



# THE DIE-HARDS

*The Journal of*

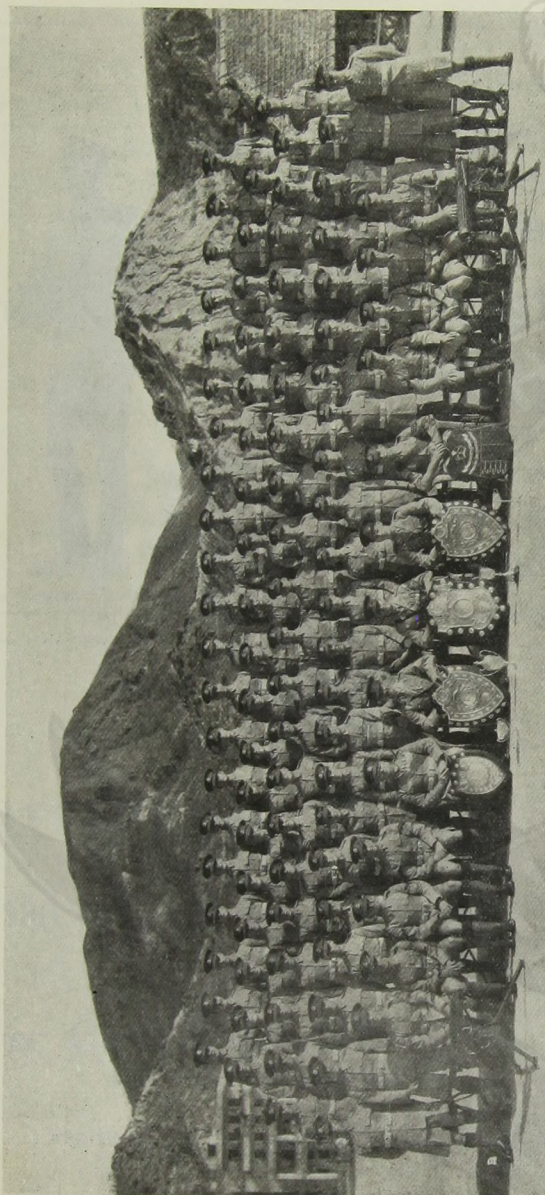
THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT

*(Duke of Cambridge's Own)*

## May 1938

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"A" (S.) COMPANY, 1ST. BATTALION THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT  
(Prior to Reorganization as a M.G. Battalion)

# THE DIE-HARDS

## THE JOURNAL OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT

(Duke of Cambridge's Own)

VOL. VI. No. 4

MAY, 1938

PRICE 9D.

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

[57]

Home Counties Area.

The Plume of the Prince of Wales. In each of the four corners the late Duke of Cambridge's Cypher and Coronet.  
"Mysore," "Serangapatam," "Albuhera," "Ciudad Rodrigo," "Badajoz," "Vittoria," "Pyrenees," "Nivelle," "Nive,"  
"Peninsula," "Alma," "Inkerman," "Sevastopol," "New Zealand," "South Africa, 1879," "Relief of Ladysmith," "South  
Africa, 1900-02."

The Great War—46 Battalions—"Mons," "Le Cateau," "Retreat from Mons," "Marne, 1914," "Aisne, 1914," "La Bassée,"  
1914," "Messines, 1914," "17," "18," "Armentières, 1914," "Neuve Chapelle," "Ypres, 1915," "17," "18," "Gravenstafel," "St. Julien,"  
"Frezenberg," "Bellewaarde," "Aubers," "Hooge, 1915," "Loos," "Somme, 1916," "18," "Albert, 1916," "18," "Bazentin,"  
"Delville Wood," "Pozières," "Ginchy," "Fiers-Courcellette," "Morval," "Thiepval," "Le Transloy," "Ancre Heights,"  
"Ancre, 1916," "18," "Bapaume, 1917," "18," "Arras, 1917," "18," "Vimy, 1917," "Scarpe, 1917," "18," "Arleux," "Pikem,"  
"Langemarck, 1917," "Menin Road," "Polygon Wood," "Broodseinde," "Poelcappelle," "Passchendaele," "Cambrai, 1917,"  
"18," "St. Quentin," "Rosières," "Avre," "Villers Bretonneux," "Lys," "Estaires," "Hazebrouck," "Bailleul," "Kemmel,"  
"Scherpenberg," "Hindenburg Line," "Canal du Nord," "St. Quentin Canal," "Courtrai," "Selle," "Valenciennes,"  
"Sambre," "France and Flanders, 1914-18," "Italy, 1917-18," "Siruma," "Doiran, 1918," "Macedonia, 1915-18," "Suva,"  
"Landing at Suvla," "Scimitar Hill," "Gallipoli, 1915," "Rumani," "Egypt, 1915-17," "Gaza," "El Mughar," "Jerusalem,"  
"Jericho," "Jordan," "Tell 'Asur," "Palestine, 1917-18," "Mesopotamia, 1917-18," "Muran, 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) .. .. .	Hong Kong.
2nd Bn. (77th Foot) .. .. .	Gosport.
5th Bn. (R. Elthorne Mil.) ..	Mill Hill.
6th Bn. (R. East Middlesex Mil.) ..	Mill Hill.
Depot—Mill Hill.	Record and Pay Office—Hounslow.

#### Territorial Army Battalions.

7th Bn. ..	"The Elms," Priory Road, Hornsey, N.8.
8th Bn. ..	Drill Hall, Hanworth Road, Hounslow.
9th Bn. ..	Drill Hall, Pound Lane, Willesden, N.W.10.
Princess Louise's Kensington Regiment ..	Iverna Gardens, Kensington, W.8.

#### Amalgamated Anti-Aircraft Units of the Territorial Army.

32nd (7th City of London) Anti-Aircraft Battalion, R.E.	24, Sun Street, Finsbury Square, E.C.2.
33rd (St. Pancras) Anti-Aircraft Battalion, R.E.	76, High Street, Camden Town, N.W.1.

#### Allied Regiments of Canadian Militia.

The Wentworth Regiment .. .. .	Dundas, Ontario.
The Middlesex and Huron Regiment ..	Strathroy, Ontario.
The Prince of Wales Rangers (Peterborough Rgt.) (M.G.) ..	Peterborough, Ontario.

#### Allied Battalion of Australian Infantry.

57th Battalion .. .. .	Preston.
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#### Allied Regiment of New Zealand Military Forces.

The Taranaki Regiment .. .. .	New Plymouth.
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#### Colonel:

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

#### Officer Commanding Depot:

Major H. Phillips, M.C.

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## NOTICE TO CONTRIBUTORS, &amp;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."

A limited stock of back numbers are available which can be obtained on application to the Editor, price 9d. post free.

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

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION 3/- (Post Free).

## EDITORIAL



IT is notified for information that the Battlefield Tour, which was suggested for Whitsuntide, has been cancelled, as only one member has made application to attend.

\* \* \*

THE OLD COMRADES' DINNER this year will be held at the Drill Hall of the 8th (1st City of London) Battalion The Royal Fusiliers, Handel Street, W.C.1, on Saturday, 12th November, at 7.30 p.m. We hope that readers will do all they can to increase the attendance.

\* \* \*

It is proposed in future issues to print, after Extracts from the *London Gazette*, a list of Births, Marriages and Deaths of Officers and their families. Will Sub-Editors and other contributors help the Editor by letting him have any names for inclusion in this list which may from time to time come to their knowledge?

## OFFICERS' CLUB NOTES

### PROCEEDINGS OF A COMMITTEE MEETING

HELD AT THE CENTRAL LONDON RECRUITING ZONE HEADQUARTERS ON 28TH JANUARY, 1938

PRESENT: Brig.-General V. L. N. Pearson, D.S.O. (in the chair), Col. M. Browne, M.C., Col. G. L. Brown, D.S.O., Lieut.-Col. W. H. Samuel, Lieut.-Col. W. W. Jefferd, Lieut.-Col. W. E. Pringle, M.C., Lieut.-Col. C. P. Rooke, D.S.O., Major R. A. Slee, Capt. J. R. B. Worton and Capt. H. E. Foster.

#### 1. MINUTES

The minutes of the last meeting were read and passed.

#### 2. ACCOUNTS FOR 1937

The accounts for 1937 were laid before the Committee and, on the motion of Col. Jefferd, seconded by Col. G. L. Brown, they were passed as audited by the auditors appointed by the Committee. (Carried.)

#### 3. DETAILED BUDGETS

The detailed budgets for the year 1938 were laid before the Committee and, on the motion of Col. Samuel, seconded by Col. G. L. Brown, they were passed, with the proviso that the Secretary instructs all Honorary Secretaries that they must make every effort to effect economies. (Carried.)

#### 4. ARMY GOLF MEETING

It was proposed by Major Slee, and seconded by Col. Jefferd, that a Regimental Team be entered for the Army Golf Meeting and that the Honorary Secretary for Golf should be allowed up to £25 towards the expenses of the members of the team. (Carried.)

#### 5. REVISED RULES

The revised rules were agreed upon and the Secretary was instructed to have them printed, subject to the approval of the Colonel of the Regiment. (Carried.)

#### 6. COMMITTEES FOR 1938

The following were elected:

Dinner.—Chairman: Col. Samuel. Members: O.C. Depot, Major Sherwood.

Cricket.—Chairman: O.C. Depot. Members: Capt. Worton (Hon. Sec.), a representative from the Home Battalion, with power to co-opt the Captain to be elected by them.

Tennis.—Chairman: The P.M.C., The Depot. Members: Capt. Scott Lowe, Capt. Miskin, Major Hogg.

Golf.—Chairman: O.C. Depot. Members: Capt. Whinney, Capt. Worton (Hon. Sec.), Major Hogg.

### ANNUAL SPRING GOLF MEETING

I wonder if Mr. Bernard Darwin is ever at a loss to know how to start or what to say when he finds himself due to produce his Saturday article for *The Times*.

I wonder if Mr. Bernard Darwin, in any innocent article or phrase in an article, is likely to start some supersensitive ass threatening libel actions, or whether *The Times* prevents him from the annoyance of such people.

I wonder whether, if Mr. Bernard Darwin were offered the appointment, rank or privilege of Honorary Cadet General in the Middlesex Cadets, he would join the Officers' Club, or write the Golf articles for *THE DIE-HARDS*. It would be a splendid idea, but, of course, he might insist on playing and there would be no scratch medal competition, merely an annual presentation of spoons to Mr. Bernard Darwin, which would seriously handicap those who are trying to accumulate a set. I suppose, therefore, my suggestion would never be passed and I must continue to perform the fatigue and insure myself against libel actions.

From this year's Spring Meeting there was one particularly noticeable absentee—Charles Whinney. The absence of such a familiar figure from the meeting would, in itself, be enough to call for much comment and regret, but the discovery that he is in Italy, without golf clubs, and armed only with a tennis racquet, caused amazement. To those who know him, it was obvious that there must be some really serious and patriotic motive for this, and, of course, it was soon realised that when Austin retired from Davis Cup tennis, Charles Whinney decided to take his place. Such patriotism, needless to say, caused great enthusiasm when announced and a telegram was immediately dispatched to him: "Golfers at Hendon expect good results Wimbledon." I understand that within a few minutes only a few £25 seats were left for his debut on the Centre Court.

As usual, the Meeting was preceded by Col. and Mrs. Samuel's Banquet, which was, as usual, a very cheerful and "House full"

affair, from which the majority retired at a respectable hour to ensure a good start next day. There was a minority of one and he, so he says, lingered on, keeping the host out of bed long after he should have retired, because he had no train until far on into the night. Next morning he tottered to the Club House, no schoolboy champion, but a weary, footsore, ancient warrior. He had got out one station too soon the night before, walked some five miles to the next station, found his car locked up and walked another 1½ miles home. When we recall previous incidents with mislaid coats, etc., we are really forced to wonder what is the matter.

This should have ensured at least one win for the "Present" in the morning and afternoon, but warriors will be warriors and by dint of using a shooting stick every ten yards or so to get the weight off his feet, the gallant Major secured two victories.

With the exception of Major Anderson and Capt. Whinney, Col. Samuel had gathered very much his usual team, but he had added one, Lieut.-Col. Hanley, whom we have not had present before and who we hope will now continue to take part.

MacIlwaine, who appears all too seldom, also took part, whilst Kempster was gathered in, having arrived home once again from Aden, and the latter celebrated his return to the scene of his former triumphs in no uncertain manner.

The "Present" were strengthened this year by the return of Major Phillips and Capt. Crawford and a considerable subtlety was also employed in pairings, with the result that, although there were many good matches and the majority were very close, a careful balance of power was maintained in favour of the "Present."

I dare not try to describe the golf I saw or heard of; this libel business, for one thing, frightens me off it and the only language I can find to describe much of it, particularly that with which I was most intimately connected, would be so shocking that it could not be printed. In any case the scores are appended and speak for themselves and it is of spectators I prefer to talk this time as, having no status, they cannot complain, for one thing.

There were, however, one or two pretty efforts which deserve mention. First, I noticed the delightful opening drive of Major Heape. Knowing that his partner was a new-comer to the meeting, whilst he himself



was a steady seven rounds a week golfer and a regular attender of Regimental meetings, he thought to put his partner at ease by putting a pretty hoick on the shot and hitting the nearest tree he could find to square leg.

Another distinguished shot was produced by that young golfer of possibilities, J. W. A. Stephenson. His partner having thoughtfully teed him up well in the hedge at the back of the first green, he resorted to a pretty badminton smash.

