

THE DIE-HARDS

THE JOURNAL OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT

(Duke of Cambridge's Own)

VOL. V. No. 6.

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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," "Seringsapatam," "Alubhera," "Ciudad Rodrigo," "Badajoz," "Vittoria," "Pyrenees," "Nivelle," "Nive," "Peninsula,"
 "Alma," "Inkerman," "Sevastopol," "New Zealand," "South Africa, 1879," "Relief of Ladysmith," "South Africa, 1900-02,"
 "Mons," "Marne, 1914," "Ypres, 1915," "17," "18," "Albert, 1916," "18," "Bazentin," "Cambrai, 1917," "18," "Hindenburg Line,"
 "Suvla," "Jerusalem," "Mesopotamia, 1917-18."

"Le Cateau," "Retreat from Mons," "Aisne, 1914," "18," "La Bassée, 1914," "Messines, 1914," "17," "18," "Armentières, 1914,"
 "Neuve Chapelle," "Gravenstafel," "St. Julien," "Frezenberg," "Bellevue," "Aubers," "Hooge, 1915," "Loos," "Somme,"
 "1916," "18," "Delville Wood," "Pozières," "Ginchy," "Flers-Coucolette," "Morval," "Thiepval," "Le Transloy," "Ancre Heights,"
 "Ancre, 1916," "18," "Bapaume, 1917," "18," "Arras, 1917," "18," "Vimy, 1917," "18," "Scarpe, 1917," "18," "Arleux," "Pillckem,"
 "Langemarck, 1917," "Menin Road," "Polygon Wood," "Broodseinde," "Poelcapelle," "Passchendaele," "St. Quentin,"
 "Rosières," "Avre," "Villers Bretonneux," "Lys," "Estaires," "Hazebrouck," "Bailleul," "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," "Tall Asur," "Palestine, 1917-18,"
 "Murmur, 1919," "Dukhovskaya," "Siberia, 1918-19."

Agents—Lloyds Bank, Limited, Cox's & King's Branch.

Regular and Militia Battalions.

Uniform—Scarlet. Facings—Lemon Yellow.

1st Bn. (57th Foot) ... Egypt.
 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.

Territorial Army Battalions.

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.

Affiliated Territorial Army Battalions.

7th City of London Regiment (Post Office Rifles) 24, Sun Street, Finsbury Square, E.C.2.
 19th London Regiment (St. Pancras) 76, High Street, Camden Town, N.W.1.

Allied Regiments of Canadian Militia.

The Peterborough Rangers ... Peterborough, Ontario.
 The Wentworth Regiment ... Dundas, Ontario.
 The Middlesex Light Infantry ... Strathroy, Ontario.

Allied Battalion of Australian Infantry.

57th Battalion ... Preston, Victoria.

Allied Regiment of Dominion of New Zealand.

The Taranaki Regiment ... New Plymouth.

Colonel-in-Chief:

General H.R.H. The Prince of Wales and Duke of Cornwall,
 K.G., K.T., K.P., G.C.S.I., G.C.M.G., G.C.I.E., G.C.V.O.,
 G.B.E., M.C., Colonel W. Gds., Colonel-in-Chief, 14th L.,
 R. S. Fus., S. Wales Bord., D.C.L.I., P.W. Vols., Seaforth, and
 R. Wilts Yeo, Personal A.D.C. to the King.

Colonel:

Brig.-General R. M. Heath, C.M.G., D.S.O.

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 9d. 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."

Bound Volumes can be supplied, provided back numbers are available, but there is only a limited number of these on hand. These copies are 9d. each, post free. Estimates given for complete volumes.

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).



IT is with deep regret that we have to announce the death of the following Old Comrades: Lieut.-Cols. Finch and English, Capt. Heffer, Clr.-Sergt. Gordon and Sergt. Connors.

Memoirs appear elsewhere in this issue. We tender our sincere sympathy to the relatives in each case.

We invite attention to the interesting correspondence, "A Link with Albuhera," and we would take this opportunity to point out to our older readers that we must look to them to bring to light details

of episodes in the life of our Regiment which, owing to their purely domestic nature, are not found fully chronicled in the "Digest of Services," but are nevertheless of deep interest to us all, especially when the narrator was an eye-witness. If this is not done, such records are lost for ever.

* * *

Whilst on the subject of histories, it has been felt for some time that the complete lack of any records of the life of our Militia Battalions is a matter to be deplored. We do not need to remind members that they are the oldest portion of the Regiment, and in fact have been so closely associated with the Regular Battalions in the past that they have lost their own identity. Any records or accounts of episodes connected with these battalions will be gratefully accepted.



OFFICERS' CLUB NOTES.

THE Regimental Association, ever exercised with the question of employment for ex-soldiers of the Regiment, has appealed to the Officers' Club for co-operation.

Realizing that such a cause would be the deep concern of all members, the following suggestion is put forward:—

That all members undertake to offer all jobs in their gift, or over which they have some control, in the first instance to the Association.

It is probable that such a scheme would not always be suitable for jobs in the country, when a man might be required urgently, but in the case of the London area a telephone call to Finchley 1553 would settle the matter quickly.

Recently three ex-members of the Regiment were supplied with jobs by this method, and it is thought that if more widely applied good results might be obtained.

As a guide, the following jobs are suitable:—

For Pensioners.—Caretakers of offices and schools, hall porters, commissionaires and messengers.

For All.—Domestic service (married couples), receipt and dispatch clerks,

grooms, bus conductors, watchmen and door attendants.

GOLF.

REGIMENTAL AUTUMN MEETING.

It is unfortunately necessary to start with a word of apology with regard to the dates of the meeting. The provisional dates arranged were found to be unsuitable, were altered as soon as possible, and the change published in the Journal, but not before the provisional dates had got noised abroad, and in consequence some disappointment was caused to one or two would-be competitors. It is hoped in future to make the date a fixed one and a red-letter day in everyone's diary, but meanwhile we can only tender our humble apologies to those who suffered inconvenience, annoyance and disappointment.

A more pleasant duty is to render our grateful thanks to those officers who so kindly came forward in most generous fashion and provided the prizes for the meeting. Being modest people, we will spare their blushes and refrain from naming them here, though their names will be recorded in letters of gold in the archives of the Golfing Society to prevent future Hon. Secretaries preying again on their generosity.

We are also very grateful to Mr. Murray Brown and the Committee and members of Frinton-on-Sea Golf Club for allowing us to hold our meeting there, and for the arrangements made for our entertainment.

There! Now we can get on with the golf.

Altogether, twenty-one members took part in the two days' golf (their names and the result of their club-swinging will be found later on). This number is, I suppose, satisfactory, but it was not up to expectations, and there were several disappointments. Letters of apology for non-attendance were received from Brig.-General Pearson, Major Heape, Capt. Cooper, Col. Maitland, Mr. Porter, Capt. Kempster, Capt. MacIlwaine, Mr. Sutcliffe and Capt. Crawford, who was to have come, but wired at the last moment that he was enjoying a nice cold in bed.

Several never replied at all, thereby adding to the grey hairs of the Hon. Secretary, who was unable to say what

rooms, what lunches, how many caddies, etc. etc., were needed. May we ask members to spare a penny on a reply in future? It does help so much.

With commendable punctuality the party staying at the Cups arrived in time for dinner. After washing the dirt of the city from their persons, changing, and consuming dinner, this party adjourned to the Officers' Club, where the Band of the 2nd Battalion was playing, and there they joined a considerable party from the Battalion and had a very pleasant evening.

Saturday morning looked anything but promising. However, a fair number went to Frinton in good time—such good time, in the case of the first arrival, a restless little man, that he had to sound "Reveille" for the club, we hear. There was no competition in the morning, which was devoted to practice rounds destined to breed confidence, or lack of it, in the ability of one's partner of the afternoon.

Most people started amicably after lunch, but the restless little man before-mentioned was heard complaining ever and anon that "two people here have never been on a course before: one's my caddy, and the other's my partner."

Naturally, there was no team spirit, and the necessity for this and the disasters which befall those who lack it were quickly illustrated when this party took 16 of the worst at the second hole.

The greyness of the morning wore off steadily until it would be hard to imagine a more perfect day for golf than it turned out finally. In such conditions good scores might be expected, and on the whole were obtained. It was the first time we had tried medal-round foursomes, and all but one couple returned a card.

As our secretaries have failed to leave us with any details of the wanderings of the various couples, it must be left to the imagination. Rumour did reach us that Hogg and Stephenson were going great guns, but otherwise it was impossible to tell what was going on.

From the following results it will be seen that something went wrong with the guns of Stephenson and Hogg, and they ended regimentally with South and Procter at a modest 77. It appeared that Whinney and Anderson would be the winners, but to their relief—it sounds strange, but they had a reason for their relief—the last couple to come in, Lieut.-Col.

Jefferd and Else, proved to be the winners, much to everyone's approval, as it was most right and proper that the former should win at his first appearance as Commanding Officer, whilst the latter deserves some reward for coming to our assistance at the last minute in the spring.

Scores:—

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Lieut.-Col. Jefferd and F. H. Else ... | 90—16=74 |
| Capt. Whinney and Major Anderson ... | 87—11=76 |
| Majors South and Procter ... | 84—7=77 |
| Capt. Hogg and J. W. A. Stephenson ... | 85—8=77 |
| A. E. Green and J. P. L. Weston ... | 99—20=79 |
| Lieut.-Cols. Samuel and Coles ... | 101—17=84 |
| Capt. Clark and R. T. Guscott ... | 120—27=93 |
| Major Lyons and W. Newton ... | 113—19=94 |
| Major Wollocombe and Capt. Heywood ... | 124—27=97 |
| Majors Bucknall and Horrocks—struggled bravely (Secretary's report). | |

Whilst everyone sat in the sun on the terrace and had tea, the draw for the next day was made, players being divided into two halves, the higher handicaps in one and the lower in the other, and each pair was drawn so as to have one of each half in every pair.

This business concluded, the party broke up, some indulging in sea bathing, but the majority adjourned for a warmer bath and change before meeting again for supper in the Mess. Of this there is nothing to be said except that it proved a very pleasant evening, and the general opinion was that it must be repeated in the future.

Sunday dawned grey and dismal, but it was not actually raining when play started. It did not hold off for long, and once it started it went on steadily. It was a very damp party of nineteen who returned continually to the club-house. The 20th having gone out in the diaphanous costume of mid-summer cannot be included, as he was practically drowned, and on return was forced to sit like Cinderella and miss the party, until another member, having eaten his fill, had pity on him and took him back to his hotel. Even in these depressing conditions, one officer found it possible to laugh, and his well-known bell-like tones were heard even by those 800 yards away.

Results:—

Horrocks and Else, 1 down (won on the first nine holes).

Anderson and Weston.—1 down.

Whinney and Lyons.—2 down.

Coles and Procter.—3 down.

South and Green.—5 down.

Samuel and Unwin.—6 down.

Hogg and Guscott.—7 down.

And the rest, we presume, got too wet to count.

There was no afternoon play, needless to say. When I say none, we did see four stalwarts start out, but we have not heard what happened to them when the real deluge started, as, in common with most others, we had started on the way home.

And so ended our first Autumn Meeting.

SANDHURST OFFICERS' CLUB.

A CLUB, to be known as the "Sandhurst Officers' Club," has been formed for all officers who at any time have served or are serving as members of the R.M.C. staff.

The object of the Club is to encourage and enable past and present officers of the R.M.C. staff to keep in touch with each other.

There is a nominal life subscription of 5s. All officers, as above, who are willing to join the Club should forward their subscriptions, together with a permanent address, to The Chaplain, Hon. Secretary, Sandhurst Officers' Club, R.M.C., Camberley, and should state the dates of the tenure of their appointment on the R.M.C. staff.

It is intended to hold an Annual Reunion of members, when "Past and Present" cricket, tennis and golf matches will be played.

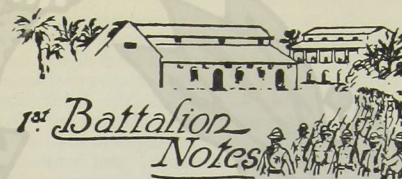
The date of the first Reunion will be notified later.

REGIMENTAL HISTORICAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM.

THE following articles have been presented to the Regimental Museum during the past quarter, and are acknowledged with many thanks:—

Copies of "The Die-Hards Doings": presented by Mrs. H. P. R. Anson.

Stick presented to Sergt.-Dmr. Deacon by the Sergeants' Mess, 1st Battalion, on completion of forty years' service in the Battalion, 1905: presented by Mr. E. Morris.



SOME thirty years ago, long before ever the war was seriously thought of, a number of persons were led to believe that the end of the world was at hand. The Great Pyramid, or the Book of Revelations, was held to have prophesied it, or the scientists had predicted it, or some forecast or other had been made, likely to appeal to the credulous. The result was that several people, persuaded of the truth of this proposition, refused to begin anything the end of which was at all remote, and sat up at night in order to be in time for the Day of Judgment. When morning came upon them, and there was no Day of Judgment, we may imagine that they felt a little ridiculous.

Writing in these troublesome times, and situated immediately between Italy and Abyssinia, it is difficult to avoid feeling that what we are writing will have an ironical flavour for readers in the future:

"Alas, regardless of their doom,

The little victims play. . . ."

On the other hand, we must remember our prophetic friends in the paragraph above. If we are to be full of forebodings which come to nothing, posterity will certainly not allow us to get away with it. "Ah," it will say, with that superior complacent tone in which we discuss events safely past, "these fellows thought that so-and-so would be the end of everything, but it wasn't."

On the whole, then, we think we would avoid taking the larger view, and confine our attention strictly to the more local matters. Nothing more has been heard of our move to Singapore, except to confirm what we already know. We had been told that one of our companies was to go to Cyprus on detachment for the winter, but that arrangement has been cancelled, and at present it is supposed that we shall have a detachment at Alexandria instead.

We are now reaching the end of the "holiday season": soon, for the first

time since the spring, everyone will be on duty in the Battalion at the same time, regarding each other with that mixture of curiosity and familiarity that in our school days we used to associate with the beginning of term.

Major Stewart, Capts. Rackham and Hedgecoe, and Lieuts. Powell, Gwyn, Beadnell and Peal are all shortly due to return to the fold. Lieuts. Chattey, jr., and Hall arrived back on 23rd August, Lieut. Bellers at the beginning of July, and Lieut. Sword at the end of June, at the same time as Lieut. Herapath, who left us at once for the Brigade Office as Garrison Adjutant, where he fairly teemed with efficiency, until the middle of August.

Capt. Weller rejoined us at the end of August, to assume command of "C" Company, and Lieut. Marsh at about the same time. Lieut. Marsh is now Secretary of the United Service Club, where he acts as *maitre d'hotel* with great skill and uncton. Capt. Cubitt, Lieut. Hall, C.S.M. Brockman and about two hundred other ranks are at present in Cairo for the Command Rifle Meeting, in which we wish them the best of luck.

During the next trooping season two new officers are to join us: Lieut. W. P. M. Allen in the first part of the season, and Lieut. M. P. Weedon in the latter part. We offer them in anticipation a hearty welcome to the 1st Battalion. We are also to receive a draft of 229 other ranks during the trooping season.

The annual change-of-air camp for the married families has been held at Alexandria during the summer. The Band paid them a fortnight's visit in August, and while they were away the Drums acted as our "band of music," to the admiration of everyone. We feel that we had not hitherto appreciated their talent and adaptability.

We were pleased to see in the *London Gazette* of 20th August the promotion of Lieut. Crawford to Captain, on which we congratulate him, and his posting to the 1st Battalion, on which we may congratulate ourselves. In the same *Gazette* we note the retirement of Major Sloane-Stanley, after many years of service in different battalions of the Regiment. We shall miss him particularly in the 1st Battalion, in which he completed his service, and was the mainstay of the polo and the hunting. The best wishes of everyone go

with him and with Mrs. Sloane-Stanley. We hope that they will long continue their connection with the Regiment.

We have also to congratulate 2/Lieuts. Peal and Whiting on their promotion to Lieutenant. Finally, we wish the 2nd Battalion, manoeuvres safely over, the best of luck in their new station.

We include among these notes some private contributions by members of the Battalion. Whatever criticism may be made of them, if indeed any criticism is necessary, we would like to observe that they represent a sincere attempt to add interest to the Journal, which, according to some judgments, is in danger of degenerating into a bald record of facts. It is a pity that those who are most forward with their complaints of our dullness should be so diffident in contributing something to relieve it. We welcome all contributions, whether their literary merit reaches the standard set by our more select intellectual monthlies or not.

OUR VILLAGE.

It was suggested some time ago that an article on our present station would be of interest to our friends and readers. Articles of this nature have a tendency to become boring, but it is hoped that the following will prove amusing, interesting and perhaps instructive to those who like to follow the adventures of comrades abroad.

Moascar—meaning in Arabic “The Camp”—may have been a true description originally, but, owing to the march of progress, it would be truer now to say that it is merely the name of our village. The village community is built up on ideal lines, and in traditional English country style. Our social scale, although built up on military lines, is also in many ways ideal. The village is laid out on a modified but distinctly English pattern.

The Brigadier very effectively carries out the duties of “The Squire,” having for his manor the “Brig.’s House,” while the “County” is very well represented by the officers and their families; the villagers naturally being the rank and file and their families. Our population is roughly 2,500, with a great male majority, which unfortunately is due to the exigency of the Service.

The next thing we find in our little village is the “Rural Council,” and this is composed of the Senior Medical Officer, who with his assistants also constitutes the “Board of Health,” the Education Officer, who heads the “Board of Education,” the Area Provost Marshal, who acts as “Chief Constable” and heads the “Criminal Investigation Department; and the “Vicar,” represented by the Senior Chaplain, who attends to the spiritual welfare of the flock. These are very capably led by the Squire.

We will now consider our various departments in some detail, as we hope there will be some points which councillors at home may want to adopt. Needless to say, they are very welcome to use any of our ideas.

Our Health Department consists of a large, up-to-date hospital with doctors and nurses quite capable of dealing with any likely emergency. There are a number of first-aid stations and places of treatment for out-patients, where No. 9's and iodine are very liberally distributed to all and sundry. The dental clinic is also a model of efficiency and guarantees to cure toothache while you wait, or fit the largest mouth with new railings. One also sees the District Nurse doing her daily dozen (of visits) to the families in the village, during which she no doubt gives most interesting and modern advice for the better handling of the rising generation.

The Fire and Accident Department is also remarkably effective. The whole village turns out to fires and the brilliant handling of the two-man-power engine is the topic of conversation for months. Fires are very scarce, but that is a good thing, because water is scarcer, and now the firemen use cameras to take snapshots of the flames. The ambulance service must be a good one, as no case of failure has yet been reported, even though the exhaust, being near the roof, gives it the appearance of an ancient type of traction engine.

Every village has a general store—we have, too, and the N.A.A.F.I. completely fills this important rôle. There is a house-to-house delivery, and anything from a packet of salts to a perambulator may be obtained on demand. A workable credit system is also available as well as the usual one of paying on the nail. We regret that we have not yet attained

the dignity of owning our own bank, but some good substitutes exist.

The Police Force is in two groups—the C.I.D. and the Locals. The C.I.D. is run by the Military Police under the A.P.M. The locals are selected from the villagers and each district supplies its own. These are under the control of the District Governor, and usually indulge in that exciting occupation of traffic control. The Judicial Department is far too involved to explain here, but we have a couple of beautiful gaols.

We have something to crow about in our Board of Education, as very few, if any, other villages can boast of adult as well as children's schools. These adult schools are the last word in intellectual progression, and are badly needed. The children are trained by a very competent staff of lady teachers, under the Board, and, like any other school, the boys soon learn to sew while the girls play football. This is, of course, in accordance with the ultra-modern system of education.

Among other amenities of our village life we have a modern picture house, open-air in summer; a railway station, open-air all the time, closed to trains nearly always; a bus service, a real going concern; plenty of clubs and sports fields; and social centres galore. Last, but by no means least, we have community kitchens and dining-rooms, where the majority of our population are fed free of charge.

A brief geographical survey of our village is given for general information:

Area.—About four square miles, divided into four main districts, each with its own Governor (*vide* feudal system).

Physical Features.—Sand, more sand, still more sand.

Waterways.—Two canals, one fresh, one smells.

Roads.—Three: hard, medium, soft.

Industries.—Fishing and agriculture.

Hobbies.—Soldiering.

Population.—Male, 2,200; female and infantile, 300.

Note.—An army of 2,200 is maintained under the direct control of District Governors, but always at the disposal of the Squire (more feudal system). It is affiliated in some way or other to the British Army.

Any reader who has read as far as this must have been interested and possibly

amused, in which case we shall have attained something of our original object.
W. S.

CRICKET.

Keenness for cricket in the Battalion has shown no signs of abating during the second half of the season. The Battalion team has been quite successful, losing only three matches, but owing to the smallness of the Garrison there has not been much variety in the way of opponents.

We managed to defeat, on our own ground, our conquerors in the Command Cup, the R.A.S.C., Egypt, by 26 runs, and lost a most exciting match against the Cairo City Police by 1 wicket, whilst we won an equally exciting one against the 42nd Field Company, R.E., by 1 run. Our worst exhibition was against Lieut. Herapath's XI, when Macintosh, the fast bowler of No. 6 Squadron, R.A.F., got us out for 25 runs.

The best thing about the side is the fielding, with the bowling a good second. Ptes. Price and Chapman have bowled very well, whilst Pte. Evans has made great strides as a fast bowler since he realized that batsmen can be caught in the slips. The weakest part of the side is the batting: we need a couple of steady, consistent batsmen to stiffen it. Our most consistent bats have been Ptes. Jones, James and Price.

Another great need is a slow spin bowler. We think we have discovered one in the last three matches in Pte. Dean, who has been converted into a slow bowler through circumstances over which he had no control. He improves in every match, his 5 for 15 against the R.E. being a very good performance. Pte. Coombes also shows promise.

The 2nd XI have played several matches, being successful in all cases, and we have great hopes of doing well in Singapore, although we realize that the opposition there will be much stronger.

“A” (S.) Company won the Inter-Company Cricket and were undoubtedly the best side, one of their hitters coming off in every match. “D” Company were runners-up, whilst “B” and “C” Companies had a “needle” game for bottom place, which “B” Company won, thanks to a fine century by Pte. Price.

"A" (S.) Company also won the Inter-Platoon Knock-out, providing both teams in the final, in which No. 2 Platoon beat No. 4 Platoon.

In the Small Units' Competition, only "A" (S.) and "D" Companies were entered. "D" Company played "Y" Squadron from No. 4 F.T.S., and made 112, chiefly due to a good innings by Pte. Jones. When they had six of "Y" Squadron's wickets down for 50, they looked to have the game won, but the last two men made a big stand and they just got home.

"A" (S.) Company started off by a crushing victory over "X" Squadron, Pte. Wilson hitting up a century; and then defeated "Y" Squadron comfortably.

In the Garrison final they played No. 6 Squadron, R.A.F., and when they got their opponents out for 108 runs, they seemed probable winners, especially when Sergt. Bullock, going in first, completely demoralized Macintosh, their fast bowler, by hitting him for four consecutive 6's and rattling up 39. The rest of the side, however, failed miserably and unaccountably, and could only amass a total of 80.

We have now only one more match to play before the end of the season, and can look back on what may quite fairly be described as a successful season, whilst the outlook for next year, with experience and improvement in a number of keen players, is most hopeful.

SWIMMING.

During the winter the Royal Engineers have considerably improved the bathing facilities on Lake Timsah by the construction of a proper water-polo pitch and an extra pier for the spectators. Regimental Swimming Sports and the Water Polo League have in consequence been easy to arrange, and the successes of the Canal Brigade at the Swimming Championships this year in Cairo were no doubt helped largely by these additions.

Life-saving classes have been continued throughout the summer, and four 1st Class instructors, eight Awards of Merit, and fifty Bronze Medallion Certificates have already been awarded to men of the Battalion. It is pleasing to note that eight of the time-expired personnel are taking their Award of Merit examination shortly,

knowing that this may be of assistance in obtaining civilian employment at home.

The number of non-swimmers (less those exempt for medical reasons) has been steadily reduced since we have been at Moascar, and now stands at forty-five out of the 900 men in the Battalion.

A Small Units' Water Polo League has been continued throughout the summer, and at present "H.Q." Wing, "D" and "C" Companies, and "H.Q." Wing of 1st Bn. The Royal Scots Fusiliers are at the top.

On 10th and 11th July the Inter-Company Swimming Sports were held on Lake Timsah, and "H.Q." Wing proved the winners after an exciting meeting.

The "H.Q." Wing team was decidedly the best this year, but their disqualification in the first event, the 75 Yards Relay, made the final result doubtful.

Results were as follows:—

75 Yards Relay.—1, "D" Company; 2, "C" Company; 3, "A" (S.) Company.

Plunging.—1, "C" Company; 2, "B" Company; 3, "H.Q." Wing.

880 Yards.—1, "H.Q." Wing; 2, "D" Company; 3, "B" Company.

Company Relay.—1, "H.Q." Wing; 2, "C" Company; 3, "A" (S.) Company.

180 Yards Relay.—1, "D" Company; 2, "H.Q." Wing; 3, "B" Company.

Variety Race.—1, "H.Q." Wing; 2, "D" Company; 3, "B" Company.

Diving.—1, "H.Q." Wing; 2, "A" (S.) Company; 3, "B" Company.

440 Yards.—1, "D" Company; 2, "H.Q." Wing; 3, "C" Company.

Final points were: "H.Q." Wing, 45; "D" Company, 44; "A" (S.), "B" and "C" Companies, 29 each.

A Life-saving Race was also held and was won by Ptes. East and Kent, "B" Company, with Bdsn. Ure, "H.Q." Wing, and Pte. Mayhew, "D" Company, second.

From 22nd July trails were carried out with a view to selecting the Battalion team for the Command Championships. On the 12th the seventeen selected swimmers proceeded to Cairo for their last few days' training under Lieut. Bellers, and were attached to the 5th Royal Northumberland Fusiliers at Abbassia. Friendly water-polo matches were arranged at the Helio-polis and Ezbekiah Swimming Baths, and most encouraging results were obtained.

In the Individual Championships Pte. Mayhew swam well in the 440 Yards Free

Style, gaining third place, and Dmr. Holdford came fourth in the Diving, though only eight points behind the winner with 156 points. Boy Davies gained third place in the Enlisted Boys' Race.

In the Team Championships it was soon clear that it was to be a close struggle between the Royal Scots Fusiliers, Royal Tank Corps and ourselves for the cup, and an exciting meeting followed.

In the 75 Yards Relay (Ptes. Stemp and Haig, and Bdsn. Ryder and Schroder) we reached the semi-finals, but, despite reducing our time by 3 1-5 sec. to 3 min. 18 sec., failed to qualify for the final.

L./Cpl. Butt and Pte. Mayhew reached the Plunging final with plunges of 54 ft. 4 in. and 55 ft. 8 in. respectively. In the final, Mayhew produced an excellent 60 ft. 1 in., with the result that we gained third place with a total of 112 ft. 6 in.

The 180 Yards Relay team (Ptes. Buckle and Mayhew, and L./Cpl. Sargent) easily reached the final with the good time of 7 min. 34 sec., and obtained third place.

L./Cpl. Sargent and Pte. Mayhew swam strongly in the 440 Yards, and gained second place with the total time of 13 min. 48 sec.

Fourth place was obtained in the 880 Yards (L./Cpl. Sargent and Bdsn. Ure), after a good race in which L./Cpl. Sargent swam very strongly in his heat.

