since we arrived home from abroad, we overcame this obstacle by beating the R.A.O.C., Hilsea, by 4-2, after extra time. Pte. Stagg, who we had not played for some time, came into his own and scored three goals.

Fareham Brotherhood were our next opponents, in the Portsmouth Senior Cup, and we won by the odd goal in seven, Stagg again performing the hat trick.

We entered for six cups this season, in addition to the U.S. League, hoping that we shall be in the final of at least one, owing to our success in being in the final of two last year.

Against South Hants Nomads in the Hampshire Senior Cup we won by the large score of 9-2, Stagg once more performing the hat trick.

Col.-Sergt. Deane also did his share by scoring two goals, Corpl. Knights also scoring.

We were due to play the 1st Rifle Brigade in the second round of the Army Cup, but a week before this we played them in the U.S. League and beat them 3-1. On the day of the cup match we lost to them 2-1. We had more than a fair share of the game, but it seemed that we were not to win this match, fate being against us.

On 7th December, the day of the Regimental Association Dinner, the R.S.M. being away at this function, the team went mad and beat H.M.S. *Dolphin* by 11-0 in a league match. Corpl. Delaney scored five goals and Pte. Stagg four.

Our next cup match was against Portchester in the second round of the Portsmouth Senior Cup, and after a very good game we ran out winners by 2-1.

On 28th November we journeyed to Basingstoke to play Thornycrofts in the second round of the Hampshire Cup. This was an extraordinary game on a ground that was on a slope, the kind of ground to which we are not used. Our opponents started to set about us in a very workmanlike manner and at the end of thirty minutes we were four goals down. Our very few spectators started to have several

kinds of heart disease. They then decided that it was about time they started shouting for our team. This must have inspired our players, and at half-time we were only losing by 4-2, and at the end of ninety minutes we were in the happy position of being winners of the match by 7-6. This was a very creditable performance on the part of the team.

We have been well represented by individuals. Bdmn. Phipps has played several times for the Army, and is still doing so. Corpl. Delaney has played twice and has also played for the County, and made a fairly good name for himself. Three of our players were in the United Services League team when it played the Aldershot Command, Corpl. Knights being the other player in addition to the two mentioned above. He scored the only goal when the United Services League drew with the Command.

Up to the present the second team has not shone very much owing to scarcity of players of the required standard. We are hoping that they will be more successful before the end of the season.

The following is a summary of games played up to the time of writing these notes:

Played	Won	Lost	Drawn	Goals	
				For	Against
20	14	6	—	75	34

Scorers: Corpl. Delaney, 33; Pte. Stagg, 15; Corpl. Knights, 7; Pte. Lowton, 7; Pte. Vanner, 4; Col.-Sergt. Deane, 3; L/Cpl. Jones, 2; Sergt. Overly, 1; Sergt. Riches, 1; Corpl. Tye, 1; Pte. Baker, 1.

RUGBY

It is sad indeed to start the rugby notes with the information that the Battalion team has been knocked out of the Army Cup.

We met our Waterloo in the 5th Battalion The Royal Tank Corps, the present holders of the Cup, in the third round.

A brief outline of the Cup matches which we have played this year is as follows.

In the preliminary round we drew the 4th A.A. Brigade R.A. Before the game we thought we should have a comfortable victory, but this did not prove to be the case.

We were unlucky to have Lieuts. Unwin and Ormiston away from our backs, and also in that Lieut. Chiverall crocked his shoulder in the first few minutes of the game. L/Cpl. Rimmer was also off the field for part of the game with a damaged ankle.

We won the game 6-3, but only after some very anxious moments. The team, though playing fairly well individually, did not play well as a side, and we were lucky to pull the game off. Our two tries were both of the snap variety. The first was scored by Lieut. Willoughby after a good dribble. The second was scored by Lieut. Clayton, who dived over after a loose scrum on the Gunners line.

In the first round proper we were drawn against the 1st Survey Company R.A. at Larkhill. For this game we were again short of players. L/Cpl. Rawlinson and Corpl. Trotobas were absent from the pack through sickness and we had Lieut. Stephenson, Lieut. Chiverall and L/Cpl. Rimmer away from the backs.

The game was vastly different from that of the previous round, and although playing against a strong wind in the first half we kept our line intact and were unlucky not to score. Very soon in the second half Lieut. Clayton scored and further tries were added by Lieut. Beath and L/Cpl. Hudson, the final score being 13-nil.

The pack played remarkably well throughout the game, both in the loose and tight scrums, and gave our threequarters a lot of the ball. We might easily have scored a lot more but handling was difficult as the ball was very greasy.

In the second round we drew The Royal Tank Corps Centre, Bovington. This game was played at Portsmouth in the worst conceivable weather. It rained hard throughout the game, it was cold and the ground was practically flooded. In spite of this, however, the game was very good. The Tanks started off with the wind and the rain and soon scored a somewhat scrambling try by our left corner flag, and during the first half they did a lot of pressing. Lieut. Chiverall was unlucky in not scoring after a very fine run down the wing.

After half-time the Battalion team went off with a bang and our forwards gave our backs a lot of the ball.

Pte. Cronin at scrum half was the outstanding success of the day, and adapted his play to the wet ball like a highly experienced player. Our threequarters handled well and it was not long before Pte. Short, running with great determination down the right wing, scored a good try. Further tries were added by Lieut. Unwin (2), whose turn of speed enabled him to run round the defence. Unwin also converted all three tries, making the total score 15-3.

The third round and the final of the Southern Command was against the 5th Battalion The Royal Tank Corps at Perham Down.

The Tanks taught us a lesson in Army Cup play which I think spectators and players will not forget. They won the game by 14 points to nil, two dropped goals and two tries, and the match was won by first-class forward play and perfect team work. The eight forwards played as one man and our three-quarters scarcely saw the ball throughout the game. The Tank Corps pressed the whole game, scoring a dropped goal and try in each half. At one time in the second half our forwards got better in the loose and individually played well, but our chief fault was in the tight scrums, where the Tanks were always down first and pushed us where they pleased. We were unlucky to lose our hooker, L/Cpl. Williams, with a fractured rib in the second half.

Enough of Army Cup.

In our other fixtures we have only lost one match and that was against Haileybury. For this match we were without Lieuts. Beath and Unwin and Pte. Kent.

It is a great tribute to the Battalion team and the excellence of our reserves that we have been able to do so well in all our matches, although usually without some of our better players, who were frequently answering the calls of the U.S. 1st XV, etc.

Lieuts. Unwin and Beath have been playing regularly for the U.S. 1st XV, whilst a large number of our team have played for the 1st XV on Wednesdays. To mention a few: Pte. Kent and L/Cpls. Williams and Rawlinson have been regular members of the U.S. "A" and have played for the 1st. Lieuts. Ormiston and Chiverall played for the U.S. versus the R.M.A. and we have to congratulate Lieut. Chiverall and L/Cpl. Rawlinson on playing for the Army Trial XV on two occasions. Pte. Kent has been selected to play for the Rest of the Army at the time these notes are written.

The "A" XV has again been playing hard and well this year and though the results do not look impressive, it is partly because they have been up against fairly strong sides. In actual fact they have on every occasion given a very good account of themselves.

The following have received their colours for season 1936-37 at the time these notes were written:

2/Lieut. Beath (capt.), Lieut. Unwin, Pte. Kent, 2/Lieut. Ormiston, 2/Lieut. Clayton, L/Cpl. Rawlinson, 2/Lieut. Chiverall, L/Cpl. Williams, Pte. Cronin.

The following is a list of results:

ARMY CUP MATCHES

<i>Preliminary Round:</i>			
v. 4th A.A. Brigade, R.A.	..	Won	6—3
<i>First Round:</i>			
v. 1st Survey Company, R.A.	..	Won	13—0
<i>Second Round:</i>			
v. Royal Tank Corps Centre, Bovington	..	Won	15—3
<i>Third Round:</i>			
v. 5th Bn. The Royal Tank Corps	..	Lost	0—14

BATTALION FIXTURES

1ST XV

v. King Alfred's College, Winchester	Won	19—0
v. United Services "B"	..	Won 8—5
v. Haileybury College	..	Lost 3—8
v. M. G. Herrick's XV	..	Won 6—5
v. H.M.S. <i>Excellent</i>	..	Won 8—5
v. University College, Southampton	Won	6—5
v. R.E., Gosport	..	Won 42—0
v. Portsmouth R.F.C.	..	Drew 3—3
v. Chichester	..	Won 11—3

2ND XV

v. R.A.O.C., Hilsea	..	Lost 3—5
v. 4th A.A. Brigade, R.A.	..	Won 8—0
v. Royal Marines, Eastney	..	Won 5—0
v. R.A.F., Lee-on-Solent	..	Lost 3—16
v. R.A.O.C., Hilsea	..	Lost 3—11
v. Portsmouth "B"	..	Lost 0—10

BOXING

On 2nd December we met the 1st Battalion The Rifle Brigade in the first round of the Army Inter-Unit Team Championships, and gained a very decisive victory by 28 points to 15. The results were as follows:

Bantam-Weight: L/Cpl. Lowe beat Corpl. Martin on points.

Feather-Weight: (i) Pte. Grogan knocked out Rfmm. McCarthy; (ii) Pte. Christian lost to Rfmm. Price on points.

Light-Weight: (i) Pte. Teasdale beat Rfmm. Ellison on points; (ii) Corpl. Wray beat Corpl. Sissins on points; (iii) Pte. Davis beat Rfmm. Terry on points.

Welter-Weight: (ii) L/Cpl. Morley beat Corpl. Todd on points; (iii) Pte. Reeder, walk-over; (iv) Pte. Hall, walk-over.

Middle-Weight: (i) Pte. Chapman beat Bugler Raven on points; (ii) Corpl. Trobas knocked out Corpl. Tulip; (iii) Pte. Taylor lost to Rfmm. May on points.

Light-Heavy-Weight: Pte. Kent knocked out Rfmm. Webster.

Heavy-Weight: L/Cpl. Stanton knocked out Corpl. Davies.

Welter-Weight: (i) Pte. Tyler knocked out Rfmm. Nisbett.

The 2nd Battalion Middlesex Regiment representative is mentioned first.

SERGEANTS' MESS

We appear to have quite a batch of casualties to report in this issue of the notes and we hope no members are omitted in the following list.

Our chief loss is R.S.M. Davis from the Depot. We say "our" with a purpose, because Jim Davis belonged to the Battalion Mess for very many years and we have always regarded him as still belonging to the Mess. We wish him and his family every success in civilian life and hope to see him on several occasions in the future.

We see also that Sergt. Mason has gone to try his hand with the "civvies," and we wish him the best of luck. He was with the Mess in India and at Colchester. Our congratulations to him also on the award of the Long Service Medal.

Sergt. Beaveridge has proceeded to the Depot for a tour of duty and we wish him the best of luck; also Sergt. Jenkins, who has left us for a tour with the 9th Middlesex.

Sergt. Painter of the 1st Battalion had a brief but very pleasant stay with us and has now returned to Singapore.

We welcome back to the Mess Sergts. Boen and Colbourne, the former from the 9th Battalion and the latter from the Depot. They are far from being strangers to the Mess, so much so that we could almost say we welcome them back "home" again.

There appears to be a large number of "minor" casualties to include, although, perhaps, the members concerned are rather of the opinion that they are far from being "minor" ones. However, our heartiest congratulations to the following on their increases in family: C.S.M. Jones, C.S.M. Stacey, Col.-Sergt. Deane, Sergts. Jennings, S. Smith, Gatehouse and Overy.

We don't think there are any more, but if we have omitted any member who should be included in the above, we can but offer him our apologies and beg him to take our congratulations for granted.

Our heartiest congratulations to R.Q.M.S. Fletcher on his award for 18 years undetected "loafing." Might we also congratulate the Orderly Room Colour-Sergeant on publishing the R.Q.M.S.'s medal in Battalion Orders on a "Dance" night?

If it is not out of place, we should like to take this opportunity of offering our very heartiest congratulations to C.S.M. Jones and Sergt. Green on their (very) "distinguished" performances at the M.G. School, Netheravon.

The Mess was quite well represented at the Annual Dinner and we met several old members and friends.

The monthly whist drives and dances for October and November were most enjoyable and well attended. We shall not be able to hold one during December as the majority of the Mess will be on annual furlough, but they will be continued again from January.

The chief social event of the quarter was the shoot for the "Kent" Cup. This was carried out soon after return from Camp on the Fort Gomer Ranges. We started off with the *Europa* in full view in the Solent, but we think her Captain must have got the wind up when "Donald Duck," the R.Q.M.S. and a few more got going. Anyhow, she very soon turned tail and fled!

Three practices were fired, seven rounds at each range, 300 yards, 500 yards and 600 yards, and the following were the results.

It will be seen that Sergt. Harper won the Cup and our poor "Donald" the "Spoon." Frankly, he should not have "won" it—the R.Q.M.S. and he were keeping level until the last range, when the former managed by some extraordinary stroke of luck (possibly he just shut his eyes and let go) to shake on a couple of bulls and pipped "Donald" at the post. However, there it is.

RESULTS OF "KENT" CUP SHOOT

Highest Possible Score 84

Rank and Name	Score
R.S.M. Ward	62
C.S.M. Goodall	55
C.S.M. Simmonds	49
C.S.M. Parsler	36
C.S.M. Stacey	42
R.Q.M.S. Fletcher	29
C.Q.M.S. West	50
C.Q.M.S. Franklin	57
C.Q.M.S. Tibble	69
A/S/Sergt. Stally	(Spoon) 25
C.Q.M.S. Poulter	44
Sergt. Beaveridge	47
Sergt. Wilson	58
Sergt. Scott	44
Sergt. Quick	42
Sergt. Livens	36
Sergt. Riches	41
Sergt. Bean	66
Sergt. Hows	63
Sergt. Makewell	62
Sergt. Moore	69
Dr. Major McEnery	51
Sergt. Wright	63
Sergt. Nash	65
Col.-Sergt. Deane	45
Sergt. Day	46
Sergt. Ison	47

Rank and Name	Score
Sergt. Smith	60
Sergt. Maloney	56
Sergt. Whitcombe	56
Sergt. Bond	44
Sergt. Smallridge	44
Sergt. Gatehouse	64
Sergt. Bedward	48
Sergt. Harper	(Kent Cup) 70
Sergt. Sneath	38
Sergt. Brett	37
Sergt. Frewin	44

The Bandmaster and Sergt. Jennings were unable to be present.

We are eagerly looking forward to a New Year's Dinner and Dance, which has been arranged for New Year's Eve. The members' wives are being invited to the dinner and the Officers and their ladies to the dance. This is the first function of this description the Mess have held since we have been home and it will be a revival of our custom when abroad. We hope the revival will be a permanent one.

NEW ZEALAND'S MILITARY FORCES.

LIKE those of the rest of the Empire, New Zealand's defence forces are now being augmented, and a few lines on their history and development may be of interest. New Zealand's first Militia Act, passed in 1845, made all fit men liable for service within an area of twenty-five miles from their place of residence, in the event of fighting with the Maoris—which often occurred. In 1885 a new Act was passed, which provided for the enrolment of Volunteer units, and though the liability to Militia service was still retained, it was not often necessary to enforce it, as sufficient numbers of Volunteers were usually forthcoming in time of need. It is said that the Taranaki Rifle Volunteers were the first Volunteer unit in the Empire to go into action. This unit, which still exists as The Taranaki Regiment of the New Zealand Territorial Force, is allied with The Middlesex Regiment, in memory of the days when "the Taranakis" and "the Die-Hards" fought side by side against the Maoris. The last time the New

Zealand Volunteers were called out for service in their own country was in 1881, when a large force of Volunteers was concentrated in the Taranaki country, to overawe the Maoris, who threatened to rebel. New Zealand sent some very efficient troops to South Africa during the Boer War at the beginning of the present century.