There were many other shots, on the average 95 per person or pair per round, but they were either good shots or bad shots and need no special comment.

As one who is interested in Physical Development, I was glad to see that at least one retired Officer takes the Keep Fit Campaign seriously, and even during the course of a round of golf finds time to do a few press-ups on the green before putting.

I said I was going to talk of spectators, but I must mention that Kempster won the Scratch Medal with a display worthy of his palmy days at the Depot, whilst Ormiston, despite the absence of his corduroys, once more put up a workmanlike performance and carried off the handicap prize. For these presumptions they were reduced to 9 and 18 respectively and a very close watch is being kept on their future progress.

The Foursomes were won, thank goodness, by Lyons and Crawford—or Crawford and Lyons; anyhow, we can report that whichever did the work the result was welcome smiles which might have been broader had the Hon. Secretary not decided to change round the prizes and give spoons to the winners and mugs to the runners-up. (The Hon. Secretary needed a mug to complete his mantelpiece, and the O.C. Depot could only steer him into second place.)

For other results, see the scores below.

And now I will mention the spectators. These are of two varieties. One is the player who, although hitting a ball himself, is so busy watching others that he hasn't much time for his own ball, and the other the real spectator.

Of course, at a Regimental Meeting these consist largely of the wives and children of competitors, retired Officers and non-golfing Officers.

The first category are busy watching, as they think, their money going down the drain, but usually, although it goes down the drain all right, it is seldom the drain they are watching

and they might have saved their money had they paid more attention to their own ball.

The second category really add tone to the Meeting and it would take quite an important match in the Halford-Hewitt which would produce a better crowd than some of our own Regimental Foursomes.

Outstanding on both days, even in this large gathering, was the military figure of Col. Browne, and from afar one could only be impressed by appearances, for one only heard of the ribald remarks he made later.

Behind Col. Browne were to be seen Mrs. and the Masters Wollocombe, following the fluctuating fortunes of father and Capt. S. J. Clark.

Mrs. Samuel and son paid an all too brief visit, but apparently heard the call of the Club House and after 1½ holes retired.

Meanwhile, not far from the Club House, John Anderson was making a good imitation of a Press photographer, and Wray, when his duties of accountant allowed him, hopped from bunker to bunker and bush to bush, spreading rumours, alarm and despondency.

Mrs. Worton was also there, waiting to take the Handicap Cup away for the fifth time for a good cleaning, whilst Mrs. Pain, uninterested this time in her husband's effort, since, as a newly-fledged T.A. Adjutant, he did not, could not, or would not take part in the golf except as a spectator and pacer for Col. Browne, remained at the Club House to cheer the successful and commiserate with the less fortunate, whilst Peter Pain, like a professional boxer, issued challenges to all and sundry, which he had no intention of following up.

Mrs. Heape, as usual, flitted on to the scene for one brief hour and was seen no more.

I must have missed out a lot of spectators, because there seemed to be at least twenty round one match and I suggest that in future years stewards should be appointed and the Meeting raised to the standard of a first-class Meeting.

It is first class, of course, in its way, but numbers are increasing and it only needs frills, such as ropes round greens and stewards with flags, to make it a real championship affair.

As usual, the course was in first-class order and our thanks for a most enjoyable two days are due to Hendon Golf Club, the Honorary Secretary of the Regimental Golfing Society and the Officers of the Depot for their hospitality.



1.—At the First Tee  
2.—A nasty hard punch  
3.—A good one at the thirteenth hole  
4.—The "Present" well out



## RESULTS—FIRST DAY

## PAST versus PRESENT

## MORNING

Retired Officers	Holes Up	Present Officers	Holes Up
Heape and Hanley ..	0	Phillips and Worton	9
MacIlwaine and			
Samuel ..	0	Jefferd and Procter	0
South and Coles ..	3	Stephenson and Green	0
Cooper and Kempster	0	Crawford and Unwin	1
	3		10

## AFTERNOON

Holes Up		Holes Up	
MacIlwaine and Coles	0	Worton and Crawford	4
Heape and Cooper . .	0	Phillips and Jefferd	0
South and Samuel . .	1	Procter and Green . .	0
		Stephenson and	
Hanley and Kempster	2	Unwin . . . .	0
<hr/>		<hr/>	
Total Afternoon . .	3		4
Total Morning . .	3		10
<hr/>		<hr/>	
	6		14

Result: Present Officers won by 8 holes.

## RESULTS—SECOND DAY

## MORNING

	Score	Handicap	Total
Lieut. Ormiston ..	93	— 24	69
Capt. Kempster ..	82	— 12	70
Lieut. Hall ..	95	— 24	71
Lieut. Unwin ..	93	— 20	73
Lieut. Weston ..	93	— 20	73
Lieut.-Col. Jefferd	90	— 14	76
Major Phillips ..	83	— 6	77
Capt. Stephenson ..	85	— 8	77
Capt. Neale ..	95	— 18	77
Major Hogg ..	86	— 8	78
Capt. Worton ..	88	— 10	78
Capt. Crawford ..	88	— 9	79
Lieut. Beath ..	97	— 18	79
Capt. Cooper ..	98	— 18	80
Capt. Green ..	99	— 18	81
Capt. Heape ..	86	— 5	81
Major South ..	92	— 8	84
Lieut.-Col. Coles ..	99	— 14	85
Lieut.-Col. Fox ..	109	— 24	85
Lieut.-Col. Wollocombe	109	— 24	85
Major Procter ..	92	— 6	86
Lieut.-Col. Samuel ..	101	— 14	87
Lieut.-Col. Hanley ..	104	— 11	93
Capt. Cubitt ..	129	— 24	105

Four competitors lost their cards!

Winner of Scratch Score Prize: Capt. Kempster.

Winner of Handicap Score Prize: Lieut. Ormiston.

Runner-up, Handicap Score Prize: Capt. Kempster.

## AFTERNOON

	Strokes	Score
Capt. Crawford and Major Lyons	9	All square.
Major Phillips and Capt. Worton	7	2 down.
Major Hogg and Lieut.-Col. Fox	12	5 "
Lieut. Unwin and Lieut. Weston	15	7 "
Capt. Neale and Capt. Sutcliffe ..	12	9 "

	Strokes	Score
Lieut. Ormiston and Lieut. Beath	16	9 down
Lieut.-Col. Hanley and Lieut.-Col. Coles	9	10 "
Capt. Stephenson and Capt. Green	10	10 "
Capt. McIvor and Capt. Kempster	12	10 "
Major Procter and Lieut.-Col. Jefferd	8	11 "
Major Anderson and Lieut. Lee		
Emery ..	17	11 "
Capt. Cubitt and Lieut. Hall	18	16 "
Capt. Clark and Lieut.-Col. Wollocombe	20	16 "
Again two pairs lost their cards!		
Winners: Major Lyons and Capt. Crawford.		
Runners-up: Major Phillips and Capt. Worton.		

The Middlesex Regiment Golfing Society played the Hampstead Heathens at Knebworth on Sunday, 10th April, in the second annual fixture. Teams this year were ten a side as against eight last year.

Once again we enjoyed glorious weather, and an excellent match, which we won by 10 points to 5. At lunch time we were leading by 5½ to 4½, one or two of our "safe bets" having gone astray. In the afternoon four-ball matches we won four and halved the remaining one. Whether our side was inspired or the opposition paralysed by liberal doses of "putting mixture" it is impossible to say.

It is hoped to arrange another match in the Autumn, and so give Lieut. Weston a further chance of satisfying his ambition of crushing his opponent.

## SCORES

Hampstead Heathens	Middlesex Regiment
Cricket Club	
P. B. Berliner (3/2)	1 Major H. Phillips .. 0
L. L. Burt (2/1)	1 Major N. P. Procter .. 0
	Capt. J. W. A. Stephenson (3/2)
P. A. Newman ..	0 Capt. M. Crawford (5/4)
Hay ..	0 Capt. J. B. Worton (4/2)
R. E. Moss ..	0 Major E. F. Lyons (4/2)
N. S. M. Atkinson ..	0 Capt. A. E. Green .. 0
Hoskins (1 up) ..	1 Lieut. E. J. Unwin .. 0
N. B. Smith (2 up) ..	1 Lieut. G. Weston (hvd.) ½
G. P. Mead (hvd.) ..	½ Lieut. J. Ormiston (5/4)
L. Monro ..	0
	4½ 5½

Hay and Hoskins ..	0	Stephenson and Lyons (7/5) ..	1
Monro and Smith ..	0	Unwin and Weston (2/1) ..	1
Atkinson and Mead	½	Ormiston and Green	½
		Phillips and Crawford	
Burt and Moss ..	0	Worton and Procter (4/3) ..	1
Berliner and Newman	0	Worton and Procter (5/4) ..	1
	½		4½

One member of the opposition believed for quite a time that the new Ordnance Workshops by the Cricket Ground were a new Pavilion and, I fear, was mentally looking forward to a very good match this summer until told the truth. It is curious how the use to which a building is going to be put changes our opinion of it.

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

4th January, 1938

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

It is officially announced that about six Gill Memorial Scholarships and Exhibitions are offered for competition among sons of Army Officers.

Candidates will take the ordinary June Common Entrance Examination at their own 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, 1938, 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 the Gill Memorial Scholarships and Exhibitions ranges from £75 to £30, thus reducing the amount payable by a parent or guardian to between £75 and £120 respectively, 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, 1938.

## REGIMENTAL FIXTURES FOR 1938

June 26th.—Cricket—v. Hampstead Heathens.

June 27th.—Cricket—v. The Cryptids.

June 28th.—Cricket—v. Metropolitan Police College.

June 29th.—Cricket—v. The Free Foresters.

June 30th.—Cricket—v. The I. Zingari.

June 30th.—Officers' Club Dinner.

July 1st.—Officers' Club "At Home."

July 2nd.—Cricket—v. Hampstead Cricket Club.

July 2nd and 3rd.—Tennis Tournament.

October 6th and 7th.—Autumn Golf Meeting (subject to confirmation).

November 11th.—Remembrance Day Service at the Regimental War Memorial.

November 12th.—Old Comrades' Dinner.

EXTRACTS FROM THE  
"LONDON GAZETTE"REGULAR ARMY  
COMMANDS AND STAFF

The follg. relinquishes his appt.: Maj. and Bt. Lt.-Col. B. G. Horrocks, M.C., Midd'x R., as Bde. Maj., 5th Inf. Bde. (Jan. 30).

## INFANTRY

Midd'x R.—Lt. (Qr.-Mr.) R. T. Guscott to be Capt. (Qr.-Mr.) (Jan. 22).

Midd'x R.—The follg. gentlemen cadets, from the Royal Military College, to be Sec. Lts. (Jan. 27): J. F. Campbell, J. F. Warren.

Midd'x R.—The follg. Sec. Lts. to be Lts. (Jan. 31): J. W. G. Ormiston, H. N. C. Gudgeon, A. G. Hewitt, C. M. M. Man, M. P. Weedon.

## RESERVE OF OFFICERS

## INFANTRY

Midd'x R.—The follg., having attained the age limit of liability to recall, ceases to belong to the Res. of Off.: Capt. F. J. Nunn, M.C. (Jan. 16).

## TERRITORIAL ARMY

## INFANTRY

7th Bn., Midd'x R.—Sec. Lt. H. E. A. Aitken-Quack resigns his commn. (Mar. 1).

Kensingtons, Midd'x R.—Capt. F. Marshall, T.D., having attained the age limit, retires and retains his rank, with permission to wear the prescribed uniform (Dec. 23, 1937).

Kensingtons, Midd'x R.—Sec. Lt. G. D. Paterson to be Lt. (Nov. 16, 1937).

## RESERVE OF OFFICERS

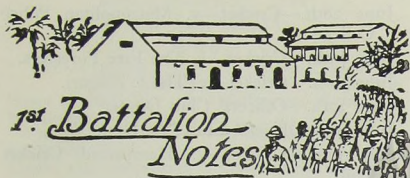
## REGIMENTAL LIST

## INFANTRY

8th Bn., Midd'x R.—Lt. A. J. McFarlane from Active List to be Lt. (Mar. 2).

Kensingtons, Midd'x R.—Major L. L. Cohen, having attained the age limit, relinquishes his commn. and retains his rank (Mar. 16).





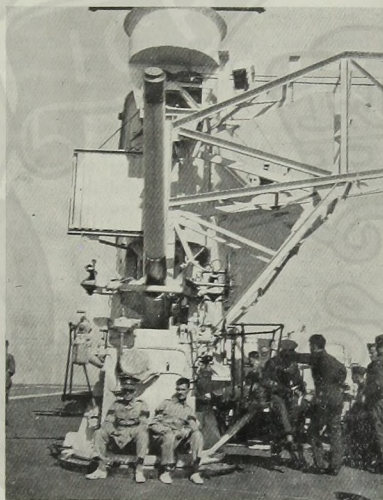
NOT long ago we received orders to convert to a M.G. Battalion as from 4th February, 1938. The difficulties of switching from old to new, even in an undisturbed period of training, are, of course, many, but with our constant changes of programme and role, in the present disturbed situation, these difficulties are indeed great.

The result is that we are now in the unenviable position of having to be ready to assume immediately the role of a half and half M.G. and Rifle Battalion. However, we are all doing our best and we hope one day to develop into a real M.G. Battalion with its full share of equipment. Our activity in M.G. training and firing has been remarkable and we are very lucky in having at this time Major Newnham and Capt. Jacob, with their experience gained in the conversion of the 2nd Battalion. We now actually possess two Austin cars, and look daily on twelve 15-cwt. trucks which stand in the open outside the guard room (we have no garages!) waiting to be handed over to us.