The Medley team (Bdsn. Lloyd, L./Cpl. Hymas and Bdsn. Schroder) met strong opposition and failed to survive the semi-final after a close race.

In the first round of the Diving (Dmr. Holdford and Lieut. Bellers) the final was easily reached, points being: R.T.C., 305; R.H.A., 295; ourselves, 288. On the final day a close competition was witnessed in which we gained second place to the R.T.C., scores being: R.T.C., 302; ourselves, 300; R.H.A., 290.

The Unit Relay team (Ptes. Jones, Haig, Buckle and Mayhew, Bdsn. Ryder and Schroder, and Pte. Stemp) obtained fourth place in the final with 5 min. 58 sec., but produced a better time in the semi-final by 2 sec.

The water-polo team (L./Cpl. Sargent, Ptes. Mayhew, Stemp and Berry, Bdsn. Lloyd, L./Cpl. Hymas and Pte. Jones) proved to be one of the best in the Command, and played two really excellent games. In the first round against the King's Dragoon Guards we won by 2—0

after an exciting game, as they were a good team. We met the R.A. in the semi-final and a close game resulted. We defended the deep end in the first half, and after five minutes' play Mayhew secured the ball and opened the scoring for us. The R.A. goalkeeper soon after just saved a difficult shot from Stemp, and by half-time we still led by 1—0. In the second half Berry saved two difficult shots in the first four minutes, but soon after the R.A. equalized with a penalty. Both sides now played very hard, and the R.A. put in a winning goal just as the whistle blew for time. It was a game between two very evenly matched teams, and it was a matter of luck who won. The players are to be congratulated on their good team work and hard training they put in, to achieve excellent results.

The final placings of the team meeting were: 1st Bn. The Royal Scots Fusiliers, 38; Royal Tank Corps, 33; Middlesex Regiment, 28; 8th Hussars, 20; Royal Artillery, 18.

L./Cpl. Sargent is to be congratulated on his hard work in training the team, assisted by L./Cpl. Butt, whose persevering training for plunging is also worthy of praise.

All members of the team trained hard and willingly, and with the two reserves (Pte. Hill, plunging, and Pte. Jennings, 880 yards) produced an excellent team spirit.

We also congratulate the Royal Scots Fusiliers on winning the cup, and thus securing the first and third places in the Command Championships for the Canal Brigade.

"A" (S.) COMPANY.

The completed efforts of the Company's Annual Weapon Training courses are now to hand, and it is with satisfaction that we regard some excellent results.

A brief summary will enlighten our readers as to the cause of our satisfaction:

Machine Gun.—Old Gunners, marksmen, 70; 1st Class, 4; 2nd Class, 1; unqualified, nil. New Gunners: marksmen, nil; 1st Class, 49; 2nd Class, 9; unqualified, 2.

Rifle.—Marksmen, 54; 1st Class, 41; 2nd Class, 36; unqualified, nil.

The Annual Platoon M.G. Shoot was held after the completion of the course.

After a very keen competition, it was won by No. 1 Platoon.

The Company M.G. team is now in Cairo for the Command Shoot, and in wishing them the best of luck we hope that they may accomplish our greatest ambition—winning the M.G. Cup.

As usual, sporting events have occupied most of our spare time, and several of the Albuhera competitions have been decided. Here is a brief survey of the results:—

As anticipated, the Company did exceedingly well in cricket. In the Company League we won all games, and, although all were keenly contested, we won each with comparative ease. The league championship depended on the last game between ourselves and "H.Q." Wing. This game proved to be an appropriate finale to the Cricket League, for, after being four wickets down for 11 runs, we went on to make 127. A last-wicket stand by the Wing made the game more exciting, but we eventually succeeded in winning by 41 runs.

In the Small Units' Knock-out we succeeded in reaching the final of the Canal Group, where we lost to No. 6 Squadron, R.A.F. The game proved full of excitement, with the result in the balance to the finish. Some remarkably good fielding by the team, with some amazing catches by Sergt. Williams and Pte. Wilson, put No. 6 Squadron in a very poor position in the early phase of the game. They were 7 wickets down for only 41 runs, but they eventually made a stand and took their total to 108.

The Company made a good start and were 56 runs for only two wickets down. Sergt. Bullock gave an excellent display with the bat, hitting no less than 30 runs off of one over. The Company collapsed, however, and we lost by 28 runs.

The detailed scores of this competition were as follows:—

- v. "Y" Squadron, R.A.F., won by 253 runs. Scores: "A" Company, 337 (Wilson, 102; Sergt. Bullock, 78); "Y" Squadron, 74.
- v. "X" Squadron, R.A.F., won by 103 runs. Scores: "A" Company, 228 (Sergt. Britton, 61; James, 52); "X" Squadron, 125.
- v. No. 6 Squadron, R.A.F., lost by 28 runs. Scores: "A" Company, 80

(Sergt. Bullock, 38); No. 6 Squadron, 108 (Chapman, 7 for 52).

We retained the Platoon Cricket Shield. This year No. 2 Platoon beat No. 4 Platoon (winners last year) by 5 wickets in the final. All four platoons did well in this competition, and the spirit with which our platoons play their games leaves nothing to be desired.

In the water polo and swimming, the Company fared as well as could be expected, and in spite of the fact that we lost all games in the water polo, we have entered the Garrison Water Polo League with the intention of improving our chances in the next station.

At hockey the Company were rather unfortunate to finish third in the Company League. Once again all games were evenly contested, and in the two games that we lost (against "D" Company and "H.Q." Wing) we, with any element of luck, might have won. In the closing stages of the game with "D" Company a penalty bully was awarded against us, and that settled the result of that game. Against "H.Q." we lost in a very hard-fought game. We were three goals down in the early stages of the first half, but the team never lost their spirit, and after some persistent attacking, we eventually changed over one goal down. On the resumption of the game we continued our attacks on the Wing's goal, but our efforts were unrewarded and the first-half score remained unchanged. However, it was an exceptionally fine game, full of excitement, and undoubtedly both teams enjoyed it.

Our team played exceptionally well throughout the competition, and we have no faults to find.

This quarter has been marred by two very unfortunate deaths: Pte. Reed, and Mrs. Kennett, wife of Sergt. Kennett. We would like to offer our condolences to their relatives in their sad bereavement.

At the moment our Company Commander, Capt. B. B. Rackham, M.C., is on leave in England, and Cpl. Bayly and L./Cpl. Cox are on M.G. courses. We hope that they enjoy themselves, and that these N.C.Os. will, on the completion of their courses, be able to impart to us something *new* about the machine gun.

It is believed that Moascar, meaning in Arabic "The Camp," is going to live up to its name, since it is going to be our

training ground in the ensuing training season. Anyway, Platoon Headquarters Training has now commenced, and no doubt all will tackle their training with a good heart, with the knowledge that, on the completion of it, they will have a nice voyage to Singapore (or Abyssinia?).

"B" COMPANY.

At the end of June we held our Company Swimming Sports and had a good morning's sport at Lake Timsah. We must congratulate all who took part in the meeting on making a good show of it.

Our C.S.M. put up a very good and game display in the Variety Race, ably encouraged by Pte. Francis. We should like to know why someone was shouting "Hats off, the King." We are sorry we cannot publish full results.

In the Battalion Swimming Sports we tied with "C" and "A" Companies for third place, the meeting being won by "H.Q." Wing.

During the first week of July the Battalion Rifle Meeting was held, and "B" Company made themselves felt in no small degree. No. 5 Platoon, captained by Sergt. Chillery, won the Inter-Platoon Shoot with 102 points, much to the chagrin of "H.Q." Wing, who thought it was a bit of cake. Cheer up, the Wing; better luck next time. We had to admit defeat to "H.Q." Wing in the Inter-Company Team Shoot.

The end of the meeting found us runners-up to the Wing, only one point behind. Perhaps our friends the Wing will remember the practice run down of 161 points.

The Company has had some good outings in the Brigade launch with the C.S.M. in charge.

During the first week of August Cpl. May organized an outing for three days, and we can assure you that everything went off O.K. Thanks, Charlie.

The Inter-Company Hockey League has been played off and "B" Company, last year's winners, had to be content with fourth place. We congratulate the Wing on winning this competition by dropping only one point.

The Company Football and Small Unit matches will soon be started, and all one can do now is wait and see what the result will be. The picking of the Company

team is in the hands of Clr.-Sergt. Challis and his selection committee. If the team trains as a team it may get somewhere in the football world.

Once more we are looking forward to the Inter-Company Boxing and Cross-Country Running, which take place in October. With a slice of luck the former shield may be retained by the Company and safely repose in the dining-hall.

We congratulate Sergt. Challis on his appointment to Company Quartermaster-Sergeant, and all hope that he may live long and die happy. We also congratulate Sergt. Chillery on his promotion to full rank.

By the time these notes are published about sixty men of the Company will be waiting for the boat—that is if Mussolini does not get up to any tricks and start a war.

We shall miss all these people a great deal, but we must take this opportunity of wishing them all the best of luck.

"C" COMPANY.

We extend a hearty welcome to Capt. Weller who has returned from leave in the United Kingdom, and has assumed command of the Company from Capt. Overell, who is now performing the duties of Acting Adjutant.

Interest in all kinds of sport has found a good bed in the Company, and it is to be hoped that this bed will be set in concrete so as never to be uprooted. We all feel sure that the motto, "Never say die," will eventually bring us to the top rung of the ladder, and if we do not reach that coveted position it will not be for lack of effort. "H.Q." Wing, take note, for we are out to wrest the laurels from you this year.

Swimming, with its many leagues and meetings, has ruled the roost during the past quarter, and by the results shown we can definitely see the improvement made by our swimmers, who have put in some really hard work under the able guidance of L./Cpl. Sargent and A./Cpl. Adams.

BATTALION INDIVIDUAL SWIMMING MEETING.

175 Yards Free Style.—1st, L./Cpl. Sargent.

75 Yards Free Style.—2nd, Pte. Vinton.

37½ Yards Back-stroke.—2nd, Pte. Buckell.

INTER-COMPANY WATER POLO LEAGUE.

- v. "H.Q." Wing, lost 0—8.
- v. "A" Company, won 7—0.
- v. "B" Company, won 6—1.
- v. "D" Company, won 2—1.

The Company finished second in this league.

GARRISON WATER POLO AND RELAY LEAGUE.

- v. "D" Company, 1st R.S.F., won 6—1; Relay, won.
- v. "D" Company, 1st Middlesex Regt., drew 1—1; Relay, lost.
- v. "X" Squadron, R.A.F., drew 3—3; Relay, won.
- v. R.A.M.C., Moascar, walk-over.
- v. No. 6 Squadron, R.A.F., walk-over.
- v. "A" Company, 1st Middlesex Regt., won 3—1; Relay, won.
- v. "H.Q." Wing, 1st R.S.F., lost 1—5; Relay, lost.

This league has only reached the half-way stage, owing to the Command Meeting, which is being held at Cairo.

We have three representatives in the persons of L./Cpl. Sargent, and Ptes. 63 Jones and Hill, competing for the Battalion in this meeting. The first-named player is the Battalion centre-forward in the water-polo team. We wish them every success.

The next item of interest, although not of a competitive nature, was cricket. We have played several games since the Battalion Cricket League has finished, our chief victims being the Small Units, Moascar. Two other matches worthy of recognition were played, *i.e.*, Officers and N.C.Os. versus Privates of the Company. In other words, Age *v.* Youth. A sound licking in the first encounter was taken in good spirit by the Officers' and N.C.Os.' team, who returned the compliment in the second game, to the surprise of all. This latter result was due chiefly to the sound batting of L./Sergt. Brown and a tail-end partnership of Sergts. Smith and Kruck. The first-named knocked up a useful 30 not out, and together with about 15 extras in the last ten minutes, the game was pulled out of the mire. This was the greatest surprise of all, and resulted in the "Aged" team running out clear winners. The Privates were

undoubtedly the better team as regards cricket, so in future let their motto be "It never pays to take things easy." These two games were novel ones in that we brought out all the "old 'uns," who in some cases had not touched the willow for about ten to fifteen years.

When time and ground permit, we hope to arrange other games in other forms of sport, to wit, hockey and football. We intend to give the Privates a good run for their money under the instruction of C.Q.M.S. Misso, who incidentally has gone to Alexandria to take a salt-water course and refresh his mind with cool sea breezes, in order to bring out those dormant tactics we know he has carefully stored away. Believe me when I say they are of the proper shock type.

Recently the Company numbers have been depleted in barracks owing to fifty of our other ranks being at Port Said on detachment. We hear they are enjoying the change of air, especially in the vicinity of the new meat store.

About forty-three of our N.C.Os. and men due for T.A.R. are also looking forward to a change (notably from the five-button cut). Let us hope that their visions of home will come true, although their comrades continually remind them that some boats go Abyssinia way.

During August our film fans had some real programmes with "Evergreen," etc., in the evening, followed by "Captain 'X'" and his company featuring in "The Defence of a Village," "Fighting Patrols," "Rapid Wiring," and "Kapok Bridging," before and after breakfast the following mornings. Everyone was interested, and quite a number of good points were brought out. The cinema, too, was realistic of the "good old days." Sergt. Snell is to be congratulated on his constructional abilities, and on the experience he gave us by a visit to his "Black Hole of Calcutta." We wonder if he puts his candidates through the same experiences when teaching them "Army and Empire"? However, we thank him for the fun.

The Battalion shooting teams will be going to Cairo this month (September) to take part in the Command Rifle Meeting. Those proceeding from "C" Company are as follows: Sergt. Paterson, L./Sergt. Brown, L./Cpl. Keefe, and Ptes. Hatfield, Deer, Law, Garnish,

Dehnel, Drake, 40 Pope, Brooks, Lever, 27 Jones, Dibble, Newman, Crook and Dowsing.

We fully expect Sergt. Paterson to return with the sniping honours of the Command; he was a "dead eye" last year, and is all out to win. We wish the whole team the very best of luck.

During the past quarter we were very sorry to hear of the sudden death of Lieut.-Col. J. English in going to the assistance of his son who was in difficulties while swimming at Bognor. Our most sincere sympathy is tendered to the widow in her sad bereavement.

Before concluding, we must record and congratulate the following on their recent promotions and appointments: C.S.M. Goodall to R.Q.M.S. (we wish him a happy sojourn in "H.Q." Wing); Clr.-Sergt. Thomas to C.S.M.; L./Sergt. Smith to Sergeant; L./Sergt. Cladd on receiving pay of appointment; L./Cpl. Sampford to Corporal; and L./Cpls. Burrell and Sibley on first appointment.

WAS IT?

A solemn hush fell over the room in which the court of inquiry sat. They were gathered together to investigate the mysterious disappearance of an important item of military necessity.

The court consisted of Capt. De Fectiv as President, and Lieuts. Sloe and Shure as members. The witnesses were marched in, and the evidence of each taken separately in writing. There is no doubt that these statements, made by responsible N.C.Os. and men of the Regiment, while on oath, were true in every detail.

Cpl. Scott, the N.C.O. directly responsible for the checking and disposal of this particular item, states: "Sir, on September the 4th, at about 9.30 a.m., I personally checked the arrival of these articles. They were correct in every detail. I entered them as such in the Army book as provided."

Capt. De Fectiv: "May I see this Army book?"

Cpl. Scott immediately produces the book from his hip-pocket, and, pointing to an entry on page 3, proudly remarks: "That is my own writing, sir."

Lieut. Shure, writing industriously, looks up to see the entry and continues scribing at an even faster rate than before.

The evidence of Pte. Ugly is taken next and he states: "Sir, as storeman of the store in which these things are stored, I assisted Cpl. Scott to check in these articles, and I believe they were correct. On September the 4th, at about 10.30 a.m., I had occasion to open a tin, so that an issue could be made in accordance with my instructions. My instructions are in writing, and in order to prevent an error the articles issued were counted three times, once by myself, once by the man taking the issue, and once by the Battalion Orderly Sergeant. My issue book was then signed by the Orderly Officer. Here is the signature, sir."

Capt. De Fectiv takes the book and scrutinizes the signature. He looks directly at Lieut. Sloe and says, "This is your signature, isn't it?"

Lieut. Sloe replies, "Er—yes, sir. I was Orderly Officer that day."

Capt. De Fectiv, thinking deeply, asks: "Did you count them yourself?"

Lieut. Sloe answers, "N-n-n-no, sir; I'm not very good at counting, sir, o-o-o or things like that."

Capt. De Fectiv fishes out his note-book and makes an entry in it, while Lieut. Sloe looks uncomfortably on.

The next witness walks in, and as he was the Battalion Orderly Sergeant on this terrible day he can, it is found, only corroborate the statement of the storeman.

Capt. De Fectiv has now decided that the issue was made in accordance with the best traditions of the British Army, and that the article in question must have been lost through some other agency.

The police force has now been called into action and instructed to find all the people who passed the door of the store between the hours of 9.30 and 10.30 a.m. on the 4th. After a long search, about fifty men were produced who may, or who may not, have seen something of importance. On interrogation, one man was at last found who had a definite statement to make. He was sworn at—I mean in—and his statement is as follows: "Sir, abaht ten ack emma I was passing this store w'en I sor ole 'Muzzy' comin' aht wiv crums rahnd 'is mouf an' a 'appy look on 'is fice. I didn't fink nothink at the time, but naw youse mentions it, he must 'ave bin up to sumfin, sir."

Capt. De Fectiv: "Now, my man, tell me this: who is this 'Muzzy'?"

"Why, sir, 'Muzzy' is a dorg, that black-and-white terrier youse sees abaht," replies the man.

Capt. De Fectiv: "Thank you, that is all." Then, to the members of the court, he remarks: "I think the 'Finding' should be 'Destroyed by an act of God,' what?"

Lieut. Sloe starts forward in his chair and with a puzzled frown, exclaims "What I cannot understand is how the dog unwrapped the paper they put round these biscuits."

Capt. De Fectiv very slowly replies, "Don't let us inquire too closely into the working of the canine mind."

Result: one packet biscuits, Army pattern, struck off.

W. S.

"D" COMPANY.

We have now completed our Weapon Training Course, and on the whole our average was as good as last year. We went into the Regimental Rifle Meeting in high hope of doing well; but we were not good enough, and on the day our teams did not shoot as well as we had hoped. We have learnt that constant practice is essential to ensure success with a little luck. In the Falling Plate Competition we were beaten by "A" (S.) Company, the ultimate winners. "H.Q." overwhelmed the remainder of the Battalion both collectively and individually, and we must see to it that we produce better results next year.

In the cricket we finally gained second place, and are indebted to our only real bowler, Pte. Evans, and our opening batsmen, Capt. Worton and Pte. Jones, backed up by some good fielding by all members of the side. Our match against "A" (S.) Company ended disastrously for us, as we failed in all departments of the game that day, with the exception of a really good innings of 38 by Pte. Jones.

In the Platoon Knock-out we were outclassed, and had to be content with "equal bottom."

In swimming we have done really well, and obtained second place in the sports, losing only to "H.Q." Wing by one point. We were fortunate in finding two good swimmers in our last draft in Ptes.

Jennings and Buckle. The former should become a very powerful swimmer.

Great kudos is due to the energetic work during training carried out by all members, and under the leadership of L./Cpl. Tatt our team did well. Our outstanding swimmer is Pte. Mayhew, who fortunately will be with us next year at Singapore. We counted on being runners-up to "H.Q." Wing in the water polo, but "C" Company sprang a surprise on us, with the result that we ended up third. An expert has remarked that our team is well balanced, but their water tactics are too stereotyped. We are still in the Small Units' Water Polo and Relay League, and hope to win this competition.

The football season is on us and we have already commenced to build up our team. Every prospective member must train hard. Unfortunately we are losing some fine players in L./Cpls. Staley and Jolley, and Ptes. Kirby and Rhodes, who are, alas, due for civilian life.

To turn to the military side, we have now finished Individual Training and most of us found our month instructive and interesting.

Our programme was subject to several alterations first by the Battalion Rifle Meeting and secondly by a sudden decision (through no fault of anyone) for "D" Company to practise emplaning for Iraq in troop-carrying machines. We carried out the evolution on a gruelling hot day, and on the whole it was well done. We must all be on the look-out for sudden orders to emplane, as this method of travel has come to stay and will become universal before long. Even a small practice emplanement like this taxed the administrative staff of the Company.

The usual military Individual Training was relieved by lectures on Regimental history, the Egyptian and European situation, and a talk on "How to prepare for Civilian Life whilst in the Army."

After many rumours we have now heard that "D" Company is to go to Alexandria in December for four months.

Unfortunately, we will have to leave our time-expired men behind, but we are all looking forward to a change of air by the seaside.

We were all pleased to welcome back Lieut. Marsh, but he is booked for the Depot, and we shall miss his keenness and energy in the Company. We wish him



VIEW OF VICKERS VICTORIA TROOP-CARRYING PLANE.
Note R101 Mooring Mast in the Background.



"D" COMPANY EMLANING, MOASCAR, 1935.

every luck, and let us hope he picks out some good recruits for "D" Company.

In the Rounders Competition, No. 14 Platoon, captained by Cpl. Thorn, worked their way into the final, and were defeated by the Details.

The Inter-Company Hockey League is now finished; we started with friendly matches against the Royal Scots Fusiliers. Our first inter-company match was against "C" Company, whom we beat 4-1. L./Cpls. Jolley and Sheen deserve special mention in this game.

In the second Company match we lost 1-3 to "H.Q." Wing, and in the third match we defeated "A" (S.) Company by 2-1. L./Cpls. Staley and Crowley, and Pte. Goddard were outstanding in this match, which caused great enthusiasm and was watched by about two-thirds of the Battalion. In the last match we drew 1-1 with "B" Company, and secured second place in the league.

We congratulate Cpls. Thorn and Harewell on their recent promotion, and are very pleased to have Sergt. Priddy back with us after a period of duty at Port Said.

Company Training is due to start next month, but conflicting rumours make us wonder if this will take place as arranged.

"H.Q." WING.

Since our last quarter's notes, the practice shoots and sports, as forecast, brought us quite a few points towards the Albuhera and Mons Shields. We won the Shooting and Swimming Shields, the points for which count towards the Albuhera Shield. We were winners of the Inter-Platoon Water Polo, and runners-up in the Platoon Cricket Knock-out, bringing us more points towards the Mons Shield. At the present time we lead by 6 points in the Albuhera, and by 1 point in the Mons.

The Platoon Cricket looked quite good for the Wing, with the two strongest platoons left in the semi-finals to battle with two of "A" (S.) Company's, but, alas, both fell at the jumps, leaving "A" (S.) in the final. Congratulations to "A."

The Water Polo Inter-Platoon Competition has quite a different story to tell. It was an "all-Wing" final, with the Signals taking the shield once again; the

holders, the Band, went out in the second round to the Details, after a great game, with rivalry running very strong.

While on the subject of water polo, we have to report that we have entered a team for the Canal Brigade League. This consists of water polo and a relay race. To date we have played three, won two and lost one. We have overcome the stiffest obstacle, that of "H.Q." Wing, 1st Bn. The Royal Scots Fusiliers, with whom we drew the water polo, one goal each, but lost the relay race.

Our shooting teams are at present undergoing intensive musketry ready for the Command competitions, and if keenness has anything to do with it the coffers of the Signals will be replenished with "Ackers." They certainly took many silver spoons during the Company practice shoots, Sergt. Bayford being the favourite with three.

While hockey and football grounds are being got up to the standard, an Inter-Platoon Baseball Competition was held and No. 20 Platoon (Details) were the winners by an innings and 3 runs.

Before the 250 other ranks went to Cairo for the Brigade Rifle Meeting the Inter-Company Hockey League was played and won by us. We congratulate "A" (S.) Company on giving us another very hard game in the final and deciding game for the championship. We hope to return the compliment when we meet in the Inter-Company Football League.

BAND.

We must say that that was a quick three months, although a couple of members of the Band say that time does not go quickly enough for them. One hears whispers of how slowly the time passes a couple of months before the trooping season opens. But as this only affects a few of our number, we will pass on to more interesting items.

Our month at Alexandria was enjoyed by all, including an enthusiastic audience who had the opportunity of hearing our musical efforts. Before our departure for the "Brighton of Egypt" we gave a few concerts, and we gather from the reports of our keen critics that it went over very well. "Lofty" put in a marionette show which needed a lot of "warm" rehearsing.

We were unfortunate to lose to the Details in the Water Polo Knock-out after a very hard replay. We have the consolation of knowing that a team in the Wing won the competition—the Signals, who beat the Details in the final.

We take this opportunity of congratulating Bandmaster and Mrs. Judge on the birth of a son.

We are all looking forward to our move to Singapore. Maybe the Raffles Hotel will need our "red hot" dance band—one never knows.

We congratulate L./Cpl. Hymas on the extra bit of tailor's work on his tunic sleeves.

We are sending a number of representatives in the Battalion shooting team to Cairo for the Command Competition. We hope that all the prizes of any value find their way to this station.

DRUMS.

In our last effort with the pen, we spoke of looking forward to our annual local leave. It is now a thing of the past, for we have had it, and only the memories remain—very pleasant memories, too, for it was most enjoyable, and not one dull moment was spent during the whole fortnight.

The Drum-Major arranged two trips per week to Serapeum. Rations were taken, and the cooking staff excelled themselves. Thanks to Mrs. Drew, our extra messing money was well expended, and many good things appeared on the meal table.

We were recalled from leave for one day, to "butt mark" for the Company shooting team, and were promised two days' leave later to make up for it. We waited for the full moon, and again decided on Serapeum. This time we were determined to do it in style and camp for the night. The fame of our day trips must have spread, for friends at duty asked, and obtained, permission to accompany us. Everything was thought of, and nothing happened to spoil the show. Perhaps the anglers who spent the day, and half the night, feeding the fishes without a bite were rather peeved. Moonlight and early morning bathing were taken full advantage of. Great were the appetites at breakfast. Mention must be made of L./Cpl. Butt's wonderful feats—

he carried a crate of beer for three miles. It just shows what determination will do, not to mention thirst.

The Garrison launch is now allotted for the day, so a trip was arranged to Toussum. Thanks to C.S.M. Randle, whom we now take the opportunity of congratulating on attaining W.O. rank, a very nice day was spent. The Drums' cooks were again to the fore. Klintonworth is now the egg-cracking champion.

In sport we have done very well. Although not finalists, we have reached the semi-finals on three occasions. In cricket we hoped to make it a Wing final with the Signals. Unfortunately, they were beaten by No. 4 Platoon, and we lost to No. 2 Platoon. Well done, "A" (S.) Company.

Pullen must be thanked for his captaincy and Ringe for his outstanding batting performances. Although he has been in the Drums sixteen years, he has never taken cricket seriously, and none of us realized he could wield the willow. If only we had put him in first wicket instead of sixth a different tale might be told. He just held up his wicket whilst his partner struck out. Nothing would induce him to hit anything but a loose ball. His score against No. 10 Platoon was 36 not out.

No. 10 Platoon (Sergt. Cladd) challenged us to a friendly game and entertained us to tea. In spite of their company players, the Drums won, and another afternoon passed pleasantly away.

In water polo we lost in the semi-finals to the Signals. Stickley was the mainstay of our team, but L./Cpl. Watson falling sick with malaria that morning decidedly cramped our style. Baseball is another tale of a lost semi-final, this time to No. 5 Platoon.

L./Cpl. Butt and Dmr. Holdford deserved praise for their efforts in the Battalion and Company Swimming Sports; Butt for his plunging, and Holdford for his diving. At present they are at Cairo representing the Battalion in the Command Sports. The results will be seen in the Battalion Sports notes.