The year 1909 was an important one in the military history of New Zealand, for in that year the Defence Act made military service compulsory from the age of fourteen to twenty-five (fourteen to eighteen in the cadets, eighteen to twenty-five in the Territorial Force). After a visit by Lord Kitchener, who advised the New Zealand Government on the organisation which should be adopted, the Volunteer Force was replaced by the compulsorily recruited Territorial Force. The Cadet had to put in fifty drills of one hour's duration and six half-day parades each year. On being transferred to the Territorials he had to do thirty drills of one and a half hour's duration, twelve half-day parades, and seven days training in camp. Service in the Forces was popular, and in the summer of 1914 there were about twenty-five thousand men over eighteen and a similar number of boys between fourteen and eighteen years of age under training in New Zealand. The brilliant record of the New Zealand Forces in the Great War showed the value of this training, for the ex-Cadets and ex-Territorials were the backbone of the New Zealand Expeditionary Force. Though its population numbered only a little over a million, the Dominion of New Zealand sent overseas one hundred thousand men for active service in Samoa, Egypt, Gallipoli, France and Belgium, while keeping the Territorial and Cadet units at full strength for home defence purposes, and as reservoirs from which the New Zealand Expeditionary Force units could draw reinforcements of trained men to replace casualties.

After the end of the war, the principle of compulsory training was considerably toned down, owing to financial stringency, and the age of liability for service in the Territorial Force was made from eighteen to twenty-one only. Later, further economy moves resulted in most Territorial units being reduced to a very low cadre strength of voluntary enlisted men. It is expected, however, that a reversal to the full compulsory training system of pre-war days will be made in the near future.

R. MAURICE HILL.

DEPOT NOTES.

THERE are at present five squads in training and one forming; of the squads training, one is made up of men of the Supplementary Reserve. This recent scheme is meeting with much success and quite a number are transferring to the Regular Army; five men of the Supplementary Reserve (King's Royal Rifle Corps) transferred to the Middlesex Regiment in October as regular soldiers.

The outstanding sporting events of this quarter have been a Novices' Boxing Tournament, and Inter-Squad Knock-out Boxing Competition, and a match against the recruits of The Royal Fusiliers. The competitions provided excellent sport and a very high percentage of competitors showed great promise; many good judges were of opinion that the standard of boxing was the highest they had seen for recruit novices. The outstanding men were: Pte. Moran (middle), Pte. Revell (welter) and Pte. Frenchum (light). In the match against the Fusiliers we were unfortunately prevented by sickness from producing our best team; however, some excellent fights were witnessed, the Fusiliers eventually winning by 7 fights to 6.

Soccer has not been so prominent this season, as the top football ground is undergoing a long-awaited and welcome reconstruction; the contractors are making rapid headway and it will be ready for next season. There are other constructional changes taking place here as a number of slipper and shower baths are being built in "B" Block Dining Hall. This is a much-needed innovation and is certain to be popular with all ranks.

On 5th November the married families were entertained by a fireworks display; a huge bonfire was prepared on the waste ground in front of married quarters. It was evident from the shouting and clapping that the "children" thoroughly enjoyed the show.

The usual Armistice Day Parade Service was held at the Regimental War Memorial. It was a dull day, but the rain was kind and held off until after the ceremony. The service was well attended by ex-members and serving members of the many units of the Regiment.

Although the Christmas festive season has ended we are still looking forward to our own fixtures, deferred by the leave period. The men's dinner is being held on 6th January, whilst the married families tea and Christmas tree is due on the 7th. "Daddy" Christmas

has been duly warned to attend and has been conscientiously preparing for his duties by "nightly try-outs."

We welcome Capt. Worton back to the Depot and congratulate him and his wife on the birth, on Armistice Day, of a son. Capt. Walden, having completed his T.A. Adjutancy, is now attached, pending posting to the 1st Battalion.

The Depot Staff is undergoing many changes, for various reasons. R.S.M. Davis has left us for civilian life; he has been at the Depot during the past five years and his familiar figure will be greatly missed.

His successor is R.S.M. Newman, from the 1st Battalion, whom we are awaiting to welcome.

We also lost our A.E.C. Instructor, Sergt. Walters, after a short stay of twelve months. He has been posted to India. We wish him *bon voyage* and welcome as his relief Sergt. Duncan, A.E.C., and trust his stay will be a pleasant one.

Sergt.-Instr. Day was relieved by Sergt.-Instr. Lambert, A.P.T.S. The latter is an Army swordsman and commenced popular fencing lessons for all ranks.

Sergt. Sevier, R.A.M.C., has been relieved by Sergt. Osgood, R.A.M.C.

Of our own Staff, Sergts. Colbourne and Moir have proceeded to the 2nd Battalion, and we welcome Sergt. Mason, 1st Battalion, and Sergt. Beaveridge, from their respective battalions for their second tour at the Depot.

Lastly, by the time these notes appear in print, we will have lost C.S.M. Anderson and Sergts. Northcott and Soper, who rejoin the 1st Battalion in February.

SQUAD BADGE WINNERS

Nivelle.—16th Week, Pte. Morgan (Pte. Cooke).

Badajos.—12th Week, Pte. Kennedy (Ptes. Gould and Harvey); 16th Week, Pte. Hartley (Pte. Kenyon).

Suvla.—8th Week, Pte. Brown (Pte. Jones (20)); 12th Week, Pte. Brown (Pte. Jones (21)).

Ladysmith.—4th Week, Pte. Barter (Pte. Latimer); 8th Week, Pte. Watkins (Pte. Barter).

South Africa.—4th Week, Pte. Jackson (Pte. Hocking).

(Names in brackets are those of runners-up.)

SHOOTING PRIZES

Badajos—Table "A"—Pte. Ayriess (score 93).
 Empire Test—Ptes. Evans and Gould
 (scores 79).
Suvla—Table "A"—Pte. Jones (21) (score 92).
 Empire Test—Pte. Jones (21).

COMMANDING OFFICER'S P.T. MEDALS

Nivelle.—Silver medal, Pte. Morgan.
 bronze medal, Pte. Jones (83).
Badajos.—Silver medal, Pte. Harvey.
 bronze medal, Pte. Frenchum.

SERGEANTS' MESS

The past quarter ended in a blaze of glory with the Annual Dinner. It had been the most hectic quarter for some years, many functions and an unusual number of arrivals and departures.

A Sergeants' Dance was held in October, but was not the success that other functions proved to be. On Guy Fawkes' Day the Sergeants entertained the married families to a display of fireworks and afterwards a very social, jolly evening was held in the Mess. A certain member mistook the Mess for the Houses of Parliament, but as did the original "Guy," he failed in his nefarious attempt.

On Armistice Day the usual ceremony was held at the Regimental Memorial, and afterwards the many past members and Territorial units were entertained in the Sergeants' Mess; we particularly noticed the jolly crowd the 12th Battalion brought along and the evening proved to be one of the most pleasing.

R.S.M. Davis has departed to civilian life, much to our regret, and we wish him every success in his efforts to keep his parades "as strong as possible." He has been gone six weeks, and since then he has attended all functions as an honorary member. His successor is assured of a warm welcome, as it is to be R.S.M. Newman from the 1st Battalion at Singapore; we trust the warmth of our welcome will make up for the variation of climate.

Sergt. Walters, A.E.C., has departed for the land of "Rajahs," and he has been relieved by Sergt. Duncan, A.E.C. Whilst deploring the loss of such an excellent Mess member—in fact, the best in the Depot—we have already seen that Sergt. Duncan is fully qualified to occupy "Ted's" appointment.

A recruits' team of this Depot boxed a recruits' team from the Depot, Royal Fusiliers, and the latter was accompanied by a large

number of the Sergeants' Mess. They proved a very friendly crowd and we spent an enjoyable evening, before, during and after the boxing.

The Christmas Draw went off well; it followed a whist drive. An honorary member who is very popular with all, and whose name is known throughout the Regiment, Mr. Brian Painter—son of an ex-member and brother to "Charlie" and "Jack"—carried off the two chief prizes.

Then came the Christmas break. Those Sergeants who remained behind enjoyed a pleasant holiday; they were entertained by many "Green Eyes" and ably assisted by "Johnnies" and "Frankies"!

A Ball had been arranged for New Year's Eve, but unfortunately the band engaged defaulted a few days before, and we were unable to obtain another in time; most members departed to scenes of revelling at Park Lane and Camden Town. During the evening numbers of our friends turned up: Ex-Sergt. "Tommy" Hart, his wife and friends, ex-Sergt. "Joe" Swaddling and a number of friends, some serving members of the 2nd Battalion and friends, and Mr. Fred Moir, wife and friends. Some of them went on to Camden Town and others stayed, and we saw the New Year in to the tune of the wireless relaying from the Chelsea Arts Ball at the Albert Hall.

Sergt. Mason was duly initiated into his second tour at the Depot on this evening; in fact the whole evening was thoroughly enjoyed by all and our civilian friends were evidently satisfied. It seemed that they were going to sing "Auld Lang Syne" until the following New Year dawned!

The 8th Annual Dinner was held on 9th January. It was a great success; 66 members, honorary members and their wives were seated at dinner. We were especially pleased to see Col.-Sergt. Painter, who was celebrating the 50th anniversary of his joining the Middlesex Regiment, and ex-R.S.M.s of the Depot in Mr. Davis and Mr. Mantell. Our thanks are due to the President and his committee for such an excellent show, also to Mrs. Dujardin, who so kindly sacrificed most of her evening entertaining us at the piano.

We have lost Sergts. Colbourne and Moir to the 2nd Battalion, and are losing C.S.M. Anderson, Sergts. Soper and Northcott to the 1st Battalion. C.Q.M.S. Hills is now awaiting his relief prior to departure to civilian life; we wish him every success, he will be greatly missed.

Our arrivals have all been previously mentioned in these notes; however, we again welcome Sergt. Mason from the 1st Battalion, Sergt. Duncan, A.E.C., L/Sergt. Osgood, R.A.M.C., in relief to Sergt. Sevier, and are waiting now to welcome R.S.M. Newman, 1st Battalion, and C.Q.M.S. Franklin, 2nd Battalion. We hope they will all enjoy their stay with us.

We end on a note of much sadness, when offering our deepest sympathies to honorary member Mr. Smith and his wife, on the sudden loss of their nine months' old daughter.

CORPORALS' CLUB NOTES

Although a great many days have passed since we sent our last edition to Press, very little copy has been forthcoming.

We extend a warm and hearty welcome to two new members, Corpls. Lomax and Payne. May their stay at Mill Hill be both pleasant and prosperous. Corpl. Lomax has already developed a craze for Ma Jong, which he plays with the craft of a veteran. But we regret to note that the poor fellow gets his "conks" mixed.

Two Corporals' Club dances have been held since our last notes appeared, and both were voted a great success by all who attended. The first of these dances caused a minor sensation in the Corporals' Club. In fact, members still go around shaking their heads. We were visited by a large number of members of the 2nd Battalion Corporals' Club. This was the first visit they have paid us for quite a considerable time. We hope that it is not the last. It is hoped that every one of them thoroughly enjoyed his visit to us, and also hope that we shall have the pleasure of their company in the very near future.

A Billiards Handicap was held just before the Christmas leave period, and some very keenly contested games were seen. It was said that if some members had exchanged their cue for a fourteen-pound hammer, the result might have been entirely different. During the course of the competition several hosts of angels and relatives were to be seen hovering in the vicinity of the billiards table. The winner was Corpl. Bromley, with L/Cpl. Robins as runner-up. The handicap was suggested by Corpl. Bromley. He must have known something.

It was with regret that we said good-bye to R.S.M. Davis. All members wish him a happy and prosperous life as a civilian.

An experimental social was held in the Corporals' Club, to which members' wives and lady friends were invited. This did not turn out a success, but the few who were present made the best of it. A Treasure Hunt was organised, and was won by Corpl. Bruniges. He evidently knew all the corners.

In conclusion we wish everyone a happy and prosperous New Year.

FOOTBALL

The first half of the season has been most unexpectedly successful. Results to date are: *Recruits*—Played 3, won 1, drawn 1, lost 1. *Depot Team*—Played 7, won 5, drawn 1, lost 1.

Considering the changes, through postings to the Battalion, we have had to make, this is a very creditable performance.

The Depot team has nobody of outstanding ability, but all take their football and record seriously and work well together.

Some recruits, namely Harris (49), Charles and Stanton, are quite useful, and may be of some use to the Battalion in time to come. The forwards are lively and thrushful as shown by the number of goals obtained. The halves, consisting of Daly, Jones and Bridge, have been the "strong line," working extremely well, both in attack and defence.

The backs and goalkeeper have improved greatly, but are the weak points of the team.

The games against the Depot, Royal Fusiliers, 3—2, and St. Thomas's, also 3—2, have been the hardest, and consequently most satisfactory results. The most disappointing result was against Aldenham School when, after leading by 2—0 at the interval, we lost by 6—2, chiefly through the inability of the forwards to get together. The game against Highgate School was another example of lapses, this time by the backs. Fifteen minutes from the end the Depot were leading by 3—1, when bad kicking by the backs and goalkeeper allowed some good hard shots by the School forwards to find their way into the net resulting at full time with 3—3. Other results are:

Depot v. Aldenham School	..	Lost	2—6
Depot v. Royal Fusiliers	..	Won	3—2
Depot v. Pentonville	..	Won	5—0
Depot v. 8th Bn. Middx. R.T.A.	..	Won	7—2
Depot v. 19th London Regt., T.A.	..	Won	8—1
Depot v. St. Thomas's Hospital	..	Won	3—2
Depot v. East Finchley	..	Won	7—1
Recruits v. Royal Fusilier Recruits,			
at Mill Hill	..	Won	3—1
Recruits v. Highgate School	..	Drew	3—3
Recruits v. Royal Fusilier Recruits,			
at Hounslow	..	Lost	1—5

The following have played for the Depot up to date: Serpts. Northcott and Colbourne, Corpls. Powell and Bruniges, L/Cpls. Blan and Daly, and Ptes. Garwood, Jones (68), Hicks, Bridge, Lake, Eldrett, Cross, Thompson, Phillips, Harris (49), Moran, Martin, Latimer, French, Holinski, Stanton, McDougall, Harbour and Barter.

REGIMENTAL HISTORICAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM.

THE following are recent additions:

1. Photograph of a painting of Major Thomas Graham Egerton, 77th Regiment, at Montreal, 1849. Presented by Sir Thomas Troubridge, Bart.
2. 12th Battalion tobacco jar made out of an 18-pound shell case. Presented by Lieut. H. Marsh.
3. Medal struck by the Germans to commemorate the sinking of the *Lusitania*. Presented by Corpl. Bromley.
4. Three 4th Battalion sports medals, 1914. Presented by the Adjutant, The Depot.
5. Badges, cross belt and pouch, stars and buttons of the Harrow Rifles or 5th West Middlesex Regiment. Presented by Capt. H. W. Clayden.
6. Sword and buttons, property of the late Major L. Bodé, 57th Regiment. Presented by Mrs. Bodé.

SINGAPORE.

THE importance of Singapore as a naval base and as a link in Imperial communications has been much discussed during the last few years. That Singapore is a British possession at all, we owe to the courage and foresight of one man—the late Sir Stamford Raffles.

He was one of those men whose successful careers are due to sheer pluck, rather than to good luck. His father was a mercantile marine captain; financial difficulties caused him to take young Raffles away from school at the early age of thirteen and find him a job as an office boy. At home, his people could not afford candles, so the boy used to get up as soon as dawn broke, so that he could spend the precious early hours of daylight in study before going to his daily work at the office.

In 1805, being then a clerk in the service of the London headquarters of the Honourable East India Company, Stamford Raffles volunteered to go out on the company's behalf to Penang. Never very strong, he found the climate very trying and was sent to Malacca for a change of air, and found preparations being made to evacuate that place. Though new to the country, very junior in rank, and only twenty-seven years of age, he had the courage to address to the Directors of the Company a very strong protest against the evacuation, and this protest was based on such sound reasoning, that, following the young clerk's advice, the evacuation was cancelled, and Malacca is still a British possession.