On 29th November and 9th December, at the invitation of Capt. Moody, R.N., two parties each of about 100 N.C.O.s and men and two or three Officers were taken for three day trips in H.M.S. *Eagle*, the aircraft carrier. Accommodation in the aeroplanes being limited, only the Officers and a few N.C.O.s were able actually to fly, but everyone was much interested and thoroughly enjoyed the change, thanks to the kindness of Capt. Moody and the Officers and ship's company, who spared no trouble in entertaining us. The first party included Capt. Overell, Lieut. Fishbourne, 2/Lieut. Man, C/Sergt. Tibble, Sergt. Ramsden and Cpl. Cain, and the second Capt. del Court, Lieut. Anson, 2/Lieut. Dawson, Sergt. Cooper, Cpl. Hammond, L/Cpl. Ringe, and others. On 28th December Capt. Moody, Wing Commander Carr and several Officers from H.M.S. *Eagle* dined in the Officers' Mess before leaving for Singapore.

Christmas was celebrated under difficulties his year. The dining halls, which are open

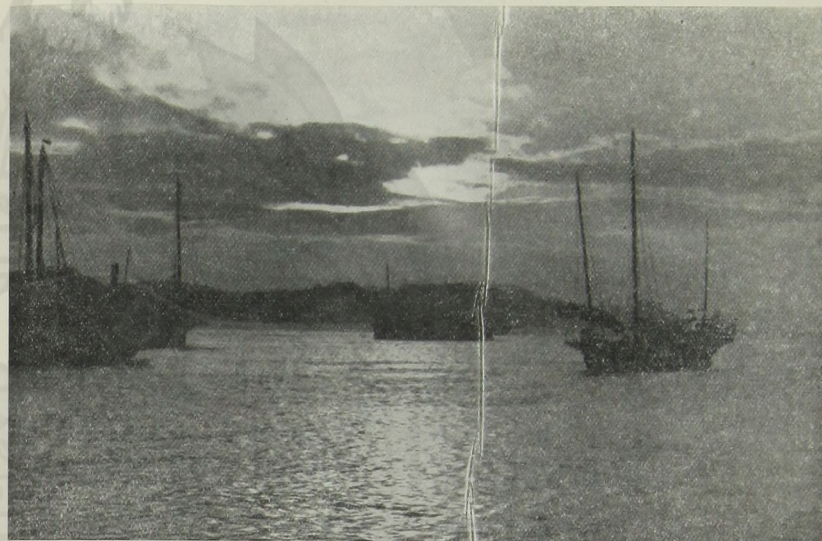
bamboo matsheds, are so cold and dismal that they were considered unsuitable for a Christmas dinner; each Company was therefore allotted a barrack room made available by closing up, and these were decorated on Christmas day. The first and second prizes for the best decorated rooms were won by the committees of "D" and "A" (S.) Companies respectively; some very creditable work was to be seen, which showed great skill and industry. In spite of great difficulties, owing to our miserable cook-houses (one is being reconstructed), the cooks, under Sergt. Bond, produced one of the best Christmas dinners on



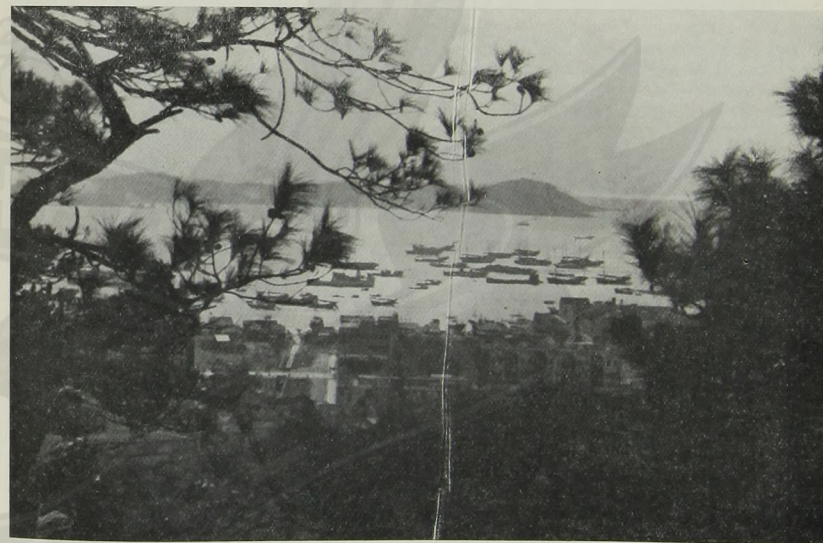
A group taken aboard H.M.S. *Eagle* (C/Sergt. Tibble and Sergt. Ramsden in foreground)

record, on which we congratulate them. On Thursday, 30th December, the annual Children's Christmas Tree Party was held in the N.A.A.F.I., and was a great success. For this our thanks are due to the organising committee, including Mrs. Tidbury who bought the presents, and Sergt. Ramsden and his sub-committee who most successfully decorated the room. Capt. Overell was a most popular Father Christmas and almost led some of the parents to expect a present.

On New Year's Day the C.O. and Mrs. Tidbury entertained the sixteen Band Boys

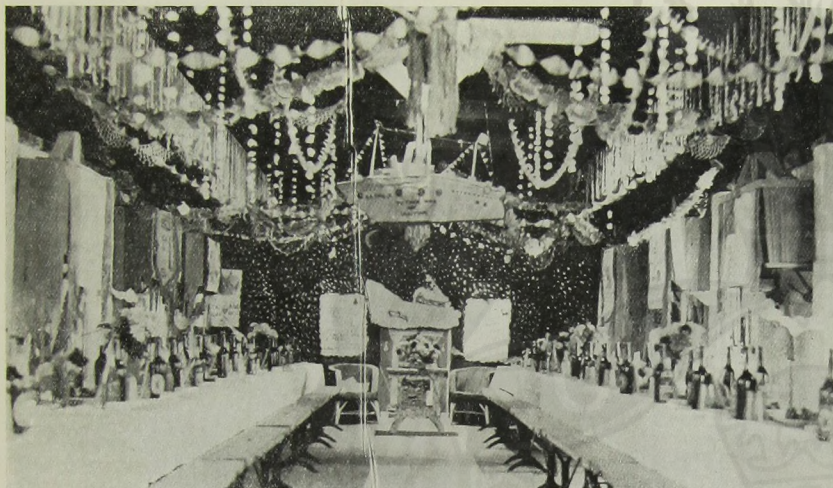


View of Hong Kong Harbour and Stonecutters Island (western entrance of harbour)

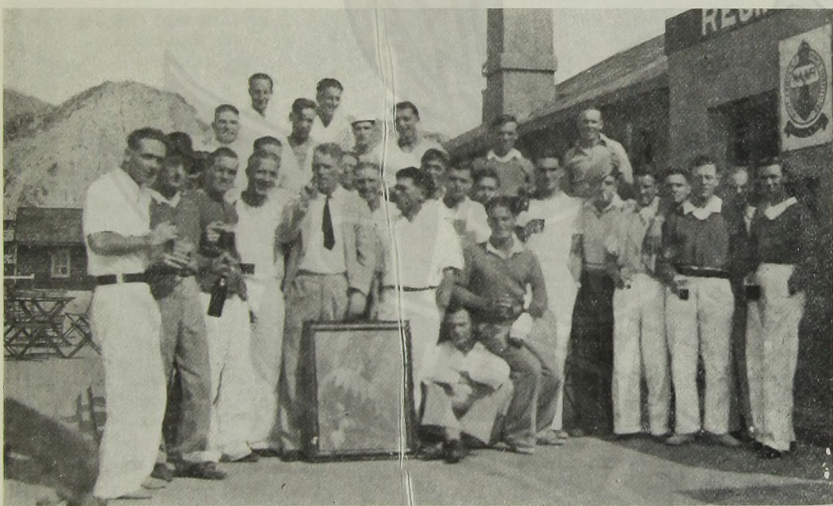


View of Green Island and the harbour from Piper's Hill





"D" Company Dining Hall on Christmas Day



A group at the canteen on Christmas Day

by taking them to the circus, which was at that time in Hong Kong, and afterwards to a dinner in their house. Capt. and Mrs. Crawford and L/Cpl. Holdford were also guests.

H.T. *Dorsetshire* arrived in Hong Kong on 10th January, bringing Major L. A. Newnham, M.C., Capt. and Mrs. M. A. Jacob and 2/Lieut. F. S. C. Hancock, to all of whom we offer a hearty welcome. Capt. and Mrs. Ayscough, with their family, rejoined us at the same time from Singapore, and Mrs. Hedgecoe and her two children also arrived to join Capt. Hedgecoe, who is, as we mentioned before, Adjutant of the local Volunteers. We congratulate Capt. and Mrs. Hedgecoe on the addition of a son to their family. Major Newnham becomes second-in-command of the Battalion, in place of Capt. del Court, who takes over command of "H.Q." Company from Capt. Crawford. Capt. Jacob has taken over the command of "D" Company from Capt. del Court.

On 14th January the *Dorsetshire* left for England, carrying among her passengers Mrs. Tidbury on leave and Capt. and Mrs. Crawford for the 2nd Battalion after six years abroad.

Capt. Crawford will be a great loss, for as Sports Officer and Band President he has taken an enthusiastic part in the games and other activities of the Battalion. At the same time Capt. Frizelle and Lieut. Lincoln, of The Royal Ulster Rifles, who have been attached to us in charge of a rear party, also left to rejoin their Battalion in India; the R.U.R. left Hong Kong on the *Dikwara* in December. We wish them the best of luck in their new station. We were also unfortunate in losing Capt. C. W. Maisey, R.A.M.C., our M.O., who accompanied us on our move to Hong Kong in August, and has now returned to Singapore. We shall miss him, both as a very competent M.O. and as being extremely popular with both Officers and men. The last departure of the season was that of Capt. and Mrs. Weller, in the *Dunera*, on 14th February. Capt. Weller was the last Officer to leave us who has served continuously with the Battalion since we came abroad in 1931, and his departure marks the change, now complete, in our personnel. We wish him and Mrs. Weller every good fortune.

On 20th January Brig. F. W. L. Bisset, D.S.O., commanding the Hong Kong Infantry Brigade, carried out the annual Administrative Inspection of the Battalion. After inspecting the Battalion in line, the Brigadier presented the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal to Sergt. Kruck. On completing his inspection

he stated that the Battalion had "put up a very good show."

Work on the defences of Hong Kong has continued during the winter. The Battalion provides two working parties of 100, who go alternately to camp in the hills, where they have to contend with wind and rain, and frequently fog, besides their work of digging, which is progressing very efficiently under the able direction of 2/Lieut. Man.

Our greatest difficulty has been to find enough men for the working parties without interfering with the M.G. training and reorganisation of the Battalion.

Sailing and rowing have become two of our most popular pastimes. The barracks are built on the water front, so that the sea is, as it were, at our back door. Capt. del Court has built a "Class A" boat, Capt. Overell and Lieuts. Peal and Beadnell have a "Class G" boat, smaller than the "A's," Capt. Dobbs is building a small cruiser, 2/Lieuts. Langley and Dawson have a small boat, and Cpl. Hoskins and several other N.C.O.s and Company syndicates own boats of various kinds, so that our sailing fleet is about nine or ten altogether.

In addition, Capt. Walden's efforts have produced five well-equipped rowing boats, which are proving increasingly popular.

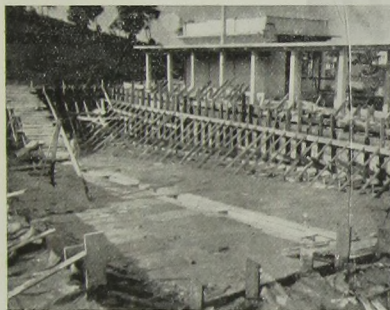
The Colony's race meetings are held at the Happy Valley course on the island for flat racing and on the mainland at Fanling, under the Hunt Race Club, for steeplechasing, hurdles, and point-to-point. The Commanding Officer is a steward of the latter course. Lieut. Chattey has ridden in several races on both courses. At the Fanling meeting, in ideal weather, on 19th December, the C.O. and Mrs. Tidbury entertained some seventy guests at an excellent buffet lunch and tea on the race course. At the Happy Valley course, under the Hong Kong Jockey Club, the flat racing is more serious but very enjoyable. The dividends are large and there is much money to be lost. At Fanling the local hunt supports four or more meetings in the season for the more amateur G.R.s on a picturesque country course, the surrounding scenery being not unlike parts of Scotland.

One of the most noticeable features of service in Hong Kong is the number of ceremonial guards we have to find. On 24th December, at less than twenty-four hours' notice, the Battalion furnished a guard of honour composed of Capt. M. Crawford, Lieut. T. W. Chattey, and fifty other ranks, for the Acting Naval Commander-in-Chief, Vice-Admiral Crabbe,



when he paid his official call on H.E. the Governor. On 8th January Admiral Crabbe paid his official call on the Officers' Mess, and the same guard was again mounted by the Battalion. On 5th February, the new Commander-in-Chief, Sir Percy Noble, arrived in Hong Kong, and the Battalion mounted a guard of honour at the pier, consisting of Capt. S. F. W. M. del Court, M.C., Lieut. P. A. R. Anson and fifty other ranks.