The Band is now at Alexandria for a month—two weeks as duty band to the change-of-air camp, and the remainder leave. The Drum-Major has arranged a great number of band pieces, and such items as "Lustspeil," "Mikads" and

"La Cirquantaire" appear on our programmes, which we played at the Officers' Mess during the absence of the Band. Practice is much more interesting after the eternal marches, etc.

Before going any farther we must offer our congratulations to Bandmaster and Mrs. Judge on the birth of a son.

Four members of the Band—L./Cpl. Hawkesworth, and Bdsn. Dowling, Ver-yard and Le Count—left during August for discharge by purchase. We wish them all the best of luck and happiness in civil life.

Our homegoers are very concerned about the Abyssinian question, but are full of hope for an early boat. In case they go before the next quarter's notes appear in print, we take the opportunity of wishing them all they wish themselves.

In closing down, we wish the best of luck to the 2nd Battalion Drums, and all the best to Jim Stickley.

SIGNALS.

This quarter has been a very strenuous time for the Signal Section. The constant buzz of the buzzer, the wag of the flag, and the flash of the helio have kept our ears, eyes and brains ever on the alert.

The new class is progressing favourably; buzzers seem to be their weakness, but with a little extra tuition we are sure that they will "make the grade" at Classification, which takes place at the beginning of October, and we hope to have a 100 per cent. class this year.

We welcome the ex-signallers who are classifying this year. It seems like old times having them amongst us once more. "Tumps" is very keen; he is always drawing circuits and showing them to one of the N.C.Os. Of course, he does it in an underhand way: he does not want to show the others how keen he really is. Little Red Man, what now?

In sports we have been well to the fore, and since our last notes appeared, two more Mons Shield competitions have taken place. These were the Inter-Platoon Knock-out and the Water Polo Knock-out. We succeeded in dispatching our first two opposing cricket teams with ease, but lost to No. 4 Platoon in the semi-final. The Platoon Water Polo Shield, however, comes back to us this

year, and here we may add that this is the third year in succession that we have reached the final. The Band beat us in the final last year, and this year we regained the shield by beating the Details.

We have been selected to represent the Battalion in the Platoon Shoot at Cairo, and our daily dose of musketry appears to be improving our marksmanship, as on each successive practice shoot we reached a higher score. We were well represented in the Wing's rifle team, which won the Shooting Shield and Spoons given for the best scores. During the practice shoots all silver spoons found their way to the Signals.

The Wing's boxing team is getting under way; the constant banging of the punch-bag is a sure sign of keenness. This year we have a few additions to the team who should help us to get a high place in the Albuhera competitions. Wass (by the way, this is pronounced exactly the same as Bass in the bottle) is certainly showing great form, and we hope to see him in the Battalion team this year.

Congratulations to Cpl. Gadsden on his promotion to full rank. Persistence has certainly won. We also congratulate L./Cpl. Denham on being paid.

In conclusion, we wish all past Battalion Signallers all the best of luck. To present Signallers we can only say "The best of luck on Classification."

SERGEANTS' MESS.

It was with the deepest regret that all members of the Mess received the news of the loss of Mrs. Kennett, wife of Sergt. C. Kennett, from peritonitis following a short illness. Our sympathy with Sergt. Kennett, his two children and other relatives is recorded here.

Happy people are Bandmaster and Mrs. Judge, who now have in Ronald Albert a son and heir. No doubt this news is mentioned elsewhere, but this occasion is being used heartily to congratulate our Bandmaster and his wife.

We congratulate the following on their promotions, which were made possible by the posting to the Depot of R.Q.M.S. Crouch:—

C.S.M. G. Goodall to R.Q.M.S.
Clr.-Sergt. (C.Q.M.S.) H. Thomas to W.O.II (C.S.M.)



SLING THAT OVER YOUR RIGHT SHOULDER



Sergt. W. Rogers to Colour-Sergeant (C.Q.M.S.).

L./Sergt. L. Williams to Sergeant.
L./Sergt. A. Wadsworth to Paid Lance-Sergeant.

The following arrival and departures have occurred:—

Sergt. L. Priddy: rejoined from employment as Acting Garrison Quartermaster-Sergeant, Port Said.

R.Q.M.S. E. Crouch: posted to Depot.
Sergt. C. Kennett: posted to 2nd Battalion.

Sergt. L. West: posted to Port Said for employment as Acting Garrison Quartermaster-Sergeant.

The following have won the monthly billiards and snooker handicap tournaments during the past quarter:—

Billiards.—June, C.S.M. Raindle; July, Clr.-Sergt. Challis; August, L./Sergt. Roseblade.

Snooker.—June, Sergt. 29 Paterson; July, L./Sergt. Castle; August, Clr.-Sergt. Hazeldene.

The monthly whist drives continue to be successful, and it is hoped that the approach of cool weather will soon increase the attendance at, and the popularity of, the drives.

Mess dinners have been held each month during the quarter, at which many guests have been entertained.

A burlesque cricket match was played against the Sergeants' Mess, No. 42 Company, Royal Engineers, on August Bank Holiday Monday. Teams were very evenly matched, and the game was a "toss-up" from the start. Our R.E. friends provided tea and a dance following the game, thus completing for all a happy holiday.

Preparation for the Egypt Command Rifle Meeting marks the end of the Individual Training period, and many members of the Mess have been selected to represent the Battalion at the meeting. It is hoped that they will be successful in all their competitions.

CORPORALS' MESS.

This quarter has seen fewer of the successful socials which we have up till now been able to hold, but nevertheless we hope to carry on with them again in the near future.

On 30th June an outing was held with very great success. The party started from the Mess at 10 o'clock by bus, and arrived at Serapeum in time for a nice cooling swim before lunch. Here we must mention the good work put in by the ladies who were with us: they got all the food ready and made things quite homely for us. An excellent day well spent. The following month an outing to Toussum was held with equal success.

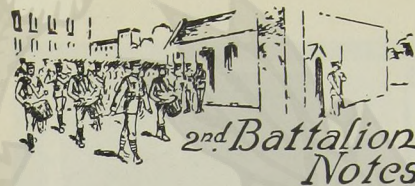
Early in July we had a very pleasant afternoon when the Corporals of No. 6 Squadron, R.A.F., visited us for cricket. Each team managed to get two rather quick innings in, and our luck held. We beat them by 41 runs. Everyone is agreed that this could never have been achieved if "Jeff" had not been playing in his white yachting cap.

An entertaining evening took place when the R.E. Corporals were invited to a games tournament. We succeeded in winning the billiards, skittles and darts, but lost the ping-pong. Cpl. Jacobs and L./Cpl. Hughes must be congratulated on their efforts to make the evening a success. They were well rewarded.

The Corporals' tennis team has gone to rack and ruin this year, owing to the fact that our court was being relaid. This has now been finished, and once again we shall be able to regain our former proficiency. We have been watching with apprehension the growing proficiency of many of the Privates in the Battalion.

However, we shall most certainly put them to the test in Singapore (time-excepted, of course).

We conclude with congratulations to those of our members who have left us and gone one step farther up the long ladder of promotion, and extend a hearty welcome to all new members.



MOST of the time since the writing of the last Journal notes has been taken up by intensive Collective Training, starting with Battalion Training at Colchester and culminating in Army manoeuvres.

The Battalion moved to Picket Twenty Camp at Andover on 18th August, and, starting with another week of Battalion Training, we were gradually worked up to the War Office exercise. Although we were fortunate in having fine weather for the first part of camp, rain fell on and off for the whole of the latter half. Lieut. Else is to be both congratulated and thanked for his excellent idea in producing sets of deck tennis and for the way in which he devoted his spare time to showing all ranks how to play. It proved to be an excellent recreation in camp, and was much appreciated by all.

Brigade Training began on 26th August and for two of the exercises the Battalion was acting as "enemy," each company representing a battalion.

On Saturday, 7th September, at 4 a.m., the Battalion marched out of Picket Twenty Camp for Porton, which was reached at about 11 a.m. Dinners were issued in a field, and afterwards a demonstration of the employment of tanks with infantry took place, which was watched by the whole of the 4th Division. Immediately after, the Brigade marched to a rest-camp at Winterbourne Dauntsey. This particular camp, in company with one other, will be remembered for some time. In this case, it brought about a full realization of the capacity of hungry insect life.

Sunday morning was a welcome rest, but that afternoon the Brigade moved to their concentration area, preparatory to the commencement of the Command exercise. That night we bivouacked at Woodford, a village about three miles north-north-west of Salisbury.

Monday morning was damp and grey, and it was raining quite heavily as

bivouacs were being struck. The Brigade being in reserve, the Battalion were not actively engaged the whole day. By 10 p.m. the rain was so heavy and everyone so wet that the Directing Staff declared an "armistice" till 10 a.m. the next morning. Fortunately, we were able to move into a neighbouring camp at Hollond Down (of which more later). The following day saw the Battalion actively engaged. Unfortunately there is not the space to give a complete narrative of events: a certain amount of detail will be found in the company notes. After having crossed the River Test at Longstock in the evening, where "D" Company upheld their reputation for "assault bridging," we spent the night on the far bank. The next evening the exercise ended a few miles short of Winchester.

On 16th September we moved off again to Hollond Down for the War Office exercise. Here again it is only possible to give the sketchiest outline of events.

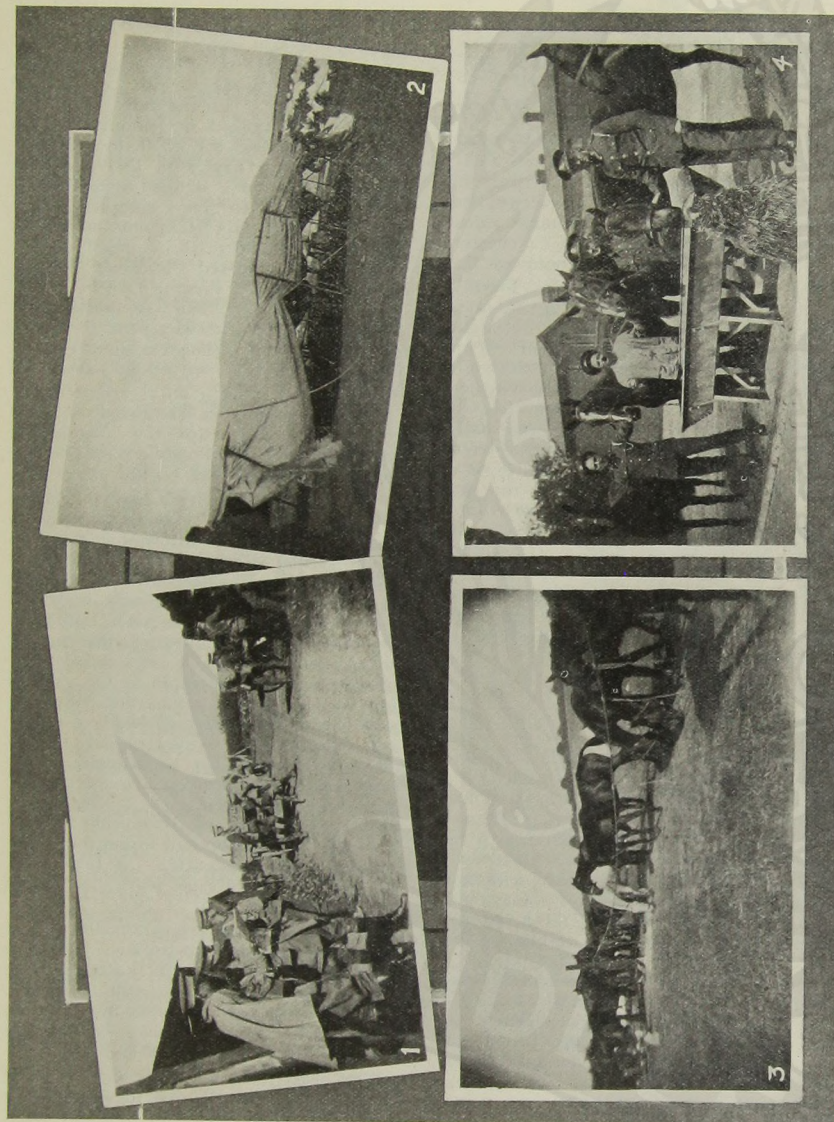
The night of 16th/17th September was a memorable one. Having arrived, in the rain, late in the afternoon, the Battalion settled down for a good night's rest, with the prospect of little for the next few days. In the early hours of the 17th the camp, as such, suddenly ceased to exist. The transformation was almost immediate. A very heavy gale effectively razed the camp to the ground and turned it into a mass of billowing white heaps for all the world like a rough sea. Scantly clad figures, already soaked through, scurried for what little shelter remained. Some preferred to accept their misfortune and remained amongst the debris, which, however, from time to time gave up victims who had found their condition no longer tolerable. So heavy was the storm that salvage work had to be left till daylight.

It reflects great credit on the cooks that they were able to produce breakfast next morning, and on the Battalion as a whole that, by 2 p.m. the same day, they were marching off on the commencement of the War Office exercise, bearing no outward sign of that ghastly night.

The next three days proved to be very strenuous for us all, and involved much marching, little sleep and our full share of fighting.

1.—2nd Battalion Headquarters at Whitechurch.

2.—2nd Battalion Officers' Mess after the Gale.



3 and 4.—Transport.

I think it can truthfully be said that we had more to do than any other unit in the Brigade. On more than one occasion we were under the command of another brigade. The final "Cease Fire" found the Battalion in the neighbourhood of Whitechurch and Hurstbourne Priors. We returned to our old camp at Andover, and the next night the Battalion entrained for Colchester.

Owing to the epidemic of coughing amongst the horses, the whole of the transport was taken over by hired lorries for the last two exercises. Up to this time we had been able to muster more fit horses than any other unit in the Brigade, and this reflects well on the Transport Officer and the Transport personnel.

At the time of writing, everyone is busy preparing for the annual administrative inspection, and the Battalion's move to Portsmouth. Unfortunately for the majority of us, cricket is temporarily a thing of the past, and the rugger season is now getting into its stride.

Congratulations to Capt. I. D. S. Gordon on his promotion and appointment as Adjutant, and to Capt. P. E. C. Tuckey on his having qualified for the Staff College. We are very sorry he is leaving us for Egypt at such short notice, and sincerely hope he will be back very soon.

Lieut. R. H. Batten has rejoined us, having been attached to the R.A.F. during the Collective Training period as I.L.O.

"A" COMPANY.

The major portion of the past quarter was spent in training, both locally and in Hampshire, and necessarily other activities have been cut down to a minimum. Successful swimming sports were held at the beginning of July, but the days are growing colder and aquatics cease to hold the same interest. Congratulations, however, to L./Sergt. Hopwood and L./Cpl. Lomax on their performances in the various competitions.

It seemed that we were scarcely back from one camp before we were sent to another. This one, however, was more serious in intent. Our latest draft from the Depot finished its preliminary training in time to accompany us to Andover, and

we were able to form three platoons of medium strength and one flag platoon. Two of the platoons had their first experience of Higher Training, and, although the conditions were at times trying, they acquitted themselves well. The main drawback at camp was the weather, which often proved irksome, both physically and mentally, but the nature of the training itself did not prove to be as bad as many had expected.

Our strength is soon to be depleted by the annual transfers to the Gunners and Signallers. In addition, quite a number will soon be on their way to join the 1st Battalion. To all these we wish the best of luck, and trust that they will soon settle down in their new surroundings. Space does not permit of all names being given, but mention must be made of Ptes. Fabray and Kent, whose services in sport we have lost and "H.Q." Wing have gained.

Our congratulations go to Capt. Gordon on his promotion to his present rank and his appointment as Adjutant, although this means that the Company has lost his services.

C.S.M. Donaldson was posted to us on obtaining promotion to W.O.II, and Sergts. Cooper and Newstead have also recently been promoted. To all these our congratulations. Also to L./Sergt. Parnell, who, although he is attached to the Depot, is still remembered in "A."

Individual Training has now commenced, and the "Casuals" are firing their course. We trust they will keep up the Company average.

Although our numbers will be somewhat diminished during the coming winter, we hope that, as usual, we will still be a force to be reckoned with in the realms of sport.

L./Sergt. Hopwood and Cpl. Game have been attached to us from the 1st Battalion, and we hope they will enjoy their stay, and collect the coveted "D" on the courses which they are attending.

"B" COMPANY.

At the time of writing our last notes the Company were looking forward to Army manoeuvres. They are now greatly pleased that they are looking back at them.

Army manoeuvres were the backbone of last quarter's training, and, although we had a trying time, the Company stuck to their guns and earned considerable praise.

On one occasion the crossing of the River Test by No. 6 Platoon, followed by the Company in borrowed punts, was effected by the use of tracing tapes instead of hawsers—much to the discomfort of the N.C.Os. who had to carry them afterwards with their rations. Being a hot day, a certain N.C.O. took the opportunity of having a bathe, plus full marching order.

The Company voted the "sun-flaps" a great success in keeping the rain off their necks. Taking the aforementioned as an omen, we are earnestly hoping for an issue of umbrellas on the next manoeuvres.

The words "Batten down camp" bring back pleasant memories of a flying camp, a mixture of kit, but, above all, two rum issues.

The Company regrets that the Company Commander was not with us during the latter part of training owing to illness.

We heartily congratulate Sergt. Bedward on his promotion to full rank, and welcome Sergt. Kennett to the fold.

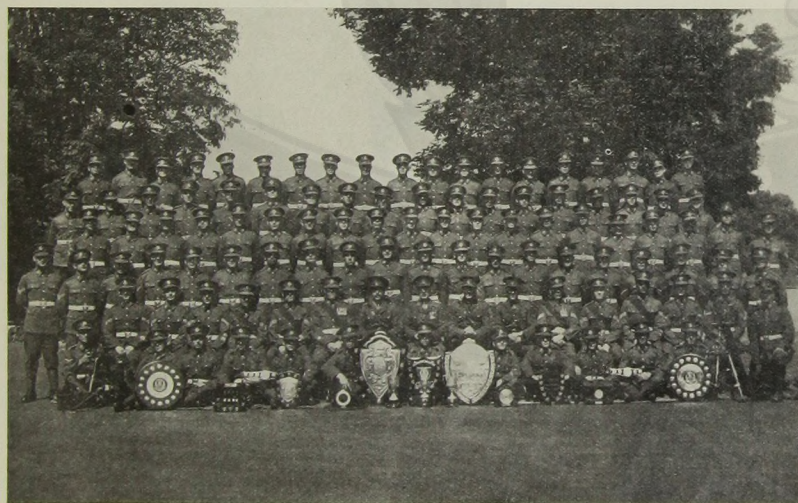
Congratulations must also go to Sergt. Green on the increase to his family.

"C" (S.) COMPANY.

Training—Battalion, Brigade and Divisional—has loomed very large in the scheme of things during the past three months, and in consequence life has been real and life has been earnest. We very much doubt if Longfellow had ever seen Andover when he penned those lines. As far as sport is concerned, we have little or nothing to be complacent about in this issue of the Journal, so we will proceed to the main event of the past quarter—the camp.

ANDOVER.

Camp could be compared, with startling originality, to the far-famed curate's egg: it was good in parts. The weather was the chief fly in the ointment; in fact, it seemed as if we should never feel really dry again, so many times did we get



[Photo: Bradley & Blowers, Colchester.]

CHAMPION COMPANY, 1935.

"C" (Support) Company, 2nd Battalion The Middlesex Regiment.

thoroughly soaked. Even the kindly shelter of our tents was taken away from us at times by the despoiling hands of a "rushing mighty wind." It was a noteworthy experience, from which all of us must have gained a very valuable lesson.

COURSES.

We are pleased to congratulate 2/Lieut. Porter on his "Q.1" at Netheravon, Cpl. Chapman on his "D," and L./Cpl. Delaney on his "Q.1." Cpls. Payne and Bruniges are now at the S.A.S., Netheravon, finding out for themselves if it is safe, while a class of prospective instructors is in being at present, consisting of Cpl. Eastland and L./Cpl. Rae. Capt. Clark, whom we are also glad to welcome to the Company, goes on the next Company Commanders' Course.

Sergt. Trestain has deserted his old love for those weapons which we of the Support Company profess to scorn, and betakes himself to Hythe very shortly, prior to going to the Territorial Army.

Cpl. Tye, too, is at Netheravon, on a Barr and Stroud Course.

GENERAL.

We are now stretching out greedy hands to the annual reinforcement of new gunners from the duty companies, and at the same time a number of our old gunners are on the overseas draft.

News is to hand that our Company Commander, Capt. Jones, is leaving us to join the Embarkation Staff at Southampton. As this does not take place until April of next year, we need not express our regrets until that unfortunate time arrives.

Christmas is close at hand, and the move to Portsmouth is much in our minds.

A merry Christmas to our 1st Battalion brothers of the Support Company, and a farewell to those who are fulfilling the second part of the "Join the Army and see the world" poster; and so, with our Mr. Henry Hall, "here's to the next time."

"D" COMPANY.

Our last notes went in in July, which seems somehow in the dim and distant past. We have almost forgotten our Company March with No. 9 Platoon

M.Gs. We started off on 8th July and spent the first night in bivouac at East Mersea, quite close to the sea, and got some bathing on the fringe of the mud-flats. Playing stump cricket that afternoon, 2/Lieut. Gudgeon ran the spike of the stump into his knee and had to retire to hospital. (He has only just returned to us, and his knee is still not up to rigger, but we hope it will be shortly.) Many spent a pleasant evening at "The Dog and Pheasant."

On the second day we moved to an excellent billet in a large barn at Great Wigborough (Abbott's Hall), where Mr. Mortimer, the owner was very good to us. It was thanks to his kindness in providing a guide that we were able to get a splendid bathe in Salcott Creek. That night we were to suffer another casualty, however, as C.S.M. Wright had to be evacuated with a temperature. He had a major operation in August and is now, we are glad to say, well on the way to recovery and, though on leave, spends many of his leisure hours working in the Company Office.

On 10th July "A" and "B" Companies opposed our return to Colchester, and a most stubborn foe they proved to be.

The next item of interest was the Inter-Company Aquatic Sports. In spite of the absence of Lieut. Porter and the loss of several of our other good swimmers, we again took first place. Pte. Baker from the 1st Battalion was a great asset, and he and Pte. Corner—a very much-improved swimmer—made a very strong pair in the Seven Lengths Free Style. Pte. (now L./Cpl.) Mules, as a recruit from the Depot, competed for us in two events. Sergts. Smith and Whitcombe, who had also recently joined us from the Depot, showed good form in the Plunging. The names of those who represented the Company in the various events are given as follows, together with the places gained:

Two Lengths Free Style.—1st, Sergt. Russell, Cpl. Bromley, and Ptes. Corner and Baker.

Diving.—3rd, Pte. Head, L./Cpl. Mules and Pte. Coomer.

Two Lengths Back-stroke.—1st, Cpls. Bromley and Hiscocks, L./Cpl. Jennings and Pte. Baker.

Plunging.—1st, Sergts. Smith and Whitcombe, and Cpl. Bromley.

Two Lengths Breast-stroke.—4th, Capt. Heywood, L./Cpl. Collison, 2/Lieut. Allen and L./Cpl. Mules. (A very close finish, a touch separating second, third and fourth places.)

Seven Lengths Free Style.—1st, Ptes. Corner and Baker.

We would like here particularly to congratulate Pte. Baker on his good performances and at the same time to thank Cpl. Bromley for all the good work he put in in connection with the training and selection of our team. We are sorry to lose him, and wish him a pleasant time at the Depot.

On 18th August we left Colchester for the manœuvre area, settling into Picket Twenty Camp, near Andover, and starting with Battalion Training we worked up to Army manœuvres. In our spare time we found a very useful deck-tennis team in L./Cpls. Williams and Mules, and Ptes. Thomas and Whitney. We played many games, but only one match when we tackled "B" Company and came out the victors. Now we have started this game we hope to keep it up in barracks.

About the actual training we will say little, as the memory of it is still fresh in our minds, especially the last exercise, with its hurricane which blew every marquee over. We can hear the old soldiers on manœuvres in 1940 saying, "This is nothing! You should have been on manœuvres in '35. Why, in Hollond Down Camp there wasn't a thing left standing—not a thing; and rain!—you couldn't, etc. etc." Well, we survived, and old "D" threw the only Kapok bridge and kept up their reputation. (Capt. Lawrence and Lieut. Vaux, please note!) The river at this point ran in two courses. The first was the main stream and the other, according to report, one could walk across with ease. When we got to this second stream, however, it turned out to be almost as formidable as the first, and it was only thanks to L./Cpl. Davis and Pte. Smith, who plunged in and repaired a footbridge which had been only partially destroyed by the enemy, that the majority of the Company was spared wading waist-deep.

The wood lice at Picket Twenty—the other insects (whatever they were) at Winterbourne Dauntsey—Cowdown Farm track—food at any hour and a cry of "Any bucks?"—Woolbury Ring—the

Wallops and, of course, Hollond Down Barn. Some of these will live in our memory, and others we hope will die a very speedy death. This much is certain, however, that we now appreciate the comforts of Colchester far more than we ever did before.

We must stop this, but not without offering our congratulations to:—

L./Cpl. Armitage on the birth of a son.

Sergt. Whitcombe and Cpl. Hiscocks on their promotion.

Capt. Heywood, Sergt. Smith, L./Cpl. Mules, and Ptes. Baker and Corner on being chosen to represent the Battalion in the Aquatic Sports.

Sergt. Wilson, Cpl. Hiscocks, L./Cpls. Mules, Clay, Jennings and Pryor, and Ptes. Watson, Adkins, Nagle, Rogers, Sinclair, Head and Beeney on being selected to fire for a Battalion team or represent us as a company in the Garrison Rifle Meeting.

We must now bid farewell to C.Q.M.S. Jones, who has left us for Vocational Training. Our best wishes go with him and we wish his successor, Sergt. Tibble, an equally long and successful run.

Finally, our good wishes go with 2/Lieut. Allen and the first draft for Egypt. We wish them the best of luck, and hope that they will thoroughly enjoy their service abroad.

"H.Q." WING.

The various groups have in their notes covered the activities of the Wing during the past quarter to such an extent that there is very little to write about without repeating ourselves.

One thing the Wingers do not mind repeating, namely, congratulations to the cooks and the messing staff on their splendid work during training. Well done!

We welcome Sergt. Kennett to the Wing, and hope he will have an enjoyable time with us.

There has been a dearth of marriages in the Wing during the past quarter, and still a goodly number contemplating this bliss (?). Still, they have our very best wishes.

We are losing fourteen of our members who are going to the 1st Battalion in the near future. We hope they have a happy time in their new sphere.

Our C.S.M. is leaving us for the T.A., and, needless to say, he will be missed very much indeed. Our very best wishes go with him.

We are very busy at present, preparing training programmes, cadres, etc. (we will be in Portsmouth by the time these notes are in print). It seems to be all moves this year.

All best wishes to the Wingers of the 1st Battalion.

BAND.

The powers-that-be having called a truce in that "bloodless" war of 1935 (you all know that one), we of the "Harp" and the rest of the 77th Foot find ourselves once more in our old haunts of Colchester, where we can enjoy that pleasant "Regal" and "Hippodrome" atmosphere and run through the whole gamut of emotions as portrayed by Elissa Harker and Gordon Landi (film fans, please correct).

The scene of our hostilities was Andover, and the Band was, as usual, divided into their many callings. Some (oh, most fortunate ones!) acted as orderlies and could afford to ask that age-old military question, "How's your poor old feet?" G-r-r-r!