A British force, which included the 14th, 60th and 87th Regiments (now West Yorkshire, The Welch and Royal Irish Fusiliers), captured Java from the Dutch in 1811, and Raffles was made Lieutenant Governor of the island, a position he held for nearly five years. He worked nineteen hours a day to put this new British colony on a sound basis, not the least of his reforms being the abolition of slavery. He was, to use his own words, "a lonely man, like one that has been long dead, to whom activity and the cares of public responsibility are now almost necessary for existence."

In 1817 he came home (via St. Helena, where he visited the exiled Emperor Napoleon) and was knighted. Returning to the East he explored parts of Sumatra where no white man had ever been before, discovering an enormous flower, known as "the devil's betel box," which measured three feet across.

About this time the Dutch were trying to get a monopoly of the far eastern trade, such as they had enjoyed in the seventeenth century. Sir Stamford Raffles realised that something must be done, if English traders were not to be virtually excluded from a share of the wealth of the East Indies. With the consent of Lord Hastings, Governor General of India, Raffles set out "to open a shop next door to the Dutch"—in other words, to establish a rival trading centre which would ensure a portion of the profit obtainable from commercial transactions with the people of the Far East being diverted to Britain. On 29th January, 1819, he hoisted the Union Jack on the island of Singapore, near the base of the Malay Peninsula. This island had been leased from the Sultan of Johore, who agreed (in 1824) to sell it to the British. At that time Singapore presented but few points of attraction, being merely a little

settlement of fishermen's huts; but Sir Stamford Raffles, with the gift of appreciating its geographical position and commercial possibilities, was able to look ahead into the future and to write, "You may take my word for it, this is by far the most important station in the East, and as far as naval support and commercial interests are concerned, is of much higher value than whole continents of territory."

In proof of those words, and as a living memorial to the far-seeing Empire builder (who died at the age of forty-five, worn out with years of overwork in a tropical climate), Singapore stands to-day as a great seaport, whose harbours are used by an average of one hundred and seventy thousand tons of shipping annually.

R. MAURICE HILL.

REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION NOTES.

OLD COMRADES' ANNUAL DINNER

THIS annual function was again held at the Headquarters, 1st City of London Regiment, Bloomsbury, and the general arrangements were as for last year. Brig.-Gen. R. M. Heath, C.M.G., D.S.O., Colonel of the Regiment, presided, and he was supported by a fairly good attendance of retired Officers, in pleasant contrast to last year. The total number of diners, however, was disappointing when it is remembered that this year we had managed to persuade the B.B.C. to broadcast the date and venue of the event some two to three weeks previously, the attendance of 320 falling short of last year's total by 60.

The guest of the evening was Brig. F. Stapleton, C.M.G., General Secretary of the National Association for the Employment of ex-Regular Soldiers. We have had the pleasure of his company at this annual function on several occasions, and when it is remembered that he is a busy man and that he is just as occupied with the welfare of every other Regiment in the British Army as he is with ours, his presence with us is much appreciated.

In response to the usual loyal telegram, the following reply was received:

"I sincerely thank the Old Comrades of the Middlesex Regiment assembled at their Annual Dinner for their loyal message.

EDWARD R.I., Colonel-in-Chief."

Telegraphic greetings were also received from the Old Comrades' Associations of the Royal Fusiliers and the East Surrey Regiment.

In proposing the health of the Regiment, Gen. Heath appealed to all ex-members to make what contributions they could, no matter how small the amount, in the shape of an annual subscription to the funds of the Association. In analysing the subscription list he pointed out that only some six ex-other ranks subscribed at present, and he urged all who could to continue to send a donation and not to withdraw their financial support as soon as they left the colours.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting was held at the Headquarters, 1st City of London Regiment, Bloomsbury, at 7 p.m., on 7th November, 1936, Brig.-Gen. R. M. Heath, C.M.G., D.S.O., Colonel of the Regiment, presiding.

Brig.-Gen. V. L. N. Pearson, D.S.O., Chairman of the Executive Committee, in presenting the Annual Report for 1935, commented on the falling off of annual subscriptions from individuals in spite of an increase obtained in response to a special Jubilee appeal. He called attention to the item of £25 for postage, a large proportion of which was accounted for as follows:

- (a) Reminders to members to pay their annual subscription.
- (b) Failure to notify changes of address.
- (c) Answering unnecessary enquiries about the annual dinner, and other functions, which are advertised in *THE DIE-HARDS*, *News of the World and People*, and notified to individuals by printed notices, and this year, broadcasted over the wireless.

He pointed out that it was up to individuals to keep in touch with the Association and NOT for the Association to go after each individual—the latter course would require a strong clerical staff and heavy postage expenses.

He congratulated the Ladies' Guild on what was thought to be the most successful year they had ever had and emphasized the continued good work of the National Association for the Employment of Ex-Regular Soldiers.

Tribute was paid to the valuable assistance received from the Charity Organization Society, Sailors and Soldiers Help Society, Soldiers and Sailors Families Association, and the Invalid Children's Aid Association, as well as to the Association's Hon. Solicitors, Messrs.

Devonshire, Wreford, Brown & Co., and the Hon. Architects, Messrs. Cranfield & Mackenzie.

It was agreed in future that the period of the report submitted at the annual meeting should be extended to include the third quarter of the current year, thus making the review more up to date.

PROCEEDINGS OF AN EXECUTIVE
COMMITTEE MEETING,
HELD AT THE LIBRARY, CENTRAL LONDON
RECRUITING ZONE, WHITEHALL,
On 6th November, 1936

1. *Present.* Brig.-Gen. V. L. N. Pearson, D.S.O., in the Chair, Col. M. Browne, M.C., Col. G. L. Brown, D.S.O., Col. A. M. O. Anwyl Passingham, O.B.E., D.L., Lieut.-Col. W. W. Jefferd, Major S. Mirams, M.C., Major R. A. Slee, Capt. S. F. W. M. del Court, M.C., Capt. H. E. Foster, Capt. C. T. Whinney, M.C., R.S.M. W. Ward, M.M., C.Q.M.S. L. Hills, Mr. G. N. Capel, Mr. R. E. Evans, D.C.M., and Capt. J. G. E. Reid.

2. *Apologies* for non-attendance were received from Brig.-Gen. Ross, Col. Baker and Rooke, Mr. Morris and C.S.M. Anderson.

3. *Cottage Homes.* Capt. Mackenzie, of Messrs. Cranfield and Mackenzie, Hon. Architects to the Association, kindly attended to explain the revised estimates for building the two new Cottages. He first explained that Messrs. Miskin, whose tender had been accepted over a year ago and whose operations had been postponed at the last moment by the intervention of the Charity Commissioners, had since withdrawn their offer as prices in the building trade had very considerably increased and also as they themselves had made an error in their estimates, which, nevertheless, at the time they were prepared to stand by. He then submitted the estimates of the four firms who had been invited to tender and finally recommended that of Messrs. Miskin for £1,595 be accepted; the original specification still holding good. He finally stated that the figure £1,595 would be regarded as inclusive of all charges. A vote of thanks to Capt. Mackenzie was proposed by Col. Browne and seconded by Capt. del Court. Carried.

Capt. Mackenzie then withdrew and considerable discussion ensued.

Finally the following resolutions were carried:

- (1) Proposed by Col. Passingham, seconded by Capt. Whinney, that the building of the proposed new Cottages should be commenced at once.
- (2) In connection with the increased cost of £200. Col. Passingham offered to appeal to the County of Middlesex to raise that sum or more to assist in defraying the cost of building. This offer was gratefully accepted by the Chairman on behalf of the Committee.
- (3) Capt. Whinney proposed, seconded by Major Slee, that Messrs. Miskin's tender be accepted. Carried.
- (4) Col. Brown proposed, seconded by Capt. Reid, that any deficiency between the original provision of £1,400, as voted by the Committee in Minute 8 of their meeting on 29th April, 1936, and the revised estimate of £1,600, not accounted for under Col. Passingham's appeal, should be met from the Association's current account. Carried.

4. The minutes of the last meeting were read and passed.

5. *Secretary's Report.* This was considered, and it was proposed by Major Lyon, seconded by R.S.M. Ward, that a sum of £175 be allocated for the relief of necessitous cases during the quarter ending 31st December, 1936.

6. *Regimental Memorial.* Major Lyon, O.C. Depot, reported that the condition of the Regimental War Memorial at Mill Hill was unsatisfactory. The laying of the paving appeared to be faulty and was sinking, leaving irregular gaps between slabs. Estimates were produced from two firms to put the matter right. After some discussion, it was finally proposed by Major Slee and seconded by R.S.M. Ward, that the O.C. Depot and two other members of the Committee, to be nominated by him, should form a sub-committee to go into the whole matter not only of the paving stones, but also of the Obelisk itself, and that the Hon. Architects be asked to advise.

7. *Cottage Homes.* A letter from Messrs. Devonshire, Wreford, Brown & Co., the Association's Hon. Solicitors, conveying certain instructions from the Charity Commissioners, was then considered and in accordance therewith the following resolution, proposed by Major Lyon and seconded by Col. Jefferd, was carried:

"That the Chairman, Brig.-Gen. V. L. N. Pearson, D.S.O., be and he is hereby authorised to sign the application to the Board

EMPLOYMENT

The
REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION
pay the
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
for
EMPLOYMENT OF
EX-REGULAR SAILORS,
SOLDIERS AND AIRMEN
£100 A YEAR

to act as their Agents for finding
Employment for ex-N.C.Os. and
Men of the Regiment.

If you are unemployed, therefore,
you should register, *at once*, with
the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
at one of its Branches and follow
carefully the instructions they give
you.

London Branches:

62 Victoria Street, S.W.1

Gipsy Corner, Victoria Road,
Acton, W.3

143 Bow Road, E.3

52a Deptford Bridge, S.E.8

48-56 Station Road, Wood Green,
N.22

of Charity Commissioners for England and Wales for an order vesting in the Official Trustee of Charity lands the plot of land situate at Bittacy Hill, Mill Hill, in the County of Middlesex, having a frontage to the road of 60 feet or thereabouts and a depth of 150 feet or thereabouts, held for a term of 70 years from the 25th December, 1935, under a lease dated 28th July, 1936, for all the estate and interest therein belonging to or held in trust for the Charity called a cottage home for the Middlesex Regiment."

8. *Gravestones and Regimental Memorials in India.* Col. Browne then read an extract from a letter he had received from the Chaplain at Calicut, South India, concerning the conditions of certain Gravestones and other Memorials to late members of the Regiment in Malapuram. It was proposed by Col. Browne and seconded by Capt. Foster, that the Chaplain be asked to obtain an estimate of the cost of carrying out any necessary repairs. Carried.

9. *Charities.* The reports obtained by the Secretary from the various Charities and institutions enumerated in Minute 5 (b), dated 29th July, 1936, were read and accepted.

SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR QUARTER ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1936

Amounts of grants and loans made:

	£142	14s.	2d.
Grants specially sanctioned by the Committee	£2	18s.	
Number of cases assisted			86
" men registered for employment			4
" men found permanent employment			42
" men found temporary employment			19
Parcels sent out by the Ladies' Guild			13



If you have seen the above before, you may have wondered what it meant or why the National Association uses it. Its story is as follows:

It is often stated that "it pays to advertise," and in 1933, the National Association, in its

endeavours to leave no stone unturned, decided to give it a trial. You all know the Yardley lady and the Bovril pyjama-clad figure and the problem was to find something appropriate to the Services which would catch the eye and, in course of time, become widely known. To solve the problem, the aid of the men of the Services was called in and a competition for the best poster arranged. The entries were many and varied, and the prize, yes, there was a prize, of £5 was awarded to the producer of the entry which became known as "the query marks." Actually on the poster, which some of you may have seen, the queries follow a question to employers, "do you know," and are followed by the suggestion that if they want good men the place to go for them is the National Association.

So much for an attempt to become more widely known by employers.

Unfortunately we find that there are many men who have never heard of us or have only a very sketchy idea as to what we do and how we do it. Our aim is to be regarded by all men, both during and after service, as their friend to whom they can turn for advice concerning that strange place "Civvy Street," preferably before but certainly when they get there. How are we to achieve this? The immediate means seems to be by articles in Journals and that is what we are trying to do, but for this we want all the help we can get. We want to catch your interest and gain your confidence, but we are not at all sure how to set about it. From amongst you we obtained many ideas for the poster—may we now ask for suggestions and ideas for our articles, also criticisms? For instance, we are thinking of using the "query" symbol to head all our articles in the hope that this will catch the eye and that what the National Association has to say will be regarded as of sufficient importance to make you reluctant to miss it.

If any of you are already re-settled in civil life, perhaps you will be good enough to tell us your experiences; how you obtained your job, how it felt when you started, what your particular difficulties were, etc., in order that we may make use of them to help your fellows. Please help! Remember, we have been in civil life a long time, but we are trying to see things as they appear to those who have not, in order to be able to help them better.

The Association, though it may be new to you, is no mushroom growth. It began life in 1885; Queen Victoria gave it her patronage and her example has been followed by succes-

sive monarchs up to the present day. His Majesty King Edward VIII having taken the chair last year at its 50th Annual Meeting. Until 1922 its efforts were confined to soldiers, but in that year the Association was enlarged to include men of the Navy and Air Force. You may think this means that an unskilled man stands less chance than formerly of being placed by the Association by reason of the fact that he has many more skilled men to compete against; in fact, the opposite is the case. Our experience is that having obtained an employer's good will by providing him with a suitable skilled man he comes to us for his unskilled employees.

During all these years the Association has been the accredited agency for obtaining many forms of Government employment and is largely responsible for such privileges having been obtained for ex-Regulars.

You will realise from the foregoing that the National Association has had much experience from which it is able to give a deal of sound advice.

You may be a recruit, you may be half-way through your period of service or nearly at the end of it, but, whichever it is, to all of you, later or sooner, will come the day when you take your discharge or transfer to the Reserve.

It is possible that you may marry a rich widow or, for some other reason, be relieved the necessity of earning your living, but you will be well advised to assume that you will have to earn it and to consider the preparation you can now make towards doing so. Remember that, although the Association exists for the sole purpose of helping ex-Regulars of good character in this direction, it cannot make the demands of the labour market fit the qualifications, or perhaps lack of qualifications, of the men seeking work.

To begin with, take stock of your natural capabilities. By reason of the fact that you are a soldier it is safe to state that you possess physical fitness and a reasonable standard of education; your service will increase these particular assets and will probably develop in you an alert mind and the ability to think quickly. If you have no knowledge of an actual trade, it is very necessary for you to give real thought to the problem, in order that you may lift yourself out of the group described as "sober, reliable and willing—suitable for a position of trust."

Keep your eyes and ears open, wherever you go, for any general information which may

be of use to you; consider your personal tastes and inclinations to see whether, possibly, something you have hitherto regarded merely as a hobby cannot be turned to advantage. It is very true that if you are doing something you like doing you will probably do it a great deal better than something you dislike.

Those of you who are in a position to do so should make a point of obtaining, while still serving, any licences for which your Service training has equipped you, and which may be essential if you wish to turn that training to account in civil life. For instance, a motor driving licence and a heavy vehicle licence, both probably easy to obtain while serving and more difficult after discharge, if only by reason of the fact that you will then have to provide your own vehicle on which to be tested.

Again, your future occupation in life is mixed up with the locality in which you mean to settle; as an almost universal rule, let the occupation be the deciding factor. One so often hears of a man interesting himself in chickens and pigs and then taking a house in the middle of a big town.

You may have a wife and family; they must be considered. It is no use settling in a place where your wife will be unhappy or your children's education will be made difficult.

Let me tell you the story of an R.A.M.C. private. He was a ward orderly, and naturally thought of taking up employment at which his knowledge would be of use to him. At the same time, during the latter part of his service, while he prepared himself to take up some form of nursing, he did not forget that this might not be open to him, and he took steps to qualify for other employment. His first application was to the Home Office for a post in the Prison Hospital Service; there were no vacancies, however, and he turned to the Metropolitan Police. Here his height debarred him—and he used his second string. He secured a job doing typing and book-keeping, which he had studied in his spare time before he finished. He stuck at this for some time, still thinking of his original ambition, and was able, after a while, to obtain employment in the Public Health Department of the L.C.C. Here is the rest of the story in his own words.

