



[Photo: Statine.]

THE OLD COMRADES' DINNER.

THE DIE-HARDS

THE JOURNAL OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT

(Duke of Cambridge's Own)

VOL. V. No. 7.

FEBRUARY, 1936.

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

"Le Cateau," "Retreat from Mons," "Aisne, 1914," "La Bassée, 1914," "Messines, 1914," "Armentières, 1914,"
 "Neuve Chapelle," "Gravenstafel," "St. Julien," "Frezenberg," "Bellewaarde," "Aubers," "Hooge, 1915," "Loos," "Somme,"
 "1916," "18," "Delville Wood," "Pozières," "Ginchy," "Flers-Courclelette," "Morval," "Thiepval," "Le Transloy," "Ancre Heights,"
 "Ancre, 1916," "18," "Bapaume, 1917," "18," "Arras, 1917," "18," "Vimy, 1917," "18," "Scarpe, 1917," "18," "Arleux," "Flecken,"
 "Langemarck, 1917," "Menin Road," "Polygon Wood," "Broodseinde," "Poelcappelle," "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," "Tell '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, Hounslow, 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 24, Sun Street, Finsbury
 (Post Office Rifles) 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 12th 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).



WE welcome the first notes from our comrades of the Taranaki Regiment. We hope this will now be a regular feature, and that our comrades of the Allied Regiments in Canada and Australia will favour us with a like contribution.

* * *

We extend a hearty welcome to Capt. R. C. Wilson, 1st Cadet Bn. Taranaki Regiment, who is visiting the "Old Country." We hope to see him here at the Depot ere long.

OFFICERS' CLUB NOTES.

GOLF.

REGIMENTAL GOLF MEETING.

IT is regretted that the dates of the Golf Meeting shown in the Regimental Diary are incorrect. They should read 2nd and 3rd April.

PAST AND PRESENT OFFICERS.

Hendon Golf Club, 2nd April, 1936.

1. Officers eligible and desirous of playing for the Past team are requested to send their names, together with name of their golf club and handicap, to Lieut.-Col. W. H. Samuel at the Junior United Service Club, Charles Street, London, S.W.1, by 1st March, 1936.

2. Serving officers will kindly sharpen their niblicks forthwith and report any signs of improvement on their own part and/or on the part of other serving officers to the Hon. Secretary, The Barracks, Mill Hill, N.W.7.

Owing to the Court being in mourning the date of the Officers' Club Dinner has had to be postponed.

REGIMENTAL FIXTURES.

April 2nd, Thursday.—Golf: Past *v.* Present.

April 3rd, Friday.—Golf: Regimental Meeting.

June 20th, Saturday.—Depot Sports and Old Comrades' Summer Gathering.

June 21st, Sunday.—Cricket: *v.* Hampstead Heathens.

June 22nd, Monday.—Cricket: *v.* Cryptics.

June 23rd, Tuesday.—Cricket: *v.* Metropolitan Police College.

June 24th, Wednesday.—Cricket: *v.* Free Foresters.

June 25th, Thursday.—Cricket: *v.* I Zingari.

June 26th, Friday.—Officers' Club "At Home."

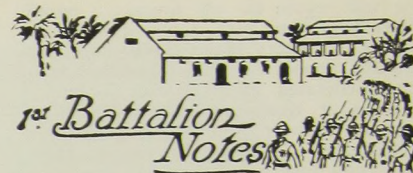
June 27th, Saturday.—Cricket: *v.* Hampstead.

July 4th, Saturday.—Officers' Club Tennis Tournament.

July 5th, Sunday.—Officers' Club Tennis Tournament.

November 7th, Saturday.—Old Comrades' Annual Dinner at Handel Street, Bloomsbury, W.C.1.

November 11th, Wednesday.—Armistice Day Service at the Regimental War Memorial, Mill Hill Barracks.



GILL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS AND EXHIBITIONS AT BRIGHTON COLLEGE FOR SONS OF ARMY OFFICERS.

It is officially announced that one or two Gill Memorial Scholarships and two Exhibitions, all at Brighton College, are offered for competition among sons of Army officers in 1936.

Candidates will take the ordinary June common entrance examination at their preparatory schools. Admission to compete for the Scholarships and Exhibitions is by nomination, and candidates must be:

- (1) Under the age of 14 years on 1st June, 1936, and
- (2) The sons of officers who hold or have held a commission in the Regular Army, or, failing such candidates, the sons of officers who hold or have held a commission in the Reserve or Auxiliary Military Forces.

The annual value of a Gill Memorial Scholarship is £75, and of an Exhibition £50, thus reducing the amount payable by a parent or guardian to approximately £75 for a scholar and £100 for an exhibitor, inclusive of necessary extras. Scholarships and Exhibitions are tenable for three years, but the period may, on the recommendation of the Headmaster, be extended to four years.

Successful candidates will enter Brighton College at the end of the summer holidays.

Applications for nomination by the War Office (accompanied by birth certificate and certificates of conduct covering the previous two years) should reach the Under-Secretary of State (C.1), The War Office, London, S.W.1, not later than 30th April, 1936.

IN the article entitled "Our Village" which we published in our last number, it was pointed out that one of our hobbies was soldiering. During the past few months, however, another hobby has been added—that of "catering" as proprietors of "The Moascar Rest-house"! Our visitors' book has been exceedingly full and the arrivals and departures columns show a great variety, both in the numbers we have entertained and their previous or future destinations. The first departure was that of Col. and Mrs. Brown, who sailed for England on board the H.T. *Somersetshire* on 14th November last. Col. Brown was gazetted on 29th August, 1906. During the war he served in France and Italy, commanding the 21st Bn. The King's Royal Rifle Corps, and later a battalion of the East Surrey Regiment. Since the war he has been almost entirely associated with physical training, rejoining the 1st Battalion at Colchester in 1930.

He assumed command of the Battalion on moving to Palestine, and in this capacity has guided the Battalion through its first and difficult four years of foreign service. He has left us to take over the duties of Inspector-General of Physical Training at the War Office. Mrs. Brown's interest and work with the married families will long be remembered, and their departure was a very sorry loss to the whole Battalion. We hope that when any of us are in England we shall have the pleasure of meeting them again.

Another sad day was when Capt. and Mrs. Cubitt left for England before transferring to the Royal Army Pay Corps. Capt. D. Y. Cubitt joined the Battalion when it was at Kalk on the Rhine, and except for courses has remained with it ever since. His great interest and accomplishments in the field of sport, and his keen sense of humour, will be sadly missed by everyone.

Lieut. Marsh left us temporarily for a tour of duty at the Depot, where we hope

he will regain his old fitness; a month later Major and Mrs. Savile sailed to the Far East, where Major Savile has taken up the appointment of Commandant of the Federated Malay States Volunteer Forces at Kuala Lumpur (which we are pleased to hear is only 300 miles from Singapore). And finally Lieuts. Hera-path and Sword will, by the time these notes are in print, have left us for secondment to the King's African Rifles at Dar-es-Salaam. We wish them all every success and the best of luck.

On 14th November a very large draft of 120 left the Battalion on H.T. *Somersetshire* for discharge or transfer to the 2nd Battalion; and yet a further draft of fifty left us on 29th December, composed of those taking the Army Vocational Training trade courses.

Amongst them were many towers of strength in the Battalion sporting world, and we hope they one and all find employment soon, and settle down quickly to civilian life.

Our arrival list is quite as long as our departures, and is headed by our new Commanding Officer, Lieut.-Col. O. H. Tidbury, to whom with Mrs. Tidbury we offer our hearty welcome, and hope that they will enjoy a pleasant stay in the Battalion.

Lieut.-Col. Tidbury was commanding "D" Company just before we came abroad, and has since been G.S.O.2, Southern Command.

On 2nd November the 2nd Battalion sent out Capt. Heywood with just over 100 men—commonly known, we understand, as the "Save Egypt Draft"! More recently our sadly depleted ranks have been increased by the arrival of 2/Lieuts. Hewitt and Allen, and a further draft of eighty. They have all settled down with remarkable rapidity, and are successfully taking the places of those who have left us.

On 23rd November the 2nd Bn. The Royal Sussex Regiment spent the day in our lines before moving on to Alexandria whither they were being moved from Karachi. They all appeared very glad of the day's rest—and, if one can judge by the time taken to collect them in the evening, must all have thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

On the same day the 1st Bn. The Manchester Regiment marched into the new

camp that the Royal Scots Fusiliers had pitched, on the edge of the desert, to the west of our own lines. After an all-too-brief stay here they have once more moved—this time to the "sea"—and at present the camp is unoccupied—though rumours of the arrival of new inmates are rife.

Whilst on this lengthy subject of new arrivals, we offer our hearty welcome to Capt. Clay, Royal West Kent Regiment, the new Staff Captain, and Capts. MacPherson and Ryan, R.A.M.C., who are living in the Mess.

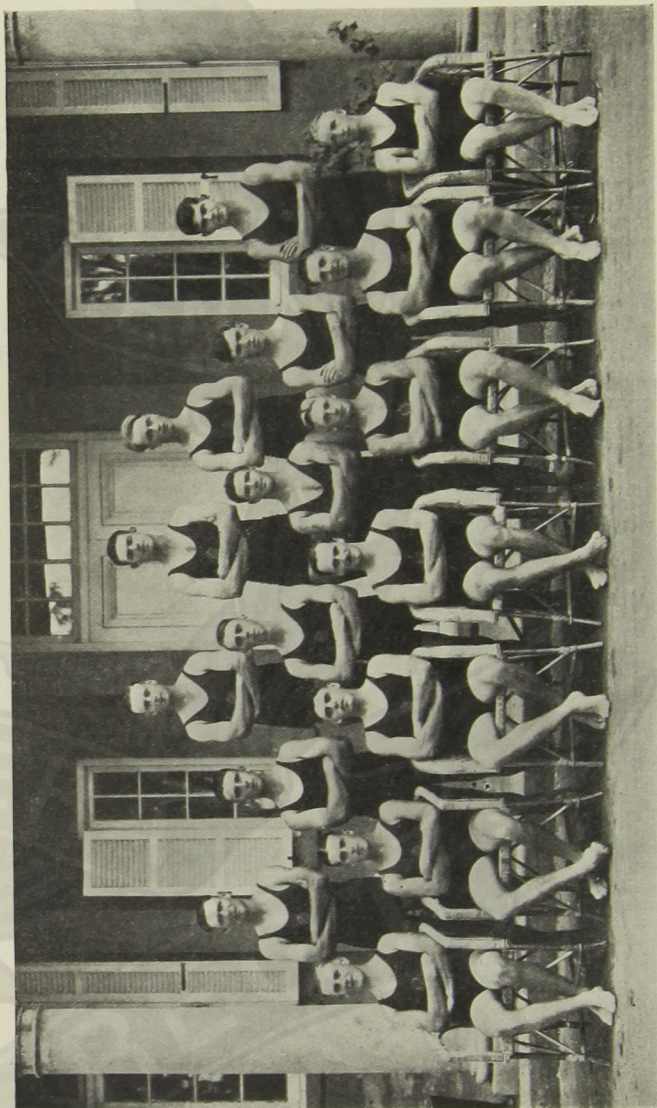
Though only ninety miles from Cairo, we must confess that the first news of the riots was heard over the wireless in the evening news from London; such is the peace of Moascar!

Our advanced party under Capt. E. S. M. Ayscough has left us for Singapore, but our chances of reaching our specially built barracks on the specified date is, on account of the international situation, a subject of great discussion, with Dame Rumour playing a very large part.

Whether as a preventive against attack or to stop officers' native servants from taking short cuts is uncertain, but we now have a large barbed-wire fence surrounding the camp, the erection of which, together with tent-pitching, has occupied much of our time between training periods.

Some revolutionary changes have recently taken place in the Battalion in the allotment of duties. Capt. Rackham has handed over "A" (S.) Company to Lieut. Hall in order to become the Battalion's Director of Military Training, while Lieut. Gwyn has relieved Capt. Dobbs of "H.Q." Wing. The latter is now solely Administrative Officer (including the duties of P.R.I.), assisted by Capt. Heywood, who in the rôle of Super Caterer and new Central Messing system cares for the officers' and men's food. Lieut. Powell has taken over "B" Company, recently returned from Port Said, in the absence of Capt. Overell, who with Lieut. Whiting has been granted leave to the United Kingdom.

Christmas was observed in time-honoured fashion, and in spite of all alarms the Battalion Intelligence Section managed to get back from their camel trek in Sinai in time to participate.



[Photo: S. Sarkis, Cairo.]

1st BATTALION THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT SWIMMING TEAM, 1935.
4th place, Egyptian Command Swimming Competition.

Back Row—Pte. Buckle, Pte. Berry, Boy Davies, Bdsu. Ryder, Pte. Hill, Bdsu. Stamp.
Middle Row—L./Cpl. Butt, Pte. Jennings, Bdsu. Lloyd, Dmr. Holdford, Pte. Mayhew, Bdsu. Ure.
Front Row—Bdsu. Haigh, Pte. Jones, L./Cpl. Sargent, Lieut. R. C. H. Bellers.

The Commanding Officer and Mrs. Tidbury spent a few days after Christmas in Palestine meeting, no doubt, many of our old friends and acquaintances of Jerusalem days; Lieuts. Powell and Hall took leave on board the Red Sea sloop *Aida* in Suez, and Lieuts. Gwyn and Chattey ventured across Sinai towards Aquaba in the latter's car.

The annual New Year's Eve Dance at the French Club was attended by many officers. The Regimental Dance Band played far into the morning and was to a large extent responsible for the success of the dance. It has improved enormously during the past year and should be in great demand in Singapore.

"A" (S.) COMPANY.

There are innumerable things to write about this quarter, and it is rather difficult to know exactly what to start with. However, seeing that we are soldiers first and foremost, we will start with soldiering.

We have now started Collective Training seriously. Nos. 1 and 3 Platoons have finished their Platoon Training, and Nos. 2 and 4 Platoons are nearing the completion of theirs. Training has been comparatively easier this year owing to the fact that it has been done from barracks. Anyway, all seem to be satisfied with the results.

Every N.C.O. and man has been exercised in the art of "star-gazing." This has proved to be invaluable to the N.C.Os. on their night exercises, and everybody should feel confident about his ability to find north from the stars.

In the sporting world we have done exceptionally well. At football we regained the League Championship from "H.Q." Wing, winning all four games. After doing so well in the inter-battalion football we naturally expected to go a long way in the Small Units' Competition. Here, however, we were disappointed. We were knocked out in the first round by "D" Company of the Royal Scots Fusiliers after a good game which we lost by the odd goal in three.

The Platoon Football Knock-out is now occupying our attention. All our platoons have done exceptionally well, Nos. 1 and 3 Platoons reaching the third round, and Nos. 2 and 4 being still left in the semi-finals. We are looking forward to an

all-"A" Company final, the possibility of which is far from remote. The titbit of the Knock-out was the meeting of Nos. 2 and 3 Platoons in the third round. No. 3 took an early lead in the first half, and from that time it was a great battle. No. 2 Platoon never lost heart, however, and their continual efforts were finally rewarded fifteen minutes from the end when they scored from a free kick just outside the penalty area.

After they had scored this all-important equalizer they continued attacking, and scored two quick goals, which put the result beyond doubt. It was a great game, however, and the football was exceptionally good for platoon standard.

In the Platoon Hockey the Company has done equally well. Nos. 2, 3 and 4 Platoons are still left in the competition. All of these platoons have exceptionally fine teams, and it should be a great battle deciding who the finalists are going to be.

Boxing is coming to the fore once again and the Command and Individual Tournaments have been completed. The Company has been well represented in both of these, and we would like to congratulate those taking part: Ptes. Murray, Dean, 18 Saunders and Stone, and L./Cpl. Sadler. It has been interesting to note the amazing progress of Pte. Murray. He won his weight in the Battalion Novices' Boxing for the first time in 1935. Since then he has won the Command Individual and Novices' titles. We should like to congratulate him on these fine performances, and hope that he will do equally as well in his next Command at Singapore.

Three of our members have left us for the United Kingdom, namely, Ptes. 06 Rogers, Howard and Cheal. We take this opportunity of wishing them the best of luck in civilian life. Cpls. Wadsworth and McDowell have left us for "D" Company. Both were exceptionally fine sportsmen, and had been with the Company for a considerable time. We wish them the best of luck with their new company.

At the time of writing we are all thinking about Christmas and Singapore at the same time. We are certainly looking forward to our new station, but even this disappears from our thoughts when we think of the Christmas festivities.

ACK EMMA GEE.

DON'T—OR A STOREMAN'S PLEA.

Don't conglomerate around the vic-in-ity.

Don't gravitate towards this humble store.

Don't articulate with fervid obscenity.

Or expectorate upon the sandy floor.

Don't perambulate about these stately portals,

Don't stray within this sumptuous shrine,

Don't misbehave like disillusioned mortals,

Or request flannelette at p.m. nine.

Don't treat this sanctum as a free library,

Don't clean your boots upon my biscuits

red,

Don't lurk incognito, sly and wary,

Or recline luxuriously on my bed.

Don't grace this place with presence 'less on duty.

Don't realize ambitions that you sing.

Don't borrow all our tools, they're not fair booty.

Or ask for tiny little bits of string.

Don't posture in ridiculous positions.

Don't utilize the rack as a divan.

Don't agitate our placid dispositions.

Or dance upon a full condenser can.

Don't remark that the Storeman's inefficient.

Don't think that you could do it twice as well.

Don't purloin screwdrivers, we're deficient,

Or relate a story we've heard tell.

Your presence in this place just leaves us frigid.

We realize what you are—a sham.

We'd much prefer you clammy, cold and rigid

In a more obnoxious hemisphere—so scam.

A. NODEN.

(By courtesy of C. Rogers.)

"B" COMPANY.

The Battle of Albuhera is another year older, and we are venturing into another happy New Year; they always are for the first month. Oh, yes, we have made our resolutions—good ones, too. The C.S.M.

has resolved to give up fishing; it really makes little difference to the fish if he adheres to his resolution or not. He has caught nothing bigger than a shrimp during the past two months; this is in spite of an imposing array of rods and lines.

Since our last notes we have had a spell at Port Said, which has given everyone the opportunity of meditating on the quayside with a rod and line in his hand. If some of them do not snap out of it, we will have a company of philosophers.

During our short stay here two small parties have been out on exercise with the destroyers stationed here. The first trip was on H.M.S. *Antelope*, where the secrets of mine-sweeping were divulged. The second trip was on H.M.S. *Brazen*, where Lieut. Whiting showed the young sailors how to fire a 4.7—quite a successful five rounds, too. Before that trip had ended we were talking of firing "tin fish," "four-sevens" and "pom-poms," as though we had been at sea twelve years instead of twelve hours. Here in Navy House we are getting quite nautical. The O.C. is now "the Skipper"; the C.Q.M.S. "goes aft" for the Part II Order file; the accused fall in on "the starb'd side"—in fact, there is a distinct sea breeze.

At present preparations are in progress for Christmas, which we will have to spend away from the Battalion. Our special correspondent will report on the event in our next issue.

In September nearly half our Company waved their hands to us as they left for the United Kingdom, and we are now feeling the effect of this loss on the sports field.

It will take the Company some time to pick up talent to replace that which has gone home. We wish them every success in civilian life; this wish must be extended to those going on Vocational Training in the very near future.

The Corporals met the A.Bs. off the *Brazen* in a shooting competition, which resulted in an easy win for the "gravel crushers." The last shoot of the evening entailed both teams racing down the range for their targets. These Sergeant-Majors will have their jokes, but we did not laugh at this one—in fact, we cried. The end of the range had been turned into a gas chamber.

"C" COMPANY.

Here is hoping that every member of the Regiment had a right royal Christmas and has settled down to enjoy the fruits of 1936.

The writer has put his pen to paper to date 7th December, 1935, to be in time for the February issue, so one might realize that the Company notes are not so much in arrears as they appear to be. So when we describe our Christmas period members at home will be enjoying the bloom of the May blossom.

Anyway, this past quarter, September to December, has been akin to previous quarters with its round of sport and training.

The hockey results found "C" Company resting in the fourth position with "B" Company. This lowly position does not bring one iota of discredit on the Company representatives, as they all played up strongly to the true spirit of the game, and in the majority of games we were beaten only by the odd goal. We must admit that "H.Q." Wing, although we told them to be on the *qui vive*, proved too much for us.

In the soccer camp we found ourselves much better placed, finishing second in the Inter-Company Football League to "A" (S.) Company.

The Regimental swimming and rifle teams did much better this year in the Command competitions. Congratulations to Regimental representatives from "C." Individuals are too numerous to mention separately.

At present we are in the midst of Company Training, a novelty of which has been inter-platoon schemes. Quite a number of our old hands thought service in Egypt was too much of a sandy nature, so they forsook us and left for "Blighty" and civilian life on 13th November. We are all sure they appreciated the send-off given to them, and that it will be a red-letter day in their memories. We are pleased to say they have not yet forgotten us, and correspondence from any of them will always be appreciated by the boys who are carrying on. We take this opportunity of wishing them all the very best in civilian life, and hope that they will have no cause to regret Abyssinia.

Our detachment at Port Said was relieved by "B" Company, but nevertheless we are a very depleted group till the draft arrives. Happily we have not very long to wait.

Prior to our "time-ex" going away, we were augmented in strength by Capt. Heywood, Sergt. Green and thirty-three other ranks from the 2nd Battalion, who have been of very valuable assistance in sport and training.

By the time these notes appear in print we will have lost the following N.C.O. and men, who have been selected to attend A.V.T. courses in different parts of England: L./Cpl. Sargent, and Ptes. Dowsing, Johns, Sickenger, Deer, Garnish, Buchan, Hardaway, Davidge and Westlake. Our best wishes go with them in their new sphere.

We must now record that whilst at Port Said one of our detachment, Pte. Greer, was especially mentioned in a letter from the British Hospital, Port Said, *i.e.* :—

"August 11th, 1935. This is to certify that Pte. Greer, 'C' Company, 1st Bn. The Middlesex Regiment, has to-day given 600 c.c. of his blood to Mr. Bassi of Port Said, who is suffering from hæmorrhage due to typhoid fever."

Well done, Greer!

Before closing, we must heartily congratulate L./Sergt. Roseblade on winning the Egyptian Command middle-weight boxing championship for the second year in succession; and

2. To the same N.C.O. on receiving pay of appointment.

3. To L./Cpls. Price, Ellis and Lawton on appointment to Paid Lance-Corporals.

4. To L./Cpls. Burrell and Lawton on passing the promotion examination from Lance-Corporal to Corporal.

5. To 2/Lieut. Hewitt on posting to "C" Company.

6. To Pte. Sickenger on the award of the Silver Medallion for Life Saving.

7. To C.S.M. H. Thomas on the award of the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal.

And last, but not least, we wish our old Company Commander, Major Savile, a happy sojourn as Commandant of the Malay States Volunteer Corps. We sincerely hope to meet both the Major and his wife at our next station, Singapore.

"D" COMPANY.

We have just finished four strenuous weeks of Company Training, in the course of which many interesting and instructive exercises were carried out. We did not sleep under canvas, so conditions were more comfortable than usual.

During our three-day march across the Suez Canal and into the Sinai Desert, however, a perimeter camp was dug, and occupied for two nights. The results of this gruelling "stunt" were very satisfactory indeed, the umpires deciding that the camp of the opposing Bedouins was completely destroyed.

Meanwhile the prospective moves to Cyprus and Alexandria have fallen through, and we have been officially detailed to move to Port Said on detachment after Christmas in relief of "B" Company. There we look forward to having more inter-Service hockey, football and other matches than are possible in Moascar Camp, and we also hope to prove our mettle against one or two civilian teams.

The Company is at present well below strength, our time-expired men having now left us, although a few were unlucky enough to remain behind, apparently owing to lack of accommodation on the *Somersetshire*.

A new draft from the United Kingdom is expected before Christmas, however, and we hope to get as many young soldiers as possible for "D" Company.

As a result of the loss of T.A.R. personnel, many first-rate sportsmen have gone from the Company, but we hope to make up the deficiency by means of younger soldiers. It will certainly be a long while, however, before we can replace a man of Evans's calibre. He was undoubtedly our best all-round sportsman, and we wish him all possible luck on returning to civilian life. We shall miss two such fine footballers as L./Cpls. Jolley and Staley. Unfortunately for us, L./Cpl. Tatt is also away on leave in England. We wish him a very pleasant time.

We said good-bye to Lieut. Marsh, who has gone to the Depot. We shall miss him.

We are pleased to welcome back Major Stewart, who has returned from England and is now at Brigade Headquarters. We

also extend a hearty welcome to Lieut. Allen.

We welcome to the Company Cpls. McDowell and Wadsworth, from "A" Company, and L./Cpls. Markham and Smith from "C" Company. Incidentally, L./Cpl. Smith has embarked with the advance party for Singapore.

With regard to sporting events, we did very well indeed in the first Inter-Company Rugby League game against "H.Q." Wing, winning 9-0. We have some fine players in Cpls. Wadsworth and McDowell and Pte. "Dodger" Green.