Still, here we are once more in barracks, and now things have settled down we can afford to laugh at many of our experiences. "Remember the 5th" is a trite saying, but we have altered this to "Remember Hollond Down," for it was here we were disturbed in the middle of the night to find ourselves *sans* camp—in fact, *sans* everything.

The war finished at Hurstbourne Park (for us) on 19th September, and we arrived back in Colchester at 5.30 a.m. on the 21st. Our next big event is the move to Portsmouth, where we hope to see "Pompey" upset the league table.

"Ugly" and "Salso" have now exchanged their carefree (?) single life for married bliss. Heigh-ho, maybe we had better congratulate them. Our own ideas on that subject are very mixed.

Our engagements this year have been spoilt by the trip to Aldershot and the "affair" at Andover, but this did not prevent us from fulfilling our engagement with the 19th London Regiment, who were in camp at Arundel. Their Troop-

ing of the Colour was a great success, and some very pleasant remarks were passed on the Band.

In conclusion, members of the 2nd Battalion Band are curious to know if such a place as "Whitchurch" exists in Egypt. If so, "Brothers, have faith."

DRUMS.

The principal activity of the Group during the past quarter was the part taken in the Army manœuvres held in Hampshire under trying conditions at times.

The weather was against us almost from the start, particularly one Monday night when the complete camp was blown down, leaving the Battalion with no shelter and unfortunately no change of clothes after a complete soaking.

The work done by the Intelligence and A.A. Sections was, we hope, up to a good standard.

We should like to thank our Intelligence Officer, who had quite the busiest time of the Section during training.

A word of thanks to the Quartermaster-Sergeant and the cooks, who, during these operations, were able to produce food at every available time, in spite of the weather.

Dmrs. Mew and Tarr have left us, the former for civilian life and the latter for draft to Egypt. We wish them both the best of luck, and are sorry to lose them.

We have not had a chance to play much sport since last quarter, but are looking forward to giving "C" (S.) Company a severe tanning before these notes are printed.

We congratulate L./Sergt. Gatehouse on his forthcoming marriage, and are praying for him daily. We are pleased to hear that his children (boys) will become machine gunners.

A word about our C.S.M., who is leaving us for the Territorials. We wish him the best of luck, and shall greatly miss him, especially on training, where he manages always to be cheerful, wet or fine, food or no food (it is not true that he had eight tins of fresh herrings one morning at 4 o'clock).

We are pleased to hear that Mrs. Poulter is better again after spending some time in hospital.

Owing to the interest that she takes in the Drummers' welfare, she is looked upon as a mother.

We are very sorry to hear that Major Bucknall's wife is ill, and sincerely hope that she will soon be well again.

We welcome Capt. Gordon as our Adjutant, and thank him for the interest he has already taken in the Group.

Before finishing these notes we hope that Dmr. Page's A.A. feet are better by the time these notes are in print.

Best wishes to the 1st Battalion Drummers.

SIGNALS.

Songs about "The rhythm of the rain" were unnecessary at Hollond Down, as we had sufficient to compose a symphony, but in spite of a miniature typhoon, the Section emerged from the debris of their abode with smiles (?) full of the joys of life. Well, almost.

Back "home" again, changes have taken place. The turn-over has turned over, and some of us aren't. Eight of the lads go to join the 1st Battalion in November.

Cpl. Buckland leaves the Section, while L./Cpl. McKay migrated to "A" Company. We wish both these N.C.Os. all the best of luck at their new homes.

Ten bright lads arrived with a flourish and will form the new class, under Cpl. Sargent, who, I may add, has been seen loafing (or moaning) around Grosvenor Square, W.1, lately. Flighty work, Terence; beware of the dark women.

We hope these ten soon settle down and become limbs of our famous family tree. None mentioned weeping willows.

Rumour has it that the guide, comforter and friend, Sergt. Smith, will be entering into the "holy estate" around Yuletide.

We are looking forward to a good football season, when we start, and hope that our new arrivals have some talent in that line. Pte. Rawlinson is to be congratulated on gaining his Swimming Colours; there is only parachute jumping left now, Jack!

L./Cpl. Peasley is at present at Caterick, and with him are L./Cpls. Clark and Burkitt of the 1st Battalion, who are two stout fellas; and to all three we ex-

tend our best wishes and will send them woollies when they feel the Northern chill.

DORS.

BOYS.

Since the last issue of THE DIE-HARDS many notable changes have taken place in the Boys' area. Our "dear old friend," L./Cpl. Dowsett, has left us to take up a situation in civilian life. We are not sure whether he is taking up darning or needlework, but we have reason to believe that it is the former, for he recently was seen holding out his arms in a position very much like that required for the winding of wool.

During the night, too, we were awakened by his loud cry of "Blimey, I've dropped a stitch!"

Boys Cullen and Thorley have also left our ranks to join those of the men. We wish them the best of luck on all "stunts" and various other painful necessities.

We also hope they will not be waiting outside the guard room every night at every half-hour.

All the swimming honours this year went to Boy Cullen, who came first in all events. Congratulations, Fred. Boy Bolam was a gasping last as usual, but maybe he will grow up some day.

This season's cricket was very limited and uneventful. We had only one organized game, which became a wash-out. Camp has interrupted the sport we would otherwise have had.

We are sure of a full programme for the football season, however, for we are entered in the Boys' League at Portsmouth. We are very thankful to those who took the trouble to make sure that we had plenty of sport, and we are also grateful to those who put us in for the Army Cup.

Having recently returned from camp, we are busy getting "squared up." We are looking forward to the wonderful sea air at Portsmouth, which is invigorating, you know.

We extend a hearty welcome to our six new boys. Boy Abercrombie is not such a bad fellow as his name suggests. This new blood will probably strengthen our football team, as there are several likely candidates.

Finding that we are running short of space, we will end these notes by wishing all readers the best of luck.

JUVENILE.

TRANSPORT.

Firstly, we must apologize for not rendering any notes for the last issue of the Journal, and, what is more, we cannot give any excuses.

However, the query of the 1st Battalion is answered herewith: "A very satisfactory report was given."

And now for the report (or shall we say comments?) on the training period.

During July the weather nearly reached tropical intensity, and in this month two company marches were carried out by "D" Company, and "A" and "B" Companies (composite), both of three days, each of which 50 per cent. of the Transport Section attended. L./Cpl. Outten was in charge of the Transport of "D" Company, and L./Cpl. Bursill in charge of the other, and the report given by the different officers did the N.C.Os. concerned and the Transport generally great credit.

During Battalion Training we were supplemented by the R.A. Now that we have mentioned this phase of the training, we would like to mention the very heroic act of Pte. Griffiths of "A" Company.

The Battalion were on night operations and Griffiths's horse apparently got stung on the flank. When he hitched his horse into the limber, the shafts excited it and the horse began to plunge and rear. Throughout, he managed to keep his horse under control in very trying circumstances. A very brave and loyal man, and one who is greatly admired.

The "preliminary canter" over, the Transport advance party of one officer, one N.C.O. and fourteen Privates went to a place very much discussed—Andover in Hampshire—for the Higher Command Training and Manœuvres. These were sent with the object of taking over and "roughing" the hired horses prior to the Battalion's arrival on 18th August.

The camp was a success, except, of course, the climatic conditions, which were fearful.

The hired horses this year were certainly better than those of previous years, although, of course, they left much to be

desired. One "beast" in particular was a dreadful-looking thing. It gave one a picture of an animal of prehistoric times. It was very tall (19 hands). The man who had to look after this animal had the patience of Job.

It appeared that whenever he tended his charge, the brute managed to tread on his foot. The day before the hired horses were due to go whence they came, Merlock's patience went to the wind (again having his foot trodden on, and being pulled across the field), and he recited a "poem of fate" that turned the water-trough blue.

During the time we were in camp, an unfortunate epidemic—a mild form of 'flu—broke out among the horses, and the whole of the animals in the Command were affected. It seemed to go round in a circle. The R.A. in the field adjoining were the first, followed by the Lancashire Fusiliers. We luckily were the last to catch it, and all Government horses were sent back on 14th September to their permanent stations, and during the War Office exercise the Battalion became "motorized."

As we have said before, we were lucky in getting back a week before our time, and we were in barracks and the horses in their stables before the coughing got to its worst; but what does the future hold for the horses?

What will happen eventually is very evident, but will this incident prove to the powers-that-be that the old horse is really dispensable, and shorten his life in the Service?

It makes one ponder with gloom the fate of an old and trusted servant.

CLIPPER.

EDUCATION.

Education, in so far as it concerns the absorption of purely academic knowledge in the Battalion School, has been perforce at a standstill during the past three months, owing to the calls of training. The camp at Andover, however, proved a very liberal education in the broader and truer sense of the word. We have seen a number of essays describing Higher Training, and in spite of the very trying weather conditions, it appears that nobody would really have missed it. This seems



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to indicate a very cheerful spirit and a high standard of morale.

Experientia docet. For those who have not had the benefit of our expensive classical education, that means "Experience teaches." In other words, our 2nd and 3rd Class candidates can learn as much by careful observation and remembrance of events which happen daily as they can by attending lessons in school. The two combined will be of the utmost benefit.

Of social gossip there seems to be a scarcity, for the School staff remains unchanged. L./Cpl. Jennings, of "D" Company, is at Shorncliffe at the time of writing, and we hope to see him back shortly wearing the smug smile of one who is "Distinguished."

To our opposite numbers in the 1st Battalion we tender very hearty greetings and a sincere wish that they will follow our example and tell us something of what goes on under the heading of "Education" in their station.

SERGEANTS' MESS.

The quarter under review has been a particularly busy one, mainly occupied, of course, with manoeuvres. Our Battalion Journal notes for this quarter will have enough to say about them, so that the less we have to say the better. We will

content ourselves with recording the fact that the Mess got together whenever and wherever opportunity allowed, and this was kind enough to permit us to run a dart tournament, for which every member of the Mess entered; the prizes being very kindly given by our Master Tailor, Mr. Baker.

Just one final remark regarding the manoeuvres. We are rather wondering when the R.S.M. is going to get the Mess Cyclist Touring Club together: he was most enthusiastic about it when the Battalion eventually came in from the War Office exercise. Oh, and we must not forget to make special mention of the good times we had with the Royal Air Force. They made us very welcome in their Mess at Andover, and we had the pleasure of returning their hospitality during one social evening.

However, the manoeuvres are all over, and we are now looking forward to our farewell ball, which is booked for the last Friday in October, and we hope to see all our old friends there from the Depot and elsewhere.

There has been a positive glut of promotions, new members and departures from the Mess during the current quarter, and we hope the following list includes them all:—

In the first place, our hearty congratulations to the following on their promotion: C.S.M. Donaldson, C.Q.M.S. Sherrieff, and Sergts. Whitcombe, Bedward and Newstead.

We extend a sincere welcome to the Mess to the following new members: L./Sergt. Hawkins (who has since proceeded to the Depot, and whom we wish the best of luck), and L./Sergts. Smallridge and Gatehouse.

C.Q.M.S. Jones has left us to proceed on Vocational Training prior to return to civilian life, and C.Q.M.S. Hills has gone to the Depot. We wish them both every success and happiness.

Sergt. Webb has taken his discharge from the Service, and our very good wishes go with him.

We were favoured with a very fleeting visit from R.Q.M.S. Crouch of the 1st Battalion, who accompanied his wife to the United Kingdom on medical grounds. He stayed with us for about two months and has now settled down at the Depot. The best of luck to him.

Lastly, congratulations to Sergt. Bennett of the Physical Training Staff on his marriage on 10th August.

We took the first opportunity on return from camp of firing off for the Kent Cup, and the shoot was held on the afternoon

of Monday, 23rd September. All members were present except Sergts. Russell and Ison, who, up to then, had not returned from camp with the rear party.

Weather conditions were ideal, and the following were the results of the shoot:— C.S.M. Jones won the cup with a score of 79.

The following were the runners-up: Sergts. Whitcombe (77) and Short (75).

There were several really hard triers for the Wooden Spoon, and, although the Drum-Major really did do his utmost to get it for the (?) year in succession, he just missed it this time. The Bandmaster and R.Q.M.S. also had a good shot for it, but there were better men than they in the running. However, after all that, the distinction of capturing the treasured prize fell to C.Q.M.S. West, with a score of 17.

That appears to be all for this time and, incidentally, the closing of our last and final notes from Colchester. We shall have a lot to say about Portsmouth next time.

CRICKET.

Summer—or was it winter?—relented after its most unseasonable opening to the season, and from mid-June to the end of August we enjoyed some real cricket

weather. We anticipated being able to play very little cricket after 20th August, the date of our move to Andover for manœuvres, and great and pleasant was our surprise to find quite one of the prettiest grounds one could hope to set eyes on, not four miles from camp. Our three games against the village of Hurstbourne Priors—for such is the village fortunate enough to own such a delightful little ground—ended the season for us in quite the most enjoyable manner.

Before leaving Colchester and shortly after our return from Aldershot, we went over to Frinton for our annual match. As we were playing quite the strongest side we had fielded this year, we were confident of our beating Frinton for the last time, as they acknowledged that they were very weak. It was only the partnership that doubled the score, between Major Wollocombe and Lieut. Weston, which saved us from an ignominiously low score. We were all very sorry that Major Wollocombe was most unfortunately run out just as he had really "dug himself in," and was offering the most valuable support to Lieut. Weston, playing his highest knock for the Regiment this year. The partnership certainly gave us a chance of victory, especially as their score stood at 67 for 6. If those two chances had been held—in all fairness, one cannot add that they were difficult—we might have pulled it off.

The Haileybury Nondescripts match was an honourable draw. Our eleven officers—only three O.Hs. seemed strange—who went over seemed to enjoy their day very much. A high-scoring game resulted, and, considering that we were not at full strength, I think we earned the draw.

Our last match before leaving Colchester was against Felixstowe. The fact of our leaving for Andover at some inconceivable hour on Sunday, and the general air of work to be done in barracks, deprived us of most of our regular side, and we were forced to call on Major Saunders—we may almost call him an honorary member of the Regiment—who happened to be staying in Felixstowe. We were indeed fortunate in finding him able to accept, as the score shows. We would like to remind all those who saw his innings, and ask the remainder who read these notes for themselves, of the run-

ning between the wickets; the age statistics we will not touch upon, but suffice it to say that a very valuable lesson was taught us in how to run your first, second and quite frequently your third run as quickly as possible. We were indebted to Lieut. Meldrum, attached to us for instruction preparatory to joining the Army Educational Corps, for an excellent innings and some bowling which almost won the match for us.

And so to Hurstbourne Priors—a delightful name, a really delightful little place, and a ground a photograph of which has beautified the picture page of *The Times*. The team and inhabitants were tremendously keen. As none of the games could start till "arter 'arvistin' be over," we arranged to play three matches from 6 to 8 p.m., each game to consist of twenty overs. The first game proved to be the most exciting, though all were as enjoyable as each other. With the last two balls of the twentieth over being bowled by Lieut. Beath, they needed 12 to win. "Sixer, Ernie"—great exhortation from the hundred or so villagers dotted round the ground. "Ernie" duly dispatched Lieut. Beath's good-length ball for a "sixer" over mid-wicket. When the ball had been retrieved, the cry of "Sixer again, Ernie" was even more voluminous in its enthusiasm. "Ernie's" great effort fell some two yards short, and virtually we had won by 3 runs. When our captain and their umpire talked it over afterwards over a glass of ale, it was decided that, as we had all batted, whereas they had only lost four wickets, the result should be a draw! That being the case, what more fitting result than—played, 3; won, 1; lost, 1; drawn, 1?

Wherewell ('Orrel to the uninitiated) was our final fixture of all. After their anxious inquiries as to whether we should be able to give them a game, they found us rather too strong for them once this inquiry was made known. In spite of great fielding by their captain—we thought André Spada had come to life for one brief moment!—and in fact by their whole side, we were quite easily successful in the end. A great finish to Lieut. Weston's bowling year, and if only Kinloch's lorry driver, in his first game of cricket, had not been rude enough to hit him for seven in three balls, the analysis must have been remarkable.

Before closing, the team earns many congratulations on its wonderfully improved fielding. Good fielding does make all the difference. In fact, one does not go too far when one says that it makes the side. It is invidious to name any special players or those who have stood out, as the keenness shown in the field has been a great delight. However, mention must be made of Pte. Rawlinson, who sets an outstanding example of enthusiasm and proficiency for stopping anything in reach. Runs earned and runs saved added to the runs made by his bat, would, I think, treble his aggregate.

A new venue for cricket next year, new faces, new grounds. We hope for as good a cricketing spot as Colchester, which we have indeed enjoyed.

SWIMMING.

Although the time devoted to swimming this year was rather limited owing to the Battalion's part in the Tattoo at Aldershot, we managed to include Company Swimming Sports as well as the Annual Battalion Sports. This experiment was a great success, as it undoubtedly helped companies to choose their teams for the Battalion Sports.

The Battalion Sports took place on 17th July. Some very keen swimming was witnessed, in which "D" Company were again victorious with a total of 31 points. "H.Q." Wing "G" came second with 27 points, "C" (S.) Company third with 22 points, closely followed by "A" Company with 21 points; "H.Q." Wing "Q" fifth with 13 points, and "B" Company sixth with 12 points.

The Garrison Swimming Sports took place on 24th July, and for the first time at Colchester we won the Garrison Swimming Trophy for team events. This was most satisfactory, the more so because we made a clean sweep of the meeting by winning every single team event.

The team had very little time to practise and are to be congratulated on putting up such an excellent performance. The swimming in every event was of a very good standard, and what it lacked in finish was made up for by enthusiasm. Ptes. Rawlinson and Baker are to be congratulated on their swimming, both of them taking part in three out of four team races. The diving team did very well to

win, as the other units had some useful divers. Lieut. Guscott distinguished himself by plunging close on 60 ft., while Sergt. Smith, "D" Company, and Pte. Murray both passed the 50-ft. mark.

As far as the individual events were concerned, we had very few entries, the reason being that we only just got back from Aldershot before the entries were due. Sergt. Hopwood is to be congratulated on winning the Individual Back-stroke Race.

Judging by the results of the Garrison Swimming Sports, the standard of swimming in the Battalion has gone up considerably, and it is hoped that when we get to Portsmouth more opportunity will arise for swimming fixtures, and water polo might be introduced.

The following represented the Battalion in the Garrison Swimming Sports:—

Diving.—Pte. Short, Cpl. Bruniges and Bdsn. Nolan.

Plunging.—Lieut. Guscott, Sergt. Smith and Pte. Murray.

Two Lengths Free Style.—Ptes. Rawlinson, Short, Silver and Baker.

Two Lengths Free Style.—Ptes. Rawlinson, Baker and Coomer, and Cpl. Lomax.

Two Lengths Back-stroke.—Ptes. Rawlinson and Baker, Sergt. Hopwood, and Cpl. Lomax.

Two Lengths Breast-stroke.—Capt. Heywood, and Ptes. Klimke, Mules and Barnes.

The following are to be congratulated on their Swimming Colours:—

Lieut. Guscott, L./Sergt. Hopwood, L./Cpl. Bruniges, and Ptes. Rawlinson, Short and Baker.

REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION NOTES.

A MEETING of the Executive Committee was held at the Library, Central London Recruiting Zone, Whitehall, on 31st July, 1935.

Present:—

Col. A. M. O. Anwyl Passingham, O.B.E., D.L. (in the chair).

Brig.-General R. J. Ross, C.B., C.M.G.

Lieut.-Col. W. W. Jefferd.

Lieut.-Col. C. P. Rooke, D.S.O.
Major N. H. B. Lyon, M.C. (Hon. Secretary).

Major R. A. Slee (Hon. Treasurer).

Capt. S. F. W. M. del Court, M.C. (representing 1st Battalion).

Capt. H. E. Foster.

Mr. R. E. Evans, D.C.M.

Mr. F. E. Holmes.

Mr. E. Morris.

C.Q.M.S. C. King.

Major E. H. Amor (Secretary in attendance).

Capt. F. A. L. Lawrence (in attendance).

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Lieut.-Col. Samuel, Capt. C. T. Whinney, M.C., and R.S.M. C. Davis.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

The Chairman alluded to the loss the Regiment had sustained in the tragic deaths of Lieut.-Col. English and Capt. Heffer, and the Hon. Secretary was requested to write letters of condolence to the bereaved relatives.

The Chairman congratulated Lieut.-Col. Jefford on his promotion to command the 2nd Battalion, and welcomed him as an *ex-officio* member of the Committee.

The Hon. Secretary's report for the past quarter was considered, and it was proposed by Brig.-General Ross, seconded by Lieut.-Col. Jefford, that the sum of £150 be allocated for the relief of necessitous cases during the quarter ending 30th September, 1935. (*Carried.*)

A vote of thanks was passed unanimously to Major Lyon and his staff for the excellent arrangements made for the recent Cenotaph parade, when 96 officers and 1,610 other ranks were present.

The question of employment after leaving the Colours was then considered. Correspondence with the National Association for the Employment of Regular Soldiers, etc., was laid before the Committee. The view of the National Association of the advisability of leaving all "job-finding" in their hands was accepted, the Regimental Association co-operating by maintaining an employment register as heretofore.

It was proposed by Lieut.-Col. Rooke, seconded by Capt. Foster, that a donation

of £100 be made to the National Association for Employment of Regular Soldiers, etc., for the current year. (*Carried.*)

It was agreed that the following donations be made to the following charities on behalf of all Battalions:—

| | £ | s. | d. |
|---|-----|----|-----|
| Alexandra Orphanage | ... | 2 | 2 0 |
| British Legion (affiliation fee) | ... | 1 | 1 0 |
| Charity Organization Society | ... | 4 | 4 0 |
| Ditto, (Registration Branch) | ... | 1 | 1 0 |
| Hospital for Sick Children | ... | 2 | 2 0 |
| Imperial Ex-Service Association of Australia | ... | 1 | 1 0 |
| Gordon Boys' Home | ... | 2 | 2 0 |
| Netley Charitable Fund | ... | 2 | 2 0 |
| Royal Female Orphanage | ... | 1 | 1 0 |
| Royal Victoria Patriotic School | ... | 1 | 1 0 |
| Royal Soldiers' Daughters' Home | ... | 2 | 2 0 |
| Soldiers' and Sailors' Families' Association | ... | 2 | 2 0 |
| Soldiers' and Sailors' Help Society | ... | 2 | 2 0 |
| Special Fund for the Blind (National Association) | ... | 1 | 1 0 |
| St. Dunstan's | ... | 1 | 1 0 |

It was announced that the O.C. 2nd Battalion had consented to the Band of that Battalion playing at the Old Comrades' Dinner.

It was decided that the following guests be invited:—

The Lord-Lieutenant, the High Sheriff, the Chairman of the Middlesex County Council, the Clerk to the Middlesex County Council, the Chairman of the County of Middlesex Territorial Army Association, the General Secretary of the Regular Forces' Employment Association, and Mr. H. S. Button.

It was agreed that a weekly allowance of 5s. in the case of ——— be continued for a further period of one year.

The question of rent being charged to future tenants of the Cottage Homes was considered.

As regards the erection of two additional cottages, the Hon. Secretary was authorized to accept the tender recommended by the Hon. Architects.

It was proposed by Brig.-General Ross, seconded by Lieut.-Col. Jefford, that a loan of £12 be sanctioned in the case of an applicant (———). (*Carried.*)

A suggestion that an appeal, signed by the Hon. Secretary of the Ladies' Guild, should be circulated, was adopted.

The resignation of the Secretary, to take effect from 30th September, was accepted.

JOB-FINDING.

It will be seen from the minutes of the last Committee meeting, published above, that the policy of leaving job-finding in the hands of the National Association is being continued.

From past experience this position does not seem to be clearly understood. The N.A., which is definitely sponsored by the War Office and is the only institution of its kind, has its Headquarters at 62, Victoria Street, Westminster, S.W.1, and has various branches throughout the country. Those in the London area, and therefore of special interest to us, are:—

Acton, Gipsy Corner, Victoria Road, W.3.

Deptford.—52a, Deptford Bridge, S.E.8.

Bow.—143, Bow Road, E.3.

Tottenham.—It is hoped to open a branch here shortly.

Thus the N.A. can be likened to a firm of wholesale merchants dealing in human labour—a special kind of human labour: the ex-Regular sailor, soldier and airman brand. Now this firm, like other firms, reaches its retail customers (employers of labour) by means of commercial travellers (job-finders). These job-finders, with their headquarters at their respective branches, systematically work each his own district. Here it should be noted that by reason of its being officially recognized by the Government, these job-finders have the right of entry and inspection of all Labour Exchanges.

The soldier, on leaving the Colours, has to meet the keen competition created by his civilian brother in seeking a job. His service abroad has put him out of touch, and it is realized that some organized effort is required to assist him in overcoming this disadvantage. This organized effort is supplied by the N.A. Hence it is absolutely essential that all men on leaving the Colours without a job to which to go, should register at its nearest branch and adhere to instructions there given. Many and many a man applies to the Regimental Association for work, and when asked if he has registered with the N.A. declares that he has never heard of it, or confuses it with the local Labour Exchange!

"But, when all is said and done," said the Secretary of the N.A., "the best job-

finders are the men themselves. They always know when more men are to be taken on, and if they would only pass on the good news at once to their comrades or to us, much could be done."

An excellent illustration of this happened quite recently, as the following extract from a letter shows:—

"... at the same time a Pte. ———, late Middlesex Regiment, begins (work) after my asking my foreman for him."

THE RETURNED SAILORS' AND SOLDIERS' IMPERIAL LEAGUE OF AUSTRALIA.

FEDERAL CONSTITUTION RULES AND BY-LAWS AS AMENDED TO THE 18TH ANNUAL CONGRESS.

Extract concerning membership of time-expired officers, warrant officers, non-commissioned officers and men of the British Army:—

Membership, Rule 5, Clause A.—"Any person who has served in a theatre of war during any war at any time, provided such person was ineligible by reason of age or medical unfitness for active service in the war of 1914-1918."

Clause D.—"Any person ineligible for membership under para. A, but eligible for membership in any constituent part of the B.E.S.L. on production of proof of such eligibility."

THE MILITARY MEDALLISTS' LEAGUE.

All holders of the Military Medal are cordially invited to join the above League (Headquarters: The Veterans' Club, Hand Court, Holborn, London).

Objects of the League.—To provide a meeting-place where M.Ms. may join in social evenings in an enjoyable Service atmosphere, and by means of funds collected and in hand to assist those M.Ms. who may be in need of assistance.

The subscription will be 2s. per annum. Membership of the League also affords honorary membership of the Veterans' Club, one of the best-equipped Service clubs in London.

Meetings and social evenings are held at the Club monthly, details of which are published in the Old Comrades' Column of the *News of the World*.

Any information as to joining, etc., can be obtained from the Hon. Secretary, W. W. Lewry, 114, Lugard Road, London, S.E.15.

EXTRACTS FROM THE "LONDON GAZETTE."

REGULAR ARMY. INFANTRY.

Midd'x R.—Lt. I. D. S. Gordon to be Adj. vice Capt. S. J. Clark, and to be Capt. under the provisions of Art. 118, Royal Warrant for Pay and Promotion, 1931 (Aug. 3).

Midd'x R.—R.Q.M.S. W. H. Pilley to be Lt. (Qr.-Mr.) (July 28).