"I realised that the job I had was not going to be much good in the future. The chance of a rise or of promotion was very small, and I could see that the best thing I could do would be to become the driver of an ambulance, and not just an assistant on one. I saved as much

as I could, and a pal of mine taught me to drive a car. Then, with his help and advice, I picked up a cheap second-hand car for about ten pounds, drove about a bit, and got to know the roads. Then, the first time a vacancy occurred for a driver, I applied for it—and got it. I could drive, and I already knew something about nursing and so on, and so I was able to get the job and keep it."

This young man had made up his mind what he wanted and eventually got it, but he did not get it straight away. He made for himself a "second string," which got him his first job, and having started on that, he set out to make himself more qualified to go back to the kind of work he originally wished, at the very first opportunity.

I also spoke to this man about other aspects of "Civvy Street."

"I miss the games I played in the Army. I get no chance of a game now, and little chance of watching one, and I certainly miss the comradeship I had all the time I was serving. However, I can still keep up with my Army friends; I write to them and see some of them occasionally. I find there's just as much discipline here, but there's a big difference. In the Service, disobedience or bad conduct has its punishment according to a recognised plan—C.B., and so on; outside here you'll probably find that your pocket suffers, by fines, or you may lose your job, even."

He told me, too, that he had to work hard, but that he had often had a longer day and worked harder, as a ward orderly in a hospital. The most important thing he had already learnt in the Service—punctuality. On his job, he had to be ready to take out his ambulance at a moment's notice, at any time. However, the drivers worked in pairs, which eased things up somewhat.

Another remark was, "I don't think many men in the Service realise the great value that is placed on education outside, and few men understand quite how much they are really getting from the educational training they receive. Army life, too, gives a man plenty of chances of receiving education of a more general kind—about things that are going on all around him, and this gives him a pull over men outside who have not had the same opportunities."

And all this means simply—make up your mind what you want, prepare yourself for it, but have something else to fall back on, and don't be afraid of taking that until you can find the job for which you are really fitted.

LADIES' GUILD

Parcels sent out during year 1936, 41, with clothing for 98 persons.

Money received from:

Mrs. Procter, £1; Mrs. del Court, 10s.; Mrs. Whiteman, £10; Mrs. Foster, £2 2s.; Mrs. Mirams, £1 1s.; Mrs. Anwyl-Passingham, 10s.; Mrs. Hanley, £1; Mrs. Cooper, 10s.

The following sent parcels:

Mrs. Oliver Jones, Mrs. Guscott, Major L. A. Newnham, Major Procter, Mrs. Devey, Mrs. C. Drew, Mrs. H. C. Bucknall, Mrs. Clayden, Lieut.-Col. Davy, *Mrs. Samuel, Mrs. Fox, *Mrs. Newnham, Mrs. Wollocombe, Capt. A. H. Cooper, Mr. H. C. Bucknall, Mrs. W. P. Hewett, Mrs. G. L. Oliver, Mrs. Jacob, Miss Jefferd, Mrs. Heape, Mrs. G. L. Brown, *Mrs. Tucker, *Mrs. H. E. Foster, Major Owen, *Mrs. Ross, Mrs. Pearson, *Mrs. A. Cooper, Col. M. Browne, *Mrs. Glover, Mrs. M. C. C. Ash, Mrs. Steed, Mrs. Pain, *Mrs. Ward, *Miss M. H. Alder, *Mrs. Barnardiston, Mrs. Henry Savile, Capt. E. L. Heywood, Mrs. Cochran, *Mrs. A. Savile, *Mrs. Sapte, Lieut.-Col. H. Savile, Dr. C. A. Fuller, Mrs. Drew, *Mrs. Poole.

*Sent new garments.

The parcels of clothing sent out were very much appreciated by the recipients.

The Hon. Secretary wishes to tender her most grateful thanks to those ladies and gentlemen who have so kindly sent donations and parcels. A few ladies have been good enough to intimate that they intend to make an annual subscription to the Guild funds. This particularly is appreciated because, in many cases, it is difficult to meet the requirements of applicants out of stock and it is necessary to buy suitable clothing for them.

The Hon. Secretary would, therefore, welcome any further promises of annual subscriptions.

7th BATTALION NOTES.

THE last quarter has been signalised by several noteworthy changes. First of all we have to record with regret the departure of Capt. Walden, who completed his Adjutancy on 1st November. But although he is now out of our clutches, we are not yet out of his, as owing to casualties among our Brigade Staff, he has been spending his well-earned "leave" at 66, Victoria Street.

The Battalion is now in the process of being mechanised, and the limbers in the transport shed at Hornsey have been replaced by two "Commer" trucks. C.S.M. Bishop, our M.T. expert, occasionally drives them out of

the garage, as we must now rename that building, and usually manages to return them undamaged.

Another impending change is our transfer to another Division, but as the details are not yet available we must defer discussion to a later issue of this journal.

A Brigade Tactical Exercise was held at Crowborough in November. It was attended by the more senior Officers of the Battalion, and despite atrocious weather, interesting and useful lessons were learned. In December a Battalion T.E.W.T. for Officers took place at Maidstone. This time the weather was kinder, and though there was a threat of snow, fortunately it did not fall.

The Annual Armistice Sunday Church Parade was held on 8th November. In addition to a strong muster of the Battalion, large numbers of the Old Comrades and a contingent of the National Defence Company took part in the parade. After the service the Battalion and "attached troops" returned to the Drill Hall via Crouch End, the Mayor of Hornsey taking the salute at the Clock Tower.

On 11th November the Battalion was represented at the Armistice Service, Mill Hill, by a Colour party, 2/Lieut. Ssrs carrying the Regimental Colour. Col. E. J. King, C.M.G., T.D., A.D.C., placed the Battalion wreath on the Memorial. Major Mirams and Capt. Clark and Brown were also present.

A very successful Open Invitation Boxing Tournament was put on in November. The success of this tournament was very largely due to Capt. Walden, who emerged from his retreat at Barnet for the occasion. We were very pleased to welcome Col. Collinson there. He had travelled a long way in order to be present. The Battalion Boxing Championships were held on 10th December, which "D" Company are to be congratulated on winning.

During the latter part of December our drill halls have been converted into Post Offices, but we have now come into our own again, and the stage is set for the second period of our Individual Training Lesson. A very full programme has been arranged, and we look forward confidently to the co-operation of all ranks to ensure its success.

"B" (S.) COMPANY

Those subscribers to THE DIE-HARDS, who have the courage to read these notes, may recollect that, in the last issue, we commented

severely (quoting Milton), on a fellow scribe's French. But now Fate has placed the injured one over us so that we go about in fear for our life, and we are fain to confess that there is just a chance that the error might have been the printer's.

And now, casting aside our hair shirt and scraping the ashes from our head, we may turn to our duties as a chronicler. We have first to record that Capt. Johnson has left us to gain fresh experience in command of "H.Q." Wing. It would be difficult to overrate the good work which he has done at Enfield, but we feel sure that Capt. Bartram, who is already an experienced Company Commander, will prove a worthy successor to him.

Recruiting continues to improve and the quality of the recruits is becoming higher. The Company is now more than 100 strong (the establishment is only 92), and the paper strength very nearly nil. Drill attendances have been extraordinarily good and no doubt with the introduction of "paid drills" they will become even better.

In the unromantic realms of Machine Gun Training the principal event was the field firing carried out at Ash on 25th October. Unlike certain other units, we are not handicapped by a touching faith in the willingness of Providence to perform miracles on our behalf, and so we took the precaution of taking both men and guns with us. We were thus able to give our undivided attention to the business of wandering, mapless and handicapped by the limited manoeuvring qualities of an eighty-seater bus, over a tract of country which appeared to be inhabited almost exclusively by congenial idiots whose topography was conceived in Bedlam. And yet we arrived in time.

The turn-out of the Company at the Armistice Sunday Church Parade was good. As a sort of light relief after the solemn matters of divine service and marching past the Mayor of Hornsey, we sat for our photograph. The result was undeniably impressive and sales have been booming, but future generations may be forgiven if they believe that in 1936 "B" (S.) Company was officered by half the Army List.

In addition to attending to these weighty matters of training, we held a dance with such success that we intend to hold two more. We do not know by what means Sergt.-Major Ramsey turns a floor upon which one has done gun drill on Thursday night into a very fair dance floor by Saturday night. We are inclined to suspect diabolism. But whether

he is allied with the Prince of Darkness or no, we can only thank him and express our admiration for his good work.

We understand that the Transport Section is now the proud owner of a brace of lorries. No doubt, if certain experts can be restrained from testing the springs, they will appear in public next summer. In the meanwhile it seems that the Transport Officer is busily engaged in trying to shatter the roseate visions of those who see a glorious future of extra training and T.E.W.T.s in ideal but inaccessible spots five miles from the nearest railway and five yards from the nearest pub.

"D" COMPANY

"Arma Tottenhamque Cano." "I sing of arms and Tottenham." However, as the question of arms has not worried our minds during the last period, we will content ourselves with some nonsensical jottings about the doings of the men of Tottenham.

Firstly, we would welcome back Lieut. C. P. Gliksten, who had the misfortune to be moved elsewhere in Camp at Beaulieu in 1930. In one of the issues of this estimable Journal for 1929 we read of our present Company Commander's and Mr. Gliksten's transfers from "C" Company, and it was then "hoped that they would not find things too black." We don't quite understand these words, and would suggest they were misprints.

C.Q.M.S. Whiting has now been promoted C.S.M., and we are looking to him for new ideas and great things. Our P.S.I., C.S.M. Bishop, is again with us after three months "vacation" on courses at Netheravon and Folkestone. He is now reported to be a certified driver of lorries—heaven preserve them!

The Sunday before Christmas the Company held a special shoot, which was attended by forty members. A good collection of seasonable fare had been collected, and every man went home with a prize. Pte. Russell landed a very handsome turkey, and others departed with good-looking fowl, joints, bottles of port, and such like.

In the Drill Hall intense activity has been witnessed in the boxing line, and the flashy shorts and brilliant sweaters of our experts have brightened the winter gloom. Quite a number of our team went down to Dockland Settlement No. 2, in the Isle of Dogs, where they had the useful experience of sparring with an ex-A.B.A. and European Champion.

Pte. Watts won the middle-weight at the Open Invitation Competition, and Ptes. Tournier (bantam), Hensman (welter) and Hoy (middle) all won their weights in the Battalion Tournament. Pte. Trafford, one of our experts in the last year or two, is unfortunately out of sport at the moment with a bad knee. We hope to have him out for the Brigade Boxing and for the Divisional Cross-country.

One of the best parties of the latter part of the year was our shooting match against No. 4 Company, H.A.C., held at Armoury House, Finsbury. We won the match quite comfortably, and, judging by the sore heads seen the next day, we must have showed up well afterwards. On the following Sunday we met our Waterloo at the hands of the University College School O.T.C., who, incidentally, possess a very good shooting VIII.

Dances—we have held two, and we can honestly say that they were two of the best we have ever had.

Bounty night was also a success in a quiet way, and it is quite evident that the increased bounty is having a good effect. At any rate there were no grouches.

Well, here's to 1937, and may it bring good luck to us all!

"H.Q." WING

As usual, we have left the writing of our notes to the very last moment. The New Year has dawned, several bodies do not feel very well, the Company office is in a mess, a large number of amendments litter the table, but with the aid of a large whiskey and soda we will endeavour to write up our efforts in some form of chronological sequence.

In the first place we bid farewell to Mr. Gliksten, who has proceeded to the back streets of Tottenham. We trust he will have a lot of fun there. We welcome Capt. Johnson as our new Company Commander, and trust that his stay with us will be a long and happy one. Mr. Ingham is attached to us for the time being, with the Signal Section, and we wish him every success.

Bounty night is over. The major part of the Company, having done their stuff during the past year, went home loaded down with cash. The number of disgruntled gentlemen were few, but we believe that as the years go by they will learn that it does not take up a lot of their time to do sufficient drills for a very nice little Christmas present at the end of the year.

In connection with bounty night, we have to take our hats off to the C.S.M. and C.Q.M.S., who worked so many nights getting out the necessary forms.

We congratulate the following:

- The Signal Section on winning the "Kittoe" Cup.
- The Transport Section for their very fine turn-out for this year's Albuhera trophy competition.
- Sergts. Gilyatt, Ellmore and L/Sergt. Phipps on their recent promotion, and
- Pte. Rosser on winning the fly-weight championship of the Battalion.

The Transport and Signal Sections held their respective social evenings during December, and a most enjoyable time was spent by all who attended.

The Children's Party is to come. We will draw a veil over that.

In conclusion, we wish everyone in the Battalion a very happy New Year.

EXTRACTS FROM THE "LONDON GAZETTE."

REGULAR ARMY COMMANDS AND STAFF

Capt. P. E. C. Tuckey, Midd'x R., relinquishes the appt. of Staff Capt., Cairo Bde. (temp.) (Sept. 7).
1st Div.—Maj. E. T. L. Gurdon, M.C., Black Watch, to be G.S.O. 2nd Grade (temp.) (Sept. 8); Maj. V. J. E. Westropp, R. Signals, from Staff Capt., to be D.A.Q.M.G. (temp.) (Sept. 8); Maj. L. A. Newnham, M.C., Midd'x R., to be D.A.A.G. (temp.) (Sept. 8).

INFANTRY

The King's R.—Capt. V. E. Benke retires on ret. pay (Nov. 18).
R. Sussex R.—Lt. D. H. Oliver is restd. to the estabt. (Nov. 3).
Midd'x R.—Capt. C. C. Musselwhite is restd. to the estabt. (Oct. 10).
Midd'x R.—Lt. F. B. Whiting is sec'd. for serv. under the Colonial Office (Oct. 25).
Midd'x R.—Capt. S. J. Clark is sec'd. for serv. as an Adj't. T.A. (Nov. 1).
Midd'x R.—Maj. T. S. Wollocombe, M.C., retires on ret. pay (Nov. 25), and is granted the rank of Lt.-Col.; Capt. and Bt. Maj. B. G. Horrocks, M.C., to be Maj. (Nov. 25); Capt. F. Walden is restd. to the estabt. (Nov. 25).

REGULAR ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS

The follg. having attained the age limit of liability to recall, cease to belong to the Res. of Off.:

R. Fus.—Lt. C. A. J. Bone, M.M. (Oct. 25).
R.W. Fus.—Capt. D. B. Anthony, M.C. (Oct. 28).
Worc. R.—Lt. E. W. Edmonds (Oct. 28).

Midd'x R.—Lt.-Col. H. A. O. Hanley, D.S.O., M.C. (Oct. 26).

Midd'x R.—Lt.-Col. T. S. Wollocombe, M.C. (Maj. ret. pay), to be Lt.-Col. (Nov. 25), with seny. June 15, 1934.

TERRITORIAL ARMY

INFANTRY

5th 8th Bn. Cameromians.—Sec. Lt. R. H. Gordon to be Lt. (Nov. 18).
7th Bn. Worc. R.—Lt.-Col. W. R. Prescott, M.C. (Capt. ret. pay) (Res. of Off.), to be Bt. Col. (Nov. 11).
5th Bn. R. Sussex R.—Sec. Lt. P. N. Claridge is sec'd. under para. 135, T.A. Regs. (July 22).
5th Bn. Welch R.—Sec. Lt. W. G. Edwards to be Lt. (Nov. 18).
6th Bn. Welch R.—Sec. Lt. J. R. D. Hill resigns his commn. (Oct. 16).
4th Bn. K.O.Y.L.I.—Capt. O. W. Appleyard, T.D., to be Maj. (Oct. 9); Lt. J. F. Walker to be Capt. (Oct. 9).
7th Bn. Midd'x R.—Capt. F. Walden, Midd'x R., vacates the appt. of Adj't. (Nov. 1); Capt. S. J. Clark, Midd'x R., to be Adj't. (Nov. 1).