Included among the photographs of this quarter's notes are two of the new swimming baths at Gillman Barracks in Singapore. Work had begun on the bath before the Battalion left Singapore, but, unfortunately, it was not finished in time for us to benefit. The swimming and water-polo teams would undoubtedly have profited from having a swimming bath in barracks, instead of having to use either the



The Swimming Bath under construction

local Chinese bath or that at Tanglin, two or three miles away. We might also have reduced the number of non-swimmers in the Battalion, as there are many who could easily pass their swimming tests but have not had the opportunity.

Bathing in Hong Kong is limited by the danger of infection with cholera. The neighbourhood of the harbour is no longer safe, and when the weather is warm enough, bathing parties usually go out for some distance in a launch, bathing either in the open sea or at one of the beaches along the coast.

We have to congratulate Lieut. R. W. D. Sword, now seconded to the K.A.R. and serving in Kenya, on his engagement, which was recently announced.

Air raid precautions are now practised with increasing seriousness in Hong Kong, and

"black-outs" are held at intervals. The last of these was on 28th February, between 7 p.m. and 11 p.m. All outside lights were extinguished, and windows stopped with blankets and screens. The result was most effective, hardly a vestige of light was to be seen in barracks, and the only conspicuous lights in the colony were the riding lights of ships in the harbour.

On Tuesday, 16th February, Major-General A. W. Bartholomew, the General Officer Commanding, and several of his staff, dined in the Officers' Mess.

The Officers' Mess held two cocktail parties on 1st and 4th March. The converted hut, which forms the main part of the Mess, being rather confined for a large party, four marquees were erected on our concrete tennis court, part of which was illuminated for dancing; about a hundred and eighty guests were successfully entertained on each night, including members of all the Units in Hong Kong and a large number of civilians. The variation of local temperature makes catering on a large scale very difficult, but with a good stock of cold drinks, hot sausages off a brazier, and ices, Lieut. Langley and Sergt. Naylor left nothing to chance. The success of the party was largely due to their efforts. Local opinion appears to have been that the parties were a great success and something new.

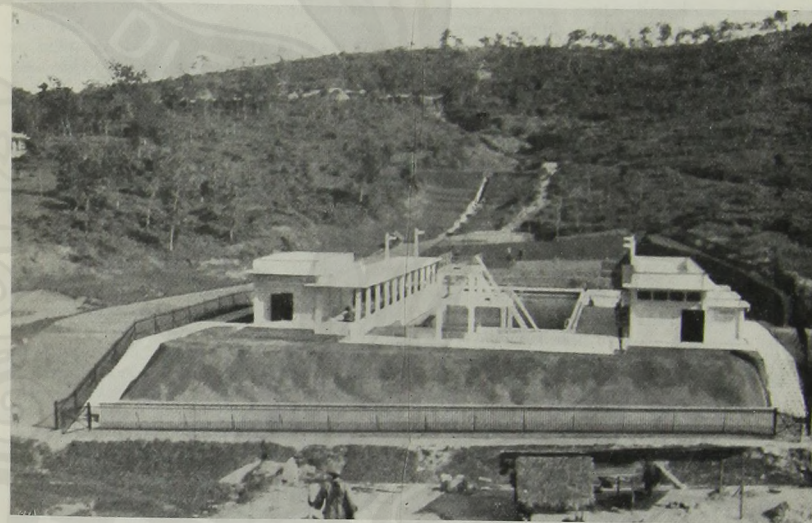
#### CROSS-COUNTRY

The Battalion Inter-Company cross-country runs were compressed into a single run this year, owing to the difficulty of finding a suitable course. The course decided on, although somewhat on the short side, being only 3½ miles and chiefly along a main road, proved most acceptable to those who are only moderate in performance in this sport. The run was on Tuesday, 22nd February, and resulted in a win for "H.Q." Company with 642 points, followed by "C" Company with 892 points, "D" Company with 1,175 points, "A" Company with 1,269 points and "B" Company with 1,300 points. The individual placings were: 1, Pte. Tarrant ("H.Q." Company); 2, L/Cpl. Ellis ("C" Company); 3, Pte. Berryman ("B" Company).

#### ATHLETICS

The athletic season in Hong Kong has not really begun as the Albuhera meeting takes place later on this month. We were able,

however, to enter a team for the open 4 x 100 metres relay at the South China meeting held on 1st and 2nd January. New Year's Day is not the best day of the year for serious sprinting, but the team was able to perform quite creditably, in spite of only a few days' training and the effects of a Christmas period. In the qualifying heat we ran second to St. Joseph's, who appear to have quite a formidable team. In the final we again ran second to them, although both teams broke the existing track record. Our time was 47.2 seconds which, although not particularly fast, was as fast as



The New Swimming Bath at Gilman Barracks in Singapore

the loose nature of the surface of the track and the incredibly sharp bends would allow us to go. The team was: 2/Lieut. Gudgeon, Sergt. Ramsay, Cpl. Watson and Pte. Steadman, who ran in that order.

#### DRUMS

Skin-bashers calling! Since our last notes we have one or two interesting events to record. First the Novices' Boxing. Three members of the Drums battled gamely, viz., "Topper" Brown, "Bud" Martin of the poker face and "Tug" Wilson. "Tug," incidentally, reached

the final of his weight and finished a good runner-up.

Just lately the Japs seem to have made it essential that we dig trenches, so the Drums had a couple of days' manual labour. Jimmy Ringe was unlucky, inasmuch as one wielder of the pick mistook his arm for a portion of China and promptly dug a trench in it.

We hope "Dicky" Bodle and "Fishy" are happy among the welter of truck drivers in which they now find themselves, and we welcome Dmrs. Webster and Thorley, who have come out to relieve them. "Bill" has

already beaten a path to the dining hall and "Joe" has put the "clacker" merchant out of business. Does Bodle still leap out of bed at the first note of Reveille and "Fishy" still show them the way over the pole vault?

We congratulate L/Cpl. Staley on the good report that he earned whilst instructing the Hong Kong Volunteers in the gentle art of bugling and "fluting." (No fiddling.) Onslow is now a full-fledged private, his "coming out" was on 9th January.

On 22nd February the Wing—sorry, "H.Q." Company—won the Inter-Company Cross-country Run. The Drummers included in the



team ran very well. We congratulate "Skipper" Watson on being selected for the Services' football team, and also on receiving his second tape. Well done, "Ipperskay"!

We take this opportunity of welcoming Smith and Webber to the Drums from "B" Company, and Chacksfield and Nunn, who are attached for training and are doing well, the former having already done a guard as bugler. Our old friend "Duke" Wise has recently come out of "dock," having broken an ankle playing football.

We are now in the throes of an Inter-Company Boxing Tournament. The Drums' entries are: L/Cpl. Holdford, Dmrs. Murray (03), Brown, Webster and Collis. Of that, more anon.

Before closing we wish all the best to our brother drummers at home and hope they are doing big things under the able leadership of Drum-Major McEnery. One little thing: we can now beat a side-drum at the double after having marched The Royal Ulster Rifles in on their return from Shanghai. Drink up, boys!

SKIN-BASHER.

#### BAND

Since our last notes were sent in we have been kept busy with numerous engagements, including two full days at the Hong Kong Jockey Club, starting at 11 a.m. and finishing after the last race at 6 p.m. It was a new experience to us to play for so long.

Well, for the second year in succession we have won the Inter-Platoon Hockey Knock-out. Starting the competition minus several of our players, namely, Hymas, Bright and Haigh, the team did very well with the substitutes (Veryard, Radley and Stanton) and managed to keep in the competition until towards the last few stiff games. By then the full team was able to turn out and so win the Shield. Well done!

Congratulations to Bright and Grogan on being selected to represent the United Services at soccer against the Islington Corinthians. Both played extremely well against these fine amateurs and the local Press were loud in their praise. Continuing in the realm of sport, we come to the Novices' Boxing Competition. The Band had quite a number of representatives and helped the Company to win this event. Congratulations to L/Cpls. Moggeridge and Ure on winning their weights and to Bdmn. Bradford and Winfield on carrying off the two good losers' prizes.

The Company tug-of-war team, who have carried all before them so far, under the able guidance of Pte. Gromm, are also well represented by us and look like going further ahead than in Singapore. They have been training very hard and all deserve a "pat on the back" for having done so well. We conclude the tug-of-war with an extra word of praise for "Grommy" on being chosen to train the Battalion team.

In concluding the sport, we come to the Battalion Cross-country Run, which the Company won by a very large majority. L/Cpl. Ure, Bdmn. Bradford, Goulding, M., Tunmer, Leonard, Haigh and Veryard ran very well.

Yachting is getting very popular here and quite a few of us have "gone down to the sea in ships" as it were, in more ways than one. The weather has been extremely cold here lately and the "duckings" that have resulted from the amateurish seamanship have not been relished, but we consider that we have gained some knowledge and just hoist the sail and have another go at "tacking." (We trust that Mr. Sopwith will excuse our ignorance in this fine sport.)

A very enjoyable Christmas was spent by all and business at the Hotel Cecil and Lido Cabaret flourished well. We hope that all our friends at home spent an enjoyable time in the "smoke."

Quite a number of the Band have been doing some good shooting at the Hong Kong Rifle Association Meetings held every Wednesday, and spoons have been won regularly each week.

The Bandmaster and family left to spend six months' leave at home and we all hope that they enjoy the change and that the English summer is kind to them.

In conclusion, we hope that all our old members who have joined the 2nd Battalion at home have settled down nicely and are getting used to the inevitable coal fatigue. We welcome as their reliefs, Bdmn. Nolan, Tunmer, Dillon and Short, hoping that their service with us will be enjoyable.

STAND CARRIER.

#### SIGNALS

Since the beginning of this quarter nothing of great note has happened. Christmas saw its usual festivities and if a few did feel a trifle rundown that, of course, was only to be expected.

The Section has taken seriously its post-classification training, which, although belated,

was welcome as a change from the daily round. Not being clairvoyant, we were unable to foresee that we had chosen the rainy season for nocturnal wanderings around Hong Kong's countryside. The rain, although a deterrent on two occasions, was defied at the third attempt and so there we were. We have still much to do.

The sporting instinct being at its peak, saw the evolution of beginners into stalwart hockey players. Enthusiasm reigns, judging by the number of games played weekly, and if, perhaps, losses are greater in number than wins, we say at least we had a game.

Football, too, is taken seriously and often the Section have been known to hasten from the hockey field and by a seemingly miraculous switch-over be playing football the next minute. As I say, "such enthusiasm."

The Novices' boxing gave opportunity to some to use their vocal organs to the fullest (between fights, that is). Likewise, some had the splendid chance of viewing the ring from the inside (during fights). Perhaps some saw it from a different angle, yet for all that those who participated put up an exceedingly good show and not only are the Signals who entered congratulated, but also the remainder, comprising "H.Q." Company entries. All this lauding of praises and exultation is because the Company won the Novices' boxing.

Our entries in the cross-country were reasonably high and once again we saw success.

Soon we will be *vis-à-vis* that dread ogre—classification training. The new class will be formed shortly, and at present the hunt for new talent to fill the ranks of those departing is going on.

Although the world is in a turmoil, five of our members have an air of gaiety and sheer abandon about them. One would learn from their varied speeches that they were "just hanging on for the boat." As it goes very shortly, we, the remainder, say *au revoir* and wish them good luck.

Good wishes to 2nd Battalion Signals.

"BUGS."

#### "A" (S.) COMPANY

One of the most important events this quarter has been the re-organisation of the Battalion as a Machine Gun Unit. Originally fixed for 8th December, our change over was eventually postponed until 4th February.

As a result of the change over, the Company has been unfortunate in losing Serpts. Bean

and Castle, L/Sergt. Bayly, Cpls. Borrow and Sach, L/Cpls. Tarner, White, Harris, Perry, Finnis and Wilmer, who have been transferred to the other Companies. In replacement: Sergt. Paterson, L/Sergt. Hiscocks, Cpls. Phelan and Sibley, L/Cpls. Kidby, Ayres, Pain (32) and Shrubbs have joined the Company. We welcome these N.C.O.s and hope they will have an enjoyable time with us.

We take this opportunity to welcome to the Company L/Sergt. Marshall from the 2nd Battalion. Cpl. McGrady has returned after a period of leave in U.K.

Congratulations to Sergt. Castle, Cpls. Borrow, Freshwater and Sach on their promotion, and L/Cpls. Connick, Morrish, Dee, Wilmer, Cox, Williams, Stone, Perrin and Goodair on their first appointment.

The best of good fortune to Serpts. Honeybun and Snell who have sailed for the Home Country.

It was with regret that the Company said good-bye to Cpl. Hosking; his abilities both as a sportsman and instructor will be missed.

The winter season has proved very favourable to all forms of sport, and there have been a great number of games of every description.

The Company football team distinguished itself by winning the Small Units Competition, defeating "A" Company, Seaforth Highlanders 2-1, in the final.

In the Company Football League we tied with "D" Company on goal average. The final game of the league proved most exciting as we had to beat "B" Company 5-0 to tie on goal average. This we succeeded in doing and had very bad luck in not getting the sixth goal, which would have won us the league outright.

Hockey in the Company has been plentiful. In our final game, with "H.Q." Company, we were beaten 0-4 and finished third in the league.

Interest in sailing is still being maintained, and in preparation for the summer season, a new Company boat has been purchased, a better one in every respect than our original purchase.