The Company boxing team is now training for the Inter-Company Championships. L./Cpl. Markham, and Ptes. Berry and Zellej have been selected for the Battalion team.

In the Football League we are third with three points towards the Albuhera Shield. "A" and "C" Companies were too strong for us, but with more training we may hope to do a great deal better next time.

In the Hockey League we tied with "A" Company for second place with a score of 3½. "H.Q." Wing coming top with 5 points. Here again intensive preliminary training would be an advantage.

We have started training our cross-country team, and we hope to find many examples of speed and endurance among our younger soldiers.

Meanwhile, considerable secrecy is being maintained with regard to our Christmas decorations. We believe the administrative staff of the Company, notably "Karachi" Dunne, have something really new and startling in store for us. We await with bated breath the unfolding of this mystery.

Don.

"H.Q." WING.

Everyone is now eagerly waiting for the March boat to convey us to Singapore. We are hearing quite a lot of that world-famous spot—the key to the Far East via the Suez. There pineapples will take the place of oranges and dates, and the sharks will have a busy time if the results of the Battalion swimming are anything to go by.

We are sorry to say that the Company has been greatly depleted, in common with the rest of the Battalion, by the majority

of our best sportsmen leaving us for the United Kingdom, either for Vocational Training Courses or for discharge to the Army Reserve, and we sincerely wish them every success in their new life. Our loss is their gain—if the result of Army training is made use of as it should be.

We mention here that the present members of "H.Q." Wing hope that all past members will not just fall out of our lives, but will write and let us know something of what is happening where they are.

As regards the sporting side of our careers, we are holding our own, and, although "A" (S.) Company seem to have ousted us from the top of the Mons Shield Competition, we are still leading in the Albuhera Shield Competition, which we hope to carry off once more. We are still hanging on like grim death in the Hockey Competition, and hope to meet a platoon of "A" (S.) Company in the final.

Our erstwhile friends, "B" Company, who are at present doing a tour of duty in Port Said, are very down in the dumps, having lost practically half their company. The Details and Drums paid them a visit and found that they were having great difficulty in finding platoon teams to carry on the reputation of their company. We add that they died fighting.

As the trouble with Italy seems to have blown over a little, we can rest assured of a pleasant Christmas here, and send our best wishes to the 2nd Battalion and wish all those interested a prosperous New Year.

TIME X.

DETAILS.

Having won the Baseball Competition we went on to do great things in the Hockey Knock-out. We spent a very pleasant afternoon at Port Said, where we played No. 8 Platoon and won. Mention must be made of our youthful wingers, Tostevin and Jackson, who sometimes sprint so fast that they leave the ball behind. Our next game is with the Drums, the winners to go into the semi-final, so we hope at least one team out of the Wing will be in the final.

Unfortunately "A" (S.) Company have piled on the points in the last two Knock-outs, and however hard we play we can-

not wrest the Mons Shield from them, although they finish up only two points (approximately) in front of us.

We are sorry to have lost so many members of our group, who have left us for the United Kingdom. However, we hope that "Casso" finds the icecream trade still as good as it used to be, and doubtless Mark Harvey and 77 Long find the change of beer to their liking!

We may add here that the office staff has had a complete change-round; first the O.C., Capt. Dobbs, handed over to Lieut. Gwyn; then C.S.M. Russell to C.S.M. Raindle; C.Q.M.Ss. swapped round, C.Q.M.S. Thomas being promoted to C.S.M., and Sergt. Rogers to C.Q.M.S.; the Company Clerk handed over with honours to Pte. Abell, and Bevan, our hockey expert, has given the boxers a chance to have their meetings in the Company Stores with Wass (not Bass) as their leading light.

We should like to say that letters addressed to the Officer Commanding "H.Q." Wing from our friends who have left us for civilian life will be received with much pleasure, and also that the Details who have so unceremoniously left will not forget all about us, but will write giving us a few hints as to how they are getting on.

We trust that all our friends spent a happy Christmas and will have a very prosperous New Year, and wish comrades who have left us every success in their new life.

B. & S.

DRUMS.

Once again the events of the past quarter have to be penned; unfortunately very little has happened since our last notes.

Firstly sports. No. 12 Platoon knocked us out in the football, the score being 3-2. We are holding our own at hockey, and are now in the third round. Our last game was against No. 5 Platoon at Port Said, in which Hewitt scored all four goals, so we returned to Moascar very pleased with ourselves after having spent a very pleasant afternoon.

Intelligence Training is now in full swing; "Maps for minims and camels for crochets" is the slogan. During "D" Company's training, Sam and his camel did not agree, the result being that

the former arrived back in barracks a day late. However, what is a day in a lifetime?

We welcome Goodge from the Royal Northumberland Fusiliers, also Beach, Spitty and Allan from duty.

L./Cpls. Ormes and Webber, and Dmr. Purse have left us for civilian life; Dmrs. White, Pullen, Morley, Townsend and Bolt for Vocational Training.

We take this opportunity of wishing them all the best of luck and prosperity in their new sphere. Dmrs. Evans, Dilley and Islip joined up a few days too late, so do not go home until January. We are very sorry for them, but say that we are very pleased to be able to have the assistance of Dilley at the piano during Christmas.

Congratulations to Holdford on winning his weight in the Battalion Novices' Tournament, also on attaining the Silver Medallion for Life Saving. Boy Wagner also won his weight in the Command Boys' Novices' Tournament in Cairo.

Before closing we wish all Drummers, past and present, also the 2nd Battalion Corps of Drummers, a prosperous New Year.

SIGNALS.

Three months have passed and many feluccas have drifted lazily by the Karney Home. Extensive plans have been drawn up for Christmas, and, further more, this is what we did and how we did it.

Classification is safely over. A fairly comprehensive test found no defects amongst old Signallers, and a word of congratulation is due to those six who had 100 per cent. returns. A few of the new class, however, shied nervously at the buzzer, and must show their mettle next year.

Sport has not been neglected, although we have lost several pillars of strength. In the Inter-Platoon Knock-out we eventually lost to No. 2 Platoon, "A" (S.) Company, and No. 4 Platoon defeated us at hockey. The boxing season is here again and we have our aspirants to fame; Pte. Wass has already distinguished himself as welter-weight runner-up of the Command Novices' Meeting.

The Section enjoyed a trip to Cairo in order to represent the Battalion in the Platoon Shoot. Some excellent practice

shoots took place, and once the remarkable score of 201 was registered. In the actual competition we did not do so well as expected, which is probably the reason for our early start on musketry training.

We hope to do better in the future, as there are eighteen marksmen and twelve first-class shots already.

An interesting outing took place just recently which lasted three days, and most of us went native, under the leadership of Lieut. Gwyn, who made the proceedings quite lively. A few hardy souls actually accompanied "D" Company, but found very little to do, except keep down the noise to a minimum when necessary. Our routine training has been conducted on mechanized lines, the latter consisting of bicycles. Even if the sun refuses to shine to order, we have a ride back.

All departments are bemoaning the loss of good men to civilian life; the Group is no exception in the largest home-going draft the Battalion has seen.

Ptes. Benson, Cook, Woods, Fitzgerald and Long faded away. We bid them farewell and the best of luck in their future life.

Before the next notes appear, the toll will be higher; in fact, some of us who just missed it consider that it should be higher now. Nevertheless, they have the satisfaction of helping us to celebrate Christmas in due style.

In this connection we would wish to extend the most hearty seasonal greetings to the Section at home, not forgetting our two stout fellows who have strayed so far.

E. B.

BAND.

Well, after having a very busy quarter I feel sure I can find plenty to write about, even if I do get writer's cramp.

We were very sorry to have to say goodbye to so many of our friends who left us for "Blighty" on 13th November last.

We wish Bdsn. Lefevre every good bit of fortune on his return to civilian life, and hope he finds the Wurlitzer organ as easy as the accordion.

Good luck also to the Drummers who left us for a new life. We feel sure that the local branch of the British Legion will be pleased to have the assistance of such a lusty flute player as "Benny" Bolt; he will certainly be missed in the

and got itself packed, in case of a likely emergency.

We take great pleasure in being able to record, in these pages, our congratulations to the following members on being awarded the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal: R.S.M. P. Newman, C.S.M. H. Thomas, and Sergts. W. Christie, M.M., T. Tiller and P. Edwards. We also congratulate Pte. Gromm on obtaining the same award. This brings the Mess total of L.S. and G.C. Medals up to the "baker's dozen."

You will have read elsewhere that the Battalion had the honour of entertaining the Royal Sussex Regiment as it was passing through on its way from India. The W.Os. and Sergeants were entertained by us, and we very much appreciate their reply to our efforts. This took the form of a silver cup suitably inscribed, and it is needless to say that both the memory of the occasion and the cup will be treasured by us.

Old members, especially of the 4th Battalion, will be interested to know that among the Royal Sussex we met Lieut. (Qrnr.) Cooper, Clr.-Sergt. Bareham and Sergt. Phillips (ex-Provost Sergeant). R.S.M. Newman is the only member left of the 4th Battalion who served in Gibraltar and is still with us.

At present we have one company at Port Said on detachments, and with them C.S.M. Brockman, Chall, Chill, Champ, etc. They have given us some notes for inclusion, but as we cannot understand them we pass them on to you as written. You will see them at the end of these notes—that is, if you get that far.

The prospective move to Singapore is the general topic of conversation—Sergt. Thompson has already gone as part of the advance party—and we are looking forward to seeing C.S.M. [now Lieut. (Qrnr.)] Pharoah, late of the 4th Battalion, when we arrive there. Major Savile has preceded us as commander of the Malay States Forces, so we will be seeing him again soon. We will pass on more about "Singo" when we get there and smell what it is like.

Christmas will have come and gone by the time you pay to read this; nevertheless, we send our best wishes for a very happy New Year to all our friends and readers, and may all they wish themselves come true.

DETACHMENT, PORT SAID.

Messrs. Brockman, Chall, Chill and Champ entertained the Artificers of H.M.S. *Barham* to a blind shoot (.22).

Blindness was guaranteed by the judicious use of lachrymatory gas capsules, but still the Navy won by one round and thereby won the Quaffing Cup (with handles). The cup is now in use on the high seas as a vehicle for conveying the traditional rum issue to its place of disposal.

At indoor games the Navy also proved very adept, "Long-Winded" Brownie successfully proving the gambler's equation 25 equals 5, and numerous members being still sober enough to cut the cock's head off, but failing in the balloon test, although the nigger-troupe songs—result of a court-martial—went down very well.

The O.As. of the *Barham* then presented the Company with a trophy shield as a token of appreciation, which was in turn very much appreciated by us.

EDUCATION.

We are very happy to be able to follow the excellent lead given us by our opposite number in the 2nd Battalion, and we apologize to our interested readers for our slackness in this respect in the past.

Before we descend to figures, which is the usual manner of showing our progress, we would like to thank our sister-department in the 2nd Battalion for the very good ground work that they have put into the men who were drafted to us in the past few years. This has definitely assisted us in reaching the position in which we now stand educationally. We realize that, although we gain the certificates, it is through the elementary training received before they reach us that most of the good work is done. Definitely, the work of the department is regimental and not battalion, and we share our work with each other.

Our figures at the moment read as follows:—

Specials, .36 per cent.; Firsts, 7.59 per cent.; Seconds, 72.28 per cent.; Thirds, 18.82 per cent.; Uncertificated, .95 per cent.

This gives us a 2nd Class percentage of 80.23.

The trooping season will naturally lower these figures a little, but we hope

to be able to maintain this as a mean level in the future.

The School has been more or less closed for some time owing to training, and we are looking forward to the time when we start again and reap our share of the benefits which the outdoor training gives in presenting fresh minds and fit bodies to educational studies.

We are preparing for the move to Singapore, where we hope to carry out a great education campaign and perhaps add some more learned subject to the ever-growing "Educated Army."

Again we thank you for your lead in writing notes for the Journal, and we will do our best to continue the good work in the future. We wish you every joy in your future instructions, and hope that you will be able to get as good results in the years to come as you have in the past.

BOXING.

With the arrival of cooler weather, the boxers have again come into their own, and in November and December competitions have followed one another in quick succession.

Owing to the heavy sports programmes to get through we have started later this year, and the Inter-Company Competition has been postponed until after the Inter-Unit Championships are over.

We shall miss several of last year's boxing team who have lately proceeded home after completing their Colour service, amongst others especially Ptes. Evans, Francis and Le Dain, Cpl. Donegar and Pte. Elms. We wish them the best of luck, and wonder how many of them will carry on the noble art in civilian life.

Whilst mourning the loss of the "old stagers," we have not neglected to find and utilize new talent, and this year's team (of which more later) promises to do as well as last year's team.

BATTALION NOVICES' BOXING TOURNAMENT.

The tournament started late, being held from 11th to 14th November. There were fifty-four entries in all, and some keen bouts were seen and useful talent noticed.

Results were as follows:—

Light-weight.—Pte. Drake, "C" Company; runner-up, Pte. Dawes, "C" Company.
Light Heavy-weight.—L./Cpl. Bint, "C" Company; runner-up, Pte. Naulder, "B" Company.
Middle-weight.—L./Cpl. Thurston, "C" Company (walk-over); runner-up, Pte. Murphy, "C" Company.
Welter-weight.—Pte. Holdford, "H.Q." Wing; runner-up, Pte. Shingles, "A" Company.
Feather-weight.—Pte. Murray, "A" Company (walk-over); runner-up, Pte. Sales, "B" Company.
Bantam-weight.—Pte. Dormer, "C" Company (walk-over); runner-up, Pte. Baker, "B" Company.

Boys.

Group "B."—Boy Wagner; runner-up, Boy Dickens.
Group "C."—Boy Radley; runner-up, Boy Gray.
Group "D."—Boy Wilson; runner-up, Boy Parsons.
Best Loser.—L./Cpl. Hartnett, "D" Company.

COMMAND NOVICES' COMPETITION.

Following our usual practice, we entered the full numbers allowed in all weights where possible, and results proved most encouraging. Once again the Regiment was well represented, and we congratulate all who fought and maintained our well-known standard of clean, hard fighting. We could not help noticing various remarks passed during the meeting, such as "The Middlesex always seem to produce some good boxers," and "Several Middlesex in the final again."

All had put in some training beforehand, but a little extra fitness would undoubtedly have produced several more successes than we actually had.

Light-weight.—Pte. Drake, "H.Q." Wing, won the weight in good style, after some hard fights. He met Pte. Zelle, "D" Company, in the first round, and a close contest followed. After another win on points in the second round, he reached the final and boxed cleverly to win a very close fight. Meeting a taller opponent with a longer reach, he decided to fight rather than box, and, using his guard cleverly, deserved his victory.

Feather-weight.—Pte. Murray was successful also in winning his weight, and proved himself a fair boxer and hard hitter in the preliminary bouts. He gained an excellent win in the final by using both hands to good effect against a smaller though tough and strong opponent. With further training, he will make a useful boxer for the Regimental team.

Pte. Boggis was not so successful, but fought hard and cleanly, hitting straight. He lost on points in the second series against a fitter opponent.

Fly-weight.—L./Cpl. Sadler and Pte. Haynes, "A" (S.) Company, met in the final. They commenced in good style with promise of an excellent bout, when Haynes unfortunately sustained a cut over the eye and had to retire.

Welter-weight.—Pte. Wass, "H.Q." Wing, reached the final of the weight by good, hard hitting and clever tactics in the preliminary rounds. Here he met a better man and, after winning the first round, lost on points after a good fight, his opponent breaking through his guard and using his right to good effect. He was a good runner-up, and will be a useful member of the Battalion team.

Pte. Bell, "C" Company, fought hard and well to win the first round, but lost on points to a better man in the second round of the series.

Pte. Sheen, "A" (S.) Company, (light heavy-weight), and Pte. Foster, "H.Q." Wing (middle-weight), fought well, but failed to survive the first round. Pte. Berry, "D" Company, lost his heavy-weight fight after a disappointing bout, and Pte. Saunders, "A" (S.) Company (light heavy-weight), and Pte. Cornford, "D" Company (middle-weight), did not quite reach the standard of the others, and will have to learn to hit straight before they can be more successful.

Bantam-weight.—L./Cpl. Burnett, "D" Company, met his match after a good fight and lost on points, whilst Pte. Dormer, "C" Company, opened with some wild hitting and stopped a knock-out before he could deliver one himself.

COMMAND INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS.

On 3rd December another staunch band of selected boxers proceeded to Cairo under Lieut. Bellers and Sergt. Roseblade, and again our supporters were not disappointed, for out of nine competitors three were winners of the Command weights, two were runners-up, and one won a Boys' weight.

L./Sergt. Roseblade retained his middle-weight championship, after an excellent display of clever boxing, by which he clearly won all of his bouts on points.

He is boxing better this year, and avoiding the holding and clinching tactics previously witnessed. He met his old rival, Fus. Whitelaw, Royal Scots Fusiliers, in the semi-final, but on this occasion had no difficulty in outpointing him.

Pte. Dean, "A" (S.) Company, in the same weight, was not so successful, and took the fight too easily, with the result that, though he was the better man in the last round, he lost the fight on points.

Pte. Murray, "A" (S.) Company, followed up his success in the Novices' contest by winning the bantam-weight in excellent style. He again showed himself a good fighter and boxer, and well deserved to win. His final fight versus Dvr. Blunt, R.A., was disappointing, as both did too much holding and clinching, but with further experience no doubt he will learn to avoid such tactics.

Bdsn. Cousins, "H.Q." Wing, won the feather-weight and produced some of the best boxing of the meeting. He boxed cleverly with both hands, scoring freely owing to his quickness and experience in the preliminary rounds. He met Pte. Green, Seaforth Highlanders, in the final, and, finding himself smaller though fitter than his opponent, he went all out, using all he knew, and secured a safe margin of points to ensure his winning.

L./Cpl. Ellis, "C" Company, produced good form in his preliminary rounds by knocking out his first opponent and boxing hard and well to reach the final. Here he was less fortunate, though starting confidently, being knocked out by Cpl. Thompson, Seaforth Highlanders.

L./Cpl. Sadler, "A" (S.) Company, showed his form in his fly-weight semi-final and knocked out Fus. Robinson, Royal Northumberland Fusiliers, by a well-timed right to the point—so well timed that Robinson was out for ten minutes. Fus. Guthrie, Royal Northumberland Fusiliers, avenged this defeat in the final, however, by knocking out Sadler in the first round.

Pte. Stone, "A" (S.) Company, met Fus. Guthrie, Royal Northumberland Fusiliers, in the semi-final of the fly-weight and was unlucky to lose a very close fight. He boxed cleverly, hitting straight and scoring steadily against his opponent's rather wild swinging blows, but failed to get the decision.

Boy Wagner, "H.Q." Wing, won the Boys' feather-weight, and was outstandingly the best of his weight. He used both hands to good effect, and with weight behind his punches earned a well-deserved win. Boy Radley, "H.Q." Wing, showed most promising form in his first round, but lost on points after an excellent fight against a slightly better opponent. He should do well next year. Boy Dry, "H.Q." Wing, has been showing considerable promise and keenness also, but could not be included, as the numbers per weight were limited. He should also come on next year.

From the foregoing results it will be seen that our chances of winning the Inter-Unit Competition again are very good. The team has been training for a fortnight now to be ready for the first round just before Christmas. Other experienced members of the team will probably include A./Cpl. Markham, "D" Company, Cpl. McGrady, "B" Company, L./Cpl. Almond, "H.Q." Wing, Sergt. Clarke, "A" (S.) Company, and Ptes. Price, "C" Company, Holdford, "H.Q." Wing, Wass, "H.Q." Wing, and Hardaway, "C" Company, and we hope to report further successes in the boxing world in the next number of this Journal.

AMICUS GLADIATORUM.

RUGBY FOOTBALL.

A Company Rugby League has been started this year, and in addition to some close games having been played, some promising material has been unearthed for the Battalion side in Singapore.

In the Command Cup we drew the 3rd Bn. Grenadier Guards, who were the eventual winners. We were severely handicapped by injuries and other causes, having both Lieuts. Powell and Beadnell away, the former with a broken thumb and the latter on a course, in addition to several others.

The game, which we lost by 0 points to 9, was played on 22nd November, and took the same course as usual when this regiment plays a Guards battalion. The forwards, hopelessly overweighted, played magnificently against overwhelming odds. The backs defended well, the halves in particular doing great work, Lieut. Sword's kicking often bringing some much-needed relief. The Guards' backs

had many opportunities, but owing to bad handling and a stout defence, they could score only once in the first half, and that a doubtful try.

The second half was a repetition of the first, play being mostly in our half except for a few rushes by our forwards and a great dribble by Lieut. Gwyn. We lost, in addition, our right-wing three-quarter through an injury, and they scored twice in the last quarter of an hour from a scrum near our own line.

The whole team put up a great fight, and were beaten more by physical strength than anything else.

FOOTBALL.

Results of Battalion football matches to date are as follows. During the past few months the Battalion team have played a few friendly matches against the R.E., Egypt, 1st Bn. The Royal Scots Fusiliers, 1st Bn. The Manchester Regiment, and the R.A.F., Moascar and Abu Sueir.

Our game against the R.E., Egypt, proved a very interesting one, both sides showing good form and some excellent play, and resulted in a draw 4—4. Praise should be shown to L./Cpl. Watson and Bdsn. Ryder, as on their performances in the game they showed that their knowledge of football was not lacking, and also to Pte. Saw, a newcomer to the team, who put up a very good performance against older and more seasoned players.

Our old friends the Royal Scots Fusiliers again proved that they are too strong for us, by beating us in two matches by 5—2 and 4—1, but we hope to beat them yet. However, we do not mind losing to a better team, and it also provides our men with an excellent knowledge of the tactics that they adopt.

A rather interesting game was played against the Manchester Regiment, as, owing to their being newcomers to Moascar, everyone wanted to see what form they showed. However, it proved to be a one-sided game, as their team tried the old tactics of trying to dribble the ball through on their own, and the game finished up with a victory of 2—1 in our favour.

Against the R.A.F., Moascar, it was a game that everyone considered a nine-day wonder. Right from the commencement of the game our team forced the pace and

finished up by soundly beating their opponents by the grand total of 12—0.

Our one away game, against the R.A.F., Abu Sueir, resulted in a loss for us, the R.A.F. scoring three goals to our one. This was not due to bad team work, as our team found the ground unfamiliar, a strong wind blowing, and before they could settle down were two goals down, and were unable to catch up in the little time that was left.

In conclusion, let it be noted that the team has now commenced training in earnest, and we hope that by the time the next Journal notes are published far better results will be shown to all who are interested in the football world.

NONSENSE.

By SERGT. W. SNELL.

Once upon a time there were five senses and they were discovered in various ways. The first by placing the finger gently on a hot stove—Touch. The second by listening to what the Sergeant-Major called you—Hearing. The third by eating Army rissoles—Taste. Fourthly, by living in Egypt—Smell; and, lastly, by always looking for the "big boat"—Sight.

Now it has come to pass that a stalwart body of fighting men called "The Army" have, after about 200 years of ceaseless effort, managed to add yet another five senses to the already overcrowded list. The Army have even found a way to inject most of these senses into those poor civvies who cast their bread upon the waters of the recruiting office. So now, all you budding fighting men, just pop inside, even if you are deficient in senses.

The injection and development of these senses have been set to the usual Rules and Regulations, directions, hints, reminders, and rules of thumb. They may be found in the various soldiers' Bibles, if one can follow them through the maze of volumes. So to save our gentle reader from wading through the awful mire and also from standing in the sun until the brain softens sufficiently to be impressed by these new wonders, herewith will be found a clear, simple and senseless record of how it is done and how to do it.

One: The Sense of Protection, ref. S.A.T., Vol. I, Chapter "Use of Ground and Cover." This is very cleverly and

clearly set out by much print and many diagrams which prove, without any doubt, that walls and breastwork can be gracefully draped or propped up by soldiers without damage to either, or that the enemy fire at lone trees and that some folds in the ground make a better place for an afternoon nap than others. In short, the whole formula, if remembered, shows how to find "the better 'ole." The proof that this is a successful way of injecting this sense is that now "The Army" is being mechanized so that some movement can be put into war; also that those fighting men who, by some queer mental twist, can remember which is which live long enough to die of old age.

Two: The Sense of Direction. This is a very highly sensitive sense which requires a thorough knowledge of local geography to bolster it up. The formula is easy to follow, but constant practice is an asset even in the best circles. It contains some do's and some don'ts in the following order. Do keep the higher side of the trench between you and the enemy. Don't get in the way of stray shells. Don't get mixed up in any fighting, especially if it is a bit rough. Do remember where you are going and where you are coming from. Don't forget to start going and go as often as you can, so that you will learn the way. Don't confuse Plug Street with Park Lane, or Regent's Park with Piccadilly. Now perchance, if you neglect neither the do's nor the don'ts your sense of direction should be able to do the rest.