TERRITORIAL ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS

INFANTRY

5th Bn. The Queen's R.—Capt. L. Whittington having attained the age limit, retires and retains his rank, with permission to wear the prescribed uniform (Nov. 14).
7th Bn. Midd'x R.—Lt.-Col. and Bt. Col. H. A. D. Murray, T.D., from Active List (supern.), to be Lt.-Col. and Bt. Col. (June 22).
8th Bn. Midd'x R.—Lt.-Col. and Bt. Col. W. H. Parmeter, T.D., from Active List (supern.), to be Lt.-Col. and Bt. Col. (June 11).

8th BATTALION NOTES.

WE have to open our notes this quarter with an apology for an erroneous statement in the last issue that our Signallers had retained the "Kittoe" Cup, whereas the 7th Battalion were actually the winners, beating us into second place by six points, and the cup goes to Hornsey with our congratulations.

Since we opened up again for the season all Companies have been busy with their training programmes and Cadre courses have been held for Junior Officers and N.C.O.s.

On Armistice Sunday the Battalion, with 14 Officers and 208 other ranks, under the command of Major H. C. Ellis, O.B.E., paraded at Uxbridge and attended divine service at the Parish Church, afterwards marching to the Town War Memorial, where a wreath of poppies was laid. The newly-formed National Defence Company were represented practically at full strength. They have a strong muster at

Headquarters every week for training, and in Capt. A. E. Morris, late R.A.S.C., they have a keen and energetic commander.

At our recent Novices' Boxing Competition the fighting was fast and furious, and if they get down to serious training, a number of the competitors should very soon find a place in the Battalion team. Pte. Root, of Headquarter Wing, did well to win his weight after three fights and he showed remarkable coolness and pluck for his first appearance in the ring.

Through the kind efforts of the Association we have at last been able to obtain the long-desired alterations to the Orderly Room, whereby more comfort and privacy may now be enjoyed.

We understand it will not be long now before our Transport becomes mechanised and it will be good-bye to the light and heavy long leggy beasts who have served us well in the past, although at times not too willingly!

The following Officers have recently attended courses: Major Maddex, M.B.E., and Capt. Miskin, taking "Staff Duties—Q," and Lieut. Reddy, "Air Defence" and "Tactics."

Talking of air, we must take this opportunity of reminding our readers to listen-in to the broadcast of our prize-giving on 28th January next, when we hope to put over a really good show.

Finally, we send good wishes to all for the New Year.

"A" COMPANY

"Shoe Shine Boy" has come into his own at last. By this we mean that it is gratifying to say the Company is getting more and more "khaki" conscious and the Company Commander feels that the day is not very far distance when we shall have a 100 per cent. uniform parade. So get out the "spit and polish," "A" Company, and let us see what you can do.

INDOOR SPORTS. The Company spirit has greatly improved lately and consequently we have been able to run a darts and billiards tournament. Corpl. Robinson proved to be the "Melbourne Inman" of the side and Pte. Hill got the feathers in his hat.

Dances have once again been instituted, under the leadership of C.S.M. Seymour and the N.C.O.s. They have proved successful and we trust that they will become a regular event. We wish to thank those who have put in work to make them a success.

COURSES. Lieut. C. W. Summers has attended an Anti-Gas Course at the L.D.S.I. and obtained a satisfactory report. C.S.M. Seymour, Sergt. Hammerton, Corpl. Crane, L/Cpls. Arnold, Mills and Styles attended a course at Headquarters.

Recruiting has been slow but sure, but it is not good enough yet and we hope that with the help of the local employers we will be able to show, in the next edition of the Journal, a marked improvement.

BOXING, NOVICES. The Company can congratulate itself on the number of entries (11) and on the results, and we especially congratulate Ptes. Whiting and Hill on winning their weights. We hope that this is a good omen for the Battalion and Brigade Boxing Championships.

Owing to the attendance on parade having greatly improved, we are able to run an Inter-Platoon Competition. The competition includes miniature range shooting, open range (Bisley), fire orders, Lewis gun T.O.E.T., guard mounting, billiards and darts. If possible, we hope to include anti-gas drill T.O.E.T., but that depends on whether we can get the necessary respirators.

We regret having to announce that the Sergeants' Mess have lost a valuable shaving mirror, through Sergt. Swan leaving the Battalion. Sergt. Swan's head was the pride of the Company and we feel that his loss will be greatly lamented by the Battalion. We hope that he, and also others who have left the Battalion, will spend an occasional evening with us in the Club Room.

The Christmas Draw took place on 22nd December, and we wish to thank all those who have enabled it to prove just as satisfactory as in the past.

The Armistice Church Parade at Uxbridge was well attended by "A" Company, and we are looking forward to the next Church Parade.

We congratulate Corpl. Gray on his promotion to Lance-Sergeant.

"B" (S.) COMPANY

Rumour has it that Major Maddex is to leave us. He was with the Company at the time of its change over to M.G.s, and he has

seen it grow to be one of the most efficient Support Companies in the Division. Although he will no longer be with the Company, we are glad that we will not lose his valuable advice on all matters concerning the "Gunnery." We wish him the best of luck and success in his new position.

In Capt. Miskin, whom we understand is to take over the Company, we have an old friend. He has been with us before and successfully skippered the Perring Trophy team in 1932. All who remember him (and that is the majority of the Company) will know that he will keep up the same spirit of keenness and efficiency that Major Maddex has done so much to foster.

The N.C.O.'s Course, held two evenings per week, has been very successful and those who have attended regularly have gained much useful knowledge and experience in instruction under the watchful eye of C.S.M. Trestain, whose work in connection with the Course is greatly appreciated. The gas drill and training especially has been of great interest and value. We should like to see a larger number of the junior N.C.O.s on this Course, as it is the ideal opportunity of learning to instruct, which undoubtedly is the weak spot in a number of them.

Dances, held every Saturday evening, have not been so well attended as was hoped, but we are banking on an improvement.

One is always hearing instructors impressing upon recruits to stand still, right or wrong. The following anecdote is an extremely touching one, revealing as it does the splendid discipline to-day abounding in the Crown Forces. A certain battalion had arrived, after a march of some two miles, at a railway station to entrain for Camp. An officer passing down the lines came across a youngster sweating profusely, shaking in every limb—in fact, on the point of collapse. On enquiring of the man how he had come to be in such a condition after so short a march, he got the following answer: "Sergeant has always said to stand still, sir, whether you was right or wrong. When the Colonel gave the order 'Form fours—right' I turned left—and I've been walking backwards for two—miles!"

A FORGOTTEN CHAPTER IN THE HISTORY OF THE 77th REGIMENT, OR MONTGOMERIE'S HIGHLANDERS.

THIS interesting account was found amongst some old Regimental documents. the property of the late Lieut.-Gen. H. Kent, a former Colonel of the 77th Regiment. There is no reference to the history of The Montgomery Highlanders in the present records of the 77th Regiment, beyond the fact that such a Regiment was raised as "the 77th (Montgomery's) 1st Highland Battalion in 1757, during the seven years war, and served in the American War from 1757 to 1763, and was present at the attack on Fort-du-Quesne, the attack on Cuba, 1762, and the attack on Martinique, 1762. At the peace in 1763 the Regiment, with many others, was disbanded." The document now referred to was sent to me inside a copy of the 77th standing orders printed in Dublin in 1823, over 100 years ago.

The 77th Regiment, or Montgomerie's Highlanders, was raised in 1757 by Major the Hon. Archibald Montgomerie (afterwards Earl of Eglintown), afterwards General and Colonel of the 2nd Dragoons or Scotch Greys. When Government had determined to raise Highland Corps, letters of service were issued to Major The Hon. Archibald Montgomerie, son of the Earl of Eglintown, to recruit a Regiment in the north. From his connections and personal character Major Montgomerie was well qualified for the command of a Highland Regiment. Having one sister, Lady Margaret, married to Sir Alex Macdonald, of Sleate, in the Northern, and another, Lady Christian, married to the Laird of Abercairney on the borders of the Southern Highlands, he mixed much with the people, and being a high spirited young man with a considerable dash of romantic enthusiasm in his composition, and with manners cheerful and affable, he made himself highly acceptable to the Highlanders, and by the support which he met with judicious selection of Officers of influence in the north, he soon completed an excellent body of men, who were formed into a Regiment of 13 Companies of 105 rank and file, making in all, with 65 Sergeants and 30 Pipers and Drummers, 1,460 active men, and was numbered the 77th Regiment.

Col. Montgomerie's commission was dated 4th January, 1757, and that of all the other Officers each a day later than his senior in the same rank. I can give the names of all the Officers, but which are too (sic) tedious, but I must give the Lieut.-Col., the Hon. Arch Montgomerie (afterwards Earl of Eglintown) died 1776, General in the Army and Colonel of the Scotch Greys. This Corps was embodied at Stirling and embarked with the 78th, or Fraser's Highlanders, at Greenock, for Halifax, without time being allowed for acquiring the use of arms in a uniform manner.

On the commencement of operations in 1758 the 77th was attached to the Corps under Brig.-Gen. Forbes, in the expedition against Port du Quense. But this and all the other movements of the 77th are in the narrative of the service of the 42nd Regiment.

Montgomerie's Highlanders were often employed in such detached expeditions, traversing, to a very great extent, the most difficult country. In these marches they had numberless skirmishes with the Indians and irregular troops of the enemy, a species of the most harassing kind, as it required the greatest personal exertion on the part of the soldiers, and demanded constant vigilance and presence of mind on that of the Officers.

At the conclusion of the war, in 1763, all the Officers and men who chose to settle in America were permitted to do so, each receiving a plot of land in proportion to his rank.

During one of the skirmishes with the Indians, several soldiers of this and other Corps fell into their hands, being taken in an ambush. Allan Macpherson, one of these soldiers, witnessing the miserable fate of his fellow prisoners who had been tortured to death by the Indians, and seeing them preparing to commence the same operations upon himself, made signs that he had something to communicate. An interpreter was brought. Macpherson told them that provided his life was spared for a few minutes he would communicate the secret of an extraordinary medicine which, if applied to the skin, would cause it to resist the strongest blow of tomahawk, or sword, and that if they would allow him to go to the woods with a guard to collect the plants proper for the medicine he would prepare it and allow the experiment to be tried on his own neck by the strongest and most expert warrior amongst them. This story easily gained upon the superstitious credulity of the Indians that the request of the Highlander was instantly complied with. Being sent into the woods he soon returned with such

C.S.M.'s and the C.Q.M.S.'s good ideas for interesting the Company after parade with various pastimes had to lapse as everybody was still occupied when the "games" should have started.

For the keen N.C.O. or man there is always something fresh in which he can take an interest, and the latest of these subjects is "gas." In this connection Sergts. Cooper and Williams have taken a course under the Adjutant, and it is anticipated that their newly-acquired knowledge will shortly be passed on to the Company. We are looking forward to their demonstration.

The C.Q.M.S. and Sergt. Bateman have also been busy, and we understand that they are now in a position to answer all Company Orderly Room conundrums with ease. Doubtless their knowledge will be demonstrated at next year's Camp.

A special programme was arranged for the trained men and also an N.C.C.'s promotion class has been run, and this class has been very well attended. We wish the entrants for the exam. the very best of luck, and look forward to the results with confidence.

The recruits are now working under Battalion arrangements, and we are informed that they have been having a "good time," due, doubtlessly, to the excellence of their instruction, and although we should like to see them on parade with the Company, we know they could not be in better hands.

Bounty night and the Christmas Shoot having gone off successfully, we are now preparing for the next quarter's work. There is the Winter Weapon Training Shield to be won and various challenge cups for boxing, and we hope to record in our next notes that these trophies are in the safe keeping of "A" Company.

"C" COMPANY

During the last three months we have been busy, trying to get through a very full programme of Weapon Training, and we are very pleased to have had such large numbers turn up each drill night.

Gas masks were issued to the Company early in December, and as only a limited number are available, we have been busy training members of the Company in the use of gas masks. We also had a lecture on Gas by Mr. Villiers, which was well attended.

This year, on Armistice Sunday, we joined the local people in an Armistice Parade. The

Company turned up in excellent numbers for this, and they led the parade to the Memorial. After the laying of wreaths a service was held in the Odeon Cinema; from there on to the Drill Hall, where the ladies, ably led by our late Company Commander, Major Sherwood, had prepared a tea. All ranks thank them for this. We were pleased to see such a good number of Old Comrades on this parade. Many of them had already attended the parade at Headquarters in the morning.

These notes are being asked for too near Christmas to write much about work, as everybody seems more inclined to talk about the Company Dinner and the Christmas Shoot.

In connection with the Dinner, a record number attended, many in blue patrols. Actually we sat down 115 strong.

During his speech the Company Commander emphasised the necessity of bringing the Company up to full strength. He mentioned the numbers attending Camp, 62 out of a total strength of 85, and whilst agreeing that these numbers were good, will not be satisfied until the Company is up to full strength and attended Camp 100 per cent. strong.

Mention was made of the scheme to enlarge "C" Company Drill Hall, and we all hope that early in the New Year we shall see the builders in.

The Company have won the following awards this year: The Territorial Army Rifle Association Cup, the "Scholl" Cup, the Lewis Gun Cup, and the Inter-Company Rifle Cup. We missed the "Crowborough" Cup to "D" Company by a very narrow margin, and we mean to make sure of this in the coming year. This Cup is given for the best Company attendances at Camp, Firing and Drills. We congratulate "D" on winning this.

The following individual awards were won by members of the Company:

C.S.M. Steward ("Harvey Lewis" Cup). Best score with a rifle at the Battalion Rifle Meeting.

L/Cpl. Mascal ("Chelsea" Cup). Best score with rifle on the Annual Weapon Training Course.

L/Cpl. Medhurst (Section Leading Cup). Carried out at Camp.

C.S.M. Hill. For the P.S.I. enlisting the greatest number of recruits during the year (26).

We congratulate all these on their performances.

In connection with the Miniature Range, four cups were presented, and were won by the following:

C.S.M. Steward. Highest score in Officers, W.O.s and Sergeants.

L/Cpl. Catchpole. Highest score, Corporals and Lance-Corporals.

Pte. White. Highest score, Privates over one year's service.

Pte. Calvert. Highest score, Privates less than one year's service.

The Christmas Shoot is now in full swing, under the guidance of Sergt. Spivey, who never seems to have a gauge out of his hand. (Not to your advantage either.)

In case it is thought that this year "C" Company have done nothing but break records, we would like to mention that our dances have been something worth writing about. Everyone has been a great success, thanks to a hard-working committee.

Before closing, we must mention how sorry we are to lose from the Company Mr. Bedwell, but as this has happened before, and we then got him back, we are hoping that such a thing might happen again. Camp to "C" will not seem the same without him. "H.Q." Wing are lucky to get such a hard-working Officer.

We had forgotten to mention that Pte. Clarke of "C" had a cup awarded to him for the highest number of attendances at Drill during the year, in the Company. Since enlisting in October, 1935, he has only missed one drill. This must be almost a record.

"D" COMPANY

It is rare indeed that our scribe fails to produce some notes for the Journal. His failure last quarter was regrettable, but fear not—there will not be a double issue this quarter.

We have settled down to work since our return from Camp and have had a busy three months running our usual courses for Junior N.C.O.s and promotion candidates, Lewis gunners and recruits; judging by the examination results, these courses were successful. We think it is worthy of note that in the Junior N.C.O.'s class we had three men who, having attained the rank of Sergeant in this Company and left for various reasons, have now re-joined and are starting at the bottom again—a good effort.

We have been hearing a lot of late about improving our Drill Halls and their surroundings, so we decided to take the plunge.

We have had the interior of our Hall painted in two tasteful shades of green, the lighting improved and a spot-light installed. This is chiefly used for dances, but we have ideas for its use on other occasions. We have also employed a gardener to tend our garden, and are looking forward in the spring and summer to a goodly display of blooms.

Our Rifle Club, rejuvenated by new officials, including Old Comrades, is waxing strong. The monthly spoon shoots on handicap are very popular and we are hoping that the standard of shooting in the Company will improve.

We have also a Darts Club, which is flourishing and the number of members of the Company whose names appear on the 100 sheet increases.