A rowing club has also been started in the Battalion and 2/Lieut. Langley has taken a keen interest in training some members of the Company for this aquatic sport.

Cross-country running has never been our strong point, the Company finishing fourth in the Battalion run.

Owing to the digging camp and other things, very few members of the Company had the



opportunity for serious training in this branch of athletics.

Ptes. Jennings and Marshall are to be congratulated on being selected to train for the Battalion team.

Our tug-of-war team trained extremely well and finished runners-up to "H.Q." Company.

In the Inter-Company team boxing the Company came second with 49 points, "D" Company winning with 59. Winners were: Pte. Stone (1st String Feather), Cpl. McGrady

Company, 36; "A" (S.) Company, 33; "D" Company, 36; "B" Company, 23; "C" Company, 22.

#### "B" COMPANY

In penning these notes we find a great change has come over the Company since our last quarter's issue, chiefly in the realm of sport. We had high hopes of collecting full points in the football section of the Albuhera Shield,



"A" (S.) COMPANY, 1st BATTALION THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT, HONG KONG  
Winners Small Units Football Cup, 1937-38

(1st String Welter), L/Cpl. Goodair (3rd String Welter), Pte. Watson (43) (Light Heavy). Runners-up: Pte. Murray (2nd String Feather) Pte. Samuels (3rd String Light).

In the Mons Shield, "A" (S.) Company have already won the football, cricket, hockey and pass-ball. The water polo has still to be decided, but whatever position we obtain in this, the Mons Shield is definitely ours.

With athletics, cricket, swimming and water polo still to be decided, the positions of Companies and their respective points in the Albuhera Shield are as follows: "H.Q."

and rightly so, after having won our first three matches, versus "C" Company (4-2), "D" Company (1-0) and "H.Q." Company (1-0). This left us one match to play, namely, against "A" Company; all we needed was a drawn game to win the Shield, but, alas, playing like they always seem to do against "B" they trounced us to the tune of five goals to nil. Even the cries of "Lucky Old 'A'" were forgotten on this occasion, but for all that we take this opportunity of congratulating them, and also "D" Company on sharing the honours.

At hockey we have not been so fortunate, having played two games, and, I am sorry to say, lost them both, 0-1 to "H.Q." Company and 1-6 to "A" Company; but we are sincerely hoping for a revival in this section of sport.

We congratulate all those who took part in the Novices' Boxing Competition. There were some very good fights. We had a large number of entries, and this, together with the hard work put in by L/Cpl. Gribble, in the capacity of trainer, enabled us to be runners-up to "H.Q." Company, and we hope that when they enter next year they will come out on top.

Before leaving our sports column, we have to mention that in the "Rabbits' League" No. 6 Platoon lead the way, having won the soccer and, up to the time these notes go to press, remain undefeated in the hockey. This so-called "Rabbits' League" is causing much consternation to the C.S.M. and Company in general, as the teams decline to turn out if one of their star players is doing two on and four off; but for all that talent is showing itself.

*Note.*—For the benefit of our readers, this "Rabbits' League" is for unknown players, men who do not represent the Battalion or their Company.

We are now looking forward to our Company Sports, which have, unfortunately, been postponed owing to our being turned into strong men by trying to shift hills with a pick and shovel, and we must not forget the M.G.

In conclusion, we bid farewell to those who have left us for civilian life, and we hope they enjoy life as much as they did when they were with us. Also we regret to say we have lost two of our N.C.O.s on the turn-over, namely, Cpl. Phelan and L/Cpl. Kidby, and we hope their stay in "A" will be as pleasant as it was with us. We welcome L/Sergt. Bayly, Cpl. Borrow, L/Cpls. White and Turner from "A" Company, and we sincerely wish them every success in "B" Company, whether their stay be long or short.

BEER.

#### "C" COMPANY

Now that six months have been spent in Hong Kong we are able to announce, with confidence, our opinion of this station. The weather seems to be the most prominent dislike at present, for one cannot forecast it correctly, even for a day. One day is spent sweating and dodging mosquitos and the next is spent searching for warm places, finding them, and staying

in them as long as possible. Critics say that the cold spells are brought about by strong winds from Siberia, but we think that it must be farther north than that. It is cold at present, but everybody is looking forward to warmer weather in the coming weeks.

Very few changes have taken place in the Company during the last quarter. In the annual turnover we lost Cpl. Sibley and L/Cpl. Ayres, who were transferred to "A" Company. We wish them the best of luck in their new surroundings. In place of these two N.C.O.s we greet Sergt. Soper from "D" Company and L/Cpl. Harris from "A" Company. We hope that they will be as comfortable here as they were in their own respective Companies before.

Our greatest loss this quarter is the departure of Capt. A. V. Weller, who has left us for England and the 2nd Battalion. We congratulate him for his good work during his stay with the Company. In his place we welcome Capt. W. C. Newton to the Company and trust his stay will be a long and successful one.

Turning to the sporting world, we are unable to report much in the way of success as talent has been hard to find and we have had to make do with some of the older hands. In the football, Albuhera Shield League, we had a run of bad luck, being defeated in three games and drawing one. The results are as follows:

v. "A" Company	..	Lost	0-1
v. "B" "	..	Lost	2-4
v. "D" "	..	Lost	0-3
v. "H.Q." "	..	Drawn	2-2

Hockey was much the same as football, talent being scarce, and once again old hands had to be brought in. We have lost good men in Ptes. Styles and Butler, who have returned to England, and Cpl. Sibley, who is transferred. We hope to get together a much better team for the coming season; this is left to Cpl. Clark.

In the Battalion Cross-country Run the Company succeeded in getting second place. We congratulate Cpl. Keefe, L/Cpl. Ellis and Pte. Evans on their fine performance in this event.

The Battalion Sports are now in view and we hope to do better in this meeting than we have done in other sporting events. Lieut. Gudgeon is a busy man these days, and the Company do not see a lot of him; however, he is doing his best to encourage sport training in his spare time, and we hope he succeeds in getting a winning team together.



In the boxing, the Company gained third place, after putting up some very good fights. Congratulations go to Cpl. Keefe, L/Cpls. Ellis and Collier, Ptes. Foakes, Adams, Lusham, Jousiffe and Haynes, all of whom put up good shows in the event.

Lieut. P. A. Fishbourne is still performing the duties of Company Sports Officer in grand style, and we appreciate the good work done by him in the past. Through his unfailing efforts, the Company Sports stores now boasts of possessing the finest set of kit in the Battalion; this to us is an undisputed fact.

In Battalion sport, the Company are well represented in all games.

Sergt. Bedward is doing great work in the capacity of A/C.S.M., and we extend our thanks to him for all he has done. He is soon to be relieved of his tedious duties as C.S.M. Green is due to arrive shortly.

Our deepest sympathies go to Sergt. and Mrs. Bedward on the loss of their little daughter who passed away in the Children's Hospital here on Friday, 25th February.

Battalion training is about to start and we are looking forward to plenty of mountaineering in this vast country of China. In Singapore we had lorries to take us to the different training grounds, but here it is going to be harder. Sore feet are likely to become common again as also are the many other aches and pains that go with them. "Get the sick reports ready, Orderly Sergeant; you may need them."

Machine gun training is prominent throughout the Battalion and firing is taking place daily. The Company has fired off most of its new gunners and the results were as expected of these people. N.C.O.s are at present attending classes in preparation for the advanced handling and tactical employment of the gun. The men may therefore be prepared for some real hard work in the near future.

Sergt. Paterson has left us for a stay with "A" Company; he is performing the duties of C.Q.M.S. to that Company, and we trust that he will please "A" by paying out the "Big Uns."

We welcome Sergt. R. Overy to our family circles and hope that he can be convinced that service abroad is better than at home. Soon he may be able to show his knees, providing the sun comes out; we understand that he does quite a lot of sun basking in his spare time.

In closing these notes we wish all ranks at home the very best of luck.

"C."

### SERGEANTS' MESS

It is rather a strain writing these notes for the social life of the Mess is inclined to be stagnant, owing to the difficulty of arranging Inter-Mess functions. The preparations for the fortification of the New Territories denuded the Sergeants' Messes throughout the Garrison. However, this should not create the impression that nothing takes place. Only, our pleasures are more internal.

On the departure of The Royal Welch Fusiliers for England, we arranged an "Ado" for them. The Fusiliers broke journey here to pick up their Details on their way home from Shanghai. Considering the short time we had at our disposal in which to know each other, we all did very well and thoroughly enjoyed ourselves.

Much kudos is due to Sergts. Paterson (36) and Colbourne for their painstaking efforts to run the monthly dinners smoothly.

The weekly Hong Kong Rifle Association shoot brings to notice the good shooting of Sergt. Hale, who to date has won many spoons. We suggest that the Rifle Association now award knives and forks, etc. Later, Sergt. Hale could be induced to make a presentation to the Mess. We nearly forgot to mention another person, "Vic" Cooper, who is now firmly entrenched on the lower slopes of the immortal hill of fame. Sergt. Cooper, through brilliant and consistent shooting, has obtained his place in the Inter-Port Rifle Team. We congratulate him.

We wish B.M. Judge and Sergt. Chaplin and families an enjoyable leave. Both have really earned it, not through spending so many years abroad, but because of hard work.

We welcome Sergts. Bean, Overy and Ramsey and their families. With the interchange of so many of our members with the 2nd Battalion they will find many old friends in our Mess.

We have been unable to arrange any hockey and football fixtures with other Messes. However, we have got the talent for good teams, as nearly every member plays for his Company and a fair number for the Battalion in the two sports.

We extend our regret and sympathy to Sergt. and Mrs. Bedward on the death of their little daughter.

### CORPORALS' CLUB

Once again we commence to pen these notes, and the fact is brought home to us that the boat is yet another three months nearer.

As will be seen elsewhere, the Battalion is still "gun-bumping" and is looking forward to starting mechanisation. Many of our members are hard at home-work, "punching up" for a trip to Netheravon, which, we are told, is "somewhere at home."

Turning to the lighter side of life, the Club held a "smoker" during January. The enthusiasm was very great, especially for the elbow-benders. Many of the members gave us the honour of hearing them sing. Bing Crosbys were in great demand. The function was well attended and the party finished very merry and bright.

We are very sorry to lose Cpl. Hosking, who has been invalidated home, and L/Cpl. Osborne to T.A.R. We wish them both the best of all that is to be desired. We take this opportunity to welcome all new members to our midst and hope that their stay with us will be a happy one. We also welcome back two old faces, namely, Cpl. McGrady, from furlough, and L/Cpl. Bisset, from a Course and furlough. They tell us that the girls at home are looking swell and by results we believe them.

Many of our members are in the forefront of their Company teams in all sports. From the midst of this wonderful collection we have gathered together teams to meet various opponents of all nationalities. Some of the results have been favourable; of course, like the Arsenal, we must lose at times.

In concluding these notes, we take pleasure in wishing the Corporals' Club of the 2nd Battalion and Territorial Battalions all the best.

CHOW WALLAH.

### BOYS

Once again we will try to hold our readers under a magnetic spell, relating to them the incidents of the last three months.

We are doing very well in sports, Boys Grossmith, Rowe, Nix and Witty being in the Company Cross-country team, the last three being selected to train with the Battalion team.

In the Novices' boxing there were two boys' fights, Boy Nix beating Boy Endersby and Boy Whitty beating Boy Grossmith. We also congratulate Boy Goddard on his fine performance in the Inter-Company Boxing Championship and L/Cpl. Holdford for his fine show against Cpl. McGrady. As L/Cpl. Holdford is going home on leave in April, we take this opportunity of wishing him *au revoir*.

We have been unfortunate in hockey, as almost every time we had a match it had to be

cancelled, owing to the inclement weather. Now the fine weather is coming we hope to make up for lost time. We are also continuing the good work in football and we will be able to produce a decent cricket XI in the summer.

We now draw to a close, wishing the Boys of the 2nd Battalion all the best.

YOUNG HAND.

### FOOTBALL

The performances of the Battalion teams in the two leagues has been very satisfactory during the last three months. The first eleven have settled down into a good team, but, unfortunately, the points lost at the beginning of the season may lessen our chances of winning the league. The second eleven, at present, are top of the Second Division, and if they maintain present form should win it.

The Junior Shield Competition second round match was played under unsuitable conditions for good football and we lost 0-1.

Among the players, the following have shown good form as their records show:

Represented—

All Hong Kong—Pte. Saw.

Hong Kong F.A.—Cpl. Freshwater and Bdmn. Bright.

United Services and Army—Cpl. Watson, Bdmn. Bright and Grogan, Ptes. Pearson, Saw and Sheehan.

The visit of the Islington Corinthians has given us the chance to see amateur football of a high standard played by exponents of the third-back game. Their match versus the United Services was a personal triumph for the Regiment, no fewer than six of whom were in the Services' side. All of them gave good displays, fully justifying their selection. Cpl. Watson and Bdmn. Bright excelled themselves. To quote excerpts from the Press:

"The outstanding figure for the losers was undoubtedly Watson, the right-back, who was magnificent on occasions and by the early stages of the second half was well-nigh unbeatable for the ball."

"Bright, occupying one of the most important positions in the team, at centre-half, gave a grand display and is well on the way to Colony honours. Using his great height to advantage, he intercepted many a dangerous centre from both wingers, whilst his quick tackling, after the first twenty minutes of play, rendered Tarrant practically a passenger." (Tarrant, we may add, is an Irish International.)

C



To return to football within the Regiment, we must congratulate "A" Company on winning the Small Units League, of which we can say no more than ask you to read "A" Company's notes in this issue.