Midd'x R.—Maj. L. F. Sloane-Stanley having attained the age for retirement is placed on ret. pay (Aug. 21); Capt. and Bt. Maj. G. C. Bucknall, M.C., to be Maj. (Aug. 21); Capt. S. J. Clark is restd. to the estab. (Aug. 3); Lt. M. Crawford to be Capt. (Aug. 21).

Midd'x R.—Sec. Lt. A. S. J. de S. Clayton, from Gen. List, T.A. (Feb. 1, 1934), next below Sec. Lt. P. A. R. Anson.

The follg. Gentlemen Cadets, from the Royal Military College, to be Sec. Lts. (Aug. 29):—

Midd'x R.—C. V. U. S. Billbrough, T. G. Symes, C. E. A. Lane.

The follg. Sec. Lts. to be Lts. (Sept. 1):—

Midd'x R.—F. B. Whiting, A. W. F. Peal.

MEMORANDA.

Lt.-Col. and Bt. Col. M. Browne, M.C., h.p. list (empld.) (late *Midd'x R.*), retires on ret. pay (Sept. 30).

AIR MINISTRY.

ROYAL AIR FORCE.

Capt. E. P. Manson, M.C. (Middlesex Regiment), is permitted to retain the rank of Squadron Ldr. on retirement from the Army (April 4).

REGULAR ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS.

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

REGIMENTAL LIST.

Midd'x R.—Maj. L. Dawes (July 20).

GENERAL LIST.

Col. A. M. O. Anwyl Passingham, O.B.E. (late Inf.) (Aug. 31).

TERRITORIAL ARMY.

INFANTRY.

7th Bn. Midd'x R.—Pte. E. L. Wallis, from *28th Lond. R.*, to be 2nd Lt. (July 20).

8th Bn. Midd'x R.—A. J. K. Wilson to be Sec. Lt. (July 16).

9th Bn. Midd'x R.—A.C. (1st Cl.) A. Hamilton 601 (Co. of Lond.) Sqdn., Aux. Air Force, to be Sec. Lt. (July 23).

8th Bn. Midd'x R.—Lt. T. H. Reddy, Res. of Off., to be Lt. (July 25).

8th Bn. Midd'x R.—2nd Lt. S. H. L. Walford resigns his commn. (July 21).

7th Bn. Midd'x R.—Sec. Lt. K. T. Baycock resigns his commn. (Sept. 2).

DEPOT NOTES.

IT is with deep regret that we announce the death of Lieut.-Col. J. English at Bognor Regis on Saturday, 27th July, 1935.

Lieut. and Qrmr. R. T. Guscott has been appointed to fill his vacancy at the Depot, and takes over his tour of duty early in October. Lieut. and Qrmr. W. Pilley, whom we congratulate on his promotion, will assume the duties of Quartermaster with the Battalion at the same time.

Recruiting has been on the up-grade during the past quarter, there having been seven squads in training at certain periods. Ladysmith Squad, trained by Sergt. Painter, were posted early in July, and Seringapatam Squad, under Sergt. Northcott, after being here for nearly eight months, left the Depot at the end of September. Their long period of training was occasioned by the fact that it was not desired to post them while the Battalion were engaged on manœuvres. Since the conclusion of their normal training they have undergone an intensive cadre training.

R.Q.M.S. Crouch, C.Q.M.S. Hills, L./Sergts. Hawkins and Livens, and Pte. Hathaway have been posted for a tour of duty, and C.Q.M.S. King and Pte. Bumpus have gone to civilian life on completion of twenty-one years' service, and L./Sergt. Ramsden has been posted to the Battalion.

Pte. Bathie, of El Bodon Squad, is to be congratulated on breaking the existing Depot javelin record with a throw of 123 ft. 4 in.

COMMANDING OFFICER'S PHYSICAL TRAINING MEDAL.

Seringapatam Squad.—Silver, Pte. Papa; Bronze, Pte. Williams.

Mons Squad.—Silver, Pte. McGrady; Bronze, Pte. Haines.

SQUAD BADGE WINNERS.

Mons Squad.—8th Week Test, Pte. Ives; runner-up, Pte. Pearce. 12th Week Test, Pte. Pearce; runner-up, Pte. Ives. *Albuhera Squad.*—8th Week Test, Pte. Brown; runner-up, Pte. Pearce. 12th Week Test, Pte. Tanner; runner-up, Pte. Gush.

El Bodon Squad.—4th Week Test, Pte. Rasmussen; runner-up, Pte. Hanbrook. 8th Week Test, Pte. Rasmussen; runner-up, Pte. Baker.

Seringapatam Squad.—16th Week Test, Pte. Dare; runner-up, Pte. Carnall.

Badajos Squad.—4th Week Test, Pte. Tait; runner-up, Pte. Huggett.

SHOOTING PRIZES.

Table "A," Part III (h.p.s. 105).

Mons Squad.—Pte. Newman, 92.

Albuhera Squad.—Pte. Tanner, 99.

Empire Test (h.p.s. 80).

Mons Squad.—Pte. Maton, 75.

Albuhera Squad.—Ptes. Gush and Brown, 79.

ATHLETICS.

Two Sports Meetings have been held since the last Journal notes were sent in, but, unfortunately, the results of the July one have been mislaid.

The other one, which was held in September, was chiefly noteworthy owing to the javelin record being twice broken, first by Pte. Jones (Vittoria) and immediately after by Pte. Bathie, with 123 ft. 4 in. Both these two should do well over 130 ft. with more training. Baker was third.

Unfortunately, another recruit arrived a day or so too late to compete who also looks like throwing his way into a Battalion team in time to come.

The High Jump was poor, McGrady, of Mons Squad, winning with 4 ft. 8½ in. It was noticeable that there is far too much tendency to rush at the High Jump, so much so that many competitors jumped nearly as far in the High Jump as they did in the Long Jump. Jackson, Millman and Newman were equal second.

The Long Jump was won by Poole (Vittoria) with 17 ft. 0½ in., with Devonshire 2nd and McGrady 3rd. Poole shows considerable natural ability, and should, with training and spiked shoes, do well.

The Discus was won by Baker, McGrady being 2nd and Pearce 3rd. The winning throw, 71 ft. 5½ in., is not up to previous winning throws, but all should improve, and Pearce, though not throwing quite as far as the other two, has a good action, and seems to have mastered the art of keeping the discus steady.

The Weight was, as usual, poor: 1st, Murray, 25 ft. 10 in.; 2nd, Foley; 3rd, Carnall.

It had been hoped that the Pole Vault might see another record beaten, as Graham and Thompson, of Seringapatam, had been equalling this, but the occasion had the effect of putting them off, and it is kinder not to record what the winner, Graham, did, as both are capable of a much better performance, and should come on by next year a lot. O'Mahoney, the other competitor, has only recently started, but shows promise, too.

SERGEANTS' MESS.

In the ancient and ruined village of Xebecto, situated high above the snow-line of the Upper Andes, the impoverished Peons daily pay reverent obeisance to an incense burner, a statuette of Inca origin, a gigantic Conder-headed griffin which overshadows the portals of the *poste restante*.

DUJARDIN: "What's that to do with the Mill Hill Mess?"

SCRIBE: "Nothing, directly, but on the mantelpiece of the ante-room reposes a pig-shaped match-holder, the product of an Irish firm of whiskey distillers, and love ever laughs at locksmiths, whilst poverty flies out of the window through which Sister Anne is watching, whilst Fatima, full of fear and trepidation, seeks unceasingly for . . ."

DUJARDIN: "There is one born every minute, and I fear for you."

SCRIBE: "I know, I know, but no news is good news, except when the news is required for the Journal notes. But, enough, the first of the enemy lines have been attacked, assaulted and assimilated, so let us consolidate."

The results of the Annual Mess Quadrathon, billiards, snooker, shooting and tennis, were in most cases foregone conclusions, and very short odds could be obtained against naming any of the three winners on this short list.

O.R.Q.M.S. Baldwin was successful in both billiards and snooker, overcoming both Sergts. Colbourne and Northcott respectively.

The Tennis Tournament resulted in a well-contested final between R.S.M. Davis and Sgt. Colbourne. Although the latter won three consecutive sets, it was not a runaway victory, for he and his opponent were forced to fight hard and often for each point.

The Annual Shoot found Sergt. Kemp and L./Sergt. Parnell tying for first place, with a score of 81 per cent., while L./Sergt. Ramsden and Sergt./Instr. Day tied for the wooden spoon, with a score of 29 per cent.

In the re-shoots, Sergt. Kemp and L./Sergt. Ramsden proved successful in their separate classes.

We offer our congratulations to Lieut. and Qmr. W. Pilley on his promotion to commissioned rank, and we welcome R.Q.M.S. Crouch, C.Q.M.S. Hills, L./Sergts. Hawkins and Livens, who have joined us from the Battalion, and we congratulate L./Sergt. Parnell on promotion.

To Clr./Sergt. King, who is now pounding the broad highway with His Majesty's mails, we wish all success in his new venture, and also to L./Sergt. Ramsden, who has left us for the Battalion.

The social season not having yet fully opened, we have to report only one whist drive, which proved a great success, and is the first, we trust, of many to be held during the season.

The pitcher having been broken, the well having run dry, we wish you, all readers, from the snow-clad fastnesses of the happy hunting ground of the Bengal Lancer (Hollywood version) hail and farewell.

CORPORALS' MESS.

The writer of last quarter's notes having decided that the task of writing entailed too much brain work, and not wishing to wear out his brain before re-entering "Civvie Street," has kindly passed the job on.

The chief happenings of last quarter are few, but important. First and foremost, we take this opportunity of offering our heartiest congratulations to Cpl.

Poulter and L./Cpl. Blackman on their marriage, and leave out the old crack about "little troubles." They are both making the mouths of all single members water by relating, in detail, the previous day's meals, and no one wonders why a certain single member keeps muttering "Roll on Christmas."

Cpl. Grant is now out of hospital, and is on sick leave. We hope that his recovery is complete, but the writer is forced to confess that he did not think anybody could lose so much weight without showing some signs. It could not have been "Silf," for that reduces the figure, too.

Three very successful Dances have been held, and our thanks are due to Cpl. Day and his Committee for the success achieved, particularly in the second dance, in which one "Paul Jones" lasted twenty-five minutes. We would like to know if this constitutes a record.

In the realm of sport we have done quite well, though we were deprived of the opportunity of seeing a "foregone conclusion" come unstuck. At cricket we reached the final of the Inter-Squad and Ranks Knock-out Competition by narrowly defeating the Depot Staff Privates, and then Badajos Squad fairly easily. The final tie against the Sergeants' Mess was cancelled for various reasons. It may be interesting to note that all members of the team did well at some time or other, and we should like to congratulate Badajos Squad on the sporting manner in which they accepted defeat.

Referring to last quarter's notes, the crib craze is still going strong, and one stalwart was informed by a recruit that he had been heard counting "Fifteen two, fifteen four, and pair's six" in his sleep.

Billiards is still as popular as ever, but the main topics of conversation are:—"Points pools, three draws, any eight results, etc.," and the reason can be found by listening to Radio Luxemburg on Sunday. "We win the money," but not yet. Let us hope the system L./Cpl. Blackman has evolved comes off.

We take this opportunity of welcoming to the Depot an old member of the Corporals' Club of the 2nd Battalion, and congratulate him on his rise in the world. We mean L./Sergt. Hawkins, and all hope that he has completely recovered

from his terrifying experience at the Gas School.

These notes are nearing completion, and by the time they appear in print L./Cpl. Lavalette expects to have rejoined the Battalion. If his expectations are right, well, all the best, and let us hope that the second stripe is soon up.

We close now by mentioning our dances again, and wish to remind the Corporals' Club of the 2nd Battalion, and of the 1st Battalion should they be on leave or courses in England, that the dances are free, and that only a few of their members are seen at them. The more the merrier, and why not?

One of our members has now found a new interest. He is now a member of the Committee for the quarter ending December, but his new interest lies in what Mussolini is going to do. We trust, for his peace of mind, that the thing is settled one way or another.

7th BATTALION NOTES.

ONCE again camp, the main feature of the Territorial Army year, has come and gone. In spite of the imaginary terrors which the name "Aldershot" had for a large number of members of the Battalion, those who were present, we feel sure, are all agreed that it is not such a bad place after all. We were favoured by most delightful weather, and, whilst we had to work rather harder than usual, yet everybody put his shoulder to the wheel and did his best. The attendance this year, in spite of all the preliminary arrangements made within companies, was disappointing, but absence in many cases was due to civil employment, and was therefore unavoidable.

The training in camp followed on the lines adopted last year, and ended up with an Inter-Brigade exercise. In this our Brigade was pitted against the Surrey Brigade encamped near Camberley. Our Battalion was detailed as advance guard to the Brigade, and, according to the critics, did its work very well. We certainly had a hard day of it, and were well in the picture right throughout. Whilst on the subject of this exercise it will no doubt be of interest to those who read

these notes, to learn—if they do not already know—that the predecessors of this Battalion, whilst in camp at Aldershot in August, 1883, took part in a "sham fight" over practically the same area in which our Brigade exercise this year was staged. According to the "Records of the 3rd Middlesex Rifle Volunteers," the Battalion in 1883 was attached to a battalion consisting of detachments from the Middlesex Volunteers, 1st Herts and 2nd Tower Hamlets Rifle Volunteers, which was called "The Grey Battalion," and that "on a Friday the whole of the Division turned out at an early hour and marched to Frimley, when a 'sham fight' took place on the Fox Hills at Romping Down, which was held by half the Artillery Force of the Division, one regiment of cavalry and seven battalions of infantry (two being Volunteers). The attacking force was of about equal strength, and also included two Battalions of Volunteers, the 'Grey Battalion' being one of them. A full description of the fight appeared in all the daily papers of the time. Sir Archibald Alison highly complimented the Volunteers, and said he had no idea that they could do so well. All were good, but the 'Grey Battalion' decidedly the best, he said."

Two important competitions were held in camp—the Warner Drill Cup and the Platoon Tactical Competition. In the former, "D" Company were again successful, but only after some keen competition. In the latter "C" Company headed the list for the first time since the competition was inaugurated four years ago. We congratulate both "C" and "D" Companies on their successes.

As for the sporting side of our camp activities, we were again able to hold the Athletic Sports Championships and Inter-Company Football Knock-out Competition. We congratulate "D" Company on winning the former, and "A" Company the latter. Further details of these are given elsewhere in these notes.

Apart from camp, the chief item of interest during the past quarter was the Brigade Rifle Meeting, held at Purfleet on 7th July, and we should like to take this opportunity of congratulating "D" Company on winning for the Battalion the Middlesex Justices' Shield for Lewis-gun shooting. We were unfortunate in

losing the other Middlesex Justices' Shield for rifle shooting, by the narrow margin of 3 points, to the 44th Divisional Signals. In the other competitions, "B" (S.) Company were third in the High Sheriff's Challenge Shield Competition, out of an entry of twenty-three teams, and "D" Company were third in the Young Soldiers' Competition, sixteen teams competing. In the competition for the highest aggregate for the Ross Cup we again finished second to the 5th Bn. The Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment. Altogether, therefore, we can congratulate ourselves on putting up a good show, although we naturally felt somewhat disappointed that our strenuous efforts beforehand did not place us first in more than one of the competitions. We must make up our minds to do even better next year.

2/Lieut. K. T. Baycock has left us to take up an appointment in Rangoon. We wish him every success in his new surroundings.

Before closing these notes, we should like to extend our sympathy to the family of the late Col. English, who died under such tragic circumstances; also to the parents and brother-officers of the late Capt. Heffer, of the 9th Battalion, who died as a result of a fall from his horse the first day in camp.

ATHLETIC SPORTS.

The Battalion Athletic Sports Championships were held in camp on August Bank Holiday. The weather was all that could be desired, and everything went off without a hitch. Altogether, a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon was spent, and "D" Company are to be congratulated on again winning the cup by a considerable margin.

We should like to take this opportunity of thanking especially all those numerous officials who, by their able assistance, ensured that the meeting passed off so smoothly and up to time.

At the conclusion of the meeting, Mrs. Murray very kindly distributed the prizes.

The results of the various events were as follows:—

TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS.

- 440 Yards Relay (4 x 110).—1, "A" Company;
2, "B" (S.) Company.
880 Yards Relay (4 x 220).—1, "A" Company;
2, "D" Company.

- One Mile Relay (4 x 440).—1, "D" Company;
2, "C" Company.
Two Mile Relay (4 x 880).—1, "D" Company;
2, "B" (S.) Company.
One Mile Team Race.—1, "D" Company; 2, "B" (S.) Company. (Individual winner, Sergt. Bundy, "D" Company.)
High Jump.—Equal 1, "A" and "D" Companies.
Long Jump.—1, "B" (S.) Company; 2, "C" Company.
Putting the Shot.—1, "D" Company; 2, "B" (S.) Company.

INTER-COMPANY SPORTS CUP (decided on all the foregoing events).

| | Points. |
|----------------------------|---------|
| 1. "D" Company | 55½ |
| 2. "B" (S.) Company | 42 |
| 3. "A" Company | 40½ |
| 4. "C" Company | 25 |
| 5. "H.Q." Wing | 14 |

NON-CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS.

- Sergeants' Race.—1, Sergt. McNally, "H.Q." Wing; 2, Sergt. Buckland, 2nd Battalion; 3, Sergt. Jenkins, 2nd Battalion.
Veterans' Race.—1, Sergt. McNally, "H.Q." Wing; 2, Sergt. Silvey, "H.Q." Wing; 3, Sergt. Parker, "B" (S.) Company.
Enlisted Boys' Race.—1, Boy Shaw; 2, Boy Price; 3, Boy Stedman.
Band Race.—1, Bdsn. Diprose; 2, Bdsn. Cox; 3, Pte. Stevens.
Three-Legged Race.—1, Sergt. Powell and L./Sergt. Lauderback, "C" Company; 2, Sergt. Nolan and Pte. Marsh, "C" Company.
Sack Race.—1, L./Sergt. Lauderback, "C" Company; 2, L./Cpl. Cordon, "A" Company;
3, Boy Desborough, "H.Q." Wing.
Apple and Bucket Race.—1, Pte. Killick, "B" (S.) Company; 2, Sergt. Lenney, "D" Company;
3, L./Sergt. Lauderback, "C" Company.

FOOTBALL.

The Inter-Company Football Knock-out Competition for the Football Cup was held during camp, and resulted in a victory for "A" Company after one of the most sporting and exciting finals witnessed in this competition for many years. We congratulate both "A" and "B" (S.) Companies on such a fine game, which will, we feel sure, never be forgotten by the large crowd who turned out to witness the match.

The results of the matches played in connection with the competition were as follows:—

- Preliminary Round.—"B" (S.) Company beat "H.Q." Wing (5—2).
Semi-finals.—"A" Company beat "D" Company (3—2); "B" (S.) Company beat "C" Company (8—2).
Final.—"A" Company beat "B" (S.) Company (2—1) after extra time.

"A" COMPANY.

Once again these notes are overdue, and as the time-honoured excuse of over-work is no help, the Battalion being in the middle of six weeks' leave, our scribe must try to remember what has happened since his last efforts appeared in print.

The two most important events have been the Brigade Rifle Meeting and Annual Training. The less said about the former, from "A" Company's point of view, the better, so we will pass on hurriedly to camp, held this year at Mytchett. This began rather sadly for us, first when we heard of the tragic death of Lieut.-Col. English, and then when Capt. Heffer of the 9th Battalion, after being thrown from his horse when on training, died in hospital after having given us hopes of his recovery. His death was felt deeply by all, and he was greatly missed by all who knew him.

Looking back at camp, our chief impression is of miles of winding tracks, a cross between the Sahara Desert and our miniature range landscape after an Empire Test. However, thanks to those cheerful—if not always tuneful—members of the Company, whose repertoire ranged from "Onward, Christian Soldiers," to a curious song, the chorus of which seemed to be "What-ho!" we usually managed to arrive in camp in a cheery mood, and bearing a most noble thirst. A flank attack on the Sergeants' Mess and the Brigade beer bar was regularly carried out directly after parade with far more vigour than was devoted to our schemes on the training areas.

Our "big day" was the Inter-Brigade scheme on the last Friday in camp, when "A" Company had the privilege of acting as leading platoon of the whole Brigade. This was strenuous but very interesting, and we understand that we emerged from the ordeal with credit.

In the competitions we did not fare so well, as we were third to "C" Company in the Inter-Platoon Tactical Cup, and third to "D" Company in both the Warner Drill Cup and the Sports. While congratulating the winners, we feel we ought to have done better, and in passing should like to point out that our 4 x 220 yards team, drawn from Company Headquarters—Capt. Bartram, 2/Lieut. Jefferson, C.S.M. Knight and C.Q.M.S.

Ellis—won the event with some ease, and attribute their success entirely to Messrs. Watney Combe & Reid.

Our solitary success in camp was the winning of the Football Cup, after many years of being knocked out in the first round. We beat "B" (S.) Company in the final by 2—1 after extra time. It was a fine, sporting game, and was the best final seen for several years.

So camp this year was quite good after all, although many people said that any camp at Aldershot is bound to be a bad one (some still say so!). Nevertheless, we shall be glad to get back to "Sussex by the Sea" and its famous inhabitants, who know so much, and rumour has it that Arundel is our next camp.

We take off our hats to:—

(1) Cpls. S. Law and Hicks, who have not only got away with twelve years of undetected crime, but somebody has given them a medal for it.

(2) Cpls. Baker and W. Law on their promotion.

(3) C.S.M. Knight and L./Cpl. Bare, who qualified as instructors in camp, and Cpls. Batchelor and Baker, who also did so after a fortnight's course at Digby.

(4) 2/Lieut. Jefferson on passing his promotion examination for Captain.

Finally, we hear with regret that Capt. Bartram is on leave until Christmas. We wish him every success in his new job, and shall do our best to carry on without him. We hope, however, that his skill with the rifle, badminton racket and pint pot will be available when we need it.

"B" (S.) COMPANY.

Nothing, so the doctors say, is better for one than a change of scene. Acting upon this excellent maxim, the Company scribe betook himself off to an unknown destination nine days before his notes were due to go to press—without having written his notes. Consequently that onerous duty fell to the Acting Assistant Company scribe (unpaid, alas!), who offers his apologies for any sins of omission and commission that there may be.

The outstanding event of the past three months has, of course, been camp. We were very short-handed owing largely to the great improvement which has taken place in employment in the past few months, and whilst the cause was a reason

for rejoicing, the effect was not, since in order that we may obtain the best value from our training, numbers are essential. Nevertheless, if we were little we were good. We think we may say without hesitation that "B" is the best marching company in the Battalion, and that despite the fact that we do not sing hymns to help us on our way. Furthermore, we were runners-up in the Warner Drill Competition, the Sports, and the Battalion Football Championship. Also seven range-takers were tested, with the result that five passed 1st Class and one 2nd Class.

2/Lieut. R. E. Moss, of the 2nd Bn. The Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment, and Sergt. R. Jenkins, of the 2nd Battalion, were attached to us in camp, and our thanks are due to them for their unflinching kindness and assistance. Mr. Moss was so zealous that he even appeared on early morning parade—a form of exercise which, we had always supposed, was only undertaken under extreme compulsion.

We enjoyed the inter-brigade battle. True we sat on the road for a considerable time, but the rest of the Brigade sat longer. True also that when we finally did get into action the junior subaltern was so anxious to reconnoitre fresh fire positions that he nearly lost his platoon and did not find it again until the battle was over. But these were mere details. There is no doubt whatever that we won.

We understand that certain members of the Company, finding Aldershot dull, visited Guildford. However, as we are not rewriting the Satyricon, we do not think it necessary to record their adventures.

To sum up, camp was a jolly good show and those who did not come missed a very enjoyable and very instructive fortnight. No one could have failed to be struck by the amazing difference between the Battalion when it marched into camp on 28th July and the Battalion when it marched out again on 11th August.

To turn to domestic matters, we hope to hold a dance in November, but the date is not yet fixed.

2/Lieut. E. L. Wallis was posted to the Company on being commissioned from the Artists Rifles. We are, however, bound by Plautus's rule, "*Adolescentem verecundum esse decet.*"

"C" COMPANY.

The Brigade Rifle Meeting did not see any outstanding performance on our part, although our scores were much the same as at the Battalion Meeting. The following were among those chosen for the Battalion team: Capt. S. A. W. Brown, C.S.M. Howard and L./Sergt. Valentine.

Having disposed of that, the next item on the agenda is Annual Training. We were under the impression, and indeed our suspicions were confirmed by no less an authority than Battalion Orders, that we were to proceed to Mytchett Camp, near Aldershot. However, a merry little jest by the railway authorities rather put us off the scent by choosing for us quite a nice siding at Clapham. Although we were entertained by an engine driver and several other friendly inhabitants, the Adjutant did not see eye to eye with the training areas at our disposal, and after a conference with the stationmaster our stay was brought to an abrupt close. Pausing but for two practice runs through the station (one forwards, one backwards), we set off for our original destination. The gentleman who greeted us on arrival with the observation that we were three hours late will have his remarks incorporated in our forthcoming series, "*Famous Last Words.*"

We do not know the exact strength of the 132nd Infantry Brigade, but whatever the figure is, there seems to be a similar number of opinions on the Aldershot area as a training ground. The general opinion is that it is more pleasant than some like to admit. True, there was not much to do "after office hours"—a state of affairs possibly aggravated by the careless burning of one of the local licensed houses. The weather was perfect; and if "G.I." was a long way from camp, it served its purpose in demonstrating that the other areas were so much nearer.

As to training itself we will be brief. We enjoyed the inter-brigade "battle." The number of colours carried into action by "C" (Flagged) Company gave quite a touch of old-world romance which was rudely dispelled by certain forceful comments on the noisy habits of despatch riders. Heath fires did not take up too much of our time, although we gather from O.C. "B" (S.) Company that fire-fighting is not a job to be treated lightly.

A good fire is apparently to be regarded with a certain amount of respect, and given one's personal attention. The type of strategical fire which the Signal Officer discovers in railway cuttings on the arrival of senior officers is another thing altogether. This type is used to produce the "fog of war," and when training on dry ground is the best known alternative to "blinding 'em with science."

The Night Compass Marching Competition provided a pleasant evening stroll. We tramped the countryside with such accuracy that we won the competition for the first time since its inauguration four years ago. The Warner Drill Cup has escaped our clutches again this year, but as the final marking was quite close we have no need to hang our heads in shame.

The Athletic Meeting proved rather disappointing so far as we were concerned. Our members were successful when running with their legs tied together, and even with their legs tied in sacks; but the more usual method of propulsion called for in the serious events seemed to defeat them. Although various individuals ran well, we were placed rather a bad fourth. The Tug-of-War League is not yet finished, but it has gone far enough for us to know that we shall be placed second to "H.Q." Wing.

Our quarterly issue of congratulations is allotted to the following on their respective promotions and appointments: Sergt. Leggett, L./Sergt. Valentine, Cpls. Newman and Buckingham, and L./Cpls. Morgan and Plant. Sergt. Nolan has hidden his misdemeanours for twelve years and has been awarded the Territorial Efficiency Medal for so doing.

"D" COMPANY.

All things considered, we may say that camp this year was a success. Most of us went to Mytchett with fear and trepidation in our hearts, but we returned with altered views and with genuine regret at leaving such a pleasant camp site. At the moment we hear—touch wood lest it be a rumour—that we are going to that most-sought-after spot next year, Arundel. At any rate, we shall be back near the sea again.