Some of us went over to Wealdstone at the kind invitation of Capt. Sutcliffe to hear a lecture on Gas, given by Mr. Villiers of the Grenadier Guards. We are grateful to Capt. Sutcliffe for giving us an opportunity of hearing a most interesting lecture.

We cannot close these notes without a reference to the birth of a son to C.S.M. and Mrs. Deveraux; we congratulate them and welcome a future recruit.

DRUMS

The new Territorial year has commenced with very good attendances at practice, and with extra financial incentive we hope that the good start will continue until Camp next year.

We had the honour to provide buglers for Armistice Services at the Drill Hall, Pound Lane, "D" Company at Hendon, the War Memorial, Hendon, and at one of the local churches. The "Last Post" and the "Reveille" were creditable sounded at each place.

Since the last notes we have had the pleasure of welcoming to our ranks Dmr. Windows, late 1st Battalion, and we hope he may have many happy years with us. He livened us up anyway by winning the C.O.'s bugle at the Competition held on 6th December, L/Cpl. Neal being second. We hope in the near future to see Corpl. Gribble, who recently left the Depot for "civvie" life, doing his "stuff" with us.

All the "fiddlers" are looking forward to a good time in 1937 and wonder what Coronation Year has in store for them.

13th (S.) BATTALION OLD COMRADES' SMOKING CONCERT.

THE 13th (S.) Battalion Middlesex O.C.A. held their Annual Smoking Concert at the "Brittania," Camden Town. A very enjoyable evening was spent, entertained by a very good concert party. An excellent number attended, and quite a few Old Comrades enrolled as members. We hope these annual meetings of the 13th Middlesex will continue to grow in strength.

Snooker first set after Armistice and Annual Dinner, the last set in February at the "Ship Inn," Ivy Lane, E.C.4.

Particulars of these yearly meetings can be obtained from G. W. Pegram, 206, Bollo Bridge Road, Acton, W.3.

CORRESPONDENCE.

DEPOT, THE CAMERONIANS,
SCOTTISH RIFLES,

HAMILTON.

12th November, 1936.

To the Editor of "The Die-Hards."

DEAR SIR,

It was with considerable pride that I read to-night the enclosed account of the bravery of the old 77th Foot in the "Retreat from El Bodon," an event in the Peninsular Campaign of 1811, soon after "Albuhera," but which, so far as my recollection serves me, is perhaps not nearly so well known.

As an old "Die-Hard," may I venture to send it to you in the hope that it may be worth repetition in THE DIE-HARDS?

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

A. OAKMAN, W.O. Instr. (II),
Army Educational Corps.
(6191294, late 3rd Bn.).

"RETREAT FROM EL BODON"

On the 25th Montbrun . . . turned the heights on which Picton's division had been posted. Considerably detached, as from the extent of the position the British Regiments necessarily were, their situation became all but desperate.

The advance of the French cavalry was beautiful; the sun shone brilliantly out, and

as their numerous squadrons, in long array, approached the heights occupied by the British infantry, nothing could be more imposing than their military attitude. The cool and steady determination with which Colville's brigade waited the enemy's attack was truly British. . . . When the advancing squadrons were about to mount the ridge, the infantry formed line; . . .

But the hill could not be held with such inferior numbers as the British. A column of great strength got unperceived in the rear of the right—not a moment could be lost—and an instant retreat was unavoidable. Indeed the escape of these devoted regiments seemed hopeless. Montbrun brought forward overwhelming numbers against the left flank—and the French dragoons had cut the right off from its communications with El Bodon. The 83rd united itself with the 5th and 77th, and the Portuguese 21st had already commenced retreating, and gained the plain. The cavalry, finding itself almost surrounded, galloped off at speed—and the British regiments were left alone, to save themselves or perish.

They reached the plain; Montbrun's numerous squadrons came on with loud huzzas, and in such force, that the annihilation of these weak battalions seemed inevitable. But the French had yet to learn of what stern stuff the British soldier is composed.

In a moment, the 5th and 77th formed square, and in steady silence awaited the coming onset. The charge was made—the cheering of the dragoons pealed over the field as they came on at speed and with a fiery determination that nothing could withstand. Against every face of the square a hostile squadron galloped; the earth shook—the cheers rose louder—another moment of that headlong speed must bring the dragoons upon the bayonets of the kneeling front rank. Then, from the British square a shattering volley was poured in—the smoke cleared away, and, but a few yards from the faces of the square, men and horses were rolling on the plain in death. The charge was repulsed—the ranks disordered—and the French dragoons, recoiling from that fearless array which they had vainly striven to penetrate, rode hastily off to re-form their broken ranks, and remove themselves from an incessant stream of musketry that had already proved so fatal.

In the meantime, Picton had disengaged the regiments of the right brigade from the enclosures of El Bodon, and joined the 5th and 77th, and the whole retreated across the plain

in beautiful order, presenting so bold an attitude, whenever the French made any demonstration of charging, that they never attempted to close on the squares again.

(From *Victories of Wellington and the British Armies*, published 1891.)

CHARLEMONT FORT,

MOY,

CO. TYRONE.

2nd November, 1936.

OLD COMRADES' ANNUAL DINNER

To the Secretary.

DEAR SIR,

I beg to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of your kind invitation to the Comrades' Annual Dinner to be held on the 7th inst. I regret, however, that I shall be unable to attend, due in particular to advancing years and the distance. May I say here that I have had the honour on many occasions of being present during my service and, indeed, your invitation brings back happy memories.

Year by year as I read the report of this annual event in the Journal I try to catch the name of an old comrade whom I knew, or with whom I was personally acquainted, and let me remark that those names are diminishing quickly. The name of the Band Sergeant, Stevenson, is actually the only participant in recent years that appears to me as one of my old acquaintances.

Now, in conclusion, please convey to him and all, my very best wishes as an old comrade in his 86th year who is still hale and hearty.

Thanking you in anticipation,

I am, Sir,

Respectfully yours,

JAMES MOONEY.

(The Old 57th.)

P.O. MARAISBURG,

TRANSVAAL.

15th December, 1936.

To the Editor of "The Die-Hards."

DEAR SIR,

Capt. Foster's article on the expedition to Khelat or Kalat in the November issue was most interesting to read. Capt. Foster must have forgotten the actual date that the 2nd Battalion left Quetta. It happened to be the 23rd April (St. George's Day), 1893.

Our first day's march was only eight miles. The next day's was a scorcher of over twenty miles, up and over a pass to the Mustang Valley along beastly rough stoney track. No

water was to be had until we had gone about eighteen miles, when some distance from the road we could see the peculiar openings, like huge mole-hills, which showed the course of the underground streams. Here and there these underground streams would come out into the open, as it were. What a stampede took place when almost everyone in the column made straight for the precious fluid? Men, horses and mules fighting for a drink!

The column also included the 40th Pathans, and the mountain battery referred to was the 5th. The journey took eight days. Until a few years ago I had full particulars of each day's march; one of the halts was named Ghulambaring (?).

During one of the midday halts I caught a "touch of sunstroke" through my carelessness, and I finished the last six miles to Camp on a camel. After that ride I vowed never to taste another jaunt on a camel as long as I lived.

I have never forgotten that cool, cold stream we came across when we reached Girani. Capt. Foster writes that it flowed through a green bed. That green bed was wild mint.

When I last saw the late Col. W. D. Ingle in Johannesburg a few years ago I reminded him about the accident he had with his revolver. He laughed heartily at this reminder of his mishap. Capt. Foster is correct when he writes that the treasure was packed in 550 boxes, because I remember, as if it was only yesterday, that the number of camels used to carry the treasure was 275. I recall vividly the excitement caused by the "lining up" of the fatigue party in the grounds of the British Residency after some of the treasure boxes had been off-loaded from the camels and piled up to form a square about fifty feet square. "Masher" Morris, the (Provoke) Sergeant, had spotted one of the party helping himself to the contents of one of the boxes. And when this individual raised his helmet slightly to have a scratch, part of his hoard fell down as if in a shower. This idiot was the only one "caught in possession" of the Khan's rupees, and was court-martialed. The number of men who managed to get hold of any of this money was very few.

I had a trip to Bombay and Calcutta in 1931, and on the return trip I made the acquaintance of a retired Indian Army Colonel and his wife, a delightful couple. One of the first things he said to me, after he learnt that I was at Khelat with the Middlesex Regiment, was, "Oh! Yours was the Regiment that stole nearly all the Khan of Kalat's rupees." This exaggera-

tion annoyed me intensely, although I admitted that there were a few lucky individuals, and a large majority of unlucky ones, like myself, whose share amounted to two rupees, which fell out of one of the four boxes which I had been detailed to "escort" on the return to Quetta.

I do not remember a Colour-Sergeant being struck over the head. But I remember a tailor named Humphries receiving a terrible cut in the side of his face from a murderous Baluchi who had evidently watched him go outside the lines in the darkness. The wound extended from his ear to his chin. And to-day I can almost hear the terrible scream Humphries gave when the Ghazi sliced him. I believe he was rather proud of the resulting big scar.

On the return of the Battalion to Quetta there was about three months pay to draw, in which the Dublin Fusiliers had a good share at the wet canteens of both Battalions.

This hospitality was, however, well repaid at Colenzo Station in February, 1900, when the "Dubs" managed to get hold of a truck of nice cold beer consigned to the Durban Light Infantry, which the Middlesex Bhoys were invited to sample.

WM. TREZONA.

"OAKDENE,"
BANHAM STREET,
WYNNUM CENTRAL,
QUEENSLAND,
AUSTRALIA.
18th September, 1936.

To the Editor of "The Die-Hards."

DEAR SIR,

I would esteem it a great favour if you will inform me if I can obtain a copy of THE DIE-HARDS in the Great War. If I can purchase a copy through you, will you let me know the cost so that I can remit same to you. As far as I can find out, I am the only ex-member of the Regiment in Queensland. If you should know of anyone else here, I should be glad to get in touch with him. The last time that I met some of the old members was at the unveiling of the Memorial at Mill Hill, which was just before I left for Australia. Any members of the Association who were in the 4th Battalion before the War, or who were in the 1st, 2nd or 7th Battalions during the war who knew me, I would like to hear from. I am a member of the Queensland Branch of the Old Contemptibles' Association, and am the only representative of the Regiment in the Branch. We have only 25 members all told.

Being so far away, I am afraid I have lost touch with many of my old pals, but it's never too late to renew correspondence.

Trusting you will be able to "scrounge" a copy of the History for me,

I remain,

Yours very sincerely,

W. C. BULLIS.

(Late C.Q.M.S., L/10127, Middlesex Regt.)

OBITUARY.

LIEUT. W. H. COOPER

LIEUT. William Henry Cooper, Quartermaster of the 2nd Battalion, whose death from malaria occurred at Khartoum on 7th October, 1936, was born on 21st December, 1886. He joined The Middlesex Regiment on 21st August, 1905, and was posted to 4th Battalion in Dublin in September, 1905. He served with that Battalion in Dublin, Londonderry, Tidworth, Aldershot and Devonport and proceeded to France with it on 13th August, 1914, where he continued to serve until the Armistice.

After the War he proceeded with 4th Battalion The Middlesex Regiment to Gibraltar and Egypt, returning to England with it for disbandment in June, 1922.

He was Regimental Quartermaster-Sergeant of his Battalion on disbandment, and was transferred in that rank to The Royal Sussex Regiment in July, 1922.

He was posted to the 1st Battalion, and served with them until 6th May, 1931, when he was promoted Quartermaster. He was in the Depot from May to September of that year, and joined the 2nd Battalion in Karachi on 6th October, 1931. He proceeded to Egypt with 2nd Battalion last November, and went to Khartoum in March, 1936.

He was home on short leave this summer, and the news of his sudden death was a great shock to all.

Lieut. Cooper was a hard-working, conscientious Officer, and his death is a great loss to the Regiment.

He was unmarried, but to his parents we offer our deepest sympathy in their bereavement.

EX-PTE. JOHN WILKINS (707)

We regret to have to announce the death of John Wilkins, No. 707, on 6th October last, at

his home at Southampton. Wilkins was born at East Stonehouse, Devonport, on 21st June, 1840. He enlisted in the 77th Regiment on 24th March, 1859, and spent most of his service in India. He came home with the Regiment in H.M.T. *Jumna* in 1870, via the Suez Canal, and it is believed that this was the first occasion on which a British Regiment travelled by this route. Wilkins was discharged to pension from Hounslow in 1882 and was thus, at the time of his death, the oldest soldier of the Regiment.

To his widow and family we offer our sincere sympathy.

40, LEES ROAD,
HILLINGDON,
MIDDLESEX.

To the Editor of "The Die-Hards"

DEAR SIR,

I am sorry to inform you that another Old Comrade has passed on 24th December, 1936, in the name of Ex-Col.-Sergt. J. Fisher.

Here are just a few particulars as I know of Jim.

He joined The Welch Regiment, January 1887; transferred from The Welch Regiment to The Middlesex Regiment (2nd Battalion) as a Sergeant in 1898 whilst the Regiment was at Bombay on the eve of coming home, so came home with the Battalion to Woolwich. From there he was posted to the Permanent Staff of the Militia at Hounslow 4th Battalion, which eventually became the 6th Battalion. He accompanied the Battalion to South Africa early in 1900 as a Colour-Sergeant, and was once mentioned in Despatches. He had the King's and Queen's Medals for South Africa, and the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal. He took his discharge and went on pension about August or September, 1908. (He was also in possession of a First Class Certificate for Gymnastics, Fencing and Sabre.) He rejoined on 29th September, 1914, and was discharged 21st May, 1919. At the time of his death he was living at Risca, Newport, Mon. He only took to his bed a couple of days before passing on. I attended his funeral at Risca which took place on Saturday, 28th November, 1936.

I remain,

Most respectfully yours,

A. BLINCO, Ex-Col.-Sergt.

38, SCOTLAND GREEN ROAD,
PONDERS END,
ENFIELD, MIDDLESEX.

7th January, 1937.

DEAR SIR,

It is with much regret that I am reporting the death of the late Mr. W. Collins, who served in the 10th Middlesex during the campaigns in Palestine. Mr. "Bill" Collins passed away on 6th January, 1937, at the age of 58 after a very short illness, from influenza and pneumonia, and in my humble opinion if anyone was entitled to call himself an old "Die-Hard," "Bill" was that man.

A few months back I joined the staff of Sketchly Dye Works, at Stoke Newington, and I discovered that Mr. Collins was an old "Die-Hard" in a way which, I think, shows how he had still retained the old spirit of his Regiment. I happened to pass "Bill" during the lunch hour at the firm. He was talking to a little group of the workers, men and women, and I heard the words "and that was how The Middlesex Regiment got the name 'Die-Hards'." I stopped to listen and found myself listening once more to the Regimental History. I think "Bill" knew it off by heart.

Conversation drifted on to Palestine, owing to the trouble which was on there at the time, and as I listened one very strong point struck me. When describing anything "Bill" never once said "I did ——" or "We did ——" it was always the "Die-Hards."

I have heard many men speaking of their exploits during the War, but never have I heard anyone else always speak of the Regiment he served and not himself. How proud "Old Bill" was of his Regiment.

After listening to him I revealed the fact that I was with the 1st Battalion in Palestine in 1932 and he seemed ever so pleased, and we at once became friends.

I have met a good number of ex-members of the Regiment since I left the Colours, but "Bill" is one I shall always remember as the "Old Die-Hard."

"Bill" leaves a widow at No. 33, Halifield Road, Tottenham, N.17. The funeral was on Tuesday, 12th January, and I am pleased to say that I was asked to attend as my firm's representative. I feel sure you will be interested in reading these incidents.

I am, sir,

Yours faithfully,

G. HERBERT, Ex-L/Sergt.

"B" Company, 1st and 2nd Battalions.

[A bugler, with a wreath from the Depot, attended the funeral.—EDITOR.]

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

[57]

(Reproduced from the Army List by permission of the Controller of H.M. Stationery Office).