The Company Championship resulted in a tie between "A" and "D" Companies for top place, followed by "B," "H.Q." and "C" Companies in that order.

Whilst on the subject of Company football we would like to see the same support and enthusiasm shown toward the Battalion XI as was shown at Company League matches.

### RUGBY

The congestion of the games season in Hong Kong affects all games, but rugby most of all; a priority of games must be laid down, and rugby takes fourth place.

However, the separation of the rugby and soccer seasons in Singapore enabled us to lay the foundations of a rugby team in the Battalion and we are now existing on the fruits of our achievement, materially represented by about forty men, from which we can just produce two teams. Also grounds here are not too plentiful, owing to lack of watering facilities, and so Inter-Company games have been out of the question.

First and second fifteen matches have been few and far between, but considering we have never yet been able to turn out a full side, our record to date has not been too bad and is as follows:

1st XV: Played 8, won 5, lost 2, drawn 1.  
2nd XV: Played 5, won 2, lost 3.

There are hopes that the ground situation will have improved by next season, and in this case we shall be able to have Inter-Company games; lack of this type of game forms our main difficulty at the moment. Most of our first team have been playing fairly regularly in representative games, either for Army or Army "A" teams.

2/Lieuts. Gudgeon and Chiverall, L/Sergt. Moore, L/Cpl. Burrell and Pte. Watson (43) have played fairly regularly for the Army, while Lieut. Beadnell, L/Sergts. Marshall and Bayly and Pte. Jones (43) have also played when available.

### SEVEN-A-SIDES

Now we come to what is uppermost in the minds of the rugby-playing community of the Battalion, for our "A" team has just emerged victorious in the Army Seven-a-Side Cham-

pionship, and the Cup has been newly christened. There were thirteen teams entered and we were lucky to draw a bye in the first round. The results were as follows:

#### Middlesex "A"

2nd Round: beat Small Units .. 9-3  
Semi-final: „ Seaforths "C" .. 21-0  
Final: „ Seaforths "A" .. 18-8

2/Lieuts. Gudgeon and Chiverall formed a tower of strength in this side, while Pte. Jones played a sterling game at scrum half.

Our "B" team defeated the 5th A.A. Brigade and were unlucky not to get into the semi-finals,



1ST BATTALION THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT,  
HONG KONG

Winners Army Seven-a-Side Tournament, 1937-38  
Back Row, left to right—Lieut. Weedon, 2/Lieut. Chiverall, Pte. Watson, Pte. Jones  
Front Row, left to right—Lieut. Gudgeon, Lieut. Beadnell (Capt.), L/Cpl. Burrell

being beaten by the R.E.s, 8-5, by a try in the last second of the game. Pte. Ferguson, brought in at the last moment, was conspicuous with some fine runs. The teams were as follows:

Middlesex "A": 2/Lieut. Chiverall, 2/Lieut. Gudgeon, 2/Lieut. Weedon, Pte. Jones, L/Cpl. Burrell, Pte. Watson, Lieut. Beadnell.

Middlesex "B": Pte. Steadman, Pte. Jackson, Pte. Ferguson, Cpl. Freshwater, L/Sergt. Bayly, L/Sergt. Moore, L/Sergt. Marshall.

Colours have been awarded for the season 1937-38 as follows: Lieuts. Beadnell and

Peal, 2/Lieuts. Gudgeon, Weedon and Chiverall L/Sergts. Moore, Marshall and Bayly, Cpl. Keefe, L/Cpl. Burrell, Ptes. Jones, Watson, Cutts and Sadler.

### THREE MEN AND A BOAT

"SAILORS don't care" is an expression that should be applied only to sailors, and should definitely not be applied to those who desert their landlubber existence merely for a few hours; those who, under the influence of shredded wheat for breakfast, give terra firma the cold shoulder and embrace the fickle friendship of wind and waves.

It is an outstanding fact that whilst one's association with the land needs no third party to ensure a reasonable span of life, this cannot be said for a human, misguided or not, who decides to put to sea and desires to remain above it. And so three men, on a bright Sunday morn in February, in Kowloon, in high spirits and some said insane, enlisted the aid of "Queen Mary" as this very necessary third party, and scanned the horizon for somewhere to open a tin of herrings in tomato, and contemplate the glories of the Far Eastern scenery, where yet the oil tank and the concrete wharf had found no home.

To dispel any misunderstanding, "Queen Mary" is an 18ft. square-rigged boat owned by "A" Company.

As we proudly untied this and unfurled that, at the same time giving each other the impression that we knew what we were about, we felt that surely red tape can only reach down to the shore and at least if it did go further it was likely to have assumed a pinkish hue under these conditions, and therefore not half as formidable, a most desirable situation.

Everything seemed to have been done in readiness for a spectacular get away; the breeze could be felt gently blowing from somewhere or other, the particular direction of its source being a somewhat uncertain concern of mine as I sat at the helm with one eye on the jetty and the other on the unfriendly looking sea wall.

As no one had made any decisive move with an air of authority on the subject, I decided, being at the helm and therefore i/c three lives and a quantity of Company property, to have the jib (or, as corrected by the boatman, the dorsal) hauled up so that should the worst happen it would not be quite so much of a

worst as would be the case had full sail been ordered.

In due course the triangular dorsal went aloft and tried to look as much at home as possible in the company of the rookie crew below; then, as a momentous experiment, we cast away from wall and buoy and held our breaths.

The poker expressions of the other two occupants showed that they were both as aware of the impending result as I was.

My previous impression was that when boats moved they did so proceeding in a direction parallel to a line drawn through the pointed to the blunt end, the pointed end going first. I've since regarded impressions as mere fictions of the imagination. Our craft was moving, but the bow seemed to be doing a swinging traverse and in no time "Queen Mary" was hugging the jetty like a kid with a biscuit in the presence of a big dog. Of course, the nonchalant air of the crew, as they grabbed the nearest supports of the jetty, gave everyone the impression that it had all been intended, and so our boat was coaxed around to the windward side and with a little more experiment we were off to sea. It was a stiffish wind and we were going fine, and by mutual telepathy we agreed to keep our course and go somewhere, rather than try to alter it and go nowhere. Suddenly Stonecutters Island skimmed past on our right and, after about twenty minutes exhilarating speed, it became apparent that we were moving towards Hong Kong, and would continue to move towards Hong Kong until one of two things happened—we hit Hong Kong or we turned round. Disaster was Hobson's choice if we kept going and we had an even chance by turning round, and in the light of this philosophy the "prepare to go about" was given. The subsequent seamanship of the crew headed our boat in a new direction with such little fuss that we felt bound to light a cigarette to hide that annoying smile that creeps on one's face when one is proud of one's self.

Our expert handling and the signs of Zodiac had brought our craft to bear on a point a little to the left of Stonecutters Island, approaching from the Hong Kong side, and espying a minute island in our direct line, we decided this must be the place we had intended to make for. Stonecutters began to assume its natural proportions, and soon we were passing a couple of hundred yards left of its rocky extremity, fervently hoping that the apparent rocks were only rocks. The next disillusion



came as we emerged on the other side of Stonecutters. I had always thought that a wind just blew, and either kept blowing or just stopped blowing. But it appears that Larry Adler's treatment of his mouth-organ is nothing to what this wind did for us. There we were, gliding majestically on the blue waters of the Orient, pouring our admiration on the green mountainous islands, and settling back with that "fifteen men on a dead man's chest" feeling, when a queer little ripple went right up the mainsail. One might expect that this little ripple would be followed by others, perhaps bigger ones one after the other in good taste but no just because one little ripple had got on our sail, hundreds of other little ripples pounced on it and proceeded to make our boat do everything but take off.

Now I believe that the scientific explanation of the handling of a sail is that "if a force be brought to bear on an inclined plane, said plane will tend to move in some direction or other." Well, there wasn't one incline in that sail that stayed put for more than a split second, the most stable inclination being the one on the part of the crew to dive overboard.

Maybe we did the right thing after all, or perhaps Davy Jones gave us the once over and told the wind to lay off; in any case we emerged a little more experienced and a lot more careful, and still going for our island.

Very soon, with the spirits of Captain Cook and Francis Drake guiding us, we down sailed and moved into a niche in the rocky shore, and secured out boat to two convenient points of rock like mariners of old. Then, like very new mariners, we heaved the grub ashore and proved that we had more sense than the celebrated "Three Men in a Boat," for we had thought of a tin-opener.

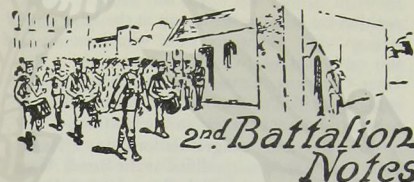
The repast finished and the island explored, I had time to recall that once on a cycling expedition I had gone speeding into distance down a long and beautiful incline so that I went miles in blissful ignorance of the fact that down hills have a nasty habit of becoming uphill on the way back, and mindful of the fact that we had got there in next to no time, I had a faint suspicion that history was about to be repeated. So just in case, we all clambered aboard and shoved off. Our experiences had taught us something and as we glided out with the jib, I gave "Up with the mainsail!"

This could have been given as "Knock me stone cold"; anyway, the result was the same. The boom has decided that it preferred the other side of the boat and, with no consideration of the fact that I was there first, over it came.

After the pretty lights had cleared away, I saw something floating away to stern; at first I thought it was my head, but closer inspection proved it to be my hat, and having got the sail somewhere definite, we thought it best not to give it another chance to change its mind, so there lies, at the bottom of the ocean, one quite good hat.

The nearest direction to home that seemed possible was dead square with it, and not very encouraging, but we plodded along. Just as we reached our tacking point a native sampan, with a lump of rag for a sail, appeared on our right. Five minutes later, while making a turn, he passed us. Sometime later, when we had nearly reached our island again, he was about two tacks ahead, and going strong for home. We gave superior smiles and commented "little thing like that easy." Our attention to this little boat kept us from noticing a big three-masted junk tacking up behind. Soon he had overhauled us and was nipping back and forth with the first chap. The superiority of our smiles looked a bit sickly, but each cherished a thought that at least neither of them were boats like ours, but the gods might have spared us two boats like ours that came from home and went back again before our eyes. Someone must have left the break on. Now the sun was growing red in the face and sinking down behind the mountains; we didn't blame it, but we wished it would not. Later another little guy got on our heels and passed us; so, swallowing our pride, we held on to his tack. It seemed as if we were going the wrong way, but these people didn't appear to go boating for fun, so we stuck. On the return we found that we had made some ground (or water), and therefore we took the tip and kept going. As we took the last weary tack out into home waters it was pitch black, and we had no light. Round we came, headed for home, and, after a slight argument with two tugs towing barges, slid alongside the jetty once more and breathed sighs that will go to make up the wind for another day.

TITFA.



CHRISTMAS leave is but a memory and we are getting down to the more serious side of soldiering, with prospects of Range Courses to be fired and Collective Training in front of us. This year we go to Tidworth Pennings for Brigade Camp, and once again to Warminster for Machine Gun Concentration.

We have been at Gosport four months and, I gather, as a station it is looked upon with mixed feelings. From a training point of view it is a little better than Portsmouth, but from a social point of view considerably worse.

Since our last issue there has been a tremendous change over of personnel, both Officers and other ranks. We welcome those who have joined us from the 1st Battalion and those who have left us carry with them our best wishes.

We congratulate Capts. Stephenson, Powell and Green on their promotion to that rank and at the same time welcome them to the Battalion. Capts. Stephenson and Green from the Depot and Capt. Powell from the 1st Battalion. Capt. Stephenson had scarcely joined us before he was sent to Netheravon on a Machine Gun Course. He was accompanied by 2/Lieuts. Passy, Lyon and Marshall. Capt. Reid has joined us after a tour of duty as Adjutant of the 8th Battalion. We extend a welcome to him, and, in anticipation, to Capts. Weller, Parker and Crawford.

We welcome 2/Lieuts. Campbell and Warren on being gazetted to the Regiment and wish them the best of luck.

To turn to recent events. At the time these notes are being written, our organisation is still in a state of flux. Before Christmas we conjured up pictures of the Battalion equipped on an Armoured Carrier basis. Our disappointment on being given one Carrier in which to train our drivers (it is safe to say that this Carrier has spent 60 per cent. of its career in Work-shops) has turned to joy at the thought of getting rid of track vehicles and all they mean. It is satisfying at least to understand that we will remain a Motorised Machine Gun Battalion, presumably on much the same organisa-

tion as we had during last Collective Training season.

I understand from the Anti-Tank Gunners that the disappearance, in the near future, of the gun to the Royal Artillery is viewed with regret. So passes, or will pass, for I am a bit premature, the only Anti-Tank Company the Battalion has known. We sympathise with "D" Company and wish them the best of luck as Machine Gunners.

We have had no new toys to play with in the Battalion recently, except for the Anti-Tank Rifle, an effective-looking weapon, Cadres for which are in full swing at the moment.

An infernal machine called the Utility Tractor was given us to train track drivers in. Authority has just come through to the effect that we cease training in Track Vehicles. Gosport will, undoubtedly, breathe a sigh of relief.

On 8th March we had a visit from the German Military Attache. For his benefit the Anti-Tank Gun and the Armoured Carrier were on show. We trust he was suitably impressed. A demonstration of the Battalion Mechanical Transport was also arranged for a large party from the Depot, who came down to witness the Army Cup soccer match versus R.A.O.C., Hilsea.