Whilst at Mytchett the Company managed to hold the Warner Drill and Sports Cup. Sergt. Bundy commanded

our platoon, and all should be congratulated on the high standard of drill and turn-out, and the remarkable steadiness on parade. We can safely say that the competition for this cup gets fiercer every year, and a more than special effort was needed to keep the Company colours flying.

The Sports revealed quite an amount of hitherto hidden talent. C.S.M. Bishop and Pte. Watts proved unbeatable at Putting the Shot, and Ptes. Blundell and Townsend tied for first place with "A" Company in the High Jump; whilst our well-tried long-distance team—Capt. Scott Lowe, Sergt. Bundy and Pte. Trafford—with the very good addition of Pte. Thompson, swept the board in the Mile Team Race and Two Mile Relay. Other discoveries were Pte. Hughes and Boy Mitchell, who, with L./Cpl. W. Desborough and Pte. Russell, won the One Mile Relay. The whole team did well to finish off a good day for the Company. We should like to take this opportunity of congratulating C.S.M. Ramsey, "B" (S.) Company, on clearing over 20 ft. in the Long Jump, and even though he was disqualified for being just over the mark, his jump was undoubtedly the high spot of the afternoon, considering the conditions.

Our football team this year could not get together, and we were beaten by our old foes from Highgate after a hard struggle. Best luck to them on winning the Football Cup. The Tug-of-War was not completed, but "H.Q." Wing had a moral victory. It is whispered that their stalwarts were to be seen practising against a tree whilst we were on early morning parade.

Congratulations to "C" Company on winning the West Middlesex Cup. This consisted of a night compass march with complications, and we were just pipped on the post. Mr. Sass commanded our platoon, and we must say that any of the other platoons moving faster on the compass bearing than ours would have had to be in grand training. How the members of the platoon kept completely quiet for two hours was miraculous, considering the number of voluble men in the platoon and the rough ground over which it had to move. Pandemonium was let loose on the road back to camp, songs ascending to heaven without ceasing.



"D" COMPANY LEWIS GUN TEAM, 1935.
Winners Brigade Rifle Meeting.



"D" COMPANY YOUNG SOLDIERS' TEAM, 1935.
Winners Battalion Rifle Meeting.

Just before camp we attended the Brigade Rifle Meeting, and came away with the Lewis Gun Trophy. The whole team fired well, especially Pte. Levett, who obtained our top score. The Young Soldiers' team were third in their competition, only 13 points behind the winners, and the result would have been considerably closer but for an unfortunate jam in the rapid practice. The High Sheriff's team were also well placed, with the result that "D" Company had the highest aggregate of any company in the Brigade. Sergt. Lenney and L./Cpl. Boughton are to be congratulated on receiving individual prizes.

Others due for felicitation are Sergt. Charters and Pte. Loxton, on receiving the Long Service and Jubilee Medals respectively. The former is now time-expired, and we wish him the best of luck after so many years in the Battalion. Loxton is still one of the Permanent Staff, and his name will appear in an inventory of the premises as one of the "fixtures and fittings."

At the time of writing the Drill Hall is closed for parades, but there has been quite a tidy gathering each Sunday morning to shoot for a Battalion spoon. There are many worse ways of spending part of Sunday morning than in ten rounds on the range, and perhaps a "noggin" of ale afterwards.

Finally, we welcome those recruits who have joined us since camp. May they enjoy their service with the Company and maintain the old "Die-Hard" spirit.



8th BATTALION NOTES.

THE notes for this issue from Territorial contributors will all doubtless be on the important subject of Annual Training, and readers will want to know what we have got to say about it. Firstly, however, there are two important events worthy of mention—the Brigade Rifle Meeting and the Cenotaph parade. The former was held at Purfleet on a very hot Sabbath in June, too warm apparently for our marksmen, who did not shine as brilliantly as the sun. In the B.S.A. Young Soldiers' Competition we came second to the Queen's Own Royal West

Kent Regiment, and our machine gunners also took second place in the Perring Trophy; the Queen's Own won this shoot also. Lieut. Cox did well to secure the Cheylesmore Cup for the highest individual aggregate in the Lord-Lieutenant's and High Sheriff's Shield.

As a full and interesting report on the Old Comrades' parade and march to the Cenotaph appeared in last quarter's issue, we have little to add beyond the fact that we were well represented by all ranks, and the C.O. and Second-in-Command made a forced march from the training areas at Farnborough in order to be present.

Now let us return to the training areas and our camp at Mytchett. The fifteen days we spent there proved to be better than we anticipated, and we have come to the conclusion that Aldershot is not such a bad spot after all, but, to quote the words of an old song, "We do like to be beside the seaside," and the fact that we were not so lucky this year undoubtedly had the effect of reducing our numbers, and this appeared to be general throughout the Brigade.

However, as there was no salt water, we had plenty of fresh in lieu, and the canal and lake provided recreation for those who wished to indulge in "swimmin' and boatin' and fishin'." The "shootin' and huntin'" were more or less compulsory for everybody in specially preserved coverts only to be found by those possessing a 1st Class Certificate in Geography, the Alphabet and Arithmetic.

We were fortunate in having ideal weather, which, combined with really picturesque surroundings, made our daily work a pleasure. The ground was well suited for Section and Platoon Training, and we were able to carry out several useful schemes in addition to the night operations, which comprised a compass march and patrols. We must not forget to mention the Flag Day, which must not be compared with those we have in London. It was an inter-brigade exercise with skeleton platoons and sections represented by flags. Unfortunately we were in brigade reserve and had little to do beyond taking cover from the enemy's aircraft, who were particularly active during the opening phases of the attack and made things rather uncomfortable for the battalion forming the advance guard

Col. Parmeter was fulfilling the rôle of Brigade Commander, and Major Ellis was in command of the Battalion.

The small wireless-telephony cars were the centre of attraction, and maintained communication with the forward battalions during the battle. We had an interesting demonstration by these cars in camp one afternoon. Another interesting demonstration was that on the infantry mortar and Carden-Lloyd tractor.

On 8th August we paid a visit to No. 4 (A.C.) Squadron, R.A.F., and witnessed some flying, and were conducted round various sheds and stores, where we were given information on aerial photography, parachutes and different types of armaments. Altogether, a very interesting afternoon.

The Battalion Sports were held on the second Tuesday, and "B" (S.) Company again won the cup, with "H.Q." Wing second. The whole Battalion seemed to enter for the event of throwing the cricket ball, but no one quite succeeded in landing one in the canal. We hope next year to include long and high jumps. The Band rendered lively music during the afternoon, and at the conclusion of the meeting Mrs. Summers presented the prizes.

Our Signallers did their share of training and were successful in classifying eight.

Congratulations to "B" (S.) Company on coming out top in the Divisional Test. They also qualified eight range-takers.

On Friday night, our last Mess night in camp, we had our usual "beat-up" and visited the other Messes in a procession headed by those members of the Band who had sufficient wind left to play. Our new recruit, Bdsn. Bull, particularly distinguished himself on this occasion.

The Brigade ceremonial was held on Saturday, and, judging from an eye-witness account, it was a good show. This was followed by the presentation by Sir Cecil de Salis of the Brigade trophies. Before the Battalion dismissed, the Commanding Officer presented C.S.M. Hewett with the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal, and C.Q.M.S. Lovett, Sergt. Reeve, L./Cpl. New and Bdsn. Ghost with the Territorial Efficiency Medal.

Some well-contested inter-company football matches were played in camp, and

resulted in the "H.Q." Wing team retaining the Gamage Cup.

The Sergeants' Mess entertained the Officers one evening, and a very good entertainment was provided; we had the pleasure of having with us the Brigade Commander and his staff.

A familiar figure, in the person of our late C.Q.M.S., Mr. Henson, was always in evidence behind the bar, where he was acting as steward, and we hope he will be with us again next year.

We were called upon to do some fire-fighting by way of a change, for just as one of our Company schemes was being started, clouds of smoke were observed on the flank, and it was necessary to detach the enemy and the reserve platoon to cope with the outbreak. Capt. E. L. Heywood, of the 2nd Battalion, who was attached to us, was directing operations, and the zone was soon well beaten. The assistance he gave us in many other directions was much appreciated, and his "tank," if he will pardon the reference, which was always at our disposal, proved most useful.

On Sunday morning we were astir early and there were very few tents left standing when we marched out of camp soon after 10.30 a.m. to entrain for home, and a few weeks' respite before carrying on the good work once more in our Drill Halls.

LOST.

At Mytchett, August, 1935, the blanket key and the brush for whitewashing the last post. Also a horse's neck. Finder please return to Watt A. Hope, c/o The Q.M. & T. Stores.

FOUND.

A magician's props comprising two boiled eggs, an empty bottle and a skinned banana. Apply the Works Manager, and press the bell.

"A" COMPANY.

Camp having receded into the distant past, we have once more settled down to life in the Drill Hall, and, judging by the number of recruits we have got since our return, we should show an increase by the end of the year, and thus once more gain the credit for being the best recruiting company—an honour of which we are justly proud and eager to maintain.

We are pleased to inform the readers of these notes that we had a 75 per cent. attendance at camp this year, and, in view of the fact that it was a long way from the "briny" and very near to our own homes, this was really quite good, and the Company Commander wishes to congratulate all ranks, and hopes that we can improve on this figure next year.

We wish heartily to congratulate the Commanding Officer on his T.D., and trust that he may continue to do his most excellent work.

Another subaltern has been drafted to the Company in the person of Lieut. Reddy, and we trust that his stay will be long and beneficial to us all.

We also congratulate our Young Soldiers' team on their excellent performance at Bisley this year, in winning the event for the first time for many years.

"B" (S.) COMPANY.

That's camp, that was! Like all good things in this life, Annual Training this year was over before we realized it. Our training was more useful and instructive than usual, thanks to Lieut. Quarry of the 2nd Bn. The Royal Ulster Rifles, and L./Sergt. Makewell of the 2nd Battalion, who were attached to us and who gave us much valuable help and instruction. (We also had an insight of a fireman's life, but that's another matter.)

As far as the Company was concerned, there is no doubt that this year's training was a most successful one. First, though we just failed to regain the Perring Trophy, we had the extreme gratification of being placed first in the Divisional Test, an attainment of which we are very justly proud. Rumour has it that we actually secured the highest marks in the 44th (H.C.) Division. Secondly, in the range-takers' test, we once again headed the list by having eight of the Company passed as qualified range-takers. Our heartiest congratulations are extended to all the successful candidates. Thirdly, we again won the Sports Cup after a severe tussle with "H.Q." Wing. Our success was due mainly to the great performance of the Relay team (Lieut. Sadler, Cpl. Crump, L./Cpl. Tombleson and Pte. Bond), who won every race in the meeting—a grand effort for which we extend to them our congratulations, and

trust that they will repeat their success next year.

We take this opportunity of extending our heartiest congratulations to Cpls. Freeman and Mills, and L./Cpls. Waite, King and Gurr on their recent promotion.

We also wish to welcome Lieut. Reddy (late of the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry) and 2/Lieut. Wilson on their appointment, and sincerely trust that their stay with us will be long and pleasant.

As all members of the Company are probably aware, the Company has a very high reputation for the versatility and adaptability of its personnel, both in military and civil matters. This has now been enhanced by the discovery that our Company Commander is, apparently, a horticulturist of a very high order, whose knowledge of the art of transplanting flowers is nothing short of expert. We feel sure, therefore, that next spring will see the garden at Ealing a blaze of colour!

Before we close these notes we wish to commemorate here our expression of profound regret at the death, during Annual Training, of Capt. Heffer of the 9th Battalion, to whose parents we extend our deepest and sincerest sympathy.

"C" COMPANY.

Let it be clearly understood that these notes are written E. and O.E. and without prejudice.

Extreme pressure has been brought to bear to induce us to submit our overdue literary contribution to the Regimental Journal in order to prevent the circulation from sagging.

We must congratulate C.S.M. Brown on his promotion to Warrant rank, and L./Cpl. Barrett to the rank of Corporal. Both Sergt. Shrieves and Cpl. Barrett had a very successful fortnight at Hythe, where they qualified as Instructors and, in addition, we understand, "passed out" several times in the canteen.

With an amazing burst of speed and an alarming disregard of his years, Sergt. "Bill" Hawkins again won the Veterans' Race at the Battalion Sports.

Our attendance at camp was so small that we were compelled to break our usual rule, and instead of winning the Efficiency Cup we were only placed second

We do not anticipate any further entry into journalism this year; we therefore take this opportunity of wishing everybody a merry Christmas and possibly a happy New Year.

"D" COMPANY.

Since the last notes were published we have been to camp at Mytchett Lake, near Farnborough. Taking into consideration the fact that we were not near the sea, the attendance was excellent, and the Company had forty-nine men out of a total strength of seventy-two present. The camp was very successful, as the site was ideal for an inland one, and we were favoured by the best of weather.

The training was good and the keenness of the men was great. The Brigade exercise was enjoyed by everyone, although we were not called upon to do any actual "fighting." We were, however, detailed for another type of fight, *i.e.*, fire-fighting. On one day, in fact, just as we reached our training area, a fire broke out and we spent the rest of the morning putting it out. Everyone really thoroughly enjoyed that morning.

In the Battalion Sports we were not able to beat "B" Company, who seem to be making a habit of winning this, but we did win the cricket-ball event, and by some of the best pulls ever seen in the Battalion we won the Tug-of-War. We have to thank Sergt.-Major Barber for his fine coaching in this event.

We are proud to say that we have at last come up from the bottom of the duty companies, as regards strength, to the top. This is an excellent performance. Our strength shows 79 other ranks and 3 officers as against 52 and 2 respectively a year ago. We are trying to get that century.

9th BATTALION NOTES.

OBITUARY.

CAPT. H. HEFFER.

THE sad accident to Capt. Herbert Heffer when he was thrown from his horse near Mytchett Camp on 29th July, resulting in his death on the following day in the Cambridge Hospital, Aldershot, has robbed the 9th Battalion in particular and

the Middlesex Regiment as a whole of a very promising officer.

Capt. Heffer was gazetted to the 9th Bn. The Middlesex Regiment on 17th March, 1924. At this time he was still a cadet of the rank of Sergeant in the O.T.C., and therefore he had the unusual distinction of holding a commission whilst at school. He quickly interested himself in signalling, and for nine years acted as Signalling Officer, commanding a very efficient Signal Section, which one year reached third place in the Dartmouth Cup. He attended assiduously to his military duties and qualified at as many signalling and other courses as possible during his eleven years' service.

He was always very well informed as to what was happening in the Battalion, and it was largely due to this knack of acquiring information that led to his writing so many of the notes that have appeared in THE DIE-HARDS Journal about the 9th. These notes were always to the point, were interesting and sometimes very witty. It was a pity perhaps that he did not have more time to devote to literary composition, for which he seemed to have a distinct flair.

His father was the first Adjutant the 9th Battalion had when it was re-formed in 1920, and he made sure that his son was well versed in all military matters.

Capt. Heffer was born at Aldershot, and the funeral took place at the Military Cemetery there. The service was a short one, conducted by the Rev. Chesnut-Chesney, the Chaplain of the Battalion, and was rendered impressive by its simplicity.

Capt. Heffer was an only son, and the grief of his parents is shared by a large number of comrades and friends in his Battalion and elsewhere.

BATTALION NOTES.

Mytchett Camp, 1935, is now a thing of the past, and one upon which to look back with mixed feelings.

No camp could be anything but marred by the accident which befell Capt. Heffer on the first morning of camp, and which resulted so tragically in his death. He died within forty-eight hours of being thrown from his horse, when he sustained a fractured skull. He received prompt attention at the field ambulance in the

camp staffed by the V.A.Ds., and was removed as soon as possible to the Cambridge Military Hospital at Aldershot.

The Battalion as a whole felt Capt. Heffer's loss keenly, and we take this opportunity of expressing our sympathy with his relatives and friends.

The march to Willesden Junction from Pound Lane was marked with the usual scenes of enthusiasm from the populace, but one missed the anti-military organization which generally jeers us on our way. Where were they? Perhaps they were responsible for the absence of our engine.

On arrival at the station we found a most luxurious train, into which we all stepped in a princely way. We lolled in the sumptuous carriages smoking our cigarettes and waited for our rolling-stock to roll. An hour later we were still waiting. The Adjutant, after the manner of a true Sherlock Holmes detective, alighted and detected, after a short time, that we had no engine.

However, we reached Ash Vale eventually, and marched into camp. Our camp, which we had the honour of sharing with the V.A.Ds., was 600 yards distant from the remainder of the Brigade. The disadvantage of being this distance away from the wet canteen and Y.M.C.A. did not outweigh the advantage of being on our own with ample room and perhaps the added advantage of the officers being as far away as Brigade. Needless to say, there was a minority who sometimes could be overheard to say that "By the time I gets to that there — canteen and drinks a pint and walks back again, I'm — if I'm not just as — well thirsty again."

The weather, as you will doubtless see from the other Battalion notes, was unusually hot, and after the many warnings of the dangers of lighted matches and cigarettes, there were nearly as many fire alarms as warnings. One officer rushed in a car to the scene of voluminous smoke only to find a gentleman engaged in having a bonfire.

The training was interesting, and the day of the withdrawal behind a river over the one intact bridge was full of incidents.

A hostile armoured car which seemed extraordinarily like Major Sherwood's Triumph Gloria, did untold damage and, while the bridge was being blown up, after all were reported across, two mislaid

sections of "A" Company arrived on the far bank.

The night operations of the second week were very successful, although one wonders why the enemy elected to send the Transport Officer out on the skyline with a patrol which was, needless to say, very soon dealt with. (If only they had tied wires round his neck he would have looked like a telegraph pole and all would have been well. But it is easy to be wise after the event.)

It seems as if the Battalion has very definitely developed a sound night sense, so essential to modern warfare. There was the minimum of noise, and each unit kept its direction extremely well.

On the last Friday, with the help of many flags, we represented a battalion of our Brigade working against the Surrey Brigade from Camberley. Aeroplanes did their best to delay our advance by attacking the column, but after the third attack and the third time of rubbing our noses in the heather, the umpires kindly put the hostile plane out of action. After a dozen or more rushes at us, the enemy pilot understood we did not want to play any more, and went away. Peace and quiet reigned for about one and a half hours, when suddenly the Battalion was thrown into the battle at lightning speed to attack an enemy thought to be withdrawing. "D" Company, supported by "C" Company, moved so quickly that the far side of Tunnel Hill, 2,000 yards away, was reached in twenty-five minutes and a disgruntled Surrey platoon was captured before it could escape. The Battalion received the praise of the Directing Staff who considered that it would have taken at least half an hour longer to reach Tunnel Hill.

Mounted action by the M.Gs. and the persistence of the small wireless car in following the C.O. over rough ground were perhaps the best features of the day.

On the whole it was a very satisfactory period of training in which the standard seemed visibly to have improved since last year.

From the social point of view, the Gymkhana (one cannot call it sports exactly), held on an extremely hot bank holiday afternoon, was a great success.

One feels, however, that the exact conditions of the Drinking Competition and those of the Alarm Race needed more

clearly realizing by the competitors. In the Drinking Competition perhaps, on a future occasion, the authorities should insist on entrants paying for their beer; this might encourage them to put more down their throats than the gap between their shirts and their chests.

In the Alarm Race several competitors did not trouble to lace their boots correctly. We would like to point out how important it is, in case of fire or any other emergency, to have your boots done up properly. Can a man put out a fire with the laces of his boots crossed instead of straight across? The answer, apparently, is "No."

It seemed a pity, although the officers seemed to spend much time sitting on bicycles, that none could finish in the Slow Bicycle Race.

A good camp soon ends, and one wishes it could be longer. Another winter's training is ahead, and with the changing international outlook it promises to be an interesting one.

We welcome 2/Lieut. A. Hamilton to the Battalion, and hope his stay with us will be an enjoyable one.

We have just heard:—

That Capt. L. C. Wright is going on the Reserve. We will miss him very much.

That the Battalion has entered the Wembley and District Football League, and that prospects are good this year, as a number of new players have joined the Club.

That the next number will be out in February, and therefore we all wish you a very happy Christmas and New Year.

"A" COMPANY.

We open this quarter's notes in a sad vein with a reference to the death of our Company Commander, Capt. Heffer, who succumbed to injuries received whilst out training on the first morning of camp.

Elsewhere abler pens than ours will pay tribute to his memory. We will therefore just say that the Company mourns the loss of a good officer, a fine soldier and a real comrade.

To those of us who have watched him grow into manhood with the Battalion, he will always remain a pleasant memory. Our deep sympathy goes out to Capt. and Mrs. Heffer.

Turning to the events of the past three months we can say with all due modesty that the Company can look back on them with every satisfaction.

At the Brigade Rifle Meeting in July we did not exactly set the neighbouring Thames on fire, but Pte. Ward repeated his success at the Battalion Rifle Meeting and made the highest score in the Young Soldiers' Competition.

The third place was secured by Pte. Aldridge, who had only a few weeks' training—a good performance.

Annual Training, at Mytchett, will be remembered for many things including V.A.D.s., blazing sunshine, heath fires, and cycling displays by the officers.

The Company secured the Platoon Competition fairly easily, and the Lewis Gun Section did extremely well in the Brigade Competition. In the Guard Mounting Competition we also made a great improvement upon last year and should capture this trophy next time.

On the sporting side we also shone. At football we lost after a hard game to "B" (S.) Company, but took ample revenge later at cricket.

A successful Sports Day was held on August Bank Holiday and here again we claimed many prizes.

We supplied the first and second pairs in the Three-Legged Race, and won the Relay Race. This event was very exciting and it was due to some really good work by Boy Esten, who ran with great style and judgment, that we won easily.

Sergt. Cooper proved that by doing a job the correct way you are bound to win, for, though he marched up his squad in the Alarm Race after all the others had finished, he was adjudged the winner, the other teams having failed to pack their tents correctly. Well done, George!

The other winner was Cpl. Margetson, who came in third in the N.C.Os.' Map Race.

We also fancied C.S.M. Sewell and C.Q.M.S. Impey in the Beer Race, but, alas, they were among the also rans. In an interview afterwards they stated they understood the beer was meant to be consumed and not used for bathing purposes.

When one considers that all the foregoing successes were secured by a total Company strength of less than thirty men, it reflects great credit on all those who attended camp.

Now we settle down to a period of comparative quiet before the winter weapon training period comes round again, but there will be plenty to do in the way of N.C.Os.' classes and P.T. squads, not forgetting the Company Dinner.

We close with congratulations to Sergt. Ward, L./Sergt. Williams and L./Cpl. Ward on their respective promotions.

ACKAY.

"B" (S.) COMPANY.

Since the last issue of the Journal several events worthy of note have happened, and as they are all a great credit to the Company, we hope the Editor will allow us a little extra space this quarter to record them. As we anticipated, the Range-takers came out of the front gate of the Depot this year after their Annual Test, and not across the back field, as they had every confidence that they had done well, and this was well founded when the result came through, for we had eight of ten pass: five 1st Class and three 2nd Class. We would like to take this opportunity of congratulating them, and also of reminding them that it is only with a lot of practice that they can hope to keep up this splendid record.

The next event was the Perring Trophy and, although we finished third, we are sure that this does not reflect upon the standard of the Company, as there was only a very small margin between the first three teams, and if it had not been for a slight and unforeseen error we should have carried it off. Money is not the only thing that horses can lose for you. The writer, having heard some of the remarks made by the testing officers, feels sure that the Higher Command has got a very good opinion of the Company.

In the previous issue the writer remarked that he was sure the seaside was not the only place where the T.A. could soldier, and this statement was confirmed by the spirit shown by the Company both at work and play. We would like to have had a larger attendance, but as most of the absentees were unable to get leave from their employers, I suppose we must grin and bear it. The Company again carried off the Guard Mounting Cup, and we take off our hats to Sergt. Barton and his guardsmen.

We have lost two very old members of the Company in C.S.M. Prowse and C.Q.M.S. Cobb, and, as age must give way to youth, I suppose we must not brood too much over our loss, but they can rest assured that they will not be forgotten by the Company, who wish them every success for the future, and hope to see them at our Annual Dinner and perhaps visiting us at camp.

We would like to congratulate C.S.M. Jones, C.Q.M.S. Drury, and Sergts. Barton and Yelland on their promotion, and we feel sure that with such senior N.C.Os. to guide the Company it will make great progress.

We are now getting prepared for the winter months, and hope to see everybody at the Drill Hall at least once a week.

We regret that our P.S.I. did not win the silver tankard given for raising the greatest number of recruits during the year, and we hear that he has decided to go on "grapefruits" as a penance. Anyway, if every man in the Company would try to raise at least one recruit in the forthcoming year, they might give him a gold tankard next year.

Before closing these notes, we take this opportunity of offering our deepest regrets to the parents of the late Capt. Heffer, who met his death at camp.

"C" COMPANY.

Since writing our last notes we have said farewell to C.S.M. Todman, who leaves us after twenty-one years' service with the Battalion. He has done a great deal for the Battalion, and everyone who has come into contact with him has nothing but admiration for his efficiency and the fine example he has set. We shall still have his help in the Company in connection with our Small Bore Club.

C.S.M. Steward, who has been promoted, has the best wishes of the Company on his appointment.

During July we had two trips to the Depot at Mill Hill in order to give the Company preliminary training in field work. Both these visits were well attended, and we hope they gave the Company some idea of what was to come during Annual Training.

The Brigade Rifle Meeting took place at Purfleet and we sent two teams, High Sheriff's and a Lewis-gun team; our

Young Soldiers being below the number required. Although we did not get any cups, we had a good percentage of the Company representing the Battalion in the Lord-Lieutenant's Shield Competition. So here's hoping that in the coming year we reach the prize list.

And now about camp.

In spite of the misgivings about Aldershot, we paraded on the morning of 28th July one officer and twenty-seven other ranks strong. This number was increased by the Company Commander, Second-in-Command and four other ranks, making a total of three officers and thirty-one other ranks. Twelve left after the first week and twelve joined for the second week. This compares very well with the previous year, and all ranks agreed that Aldershot was after all not as black as it is painted. Before writing about training, all ranks of "C" Company tender their deepest sympathy to the parents of the late Capt. Heffer of "A" Company. This sad accident cast a gloom over camp which was never removed, as all ranks loved such a popular officer.

The training areas were quite near our camp, so foot troubles were very few and far between, and the weather could not have been kinder. We had no rain the whole of the fortnight, and all ranks agreed that it was one of the best fortnights they had spent in camp.

"C" Company fancied their chance as footballers, but had to give way to "D" Company, who were suspected of playing a dark horse at outside left. We believe they thought it was rugger, and in trying to convert scored two of the goals, thus putting us out of the Inter-Company Competition.

At the Sports we put up a fine show in the Company Relay. Both our Company Commander and Sergt. Hattley ran well, but the distance they had to make up was too much for them. Great fun was provided by the Slow Cycle Race. Here we thought we did stand a chance, but the Padre stuck to his job the longest, thus beating Major Sherwood in the final.

These Sports, by the way, were voted by everybody a great success and were a change from the usual run of Battalion Sports.

We noticed the Beer Drinking Race had a good entry, and that one W.O. won three heats and was not placed in the final.

To come back to the training. The Company, led by 2/Lieut. Abbott, put up a fine show in the Divisional Tests, coming out top in Formations and Signals. This no doubt was the result of the little bit of extra training at Mill Hill. Training finished with a Brigade scheme, which was carried out by the Battalion at a great speed. But there is no doubt that training this year was thoroughly enjoyed by all ranks. At present, things are rather quiet in the Company. We are commencing a Weapon Training Course and N.C.Os.' promotion classes, and soon the autumn programme will be well under way. We have great hopes this year of our boxing team, as we have had a good supply of young soldiers, who, we hope, will make a good show at the Battalion meeting.