Three: Gas Sense. This sense is difficult to reduce to a mere formula, but it seems easy to develop because our "Smeller" department is our best friend, or so we are told. A thought-reader following a super-sensitive section leader into action would get impressions like these:

S.L.: "Behind me in file" *Sniff* (thought cabbage). "Advance!" *Sniff* (thought roast beef should be boiled with cabbage—ought to let the Boss know I've started). "Smith, come here." *Sniff*, sniff (thought gas). "Gas!" (Smith arrives.) "What's that you're carrying?" SMITH: "An onion, Corporal." S.L. (thought, "Hell!"): "Gas clear—lead on."

Four: Night Sense. Here we reach the very peak of achievement and the procedure is very simple—in fact, so simple

that we are amazed nobody thought of it before. All you have to do is to find your star and follow it until it takes you where it is going, and to find your star just follow the following carefully. First find the twisted "W," and from that deduce the North Star. Then, by taking an aim with your rifle at the star deduced, make a cross thus +.

Now pick a star to march on and step off smartly, counting each time the right foot passes the left and *vice versa*, up to the required number. There is no doubt that you will kick the bucket if your night sense is a good picker and you are fair at mathematics.

Five: Horse Sense. The Army now appeal to our readers for assistance, as up to date no formula, rule, regulation, hint or reminder has been discovered to help in developing this most elusive commodity. Our Transport Section offer us a formula for Mule Sense, which is as follows: look stupid, act stupid, be stupid until you are tired—then go home to bed; but somehow that is not quite what we required, and who wants a formula for that, anyway? We do quite well without one.

We therefore hereby offer a reward of one used N.A.A.F.I. seal to any reader who can supply us with a system by which we can develop Plain Common Sense.

LIARS' CORNER.

By W. S.

Two men, one 1st Battalion and the other 2nd Battalion, are discussing mascots.

1ST BATTALION MAN: "We had a monkey as a mascot in India. This monkey was so clever that when we sent it to school it obtained a 2nd Class Certificate after only eight weeks' training."

2ND BATTALION MAN: "In 1902 we had a large spider as a mascot. In charge of the mascot we had a man in the Drums. The spider got very fond of his keeper and was always with him on parades. One day while the Drums were firing their course the spider-keeper was off form, and would probably have busted for his pay. The spider, seeing this, immediately grabbed the man's rifle and fired the remainder of the course. The keeper was eventually classified as a marksman."

REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION NOTES.

PROCEEDINGS of an Executive Committee Meeting, held at the Library, Central London Recruiting Zone, Whitehall, on 30th October, 1935.

1.—PRESENT.

Col. A. M. O. Anwyl Passingham, O.B.E., D.L. (Chairman).
Brig.-General R. J. Ross, C.B., C.M.G.
Lieut.-Col. C. P. Rooke, D.S.O.
Lieut.-Col. W. H. Samuel.
Major W. E. Pringle.
Major N. H. B. Lyon, M.C.
Capt. S. F. W. M. del Court.
Capt. H. E. Foster.
Capt. C. T. Whinney, M.C.
Capt. F. A. L. Lawrence.
Lieut. J. W. A. Stephenson.
R.S.Ms. Davis and Ward.
C.Q.M.S. Hills.
Messrs. R. E. Evans and F. E. Holmes.

2.—APOLOGIES.

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Lieut.-Col. W. W. Jefferd and Mr. Morris.

3.—MINUTES OF LAST MEETING.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

4.—HON. SECRETARY'S REPORT.

The Hon. Secretary's report for the past quarter was considered, and it was decided that a sum of £175 be allocated for the relief of necessitous cases during the quarter ending 31st December, 1935.

5.—COTTAGE HOMES.

Capt. F. W. Mackenzie, of Messrs. Cranfield & Mackenzie, honorary architects to the Association, attended the meeting to answer queries in connection with the erection of two new Cottage Homes. He explained details of the plan and specifications. It was decided that a partition, at least 10 feet long and from 6 to 7 feet high, be erected, dividing the two new semi-detached cottages at the back.

The question of an alternative site on level ground at the bottom of Bittacy Hill

was considered, and on the architect pointing out that this would involve a saving of only £30 as against the much more advantageous site to the north of the existing cottages, the latter site was confirmed.

It was further decided that occupants would not be charged rent.

6.—DONATION: REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION.

The sum of £100 at present loaned to the Association General Fund by the Regimental Journal Account to be made a donation.

7.—AMENDMENT TO RULES.

The following proposal, put forward by Major Lyon, was provisionally approved, subject to confirmation, *vide* Rule XVI, 2:—

"An officer on handing over command of a Regular battalion, either on retirement or promotion, be asked to continue to serve on the Committee as an *ex-officio* member until his successor in command becomes eligible to replace him."

8.—NEW MEMBERS.

The election to the Committee by the *ex-officio* members of C.Q.M.S. Hills, in place of C.Q.M.S. King, who had retired to civil life, was notified.

N.B.—The tentative amendment to the Rules, referred to in paragraph 7, has since received the confirmation of the *ex-officio* members.

The Annual General Meeting of the Regimental Association of the Middlesex Regiment was held at the Officers' Mess, 1st City of London Regiment (Royal Fusiliers), Handel Street, Bloomsbury, on 2nd November, 1935.

The chair was taken by Brig.-General R. M. Heath, C.M.G., D.S.O., Colonel of the Middlesex Regiment.

Col. A. M. O. Anwyl Passingham, O.B.E., D.L., Chairman of the Executive Committee, presented the Annual Report. He emphasized the growing success of the Ladies' Guild, which had received a gratifying response to an appeal made during the year. He mentioned that since the printing of the report the repairs to the Cottage Homes had actually been completed at a total cost of £182, *i.e.*, £18 under the estimate.

Brigadier F. Stapleton, Secretary of the N.A.E.E.R.S.S. & A., was present by request. He expressed the hope that the long-promised branch in Tottenham, with a job-finder to work the North London area, would soon be established; it was a matter of funds. He mentioned that his Association received the fullest support from the Regimental Association.

The question of repeating the parade at the Cenotaph in 1936, as was done this year, was raised. It was pointed out that the total cost of the parade to the Association was £37, and in addition about £80 was raised by private subscription. As it was not considered desirable to lay the funds of the Association open to such a charge again, the matter was referred to the Executive Committee to be dealt with at their next meeting.

OLD COMRADES' ANNUAL DINNER.

As last year, the Annual Dinner of the Old Comrades was held at the Headquarters, 1st City of London Regiment (Royal Fusiliers), Handel Street, Brig.-General R. M. Heath, C.M.G., D.S.O., Colonel of the Regiment, presiding.

The attendance was good, except in one particular, of which more anon. There were ten less than last year, and this in spite of the depleted numbers from the 2nd Battalion, due to large drafts going to Egypt.

Although several guests, leaders of civic life of the county, were invited, Brigadier F. Stapleton, General Secretary of the National Association for Employment of Ex-Regular Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen, was the only one who accepted, and was present. We were very glad to welcome him amongst us, as he represents an institution whose business it is to look after our most vital interests, as its title signifies.

In response to the usual loyal telegrams sent to H.M. The King and H.R.H. The Prince of Wales, Colonel-in-Chief of the Regiment, the following replies were received:—

"The King commands me to ask you to thank the Old Comrades of the Middlesex Regiment for their loyal telegram.—EQUERRY."

"Please convey to Old Comrades, Middlesex Regiment, my sincere thanks

for their good wishes, which I much appreciate. I hope they will have a very enjoyable Annual Dinner.—EDWARD P., Colonel-in-Chief."

Greetings were also received from the Old Comrades, East Surrey Regiment, the Old Comrades, Royal Fusiliers, and Major Amor, our late Secretary.

In fact, we can say that the Old Comrades' Dinner passed off successfully except for one thing—a very poor attendance of retired officers. Now, you retired officers, you turned up well at the Cenotaph parade in the summer. Do not be put off by the November fog. See to it that you all turn up next year, and show us that there is life in the old dogs yet.

JOB-LOSING.

Harking back to our article on job-finding in the last issue, the following cases, actually dealt with by the Association, illustrate how jobs have been lost:

No. 1.

(a) Ex-Pte. H. and his wife register with the Regimental Association for domestic employment as a married couple.

(b) Association asked to recommend a married couple to run a clergyman's home.

(c) Association offer the job to H. on 24th June, 1935.

(d) Letter returned on 29th June; envelope marked by Post Office "Gone away; address unknown."

(e) Association offer the job to another man, but in the meantime we learn that during the five days' delay the job has been filled from another source.

Remarks.—Presumably H. had already obtained a job through some other channel, but by omitting to notify the Association of his change of address he destroyed any chance of another Old Comrade obtaining the job.

No. 2.

(a) On 4th December, 1934, ex-Pte. C. applied to the Association for assistance, as he had been out of work for two years.

The Association made a grant of £2 and at the same time told C. to register with the local Branch of the National Association.

(b) On 10th December, 1935, C. again appeals to the Association for assistance, stating that he has had no employment.

(c) Association inquire of local Branch of N.A. if C. followed their instructions of a year ago and registered for employment. The following is an extract from the reply, dated 11th December:—

"The above-named man was not registered with us, but I sent for him, and we have put him on our register to-day. He told me that he had never heard of this Association, which, to me, is incomprehensible. He is living within five minutes' walk of this office; we have eight hundred men on our books in P— and D—. We are known to over 500 employers in P—, with whom I have personal contact, and innumerable instances occur of men seeking employment being advised by employers, town councillors, and others to register with us. There is an opinion, not an absolutely correct one, that to obtain employment in the Government establishments here, ex-Regular Service men can only get it through this office. We have a large sign six feet by three feet hanging outside the office door, and so I think you will agree that any man who is really seeking employment would sooner or later find his way to this office."

(d) On 23rd December a further communication was received from the N.A., as follows:—

"You will be glad to know that the above-named man has started work in H.M. Dockyard on the 20th inst., and, although it may possibly not be permanent, we hope it may lead to his being placed on the 'hired' list."

Remarks.—C. was unemployed for over two years. Although advised to register with the N.A., he failed to do so. Finally the N.A. actually bring the job to his door. What luxury!

The following is an extract from War Office Letter No. 19/Employment/513 (A.G.4'd), dated 5th November, 1935:—

"This matter has been the subject of discussion between the three Service Departments, the Ministry of Labour and the General Post Office, and it has been agreed that as from 1st January, 1937, only those Regular Service men and ex-Regulars who are in possession of Army 2nd Class

Certificates of Education (or the equivalent in the other Services), subject to the fulfilment of the other qualifications as to age, sobriety, etc., for Post Office employment, shall be eligible for registration for the appointment of postmen. Up to and including 31st December, 1936, the present regulations as to educational qualifications will apply. I am accordingly to request that the altered arrangements may be brought to the notice of all other ranks.

"I am to add that Regulars and ex-Regulars who are not in possession of the Army 2nd Class Certificate of Education will be registered for employment as cleaner, liftman and doorkeeper (if they fulfil the other qualifications necessary for Post Office employment) after 1st January, 1937."

ARMY VOCATIONAL TRAINING.

THE WOODWORKING TRADES: WOOD MACHINIST, CARPENTER AND JOINER, AND CABINET-MAKER.

To most individuals the woodworking trades are interesting and attractive. Even in this age of metal they are very important and offer opportunities for congenial employment.

As is generally known, the engineering trades have not recovered from the slump, so if you are interested in machines there is no better trade for you than that of wood machinist.

Nowadays most of the woodwork hitherto done patiently by hand is produced by machinery. We have machine-made stairs, doors, windows and furniture of all descriptions. The work is well paid and interesting, and a man may specialize in the use of one machine such as a spindle-moulder, or learn to use several machines.

In the country districts, a craftsman often is able to work either as carpenter or joiner, but in most large towns men generally keep to one section or the other. Although carpentry is akin to joinery, there is a great deal of difference between the two. The carpenter works on the construction of the building, and moves from building to building as required, while the joiner remains in the workshop at the builder's works or the joinery factory, and prepares the various fittings which the carpenter later fixes.

A joiner's work consists mainly of assembling the wooden fittings required in the construction and fitting up of buildings, houses, shops, etc. These consist of such items as doors and door frames, sashes and sash frames, dressers, cupboards, mantelpieces, showcases, staircases and fixtures of all kinds. The carpenter fixes these in the buildings after he has assisted with his part of the construction—the joists, partitions, roof timbers, etc. His work on the building lasts almost from start to finish.

The work of the joiner calls for greater neatness and skill in finishing than that of the carpenter, but the latter's work requires a sound knowledge of construction. The work entails the skilful use of tools and familiarity with timbers.

A cabinet-maker does somewhat similar work to the joiner. Most of his work is in the workshop, and it consists almost entirely of furniture making, but on occasions he goes into large houses and shops to fix the hard-wood panelling and shop fittings made by him. Furniture repairs and adaptations are also carried out by the cabinet-maker.

Cabinet-making requires the ability to work cleanly and neatly in hard wood. The methods of construction differ from joinery, but the skill required is very much the same.

One who possesses the aptitude for the use of keen-edged tools soon makes progress at the woodworking trades.

At the Vocational Training Centres training and production are combined, modern machinery is in use to save unnecessary labour, and the woodworking students learn their trades under the same conditions as those that obtain in a modern joinery or cabinet-making factory or building firm.

EXTRACTS FROM A REPORT ON A VISIT TO THE ARMY VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTRE, HOUNSLOW.

Organization.—The Centre is organized in two main sections:—

- (a) Building Trades.
- (b) Engineering Trades.

Other trades are also taught at the Centre, and there is a system whereby men can be attached to the Centre while undergoing outside courses.

Lastly there is an Employment Section which deals with the placing of students in employment after the termination of their course.

Trades taught.—The trades taught are acetylene welding, bricklaying, plastering, boot repairing, carpentry, coach painting, upholstering, electric wiring, fitting and turning, handyman, motor driver-mechanic, painting and decorating, plumbing and gas fitting, private service.

In addition to the foregoing, soldiers can be attached to the Centre while undergoing outside courses at technical schools, etc., and while taking up positions of trust, in the last two months of their service. The latter applies to men with eighteen years' service and over.

Remarks concerning certain trades.—Building trades: at the present time there is a boom in the building trade which may last for a further five years or more.

Acetylene welding: work can be found in big towns and ship-building centres, but in small towns and in the country districts work is very difficult to obtain.

Handyman: this course teaches a little of a lot, and not much of anything. A good course for soldiers going on pension. Young soldiers would do far better to take a course in a particular trade.

Plumbing: opportunity of employment, and it is universal. Not such a technical trade as the plumber would have one believe it is.

Motor and affiliated occupations: markets overcrowded, long hours often involved. A coach driver must have had previous experience and be thoroughly reliable. Short course at the Centre not sufficient for coach drivers, bus drivers, etc. Men should make sure that they have a definite opening available.

Upholstery: very popular with students, but market is overcrowded. Payment is invariably by piece work, hence speed is essential. Time at the Centre insufficient to give experience necessary to get good wages at the commencement.

Electric wiring: a good and well-paid trade with reasonable chance of work. But it requires a certain theoretical knowledge which the average soldier does not possess, nor is he able to learn sufficient in the time available.

Plastering: plenty of work available. Here again it is piece work and speed is essential to obtain good wages.

Boot-repairing: market is not very good. May suit the man who is able to buy his own business and who has the energy and capacity to obtain trade. Suitable localities should be selected.

Private service: man must be of the right temperament and of good appearance. Most men who select this course are not suited for it. There is plenty of employment available for the right man. Recently the Centre had twelve applications for men, but only two posts could be filled.

Employment Section.—This section keeps a record of a man's work and ability during his course. A student is interviewed frequently during his time at the Centre.

A man is allowed leave to visit prospective employers, and he is given introductions to firms and employers with whom the Centre is in constant touch.

This is by no means the least important section of the Centre, and that it is so successful is proved by the fact that at Hounslow at the present time no less than 90 per cent. of the students are found employment.

General Remarks.—At present there are approximately 2,000,000 unemployed personnel in the United Kingdom. This is an improvement of over 30 per cent. since January, 1933. But in many industrial centres the situation is still desperate.

Competition is keen and knowledge of a trade essential.

Every man should visit the Vocational Training Centre during his furlough. The Hounslow Centre is always ready to see prospective students and advise them. Men wishing to visit the Centre at Hounslow should do so any Wednesday—other days are not suitable.

THE PAINTER AND HIS TRAINING.

It is the general impression of "the man in the street" that anyone can carry out a painting job provided he has a pot of paint and a brush, and that painting is a simple process that can be easily "picked up."

This is a fallacy which is soon removed by experience. Like all other crafts, painting and decorating is a trade which has to be learnt, and the trained man steers clear of the pitfalls and difficulties

which the novice is bound to bump up against.

The painter and decorator must understand the mixing of colours, the blending of shades, the properties of thinners, dryers and varnishes, and the uses of paint, both as a preservative and as a decoration. He must also be able to prepare the surfaces of wood, plaster, stone and metals to take and retain paint, enamel and distemper, and know how to apply these under varying conditions.

Even with the present-day facilities for obtaining ready-mixed paints, a lack of knowledge of these paints or faulty application may spoil the whole job. Chemical and physical action takes place in the setting and drying of paints, and this action is an asset or otherwise, according to the skill of the operator. The working of the paint or varnish with the brush is of great importance, so much so that many paint manufacturers employ skilled workmen to test their paints from a practical and working point of view before placing these paints on the market.

Nowadays, distempering is a very important branch of the painter's trade, and demands a sound knowledge of materials in order to avoid the finished job flecking or rubbing off.

Glazing of all descriptions is undertaken by the painter, and anyone who considers it easy to cut a piece of glass to size should try, when he would soon see that hand skill and "knack" are more necessary than the finest "diamond."

In the old days, paperhanging, marbling, graining and signwriting were all done by specialists, and to some extent this prevails to-day, but the present-day desire to "get on" makes most young men anxious to become good craftsmen, and they therefore take every opportunity of learning how to reproduce the markings of the grain of different woods and marble, and also the application of gold leaf and plastic paints.

The knowledge of how to hang wall-paper is also a valuable asset to the painter, and the value of the ability to write signs cannot be over-estimated.

Many a painter retains his job in the slack winter months because he is capable of doing what is to some extent the work of specialists, but at the same time comes under the general heading of painting and decorating.

The application of paint with a spray gun instead of the brush is developing, and whilst this also is frequently the work of specialists, the painter who can spray as well as brush paint has another accomplishment that will assist him in earning a livelihood.

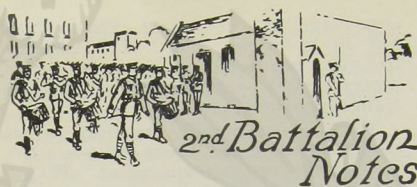
To a man who has deft hands and likes variety in his work, the decorating trade has great possibilities. At no time has the surface treatment of buildings been more in the painters' and decorators' hands.

The students at the Army Vocational Training Centre receive training in all the branches of the decorating trade, and those with an aptitude for any particular branch are allowed to specialize in it.

CIVIL EMPLOYMENT.

Employers of labour, when filling vacancies in their establishments, often give preference to men who are good at games. An applicant's own statement concerning his athletic ability would not always influence an employer, therefore other and more convincing evidence is necessary. In this connection, it is to a soldier's advantage during his service to collect from Regimental Orders, regimental journals, newspapers, etc., cuttings and extracts mentioning his name as representing his unit or distinguishing himself in games. An applicant who can produce such additional evidence of his ability at games to an employer looking for athletic talent has a better chance of securing employment than has the man who has nothing but his own statement to back up his claim.

Many firms have bands, and serving bandmen are advised to take similar action to that mentioned above in connection with athletic ability, regarding their attainments as musicians.



THE past quarter has been one of considerable activity in the Battalion. In October last we provided a reinforcement draft for the 1st Battalion at very short notice, and Capt. Heywood and some eighty men embarked for Egypt. We hope to have them back with us by the time Collective Training starts again.

Drafting requirements have already reduced the Battalion strength very considerably, and it was a Battalion sadly depleted in numbers that travelled from Colchester to Portsmouth on 19th November. We part with another draft of 150 other ranks in mid-March, and with this prospect ahead we look to the Depot to fill our thinning ranks.

We are all very sorry to say good-bye to Colchester, where we spent four happy years. It is probably one of the best stations at home for which one could wish, as it provides amusement and recreation for almost every taste, and is within easy reach of the homes of the majority of the Battalion.

During the time spent by us there we succeeded in building up a great reputation at cricket and Rugby, and at both games we had very probably the best teams in the Eastern Counties when we were at full strength.

It is early yet to judge our new station, and it will, of course, take some time to settle in and accustom ourselves to a new type of existence. Naturally, Portsmouth is primarily a naval station, but with most of the Fleet in the Mediterranean we find no difficulty in obtaining sports grounds, and we hope to build up a pleasant and interesting liaison with the Senior Service during our stay here.

The chief topic of discussion at the moment is that of our conversion to a machine-gun unit, which should take place next winter. How this change will affect the Battalion it is not yet possible to foresee, but it is hoped that it will result in our being brought up to establishment, and in giving us recruiting preference,

both from the point of view of physique and education, over the new completely infantry units.

There is little doubt that we shall eventually be mechanized, which will, of course, necessitate great changes in barracks, and it looks as though a large portion of the Battalion will be on courses once the next Individual Training season commences.

We feel at the moment, with the scanty information available, that it is best to leave further discussion of this most important change in the Regiment's organization to the next issue of the Journal, when no doubt more definite data will be available.

There has been a large change in personnel during the past two months. Capt. Clark and Lieut. Stephenson have left us for the Depot, and in their places we have Major Proctor, Capt. Wray and Lieut. Ferguson. Capt. Jones will soon be leaving us for duties with the Embarkation Staff at Southampton, and Lieut. Else has gone on a year's course with the Ordnance. We welcome 2/Lieuts. Clayton, Bilbrough, Symes and Lane, who joined the Battalion in October. It will be remembered that 2/Lieut. Clayton was attached to the Battalion during a previous Collective Training season.

In sport the Battalion has been doing very well. The rugby team proved almost unbeatable at Colchester, and only went down to the Welsh Guards in the third round of the Army Cup, after a great struggle, while the hockey XI defeated the Queen's Royal Regiment, a regiment which specializes in that game, by 4 goals to 3, and we are still in the Army Cup at the time of writing.

The soccer team had a slack period at Colchester, as they were unable to enter for any league, and were unfortunately knocked out in the first round of the Army Cup by the R.A., Shoeburyness, but they have taken over the home fixtures of the York and Lancaster Regiment, and both 1st and 2nd XIs are now playing again regularly.

The Battalion has distinguished itself on courses and "Distinguisheds" have come to be regarded as almost the usual classification.

Finally, we congratulate Cpl. Chapman on being selected as a candidate for a commission. He is now at Sandhurst.

"A" COMPANY.

This is our first venture into print from our new quarters at Portsmouth. Our arrival here was in the dark and during heavy rain; consequently we were unable to appreciate to the full the bewildering architecture of the barracks until the next day.

After the austere style of Hyderabad Barracks we felt quite at a loss, surrounded as we were by towers and turrets and other examples of a medieval type, and it was some time before we could get the atmosphere of the place. Even now we still find unexpected doors that lead nowhere, and cupboards where no cupboards should be. So far, no subterranean dungeons or passages have been unearthed, but we still have hopes. Of Portsmouth itself we reserve our opinion, as we feel that we have yet to see it at its best.

To a scribe hard pushed for material comes a welcome piece of news. "A" Company has at last a real success to record. We have at last won the Inter-Company Football Competition. This is no doubt in celebration of a bye in the first round. Although, as usual, we had but few to choose from, with a nucleus of three first-team players and a couple of "old stagers" (notably C.S.M. Donaldson), we were able to produce a fairly strong side. Vanner proved an asset and scored the winning goal on each occasion, whilst Hicks not only played a useful game in defence, but also came forward to score the other goal in the final. Mention must be made of the strong vocal support of our "Quarter Bloke," which no doubt contributed greatly to our success.

The results were as follows:—

First Round.—Bye.

Second Round.—v. "G"; won 1—0.

Third Round.—v. "B"; won 2—1 (after extra time).

As may be judged from the results, the games were close ones.

Our teams in the Miniature Rifle League have both fired three matches, with the following results:—

"A" Team: won, 2; lost, 1.

"B" Team: won, 1; lost, 2.

The "A" Team was "all at sea" in its first match, but has since recorded

some excellent scores and should finish high in the league. The "B" Team has had many unavoidable changes, but better scores should be forthcoming when the team is definitely fixed.

There is one notable departure to record, that of Major Thorp, who has left us to take over the command of "H.Q." Wing. Major Thorp has been associated with "A" Company for some considerable time, and his influence will be greatly missed. The command of the Company has now devolved upon 2/Lieut. Ormiston, who has been with us since he joined the Battalion. There is a strong rumour afloat that we shall be losing our C.S.M. on appointment to the Territorials.

Our numbers, much depleted by drafting, have recently been strengthened by a new squad from the Depot, though it was only fourteen strong. So far we have had little opportunity of discovering their sporting and other abilities, but in the New Year we should soon discover any latent talent. We take this opportunity of welcoming them to the Company and trust they will soon find themselves at home.

Congratulations to L./Cpls. Cavill and McDavitt on their first stripe, and may they soon be promoted to the ranks of the paid.