Another event worthy of note was the Battalion Convoy Drive for the Portsmouth and District Air Raid Precautions Scheme on the night 23rd-24th March. This consisted of a night drive in thick fog with lights "blued" so as to be well-nigh invisible and of little use to the drivers. Evidently the worse the conditions the better the driving, as we escaped with no crashes and nobody lost their way.

The garages, which we had long since given up hope of ever seeing erected, are springing up like mushrooms. It can safely be said that our transport will be as comfortably lodged as we, in our so-called "New" Barracks.

To turn to the realm of sport. In the soccer world we were unfortunate to lose to the R.A.O.C., Hilsea. Luck deserted us for the game and we were defeated by 2 goals to nil, after extra time. The team deserve congratulations for their effort, but for a stroke of bad luck they might, at the moment, be in the final. Cpl. Delaney, L/Cpl. Vanner and Bdmn. Phipps are to be congratulated. They have all represented the Army at soccer this season.

Although the rugby season has died a natural death from hard grounds and lack of



playing facilities, we wish the team the best of luck in the Hampshire Seven-a-side Competition to be held at Bournemouth in the middle of April.

Lieut. Unwin is again to be congratulated on keeping his place in the English XV. He has also been selected to go to South Africa with the British Rugby Union Touring side.

The athletic season in the Battalion is about to start, and Platoons are busy preparing teams for their respective Company Meetings. Let us hope some good talent is found, and may the Battalion reach the finals at Aldershot again this year with better luck than last. We are very lucky to have two Army runners with us in Capt. Powell and Lieut. Willoughby.

Lieut. Willoughby has again been chosen to represent the Army at fencing. We also hope he will successfully defend his Army 440 yards' title.

In the Brigade Boxing Tournament, the Girdwood Cup, we could only get third place. This was a great pity, as had we won this year, it would have been for the third year in succession. Unfortunately, we had several casualties at the last moment.

Finally, this magnificent weather turns thoughts to cricket. We now have Capt. Stephenson to give us a helping hand, with his boundless enthusiasm for the game. We also wish him the best of luck with his representative cricket.

#### "A" COMPANY

We open these notes with a more enlightened frame of mind than before, as we have now completed our Individual Training where, we hope, everyone learnt something of interest, even if it was only how to do "carrier drill" with two forms and a vivid imagination. We shall have an opportunity to show our proficiency as a Platoon of the Company has been selected to carry out a series of demonstrations in the Larkhill area in the near future.

A hearty welcome is extended to 2/Lieut. I. F. Campbell, who has been posted to the Company on being gazetted to the Regiment. We also welcome C.S.M. Brockman and C/Sergt. Rogers, who have joined us from the 1st Battalion. At the same time we shall be sorry to lose the services of Sergts. Honeybun and West, who have been acting in the capacity of C.S.M. and C.Q.M.S. respectively.

In the field of sport, "A" Company claimed another honour when No. 5 Platoon beat the Band, 5-0, in the final of the Inter-Platoon

Football Knock-out. In the Hockey Competition we made an early exit at the hands of a strong "D" Company side, who beat us by the odd goal of five after extra time. The Inter-Company Cross-country Championship is to be decided in the near future and we hope to record another success in the next issue.

We offer our congratulations to 2/Lieut. E. L. G. Passy, who qualified at the Small Arms School, Netheravon. Cpl. Parry is also deserving of special praise by obtaining a well-earned "D" at the same School, while the undermentioned can be complimented on obtaining "Q.s" on the same Course: Sergt. Harper, L/Sergts. Thomas and McDowell, Cpls. Hinch and Kenny and L/Cpl. Chapman. And, finally, to L/Cpl. Webb our congratulations on his appointment.

Sergt. Chillery is at present attending a Course at the Anti-Gas Wing, Porton, and we are looking forward to his bringing another "D" to the Company. L/Cpl. Smith has again disappeared; this time on a Probationer's Course at the Army School of Physical Training, and our best wishes go with him.

#### "B" COMPANY

Several changes have occurred in the Company. Capt. P. D. ff. Powell has joined from the 1st Battalion, and C.S.M. Green has left us for Hong Kong. We wish them both the best of luck.

We are not so well off for playing fields this side of the harbour, but since Christmas the Company has had several soccer matches against "D" Company and the local police, winning all of them.

In the Inter-Platoon Knock-out, No. 9 Platoon only got through the first round, 9-5, and lost the next match, 5-8, to the Drums.

We hope to do better in the Inter-Company, which starts shortly.

The Company hockey XI played a very strong side from the Navigation School and lost 2-8, after holding their own for most of the game. It was only in the last ten minutes that the goals came against us.

We had a very good match against "C" Company in the first round of the Inter-Company, and lost 2-3, after leading 1-0 and drawing level at 2-2.

The cross-country and athletics are in front of us; we hope for better results there.

O.C. Company, Capt. J. W. A. Stephenson, and 2/Lieut. P. D. H. Marshall, have been

away at Netheravon for the Course, but are back again once more with all the latest information. They both qualified. But rumour has it that some subjects taught on the last Course are obsolete even now.

A draft has sailed for Hong Kong, under L/Sergt. Riches, and a small draft of 15 has joined us from the Depot. After we get our new permanent C.S.M. we shall be able to settle down by at least the autumn.

#### "C" COMPANY

Thoughts of the recent Christmas furlough are now but a sad memory, a memory of more or less halcyon days and exciting nights. The image of Gosport has given place to the grim reality, but with our well-known fortitude we are bearing up, considerably braced by the thought that the ferry fare is only one humble copper coin. But a truce to these meanderings and vapourings; let us to facts and news.

We can now definitely extend a very hearty welcome to Capt. Reid, who, as foretold in our last notes, has taken over command of the Company. This glad hand we also hold out to Sergts. Honeybun and Snell, Cpl. Sampford and Pte. Allison. These four have all joined us from the 1st Battalion. "Hello" usually means that "Good-bye" is hovering somewhere round about the vicinity; thus we have to commiserate with ourselves on the departure of L/Sergt. Poulter, who has gone overseas. With him go our best wishes.

After welcoming, we usually dole out congratulations, and these are due to Lieut. Beath and A/Cpl. Rae on their qualifications at the A.F.V. School, while the latter also receives a further quota on his appointment to Acting Corporal.

Individual Training for the Company is now finished, except in the case of a few stray individuals who have been attached to "A" and "B" Companies. The Company has furnished its share of employments, while many members have been, and still are, receiving instruction on the Battalion M.T. Cadres, both Wheel and Track.

Of sporting activities, apart from potting an occasional unwary pedestrian or driver, there is very little to note. Both No. 10 and No. 12 Platoons have been knocked out of the Inter-Platoon Six-a-side Football, but No. 11 Platoon is in the semi-final. In the Hockey Cup, the Company team, after disposing of "B" Company, were dismissed from the competition by "D" Company.

Now for an apparent digression; but we must warn the unpracticed reader that things are not always what they seem.

Montague (Tailoring of Quality) B—n, Sir Henry (Fifty Shilling) P—e, and the benevolent but uninitialled Mr. (It's easier to pay the W—y way) W—y, one and all, they offer astounding reductions in the prices of their assorted suitings during the three months after Christmas, in order to keep their workpeople snipping and cutting during the slack period. We are not proposing to offer any discount on the Journal, but we would like to point out that we, too, have a slack period, when the paucity of news is a problem to the conscientious correspondent. The discerning reader will probably have realised by now that not only has one certain scribe apologised for the previously-mentioned and much-to-be-deplored scarcity of news, but, by the exercise of a little craft, coupled with professional skill, managed to stretch his notes for this issue of the Journal to a point where he can say *au revoir* without the mantle of shame crimsoning his marble brow.

FLASH. L/Cpl. (Sam) Weller, Ptes. (Crash) Gibbons and Short have all left us to try conclusions with civilian life, via the Vocational Training Centres.

#### "D" COMPANY

Since the last issue, we welcome 2/Lieut. A. J. Warren, straight from the Royal Military College, Sandhurst; C.Q.M.S. Misso, L/Sergt. O'Neill and L/Cpl. Rochester from the 1st Battalion; a Platoon of Employed personnel from "H.Q." Company and a Draft from the Regimental Depot.

Congratulations to Cpl. Jennings for gaining a "Special Mention" on his Driving and Maintenance Course at the Army Fighting Vehicle School at Bovington; also to Company drivers for not having an accident during the current quarter.

A rumour that we are to lose our "toys" can now be confirmed as official, consequently we are closing our nursery, at a date as yet unknown, and will become a Machine Gun Company. Thus passes the Regiment's only Anti-Tank Gun Company, which did such yeoman service on the battlefields of Warminster and Wimborne St. Giles.

As for sports, we congratulate the hockey team on reaching the final of the Inter-Company Tournament, where they lost to "H.Q." Company by 2-3, after a very keen game.



No. 15 Platoon are also to be congratulated because at the time of writing they are in the semi-final of the Battalion Inter-Platoon Six-a-side Football Competition and are still going strong.

#### "H.Q." COMPANY

First, let us welcome Capt. Green, who has taken over command of the Company, after a tour of duty at the Regimental Depot. We hope his stay will be a long and happy one.



"H.Q." COMPANY  
Winners Inter-Company Hockey Shield, 1938

Lieut. Ormiston has left us to attend a Course in Physical Training. We wish him the best of luck and hope he obtains as good a result as he did on his M.G. Course.

After a great struggle in the final with "D" Company, we have managed to win the Inter-Company Hockey Shield.

Congratulations to all members of the team, especially Sergt. Jennings, who is a great hockey enthusiast, and through whose efforts we won the above trophy, by the odd goal.

At the time of writing these notes we are doing very well in the Six-a-side Football

Competition, the Band being in the final, which will be played off at the end of March.

The Inter-Company Cross-country Run takes place shortly and we hope to be able to record a win, as we also hope to do in the Battalion Sports.

We congratulate Cpl. Peasley on being picked to represent the Battalion in the Southern Command Cross-country Championship, being placed fourth.

Company Sports will take place on 3rd and 4th April, and we hope to find some new talent,

which we shall need if we are to win the Battalion Sports.

One or two games of football have been played with civilian teams and on each occasion we have managed to win.

#### BAND

Well, here we are again, endeavouring to fulfil the periodical task set by, or, at least required by, the Editor.

We have now formed a Darts League and many "dark horses" are coming to light. At

present Cpl. Stretton is at the top of the League, but it is a very close thing. Many outings are arranged and I hear that they do not cost too much.

In the way of sport, I think we are now on the incline, as in the Company cross-country run we came second, in place of our usual "last."

In the Rabbits League we reached the final (thanks to our Bandsmen in the 1st Battalion), but owing to four of the team leaving us we failed to win.

We are still in the Six-a-side Knock-out, and we are looking forward to winning it.

In the way of hockey, little has been played, as the ground has to be hired and it is a fair way from barracks. The Company Hockey Knock-out has been played, and I am pleased to say "H.Q." Company won the Shield which they have not won for a few years.

Bdmn. McDonald is away at present in training for the Inter-Services Boxing, and we wish him good luck.

Spiritualism is now a craze among certain members of the Band, and we are wondering what is the attraction, but perhaps we will know one day when the wedding takes place.

By the time these notes are in print, the Band will have finished their "gun bumping" and have started their practice on Tidworth Tattoo music, which is of a higher standard this year.

We are glad to hear that our Bandsmen now in the 1st Battalion have settled down, and would Bdmn. Tunmer and Dillon like their Cope's and Littlewood's re-addressed to them.

STREPITOSO.

#### DRUMS

Having returned from annual furlough, after a good time spent by all, we have a few changes to make. Dmrs. Salmon and Bodle have arrived from the 1st Battalion, for whom Dmrs. Thorley and Webster went out in relief. Pte. Bishop arrived to join his brother in "H.Q." Company and Boy Broom on enlistment.

Since our last notes Cpl. Carpenter has been to and arrived back from Winterbourne Gunner, and we congratulate him on obtaining "Q.1" on an Anti-Gas Course. L/Cpl. Burchell is still at Bovington on an M.T. Course, and we wish him the same success.

At sports there is little to record. The Platoon Six-a-side Knock-out is now in progress and, having disposed of No. 13

Platoon and No. 9 Platoon, we are now in the semi-final stage and hoping at least to appear in the final.

We are getting ready for the Inter-Group Sports, to take place early in April, and if the number of entries and keenness shown counts for anything, we should stand quite a chance. Dmr. Salmon should be a good acquisition to us, as we know he had quite a fair record while abroad.

Dmr. Cox has arrived from the Depot on completion of his tour of duty. He went as a single member, without a care in the world, and came back married. We now have to congratulate him on the birth of a boy. A tour at the Depot and away goes another single man, or so it seems. Ask Firman!

Once again we change over "Quarter blokes." This time we welcome C.Q.M.S. Sherriff, and hope that he comes up to our usual expectations on such occasions as required.

We are looking forward to Easter break and then to M.G. and A.A. Training and Tidworth Tattoo.

Congratulations to the Drum-Major on being the recipient of the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal, presented last month.

In conclusion, best wishes to all Drummers at home and abroad.

#### SIGNALS

Let us commence these notes by giving our heartfelt thanks to those two accomplished journalists who, under the pen name of "TOAR" (we think "WIMPY" would have been more appropriate for one of them), so ably stepped into the breach during our absence on furlough and produced our last quarter's notes.

Very little of note has happened during the last quarter, except that our Signal Officer has left us once more, this time for the "Muscle Factory" (apologies to Cpl. Carpenter), in search of another "D." We wish him the best of luck.