1st and 2nd Battalions (Regular).	1st and 2nd Battalions— contd.	7th Battalion (Territorial).	8th Battalion (Territorial)— contd.	9th Battalion (Territorial)— contd.
Lt.-Colonels (2).	Lieutenants—contd.	"The Elms," Priory Road, Hornsey, N.S.	Lt.-Colonel.	Lieutenants.
Jeffery, W. W. (2) 1/6/35	Baldwin, C. M., c.o. 4/2/29		× Baker, E. F., C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., T.D., t.a. 11/6/36	× Bedwell, L. J. 18/1/31
Tidbury, O. H., M.C., p.s.c. [1] (1) 1/1/36	Else, F. H. (2) 30/8/29			Pearson, M. F. 2/3/35
	Heropath, L. H. J. de la M., c.o. 10/3/39	Hon. Colonel.		Parlane, W. F. 13/7/30
	Stephenson, J. W. A. (2), d. 2/2/31	× King, E. J., C.M.G., T.D. (Col. ret. Terr. Army) A.D.C., t.a. 13/8/25	bt. col. 20/2/27	
	Powell, P. D. ff. (1) 2/2/31		Majors.	2nd-Lieutenants.
	Mackenzie, H. F., o., d. 30/8/31		× Ellis, H. C., O.B.E. 9/2/32	Canning, J. G. H. 9/5/34
Majors (8).	Chatley, W. H. P., a.m., 31/1/32	Lt.-Colonel.	Maddox, S., M.B.E., t.a. 3/12/35	Hill, D. F. 19/1/35
Lyon, N. H. B., M.C. (2), d. 26/1/32	Batten, R. H. (2) 31/1/32	× Pringle, W. E., M.C., t.a. 22/6/36		Hamilton, A. 23/7/35
Newnam, L. A., M.C., p.s.c., s. 28/9/32	Green, A. E. (d. Adj.), 31/1/32		Captains.	Bull, J. T. 28/2/36
Thorpe, J. R. [1] (2) 28/9/32	Ferguson, W. M. (2) 31/1/32	Majors.	× Fane de Salis, E. W., M.C. (Capt. ret. pay.), (Res. of Off.) 9/1/31	Perks, M. A. 18/4/36
Saville, H. B. W., M.C. (1), c.o. 28/9/32	Sword, R. W. D., o., d. 28/8/32	× Mirams, S., M.C. (Capt. ret. pay.) (Res. of Off.), t.a. 18/4/36	Hartley, G. 10/1/31	Talbot, J. R. 9/7/30
Phillips, H., M.C. (1) 1/6/35	Mann, A. M. (Sch. of Sigs.), 30/1/33		Marks, T. L. 8/7/34	
Bucknall, G. C., M.C., p.s.c. (2) (R.N. Coll.) 21/8/35	Marsh, H. (1), d. 30/1/33	Captains.	Miskin, E. F. H. 30/6/35	
	Hall, J. P. [1] (1) 28/8/33			
	Weston, G. P. L., a.m., 21/8/35		Lieutenants.	
bt. Lt.-col. 1/1/35	Gwyn, R. A. (1) 29/1/34		King, M. C. D. 10/12/33	
Stewart, H. W. M., O.B.E., M.C. (s.c.) (1), (Mil. Attache) 1/1/36	Bellers, R. C. H. (1) 29/1/34		Blair, N. M. 7/11/34	
Horrocks, B. G., M.C., p.s.c. [1], s. 25/11/36	Beadnell, L. C. (1) 27/8/34		Reddy, T. H. 25/7/35	
	Whiting, F. B., c.o. 1/10/35		Summers, C. W. 1/6/36	
	Peal, A. W. F. (1) 1/10/35		McFarlane, A. J. 28/6/36	
	Willoughby, J. E. F. (2) 2/2/36	Lieutenants.		
	Porter, G. O. (2) 2/2/36		2nd-Lieutenants.	
	Unwin, E. J. (2) 2/2/36		Ayre, G. B. 7/2/34	
	Fishbourne, P. A. (1) 2/2/36		Hamilton, J. A. 5/5/34	
	Chattey, T. W. (1) 31/8/36		Lawrence, D. C. 20/11/34	
			Wilson, A. J. K. 16/7/35	
			Whitmore, C. E. S. 23/5/36	
Captains (14).			Kaye, R. A. 8/6/36	
Haydon, C. W., M.C., c.o. 25/4/17	2nd-Lieutenants.	2nd-Lieutenants.	Merchant, J. L. 8/7/36	
del Court, S. F. W., M.C., [1] (1), d. 28/9/20	Beath, C. M. (2) 1/2/34	Sass, G. C. B. 15/6/35	Davidson, T. S. 26/7/36	
Procter, N. P., M.C. (2) 1/4/21	Anson, P. A. R. (1) 1/2/34	Wallis, E. L. 28/7/35		
	Clayton, A. S. J. de S. (2) 1/2/34	Igham, P. S. 8/4/36		
	Allen, W. P. M. (1) 30/8/34	Hatfield, C. S. 30/5/36		
Rackham, B. B., M.C. (1) 1/4/34	Ormsiston, J. W. G. (2) 31/1/35	Oldham, J. H. 1/7/36		
	Gudgeon, H. N. C. (1) 31/1/35	Monk, G. M. de B. 6/7/36		
Weller, A. V. (1) 9/5/27	Hewitt, A. G. (1) 31/1/35	Bridges, G. B. 6/7/36		
Pain, E. T. (2) 9/5/27	Man, C. M. M. (2) 31/1/35	Scantlebury, V. A. 28/10/34		
Dobbs, J. E., M.C. (1) 28/9/28	Weedon, M. P. (1) 31/1/35			
Jones, W. H. V., s. 10/12/28	Bilbrough, C. V. U. S. (2) 29/8/35	Adjutant.		
Hedgecoe, S. F. (1) Adj. 10/12/28	Symes, T. G. (2) 29/8/35	× Clark, S. J., Capt., Middx. R. 1/11/36		
Parker, F. G. (Spec. Appt.) 10/12/28	Lane, C. E. A. (2) 29/8/35			
Overell, A. N. (1) 10/12/28	Pullman, A. O. (2) 30/1/36	Quartermaster.		
Wray, E. M. G., D.S.O. (2) 1/2/34	Langley, H. M. F. (2) 30/1/36	× Denton, C. F., Lt. 17/4/31		
Clayden, H. W., t. 14/4/34	Chiverrall, J. G. (2) 27/8/36			
Clark, S. J. (2), t. 14/4/34	Dawson, G. C. (2) 28/8/36			
Walden, F. t. 14/4/34				
Heywood, E. L. (2) 12/2/35				
Ayscough, E. S. M. (1) 4/4/35	Adjutants (2).			
Reid, J. G. Est. 4/4/35	Hedgecoe, S. F., Capt. (1) 24/7/34			
Musselwhite, C. C. (2) 4/4/35	Gordon, I. D. S., Capt. (2) 3/8/35			
Cubitt, D. Y., p.d. 4/4/35				
Tuckey, P. E. C. (2), s. 4/4/35	Quartermasters (3).			
Worton, J. B. (1) (d) 4/4/35	Clark, A. W., Lt. (1) 28/4/29			
Gordon, I. D. S. (2) Adj. 3/8/35	Guscott, R. T., Lt. d. 22/1/30			
Crawford, M., o. (1) 21/8/35	Filley, W. H., Lt. (2) 28/7/35			
Newton, W. C. (1) 2/4/36				
Subalterns (34).	5th Battalion (Militia).			
Lieutenants.	6th Battalion (Militia).			
Jacob, M. A. (2) 30/8/26				
Gilbert, N. G., c.o. 4/2/29				

SENIORITY ROLL OF WARRANT OFFICERS AND N.C.Os.
NOVEMBER, 1936.

Rank and Name.	Date of present promotion or appointment.	Rank and Name.	Date of present promotion or appointment.
1st BATTALION.			
*R.S.M. P. Newman	13/8/31	L/Sergt. (Band) G. Jeffree	13/5/36
*Bdmr. A. Judge	12/4/31		(Corpl. 19/10/33)
*Q.M.S. (O.R.S.) A. Finch	13/6/28	L/Sergt. L. Roseblade	12/4/35
*R.Q.M.S. C. Goodall	28/7/35		(Corpl. 11/12/33)
	(C.S.M. 28/4/28)	L/Sergt. F. Britton	12/4/35
*C.S.M. A. Russell	1/4/31		(Corpl. 25/12/33)
*C.S.M. E. Burt (Depot)	13/8/31	*L/Sergt. P. Hopwood	18/12/34
*C.S.M. B. Brockman	10/12/31		(Corpl. 20/4/34)
*C.S.M. W. Randle	13/6/35	*L/Sergt. J. Painter	18/12/34
*C.S.M. H. Thomas	28/7/35		(Corpl. 8/5/34)
Sergt. W. Christie, M.M. (Transport)	1/5/20	L/Sergt. A. Brown	25/4/35
*Sergt. V. Osterholm (Pioneer)	18/10/23		(Corpl. 8/5/34)
*Col.-Sergt. (C.Q.M.S.) W. Rogers	28/7/35	*Corpl. C. Jacob	10/6/34
	(Sergt. 26/5/25)	L/Sergt. H. Game	13/5/36
*Col.-Sergt. (C.Q.M.S.) E. Hazeldine	5/3/35		(Corpl. 10/6/34)
	(Sergt. 5/4/26)	L/Sergt. V. Thomas	13/5/36
*Col.-Sergt. (C.Q.M.S.) C. Misso	19/1/32		(Corpl. 20/11/34)
	(Sergt. 28/2/28)	Corpl. T. Bayly	5/12/34
Sergt. T. Tiller	29/5/28	Corpl. A. Moore	15/2/35
*Sergt. C. Champion	1/1/29	*Corpl. L. McDowell	9/6/35
*Sergt. A. Russell	16/2/30	Corpl. W. Sampford	13/6/35
*Sergt. L. Honeybun	13/8/31	L/Sergt. H. Nayler	20/4/36
*Sergt. L. Priddy	18/9/31		(Corpl. 28/7/35)
*Sergt. S. Thompson (Johore Military Forces)	30/9/31	Corpl. F. Hiscocks	31/8/35
Sergt. (S.I.M.) R. Bayles	10/12/31	Corpl. W. Belcher	21/11/35
*Sergt. L. West	10/12/31	*Corpl. C. Keefe	28/11/35
*Drum-Major D. Drew	22/1/32	Corpl. J. McGrady	6/12/35
Sergt. F. Donovan	4/2/32	Corpl. F. Broughton	12/12/35
*Sergt. E. Paterson (36)	18/2/32	Corpl. F. Shaw	12/12/35
Sergt. H. Kruck	24/8/32	Corpl. P. Crowley	12/12/35
Sergt. A. Mason (Depot)	22/6/33	*Corpl. K. Simpson	12/12/35
Sergt. E. Paterson (29)	8/9/33	Corpl. S. Hosking	8/1/36
*Sergt. (O.R.C.) P. Hale	19/10/33	Corpl. F. Smith	22/3/36
Sergt. J. Little (Provost Sergeant)	19/10/33	*Corpl. P. Ward	28/3/36
Sergt. (Band) P. Edwards	5/3/35	Corpl. J. Robinson	7/4/36
*Sergt. J. Chillery	5/6/35	Corpl. M. Duddy	25/4/36
*Sergt. W. Snell	13/6/35	Corpl. S. Clark	30/4/36
Sergt. L. Williams (Depot)	28/7/35	Corpl. F. Hammond	25/5/36
*Sergt. R. Chaplin	27/11/35	Corpl. H. Price	27/5/36
Sergt. S. Bullock	1/7/36	Corpl. F. Crawshaw	6/6/36
L/Sergt. H. Ramsden	13/5/36	Corpl. J. Denham	1/7/36
	(Corpl. 1/4/31)		
L/Sergt. L. Sheffield	11/12/34	Paid —	
	(Corpl. 24/7/31)	L/Corpl. E. Rochester	24/8/27
Corpl. J. O'Neill	15/9/31	L/Corpl. W. Mills	17/6/33
Corpl. S. Phelan	15/9/31	L/Corpl. R. Butt	22/7/33
*L/Sergt. G. Bayford	11/12/34	L/Corpl. A. Burnett	6/7/34
	(Corpl. 21/1/32)	L/Corpl. W. Millichap	6/7/34
L/Sergt. R. Cladd	11/12/34	L/Corpl. W. Lane	6/7/34
	(Corpl. 28/1/32)	L/Corpl. R. Burkitt	9/7/34
L/Sergt. T. Castle	18/12/34	*L/Corpl. C. Martin	22/10/34
	(Corpl. 23/6/32)	L/Corpl. E. Pearce	23/10/34
L/Sergt. R. Blackman	13/5/36	L/Corpl. F. Sadler	12/11/34
	(Corpl. 26/7/32)	L/Corpl. F. Hammond	12/11/34
L/Sergt. E. Wadsworth	15/11/32	L/Corpl. T. Lawton	30/11/34
	(Corpl. 15/11/32)	L/Corpl. W. Price	30/11/34
Corpl. A. Smith	10/3/33	L/Corpl. T. Doyle	30/11/34
L/Sergt. C. Clark	18/12/34	L/Corpl. H. Almond	10/1/35
	(Corpl. 20/6/33)	L/Corpl. L. Savagar	10/1/35

* In possession of First Class Certificate of Education.

** In possession of Army Special Certificate of Education.

Rank and Name.	Date of present promotion or appointment.	Rank and Name.	Date of present promotion or appointment.
L/Corpl. L. Franklin ..	10/1/35	L/Corpl. W. Foster ..	3/1/36
L/Corpl. J. Lee ..	14/1/35	*L/Corpl. J. Whybrow ..	11/1/36
L/Corpl. W. Goddard ..	13/3/35	L/Corpl. H. King ..	14/2/36
L/Corpl. T. Morgan ..	26/3/35	L/Corpl. G. Tattam ..	1/4/36
L/Corpl. A. Borrow ..	26/3/35	L/Corpl. B. Courtney ..	1/4/36
L/Corpl. C. Freshwater ..	26/3/35	L/Corpl. L. Du-Heaume ..	1/4/36
*L/Corpl. G. Sach ..	18/4/35	L/Corpl. T. McDavitt ..	1/4/36
L/Corpl. G. Watson ..	7/5/35	L/Corpl. L. Graham ..	1/4/36
L/Corpl. L. Sibley ..	14/6/35	L/Corpl. P. Sturdy ..	1/4/36
L/Corpl. A. Burrell ..	11/7/35	L/Corpl. F. Ayres ..	1/4/36
*L/Corpl. A. Bissett ..	15/7/35	L/Corpl. A. Moody ..	21/4/36
L/Corpl. T. Baker ..	15/8/35	L/Corpl. E. Byrne ..	19/5/36
L/Corpl. S. Harvey ..	5/10/35	L/Corpl. W. Finnis ..	19/5/36
L/Corpl. R. White ..	5/10/35	L/Corpl. G. Mizon ..	19/5/36
L/Corpl. R. Powell ..	5/10/35	L/Corpl. E. Rogers ..	19/5/36
L/Corpl. E. Ellams ..	5/10/35	L/Corpl. R. Ellis ..	19/5/36
L/Corpl. R. Hunt ..	5/10/35	*L/Corpl. R. Gosling ..	19/5/36
L/Corpl. A. East ..	5/10/35	L/Corpl. V. Knight ..	19/5/36
L/Corpl. H. Osborne ..	5/10/35	L/Corpl. A. Hoare ..	19/5/36
L/Corpl. J. Hartnett ..	5/10/35	L/Corpl. T. Perry ..	19/5/36
L/Corpl. A. Simkins ..	5/10/35	L/Corpl. H. Ellams ..	19/5/36
L/Corpl. B. Compton ..	5/10/35	L/Corpl. H. Gribble ..	19/5/36
L/Corpl. C. Kiefer ..	5/10/35	L/Corpl. A. Ruddle ..	19/5/36
L/Corpl. E. Smith ..	16/12/35	L/Corpl. G. Ravenscroft ..	29/5/36
Unpaid —		*L/Corpl. G. Plummer ..	29/5/36
L/Corpl. W. Barnes ..	5/10/35	L/Corpl. C. Holford ..	29/5/36
L/Corpl. R. Turner ..	21/12/35	L/Corpl. P. Hatchett ..	13/6/36
L/Corpl. A. Pace ..	28/12/35	L/Corpl. W. Dowsett ..	15/6/36
L/Corpl. H. Kidby ..	28/12/35	L/Corpl. J. Boggis ..	10/7/36
L/Corpl. C. Johl ..	28/12/35	L/Corpl. F. Smalley ..	10/7/36
L/Corpl. C. Haynes ..	28/12/35	L/Corpl. G. Duncum ..	24/7/36
L/Corpl. A. Morris ..	28/12/35	L/Corpl. G. Hodgson ..	14/10/36
L/Corpl. C. Vince ..	28/12/35	L/Corpl. A. Hoxby ..	23/10/36
L/Corpl. J. Ringe ..	3/1/36	L/Corpl. W. Ure ..	23/10/36
		L/Corpl. G. Soper ..	14/11/36

Dates against Lance-Corporals are dates of appointment as Lance-Corporals.