To those of our Company who have achieved a place in the sun we send our greetings, and trust that they will be in England soon after the publication of these notes.

"B" COMPANY.

Since the publication of the last Journal "Work" has been the password of the Company.

The most notable event that has happened recently is the move from the "Oyster Town" to the home of the sailors (Portsmouth). Since our arrival we have performed that which to the majority of soldiers entails hours of trials and tribulations—Individual Training.

SPORT.

The move to Portsmouth was to the Company the same as Brighton is to the Arsenal—very bracing. After meeting and defeating "C" (S.) Company we met "A" Company in the final of the

Inter-Company Knock-out Football Competition.

Here after extra time we met our Waterloo by the odd goal of three; never let it be said that we did not live up to the standards of Albuhera.

We welcome back to the fold Cpl. Grant and Pte. Inman, who have returned to us from the Depot. We hope that they will not find life too hard after their tour of London and district.

CONGRATULATIONS.

These we extend to C.S.M. Jones on obtaining a "Q.I." at Hythe, and also to L./Cpls. Hudson, Dare and Graham on their appointments.

The longings and yearnings of various members of the Company have at last come to an end, and they, by the time these notes are published, will be sweltering in the heat and dust of another country. We wish them all good luck and "au revoir."

To all serving and non-serving men of the Regiment we wish a happy and prosperous New Year.

"C" (S.) COMPANY.

The use of a typewriter, or even of anything as modern as a fountain-pen, seems an anachronism in this turreted, bastioned and castellated new home of ours. We have, as a matter of fact, an almost overwhelming urge to break out into expressions such as "Yea," "Forsooth" or "Gramercy" at any moment. Instead of "Prepare for action," "Mount catapult" should be the word of command. Undoubtedly the Support Companies of medieval armies used catapults, ballistae and battering-rams. We rather fancy, too, that we should form a pretty testudo.

Seriously we find Portsmouth a welcome change, although rumour has it that some few "bleeding hearts" were left behind.

We are rather hampered for space as far as Individual Training is concerned, but that difficulty will soon be overcome when we move out to Fort Gomer. Our new gunners are busy now learning all about their new weapon and displaying the keenness we have learned to expect from each draft. All our old N.C.O. instructors have left us; those now engaged in passing on their knowledge were mere tyros themselves three years ago. So it

goes on; the new gunner of to-day is the instructor of to-morrow.

SPORT.

In the first round of the Inter-Company Football Knock-out we defeated "D" Company by 12 goals to 1.

A Miniature Range Shooting League has been instituted, and our "A" and "B" Teams have both been winners so far against teams from "B" Company and "H.Q." Wing. We heartily congratulate our O.C., Capt. Jones, on winning the Officers' Revolver Competition. We hope, too, that 2/Lieut. E. J. Unwin will gain his international rugger cap this year after playing for the Probables in the first trial.

COURSES.

Congratulations to Cpl. Payne on his "Q.I." at Netheravon; Cpl. Eastland is there now, and we hope to hear well of him later. With him is Sergt. Parsler: we seem to have heard of an expression about "gilding the lily" somewhere or other.

Lieut. Jacob, whom we welcome to the Company, is on a Mortar Course at present, and will take charge of the "drainpipes" on his return. (We have decided to allow our identity to remain anonymous, in order to escape the wrath of outraged members of the Mortar Platoon.)

Cpl. Chapman has left us, to proceed to the R.M.C., Sandhurst, thus taking the first step towards the proverbial field-marshal's baton. Our heartiest congratulations and best wishes go with him, but he will be missed in our athletic team.

As we tap this out the overseas draft is parading on the barrack square; to all of them, but particularly those from "C" (S.) Company, we wish *bon voyage* and a prosperous New Year, which latter sentiment they can convey to the Support Company of the 1st Battalion. To ourselves we wish the best of everything, with a pious hope that we shall be just as successful in 1936 as in 1935.

"D" COMPANY.

When our last notes went in we had just returned from Andover and Army manoeuvres and were looking forward to a comparatively restful period doing

"duties." But no, since then we have all been as busy as bees. There was feverish activity in the Company in preparation for the annual administrative inspection, which took place on 9th October, and which, we are glad to say, went off without any great stains on our character.

On 8th October we had the great misfortune to lose Capt. Heywood, our Company Commander, and eight of the Company, who proceeded to Egypt in the reinforcement draft for the 1st Battalion. We cannot say how sorry we were to lose them, but we would like them to know that we still have hopes of seeing them back again in the not-so-very-distant future.

We were very sorry indeed to have to say good-bye to Colchester on 19th November, but we will always recollect many pleasant incidents which will make our stay there live long in our memory. We had a very wet welcome to Victoria Barracks, Portsmouth, but since then we have settled down in our new abode very quickly and we feel sure that three years will be all too short a stay here, as four years were at Colchester.

We have just lost twenty-six of the Company in the first draft which sailed for Egypt on 18th December. We take this opportunity of wishing them the best of luck, and hope they will thoroughly enjoy their life abroad. So busy have we been moving from Colchester to Portsmouth, and sending drafts abroad, that we have had very little time for sport. In the Inter-Company Football we sustained a very heavy defeat at the hands of "C" (S.) Company, but we are looking forward to our next match against them, when we hope to prove that we are made of better stuff.

So far, in the Inter-Company Miniature Rifle Competition our "A" Team has put up the highest score in the Battalion, so now we have hopes of winning the competition outright.

We were very sorry to lose C.S.M. Wright in November, and we wish him a very enjoyable time with the T.A. We offer Capt. Wray and C.S.M. Farrow a very hearty welcome to the Company.

Finally, our congratulations to Ptes. Ayres, Hinton and Sturdy on being appointed Lance-Corporals, and we wish them every success.

BAND.

Colchester is now one of our pleasant memories, although a mixed few will be wending their way towards the Essex locality this leave period (we mean those of our members whose assets lie in that direction). To us, Colchester will remain a station not to be forgotten. It was thither that all that was best and brightest of the 2nd Battalion came after eighteen years abroad. "Aye, booy," is no longer a familiar cry, alas! It is surprising, however, how soon one can settle down, for we had hardly been in Portsmouth a week before "Fred" and "Harry" could throw a "double" with the best of the local "Pompeyites."

We have hardly had time yet to explore the treasures of the town, but this we hope to do after our annual leave. It is, however, a "cert" that life should not prove dull for any while the Battalion is stationed here. The barracks are reminiscent of a huge college, and many and varied were the remarks passed by some on arrival. The Band are quartered in "B" House, "just across the quad, you know," and, although "Hookey" finds no difficulty in mounting the stairs to his "dorm," he may still be seen studying the adverts for a cure. In fact, "Palmacora" and a certain "Melford cutlet" vie with one another for the primary place in his affections.

L./Cpl. Gilbert has laid down his B-flat "stick" and taken up the pick. We take this opportunity of wishing him the best of luck in his new sphere. Also to the Band Sergeant, who is newly married, we tender our congratulations and trust that no nasty Wing Orderly Corporal will borrow his bike when he wants to make a quick move home.

We welcome back to the land of the living that "imaginary live twig" Caney. We trust that his stay at the "Hall" has been pleasant, and hope to hear his golden voice soon.

We take this opportunity of welcoming Major Thorp to the Wing as our Band President. We are very sorry to lose Major Bucknall, and wish him the best of luck in his new sphere.

WANTED.

One wig (inconspicuous); nut-brown for preference. All other means have

failed. Apply "Nil Desperandum," Box "B," fifth on left, "B" House, No. 4 Room.

"SANS THATCH."

DRUMS.

Many notable events have taken place since our last notes were published. The main event, I suppose, was the move to Portsmouth. We arrived at 6 p.m. on the evening of 19th November, and were

air. In the Company Knock-out we were very unfortunate to lose to "C" Company 0-1 after a very good game.

The Boys have played the Boys of H.M.S. *St. Vincent* and lost 0-10. Poor lads. The excuse was that the Boys of the *St. Vincent* told our lads some nautical yarns just before the game and made our chaps seasick. H'm, maybe. But a good one. Of course, the *St. Vincent* have about 500 boys compared with our



(Photo: J. C. Lawrence & Son, Gosport.)

PRESENTATION OF LONG SERVICE AND GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL TO DRUM-MAJOR H. POULTER BY COMMANDER, 9th INFANTRY BRIGADE, PORTSMOUTH.

played from the station by the Band and Bugles of the 1st Rifle Brigade.

The barracks are much larger than those at Colchester, and perhaps not so good. We are gradually settling down here; but, oh, those stairs!

So far, from what we have seen, there appears to be more chance to improve ourselves at sport. Already we have had a few friendly challenges from civilian teams. We have played the Wessex Territorials twice and beaten them 10-1 and 9-1. Not bad. It must be the sea

sixteen from whom to choose. So the defeat was perhaps after all not so crushing. Cheer up, Boys; you still have Abercrombie.

The Drum-Major has been awarded the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal, and it was presented to him by the Brigadier Commanding 9th Infantry Brigade on Sunday, 8th December, after church. Quite a crowd witnessed the presentation. Truly a day out for "Pompey." Some very nice photographs were taken; we hope that one is included in this issue.

Four of our members have been included in the draft for the 1st Battalion in March—L./Cpl. Hamblin, and Dmrs. Wise, Page and Martin. The 1st Battalion are really lucky in getting four really good Drummers, and we hope that some day they will be as kind to us. Who knows?

We welcome Major Thorp and C.S.M. Goodall to the Wing, and hope that their stay with us will be a long and pleasant one. Information has been received that Dmr. F. Crawshaw is home on leave, and the older members of the Corps have prepared a place for him should he honour us with a visit.

The beating of "Retreat" is quite an event here, and attracts a very large crowd. From the very nice remarks that have been passed, we gather that we really do provide the public with something out of the ordinary. Most members of the Navy whom we pass on our evening rambles are either whistling or humming "Red sails in the sunset." But, please be patient, Sailor; we will change the tune soon, never fear.

The members of the Club send their best to "Polly" Rundle and assure him that all the Club members will be thinking of him on the annual Club break-up. By the way, the Club have established their headquarters in somebody's cellar, and many new friends have been made. We hope you read this, Percy and "Skint."

In conclusion we send best wishes for the New Year to Drum-Major Drew and his Drummers.

WIGGIE.

SIGNALS.

In spite of the "nice girls" being credited with loving the sailors, our land-lubbers have not been slack since our arrival in Southsea. All round, we prefer our new station to our last one.

The Section has been rather torn up lately by drafts to the 1st Battalion. At present we have three men in the new class and four classified Signallers.

L./Cpl. Peasley returned from Caterick with a "Q.I." tucked away. We congratulate him and welcome him to the instructional staff.

We welcome C.S.M. Goodall to the Wing and hope that he has as enjoyable a time as his predecessor, C.S.M. Hart,

to whom we extend our best wishes on his appointment to the T.A.

With Christmas, at the time of writing, looming ahead, we are looking forward to our leave, and we wish all our numerous readers a prosperous New Year. Those of our Section in Moascar know that they have our best wishes and that we sympathize with Santa Claus when he comes to Harry's bedcot.

To our new Wing Commander, Major Thorp, we extend our heartfelt greeting, and hope that his stay with us will be a long and happy one. We are very sorry to lose Major Bucknall, and will always remember him as something more to us than a Company Commander.

We hope "Tazz" and "Ollie" are still keeping themselves in training for the "tiddle" contest; remember, "Ollie," you are still leading by two "tiddles" to one "wink." We hope that the Moascar sun has not such devastating effects as the Colchester sun.

"Posh" from his "sano" appointment wishes to be remembered to his old comrades, and says he finds the English climate rather hard to bear.

Until next time, all the best dear readers.

Dots.

BOYS.

After a month's stay in Portsmouth the Boys are settling down to what I am sure will be a pleasant station. The attractions and activities in Portsmouth remind us of the good times we have on leave, so everyone is satisfied.

As we arrived some time after the start of the football season we are a few games in arrears in our league, but these will be made up as soon as possible. We did not make a very auspicious start in the league; we lost our first match. However, we are not discouraged, for we know that the team which beat us are at the top of the table. We will not play again until the middle of January, as we shall be on a month's leave in the meantime. By the time these notes are printed we shall have had our leave, but that is enough said about that.

The Boys congratulate Drum-Major Poulter on obtaining his Long Service and Good Conduct Medal. Under his careful supervision the Drums are being

transformed into a party of "Hot Rhythm Brothers." Even now the mellow strains of "Red sails in the sunset" are being heard by all unfortunates in the vicinity of the Drums' practice room. You should see Cpl. McEnery burst forth into song. Many spectators, having heard him, exclaim, "Boy, what a crooner!"

Since L./Cpl. Burchell left us to take charge of the Drummers, the Boys can boast two full N.C.Os. Cpls. Carpenter and Stretton now supervise the Drummer Boys and Band Boys respectively. Since their arrival we have gained many useful privileges. On Tuesday and Wednesday of each week we are allowed to attend a Garrison Boys' social. We look forward to these nights, for there is always plenty of "skoff." We now have a special canteen room of our own, which is well provided with games. We are extremely thankful to all those who have shown their interest in us by obtaining these attractions.

Before we conclude these notes we would like to tender our good wishes for the New Year to all Boys of the 1st Battalion. Six of our number are soon to join those who already know the hidden history of Egypt. We know that the 1st Battalion Boys will welcome them with open hearts.

CORPORALS' CLUB.

So here we are, snugly ensconced in our new home from home, which is a most palatial dwelling-place compared with the old hut at Colchester. And, let it be whispered, there is no garden.

But we progress too far, for when we quitted Colchester we left behind us a wonderful memory. To cut matters short, the members of the Mess entertained our comrades from the other units in the Garrison to a supper and smoking concert. A little thing, you say? On the face of it, yes, but all alcoholic refreshment was free, and consequently that night was a night to be remembered above many other similar nights.

All our visitors voted it the best show they had been to in the Service, even to the entertainment which followed, mostly of the "home-grown" variety. One of our members even received a request from

Colchester for a copy of the "Menagerie." Such is fame.

Since arriving at Portsmouth we have installed a very fine radiogram, and now, in addition to putting on "Cheek to Cheek" at regular intervals, we can hear members of the Mess saying airily, "Oh, there's a good programme at Vienna," or, "Let's get the 'Jazz Musique Hot' from Radio Toulouse." Shades of our old "noise-box"!

To those members of our Mess who have entered the state of married bliss very sincere congratulations; at the same time, we feel that a special mention should be made of our very own 'Arry, who has become the father of a fine baby girl.

We are very happy to welcome 2/Lieut. Ormiston as Officer i/c Corporals' Room, and also Pte. "Ginger" Biggin, who has been installed as a permanent Mess Caterer. A most timely innovation, and one with which all the Mess members are very pleased.

We have had little or no time in which to arrange any social functions since arriving at Victoria Barracks, so we must wait until the New Year before really making ourselves acquainted with the other Service units here.

We wish the Corporals of the 1st Battalion a prosperous New Year, especially those late members of our own Mess who have journeyed overseas.

THINGS WE SHOULD LIKE TO SEE.

Cpl. G——t using a punkt roller.

Any C——l coming in late at breakfast and lining up for his "char and wad."

SERGEANTS' MESS.

These are our first notes from Portsmouth, and it is fortunate that they are due for submission when we have been here sufficiently long to say we have really settled down. After a week or ten days' rush and scramble on our arrival at Portsmouth, order began to emerge from chaos, and the Mess, together with the remaining portions of the Battalion, took shape and we could see where we were and what was what.

Although the Mess is tucked right inside the barracks, and is surrounded by

barrack rooms, it is, on the whole, more commodious than the Colchester Mess, and the addition of two new carpets, new curtains, a new radio-gramophone, etc., has certainly made it very cosy and comfortable. There are a separate billiard room and separate dining-room portion, which leaves a large ante-room entirely free from encumbrances, and which should be ideal for dances and social functions.

As the Battalion leave period followed directly on our arrival here, we have not been able to have any dances, but one is booked for the third Friday in January, when the members of the Mess will be back from furlough. We did, however, manage to scramble a Christmas Draw. C.Q.M.S. Franklin, with the aid of the Armourer and a few kindred souls, organized a quick and very successful draw. Every ticket carried a prize, even though it was, in many cases, only a box of matches, and a very pleasant evening was spent on the Friday before Christmas, when the draw was held.

There have been quite a few casualties since our last notes, and the following includes them all, we think:—

Sergt. Russell has left us for the 1st Battalion. He proceeded with a draft on 18th December, and has had to leave his wife behind owing to the present emergency. We wish him the best of luck with the 1st Battalion.

Sergt. Green has also proceeded temporarily to Egypt, with the batch of reinforcements which left us at Colchester in November. He will be returning to us in due course, and in the meantime we wish him a happy time.

C.S.Ms. Wright and Hart have both left us for the T.A., the former to the 8th Battalion and the latter to the 9th Battalion. We wish them the best of luck in their new jobs. Their places in the Battalion have been taken by C.S.Ms. Goodall and Farrow, from the T.A. and Malay States Defence Force respectively. We welcome them both to the Mess, and their wives, and hope they will be happy with us.

Sergt. Kennett joined us from the 1st Battalion in October, when he brought his family home on the death of Mrs. Kennett. We should like to take this rather belated opportunity of expressing our sympathy in his loss, and at the same

time extend him a hearty welcome to the Mess.

We must offer our hearty congratulations to Ctr.-Sergt. Deane on his promotion and to C.S.M. Farrow and Drum-Major Poulter on being awarded the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal.

Sergt. Tre stain has now left the Mess. He has been away for some time on a course at the S.A.S., Hythe, and has proceeded thence direct to the 8th. We wish him the best of luck.

Two more of our number have decided to exchange single blessedness for married bliss, viz., Sergts. Smith (Signals) and Jennings. Congratulations to them both, and the best wishes of the Mess for a happy married life.

We cannot close these notes without reference to three old members who have been associated with us for many years. Firstly we should like to offer our congratulations to Lieut. (Qrmr.) W. H. Pilley on his promotion. Mr. Pilley was a member of the Mess for many years abroad as Orderly Room Colour-Sergeant and Regimental Quartermaster-Sergeant, and we often saw him as R.Q.M.S. at the Depot. He has now come back to the Battalion as Quartermaster, and we wish him every success in that capacity. We also hear good news of C.S.M. Clarke, who has taken his discharge to accept an appointment as Quartermaster in the T.A. and would like to assure him of our best wishes.

Last on the list is C.S.M. Cook, who has taken up a Vocational Training Course before departing the Service for civilian life. The best of luck to him, and may civilian life treat him very kindly.

RETROSPECT OF CROSS-COUNTRY RUNNING.

Up to the date of writing, no cross-country meeting has been held. The season has barely started, and all efforts at making early fixtures have been disturbed by the move to Portsmouth and by the departure of drafts to Egypt. The Battalion has been deprived of some promising material by the December draft.

A further draft is to be sent to Egypt in March, and it is difficult to decide what material to work on in selecting a team. Recently twelve likely men have been

chosen for special training in order that they may form the basis of a regular team to be formed in January, 1936, at the end of the Battalion leave period. The method of this selection has been by careful observation of the style of certain runners and the noticing of the places taken by them at the finish of Battalion cross-country runs. These runs are held once a week on Mondays and have to be attended by all.

The chosen men have shown considerable keenness during their short period of training. The Christmas leave period has come to interrupt any further steps taken in training, but it will be resumed at the earliest date possible.

Portsmouth does not offer the same facilities for training as Colchester. The training course is bad, being limited in area and almost impossible to vary. Several good fixtures have been arranged for 1936, and it is to be hoped that we attain a measure of the success won by the York and Lancaster Regiment.

RUGBY.

RESULTS.

1ST XV.

- 7. Haileybury College, won 26—10.
- 7. R.A.F., Martlesham Heath, won 11—3.
- 7. H.M.S. *Ganges*, won 10—0.
- 7. Clacton, won 25—0.
- 7. 2nd Bn. The Somerset Light Infantry (Army Cup), won 6—0.
- 7. Old Colcestrians, lost 3—8.
- 7. 27th Field Brigade, R.A., won 27—0.
- 7. R.E., Eastern Command (Army Cup), won 8—3.
- 7. 9th Medium Brigade, R.A., won 11—9.
- 7. Welsh Guards (Army Cup), lost 3—11.
- 7. Royal Marines, won 24—0.

2ND XV.

- 7. 2nd Bn. The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment, won 9—0.
 - 7. 2nd Bn. The Somerset Light Infantry 2nd XV, won 9—0.
 - 7. 2nd Bn. The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment, won 11—3.
 - 7. 7th Field Company, R.E., won 14—0.
 - 7. Colchester "A," won 16—0.
 - 7. 4th A.A. Brigade, R.A., won 3—0.
 - 7. 4th A.A. Brigade, R.A., won 6—3.
- Played, 18; won, 16; lost, 2; points for, 222; points against, 50.

With many feelings of regret we said good-bye to Colchester. It is a station not easily forgotten by the rugger-playing members of the Battalion, for it had seen the establishment of the Regiment as a real force in the Rugby world, and we

have played many enjoyable games there and met many delightful personalities. Perhaps it would not be inappropriate, on this our change of station, to give a brief review of the development of the Battalion's rugger during our stay at Colchester.

The Battalion returned from foreign service in December, 1931, and a few enthusiasts started to build a Rugby side which would be good enough to do the Regiment credit in the Army Cup and maintain the reputation created by the 1st Battalion. Throughout the remainder of the 1931-32 season and the whole of the 1932 season, it proved to be a very uphill task and we could only show one victory over Colchester "A" and a draw on the credit side of our ledger at the end of the eighteen months. There was talk of giving up the game and concentrating on soccer, when, in April, 1933, to the amazement of everyone, our much-belittled team won the Brock Challenge Cup, the Seven-a-Side Championship of Essex.

The story of our revival had all the ingredients of the conventional school football story. We had to play the holders, Colchester, in the first round, and twenty seconds from time they were leading us by 3 points, when Cpl. Marshall, getting the ball from a line-out, dribbled three-quarters of the length of the field to score a try, which was converted to give us the game and eventually the cup. The writer of these notes hopes that that try will never be forgotten, because from that moment the side never looked back and has gone from strength to strength. A rugger ball is a fickle thing, and it is a harrowing thought when one realizes that one unkind bounce in that long run might have meant rugger being abandoned for good and all in the Battalion—so you see, there is romance even in these modern days.

The following year we reached the third round of the Army Cup, losing to the eventual winners, the Welsh Guards, and won not only the Brock Cup, but the newly formed Eastern Counties "Sevens" as well. Last year we won the Brock Cup for the third successive year, the Garrison Inter-Unit Cup, and the great majority of our normal fixtures.

When we left Colchester last year we had lost only one match, and the local papers were kind enough to describe us

as "probably the best rugger unit ever to be stationed in Colchester." This is high praise indeed, and it is hoped that the future generations will do their utmost to maintain the standard which has been so hardly won.

Our results this year speak for themselves, the success of the second team, who in the majority of cases played other units' 1st XV's, being particularly pleasing. Once again we fell in the third round of the Army Cup to our bogey team, the Welsh Guards, and we do feel pleased that we shall not have to meet them before the semi-final next year.

We started the season with a fairly comfortable victory at Haileybury, and after good matches with Martlesham and our old enemies H.M.S. *Ganges*, we overwhelmed Clacton, where the weather alone prevented us from running up a cricket score.

We drew the Somerset Light Infantry in the first round of the Army Cup, and after a desperate battle, in which we were rather badly outplayed forward, won by a try scored by L./Cpl. Rawlinson and a penalty goal to nil. This was followed by our only defeat at Colchester, when a very depleted side lost to the Old Colcestrians in a game which we should have won easily had we taken our chances.

After an easy victory over the Gunners, our next victims in the Army Cup were the strong Royal Engineers (Eastern Command). The team played really well to win by a goal and a try to a try, particularly as 2/Lieut. Clayton went off in the first ten minutes with a badly wrenched knee. The seven forwards, however, played like demons and more than held their own with their heavier opponents. Our first try was a copybook one, a quick heel on the half-way line saw the ball well flung out to Lieut. Stephenson, who cut through splendidly to send Lieut. Unwin racing round for a try which he converted himself. In the second half Unwin picked up a rolling ball at full speed and scored on the right, while shortly before time the R.E. scored from a loose maul to complete the scoring.

Our next match was in our new station and a very good one it proved to be, the Battalion only winning by the margin of a kick against the local Medium Brigade, R.A.

And then to Croydon to meet the Welsh Guards. We were very pleased at the support we received from both the Depot and the Battalion, and we do feel that, though we did not win, we gave a great account of ourselves, as we had our line crossed only twice to our opponents' once.

We were rather shaken at the start, as in the very first minute Sergt. Boast kicked a long-range penalty goal, and shortly afterwards a forward movement resulted in a converted try. Eight points down so soon was a real setback, but the team then settled down to play really well, and after Pte. Eyles had been held up only by inches, Lieut. Weston scored from a good cross-kick by Lieut. Unwin. Unfortunately the former failed with an easy kick, and the Welsh Guards scored again from a scrum on our line, to give them the victory by 11 points to 3 in a really enjoyable and hard-fought game.