Before closing, we must congratulate L./Cpl. Newey on the fine show he put up at Shorncliffe during the Weapon Training and Drill Course while the Company were at camp. He came out top of the Brigade with 222 points. He had only been appointed Lance-Corporal a few weeks before taking this course.

We have just fired a small-bore match against the staff of Wormwood Scrubs Prison, and at shooting, billiards and darts we won easily. One stalwart member of our team at billiards finished 100-15 against; this included misses, and he fancies his chance at billiards! We had previously shot against the Metropolitan Tramways, home and away, losing in each case at shooting. Darts seem to be our stand-by. Soon we shall commence the league shoots, and this year we hope to run two teams.

"D" COMPANY.

It is difficult—very difficult—to write our notes this quarter. None of us can fail to feel the impress on our minds of the tragic death of Capt. Heffer. He had served with the Battalion for fourteen years, and, although he had never served with "D" Company, he was well known and liked by all of us. We can only extend to his family our deep sympathy.

If one can detach one's mind and put aside the pervading sense of sorrow which tends to bias one's recollection of the camp it can be said that Annual Training, 1935, was distinctly a good one. The

hour of departure from our Drill Hall was so early that members of the Company living some way away from the Drill Hall had to be collected by lorry, as no trams or buses were running, but this did not prevent the Company from being by far the largest in camp.

We arrived in camp (having left Willesden an hour late owing to the Southern Railway having forgotten to send an engine), to find ourselves and the V.A.D. detachment in a field apart from the rest of the Brigade—an undoubted honour.

The training areas were very close at hand and interesting, and, judging by the excellent way in which the Company did its job on the Brigade Day—earning the praise of the Brigade Commander both verbal and in writing—we learnt a lot. We certainly lost a lot—of superfluous fat, and would have lost more had it not been for "our shirts." These shirts—the subject of considerable discussion before camp—were a great success and earned the approval of no less a personage than *The Times* Military Correspondent.

Enough of work. Camp is not all work. In sports we were not disgraced; we got through one round of the Inter-Company Football Cup and were only beaten in the second round because our opponents were so small and nippy that we could not get hold of them! In the Battalion Sports on August Bank Holiday we held our own, Cpl. Burbidge shining in gaining second place in the Map Reading Race, and Cpl. Eldred being fifth. We were also second in the Alarm Race after a very heated discussion amongst the judges.

Taking everything into account, we can say without fear of contradiction that Mytchett Lake Camp was a successful and enjoyable one. We were sorry that Sergt. Meek could not be with us, but gather that he learnt a lot at Shorncliffe, so that one can only assume that the photograph we saw of him there lying on the ground in great comfort was taken during a break.

We are now preparing for the winter—getting our miniature range fitted up for snapshooting and tile shoots, and our darts sharpened. Incidentally, we have considered the question of doing a little military training.

"H.Q." WING.

It is with sorrow that we begin our notes with a reference to the tragic death of our late Signalling Officer, Capt. H. Heffer. He was in the Wing as Signalling Officer for many years, and it was a great shock to all members of "H.Q." Wing, as he was respected and well liked by all.

Annual Training has just been completed, and we can say from our point of view it was very successful. We are rather afraid a lot of bathing costumes got the moth, but, apart from that, the weather, site of camp, and distance of the Officers' Mess all went to make things run smoothly.

A Sports Meeting was held on August Bank Holiday, and new discoveries were made in the way of talent; one drummer was discovered to have a terrific thirst, just enough to win the Drinking Race, while the Transport on their "chargers" found quite a lot of potatoes that the Quartermaster had reported missing.

The Battalion Football Competition was won by "Q" football team; rather unusual, but true. The two teams put in by "H.Q." Wing met in the final, which of course was rather bad luck. "H.Q." afterwards beat the Royal West Kents in a friendly match.

October 1st commences yet another period of training. Everyone will be getting down to it, and the Drill Hall will resound with the flapping of flags and the beating of drums.

SIGNALLERS.

A good camp was enjoyed by all, and we had a very successful period of training. The young signallers came up to the scratch and, with the exception of two who had had luck, Classification results were also very satisfactory.

In co-operation with the Drums we found a football team that eventually won its way into the final, only to be beaten by the "Odds and ?" of the same Company. Still, better luck next time.

BAND.

Our engagement list at camp was, as usual, very strenuous. Still, the members of the Band had a good time. Considerable excitement was caused over the

conundrum "How many beats to the bar?" If we knew what bar it was, it might easily be answered.

DRUMS.

The Drums continue to make steady but sure progress. We had the honour to represent the Battalion at the Jubilee Thanksgiving Service in King Edward's Park in connection with the Willesden Hospital Carnival celebrations on Sunday, 14th July. After the service we had the pleasure of marching the representatives of the British Legion and the Old Contemptibles' Association to the Drill Hall, where the "old uns" told us "how they did it," and congratulated us on the show we had made. It was very gratifying to receive praise from the "old guard," and we hope it has been the means of stimulating us to further efforts to raise our standard of playing and marching.

Camp proved to be perfect. Not a spot of rain during the whole fortnight. Of course, the whole of the Drum Section were present in camp with but very few flutes, but owing to the splendid lead of L./Cpl. O'Brien we "got there." It was with great pleasure that we welcomed this N.C.O. to our ranks. He, of course, was a famous character in the 1st and 2nd Battalions and the Depot, and he is a great asset.

We are looking forward to the new Territorial year with enthusiasm, and in spite of the ever-changing personnel of the Corps and the training of "young hands," we can anticipate a really progressive year.

PIONEERS.

Naturally the quarter about which we write is the busiest for us, because camp is in the middle of it.

Before camp we spent a great deal of time in preparations and we are told that one of our most praiseworthy achievements was the construction of a sentry-box out of a piece of the Drill Hall stage. Several people said it looked extremely fine when finished. It needed some encouragement to get it out of the Pioneers' Shop.

At camp we were very busy, and we would ask the gentleman who left a size twelve boot with nails like barbed wire in it and a note attached asking us to

remove the nails, to refrain from this performance in the future.

We expended much time in obtaining two 12-foot lengths for netball posts which were "wanted urgently," but were apparently never used except to keep up lethargic members of the Battalion.

We noticed that one of the powers-that-be, on one of his frequent visits to the Orderly Room liked the new paint on the posts outside so much that he took a handful away with him.

"Steak" and "Chips" executed a roving commission in the officers' lines very well, and we understand that the Pioneers as a whole were considered very capable and efficient by the Battalion.

LINKS WITH THE PAST.

THE following is an extract from a letter published in *The Times* of 19th August last:—

"A LINK WITH ALBUHERA.

"In the autumn of 1885 the 1st Middlesex Regiment (formerly the 57th Foot) marched from Dover to Lydd for field firing. *En route*, during a temporary halt of the battalion, an aged blind man was brought by his elderly daughter to the commanding officer, and it was then discovered that he had fought at the battle of Albuhera, over 74 years previously, at which engagement the battalion earned its name of the 'Die-hards.' The veteran's Peninsular medal, with Albuhera and other bars, has been incorporated in a loving cup that forms part of the officers' mess plate, and is used for drinking the toast to the fallen on May 11 every year.—MR. CHARLES S. BURDON, Albuhera, Derwent Road, N.13."

As it was known that there were Old Comrades still living who were present on parade on this occasion, endeavours were made to obtain fuller details. The following letter from Mr. A. Stephens is therefore of much interest:—

STEAM PACKET,
WHITSTABLE, KENT.
30th August, 1935.

DEAR SIR,

Re your letter and enclosed copy, dated 27th August, 1935, the medal incorporated

in the Albuhera loving cup did not belong to the veteran mentioned, as it was bequeathed to the Regiment when stationed on the Curragh Camp, 1873, by the late Pte. Hammond, 57th Regiment, who had fought at the Battle of Albuhera, whose medal was sent to London to be incorporated in the loving cup. I happened to be present when my father, who was employed in the Officers' Mess, unpacked the cup and medal on being completed and returned. General A. A. Garstin I am sure can vouch for my statement, who, I believe, is the only officer left who served at the Curragh Camp.

The Regiment marched from Dover to Lydd for musketry training about the 1st July, 1885. On passing through Dymchurch we were halted. A number of people gathered around, when an old man asked one of the Battalion what Regiment it was. The man replied the 1st Middlesex; the veteran replied that he had served with the 57th West Middlesex, and fought at Albuhera. The information was passed on to the C.O., Col. Picot, who was in temporary command. Instructions were given to Cpl. Millar (Pompy) to get a cab and conduct the veteran to where we encamped for the night. He was entertained to dinner in the Officers' Mess, and afterwards sent home. During the stay in Lydd a subscription was raised by everyone in the Battalion giving a day's pay according to rank. It had been ascertained that he was only in receipt of 4d. per diem pension. On the return march to Dover the Battalion was halted in Dymchurch, and formed into line in open order. The veteran was conducted down the front and up the rear ranks. When he passed around the Band he pointed out the trombone, and said he played that instrument in the Band. So the statement that he was blind was incorrect. He was accompanied by his daughter. The amount subscribed was handed over to the Chairman of the Council to be doled out to him as considered necessary. In the meantime application was made to the War Office, and his pension increased to 1s. per diem. Our next Albuhera dinner took place at Aldershot, 16th May, 1886. The veteran was to have attended it, but, unfortunately, he died before the event. If he had been alive to attend he would have seen the Colours under which he fought at Albuhera, which were lent for

that occasion by General Inglis, the son of the Colonel who commanded at Albuhera. An escort was sent to receive them at Farnborough Station, Aldershot.

I attended a banquet at Dover about five years ago, when I sat with a gentleman who had been postmaster at Dymchurch. When he heard that I had served in the Middlesex, he inquired if I was present when the Regiment passed through Dymchurch in 1885. I informed him that I was. He told me that he had a copy of the newspaper giving the account of the meeting of the old veteran with his old Regiment, also the ceremony carried out, and the presentation of the amount subscribed. I asked for a loan of the paper to take a copy of it, and he promised to let me have it. He must have forgot, as I never received it, or met him again. It was apparently an incident for me to receive your letter at Whitstable, where I am on a visit to my son, Capt. R. Stephens. I was on the point of going to Canterbury to see the South Africans play Kent at cricket. It was fifty years ago I was present with the Band of the Regiment, who came from Lydd to play at Canterbury Cricket Week on August Bank Holiday, 1885.

I expected to meet a friend at Canterbury who might have been able to give me the retired postmaster's address if he is alive. If possible, I will try and get in communication for the paper. Trusting this will meet your requirements,

Yours faithfully,
A. STEPHENS.

CORRESPONDENCE.

We regret that Part II, "Colonels and Colours of the 77th Regiment," has been unavoidably held over from Correspondence owing to lack of space.

To the Editor of "The Die-Hards."

DEAR SIR,

In your last issue there is a note of the presentation to the Regimental Museum by Major-General C. R. Simpson, C.B., of "a photograph of the presentation of Colours to the 4th Battalion at Woolwich."

The description is incorrect. The Battalion was then stationed at Aldershot,

and the presentation actually took place in London, at Wellington Barracks. The 4th Battalion Middlesex Regiment had been raised at Woolwich in 1900, and marched to Aldershot in 1901.

In the meantime headquarters and nearly all the trained soldiers had been stationed at the Tower of London, where most of the duties were found by reservists and others invalided from the South African War and posted to the 4th Battalion.

In June, 1902, the Battalion was under orders to come to London for duty in connection with the Coronation of H.M. King Edward VII, and H.R.H. The Duke of Cambridge, Colonel-in-Chief of The Duke of Cambridge's Own (Middlesex Regiment), as it was then styled, graciously consented to present the first Colours on the morning of the day before the Coronation ceremony.

It accordingly left Aldershot very early in the morning before any other troops had entrained, only to hear on arrival at Nine Elms that His Majesty had been taken seriously ill and all the Coronation arrangements were cancelled.

Lieut.-Col. Simpson, the Commanding Officer, was, however, soon informed that the presentation was to take place, and the Battalion marched to Wellington Barracks, where the ceremony was carried out before a large crowd of onlookers glad to have their thoughts distracted by this brilliant spectacle from the knowledge that the King, lying in the neighbouring palace, was in grave danger of his life.

No other ceremonies, for which so many thousands of people had flocked to London to see in June, 1902, took place. The Battalion returned immediately to Aldershot, but was brought to London again in the following August, when His Majesty's happy recovery made the Coronation possible. It then lined part of the Mall, close to Buckingham Palace.

Yours faithfully,
HUBERT E. FOSTER,
Captain.

The following letter from Mr. J. Mooney, received too late for the May issue, was inadvertently omitted from the August number, and is published now with apologies to the author:—

CHARLEMONT FORT,
MOY.

May, 1935.

To the Editor of "The Die-Hards."

SIR,

I beg to enclose postal order, value 3s., as my subscription towards this year's Journal.

Well, sir, I know that you will appreciate the fact that my good wife and I—whom I might describe as two "Old Die-Hards," are enjoying good health. We were very interested participants at the local celebrations in connection with the Silver Jubilee. However, as an old soldier, my memory travelled back to the years 1870 and 1871, when our present Majesty was a boy of tender years, and I can well remember him as such in the carriage with his late grandmother, then our good Queen Victoria. Then, at her Golden Jubilee, 1887, I was serving in Aldershot, and it is interesting to note that the Duke of Cambridge, Commander-in-Chief, was on that memorable parade. My wife and I recalled another interesting event that I was in in Ceylon when the present King's father, Edward VII, paid us a visit there as Prince of Wales. I was one of the Guard of Honour at the Governor's House at the levee. The Governor was Gregory, and was, like myself, an Irishman.

It is needless to say that I shall never forget the warm and hearty reception accorded to him by the native population, both numerically and otherwise.

Now perhaps this may not interest present day readers, but as an old "Victorian" soldier, like others of that period, I enjoy thinking of these good old times. Now, in order to be accurate, I should like to mention that in 1870 and 1871 I was then serving in the old 46th, now the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry, but in 1873 I became a "Die-Hard," and am still one.

In conclusion, permit me to remark that I should be pleased to hear from any old soldier who remembers the events to which I refer.

Trusting that I have not trespassed too far on your valuable space.

I am, sir,
Yours sincerely,
JAMES MOONEY.

CHARLEMONT FORT,
MOY,
CO. TYRONE.

September, 1935.

To the Editor of "The Die-Hards."

SIR,

I herewith enclose postal order value 5s., being my annual contribution.

May I ask you to allow me space in your Journal to express my deepest sympathy, and also that of my wife, to the widowed mother, wife and family of the late Col. English in their sad bereavement.

I need hardly say that the news through the Press of the terrible tragedy came to us—as I am sure it did to all old friends—as a great shock, and our hearts were filled with regret at the unexpected and tragic end of such a distinguished soldier.

I may remark here that I was particularly acquainted with his father, and I remember the deceased as a boy by his father's side. His father and I served together throughout my Army service as comrades.

I remember his promotion, and although we were somewhat separated we kept up good friendship throughout.

I am now beyond my four score years, and, I might say, the news of the tragedy of the son of my old comrade brought back memories of the happiest days whilst serving in the 57th.

I am, sir,
Yours very sincerely,
JAMES MOONEY.

OBITUARY.

LIEUT.-COL. HAMILTON WALTER
EDWARD FINCH, C.B.E., D.S.O.

WE regret to have to announce the death of Lieut.-Col. Finch, which occurred at Dolwen, near Newbridge-on-Wye, on 24th August.

The son of Capt. C. W. Finch, R.E., he was born on 3rd August, 1868, and educated at Wellington and Sandhurst. Commissioned in 1887 to the Middlesex Regiment, he was subsequently appointed Adjutant of the 1st Battalion in India. A past Commander of the Depot, the out-

break of the Great War found him Second-in-Command of the 4th Battalion at Devonport.

His services in the Great War includes Mons and the epic retreat, and in October, 1914, he was severely wounded in the head, but not before he had been granted a Brevet Lieutenant-Colonelcy.

After periods of convalescence he returned to France, was mentioned in despatches, and awarded the D.S.O. in 1917, and the C.B.E. in 1919.

Finch retired from the command of the 4th Battalion at Gibraltar in 1920, and settled down in Wales, where he interested himself in the activities of the British Legion.

The funeral took place at Newbridge-on-Wye on 27th August. Among those present were Brig.-General Heath, Capt. Foster, Major and Mrs. Glass, and Lieut. W. C. Newton, the latter representing the Regiment. Two buglers were sent from the 2nd Battalion at Colchester.

Our most sincere sympathy is tendered to Mrs. Finch and other relatives.

LIEUT.-COL. J. ENGLISH.

We deeply regret to announce the death of Lieut.-Col. John English on 27th July last, at Bognor, under tragic circumstances.

He had gone to Bognor with his wife and two sons, and was bathing with the boys when they got into difficulties. A bathing hut proprietor, with his brother, got English into a boat, pulled in the two boys, and brought all three to the shore. Lieut.-Col. English, who had made efforts to save the boys, collapsed and died. A post-mortem examination revealed fatty degeneration of the heart, and a verdict of "accidental death while trying to rescue his sons" was returned at the inquest. The Coroner said Lieut.-Col. English must be praised for his efforts.

Lieut.-Col. English leaves a widow, also four sons and two daughters by his first marriage, to all of whom we tender our sincere sympathy.

John English was born at Dublin on 20th December, 1880, and was the son of Sergt. James English, 57th Regiment. His father died in December, 1888, when

he was Regimental Quartermaster-Sergeant of the Depot. Shortly after his father's death, John English was admitted into the Duke of York's Royal Military School, and in 1894, when fourteen years of age, enlisted into the Middlesex Regiment. He later joined the 3rd Battalion, which was raised in 1900, and went with it to St. Helena, thence to South Africa, and on to the East. Returning home in 1912 he became R.S.M., 5th Battalion, and in August, 1914, was appointed Quartermaster of the 11th Battalion and accompanied it to France. On the 11th Battalion's dispersal in 1918, English was sent to the 12th Battalion Machine Gun Corps, with which he remained until the end of the war, afterwards being posted to the 4th Battalion, with which he served at Gibraltar and in Egypt until it returned to England in 1922 for disbandment. His next Battalion was the 2nd, which he joined in Singapore in 1922. After going with that Battalion to Ahmednagar, he came home in 1924 on posting to the 1st Battalion. He was not, however, to remain at home, for he accompanied the 1st Battalion to China in January, 1927, and spent the remainder of that year in Hong Kong, Shanghai and Weihaiwei. In April, 1929, English was posted to the Depot, where he was expected to remain until retired by age in December, 1935.

English became Captain in 1917, Major in 1929, and was promoted Lieutenant-Colonel in August, 1932.

His decorations included the Queen's South African Medal, 1902; Long Service and Good Conduct Medal, the India Coronation Medal, the 1915 Star, General Service and Victory Medals, also the Silver Jubilee Medal. He was also in possession of the Royal Humane Society's certificate for saving life. This was awarded in 1909. He was mentioned in despatches in 1918.

His wife, whom he married in 1909, died at Singapore in 1923, and there were four sons and two daughters by this marriage. Lieut.-Col. English married Miss Eileen Wright in January, 1933. She survives him, with all the children of the first marriage.

The funeral took place on 1st August, when a Requiem Mass was said at the Church of the Sacred Heart, Mill Hill.

where the coffin rested, draped with the Union Jack. A large congregation was present. The principal mourners were Mrs. English and other relatives. Among others present were Majors Lyon, Anderson and Amor, Capts. del Court, Lawrence and Mirams, Lieut. Green and Mr. Morris. The interment was at the Hanworth Road Cemetery, Hounslow, a large number of Warrant and N.C.Os. from the Depot and others being present. There were many wreaths and other floral tributes, including those from 1st and 2nd Battalions and Depot, Officers' Club, Lieut.-Col. and Mrs. Pargiter, Major and Mrs. Lyon, Capt. and Mrs. Hayden, R.Q.M.S. and Mrs. Pilley, the Quartermaster's Store Staff, the Depot married families, Old Comrades of pre-war 3rd Battalion, and the Duke of York's School.

CAPT. HERBERT HEFFER.

We have yet another loss to report, this, too, under tragic circumstances.

Capt. Heffer died from the results of a fall from his horse whilst on duty with his Battalion.

An obituary notice appears under his own Battalion's news.

It remains for us to offer our sincere condolences to his relatives.

EX-CLR./SERGT. JAMES GORDON.

The above-named Old Comrade died, aged ninety years, at Manor Park on 30th March last, but news of his death only reached us recently.

Gordon was born at Auckland, New Zealand, and enlisted in the 77th Regiment at Rochester, Kent, on 15th January, 1861, at the age of eighteen years. He was discharged to pension at Netley on 7th March, 1882. He had served abroad, including India, for over nine years, and left the Regiment in Rangoon. He was buried at the City of London Cemetery, Manor Park.

Gordon had been a regular subscriber to this Journal for many years, and it was through sending a renewal order form that we heard that he had passed away.

(Continued on page 390.)

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 conid. | 7th Battalion (Territorial). | 8th Battalion (Territorial). | 9th Battalion (Territorial). |
|--|--|--|--|---|
| <i>Lt.-Colonels (2).</i> | <i>Lieutenants—contd.</i> | <i>Hon. Colonel.</i> | <i>Lt.-Colonel.</i> | <i>Lieutenants.</i> |
| Brown, G. L., D.S.O. (2) | Baldwin, C. M., c.o. 4/2/20 | "The Elms," Priory Road, Horseney, N.8. | ×Parmer, W. H., t.a. | Coubro, T. P. 2 1/2/27 |
| Jefford, W. W. (2) 28/9/32 | Eise, F. H. (2) 30/8/29 | ×King, E. J., C.M.G., T.D. (Col. ret. Terr. Army) | 11/6/30 | Sutcliffe, B. L. 2 7/26 |
| 1/6/35 | Heraopath, L. H. J. de la M. (2) 1/9/30 | A.D.C., t.a. 13/8/25 | bt. col. 11/6/34 | ×Bedwell, L. J. 18/1/31 |
| | Stephenson, J. W. A. (2) 2/2/31 | | | Pearson, M. F. 2/3/35 |
| | Powell, P. D. ff. (1) 2/2/31 | | | |
| | Mackenzie, H. F. o., 4/8/31 | <i>Lt.-Colonel.</i> | <i>Majors.</i> | <i>2nd Lieutenants.</i> |
| <i>Majors (8).</i> | Chaitley, W. H. P., a.m. 3/8/31 | ×Murray, H. A., T.D. t.a. 22/6/32 | ×Ellis, H. C., O.B.E. 9/2/32 | Abbott, M. J. 4/3/35 |
| Tidbury O. H., M.C., p.s.e. [I] s. 5/2/27 | Batten, R. H. (2) 3/1/32 | | ×Wagstaff, W. W., p.s.e. (t.a. (May ret. pay) (Res. of Off.) t.a. 5/3/35 | Parlane, W. F. 13/7/33 |
| Woolcombe T. S., M.C. (2) 10/12/28 | Green, A. E. (d. Adj. 14/2/35) | | | Canning, J. G. H. 9/5/34 |
| Lyon, N. H. B., M.C. (2), d. 26/1/32 | Ferguson, W. M. (2) d. 31/1/32 | <i>Majors.</i> | <i>Captains.</i> | Hill, D. F. 19/1/35 |
| Newnham, L. A., M.C., p.s.e. th. 28/9/32 | Sword, R. W. D. (1) 29/8/32 | ×Bower, G. A. H., M.C., T.D. 1/4/30 | Maddox, S., M.B.E. 8/12/29 | ×Clayden, H. W., Capt. Middx R. 21/12/34 |
| Thorpe, J. R. [I] (2) 28/9/32 | Man, A. M. (Sch. of Sigs.) 3/1/33 | ×Pringle, W. E., M.C. 22/6/32 | Hartley, G. 10/1/37 | |
| Savile, H. B. W., M.C. (1) 17/12/32 | Marsh, H. (1) 3/1/33 | | Mayer, R. W. 28/9/33 | <i>Quartermaster.</i> |
| Phillips, H., M.C. (1) 1/6/35 | Hail, J. P. (1) (2) 28/8/33 | | Marks, T. L. 8/7/34 | ×Johnson, T. C. M., Maj. (Capt. ret. pay) (Res. of Off.) 4/5/35 |
| Bucknall, G. C., M.C., p.s.e. (2) 21/8/35 | Weston, G. P. L. (2) 29/1/34 | <i>Captains.</i> | | [Uniform—Scarlet. Facings—Lemon Yellow.] |
| 3/10/19 | Gwyn, R. A. (1) 29/1/34 | Brown, S. A. A. 27/3/30 | <i>Lieutenants.</i> | |
| | Bellers, R. C. H. (1) 29/1/34 | Bartram, R. 1/12/32 | Miskin, E. F. H. 21/5/33 | Cadet Unit affiliated. 3rd C. Bn. Middlesex Regt. |
| | Beadnell, L. C. (1) 27/8/34 | Johnson, A. K. 1/1/33 | King, M. C. D. 10/12/33 | <i>Supplementary Reserve.</i> |
| | Whiting, F. E. (1) 1/9/35 | Lowe, G. C. D. S. 20/7/33 | Blair, N. H. 7/11/34 | Category B. |
| | Peal, A. W. F. (1) 1/9/35 | | Reddy, T. H. (Lt. Res. of Off.) 25/7/35 | <i>Subalterns (9)</i> |
| | | | | <i>Lieutenants.</i> |
| <i>Captains (14).</i> | <i>2nd Lieutenants.</i> | | <i>2nd Lieutenants.</i> | Morley, J. F. 24/10/31 |
| Stewart, H. W. M., O.B.E., M.C. (s.c.) (1) 26/8/16 | Willoughby, J. E. F. (2) 2/2/33 | <i>Lieutenants.</i> | Summers, C. W. 3/6/33 | Wilcox, G. L. M. R. 5/12/31 |
| bt. maj. 1/1/32 | Porter, G. O. (2) 2/2/33 | Gliksten, C. P. 12/2/32 | McFarlane, A. J. 26/9/33 | Cowley, L. D. 9/2/32 |
| p.s. [I] s. 1/1/37 | Unwin, E. J. (2) 2/2/33 | Addis, I. B. 13/6/33 | Day, E. A. 15/11/33 | Willoughby, R. W. H., c.o. 13/6/34 |
| Haydon, C. W., M.C., c.o. 25/4/17 | Fishbourne, P. A. (2) 2/2/33 | Westcott, J. G. 3/12/33 | Ayre, G. B. 7/2/34 | Clifton, P. A. 28/8/34 |
| del Court, S. F. W. M., M.C. (1) (I) (1) d. 28/9/20 | Chatterley, T. W. (1) 3/1/33 | | Hamilton, J. A. 5/5/34 | Biggs, K. R. McK. 28/10/34 |
| Procter, N. P., M.C. (2) d. 14/2/21 | Beath, C. W. (1) 1/2/34 | <i>2nd Lieutenants.</i> | Wilson, A. J. K. 10/7/35 | |
| Rackham, B. B., M.C. (1) 9/5/27 | Anson, P. A. R. (1) 1/2/34 | Jefferson, A. D. 28/1/33 | | |
| Weller, A. V. (1) 9/5/27 | Allen, W. F. M. (1) 2/2/34 | Webster, R. 7/6/33 | <i>Adjutant.</i> | |
| Dobbs, J. E., M.C. (1) 28/9/28 | Ormiston, J. W. G. (2) 3/1/35 | Baycock, K. T. 30/9/34 | Reid, J. G. E., Lt. Middx. (t.a. (Temp. Capt., T.D.) 1/12/33) | |
| Jones, W. H. V. (2) 10/12/28 | Gudgeon, H. N. C. (2) 3/1/35 | Sass, G. B. 15/6/35 | <i>Quartermaster.</i> | |
| Hedgecoe, S. F. (1) Adj. 10/12/28 | Hewitt, A. G. (2) 3/1/35 | Wallis, E. L. 20/7/35 | Cox, S. A., Lt. 25/4/31 | <i>2nd Lieutenants.</i> |
| Parker, F. G. (Spec. Adp. 1) 10/12/28 | Weedon, M. P. (1) 2/1/35 | | [Uniform—Scarlet. Facings—Lemon Yellow.] | King, J. H. W. (aid. O.T.C.) 30/12/33 |
| Overell, A. N. (1) 10/12/28 | Bilbrough, C. V. U. S. (2) 2/1/35 | <i>Adjutant.</i> | | Borgars, D. J. 17/1/34 |
| Wray, E. M. G., D.S.O., t.a. 1/2/34 | Symes, T. G. (2) 29/8/35 | ×Walden, F., Capt. Middx R. 1/9/32 | Cadet Unit affiliated. 2nd C. Bn. Middlesex Regt. | Man, C. M. M. 8/12/34 |
| Clayden, H. W., t. 14/4/34 | Lane, C. E. A. (2) 29/8/35 | | | |
| Clark, S. J. (2) 14/4/34 | | <i>Quartermaster.</i> | <i>9th Battalion (Territorial).</i> | <i>Territorial Battalions</i> affiliated to the Regiment. |
| Walden, F. T. 14/4/34 | <i>Quartermasters (3).</i> | Denton, C. F., Lt. 17/4/31 | Drill Hall, Pound Lane, Willesden, N.W.10. | |
| Heywood, E. L. (2) 12/1/35 | Clark, A. W., Lt. (1) 26/4/20 | | | <i>7th City of London Regt.</i> (Post Office Rifles). |
| Asyough, E. S. M. (1) 4/4/35 | Guscott, R. T., Lt. d. 22/1/31 | [Uniform—Scarlet. Facings—Lemon Yellow.] | <i>Hon. Colonel.</i> | 24, Sun Street, Finsbury Square, |

SENIORITY ROLL OF WARRANT OFFICERS AND N.C.Os. NOVEMBER, 1935.