2nd BATTALION (Home Establishment).

NOTICE.

Warrant Officers and N.C.O.s are, in their own interests, requested to write direct to the Adjutant 2nd Battalion The Middlesex Regiment (D.C.O.), Portsmouth, should they observe any omissions or errors in the Seniority Roll of the Home Establishment.

Rank and Name.	Battalion.	Date of present promotion or appointment.	Rank and Name.	Battalion.	Date of present promotion or appointment.
*R.S.M. C. Davis ..	Depot	13/4/29	Col.-Sergt. L. Hills ..	Depot	2/11/26
*R.S.M. W. Ward, M.M. ..	2nd	18/3/31	(Sergt. 5/4/19)		
*Bdmr. C. Dennis, A.R.C.M. ..	2nd	25/3/33	Col.-Sergt. W. West ..	2nd	22/2/28
*R.Q.M.S. E. Crouch ..	Depot	(C.S.M. 1/9/24)	(Sergt. 12/3/19)		
*R.Q.M.S. W. Fletcher ..	2nd	31/1/30	*Col.-Sergt. F. Franklin ..	2nd	8/9/32
*O.R.Q.M.S. B. Baldwin ..	Depot	2/7/30	(Sergt. 20/3/28)		
*C.S.M. G. Goodall ..	2nd	4/6/25	*Col.-Sergt. G. Sherriff ..	2nd	24/8/35
*C.S.M. J. Hart ..	9th	20/1/26	(Sergt. 9/12/29)		
*C.S.M. F. Peck ..	8th	18/2/29	*Col.-Sergt. (O.R.S.) C. Deane ..	2nd	10/5/35
*C.S.M. S. Anderson ..	Depot	20/10/30	(Sergt. 10/6/32)		
*C.S.M. L. Simmonds ..	2nd	3/9/32	*Col.-Sergt. W. Tibble ..	2nd	23/1/36
*C.S.M. R. Mewett ..	7th	23/3/33	(Sergt. 17/10/30)		
*C.S.M. H. Wright ..	8th	24/2/34	*Col.-Sergt. H. Poulter ..	2nd	5/7/36
*C.S.M. A. Jones ..	2nd	10/5/34	(Sergt. 13/10/28)		
*C.S.M. C. Donaldson ..	9th	15/6/35	*Sergt. R. Colbourne ..	2nd	6/10/23
*C.S.M. R. Parsler ..	2nd	17/5/36	Sergt. J. Beaveridge ..	2nd	28/1/25
*C.S.M. F. Stacey ..	2nd	4/7/36	*Sergt. S. Mason ..	19th	2/2/26
			Sergt. S. Bishop ..	7th	24/11/27

* In possession of First Class Certificate of Education.

** In possession of Army Special Certificate of Education.

Rank and Name.	Battalion.	Date of present promotion or appointment.	Rank and Name.	Battalion.	Date of present promotion or appointment.
Sergt. H. Sneath ..	2nd	15/12/27	Corpl. H. Elcome ..	2nd	16/11/32
*Sergt. H. Short, M.M. ..	2nd	21/2/29	*Corpl. H. Marshall ..	2nd	14/1/33
Sergt. A. Boen ..	9th	13/4/29	Corpl. F. Knights ..	2nd	1/2/33
Sergt. R. King ..	Supnmy., Fire Bde., Bordon	5/7/29	Corpl. J. Burgess ..	2nd	3/2/33
Sergt. F. Nash ..	2nd	11/12/29	Corpl. F. Knight ..	Depot	15/3/33
*Sergt. W. Northcott ..	Depot	25/2/30	Corpl. W. Evans ..	2nd	15/3/33
*Sergt. C. Soper ..	Depot	17/12/30	Corpl. J. Bromley ..	Depot	15/3/33
*Sergt. W. Green ..	2nd	27/12/30	*Corpl. A. Wray ..	2nd	23/3/33
*Sergt. C. Kennett ..	2nd	16/1/31	Corpl. E. Soden ..	2nd	3/5/33
Sergt. J. Quick ..	2nd	23/4/31	*Corpl. D. Chapman ..	2nd	15/8/33
*Sergt. W. Kemp ..	Depot	19/1/32	Corpl. E. Fuller ..	Depot	8/9/33
Sergt. J. Harper ..	2nd	19/4/32	Corpl. R. Harman ..	2nd	25/10/33
*Sergt. C. Trestrain ..	8th	14/6/32	Corpl. C. Carpenter ..	2nd	5/5/34
Sergt. J. Ramsey ..	7th	23/6/32	Corpl. T. Sargent ..	2nd	10/5/34
*Sergt. S. Smith ..	2nd	30/7/32	Corpl. J. Stickley ..	2nd	10/6/34
*Sergt. R. Smith ..	2nd	2/9/32	Corpl. W. Smith ..	Depot	17/6/34
Sergt. J. Scott ..	2nd	3/9/32	Corpl. W. Powell ..	Depot	2/10/34
*Sergt. L. Johnson ..	Depot	15/11/32	Corpl. A. Drake ..	2nd	3/2/35
Sergt. W. Bean ..	2nd	23/3/33	*Corpl. S. Copelin ..	2nd	1/3/35
Sergt. F. Housden ..	Depot	3/5/33	Corpl. R. Stretton ..	2nd	16/3/35
Sergt. H. Wilson ..	2nd	8/7/33	Corpl. F. Jaques ..	2nd	20/3/35
*Sergt. H. Ison ..	2nd	10/5/34	Corpl. H. Tye ..	2nd	4/5/35
Sergt. J. Bond ..	2nd	17/6/34	*Corpl. S. Day ..	2nd	16/5/35
Sergt. E. Jennings ..	2nd	1/3/35	Corpl. F. Payne ..	2nd	15/6/35
Sergt. V. Cooper ..	2nd	15/5/35	Corpl. B. Brunniges ..	Depot	16/6/35
Sergt. A. Whitcombe ..	2nd	15/6/35	Corpl. W. Broadbridge ..	2nd	22/8/35
Sergt. B. Bedward ..	2nd	16/6/35	Corpl. H. Eastland ..	2nd	24/8/35
Sergt. G. Newstead ..	2nd	24/8/35	*Corpl. B. Baldwin ..	2nd	18/10/35
*Sergt. R. Jenkins ..	2nd	31/8/35	Corpl. A. Ball ..	2nd	5/1/36
Sergt. F. Livens ..	2nd	23/1/36	*Corpl. G. Blackman ..	2nd	23/1/36
Drum-Major W. McEnery ..	2nd	17/5/36	Corpl. A. Etheridge ..	2nd	25/3/36
Corpl. A. Brett ..	2nd	28/1/30	Corpl. J. Lawrence ..	2nd	25/3/36
(L/Sergt. 16/4/36)			Corpl. H. Griffiths ..	2nd	16/4/36
Corpl. E. Moir ..	Depot	20/2/31	Corpl. J. O'Doherty ..	2nd	17/5/36
(L/Sergt. 20/3/34)			Corpl. W. Lovell ..	2nd	3/7/36
Corpl. A. Stone ..	2nd	2/9/31	*Corpl. R. Lomax ..	Depot	4/7/36
Corpl. S. Moore ..	2nd	28/12/31	Corpl. L. Delaney ..	2nd	5/7/36
(L/Sergt. 8/9/33)			Corpl. M. Trotabas ..	2nd	26/8/36
*Corpl. H. Frewin ..	2nd	18/2/32	Paid —		
(L/Sergt. 10/5/34)			L/Cpl. J. O'Neill ..	2nd	5/8/32
*Corpl. P. Maloney ..	2nd	1/6/32	L/Cpl. W. Patterson ..	2nd	13/10/32
(L/Sergt. 15/5/35)			L/Cpl. R. Weaver ..	2nd	23/11/32
Corpl. J. Wright ..	2nd	13/6/32	L/Cpl. A. Eldrett ..	Depot	23/11/32
(L/Sergt. 3/4/34)			L/Cpl. C. Armitage ..	2nd	3/1/33
*Corpl. A. Overy ..	2nd	14/6/32	L/Cpl. A. Ellwood ..	2nd	22/6/33
(L/Sergt. 16/5/35)			L/Cpl. A. Read ..	2nd	11/7/33
Corpl. R. Smallridge ..	2nd	14/6/32	L/Cpl. J. Collision ..	2nd	17/9/33
(L/Sergt. 15/6/35)			L/Cpl. G. Clarke ..	2nd	5/12/33
Corpl. F. Hawkins ..	Depot	28/6/32	L/Cpl. V. Bint ..	2nd	25/1/34
(L/Sergt. 16/6/35)			L/Cpl. J. West ..	2nd	27/1/34
Corpl. W. Day ..	Depot	5/8/32	L/Corpl. C. Kenny ..	Depot	17/2/34
(L/Sergt. 23/1/36)			L/Corpl. J. Hinch ..	2nd	18/2/34
Corpl. C. Gatehouse ..	2nd	6/8/32	L/Cpl. S. Parry ..	2nd	6/4/34
(L/Sergt. 24/8/35)			*L/Cpl. R. Cummins ..	2nd	14/4/34
*Corpl. H. Parnell ..	Depot	17/8/32	L/Cpl. A. Lowe ..	2nd	15/4/34
(L/Sergt. 31/8/35)			L/Cpl. L. Harris ..	Depot	20/4/34
Corpl. W. Makewell ..	2nd	17/8/32	L/Cpl. J. Walker ..	Depot	2/5/34
(L/Sergt. 7/3/36)			L/Cpl. N. Rae ..	2nd	17/6/34
Corpl. J. Riches ..	2nd	19/8/32	L/Cpl. P. Cain ..	2nd	22/6/34
(L/Sergt. 17/5/36)			L/Cpl. A. Bettell ..	2nd	11/7/34
Corpl. W. Poulter ..	Depot	3/9/32	L/Cpl. A. Blan ..	Depot	2/10/34
(L/Sergt. 3/7/36)			L/Cpl. G. Stanton ..	2nd	12/11/34
Corpl. H. Buckland ..	Depot	13/10/32	L/Cpl. C. Marsh ..	2nd	3/2/35
(L/Sergt. 28/9/36)			L/Cpl. C. Peasley ..	2nd	3/2/35
			L/Cpl. G. Hockley ..	2nd	3/2/35

* In possession of First Class Certificate of Education.

** In possession of Army Special Certificate of Education.

Rank and Name.	Battalion.	Date of present promotion or appointment.	Rank and Name.	Battalion.	Date of present promotion or appointment.
L/Cpl. R. Williams ..	2nd	20/2/35	L/Cpl. A. Lawrence ..	2nd	5/7/36
*L/Cpl. H. Page ..	2nd	16/3/35	L/Cpl. L. Thurston ..	2nd	26/8/36
*L/Cpl. W. Nicholls ..	2nd	20/3/35	*L/Cpl. N. Islip ..	2nd	4/5/35
L/Cpl. H. Outten ..	2nd	4/5/35	L/Cpl. J. Riseley ..	2nd	15/7/35
L/Cpl. E. Fletcher ..	2nd	16/5/35	L/Cpl. H. Burchell ..	2nd	27/7/35
L/Cpl. G. Robins ..	Depot	16/6/35	*L/Cpl. D. Mules,		
L/Cpl. J. Smith ..	2nd	13/7/35	R.M.C., Sandhurst	2nd	30/7/35
*L/Cpl. C. Jarvis ..	2nd	16/8/35	L/Cpl. D. Cavill ..	2nd	25/9/35
*L/Cpl. D. McCarthy,			L/Cpl. J. Rawlinson ..	2nd	4/10/35
R.M.A., Woolwich	2nd	21/8/35	L/Cpl. H. Jennings ..	2nd	4/10/35
L/Cpl. H. Clay ..	2nd	22/8/35	L/Cpl. F. Hogg ..	2nd	15/10/35
L/Cpl. A. Bursill ..	2nd	24/8/35	L/Cpl. E. Tarr ..	2nd	21/10/35
L/Cpl. G. McKay ..	2nd	31/8/35	L/Cpl. S. Weller ..	2nd	28/10/35
L/Cpl. A. Rose ..	2nd	24/9/35	L/Cpl. A. Morley ..	2nd	28/10/35
*L/Cpl. H. Jennings ..	2nd	12/10/35	L/Cpl. A. Hudson ..	2nd	11/12/35
L/Cpl. F. Pryor ..	2nd	18/10/35	L/Cpl. W. Phipps ..	2nd	2/1/36
L/Cpl. S. Waters ..	Depot	23/11/35	L/Cpl. E. Haynes ..	2nd	2/1/36
*L/Cpl. W. O'Conner ..	2nd	3/12/35	L/Cpl. B. Irons ..	2nd	2/1/36
L/Cpl. W. Sheen ..	2nd	5/1/36	L/Cpl. A. Rimmer ..	2nd	2/1/36
L/Cpl. A. Thompson ..	2nd	23/1/36	L/Cpl. E. Phillips ..	2nd	27/1/36
L/Cpl. J. Jones ..	2nd	11/2/36	L/Cpl. W. Claxton ..	2nd	27/1/36
L/Cpl. F. Collman ..	2nd	25/3/36	*L/Cpl. C. Tanner ..	2nd	1/2/36
*L/Cpl. E. Davidson ..	2nd	25/3/36	L/Cpl. D. Taylor ..	2nd	26/5/36
L/Cpl. R. Barrett ..	Depot	28/3/36	L/Cpl. S. Lloyd ..	2nd	24/6/36
*L/Cpl. R. Wigg ..	2nd	16/4/36	L/Cpl. S. Mullett ..	2nd	26/6/36
L/Cpl. E. Stebbing ..	2nd	17/5/36	L/Cpl. D. Baker ..	2nd	7/7/36
L/Cpl. G. Bignell ..	2nd	3/7/36	L/Cpl. E. Lindeman ..	2nd	15/7/36

* In possession of First Class Certificate of Education.

**In possession of Army Special Certificate of Education.

OBITUARY.

(Continued from page 723)

R.S.M. WILLIAM ALFRED SMITH

We regret to have to announce the death of R.S.M. William Alfred Smith, in December, at Hounslow.

He was born on 11th February, 1878, and enlisted in the Middlesex Regiment on 1st May, 1896. He served with the 1st Battalion from 1896 to 1910, two years being spent in South Africa, and twelve in India. He then transferred to the 2nd Battalion, with which

Battalion he served from 1910 to 1913 at home, being posted to the 5th Battalion from 1913 to 1915 and the 6th Battalion from 1915 to 1916. He went back to the 1st Battalion during the War, from 1916 to 1919. While he was R.S.M. of the 6th Battalion, in relief to the R.S.M. of that Battalion who went home on leave and did not return, R.S.M. Smith remained with this Battalion and was R.S.M. of the Cadre which returned from France in 1919. Finally he returned to the Depot, where he served until he was discharged on pension, on 7th April, 1920, after nearly 24 years' service. He had the Long Service and Good Conduct, British War, and Victory Medals.

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