We finally completed the first half of our programme with an easy victory over the Royal Marines.

Turning from the general to the individual, Pte. Kent and 2/Lieut. Beath are being tried out by the Army and have created very favourable impressions, while L./Cpl. Rawlinson has been reserve on no fewer than three occasions. We hope his long-deserved trial will come soon. Lieut. Unwin has been appearing all over the country with various teams and has played well against the "All Blacks." We hope that his international cap will materialize this winter; no one could have been nearer to it than he has.

Of the younger players, Pte. Nagle, L./Cpl. Trotobas and Pte. Eyles have improved out of all knowledge from last year, and there is a great opportunity here for our better players to get games with the United Services, which should give them valuable experience in first-class rugger.

HOCKEY.

The first half of the hockey season is now over, and the 1st XI have shown marked improvement, in spite of the lack of available grounds in Portsmouth.

It has been found necessary to make considerable changes in the Battalion team on account of the temporary loss of Capt. Heywood, now in Egypt, and also on

account of the loss of Lieut. Stephenson, posted to the Depot in November. The arrival of 2/Lieuts. Bilbrough and Symes has, however, infused new blood into the team. Changes have been made in the players' positions in the field with a view to improving the combination amongst the team and to encouraging initiative.

In the early part of the season we had difficulty in enlisting the services of 2/Lieuts. Symes and Bilbrough, as they were periodically called on for rugger. 2/Lieut. Unwin is available only for Army Cup matches, as much of his time is taken up with England rugger trials, and Battalion and county games.

Pte. Baker, in goal, started the season by being rather hesitating, but he has overcome this and developed a good kick. The backs, Cpl. Makewell and Sergt. Wright, although not having played together much, combine well; they should try to be quicker in clearing the ball. The halves, Pte. Gorman, 2/Lieut. Bilbrough and L./Cpl. Etheridge, are good in attack, but are slow in getting back and clearing in defence. They are rather inclined to pass straight at a man instead of in front of him.

2/Lieut. Unwin, who has been changed from centre-half to right wing, has in his new position a better opportunity of using his speed and dash. Sergt. Kemp, who has been moved from centre-forward to inside right, is good with his stick, but is inclined to lose sight of his main objective as a forward, which is his opponents' goal. 2/Lieut. Symes, who used to play for Berkshire, is now centre-forward, and, although he is one of the best players in the team, he has not struck his best form yet. Cpl. Elcome has proved himself well suited to his new position of inside left; he realizes that once in the circle he must shoot and not wait for a better chance, but he should learn to be quicker in helping the defence.

In spite of all these criticisms, the team are to be congratulated on their very fine effort against the Queen's Royal Regiment in the second round of the Army Cup. The whole team played exceptionally well and led throughout, thus winning a very fast and exciting match by 4 goals to 3.

The following have been awarded their Colours for 1935-36:—

2/Lieuts. Symes, Bilbrough and Unwin, Sergts. Wright and Kemp, Cpls. Elcome and Makewell, L./Cpls. Etheridge and Thompson, and Pte. Baker.

DEPOT NOTES.

WE take this opportunity to wish everyone a Happy New Year.

As you have all doubtless heard how the Eskimos, cannibals, shepherds, taxi drivers, deep-sea divers, and others spent Christmas, you may perhaps like to know how the Depot spent its Christmas.

On Saturday, the 21st, all those who had to wait for their pay and could not go earlier fled to their homes. Some, we believe, have found them, others are just emerging from the fog, having got lost on their way to their homes.

Having got rid of the holiday-makers, the thirty-odd souls left settled down to defend the barracks against the frost, Father Christmas, and any unusual occurrence. So far, the chief grouse has been from the pigs, whose food was perpetually frozen up for the first few days, and is now so watery that they have hard work to eat it before the rain and thaw turn the fattening food into slimming wash.

Of course, it was not till Christmas Day that the frost did any noticeable damage, and on that morning we found several alarming traces, but, fortunately, none too serious, owing to the precautions taken previously. Since Christmas the thaw has set in, and several well-known characteristics are only too obvious. In the first place, the Officers' Mess walls are a good imitation of Niagara, and the ante-room at the moment is strewn with the heads of various wild animals drying before the fire. Those who know No. 12 Room, "B" Block, will be interested to know that, in spite of all the work this year, there is a magnificent lake under the first bed on the left, and the water is pouring down the wall as well as ever it did. Despite all this, those left behind were not entirely comfortless, and the cooks managed to produce an excellent dinner, with the usual etceteras. In fact, barracks seemed to have been more attractive than the fog without, as only about eight people left barracks that evening.

The Depot notes should be compiled by the Adjutant, but he is in America, and, judging by his Christmas cards and other communications, he is rapidly becoming "Americanized."

At great expense we engaged an understudy. We felt we could afford it if we got back a real Hollywood-minded Adjutant, who would give the necessary boost on his return, and engaged Lieut. J. W. A. Stephenson.

Unfortunately, the atmosphere of the Orderly Room was too much for him, and he retired to Sister Agnes's to have his nasal structure reconstructed. In consequence, any shortcomings must be overlooked, and any omissions will doubtless be rectified next time.

Looking at our last notes, I see that the approach of Lieut. Guscott was threatened. It has happened. No. 12 Room still leaks (see page 425). We are very pleased to see him, and are sure that after the Christmas holiday it will not leak.

Lieut. Marsh has arrived to relieve Lieut. Newton. Fortunately, the War Office will not let Lieut. Newton go until March, as we doubt if the former will have perfected his colour scheme much before then, and, anyhow, we cannot spare an angler, who sometimes catches something, earlier than is really necessary. This reminds us that there is a covey of partridges on the Depot Estate, and we shall be very glad if officers would kindly do something more than threaten to shoot them.

R.Q.M.S. Crouch has arrived, and we are sure that his "dashing" figure will soon be one of the most familiar and popular in barracks.

Several old friends have left us during this quarter: W.O.2 Benwell, A.E.C., to India; L./Cpls. Cordell and Lawrence and Ptes. Tarling and Driscoll, discharged; L./Cpl. Ellwood and Pte. Inman to 2nd Battalion on completion of tour of duty.

We wish them all the best of luck in their various spheres of activity, and at the same time we welcome, as their reliefs, L./Cpls. Eldrett and Waters, and Ptes. Lindeman, Mardell and Collins.

On the 12th December we had a visit from General C. G. Deverell, C-in-C., Eastern Command, and C.I.G.S. designate. His obvious approval of all that was going on of all we were trying to do was most encouraging.

The Depot Officers' Mess is gradually becoming overcrowded, and will be strained to its utmost capacity during January. We expect the Adjutant back, we expect his understudy back, we expect Lieut. Marsh to be in residence, and for half the month Capt. Clark and Major Procter will be in the process of changing over. In addition, we have Messrs. Thompson and Tainch, ex-Cambridge University, attached pending appointment to the Indian Army; Mr. MacKenzie, of Repton School O.T.C., who is to be attached for fourteen days; and a new addition to our Supplementary Reserve of Officers, Mr. Hancock, is also threatening to descend upon us, which, if I am not mistaken, means nine persons to be accommodated in the space allowed for seven.

The following Squads have joined the Battalion since the last notes:—Mons (Sergt. Soper), Albuhera (Sergt. Kemp), and El Bodon (Sergt. Johnson), and we have at present Badajos (Sergt. Hows), Vittoria (Sergt. Painter), New Zealand (L./Sergt. Moir), Alma (Sergt. Northcote), and Ladysmith (Sergt. Kemp) formed.

It is worth recalling that New Zealand Squad sat for their 3rd Class Certificates, as a whole, within four weeks of forming. All except one gained their certificates, and he has been successful within a fortnight, when at another examination twenty-eight candidates out of twenty-eight were successful. A very satisfactory result for L./Sergt. Dujardin and L./Cpl. Blackman, who, in the absence of the A.E.C. Instructor, are now in sole charge of the school.

The following were the winners of Recruits' Competitions during the quarter:—

COMMANDING OFFICER'S PHYSICAL TRAINING MEDALS.

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

Albuhera Squad.—Silver, Pte. Pearce; Bronze, Pte. Lynch.

El Bodon Squad.—Silver, Pte. Murray; Bronze, Pte. O'Mahoney.

SQUAD BADGE WINNERS.

Albuhera Squad.—16th Week, Pte. Webster (Pte. Rimmer).

El Bodon Squad.—12th Week, Pte. Baker (Pte. Millman); 16th Week, Pte. Millman (Pte. Baker).

Badajos Squad.—4th Week, Pte. Tait (Pte. Huggett); 8th Week, Pte. Tait (Pte. Wash); 12th Week, Pte. Tait (Pte. French).

Vittoria Squad.—4th Week, Pte. Farr (Pte. Wallace); 8th Week, Pte. Farr (Pte. Wallace).

PHYSICAL TRAINING BADGES.

El Bodon Squad.—12th Week, Pte. Murray (Pte. O'Mahoney); 16th Week, Pte. Murray (Pte. O'Mahoney).

Badajos Squad.—4th Week, Pte. Huggett (Pte. Wash); 8th Week, Pte. Wash (Pte. Huggett); 12th Week, Pte. Huggett (Pte. Field).

Vittoria Squad.—4th Week, Pte. Warren (Pte. North); 8th Week, Pte. Warren (Pte. North).

SHOOTING PRIZES.

Empire Test.

Badajos Squad.—Pte. Cox.

Vittoria Squad.—Pte. Goldsmith.

Table "A."

El Bodon Squad.—Pte. Millman.

SERGEANTS' MESS.

"Ben" has departed. Having secured a select berth on the *Kaisar-i-Hind*, travelling in company with Mr. Lloyd George, he decided to risk the many "babus" who would recognize "Ben Sahib," the maker of "chitties," and went to the land of many glories—India—to the particular scene of his former triumphs—Rawalpindi. We wish him and his family the best of luck, and as these notes are written we realize how much we miss him when comparing our puny efforts with the pen to his own.

The past quarter has been an eventful one. On 25th October a large party from the Depot went to Colchester to attend the farewell ball given by the Sergeants' Mess of the 2nd Battalion on the occasion of their departure to Portsmouth. We enjoyed a most pleasant evening, despite the "scarlet fever" scare in the charabanc coming home.

Armistice Day Service was followed by the now-annual Social, attended by the W.Os. and Sergeants of the 12th Battalion. Judging by the appearance of many members the following morning, the "Spirit"-ual success of these meetings between the Regulars and "Terriers" is assured.

Reverting to "Ben." One of the most enjoyable dinners and socials ever, was held as a farewell to this most popular "sahib," and the occasion was taken to present both W.O. Benwell and ex-C.Q.M.S. King with mementoes of their long stay with us. Both replied warmly to the toast, Tom reminding us of the future and the many pitfalls that await us on our return to civil life, and "Ben" reminding us of his past associations with various Battalions of the "Die-Hards" on the many fronts of the Great War and since in peace time.

Of Christmas we can only hope all W.Os. and Sergeants of The Middlesex Regiment, both at home and abroad, enjoyed it in the good old-fashioned way.

On 31st December we held our Annual New Year's Eve Ball, and there were many casualties. Single members went with mixed feelings for fear that the "witching hour" of midnight should find them in the toils of some designing modern miss, for it was generally remembered that the year 1936 is a leap year. However, there have been no engagements yet reported, and the whole affair went off splendidly.

Mention is due of R.Q.M.S. Crouch and family, and our thanks extended to them for their decorative efforts on the occasions of W.O. Benwell's farewell and the New Year's Eve Dance. Their patience will have been partly rewarded by the many comments on the excellence of their efforts.

Our departures have been only W.O. Benwell, who has already been mentioned, Sergts. Hows and Painter will have left by the time these notes appear in print, the former to the 2nd Battalion and the latter to a Vocational Training Course or civil life. To both these N.C.Os. we extend our best wishes for the future and regret their departure. We welcome back two old members in Sergts. Blake and Chasney from the 1st Battalion for a tour of duty, and hope they will enjoy their stay with us.

FOOTBALL.

This season we have been able to field a reasonable team from the Depot. We have found some good players among newly joined recruits, and it would appear that one or two may later obtain a trial in a Battalion game.

The following are games and results to date. A brief description of some games is appended:—

- v. Aldenham School, lost 2—3 (Away).
- v. Royal Fusiliers, drew 4—4 (Away).
- v. Woodside Park, won 4—1 (Home).
- v. Highgate School, won 3—1 (Away).
- v. Westminster School, won 3—2 (Home).
- v. Woodside Park, drew 2—2 (Home).
- v. Colney Hatch, won 3—2 (Away).
- v. 9th Battalion, lost 0—1 (Home).

DEPOT v. WOODSIDE PARK (4—1).

In this game recruits were introduced, and did their job well. The score would have been greater but for good goal-keeping by the Woodside goalkeeper. The Depot were better all round.

DEPOT (RECRUITS) v. HIGHGATE SCHOOL (3—1).

A splendid fast game on a pitch somewhat greasy, which made ball-control difficult. The defences were about equal, and it was the Depot left-wing which put them in front.

This wing worked well, and Baker (outside) was too fast for the defence. Burke, in goal for the Depot, made several excellent saves, and did his job well.

DEPOT v. WESTMINSTER SCHOOL (3—2).

This was a hard game and well contested on one of the worst possible afternoons for football for it rained throughout, and the School must be congratulated on losing by such a small margin, and, above all, that they were still going strong at the end, despite the condition of the ground. Both Rouse and Baker had a good game, also Sergt. Colbourne.

DEPOT v. WOODSIDE PARK (2—2).

This game was played on the bottom ground, which did more to upset the team than our opponents, due to its smallness. The Depot were leading by two goals up to the last few minutes of the game, when our opponents scored. They made several more raids in the dusk, and finally

scrambled in another goal to make the score level just on the final whistle.

DEPOT v. COLNEY HATCH (3—2).

We won this game again on an afternoon which was far from ideal, and, secondly, because of Colney Hatch forwards doing most things but score. In the early stages Baker made some runs down the left wing, and from one of these scored a fine goal. This was in about the fourth minute. Rouse had a breakaway down the centre and shot hard; a shot the goalkeeper only partially stopped, the ball going on into the net. Colney Hatch scored early in the second half, but, with luck, were kept from scoring again for some time. Baker made another very fine shot, the ball going in hard just inside the post. Colney Hatch tried hard, and scored again. Mardell, in goal for the Depot, played exceptionally well, making many fine saves when a goal seemed certain. Clevedon also played very well at inside-right.

DEPOT v. 9TH BATTALION (0—1).

This game caught the Depot very much off colour, the kicking and tackling being wild and anything but constructive, and although we had plenty of chances of scoring we had a blank sheet.

KNOCK-OUT COMPETITIONS.

During December a Knock-out Competition for eleven-a-side and six-a-side teams was run. The eleven-a-side proved an easy thing for New Zealand Squad.

In the six-a-side the tussle was greater, and New Zealand ran out the winners after a great battle, in which the twelfth player, "Luck," played a wonderful game.

The results were:—

ELEVEN-A-SIDE.

- 1st Round.—New Zealand, 11; Alma, 1.
- Semi-final.—Badajoz, 0; Vittoria, 2;
- New Zealand, 11; El Bodon, 3.
- Final.—Vittoria, 2; New Zealand, 10.

SIX-A-SIDE.

- 1st Round.—New Zealand, 6 points; El Bodon, nil.
- Semi-final.—Alma, 6 points; Vittoria, nil; Badajos, 1 point; New Zealand, 2 points.
- Final.—Alma, 1½ points; New Zealand, 3½ points.

CORPORALS' CLUB NOTES.

During the past quarter three things of note have happened, and one that should have happened did not.

The first thing of note was our billiard handicap. Even the slightest reference to this, prior to the handicap being framed, led to a devastating loss of form on the part of several members. Fortunately, the President and his Committee knew their abilities, and, with one possible exception, no complaints could really be made about the handicap. Sixteen members entered, and the critics were confounded by the sensational defeat in the first round of two hot favourites. These two were at opposite ends of the draw, and other members were asking them how they were going to spend the prize money. But sweet dreams are often rudely shattered, and new favourites had to be found. By the time the semi-finals had been reached, Eldrett and Parry were first and second favourites. Eldrett defeated Frost, who appeared to have an attack of nerves, fairly easily. In the other semi-final, Parry was hopelessly off form, and was defeated by Poulter by over 70 in a game of 150 up. The final produced two distinct types of billiards. Eldrett played well, and his positional play was a treat to watch. Poulter, on the other hand, played on the hit-and-pray-hard lines, which paid for a while, as at the half-way stage only a few points separated the players, but on the last lap Poulter's tactics failed, and he was beaten by a better player. The handicaps of the finalists were:—Eldrett, received 10 points per 100; Poulter, received 20 points per 100.

And now you N.C.Os. who came to Mill Hill on a tour of duty, had a good moan about the wireless, and have since rejoined the Battalion, pay attention. We now have another set, but little improvement has been noted. Methinks we had better blame the gasworks for all the interference.

Here is the third thing of note. A dance was held on 7th December, 1935, and was a huge success. The president could be seen strutting around Mill Hill, proud as a peacock, and with a smile on his face (?), which did away with the necessity of exterior lights for the ensuing week. The reason? Well, not only were records broken for attendance and

takings at the bar, but babies to be carried and cans to be taken back, etc., were conspicuous by their absence. It was also very gratifying to see one or two N.C.Os. from the 2nd Battalion among the crowd. But there is always room for more.

A football match was the event that failed to happen. The match was versus the Staff of the Junior United Service Club, with teas for the teams and supporters after the game. This game should have been played on 7th December, and the visitors were invited to the dance in the evening. The tea was a great success, but football was out of the question owing to the dense fog. It was a regular pea-souper, and so thick that the writer, through trying to remember a worse fog, almost succumbed to brain fever. It was feared that the fog would be a serious deterrent to the success of the dance, but it fortunately cleared in time.

We would like to extend a hearty welcome to Cpl. Thorn and L./Cpl. Ormes during their short stay with us prior to being transferred to the Reserve.

By the time these notes appear in print Christmas will be a thing of the past, but we take this opportunity of wishing all ranks of the Regiment a bright and happy New Year, and hope that all will have spent a very enjoyable Christmas.

Just one question. Why could not a certain member use a little tact when he spoke about the billiard prize money to the wife of another member?

A. H. W.

BOXING.

The Depot Individual and Inter-Squad Boxing have not yet taken place, but are arranged for early in January in time to enable us to select our Depot team for the Command Boxing Tournament. Incidentally we hope that the alterations to the Gymnasium long overdue will by then be completed.

This does not mean that boxing has been altogether forgotten, though there is so much to be got in that it is to be feared we do not pay as much attention to boxing as we might.

For some weeks past S.I. Day has been searching for talent, and has run a series of competitions in each Squad to see what they have hidden away. The results were encouraging because practically every fight produced a really good display

of boxing and good sportsmanship. Add some more skill, and we shall be able to turn out a useful team, as the essential ingredients are there in abundance.

Another good sign was that damaged thumbs were fewer than usual, as the majority seem to know how to clench their fists. It would take too much space to give all the details or mention every fight, but we give sufficient details to be of use to boxing officers.

EL BODON.

A very small Squad, and the only fights possible were the Heavy-weight, which was not very impressive, and the Middle-weight. In the latter, Murray and Baker had a good, if not very scientific, scrap. Murray qualified to meet Millman in the final, and won again. Millman has the makings of a nice left, but is slow at present.

BADAJOS.

Bosley was too good for Smith in the Middleweight, and has some idea. In the Welter-weight the best fight was in the first round between Huggett and Cleavelly. Both have a knowledge of boxing, and put up a very good fight. Huggett went on to win the weight, defeating French in the final. The Intermediate-weight was won by Tait, who shows promise, but must improve his footwork. Caul and Llewellyn met in the final of the Light-weight, and a very good fight resulted. Both used their left hands well. Lusham and Preston were the only Bantams. Though there was little science, they had a good battle.

VITTORIA.

This is a strong Squad, and produced a lot of fights.

Middle-weight.—Winner, Jones. This recruit is strong, and hits well with his right, but needs to quicken up his punches.

Welter-weight.—Winner, Claridge, who waded through pools of Goldsmith's blood to meet Russell in the final, whose extra reach and thickness carried him through.

Intermediate-weight.—Winner, Howe.

Light-weight.—Winner, Poole, who defeated Jordon in the final. Poole is quick, and has plenty of ability, but he crouches

awkwardly at present, and must learn to stand up and use his height. In this weight, too, Dwyer made good use of his left, but is not yet quite strong enough.

Feather-weight.—Wallace beat Flitton in the final.

NEW ZEALAND.

Welter-weight.—Winner, Burke, who beat Clemshaw in the final, and as Clare had a walk-over in the Middle-weight, Burke offered to give him a fight, and won it on points. It was a very good fight, and both are worth watching.

Intermediate-weight.—Hinkins beat Evans (75).

Light-weight.—Rouse beat Hart after a very good fight, which was decided by Rouse's greater quickness with both hands.

Bantam-weight.—Speller beat Grundy. Both have a good idea of attack and defence, but must punch harder.

ALMA.

This Squad was only recently formed.

Heavy-weight.—Hatchett beat Gibbs, who crouches too low. Hatchett has plenty of reach and a good left at times.

Middle-weight.—Nunn, who is inclined to swing at present when he uses his right, but has a fair left, beat Flynn, who proved a good stickler.

Welter-weight.—Won by Burton, and produced four boxers, who have some idea of strategy. Burton, Fox, Roberts and Cullen.

Light-weight.—Won by Teasdale. The winner and Kelly had a good fight in the first round, but, unfortunately, their heads crashed, and Kelly got the worst of it, and we have to see them again.

Feather-weight.—Callin beat Baker.

Bantam-weight.—Tarbuck beat Gibson.

The Individual Competition should be good, and the team one looks like being a very close affair.

Vittoria set a precedent the other day which we hope will be followed. No. 9 Room and No. 10 Room decided to take each other on with the gloves, and did so in the Gymnasium. Both rooms put up a great show, and the result was a draw. More of this would, apart from passing a dull afternoon amusingly, add to the Squad's boxing ability.

HOCKEY.

Before deciding to embark on a fixture list, it is necessary here to have a stock-taking of possible and probable players at the beginning of the season, and to launch out or note the result of the stock-taking dictates.

Last year we had to be very cautious, but this year we found that we had more players than sticks, and have been able to increase our fixture list to eight matches.

The first match was versus Royal Fusiliers Depot, and ended in a heavy defeat (3-8). Actually the score hardly represents the real run of play, as we had nearly as much of the ball as our opponents, but could not finish off, whereas our rear line of defence was unable to cope with any of the shots he received.

The second game, versus the Staff and Departments, Hounslow, ended in a win for us 3-0. It must be admitted that our opponents were one short for the greater portion of the game, but even so we just had the measure of them, and a win was a fair result.

The third match, versus the R.A.S.C., Feltham, produced a high-scoring level game, and as the opposition included several very good players, it was no disgrace to lose by the odd goal, the score being 5-6. Actually our team started off with a lead of two goals, only to be pulled back to 3-2. They then got the lead once more, and so the game went on.

The fourth match was against the R.A.F. from Bentley Priory, and again we lost by a narrow margin of 2-3. This was a very fast game, and had we taken the opportunities offered us we ought to have won, but our shooting was weak.

The fifth match, versus Royal Fusiliers, at home, was played on a frosty ground. Owing to sickness, Cpls. Knights and Poulter could not play, but a very good game resulted, despite the fact that frost made conditions difficult, as the ball would not always run true. At the start, the Royal Fusiliers looked dangerous, but play was carried to the other end, and remained more equal. Before long the Depot scored, then they scored and scored again. Then we scored, and, following it up with another, victory seemed certain, but just on time the Royal

Fusiliers equalized, and the game ended in a draw of three all.

Our difficulty has been to sort out a defence, but there seem to be possibilities about the present arrangement, and we are fortunate this year in having several reserves.

Play is inclined to be kept too much in the centre, with the result that the wing-halves tend to roam into the centre to get a look at the ball. The normal team now is:—Cpl. Day, Dmr. Sewell or L./Sergt. Dujardin, Sergt. Kemp, Sergt. Colbourne, Cpl. Gribble, Cpl. Knights, Pte. Hunter, Pte. Bridge, Sergt. Northcote, L./Cpl. Blackman, and Cpl. Poulter. Others who play are: S.I. Day, Cpl. Bromley, Cpl. Wray, Pte. Jones, and Sergt. Livens.

In addition, Recruits Nash, De Laurie, Clare, Baker and Burke have been tried. The last-named has become a sort of utility man, and is prepared to fill a gap at half or forward. With experience he should be a useful player.

Cpl. Knights is happier at half than forward. His place is invaluable, and he needs a little experience only to be well up to Battalion team standard.

Bridge has not been tried until this year, but he has the makings of a very useful half. Hunter has been moved from back to centre-half, where he covers plenty of ground—too much at times—and his excellent eye is an asset.

Cpl. Poulter is gaining experience and confidence in goal, and the backs are sound, if lacking in pace.