1st BATTALION.

| Rank and Name. | Date of present promotion or appointment. | Rank and Name. | Date of present promotion or appointment. |
|---|---|-------------------------------------|---|
| *R.S.M. P. Newman ... | 13/8/31 | L./Sgt. J. Thirkettle ... | 11/12/34 |
| *Bdmr. A. Judge ... | 12/4/31 | (Cpl. 10/12/31) | |
| *R.Q.M.S. C. Goodall ... | 28/7/35 | Cpl. C. Pantling ... | 19/1/32 |
| *Q.M.S. (O.R.S.) A. Finch ... | 13/6/28 | *L./Sgt. G. Bayford ... | 11/12/34 |
| *C.S.M. A. Russell ... | 1/4/31 | (Cpl. 21/1/32) | |
| *C.S.M. E. Burt ... | 13/8/31 | L./Sgt. R. Cladd ... | 11/12/34 |
| *C.S.M. B. Brockman ... | 10/12/31 | (Cpl. 28/1/32) | |
| *C.S.M. W. Raindle ... | 13/6/35 | Cpl. J. Donegar ... | 4/2/32 |
| *C.S.M. H. Thomas ... | 28/7/35 | L./Sgt. T. Castle ... | 11/12/34 |
| C./Sgt. (C.Q.M.S.) S. Steadman ... | 23/7/23 | (Cpl. 26/6/32) | |
| (Sgt. 20/9/17) | | Cpl. R. Blackman ... | 26/7/32 |
| Sgt. W. Christie (Transport Sergeant) ... | 1/5/20 | L./Sgt. E. Wadsworth ... | 18/12/34 |
| *Sgt. V. Osterholm (Pioneer Sergeant) ... | 18/10/23 | (Cpl. 13/11/32) | |
| C./Sgt. (C.Q.M.S.) W. Rogers ... | 28/7/35 | Cpl. E. Whichello ... | 22/2/33 |
| (Sgt. 26/5/25) | | Cpl. A. Smith ... | 10/3/33 |
| *C./Sgt. (C.Q.M.S.) E. Hazeldine ... | 5/3/35 | Cpl. G. Endersby ... | 2/6/33 |
| (Sgt. 5/4/26) | | L./Sgt. C. Clark ... | 18/12/34 |
| *C./Sgt. (C.Q.M.S.) R. Challis ... | 13/6/35 | (Cpl. 20/6/33) | |
| (Sgt. 30/10/27) | | Cpl. G. Jeffere (Band Corporal) ... | 19/10/33 |
| *C./Sgt. (C.Q.M.S.) C. Misso ... | 19/1/32 | L./Sgt. L. Roseblade ... | 12/4/35 |
| (Sgt. 28/2/28) | | (Cpl. 11/12/33) | |
| Sgt. T. Tiller ... | 29/5/28 | L./Sgt. F. Britton ... | 12/4/35 |
| *Sgt. C. Champion ... | 1/1/29 | (Cpl. 25/12/33) | |
| *Sgt. G. Blake ... | 10/1/31 | *L./Sgt. P. Hopwood ... | 18/12/34 |
| *Sgt. L. Honeybun ... | 13/8/31 | (Cpl. 20/4/34) | |
| *Sgt. L. Priddy ... | 18/9/31 | Cpl. G. Wordley ... | 8/5/34 |
| *Sgt. S. Thompson ... | 30/9/31 | *L./Sgt. J. Painter ... | 18/12/34 |
| Sgt. R. Bayles (S.I.M.) ... | 10/12/31 | (Cpl. 8/5/34) | |
| Sgt. L. West ... | 10/12/31 | L./Sgt. A. Brown ... | 25/4/35 |
| *Drum-Major D. Drew ... | 22/1/32 | (Cpl. 8/5/34) | |
| Sgt. F. Donovan ... | 4/2/32 | Cpl. F. Gardiner ... | 28/5/34 |
| *Sgt. E. Paterson (36) ... | 18/2/32 | *Cpl. C. Jacob ... | 10/6/34 |
| *Sgt. H. Kruck ... | 24/8/32 | Cpl. F. Game ... | 10/6/34 |
| Sgt. A. Mason ... | 22/6/33 | Cpl. V. Thomas ... | 20/11/34 |
| Sgt. (O.M.S.) E. Paterson (29) ... | 8/9/33 | Cpl. T. Bayly ... | 5/12/34 |
| *Sgt. (O.R.C.) P. Hale ... | 19/10/33 | Cpl. A. Moore ... | 15/2/35 |
| Sgt. J. Little (Provost Sergeant) ... | 19/10/33 | Cpl. W. Watts ... | 5/3/35 |
| Sgt. F. Chasney ... | 5/12/34 | Cpl. F. Thorn ... | 5/6/35 |
| Sgt. P. Edwards (Band Sergeant) ... | 5/3/35 | Cpl. W. Gadsden ... | 9/6/35 |
| Sgt. J. Chillery ... | 5/6/35 | *Cpl. L. McDowell ... | 9/6/35 |
| Sgt. J. Smith ... | 9/6/35 | Cpl. W. Sampford ... | 13/6/35 |
| *Sgt. W. Snell ... | 13/6/35 | Cpl. W. Harewell ... | 15/7/35 |
| Sgt. A. Williams ... | 28/7/35 | L./Cpl. E. Rochester ... | 26/8/27 |
| L./Sgt. R. Glover ... | 1/8/28 | L./Cpl. A. Allison ... | 7/11/28 |
| (Cpl. 11/2/27) | | L./Cpl. W. Belcher ... | 2/6/30 |
| *L./Sgt. R. Chaplin ... | 19/1/32 | *L./Cpl. P. Ward ... | 12/9/30 |
| (Cpl. 17/6/29) | | L./Cpl. L. Jerman ... | 15/12/30 |
| Cpl. H. Padgett ... | 1/1/31 | L./Cpl. J. Robinson ... | 5/1/31 |
| *Cpl. C. May ... | 16/1/31 | L./Cpl. M. Duddy ... | 10/3/31 |
| L./Sgt. S. Bullock ... | 27/4/33 | L./Cpl. J. Howie ... | 2/1/32 |
| (Cpl. 23/1/31) | | L./Cpl. E. Staley ... | 2/1/32 |
| L./Sgt. L. Sheffield ... | 5/12/34 | L./Cpl. F. Mills ... | 20/9/31 |
| (Cpl. 24/7/31) | | L./Cpl. C. Adams ... | 16/1/32 |
| Cpl. J. O'Neill ... | 13/8/31 | L./Cpl. H. Burrows ... | 20/1/32 |
| Cpl. A. Stone ... | 2/9/31 | L./Cpl. H. Naylor ... | 11/6/32 |
| Cpl. S. Phelan ... | 15/9/31 | L./Cpl. H. Ormes ... | 16/8/32 |
| Cpl. F. Connell ... | 30/9/31 | *L./Cpl. W. O'Connor ... | 25/8/32 |
| L./Sgt. C. Bolton ... | 11/12/34 | L./Cpl. H. Hughes ... | 25/8/32 |
| (Cpl. 10/12/31) | | L./Cpl. F. Markham ... | 25/8/32 |
| | | L./Cpl. C. Keefe ... | 25/8/32 |

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** 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./Cpl. H. Holloway ... | 17/11/32 | *L./Cpl. C. Cox ... | 13/7/34 |
| L./Cpl. J. McGrady ... | 17/11/32 | L./Cpl. E. Williams ... | 8/9/34 |
| L./Cpl. J. Sheen ... | 23/12/32 | L./Cpl. E. Martin ... | 22/10/34 |
| L./Cpl. W. Ransom ... | 24/1/33 | L./Cpl. E. Pearce ... | 23/10/34 |
| L./Cpl. W. Sargent ... | 27/4/33 | L./Cpl. F. Sadler ... | 12/11/34 |
| L./Cpl. H. Jolley ... | 27/4/33 | L./Cpl. F. Hammond ... | 12/11/34 |
| L./Cpl. F. Broughton ... | 27/4/33 | L./Cpl. C. Ellis ... | 30/11/34 |
| L./Cpl. F. Shaw ... | 27/4/33 | L./Cpl. T. Lawton ... | 30/11/34 |
| L./Cpl. P. Crowley ... | 27/4/33 | L./Cpl. W. Price ... | 30/11/34 |
| L./Cpl. V. Whipp ... | 19/5/33 | L./Cpl. T. Doyle ... | 30/11/34 |
| L./Cpl. S. Clark ... | 19/5/33 | L./Cpl. D. Fegan ... | 13/12/34 |
| *L./Cpl. K. Simpson ... | 10/6/33 | L./Cpl. H. Almond ... | 10/1/35 |
| L./Cpl. S. Hoskings ... | 12/6/33 | L./Cpl. L. Savager ... | 10/1/35 |
| L./Cpl. W. Tatt ... | 17/6/33 | L./Cpl. L. Franklin ... | 10/1/35 |
| L./Cpl. F. Hammond ... | 20/6/33 | L./Cpl. J. Lee ... | 14/1/35 |
| L./Cpl. E. Webber ... | 22/7/33 | L./Cpl. W. Goddard ... | 18/3/35 |
| L./Cpl. R. Butt ... | 22/7/33 | L./Cpl. F. Gratton ... | 19/3/35 |
| L./Cpl. W. Hayward ... | 3/8/33 | L./Cpl. T. Morgan ... | 26/3/35 |
| L./Cpl. F. Penman ... | 2/9/33 | L./Cpl. A. Borrow ... | 26/3/35 |
| L./Cpl. H. Price ... | 18/12/33 | L./Cpl. C. Freshwater ... | 26/3/35 |
| L./Cpl. F. Crawshaw ... | 22/3/34 | L./Cpl. G. Sach ... | 18/4/35 |
| L./Cpl. F. Smith ... | 17/4/34 | *L./Cpl. G. Watson ... | 7/5/35 |
| L./Cpl. J. Denham ... | 6/7/34 | L./Cpl. L. Sibley ... | 14/6/35 |
| L./Cpl. A. Burnett ... | 6/7/34 | L./Cpl. A. Burrell ... | 11/7/35 |
| L./Cpl. W. Millichap ... | 6/7/34 | L./Cpl. A. Bissett ... | 15/7/35 |
| L./Cpl. W. Lane ... | 6/7/34 | *L./Cpl. T. Baker ... | 15/8/35 |
| L./Cpl. R. Burkitt ... | 9/7/34 | L./Cpl. A. Hymas ... | 19/8/35 |

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

2nd BATTALION (Home Establishment).

NOTICE.

Warrant Officers and N.C.Os. 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 | *C./Sgt. F. Franklin ... | 2nd | 8/9/33 |
| *R.S.M. W. Ward, M.M. ... | 2nd | 18/3/31 | (Sgt. 20/3/28) | | |
| *Bdmr. C. Dennis, A.R.C.M. ... | 2nd | 25/3/33 | *C./Sgt. G. Sherriff ... | 2nd | 24/8/35 |
| *R.Q.M.S. W. Fletcher ... | 2nd | 31/1/30 | (Sgt. 9/12/29) | | |
| *O.R.Q.M.S. B. Baldwin ... | Depot | 2/7/30 | Sgt. H. Tisdale ... | 7th London | 22/1/22 |
| *C.S.M. G. Goodall ... | 9th | 4/6/25 | *Sgt. R. Colbourne ... | Depot | 6/10/23 |
| *C.S.M. J. Hart ... | 2nd | 20/1/26 | Sgt. J. Beaveridge ... | 2nd | 28/1/25 |
| *C.S.M. C. Cook, D.C.M. ... | 8th | 15/8/26 | *Sgt. S. Mason ... | 19th London | 2/2/26 |
| *C.S.M. F. Peck ... | 2nd | 18/2/29 | Sgt. S. Bishop ... | 7th | 24/11/27 |
| *C.S.M. S. Anderson ... | Depot | 20/10/30 | Sgt. H. Sneath ... | 2nd | 15/12/27 |
| *C.S.M. H. Hewett ... | 8th | 19/4/32 | *Drum-Major H. Poulter ... | 2nd | 13/10/28 |
| *C.S.M. L. Simmonds ... | 9th | 3/9/32 | Sgt. H. Short, M.M. ... | 2nd | 21/2/29 |
| *C.S.M. L. Clarke ... | 19th London | 15/11/32 | Sgt. A. Boen ... | 9th | 13/4/29 |
| *C.S.M. R. Mewett ... | 7th | 23/3/33 | Sgt. R. King ... | Supnmy, Fire Bde., Bordon | 5/7/29 |
| *C.S.M. A. Wright ... | 2nd | 24/2/34 | Sgt. F. Nash ... | 8th | 11/12/29 |
| *C.S.M. A. Jones ... | 2nd | 1/5/34 | *Sgt. A. Russell ... | 2nd | 16/2/30 |
| *C.S.M. C. Donaldson ... | 2nd | 15/6/35 | *Sgt. W. Northcott ... | Depot | 25/2/30 |
| C./Sgt. J. Hills ... | Depot | 2/11/26 | *Sgt. W. Tibble ... | 2nd | 17/10/30 |
| (Sgt. 5/4/19) | | | *Sgt. C. Soper ... | Depot | 17/12/30 |
| C./Sgt. W. West ... | 2nd | 22/2/28 | *Sgt. W. Green ... | 2nd | 27/12/30 |
| (Sgt. 12/3/19) | | | Sgt. J. Quick ... | 2nd | 23/4/31 |
| *C./Sgt. F. Stacey ... | 2nd | 3/9/32 | *Sgt. W. Kemp ... | Depot | 19/1/32 |
| (Sgt. 2/2/28) | | | Sgt. R. Parsler ... | 2nd | 1/4/32 |
| *C./Sgt. E. Jones ... | 2nd | 15/11/32 | Sgt. J. Harper ... | 2nd | 19/4/32 |
| (Sgt. 1/3/25) | | | | | |

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** 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. |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|---|---------------------|------------|---|
| *Sgt. (O.R.S.) F. Deane | 2nd | 10/6/32 | *Cpl. G. Grant | 2nd | 15/4/34 |
| *Sgt. C. Trestrain | 2nd | 14/6/32 | Cpl. C. Carpenter | 2nd | 10/5/34 |
| Sgt. J. Ramsey | 7th | 23/6/32 | Cpl. J. Stickle | 2nd | 10/6/34 |
| *Sgt. S. Smith | 2nd | 30/7/32 | Cpl. W. Smith | 2nd | 17/6/34 |
| *Sgt. R. Smith | 2nd | 2/9/32 | Cpl. W. Powell | Depot | 2/10/34 |
| Sgt. J. Scott | 2nd | 3/9/32 | Cpl. A. Drake | 2nd | 3/2/35 |
| *Sgt. L. Johnson | Depot | 15/11/32 | Cpl. J. Hayes | 2nd | 3/2/35 |
| Sgt. W. Bean | 2nd | 23/3/33 | *Cpl. S. Copelin | 2nd | 1/3/35 |
| Sgt. F. Housden | Depot | 3/5/33 | Cpl. R. Stretton | 2nd | 16/3/35 |
| Sgt. R. Wilson | 2nd | 8/7/33 | Cpl. F. Jacques | 2nd | 20/3/35 |
| *Sgt. H. Ison | 2nd | 10/5/34 | Cpl. H. Tye | 2nd | 4/5/35 |
| *Sgt. J. Bond... | 2nd | 17/6/34 | Cpl. H. Hull | 2nd | 14/5/35 |
| Sgt. E. Jennings | 2nd | 1/3/35 | Cpl. S. Day | 2nd | 16/5/35 |
| *Sgt. V. Cooper | 2nd | 15/5/35 | Cpl. F. Payne | 2nd | 15/6/35 |
| Sgt. A. Hows | Depot | 15/6/35 | Cpl. B. Bruniges | 2nd | 10/6/35 |
| Cpl. A. Brett | 2nd | 28/1/30 | Cpl. W. Broadbridge | 2nd | 22/8/35 |
| Cpl. F. Livens | Depot | 20/1/31 | Cpl. H. Estland | 2nd | 24/8/35 |
| | (L./Sgt. 2/9/32) | | Cpl. F. Hiscocks | 2nd | 31/8/35 |
| *Cpl. R. Jenkins | 2nd | 17/2/31 | | | |
| | (L./Sgt. 3/9/32) | | | | |
| Cpl. E. Moir | Depot | 20/2/31 | | | |
| | (L./Sgt. 20/3/34) | | | | |
| Cpl. H. Ramsden | 2nd | 1/4/31 | | | |
| | (L./Sgt. 8/7/33) | | | | |
| Cpl. S. Moore | 2nd | 28/12/31 | | | |
| | (L./Sgt. 8/9/33) | | | | |
| Cpl. F. Gribble | Depot | 19/1/32 | | | |
| *Cpl. H. Frewin | 2nd | 18/2/32 | | | |
| | (L./Sgt. 10/5/34) | | | | |
| *Cpl. H. Dujardin | Depot | 27/3/32 | | | |
| | (L./Sgt. 17/7/34) | | | | |
| Cpl. E. Bennett | 2nd | 1/4/32 | | | |
| | (L./Sgt. 1/3/35) | | | | |
| *Cpl. P. Maloney | 2nd | 1/6/32 | | | |
| | (L./Sgt. 15/5/35) | | | | |
| Cpl. (O.R.C.) J. Wright | 2nd | 13/6/32 | | | |
| | (Unpaid L./Sgt. 3/4/34) | | | | |
| *Cpl. H. Walker | 2nd | 13/6/32 | | | |
| *Cpl. R. Overy | 2nd | 14/6/32 | | | |
| | (L./Sgt. 15/5/35) | | | | |
| Cpl. R. Smallridge | 2nd | 14/6/32 | | | |
| | (L./Sgt. 15/6/35) | | | | |
| Cpl. F. Hawkins | 2nd | 28/6/32 | | | |
| | (L./Sgt. 16/6/35) | | | | |
| Cpl. W. Day | 2nd | 5/8/32 | | | |
| Cpl. C. Gatehouse | 2nd | 6/8/32 | | | |
| | (L./Sgt. 24/8/35) | | | | |
| *Cpl. H. Parnell | Depot | 17/8/32 | | | |
| | (L./Sgt. 31/8/35) | | | | |
| Cpl. W. Makewell | 2nd | 17/8/32 | | | |
| Cpl. J. Riches | 2nd | 19/8/32 | | | |
| Cpl. W. Poulter | Depot | 3/9/32 | | | |
| Cpl. H. Buckland | 2nd | 13/10/32 | | | |
| Cpl. H. Elcome | 2nd | 16/11/32 | | | |
| *Cpl. H. Marshall | 2nd | 14/1/33 | | | |
| Cpl. F. Knights | Depot | 1/2/33 | | | |
| Cpl. J. Burgess | 2nd | 3/2/33 | | | |
| Cpl. F. Knight | 2nd | 15/3/33 | | | |
| Cpl. W. Evans | 2nd | 15/3/33 | | | |
| Cpl. W. McEnery | 2nd | 15/3/33 | | | |
| Cpl. J. Bromley | Depot | 15/3/33 | | | |
| *Cpl. A. Wray | Depot | 23/3/33 | | | |
| Cpl. E. Soden | 2nd | 3/5/33 | | | |
| Cpl. A. Gigg... | 2nd | 2/6/33 | | | |
| *Cpl. D. Chapman | 2nd | 15/8/33 | | | |
| Cpl. E. Fuller | 2nd | 8/9/33 | | | |
| Cpl. R. Harman | 2nd | 25/10/33 | | | |

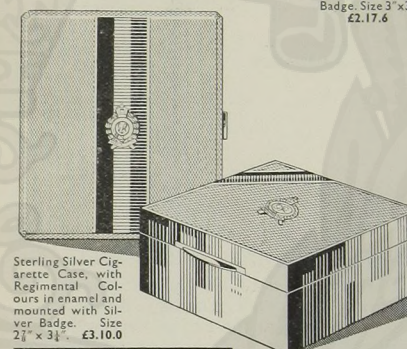
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| Rank and Name. | Battalion. | Date of present promotion or appointment. | Rank and Name. | Battalion. | Date of present promotion or appointment. |
|--|------------|---|--------------------------|------------|---|
| L./Cpl. M. Trotabas ... | 2nd | 15/6/35 | L./Cpl. R. Wigg ... | 2nd | 5/12/34 |
| L./Cpl. G. Robins ... | 2nd | 16/6/35 | L./Cpl. R. White ... | 2nd | 6/12/34 |
| L./Cpl. J. Smith ... | 2nd | 13/7/35 | L./Cpl. E. Stebbing ... | 2nd | 6/12/34 |
| *L./Cpl. C. Jarvis ... | 2nd | 16/8/35 | L./Cpl. G. Bignell ... | 2nd | 6/12/34 |
| **L./Cpl. D. McCarthy, R.M.A. Woolwich | 21/8/35 | | L./Cpl. J. Turner ... | 2nd | 6/12/34 |
| L./Cpl. H. Clay ... | 2nd | 22/8/35 | L./Cpl. A. Rivett ... | 2nd | 19/12/34 |
| L./Cpl. A. Bursill ... | 2nd | 24/8/35 | L./Cpl. J. Rolfe ... | 2nd | 11/1/35 |
| L./Cpl. G. McKay ... | 2nd | 31/8/35 | L./Cpl. A. Morris ... | 2nd | 21/1/35 |
| L./Cpl. A. Rose ... | 2nd | 24/9/35 | L./Cpl. C. Vince ... | 2nd | 9/2/35 |
| Unpaid :— | | | L./Cpl. G. Palmer ... | 2nd | 11/2/35 |
| *L./Cpl. H. Jennings ... | 2nd | 4/7/34 | L./Cpl. G. Tattam ... | 2nd | 11/2/35 |
| L./Cpl. F. Pryor ... | 2nd | 4/7/34 | L./Cpl. S. Matthews ... | 2nd | 13/2/35 |
| L./Cpl. A. Thompson ... | 2nd | 9/7/34 | L./Cpl. B. Courtney ... | 2nd | 4/3/35 |
| L./Cpl. J. Jones ... | 2nd | 13/7/34 | L./Cpl. W. Hamlin ... | 2nd | 15/3/35 |
| L./Cpl. A. Pace ... | 2nd | 30/7/34 | L./Cpl. C. Martin ... | 2nd | 29/4/35 |
| L./Cpl. F. Collman ... | 2nd | 15/8/34 | L./Cpl. A. Lawrence ... | 2nd | 29/4/35 |
| *L./Cpl. P. Davidson ... | 2nd | 19/9/34 | *L./Cpl. N. Islip ... | 2nd | 4/5/35 |
| L./Cpl. W. Cutts ... | 2nd | 21/9/34 | L./Cpl. L. Thurston ... | 2nd | 17/5/35 |
| L./Cpl. H. Kidby ... | 2nd | 22/9/34 | L./Cpl. J. Riseley ... | 2nd | 15/7/35 |
| L./Cpl. F. Chaplin ... | 2nd | 26/9/34 | L./Cpl. L. Du-Heaume ... | 2nd | 22/7/35 |
| *L./Cpl. R. Barrett ... | 2nd | 10/10/34 | L./Cpl. H. Burchell ... | 2nd | 22/7/35 |
| L./Cpl. C. Johl ... | 2nd | 10/11/34 | *L./Cpl. D. Mules ... | 2nd | 30/7/35 |
| L./Cpl. C. Haynes ... | 2nd | 20/11/34 | L./Cpl. D. Cavill ... | 2nd | 25/9/35 |

* In possession of First Class Certificate of Education.

** In possession of Army Special Certificate of Education.

(Continued from page 384).

EX-SERGT. WILLIAM CONNORS.

We regret to announce the death of the above-mentioned Old Comrade. Connors enlisted in the Middlesex Regiment in 1906, and was discharged after twenty-two years' service, some of which was spent in the Border Regiment as an Acting Colour-Sergeant. For his service in the Great War he was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal, and received the 1915 Star, General Service and Victory Medals.

The funeral took place at Edmonton Cemetery on 19th September, when a Sergeant from the Depot attended with a wreath from the Regimental Association.

Connors leaves a widow and two young children, to whom we tender our sincere sympathy in their bereavement.

EX-PTE. WILLIAM SPRAGGETT.

We are indebted to Ex-Cpl. H. Clarke for information concerning the death of this Old Comrade at the end of September last.

Spraggett, after being wounded in France, served with the 25th Battalion, and was present with that unit whilst rounding the Cape in 1917 in the transport *Tyndareus*. The ship was mined, but was successfully towed to harbour without loss of life.

The behaviour of the Battalion, under Col. John Ward, on that occasion revived memories of the wreck of the *Birkenhead*, which happened almost in the same place over sixty years before.

We offer our sincere sympathy to his relatives.

DEATH OF HIS MAJESTY KING GEORGE V.

The following telegram of condolence was sent to the Equerry, St. James's Palace :—

Please convey to our Colonel-in-Chief the deepest sympathy of all ranks, past and present.

MIDDLESEX REGIMENT,

21st January, 1936.

The following telegram was received in reply :—

To
Officer Commanding,
Middlesex Regiment,
Mill Hill.

I sincerely thank all ranks for their kind expression of sympathy on this sad occasion.

EDWARD R.I.