We congratulate Sergt. Kemp on playing for the Battalion and obtaining his colours after assisting them to win their first round in the Army Hockey Cup.

CROSS-COUNTRY.

Five Cross-Country Runs have been held, but we have not yet attempted to take on any outside opposition.

It is not easy to find a really satisfactory course round the Depot, and the ones we use are by no means ideal, and unavoidably include much road. The necessity of climbing Bittacy Hill to end up with makes the finish very stiff. However, it gives us a chance to find possible runners, and to give those who have never taken part in this much maligned, but

essentially sporting event, some experience of it.

The runs started in October, and the very first one showed us that Sergt. Painter had once more hit upon a good running Squad in Vittoria, who supplied the first man home, and won as a team too. Howe, Vittoria, was first, a good advertisement for non-smoking and long-distance swimming. Millman, Baker and Bathie, all of El Bodon, followed. Bathie has since been discharged, and we have, unfortunately, lost a promising athlete in consequence.

The order of Squads was:—1, Vittoria; 2, El Bodon and Badajos (equal); 4, Albuhera.

In the next run, Claridge, of Vittoria, beat Howe into second place. Caul came up from thirteenth to third, and two new men in the New Zealand, Jackson and Burke, did well to come in fourth and fifth. Squad places were:—1, Vittoria; 2, El Bodon; 3, Albuhera; 4, Badajos; 5, New Zealand.

The third run was a very small run, neither El Bodon or Albuhera being available. The first man home was once more in Vittoria, in the person of Flitton, Reed being second and Marshall, of the Depot Staff, being third.

Owing to the generosity of a firm of cigarette makers, cigarettes were available as prizes on the next two runs, and there are still some left. The non-smoking Howe came first again, and Claridge and Caul puffed up again in second and third places in the fourth run.

As cross-country running is not all grit, and some men cannot hope to be in the first flight, we therefore gave some hidden number prizes in addition to the first three in. These went to Marshall, Evans (97), Tappley, Field, Llewellyn, Smith and Dwyer, whilst those allotted to the best improvement went to Pacey.

The fifth run produced no surprises, the order of Squads being as usual, except that New Zealand filled the fourth place. Howe was again first man home, followed by Goldsmith, Munro and Cussell, all of Vittoria. Dwyer improved tremendously to twelfth, but Pacey should forfeit all cigarettes for life, as he fell away to sixty-third. The time on this run, however, was faster, and the runners less strung out at the end.

One afternoon on which there should have been a run it was decided to cancel it owing to the weather, the sun shining as soon as it was cancelled. However, the afternoon was not wasted, as we had an Inter-Squad Competition in the Gymnasium and cigarettes again. What we shall do when the cigarettes run out I do not know.

The events included a Pass Ball Knock-out, a Rope-climbing Relay, and an Obstacle Relay. Every man in each Squad took part in the last two events. The result was a win for Vittoria on the aggregate once more. Fortunately for the conceit of the Vittorians, there are some football notes which show that they do not have everything their own way.

As a wet afternoon's exercise for everyone, it proved that it has possibilities, and is worth experimenting with again.

EXTRACTS FROM THE "LONDON GAZETTE."

REGULAR ARMY. COMMANDS AND STAFF.

Capt. P. E. C. Tuckey, Midd'x R., to be Staff Capt., Cairo Bde. (temp.) (Oct. 11).

The following appts. are made:—Lt.-Col. G. L. Brown, D.S.O., Midd'x R., to be Insp. of Phys. Trg., and is placed on the h.p. list (empld.) (Jan. 1).

Midd'x R.—Maj. and Bt. Lt.-Col. O. H. Tidbury, M.C., to be Lt.-Col. (Jan. 1); Capt. and Bt. Maj. H. W. M. Stewart, O.B.E., M.C., to be Maj. (Jan. 1).

HALF-YEARLY BREVETS.

The follg., having attained the age limit of To be Bt. Lt.-Col.:—

Maj. G. C. Bucknall, M.C., Midd'x R.

REGULAR ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS.

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

GENERAL LIST.

Col. (Hon. Maj.-Gen.) F. W. Ramsay, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O. (late Inf.) (Dec. 10).

INFANTRY.

Midd'x R.—Capt. T. L. Boden, M.C. (Nov. 11).

Midd'x R.—Lt.-Col. W. A. Stewart, O.B.E., (Dec. 8).

Midd'x R.—Lt. F. Smith, D.C.M. (Dec. 14).

INFANTRY.

Midd'x R.—Capt. E. J. L. Garstin, M.C., late Midd'x Regt., to be Capt. (Jan. 1, 1936), with seny. Sept. 6, 1932.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE OF OFFICERS.

Midd'x R.—Trooper F. S. C. Hancock, from Inns of Court Regt., T.A. (late Cadet, Uppingham Sch. Contgt., Jun. Div., O.T.C.), to be Sec. Lt. (Jan. 1, 1936).

TERRITORIAL ARMY.

Col. G. W. T. Tupper, T.D., having attained the age limit retires and retains his rank, with permission to wear the prescribed uniform (Dec. 11).

8th Bn. Midd'x R.—Lt. E. F. H. Miskin to be Capt. (June 30).

9th Bn. Midd'x R.—Lt. H. W. W. Gray, from T.A. Res. of Off., to be Lt. (Oct. 19).

9th Bn. Midd'x R.—Lt. T. P. Coubro to be Capt. (No. 1).

8th Bn. Midd'x R.—Maj. W. W. Wagstaff (Maj. ret. pay) (Res. of Off.) resigns his comm. in the T.A. (Dec. 3, 1935).

The King has been graciously pleased to confer the Efficiency Decoration upon the follg. Officer under the terms of the Royal Warrant dated Sept. 23, 1930:—

6th Bn. Midd'x R.—Maj. G. L. Fox.

TERRITORIAL ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS.

8th Bn. Midd'x R.—Lt. E. C. K. Sadler from Active List, to be Lt. (Dec. 28).

9th Bn. Midd'x R.—Lt. A. G. Petrie resigns his comm. (Dec. 28).

7th BATTALION NOTES.

IT has usually been understood that the period between October and Christmas is one during which very little happens. If this has been the case in previous years, it certainly has not been so this year. We have had an exceedingly busy time, and accomplished much. As soon as the drill halls reopened in October we had to get busy to find a Guard of Honour on the occasion of the opening of the new Town Hall, at Hornsey, by H.R.H. The Duke of Kent. This event took place on the morning of Monday, 4th November—a very awkward time—and, whilst we were able to find a large number of volunteers from the Battalion, we were extremely grateful for the help the Depot gave us by sending over their senior recruit squad to complete the Guard.

We would like to take the opportunity once again of thanking the Depot very much indeed for their assistance, and to congratulate the Guard generally on

their turn-out and bearing on parade, both of which called forth much praise from the Civil Authorities. The Guard was ably commanded by Major Bower. The subaltern of the Guard was 2/Lieut. Jefferson, and Lieut. Addis was the Colour Ensign.

The annual Armistice Sunday Church Parade was held on 10th November, when there was a large muster of past and present officers and other ranks of the Battalion. We would particularly like to congratulate "B" (S.) Company on getting such a large number of their present members to attend the parade. Although numerically one of our weakest companies, they were the strongest on parade, and this reflects great credit on all concerned. It is hoped that other companies will make a special effort to increase their numbers next year.

We were extremely sorry that, owing to the death of Mrs. King, our Honorary Colonel was unable to be present on this year's parade. We would like once more to extend to Col. King our deepest sympathy in his bereavement.

At the Regimental Memorial Service at Mill Hill on Armistice Day we were, as usual, represented by a Colour Party. On this occasion 2/Lieut. Sass was the Colour Ensign.

Apart from the above, and Recreational Training, about which more will be said later in these notes, the chief items of interest have been the Weapon Training Cadre Courses. From the beginning of October to the middle of December the Headquarters Drill Hall has been a hive of activity on Mondays and Wednesdays, and a larger number of N.C.Os. have attended these courses than in any previous year. This is very gratifying. All have displayed great keenness and enthusiasm for their work, and we hope that the knowledge they have gained will be of real value to them during the forthcoming months, when they will be required to act as instructors within their respective companies.

Before leaving the subject of Weapon Training we should like to refer to the various shooting competitions and matches that have taken place. In the Lady Regnart Cup Competition we successfully resisted the challenge of the 10th London Regiment and the Hampstead

Detachment of the 9th London Regiment, who are newcomers to this competition, winning the cup by a good margin. Our recruits were not quite so successful in the Byrne Challenge Cup Competition, which they lost to the 3rd Cadet Battalion by the narrow margin of two points. Notwithstanding the result, the recruits fired extremely well, especially as the winning team consisted largely of senior N.C.Os. who were much older and more experienced, and could scarcely be classified as cadets.

The Inter-Company Competition for the King Cup was won very easily by "D" Company, who are to be congratulated on their very fine effort. They finished up 91 points ahead of their nearest rivals, "B" (S.) Company.

Besides competition shooting, the Battalion Miniature Rifle Team has taken part in two friendly matches—one with the Artists Rifles, which we lost, and one with the 47th Divisional Signals, which we won. We are hoping to arrange matches with other units after the Christmas break.

Our shooting activities before Christmas came to an end with the Christmas Shoot, which was held at Hornsey on Sunday, 22nd December. This proved to be a most popular event, and a fitting ending to the year. We hope this fixture has come to stay, and that it will be even better supported next year.

Recreational Training has been almost entirely confined to boxing. As an experiment an Open Invitation Tournament was held in November. This was most successful, and very well supported by a number of Regular and Territorial Army Units in London and Middlesex. Following on this, the Battalion Individual Championships were held in December, when a very fair number of entries was received, and a good evening's sport provided. We congratulate "D" Company on winning the Boxing Cup for the year, a success which was well deserved. The results of the Tournament will be found elsewhere in these notes.

Before closing, we would like to offer our congratulations to ex-Clr./Sergt. Eeles and L./Sergt. Gowing on the award of the Efficiency Medal.

Eeles left the Battalion on reaching the age limit, as far back as last June. He had served the Battalion very well for many years, going back to the old Volunteer days. As C.Q.M.S. of "B" (S.) Company his work was always of a high standard indeed, and, what he did not know about the intricate pay problems of the Territorial Army was hardly worth worrying about. He is much missed in the Battalion, and we all wish him happiness and long life.

L./Sergt. Gowing is one of our oldest post-war members, and is doing good work with the Transport Section. We hope we shall see his smiling face with us for many years to come.

BOXING.

The winners of the various weights at the Battalion Individual Boxing Championships, who become Battalion Champions for the year 1935-36, were as follows:—

Fly-weight Championship.—Dmr. F. Smith, "H.Q." Wing.

Bantam-weight Championship.—Pte. J. Nicol, "B" (S.) Company.

Feather-weight Championship.—Pte. A. Trafford, "D" Company.

Light-weight Championship.—Pte. A. Bromley, "C" Company.

Welter-weight Championship.—Pte. A. Watts, "D" Company.

Middle-weight Championship.—L./Cpl. W. Desborough, "D" Company.

Boys' Fly-weight Championship.—Boy C. Holding, "C" Company.

The result of the competition for the Boxing Challenge Cup was as follows:—

"D" Company	...	7 points
"B" (S.) Company	...	4 points
"H.Q." Wing	...	3 points
"C" Company	...	3 points
"A" Company	...	1 point

SHOOTING.

LADY REGNART CUP.

The competition for the Lady Regnart Cup was held at Regent's Park Barracks, Albany Street, on 26th November, and resulted in a victory for the Battalion

team. The teams' aggregate scores were as follows:—

7th Bn. Middlesex Regt.	...	559
19th Bn. London Regt.	...	491
Det., 9th Bn. London Regt.	...	451

BYRNE CHALLENGE CUP.

The following was the result of the competition for the Byrne Challenge Cup, held at Hornsey in December:—

3rd (Cadet) Bn. Middlesex Regt.,	215.
Recruits, 7th Bn. Middlesex Regt.,	213.
1st (Cadet) Bn. Middlesex Regt.,	203.

KING CUP.

The Inter-Company Team Competition for the King Cup was held at Hornsey on 17th November, and resulted in an easy victory for "D" Company. The team aggregate scores were as follows:—

"D" Company	...	394
"B" (S.) Company	...	393
"C" Company	...	301
"H.Q." Wing	...	277
"A" Company	...	277

Highest Individual Aggregate.—Sergt. C. Lenney, "D" Company, 58.

FRIENDLY MATCHES.

30th Oct.—7th Bn. Middlesex Regt. v. Artists Rifles. Lost, 713-772.

15th Nov.—7th Bn. Middlesex Regt. v. 47th Divl. Signals. Won, 384-348.

"A" COMPANY.

We have always had an idea at Highgate that Recreational Training was a fairly harmless pastime indulged in between camp and Christmas, as a means of giving the boxing gloves and badminton rackets an airing, and in order to use up any surplus miniature-range ammunition that we might have on hand. We have now come to the conclusion that the Adjutant does not know the meaning of the word "recreation," or does he call it "wreck-creation"? However, we understand he is very sorry for having worked us all so hard, and he is now arranging a rest cure (?) for the Battalion, on the South Coast, near Brighton, in August next.

A brief summary of the past three months will show that we really have been rather busy. The drill halls opened in

early October, during which month annual courses were fired at Rainham every Sunday. In addition, we had a Company T.E.W.T. at Mill Hill on the 27th, though we admit that, after several glasses of "lunch" at the "Orange Tree," we had a fairly work-free afternoon. In October, also, the Annual Cadre Course for N.C.Os. commenced at Hornsey, and this lasted until late December, while we had a busy time practising for a Guard of Honour which the Battalion provided for H.R.H. the Duke of Kent, at Crouch End, on 4th November. This was a good show, and "A" Company was very well represented.

On 2nd November we held a very successful Other Ranks' Dance at Highgate, followed by another in December, to which all the officers of the Battalion were invited. This was attended by a record crowd, and was only marred by a local fog which prevented one or two young gentlemen from selecting their own hats and coats from the cloak-room afterwards. Our next other ranks' dance will be held on Saturday, 22nd February, when all will be welcome.

Our annual Armistice Day Church Parade was again well attended. The weather was, as usual, kind to us, and both serving members and Old Comrades turned up in force. "B" (S.) Company, in particular, had a very fine turn-out.

We also put in a lot of work practising for the King Cup, but we were badly let down by one or two members of the team, who failed to turn up on the actual day, and we finished last, equal with "H.Q." Wing. However, we heartily congratulate "D" Company on their excellent score, which we should certainly not have beaten, even with a full team.

In the victorious Lady Regnart team Capt. Bartram was our only representative, while Pte. Sonley and L./Cpl. Newton represented us in the Byrne Cup, which we lost to the 1st Cadet Battalion by two points.

No review of recent events would be complete without reference to the two excellent boxing shows arranged at Headquarters by the Adjutant. Although "A" Company does not shine at boxing, those who attended as spectators thoroughly enjoyed themselves. The

Christmas Shoot also, held on the Sunday before Christmas, was very popular with everyone, and there will certainly be a far bigger crowd next year to share the many prizes, consisting of Christmas fare of every description.

We congratulate Cpl. Bare on his recent promotion, and regret that Cpl. Hicks has left us after many years' service in the Company.

Finally, as we are writing these notes in December, 1935, we wish all readers of THE DIE-HARDS a very happy and prosperous 1936, and may they never have to write any Company Notes for it.

"B" COMPANY.

The Sunday afternoon after the first ride of the year, and only a week after Christmas, is not the ideal time to write the Company Notes. Still, orders is orders, even at an hour's notice!

All companies have "flat" periods! We have had quite a long one, but by every indication are well on the up-grade. A long succession "Seconds" in all the various Battalion competitions is no mean performance, if consistency counts for anything.

The Company has produced a remarkably good boxing team in a very short space of time, owing to the efforts of all the members ably assisted by our new trainer, Mr. Davis, who has impressed us all by his efficiency and patience in instruction. We would like to congratulate every member who turned out and put up such a good show, and are looking forward next year to putting in the strongest team that has hitherto represented the Company. While on the subject of boxing, I hear that the Adjutant hopes to arrange a show between the Battalion and the Enfield Boxing Club, at the Drill Hall.

Recruiting has been on the increase, and if numbers continue to come in during 1936 as well as they have in the past few months we shall be doing very well indeed.

On the whole, I do not think that we shall be too optimistic in looking forward to a better year than we have had for some considerable time if all the members will back the Company up as well as they have been doing of late.

"C" COMPANY.

The first problem to confront us on return from leave was a new one. Where was the Company Office? The hole in the window was there; the gap in the plaster was there; but the stock was missing. It was only when the C.Q.M.S. was found to be missing that light dawned upon us. What we cannot understand is that, even if he had designs on the tablecloth, why it should be necessary to borrow the whole office in order to get it.

However, we retrieved the C.Q.M.S. and the tablecloth, and were then able to hold a board meeting. First, we thought we would send some N.C.O.s in search of knowledge, so C.S.M. Howard and twelve others departed on Weapon Training Cadres. Then we thought we should send some in search of pugilistic prowess. Accordingly the members went into training and, finally, into the ring. Then we thought that some should shoot rifles, so they went into the range with the object of assisting to win the King Cup, Regnart Cup, and the Byrne Cup. Then we thought we had not very many left, so we decided to sit back and watch the others.

Those who went in search of knowledge have returned. As the results have not yet been published, any bouquets or brickbats are reserved for future issue.

Those who went in search of pugilistic prowess have returned. We did not reach last year's standard, with the result that we have to congratulate "D" Company on winning the Boxing Cup. In the novices' competitions Pte. Morris won the Light-weight title, and three weeks later was runner-up to Pte. Trafford of "D" Company in the Battalion Feather-weight Championship. Boy Holding is Boys' Fly-weight Champion for the year, whilst Pte. Bromley has taken L./Cpl. Nation's place as Light-weight Champion. Sergt. Nolan and Pte. F. Bennett were both unfit, so we were unrepresented in the Middle-weight and Light Heavy. Thus did we lose the Boxing Cup. However, "*Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam*," which means, as far as we can remember, "To the greater glory of God."

Those who went to shoot rifles have returned. In the King Cup they were third, but two points behind "B" (S.) Company. It is about time we

made a better effort in this competition. C.Q.M.S. Badham and L./Sergt. Valentine both shot for the Battalion in several miniature-range competitions, and Ptes. Bedford and Cutler were included in the Battalion recruits' team.

Those who sat back and watched were not entirely idle. Some formed part of a Guard of Honour to H.R.H. the Duke of Kent. Others arranged an All Ranks' Dance which took place on 14th December with a measure of success which was not dimmed even by the combined efforts of thick fog and partial failure of the local electricity supply.

Armistice Church Parade coincided with the local Mayor's Sunday service and, as we both use the same church, conditions were not ideal. We hope that on future occasions it will be possible to revert to the practice of former years. L./Sergt. Lauderback formed part of the Colour Escort at the Depot service on 11th November.

As to personnel we have had several recruits posted to us in the past six weeks, and we hope for still more. Against this we are due to lose several men in the near future. We congratulate Cpl. Dickinson on his promotion to Sergeant, but the confirmation of his appointment as Pioneer-Sergeant necessitates his removal to "H.Q." Wing. We trust that his new job will be to his liking, and that his grease traps will function properly.

In the "Court Circular" this quarter we have to announce the marriage of Pte. F. Bennett, to whom we extend our hearty congratulations. We put this announcement as far removed as possible from the previous mention of Bennett's name in case some evil-minded person should look upon the second as the cause of the first.

We have a further pleasant duty in welcoming a new subaltern, Mr. P. S. Ingham. Although we gather he is rather susceptible to cold weather, we hope that he will find Hornsey a warmer spot than it feels at this time of the year.

The Christmas Prize Shoot wound up the year's activities, and we have to praise a piece of first-class "conniving" on the part of Sergt. Valentine who managed to draw plus 20 from the hat to add to his "possible." C.Q.M.S. Badham, Con- niver-in-Chief, having drawn several

large minus numbers, withdrew to the Sergeants' Mess commenting loudly on the shortcomings of the sealed handicap system.

CORRIGENDUM.—November issue, 1935, page 368, para. 1, line 7: For "company" substitute "file."

"D" COMPANY.

Once again the so-called "period of leisure" has passed, and once again we have had considerable difficulty in keeping pace with the swarm of events which has threatened to overwhelm us. Nevertheless, we survived the storm, and at the time of writing are enjoying the respite allowed us after Christmas and bounty night. During the past quarter the canteen at Tottenham has undergone a change, the billiard table being no more, and the general effect now rivals the best of the local gin palaces. Some may have regretted the passing of the billiard table, but when billiards were being played there was little room for anything else, even the sinking of a modest noggin of ale.

Miniature-range matches have occupied quite a portion of the quarter for a number of our experts, and we were well represented in the Battalion team in the matches against the Artists Rifles and the 47th Divisional Signals, Pte. Coomber in the first match, and L./Cpl. Tassell in the second, obtaining the top score for the team.

The Battalion easily retained the Lady Regnart Cup, and here again we were to the fore with 50 per cent. of the team and both reserves in addition.

The Company had an interesting match *v.* University College School O.T.C., on Sunday, 15th December, which resulted in a narrow win for the School by 406 to 404 points. A high level of shooting was reached on both sides, and the result was in doubt right up to the last practice.

The King Cup Miniature Range Competition took place at Headquarters on 17th November, and we were fortunate enough to retain the cup by a considerable margin. The three pool shoots were all won by members of our team—Sergt. Lenney, L./Cpl. L. Lucas and Pte. Coomber. Before departing from the subject we must mention the Christmas

Shoot, which took place at Headquarters. This show was a triumph for the organizing staff. Each man who attended received a good prize, and we feel sure that there will be twice as many turning up next year for an inexpensive turkey.

We had an extremely successful dance on 30th November. The weather was at its worst, rain coming through the roof during the evening (Association please note), but over 200 attended. We were glad to welcome a coach load from the Depot, and we hope to see them all at our future shows.

Our chief winter sport this year has, of course, been boxing, and quite a respectable number of the Company have been training hard under Mr. Heath. At the Battalion Championships the Company won the Boxing Cup, individual winners being L./Cpl. Desborough (Middle-weight), Pte. Watts (Welter-weight) and Pte. Trafford (Feather-weight). Watts came through three fights, but none of them lasted the first round. Pte. L. Wood was one of his opponents, but he was unfortunate in putting his thumb out. Pte. Mitchell was runner-up in the Bantam-weight, and deserves a word of praise for the plucky show he put up.

Congratulations to Cpls. Binhammer and Matthewman on promotion, and to L./Cpl. L. Lucas on first appointment. Also to L./Cpl. Payne on his marriage. We hope he will be allowed to turn up on parade fairly frequently.

Finally, we offer our best wishes for 1936 to all "Diehards" past and present, at home and overseas, not forgetting our friends in the Allied Regiments in Canada, Australia and New Zealand.

8th BATTALION NOTES.

WITH Christmas once more close at hand we take this opportunity of sending hearty greetings to all past and present members of the Regiment.

At the time of writing we gaze with astonishment and admiration at the activities of the postal authorities who have taken over our Drill Hall as a sorting office to cope with the rush of parcels and

letters. We understand the Battalion post Corporal intends to be present to undergo a course in "Postman's Knock."

We visited the Junior Army and Navy Club for our Officers' Reunion Dinner this year, and were provided with an excellent menu. Col. W. H. Parmeter, T.D., was in the chair, supported by Col. Dams. The attendance was not so good as on former occasions, and several past officers who always support this function were unfortunately unable to attend.

Armistice Sunday was observed by 12 officers and 175 other ranks of the Battalion who paraded at Ealing Drill Hall, and, headed by the Band and Drums, marched to St. Mary's Parish Church for an impressive service. The Commanding Officer read one of the lessons, and the Band played for some of the hymns. At the conclusion of the service the buglers sounded the "Last Post" and "Reveille."

On 15th November the competitions for the Isleworth Cup (Guard Mounting) and Col. Garner's Cup (Miniature Range) were held. In both these events points were awarded for "turn-out," and all entrants secured a high percentage. The final order in the Guard Mounting was:—"H.Q." Wing 1st with 87 points, "A" Company 2nd with 84, "D" Company 3rd with 81, "B" (S.) Company 4th with 77, and "C" Company 5th with 63 points. Col. Garner's Cup was won by "D" Company, "B" (S.) Company and "A" Company being 2nd and 3rd respectively.

The Brigade Signalling Cup is once again in our possession, and we congratulate 2/Lieut. McFarlane and all ranks of his Group on again winning this trophy.

The semi-finals and finals of the Battalion Boxing Championship took place on 21st November before a large and enthusiastic audience. All fights were keenly contested, and from the form shown by the winners and their knock-out tactics, we hope to give a good account of ourselves in the Brigade Contest. The cup was won by "D" Company, with "H.Q." Wing a good second. We were fortunate in having an excellent referee in F./Lieut. P. O'Donnell, and F./Lieut. Crew and Pilot Officer Gomez acted as judges.

An interesting week-end was spent on 24th November on the occasion of the Brigade T.E.W.T., when the exercise

held at Annual Training was continued on the same area. On the Saturday all syndicates took sandwiches to the Brigade of Guards' Mess at Pirbright Camp, where the Brigade-Major had arranged hot soup and drinks. Night operations were carried out at the Lion Hotel, Guildford, an ancient but comfortable house, with excellent fare. Major Ellis, Cpts. Reid, Hartley and Miskin, and Lieut. Reddy attended.

A Battalion T.E.W.T. was held in the same vicinity on 8th December, when a defensive scheme and withdrawal was run through. Eleven officers attended.

Our teams are now busy doing their stuff for the forthcoming Brigade Winter Weapon Training Competition, and hopes run high.

PERSONALIA.

Congratulations to Lieut. Miskin on his promotion to rank of Captain.

We welcome C.S.M. Wright, of the 2nd Battalion, who has now taken over at Hounslow, and is already getting things going again in the Wing. C.S.M. Trestain has also joined us, and is with "B" (S.) Company at Ealing.

Major Wagstaffe has found it necessary to resign owing to business engagements.

2/Lieut. McFarlane will be on leave for a few months preparing for professional examinations.

The Battalion Editor thinks it is time he also took his leave with a word of five letters—FINIS.

HEADQUARTER WING NOTES.

We are very sorry to lose Lieut. King on his transfer to "A" Company (Hampton Hill). He will be very much missed in the Transport Section. We welcome C.S.M. Wright from the 2nd Battalion as our new R.S.M. in place of R.S.M. Cook whom we are sorry to lose, and wish the best of luck in civilian life.

Again we did well in the Inter-Company Boxing Competition, and obtained second place. The results might have been different had we found a full team. The following N.C.Os. and men represented the Company: L./Cpl. Jones and Ptes. Sharp, Baker, Kingsman, Dennis, Connor and Clarke. The team fought

extremely well, and Pte. Baker won his weight as a feather-weight.

The miniature range is still an attraction, and our shooting is steadily improving. Matches were arranged with the Old Contemptibles and the Imperial Legion, both of which we won, the former by two points and the latter by 19 points. On 16th December we held a Christmas shoot open to members of "H.Q." Wing. The prize-winners were as follows:—

Snap Shooting.—1, Pte. Billimore; 2, Mr. Mullaley; 3, Sergt. Reeves.

Application.—1, Pte. Gibson; 2, Pte. Brooker; 3, R.S.M. Wright.

Major Ellis kindly presented the prizes.

"A" COMPANY.

Unfortunately, we have to open these notes with rather a usual occurrence, as far as this Company is concerned. Capt. Hartley has, we regret to announce, left us for "H.Q." Wing, and we sincerely hope that he will enjoy his new home, and for his sake we trust that he has at last come home to roost. They say that "there is a silver lining to every dark cloud," and we are pleased to announce that the "silver lining" in this case is Lieut. M. C. D. King, who has been appointed our new Company Commander, and we sincerely trust that he will not find his new command quite so knock-kneed, spavined, or bent-backed as he often found his "glorious hunters," as supplied at camp by persons unknown. We can assure him that he need not borrow from the Transport Section a bottle of "horse, Ellimans," to bring with him or, for that matter, any old bits of harness, etc., to keep us in check, as—pardon us for saying this—we are well disciplined and out for all the cups and awards going.

Boxing has not this year been as satisfactory as it might have been. We have, however, amongst our gladiators several promising Samsons, and, given proper supervision, they should go far. We are proud to announce that Pte. Finny was congratulated by F./Lieut. O'Donnell, M.V.O., on an excellent exhibition of clean, hard and scientific boxing. We also wish to add our congratulations on his excessive zeal in coming from Wendover to appear for the Company. It is the spirit which will bring "A" Company

once more amongst the leading lights in competitions.

The Company was represented at the Officers' T.E.W.T., held on Tunnel Hill, near Mytchett, on 8th December, by all its officers, who spent a very cold day amongst familiar surroundings near last year's camp site. They feel that if they had to attack a division they could do this easily with the aid of one rifle section, a cook, a drummer boy and bugler (to sound the enemy's retreat: strategy), not forgetting the necessary arms such as pea-shooters, bows and arrows and a water diviner.

The Company Christmas draw was a great success, and there were about thirty prizes. The attendance, in spite of the fog, was quite good, and everybody had a good time.

The Company prize giving and Dance also proved a success, and we were disappointed that the C.O. was unable to be present. Mrs. Ellis, however, kindly distributed the prizes in his absence. We congratulate all winners on their well-earned awards.

We wish to congratulate our guard-mounting team on their excellent turn-out for the Isleworth Trophy, and hope that they will have better luck next time.

We wish Lieut. Reddy a pleasant stay with "B" Company, and trust that he will still keep in touch with "A" Company.

We wish all ranks of the Regiment a prosperous and happy New Year.

"B" (S.) COMPANY.

The period immediately following Annual Training always seems somewhat dead; nothing very exciting happens, at least not to us, and there is little of interest to record this quarter. An N.C.O.'s Class has been in progress, but the numbers attending have been somewhat curtailed owing to the large number of N.C.O.s we have certified as qualified instructors.

We mourn the loss of a trophy we had become very fond of, the Isleworth Trophy. Our congratulations to the successful Company are none the less sincere.

Why did the authorities decide not to include tactical handling of a L.G. or M.G. Section? We always relied on that phase of the competition to bring us in a substantial number of points.

The Battalion boxing, enthusiastic and keen as it was, did not bring us much glory by the look of some of our "Toughs." I think we should cut a much prettier figure if all-in wrestling were to be introduced.

The social side, however, is going great guns, both in the way of Saturday evening dances and occasional mid-week social evenings.

We are very sorry to say that Lieut. E. C. K. Sadler has left us. Rumour has it that he is seeking adventure in foreign parts, and that his old haunts will not see him again for many a long day. He was a keen soldier, and whenever circumstances allowed was always to the fore in fostering the Company spirit. We wish him the best of luck.

There is in the life of every Territorial Company a change over, which carries with it feelings of regret of varying degrees of intensity—the end of the P.S.I.'s tour of duty. C.S.M. Nash leaves us at the coming of the New Year, and in Journal notes of this nature it is impossible to express our appreciation of the work he has done for the Company. In our darkest moments he has been cheerful. Whatever the call made upon him he has answered to the best of his ability, and only those who know him can rightly assess just what that means. To him and Mrs. Nash and the baby we sincerely wish the very best of luck for the future.

It is fitting that we should close these notes by extending a very hearty welcome to Sergt. Trestain from the 2nd Battalion. May we find his stay with us happy in every way.

Lost in handing over.—Three dozen and two black Very lights; Support Company enemy finder; fifty rounds of blank-firing tracer.

Any person or persons able to give any information as to the whereabouts of the above articles will be rewarded with the new automatic blanket folder and kit-straightener at Annual Training, 1936.

BEER COMPANY.

9th BATTALION NOTES.

UNLIKE so many after-dinner speakers, we believe in the maxim that when one has little to say, it is best to say little, and our notes for this quarter are therefore brief.

This does not mean that we have been idle; far from it. Parades for Winter Training have gone on as usual, and it is only because everything is so usual that we have little about which to write.

Even in our idle moments we have not really been idle, because we have had three good Company Dinners, "A," "B" (S.) and "C" Companies.

The Christmas Shoot was, as always, a great success, and the P.R.I., assisted by C.S.M. Boen and Sergt. Maggs, and by that friend of the Regiment who, we understand, is called "Pat," worked hard to obtain prizes that would be not only ornamental but useful.

We felt that perhaps the numerous prizes were more appealing to utilitarian tastes than to our stomachs as heretofore, but considering the nearness of Christmas perhaps it was a good thing.

On 4th January we had a Novices' Boxing Tournament, and, on the whole, the standard was satisfactory. The attendance was rather disappointing, but those who were there will join us in thanking Major Sherwood and the officials for making possible a very enjoyable evening.

We congratulate Capt. T. P. Coubro on his promotion.

The officers have started their annual three months' torture in the Riding School at St. John's Wood Barracks. Already we hear one or two of them have bitten the dust, but, of course, it cannot be true.

Lieut. Gray has returned to us from the Reserve, and we are very glad to have him back again. However, he will pay but irregular visits here, we think, until he has completed all the courses he is going on. He might write a short guide to the London District School of Instruction if he survives.

In closing, we wish you a Happy New Year, not as late as it seems, because our taskmaster of an Editor makes us hand in our notes at the first wail of 1936.

INTER-COMPANY NOVICES' BOXING.

4th January, 1936.

Light Heavy-weight.—Winner, Cpl. P. Brown, "B" (S.) Company.

Middle-weight.—Winner, L./Cpl. C. Way, "B" (S.) Company.

Welter-weight.—Winner, Pte. Carter, "C" Company.

Light-weight.—Winner, L./Sergt. O. Jenkins, "B" (S.) Company.

Bantam-weight.—Winner, Pte. Bates, "B" (S.) Company.

Feather-weight.—Winner, Pte. Malcolm, "A" Company.

Fly-weight.—Winner, Pte. Rees, "A" Company.

SERGEANTS' MESS.

The past three months can be aptly summed up by the "classic" phrase, "There is nothing to report; quiet on all fronts."

However, the decree has gone forth, and so we must rack our brains.

During the period under review there have been certain happenings of a non-military character, such as the distribution of Christmas hampers, and the Mess President deserves a medal for valour, as he took his home on the back of a bicycle tied with office string—the hamper, of course, not the bike.

Then the Mess Caterer. He had a most pleasant surprise. Having prepared the Mess for a "do," he arrived to find the sweep had called, and knowing what a keen gardener our Lew is had left him some soot. Unfortunately, he forgot to put it in a sack.

The socials held on the last Friday of the month pursue the even tenor of their way, but we should like to see more members present. In passing, we would welcome any members of other Battalion Messes who happen to be in the vicinity of Willesden.

Two very successful little parties were held by new sergeants.

The first was when, with all due solemnity, Sergt. Barton and L./Sergt. Williams were inducted into the mysteries of the Mess, and on another date Sergt. Barton and L./Sergts. Jenkins and Sangwine were christened with fluid provided by Messrs. Watney.

The Rev. Pat Wendell officiated, and C.S.M. Jones gave fatherly advice to his triplets.

Nurse Outram had some trouble to soothe the fractious infants, but the judicious application of the bottle did the trick.

Members of the Noble Order of the Bleeding Heart gave silent but impressive support. Altogether an enjoyable evening.

As we have previously said, new sergeants arriving means old members passing, and we have to say farewell to Sergt. Hattley, who has been a member of the Mess for sixteen years.

We feel sure that we shall still see his cheerful countenance at all our social events, and wish him the best of luck.

Another member of the Permanent Staff who has been with us so long that we almost adopted him, has gone back to Portsmouth, our late R.S.M. Goodall, and we shall certainly miss his silvery voice at Mess concerts and his splendid performances in those wonderful football matches, Officers versus Sergeants. All our good wishes go with him.

We take this opportunity of welcoming our new R.S.M., and hope that R.S.M. Hart's stay in the Mess will be a very enjoyable one.

"A" COMPANY.

We must apologize for these notes being rather brief this quarter, but, firstly, there is little to record during the period following Annual Training; secondly, we failed to realize that another three months had slipped by until we received a charming note from the Editor. How Tempus does Fugit.

Dealing with the most important item, training, first.

Apart from Recruits' Training, there has been held at Battalion Headquarters a Battalion Cadre for selected N.C.O.s., and we understand that our representatives, Cpl. Margetson and L./Cpls. Millie and Ward, have done extremely well. We should also like to add the name of Pte. Hartley, a recruit, who voluntarily joined the course for experience.

On the social side, we have first and foremost the Company Dinner, held, as usual, at the White Hart Hotel, and also, as usual, a huge success.

We noticed several old friends among the diners, including ex-Sergt. Cornish and ex-Pte. Good.

It is so seldom that a man takes the trouble to keep in touch with the Company after he has left the Battalion that it is a pleasant change to yarn with the old ones.

If any ex-"A" Company man reads these notes, we still train on Tuesday nights, and will welcome any ex-member any time.

A letter was read from Mr. Gunston, who, being on one of his periodical peregrinations on the Continent, was unable to attend.

The Commanding Officer, during a very interesting speech, told us that the "Crowborough" Cup, awarded for the best all-round Company performance for the year, was only lost by us to "B" (S.) Company on the attendance at Camp.

Well, as it is Brighton this year, I think we can alter that, so look out, "B."

Prizes actually won by the Company and presented by the Honorary Colonel, Col. J. L. Blumfeld, T.D., included cups for the best Company score at the Battalion and Brigade Rifle Meetings, whilst L./Cpl. Ward received prizes for the best Young Soldiers' score at the same Meetings and, the most important of all, the Platoon Competition.

Congratulations are due to the O.C. Company, 2/Lieut. J. G. H. Canning, C.S.M. Sewell and the Dinner Committee for a rattling good evening.

We are also able to include the results of the Battalion Boxing Championships.

Here we suffered a disappointment. True we managed to occupy third place, but we only had three entries, two of whom, Ptes. Malcolm and Rees, won their respective weights. Pte. Vivash gave a most plucky display before being knocked out by a more experienced opponent.

It makes me ponder, therefore, on what would have been the result if all those who entered for the competition had turned up. Four of our men, alas! failed to appear.

We are now looking forward (more or less joyfully) to Winter Weapon Training, and, of course, are confident of winning the Battalion and Brigade Fire Direction Competitions, the Sherwood Shield, the F.A. Cup, and the Grand National.

Before closing, with best wishes to all "A" Companies for 1936, we congratulate C.Q.M.S. E. Impey on being awarded the T.A. Efficiency Medal.

"ACKAY."

"B" (S.) COMPANY.

The Company has lost during the year 1935 a very old and trusty soldier in C.S.M. Prowse, whose service goes back to the Volunteer days. He has been succeeded by C.S.M. Jones, who, if he can lead the Company as he led the Battalion Fire Direction Team in the spring, will long have the best Company in the Battalion under his wing.

We have now only one war-time soldier serving with us, the redoubtable Sergt. Eddie Outram, M.M., but, in spite of this handicap, the gunners secured the "Crowborough" Cup for the best all-round company. They also won the Battalion Boxing Cup by a very comfortable margin of points over the runners-up.

The summer months passed very swiftly, filled, as they were, with training for camp and with the range tests. Pte. White emerged as the best range taker, and this same young soldier was the best recruit for musketry in the Battalion. Camp near Aldershot was one of the best in the writer's memory.

There was one incident which, had the writer not witnessed it personally, he would never have credited. This concerned the extraordinarily intelligent action of two scouts. It befell thus. The Support Company moved off from the Battalion parade ground early in order to act as enemy to the rest of the Battalion on night op's. The above-mentioned scouts were moving ahead of the Platoon in due order when they were seen running back in an agitated way. They reported that there was a picnic party of ladies some distance in advance. We thereupon stopped singing our "anthem" and substituted "The Darkies' Sunday School," which was thought to be rather more respectable. This was the anthem to which one frosty face, the fiercest denizen of the Stonehenge area, took such grave exception in Lent of last year. The writer has heard it said that the gentle summer evening breeze wafted the tune of the anthem over the Battalion parade ground, where the Rifle Com-

panies were still drawn up in close column waiting their turn to move off. The tune was recognized, and some of the brethren were so moved as to draw down upon themselves the severest censure of the R.S.M. We can only regret that Major Sherwood's cine-camera cannot take talking pictures, for some lasting record of that historic oration should be preserved for the instruction of posterity.

The year 1935 closed on a very happy note with the Annual Dinner, which was a greater success even than that of the previous year. No less than five Battalion trophies were presented to the Company by Col. Blumfeld, in addition to two individual Battalion cups, the best N.C.O., and the best recruit.

The Company have started the New Year very well by again winning the Battalion Boxing Cup for the third year in succession, and as this is a record you can feel sure that we are mighty proud of it. The Company had eight entries, of which four won their weights and two were runners-up. We would like to congratulate the following: — L./Sergt. Jenkins, Cpl. Brown, L./Cpl. Way, Pte. Bate (winners), L./Cpls. Hyde and Salmon (runners-up), and also Ptes. Winsor and Saunders for the very plucky show they put up.

"C" COMPANY.

Since the last notes went in, things have been fairly quiet with us. We started our usual fortnightly dances in October, and these are going very well indeed this year, and we had a fine crowd at our New Year's Eve Carnival Ball, which was over just in time to get into this issue.

In the shooting line, we have been too busy with League Shoots to get any matches away from home with the exception of one, which our Company Commander kindly arranged with Harrow School.

They gave us a very nice evening's entertainment, and also a beating. Scores: Harrow School, 764; "C" Company, Old Comrades, 756. Ex-C.S.M. Todman was our highest scorer with 98, and the School presented him with a spoon.

Our Company Dinner this year was held on Saturday 30th November, and a record number sat down; also a record

number of serving members attended. This is all the more pleasing when they do turn up for this annual affair. We were honoured by a large number of guests.

On the work side of our Company, this quarter has been spent in usual parades with instruction in the gun and rifle. Several N.C.Os. attended Headquarters for a Battalion Weapon Cadre Course. During the following quarter great results are looked for from these N.C.Os., as they have worked very hard on the course.

At the present time we are looking forward to the Battalion Boxing, which will be held on 4th January, and we are hoping that "C" Company will put up a good show on that date. Last year we only lost by a few points, and we are hoping to reverse the verdict this year.

"D" COMPANY.

This quarter has been a comparatively quiet one; not that we have been idle, far from it. We have held an N.C.Os.' Class and a Light Automatic Course for first-year Lewis gunners and trained recruits. We are waiting for the N.C.Os.' promotion examination with interest, as we hope to show an improvement on last year's good results. The Light Automatic Course was also a success, judging by the results, the three best results being 95, 88 and 83 out of 100.

On Sunday, 27th October, we attended Matins at Hendon Parish Church, marching to the church and back headed by the Drums. This parade was a new venture, but we are hoping to make it an annual event in future.

We have acquired another cup for competition within the Company. Our C.S.M., to commemorate his Jubilee Medal, has given the Company a cup, and it is to be awarded to the N.C.O. gaining the greatest number of marks in an examination (to be held in December each year) in tactics, map-reading and organization. Cpl. Heath was the first winner of this new cup, of which we are very proud.

We had our usual Christmas Shoot. Fog attempted to ruin it, but we gather that no prize-winner failed to attend and receive his prize. Probably the smell of the succulent turkeys, geese, hams, legs

of pork and other delicacies guided these prize-winners through the fog. We are glad it did, as good food might otherwise have been wasted.

We have left to the end what is probably the most important item of news, namely, the return of Mr. Gray to "D" Company. We most heartily welcome him, and hope that his stay with us will be long.



THE TARANAKI REGIMENT NOTES.

LIEUT.-COL. F. S. VARNHAM, M.C., E.D., Officer Commanding 1st Bn. The Taranaki Regiment, has instructed me to write to you concerning a matter referred to in your letter of 11th September, 1935, to him.

You were good enough to ask for some historical and photographic records of our Regiment. A few years ago I, myself, forwarded to the Editor of THE DIE-HARDS Journal an historical record of our Regiment and an album of photos, some dealing with our own activities and some touching the history of the 57th Regiment in Taranaki. I received a letter of acknowledgment from Major Wollocombe, M.C., who stated that the material had been placed in the Museum. We had hoped that the Editor would use some of the material for the JOURNAL. Perhaps you would care to investigate the collection.

Since that time the Taranaki Regiment has progressed very well, and has extended its recruiting centres.

In February, 1935, we entered a Brigade Camp at Waipukurau with the other regiments of the 2nd New Zealand Infantry Brigade—The Wellington Regiment, The Wellington West Coast Regiment, and The Hawke's Bay Regiment.

Our Regiment gained the highly coveted Brigade Cup for the most efficient regiment, missed the Special Guard Mounting Cup by a few points, and swept the field in the Brigade athletic contests, gaining 59 points—our nearest competitor gaining 19 points.

In March, 1936, at the termination of our annual training camp, we are to have

our new Colours presented to us. We have requested His Excellency the Governor-General to make the presentation. If he is unable to do so Major-General Sir William L. H. Sinclair-Burgess Kt., C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., the G.O.C. New Zealand Military Forces will act in his stead. The ceremony will take place at Pukekura Park, New Plymouth, on 22nd March. Should any officers or men of the Middlesex Regiment be in New Zealand at that time we shall be deeply honoured if they can be present. I enclose a photo of our Colours which have recently arrived from London. By special permission we have been granted the right to have a representation of Mount Egmont (our badge) as centre.

You will notice among our battle honours that of "New Zealand." We are extremely proud of this honour, as we are the only regiment of New Zealand who carry it. Our motto "*Primus in armis*" is also very significant to us, as we were the first purely volunteer force in the British Empire to come under fire.

Early next year we will publish a special Colour number of our magazine, "*Primus in Armis*," and we would deeply appreciate any official communication from The Middlesex Regiment (Duke of Cambridge's Own) for insertion.

On the occasion of our first receiving Colours the 57th Regiment paraded with our Regiment, then known as the Taranaki Rifle Volunteers. The following paragraph is taken from our official history: "A red-letter day in the history of the Rifles was Tuesday, June 25th, 1861, when the Corps was presented with Colours. The ceremony was to have taken place on the 18th inst. (Waterloo Day), but was postponed owing to the inclemency of the weather.

"The Militia and Volunteers mustered on the parade ground, Poverty Flat, at 9 a.m., and after some preliminary drill were joined at 10.45 a.m. by the 57th with their Colours and Band, under the command of Major Butler. The Militia and Volunteers, under Major Herbert, were ranged in six divisions. Volunteers made up from Nos. 1 and 2 Companies, under Captain Atkinson, were Escort for Colours. The 57th, in divisions, formed in front and rear of the Militia. The

Colours, in charge of Sergeant Free (Volunteer Rifles) and Sergeant Donolly (Militia), were placed in front of the Brigade with the drums belonging to the Taranaki Regiment of Militia, and a guard of four men and a sergeant of the 57th was placed as sentries over the Colours.

"Mrs. Warre, wife of Colonel Warre, C.B., of the 57th Regiment, Commanding the Province of Taranaki, who had kindly consented to present the Colours, arrived on the ground with His Honour the Superintendent at 11 a.m., preceded a short time before by Colonel Warre, when the 57th and Militia wheeled into line, detachments of Royal Artillery, under Captain Stover, and Royal Engineers, in charge of Sergeant Howatt, on the extreme right and left of the Brigade. The 57th, on each flank of the Militia, now threw their right and left shoulders forward—the right wing commanded by Major Butler and the left wing by Major St. Clair—and formed a three-sided square, the spectators, with Mrs. Warre between the Colours, in front and centre, the escort marching forward at the same time, and wheeling to the left and halting to the right of the Colours . . ."

In conclusion, may we extend to the Commanding Officer, officers, N.C.Os. and men of The Middlesex Regiment the compliments of the Christmas and New Year season from the Taranaki Regiment.



CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of "The Die-Hards."

COLONELS AND COLOURS OF THE 77TH REGIMENT (THE POT HOOKS).

PART II.

Before beginning on the above, I should like to make three small additions to my article on the "Colonels and Colours of the 57th Regiment," viz., that the 57th Regiment (called Arabians Regiment) was raised at Manchester in 1755, under the number of 59th, but this was changed to 57th one year later, when the Regiment was at Gibraltar.

Secondly, that the old Colours of the 57th Regiment, which were carried in the

Zulu War, are now in the Officers' Mess, 1st Bn. The Middlesex Regiment, and not, as stated, in the Middlesex Guild Hall.

Thirdly, that two of the Colonels of the 57th Regiment served at different periods of their lives in the 77th Regiment, viz., Lieut.-General Lord Hutchinson was Lieutenant-Colonel of the 77th Atholl Highlanders till it was disbanded in 1783, when he was placed on half-pay, and General Sir Hew Dalrymple, Bt., served as a Major in the 77th Regiment until promoted Lieutenant-Colonel of the 68th Regiment in 1781.

COLONELS OF THE 77TH REGIMENT.

First, James Marsh, who raised the 77th Regiment on 12th October, 1787, and was its first Colonel. Being afterwards promoted Lieutenant-General in 1803, on his death in 1804 he was succeeded by Lieut.-General Albermale Bertie the same year. He was followed in 1807 by Lieut.-General The Earl of Cavan, who held it until 1811, when Lieut.-General Sir Charles Hastings succeeded him. In the same year (1811) Lieut.-General Sir Thomas Picton, G.C.B. (Peninsula and Waterloo Medals), was appointed as Colonel. The Regiment had served under him in the Peninsular War, and he was present with them at the Battle of El Bodon, when the Regiment, together with the 5th Fusiliers, so greatly distinguished themselves. Sir Thomas Picton was killed at the Battle of Waterloo, and was succeeded the same year (1815) by Major-General Sir George Cooke (Peninsula and Waterloo Medals) as Colonel, who held it till 1834, when he was succeeded by Major-General Sir Archibald Campbell, Bt., G.C.B. In 1840, Lieut.-General Sir John MacLeod, C.B., K.C.H., followed him as Colonel, and held it till 1851, when he was succeeded by Lieut.-General Sir George Brown, K.C.B. In 1854, Lieut.-General George Leigh Goldie was appointed Colonel, and was followed in 1861 by Lieut.-General Henry Lord Rokeby, K.C.B., who held it for ten years, when General Henry Hope Graham, C.B., became Colonel in 1871, he being the last Colonel of the 77th Regiment, as on the amalgamation of the two regiments in 1881 as the Middlesex Regiment each

Battalion retained its own Colonel until 1886, when, on General Graham's death, General Sir Edward Alan Holdich, K.C.B., then Colonel of the 57th Regiment, became Colonel of the Middlesex Regiment, and retained it until 1897, when he was succeeded by General Sir George H. S. Willis, G.C.B., being followed in 1900 by Hon. Lieut.-General Henry Kent, who had previously commanded the 77th Regiment for ten years. On his death in 1921 General Sir Ivor Maxie, K.C.B., was appointed Colonel, and on his retiring in 1932 he was followed by Hon. Brig.-General R. M. Heath, C.M.G., D.S.O., our present Colonel, he being the seventeenth Colonel in 150 years.

COLONELS-IN-CHIEF OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT.

During the past thirty-seven years the Regiment has been honoured by having had two Royal Colonels-in-Chief, first in 1898, when Field-Marshal H.R.H. The Duke of Cambridge, then Commander-in-Chief of the British Army, was appointed by Her Majesty Queen Victoria as Colonel-in-Chief of the 77th Regiment, and remained so until his death in 1904. On the unveiling of a statue to his memory in Whitehall by His Majesty King Edward VII, the Regiment, then being quartered at Southsea, was represented by a detachment forming part of the Guard of Honour.

In 1921, H.R.H. The Prince of Wales was appointed by His Majesty King George V as Colonel-in-Chief of the Middlesex Regiment (D.C.O.), and during the Silver Jubilee year we were still honoured by His Royal Highness still retaining the appointment.

COLOURS OF THE 77TH REGIMENT.

The first set of Colours were presented by Col. James Marsh at Dover in 1788, when the Regiment embarked for India. The second record of Colours being presented was in 1807, when they were presented by the East India Company at Chatham. The third record is in 1835, on the anniversary of the Battle of El Bodon, when Colours were presented by Major-General Sir P. Stuart at Glasgow. Where these three sets of old Colours now lie I have been unable to ascertain.

The next occasion was at Woolwich on the 4th May, 1876, when H.R.H. The Duke of Cambridge made the presentation, and on that occasion Her Majesty Queen Victoria approved of the 77th Regiment being in future designated the Duke of Cambridge's Own Regiment, and later on permission was given for the Duke's Coronet and Cypher to be borne on the Regimental Colours.

The old Colours which had been carried through the Crimea were deposited in St. Paul's Cathedral, and now hang over the Regimental Monument to the officers and men who fell in that war.

The next set of Colours was presented at Ahmednagar on the 15th July, 1925, by Lieut.-General Sir Claud W. Jacob, K.C.B., C-in-C. in India, and on the return of the Regiment to England the old Colours were deposited in the Middlesex Guild Hall.

It may be of interest to the readers of THE DIE-HARDS Journal to know how the Prince of Wales's plume became the badge of the 77th Regiment. In 1810, on 24th February, the Regiment received the King's permission (George III) to wear the plume of the Prince of Wales on its Colours and appointments. The badge had been worn by the Regiment for some time previously, and the Colonel (Lord Cavan) had applied for its retention by the Corps.

The following extract from the records of the 77th Regiment is of great interest:—"By a happy coincidence it fell the lot of the Regiment to form the first guard which had ever mounted over the person of H.R.H. The Prince of Wales (afterwards King Edward VII) on the occasion of H.R.H. proceeding, unaccompanied by the Queen and Prince Consort, from Osborne to Windsor on 13th October, 1849, when the Standard of the Prince of Wales was first displayed since the reign of King George III. The young Prince seeing his own plume emblazoned upon the Queen's Colour was pleased to command that the Colour should be brought to him to look at, which was accordingly done by Major Egerton, who commanded the guard."

The Colours of the 3rd and 4th Middlesex Regiment were presented, those of

the 4th Battalion by H.R.H. The Duke of Cambridge, at Wellington Barracks, London, on the 25th June, 1902, when the Battalion was stationed at Aldershot, and those of the 3rd Battalion were presented at Middelburg, Transvaal, on the 3rd February, 1904, by the High Commissioner, His Excellency Lord Milner.

In 1922, on the disbandment of these two Battalions their Colours were deposited in the Middlesex Guild Hall.

G. W. W. S.

CANNINGTON,

NEAR PERTH,

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

12th September, 1935.

To the Editor of "The Die-Hards."

DEAR SIR,

On looking through the August Journal, I noticed that in the letter written by G. W. W. S. no mention is made of the Colours presented to the 1st Battalion at Allahabad by Lord Minto, the Viceroy of India—when Col. L. G. Oliver was in command—in, I think, 1910 or 1911.

These Colours replaced those received in 1867.

What I particularly want to write to you about is the next letter.

"Extract from a letter dated 22nd May, 1935, from Mr. J. C. Coughlan, of Victoria."

The picture in the Art Gallery at Perth does not represent men of the 57th Regiment. As far as I know, no part of the 57th was at any time in Western Australia. I live near Perth, and have seen this picture. A copy was published in 1929 by a local paper, *The Western Mail*. There are four naval officers, two military officers, a lady with an axe, a squad of soldiers, and a Colour.

The picture represents the foundation of the City of Perth in 1829, and the soldiers belong to the 63rd Regiment.

Major (not Ensign) Edmund Lockyer came here from New South Wales in 1826 with a detachment of the 39th Regiment. He landed and formed a settlement at Albany, some few hundred miles from Perth. Major Lockyer joined the 57th as a Major from the 19th Regiment.

He afterwards settled in New South Wales, and his son, Sir Nicholas Lockyer, only died a few years ago.

Both Major Lockyer and his son seem to have spent the greater part of their lives in New South Wales.

Mr. Coughlan writes from Victoria, and *The Star* is not a Western Australian paper. Hence the apparent errors. Had this picture represented the 57th I should have sent you a copy, and I should like a copy of No. 10, Volume II, of the *Journal* referred to in the letter if you will please send me one.

The Perth Historical Society are very keen on matters connected with the early history of the State, and only recently this Society spoke of raising a monument of some sort to the memory of the 63rd Regiment, which was associated with the foundation of the city.

And now, Mr. Editor, would you mind Dan Tierney (late Band Sergeant, 1st Battalion) and myself sending our salaams to any old friends of the 1st Battalion who may remember us through your columns, and not forgetting Jim Mooney, who was an old soldier in 1886, when we joined.

Yours faithfully,
T. W. HAMMOND,
late R.Q.M.S., 1st Battalion.

CHARLEMONT FORT,
MOY, CO. TYRONE,
6th January, 1936.

To the Editor of "*The Die-Hards*."

SIR,

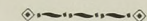
Permit me, through the columns of your much-read journal, to offer my congratulations to Mr. Stephens for his contribution in your November issue re an incident at Dymchurch in 1885. His clear and very accurate account brought back memories of an event which I well remember. I was present with the Regiment on that memorable occasion. We were, as he states, on our way to Camp Lydd for a course of musketry. I saw the old man referred to in his paragraph, and for his years he had still a nice military appearance, and it was quite easy

to distinguish him from amongst his civilian friends around him.

He was delighted when he ascertained that we were his old regiment in which he had served. He received the hearty congratulations of all ranks, and I can well remember his great excitement when he heard the word *Die-Hard* mentioned during the interview. But let me say here, it is a word that all 57th men feel proud of. Then again, I remember our deep regret when we had learned that he had passed away before 16th May (Albuhera Day).

Now, in conclusion, permit me to compliment Mr. Stephens on his clever article which, in fact, refreshed my memory and brought back vivid recollections of my earliest service with the Colours.

I am, sir,
Yours, etc.,
JAMES MOONEY.



OBITUARY.

EX-R.S.M. VALENTINE EDWARD RICE.

We regret to have to announce the death of this Old Comrade at Hounslow, on 16th December, 1935.

Son of the late Clr.-Sergt. T. E. Rice, he was born in the Regiment and enlisted on 10th November, 1896 (No. 4978). He served with the Regiment in the South African War, being in possession of both the Queen's and King's Medals.

In 1914 he was serving with the 1st Battalion at Woolwich and proceeded with it, as one of the Old Contemptibles, to France, where he took part in the retreat from Mons.

Rice was awarded the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal.

The funeral took place at Hounslow Cemetery on 20th December, when a bugler from the Depot attended with a wreath from the Regimental Association.

We offer our sincere sympathy to his widow.

EX-PRIVATE EDWARD PEMBER.

The above-named Old Comrade, aged 54, died on Armistice Day last in Hanwell Cottage Hospital, but the news of his death reached us only recently.

Pember enlisted at 18 years of age and served with the 1st Battalion in Burma. On taking his discharge he obtained employment with the Burma Oil Company, but later returned to England and entered the Post Office service as assistant postman at West Ealing.

Recalled to the Colours in 1914, Pember went to France with the 1st Battalion, and was taken prisoner during the retreat from Mons. After the war he resumed his occupation as postman at Ealing.

Our sincere sympathy goes to the bereaved relatives.

EX-PRIVATE A. P. FLETCHER,

No. 6196005.

This young Old Comrade died on 12th November last in St. Charles Hospital, North Kensington; aged 29.

Fletcher enlisted on 8th January, 1924, and served most of his time with the 2nd Battalion in India. He was transferred to the Reserve, in which he was serving to the date of his death, on 12th December, 1931. He was buried at Paddington Cemetery on 19th November, when a bugler from the Depot attended with a wreath.

We offer our sincere sympathy to his relatives.

EX-SERGEANT JOHN ILOTT
(8810).

Another Old Contemptible, John Ilott, died at Teddington on 30th November, aged 49 years. A Middlesex man born and bred, he enlisted at the age of 17, and served nine years with the Colours, most of which was in the 2nd Battalion.

As a reservist he joined the 4th Battalion and proceeded with it to France in 1914, where he was severely wounded. He was buried at Teddington on 5th December last, when a bugler from the Depot attended with a wreath from the Regimental Association.

To his widow and only son we offer our deepest sympathy.



* In possession of First Class Certificate of Education.
** In possession of Army Special Certificate of Education.

Rank and Name.	Date of present promotion or appointment.	Rank and Name.	Date of present promotion or appointment.
L./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. Whipps ...	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. Savagar ...	10/1/35
L./Cpl. W. Tatt ...	17/6/33	L./Cpl. L. Franklin ...	10/1/35
L./Cpl. F. Hammond ...	29/6/33	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.	Date of present promotion or appointment.	Rank and Name.	Date of present promotion or appointment.
*R.S.M. C. Davis ...	Depot 13/4/29	*C./Sgt. E. Jones ...	2nd 15/11/32 (Sgt. 1/3/25)
*R.S.M. W. Ward, M.M. ...	2nd 18/3/31		
*Bdmr. C. Dennis, A.R.C.M. ...	2nd 25/3/33	*C./Sgt. F. Franklin ...	2nd 8/9/33 (Sgt. 20/3/28)
*R.Q.M.S. E. Crouch ...	Depot (C.S.M. 1/9/24)		
*R.Q.M.S. W. Fletcher ...	2nd 31/1/30	*C. Sgt. G. Sherriff ...	2nd 24/8/35 (Sgt. 9/12/29)
*O.R.Q.M.S. B. Baldwin ...	Depot 2/7/30		
*C.S.M. G. Goodall ...	2nd 4/6/25	*C. Sgt. (O.R.S.) C. Deane ...	2nd 10/6/35 (Sgt. 10/6/32)
*C.S.M. J. Hart ...	9th 20/1/26		
*C.S.M. C. Cook, D.C.M. ...	2nd 15/8/26	*Sgt. R. Colbourne ...	Depot 6/10/23
*C.S.M. F. Peck ...	2nd 18/2/29	Sgt. J. Beaveridge ...	2nd 28/1/25
*C.S.M. H. Farrow ...	2nd 16/1/31	*Sgt. S. Mason ...	2nd 2/2/26
*C.S.M. S. Anderson ...	Depot 20/10/30	Sgt. S. Bishop ...	7th 24/11/27
*C.S.M. H. Hewett ...	8th 19/4/32	Sgt. H. Sneath ...	2nd 15/12/27
*C.S.M. L. Simmonds ...	9th 3/9/32	*Drum-Major H. Poulter ...	2nd 13/10/28
*C.S.M. R. Mewett ...	7th 23/3/33	*Sgt. H. Short, M.M. ...	2nd 21/2/29
*C.S.M. A. Wright ...	8th 24/2/34	Sgt. A. Boen ...	9th 13/4/29
*C.S.M. A. Jones ...	2nd 1/5/34	Sgt. R. King ...	Supnmy., Fire Bde., Bordon 5/7/29
*C.S.M. C. Donaldson ...	2nd 15/6/35		
C./Sgt. L. Hills ...	Depot 2/11/26 (Sgt. 5/4/19)	Sgt. F. Nash ...	2nd 11/12/29
C./Sgt. W. West ...	2nd 22/2/28 (Sgt. 12/3/19)	*Sgt. W. Northcott ...	Depot 25/2/30
*C./Sgt. F. Stacey ...	2nd 3/9/32 (Sgt. 2/2/28)	*Sgt. W. Tibble ...	2nd 17/10/30
		*Sgt. C. Soper ...	Depot 17/12/30
		*Sgt. W. Green ...	2nd 27/12/30
		Sgt. C. Kennett ...	2nd 16/1/31

* In possession of First Class Certificate of Education.

** In possession of Army Special Certificate of Education.

Rank and Name.	Battalion.	Date of present promotion or appointment.	Rank and Name.	Battalion.	Date of present promotion or appointment.
Sgt. J. Quick ...	2nd	23/4/31	Cpl. E. Soden ...	2nd	3/5/33
*Sgt. W. Kemp ...	Depot	19/1/32	*Cpl. D. Chapman ...	2nd	15/8/33
*Sgt. R. Parsler ...	2nd	1/4/32	Cpl. E. Fuller ...	2nd	8/9/33
Sgt. J. Harper ...	2nd	19/4/32	Cpl. R. Harman ...	2nd	25/10/33
*Sgt. C. Trestain ...	8th	14/6/32	*Cpl. G. Grant ...	2nd	15/4/34
Sgt. J. Ramsey ...	7th	23/6/32	Cpl. C. Carpenter ...	2nd	10/5/34
*Sgt. S. Smith ...	2nd	30/7/32	Cpl. T. Sargent ...	2nd	10/5/34
*Sgt. R. Smith ...	2nd	2/9/32	Cpl. J. Stickley ...	2nd	10/6/34
Sgt. J. Scott ...	2nd	3/9/32	Cpl. W. Smith ...	2nd	17/6/34
*Sgt. L. Johnson ...	Depot	15/11/32	Cpl. W. Powell ...	Depot	2/10/34
Sgt. W. Bean ...	2nd	23/3/33	Cpl. A. Drake ...	2nd	3/2/35
Sgt. F. Housden ...	Depot	3/5/33	*Cpl. S. Copelin ...	2nd	1/3/35
Sgt. R. Wilson ...	2nd	8/7/33	Cpl. R. Stretton ...	2nd	16/3/35
*Sgt. H. Ison ...	2nd	10/5/34	Cpl. F. Jaques ...	2nd	20/3/35
*Sgt. J. Bond ...	2nd	17/6/34	Cpl. H. Tye ...	2nd	4/5/35
*Sgt. E. Jennings ...	2nd	1/3/35	Cpl. H. Hull ...	2nd	14/5/35
Sgt. V. Cooper ...	2nd	15/5/35	Cpl. S. Day ...	2nd	16/5/35
Sgt. A. Hows ...	2nd	15/6/35	Cpl. F. Payne ...	2nd	15/6/35
Sgt. A. Whitcombe ...	2nd	16/6/35	Cpl. B. Bruniges ...	2nd	16/6/35
Sgt. C. Bedward ...	2nd	24/8/35	Cpl. W. Broadbridge ...	2nd	22/8/35
Sgt. G. Newstead ...	2nd	31/8/35	Cpl. H. Eastland ...	2nd	24/8/35
Cpl. A. Brett ...	2nd	28/1/30	Cpl. F. Hiscocks ...	2nd	31/8/35
Cpl. F. Livens ...	Depot	20/1/31 (L./Sgt. 2/9/32)	*Cpl. B. Baldwin ...	2nd	18/10/35
*Cpl. R. Jenkins ...	2nd	17/2/31			
Cpl. E. Moir ...	Depot	20/2/31 (L./Sgt. 20/3/34)	Paid:—		
Cpl. H. Ramsden ...	2nd	1/4/31 (L./Sgt. 8/7/35)	L./Cpl. J. O'Neill ...	2nd	5/8/32
Cpl. S. Moore ...	2nd	28/12/31 (L./Sgt. 8/9/33)	L./Cpl. W. Patterson ...	2nd	13/10/32
Cpl. F. Gribble ...	Depot	19/1/32	L./Cpl. R. Weaver ...	2nd	23/11/32
*Cpl. H. Frewin ...	2nd	18/2/32 (L./Sgt. 10/5/34)	L./Cpl. A. Eldrett ...	Depot	23/11/32
*Cpl. H. Dujardin ...	Depot	27/3/32 (L./Sgt. 17/7/34)	L./Cpl. C. Armitage ...	2nd	3/1/33
Cpl. E. Bennett ...	2nd	1/4/32 (L./Sgt. 1/3/35)	L./Cpl. A. Ball ...	2nd	7/5/33
*Cpl. P. Maloney ...	2nd	1/6/32 (L./Sgt. 15/5/35)	L./Cpl. A. Ellwood ...	2nd	22/6/33
Cpl. (O.R.C.) J. Wright	2nd	13/6/32 (Unpaid L./Sgt. 3/4/34)	L./Cpl. G. Blackman ...	Depot	5/7/33
*Cpl. R. Overy ...	2nd	14/6/32 (L./Sgt. 15/5/35)	L./Cpl. A. Etheridge ...	2nd	5/7/33
Cpl. R. Smallridge ...	2nd	14/6/32 (L./Sgt. 15/6/35)	L./Cpl. J. Lawrence ...	2nd	8/7/33
Cpl. F. Hawkins ...	Depot	28/6/32 (L./Sgt. 16/6/35)	L./Cpl. A. Read ...	2nd	11/7/33
Cpl. W. Day ...	Depot	5/8/32	L./Cpl. H. Griffiths ...	2nd	18/7/33
Cpl. C. Gatehouse ...	2nd	6/8/32 (L./Sgt. 24/8/35)	L./Cpl. F. Gilbert ...	2nd	2/9/33
*Cpl. H. Parnell ...	Depot	17/8/32 (L./Sgt. 31/8/35)	L./Cpl. F. Lavalette ...	2nd	8/9/33
Cpl. W. Makewell ...	2nd	17/8/32	L./Cpl. J. Collision ...	2nd	17/9/33
Cpl. J. Riches ...	2nd	19/8/32	L./Cpl. J. O'Doherty ...	2nd	28/9/33
Cpl. W. Poulter ...	Depot	3/9/32	L./Cpl. W. Lovell ...	Depot	25/10/33
Cpl. H. Buckland ...	2nd	15/10/32	*L./Cpl. R. Lomax ...	2nd	28/10/33
Cpl. H. Elcome ...	2nd	16/11/32	L./Cpl. G. Clarke ...	2nd	5/12/33
*Cpl. H. Marshall ...	2nd	14/1/33	L./Cpl. V. Bint ...	2nd	25/1/34
Cpl. F. Knights ...	Depot	1/2/33	L./Cpl. J. West ...	2nd	27/1/34
Cpl. J. Burgess ...	2nd	3/2/33	L./Cpl. C. Kenny ...	Depot	17/2/34
Cpl. F. Knight ...	2nd	15/3/33	L./Cpl. J. Hinch ...	2nd	18/2/34
Cpl. W. Evans ...	2nd	15/3/33	L./Cpl. S. Parry ...	Depot	6/4/34
Cpl. W. McEnery ...	2nd	15/3/33	*L./Cpl. R. Cummins ...	2nd	14/4/34
Cpl. J. Bromley ...	Depot	15/3/33	L./Cpl. A. Lowe ...	2nd	15/4/34
*Cpl. A. Wray ...	Depot	23/3/33	L./Cpl. L. Harris ...	2nd	29/4/34
			L./Cpl. J. Walker ...	Depot	2/5/34
			L./Cpl. L. Delaney ...	2nd	10/6/34
			L./Cpl. N. Rae ...	2nd	17/6/34
			L./Cpl. P. Cain ...	2nd	22/6/34
			L./Cpl. A. Bettell ...	2nd	11/7/34
			L./Cpl. A. Blan ...	2nd	2/10/34
			L./Cpl. G. Stanton ...	2nd	12/11/34
			L./Cpl. C. Marsh ...	2nd	3/2/35
			L./Cpl. C. Peasley ...	2nd	3/2/35
			L./Cpl. G. Hockley ...	2nd	20/2/35
			L./Cpl. R. Williams ...	2nd	1/3/35
			L./Cpl. J. Davis ...	2nd	16/3/35
			*L./Cpl. H. Page ...	2nd	20/3/35
			L./Cpl. W. Nicholls ...	2nd	20/3/35
			L./Cpl. H. Outten ...	2nd	20/3/35

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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. E. Fletcher ...	2nd	16/5/35	L./Cpl. B. Courtney...	2nd	4/3/35
L./Cpl. M. Troabas ...	2nd	15/6/35	L./Cpl. W. Hamlin ...	2nd	15/3/35
L./Cpl. G. Robins ...	2nd	16/6/35	L./Cpl. C. Martin ...	2nd	29/4/35
L./Cpl. J. Smith ...	2nd	13/7/35	L./Cpl. A. Lawrence ...	2nd	29/4/35
*L./Cpl. C. Jarvis ...	2nd	16/8/35	*L./Cpl. N. Islip ...	2nd	4/5/35
**L./Cpl. D. McCarthy, R.M.A. Woolwich	21/8/35		L./Cpl. L. Thurston ...	2nd	17/5/35
L./Cpl. H. Clay ...	2nd	22/8/35	L./Cpl. J. Riseley ...	2nd	15/7/35
L./Cpl. A. Bursill ...	2nd	24/8/35	L./Cpl. L. Du-Heaume ...	2nd	22/7/35
L./Cpl. G. McKay ...	2nd	31/8/35	L./Cpl. H. Burchell ...	2nd	22/7/35
L./Cpl. A. Rose ...	2nd	24/9/35	*L./Cpl. D. Mules ...	2nd	30/7/35
*L./Cpl. H. Jennings ...	2nd	12/10/35	L./Cpl. D. Cavill ...	2nd	25/9/35
L./Cpl. F. Pryor ...	2nd	18/10/35	L./Cpl. J. Robinson ...	2nd	4/10/35
*L./Cpl. W. O'Conner ...	2nd	3/12/35	L./Cpl. H. Jennings ...	2nd	4/10/35
Unpaid:—			L./Cpl. F. Hogg ...	2nd	15/10/35
L./Cpl. A. Thompson ...	2nd	9/7/34	L./Cpl. E. Tarr ...	2nd	21/10/35
L./Cpl. S. Jones ...	2nd	13/7/34	L./Cpl. W. Belchamber ...	2nd	28/10/35
L./Cpl. A. Pace ...	2nd	30/7/34	L./Cpl. S. Weller ...	2nd	28/10/35
L./Cpl. F. Collman ...	2nd	15/8/34	L./Cpl. A. Morley ...	2nd	28/10/35
*L./Cpl. P. Davidson ...	2nd	19/9/34	L./Cpl. T. McDavitt ...	2nd	9/12/35
*L./Cpl. F. Chaplin ...	2nd	26/9/34	L./Cpl. A. Hudson ...	2nd	11/12/35
L./Cpl. R. Barrett ...	2nd	10/10/34	L./Cpl. L. Graham ...	2nd	11/12/35
L./Cpl. R. Wigg ...	2nd	5/12/34	L./Cpl. J. Dare ...	2nd	11/12/35
L./Cpl. R. White ...	2nd	6/12/34	L./Cpl. H. Hinton ...	2nd	16/12/35
L./Cpl. E. Stebbing ...	2nd	6/12/34	L./Cpl. P. Sturdy ...	2nd	16/12/35
L./Cpl. G. Bignell ...	2nd	6/12/34	L./Cpl. F. Ayres ...	2nd	16/12/35
L./Cpl. A. Rivitt ...	2nd	19/12/34	L./Cpl. W. Phipps ...	2nd	2/1/36
L./Cpl. G. Palmer ...	2nd	11/2/35	L./Cpl. E. Haynes ...	2nd	2/1/36
L./Cpl. G. Tattam ...	2nd	11/2/35	L./Cpl. B. Irons ...	2nd	2/1/36
L./Cpl. S. Matthews ...	2nd	13/2/35	L./Cpl. A. Rimmer ...	2nd	2/1/36

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