We offer congratulations to L/Cpl. Jennings on obtaining his Battalion Rugby Colours; he has trained and played hard for this honour and thoroughly deserves it. By the way, the result of Harry's fight with "Popeye's Poppa" was that Harry was put to sleep early in the "third"; we told him to watch that "twisker sock," but he would insist that he was tough and could take it.



We also congratulate Cpl. Peasley on being picked to represent the Battalion in the Southern Command Cross-country Championships, in which he was placed fourth, and to represent the Southern Command in the Army Championships.

As a Platoon we have once more shown our worth in the realms of sport by winning, for the fourth successive year, the Inter-Group Cross-country Clock, for which we thank the whole of the team, special mention being given to Cpl. Peasley (1st) and Pte. Cronin (3rd).

After a long absence, the Inter-Group Boxing Shield has returned to our midst, mainly through the efforts of several of our new members in the Battalion Individual Novices' Competition, during which Pte. Whitehead distinguished himself by winning his weight, for which congratulations are long overdue; Pte. Harris was very unlucky to have his fight in the semi-final stopped owing to a badly-cut eye. Hard luck, Harris; try again next year.

Our next great event is the Company Sports, which we won last year, but as Lieut. Ormiston, our first string for several events, will be absent this year, we are not so sanguine of success, but we are still a force to be reckoned with and may spring a surprise on those who have "already won it."

Just after these notes appear in print we shall have classification upon us, and we hope to make it a bumper one as we are stronger in numbers now than we have been for the last few years. We hope the 1st Battalion Signallers had as good a result on their classification as we hope to have on ours.

In conclusion, we congratulate Cpl. Clarke of the 1st Battalion on being appointed Assistant Instructor at the School of Signals. We wish all Signallers, whether "ex" or present, the very best of good things.

#### EMPLOYED GROUP

Since our last notes the Group has received a large cleft with the "axe." In short, many of our Group have been transferred to "D" Company, there to form an Employed Platoon. The Group is thus the loser of such old stagers as Sergts. Smallridge and Etheridge and L/Cpls. Wigg, Bursill and Fletcher. However, we wish all of them the best of luck in their new spheres. By the way, we are now without horses and their accompanying personnel. Is this the first time in history?

We extend a hearty welcome to Capt. Green on taking over command of the Company.

Soon we hope to offer similar greetings to Capt. Parker, who is coming to us from overseas.

As was foreshadowed in our last notes, "Sid" is now a "big noise" in civilian life, and, by all accounts, is doing very well at the Government's expense at Farnbridge. We hope that his luck will hold out for many years to come. Yet another old face is no longer to be seen amongst us. We speak of one "Patto," who was not in the Group for long, but was with us in spirit for ages. We cannot visualise what Camp will be like without him this year.

We shall all be sorry to lose C.Q.M.S. Franklin, who is returning to the Depot, so that we may have C.Q.M.S. Sherriff, who is no stranger to the Group.

The matrimonial market is still working overtime, and, if we are to believe all we hear, "Channer" is the next victim.

We cannot close without congratulating Archie on the arrival of No. 2.

SPARKING PLUG.

#### SERGEANTS' MESS

The personnel of the Mess has changed considerably since our last notes, and with the closing of the trooping season our change-over of members with the 1st Battalion appears to be completed.

C.S.M. Green and L/Sergt. Poulter were the last of our old members to leave us; they both departed in February, with their families, and we hope they are settled down by this time on foreign service once more, for it is not new to either of them.

The following have arrived from Hong Kong all with their families, and we extend them a hearty welcome to England once more, and to Gosport and the Mess in particular: C.S.M.s Brockman and Thomas, C.Q.M.S.s Rogers and Misso, Sergts. Honeybun and Snell and L/Sergt. O'Neill.

A hearty welcome also to L/Sergt. Wadsworth, the only single member of the new arrivals, and who has since departed for the Depot.

Sergt. Frewin has left us for Vocational Training at Southampton, prior to trying his luck in civilian life. We wish him and his family the very best of luck.

C.Q.M.S. Sherriff has rejoined us from the Depot, to take over "H.Q." Company. He has had a very strenuous few months at the Depot, in the absence of a Quartermaster and R.Q.M.S. there, and we feel sure he will find

the Battalion comparatively "restful." We are glad to have him back with us.

C.Q.M.S. Franklin is proceeding to the Depot (again) in his place, although his actual departure must wait until our next notes.

Our heartiest congratulations to Sergt. (M.T.) Smith on his increase in family—a son, born on 28th February last.

As predicted in our last notes, we have found it necessary to hold the monthly dances in the Gymnasium, and two have been held since our arrival in the Station. They have been very enjoyable and well attended by the local population, friends, etc., of Mess members.



OFFICERS' AND SERGEANTS' FOOTBALL (?) MATCH

It has been our custom hitherto to have the dances on Fridays, but, owing to a misunderstanding with regard to the allotment of the Gymnasium, the dance for March had to be held on the Saturday. The change of days has, however, proved to be so popular and the attendance increased, that we have decided to make Saturdays a permanent day for these functions. We hope to have two more dances before the close of the season.

As it is impracticable to include a whist drive in the monthly dances in the Gymnasium, we have instituted a series of small drives, just amongst the Mess members and their wives (and single members' friends), on

Sunday evenings, varied occasionally by that old but ever welcome game "Housey-Housey." These have also proved to be very popular amongst those members who are inclined to find themselves at a loose end on Sunday evenings; especially in a place like Gosport, which cannot provide any attraction or amusement sufficient to justify looking for it.

We are just in time to include in our notes a reference to the grand sporting event of the year, ladies and gentlemen—a battle royal between the Officers and the Sergeants, which took place on the football pitch, New Barracks, Gosport, on a certain sunny spring afternoon, to wit, Wednesday, 23rd March, and witnessed

by all and sundry in the Battalion and various interested civilian spectators outside the railings. The following fought the battle for the Sergeants' Mess: Herr Bruno Jennings; Valentino Etheridge, Myrtle Deane, Florrie Kemp, Masie Gatehouse, Barbara Livens, Elisabeth McDowell, Helen Day, Patricia Elcome, Madie Scott and Gus Beaveridge, the pearly king of Fort Brockhurst.

In attendance were Doctor "Fat" Smith, the Veterinary Surgeon, complete with instruments, including a "Brushes, W.C.," a large pail of water and larger bottle of beer; and the Very Rev. Patrick Maloney, who performed noble service as linesman.



Where the team obtained their various raiment will remain a mystery, as we hesitate to assume the ladies' wardrobes were capable of producing such a miscellany of very cast-off cast-offs.

With the exception of Herr Jennings, we make no apology for not "positioning" the team, because after all, it doesn't, or rather didn't, matter.

Both the Officers' and Sergeants' teams were heralded on to the field of battle by the Corps of Drums, in full ("scruff") dress.

The first half was a bewildering mixture of soccer, rugby and all-in wrestling, with the football occasionally popping up here and there, and was attended by certain minor casualties to Masie Gatehouse, which necessitated the applications of Dr. Smith's pail of water to cool his heated condition. Gus Beaveridge scored a goal for the Mess by the simple expedient of picking the ball up in his arms and shoving it there; a second attempt to do likewise was ruled out by the referee as being "off-side."

In the second half, the football was replaced by a rugby ball, which, apparently, it was an offence to touch with any part of the anatomy except the feet. Things began to look really serious in the second half and both teams settled down to it in earnest, until the rugby ball got tired of being continually kicked about and had to be replaced by the football.

Full time saw the scores at two all, and as this could not be permitted to finish the game, extra time was played until the Mess managed to score the winning goal of the match.

Final score: Sergeants, 3; Officers, 2.

The teams left the ground to the accompaniment of three cheers all round, and the Officers were entertained in the Mess after the match.

We ought to mention that the Bandmaster and the Drum-Major played for the Officers' side, and tender our thanks to Pte. Cross-thwaite for his services as referee.

Anyhow, it was a good afternoon's fun, the like of which we have not seen in the Battalion for many moons, and, incidentally, the like of which it would do us no harm to see a little more frequently.

#### CORPORALS' CLUB

The President has decreed: "There will be Journal notes"; the wet towel is around our devoted head, the strong black coffee is simmering gently on the Primus, and the midnight oil is being burnt in no small measure.

We could now very well go all philosophical about the public (our public, that is) being hard taskmasters, but we will, if the phrase may be forgiven by those of our readers addicted to the English Pure, cut the cackle and get to the hosses.

A welcome innovation has been made in the establishment of a Miniature Range Competition between teams of eight from the Sergeants, the Corporals and the Privates, the contest to be held monthly. The month of March saw us defeated on aggregate by the Sergeants, a result which we hope to reverse in April. In addition to the Inter-Rank Shoot, the Corporals' Club will themselves hold an individual competition shoot during the following month. Incidentally, we should like to see this idea extended still further until we reach the time when the Corporals enter a team in the Portsmouth Miniature Rifle League.

Since Christmas we have held our first two dances in Gosport. The opening one, in the nature of an introduction to the civil populace of Gosport, was marred somewhat by the weather, but the second was extremely successful. We cannot let dances pass from this contribution without paying tribute to Cpl. Harris, the President of the Dance Committee, and to L/Cpl. Fred (Golden Voice) Hogg, whose white tie and immaculate tails are the cynosure of all eyes and add just that touch of distinction to the gathering.

The Editor is practically screaming for these notes, so tendering apologies for their scantiness, and pouring forth a positive shower of good wishes on all those Corporals who have left us, and on all those who have joined us from the 1st Battalion and from the Men's Mess, we beg to take leave of all those kind souls who have been good enough to read this effusion. *Hasta la vista*, which phrase we have a strong idea is the Mexican equivalent of "I'll be seeing you."

#### FOOTBALL

We ended our last Journal notes by saying that we hoped that, when we wrote our next notes, we should still be in the Army Cup, but, alas, this is not so. We left the Competition in the fifth round, being beaten by the R.A.O.C., Hilsea, at Hilsea, by 2-0. This was a very unlucky day for us, as on that day we had our right back in hospital, Pte. Stagg was suffering from influenza and Pte. Crossthwaite was injured in the first ten

minutes of the match and was never effective afterwards; in fact he had to leave the field in the second half. The day was very windy and we really did very well to hold our opponents to a draw to full time, but they scored one goal in each half of the extra time, and we then said good-bye to any hopes we had of winning the Army Cup for another twelve months. This is very unfortunate for us, as we shall not have such a chance to win the Cup as we have had this year for some years to come, as we shall be losing at least three or four of our best players before the commencement of next season.

Going back to the Competition, in the fourth round we soundly beat The Loyal Regiment on our own ground by 3-0. Cpl. Delaney performed the hat-trick. This was a very wet day, rain falling in torrents for the whole of the match. There were at least 700 spectators present. The team played so well that none of the spectators left the ground until the match was over.

In the fourth round of the Hampshire Senior Cup we were defeated by Basingstoke on their ground by 4-3. This was very disappointing as in the first twenty minutes of the game the play was all in our favour, and anyone would have thought then that we should win the game by at least eight goals, but the ball just would not go into the net, and the game turned round, and at one time we were losing 1-3; we managed to draw level, 3-3, but in the last minute of the game Basingstoke scored the winning goal.

In the round prior to this, it will be remembered, we had to replay the Portsmouth Electricity, owing to the ineligibility of Bdmn. Ryder. We drew with them on their ground, 3-3, and in the second replay we defeated them on our own ground by 3-0. C/Sergt. Deane scored two goals and Cpl. Delaney was responsible for the other.

In the United Services Charity Cup we got through to the final. We played H.M.S. *Excellent* in the semi-final at Pitt Street, and, in a very good game for us, we beat them 3-2.

In the final we played H.M.S. *Victory* and were winning 2-1, and it seemed that the Cup was "in the bag." The Honorary Secretary of the League took the Cup out of the box at about four minutes to full time, and we were at that time outplaying the *Victory*; then all at once the *Victory* scored a soft goal and two minutes after the kick-off they scored the winning goal.

Through all these Cup matches we are very much behind in our league fixtures. Now we seem to be overcoming that difficulty and at present we are standing third in the league. With the ordinary amount of luck we can win it, but we have to play three more hard matches, two against H.M.S. *Excellent* and one against the *Victory*. We should win the other five that we have to play.

The second team are doing quite well. They are at present standing third in Division II of the League, but they jeopardised their chances of winning the league by losing to R.A.F., Lee, by 6-0.

In the next notes will be shown the final results of both teams, together with the names of scorers of goals.

#### RUGBY FOOTBALL

Rugby football this season has been very disorganised by our move to Gosport. Although grounds at Portsmouth were hard to come by, at Gosport we have so far been unable to procure one.

Maybe next year, when the ground problem has been cleared up, and we have our own ground, we will be able to produce a team that will go a long way in the Army Cup.

We have had some very close and hard-fought matches since Christmas, but owing to Courses and injuries, etc., we have never been able to raise what could really be termed a Battalion 1st XV; rather let us call it an "A" side with a leavening of 1st XV players.

The more one studies the form of teams that go far in the Army Cup the more it emphasises two all-important points: fitness and keenness. I would hesitate to say that there was a lack of keenness in the Battalion rugby this year, but I must admit that since we took an undignified exit from the Cup a great deal of enthusiasm has been damped. Why? Lack of grounds and disorganisation of the team for the most part.

I seem to be dwelling on the more morbid side of our season, so let us, therefore, turn our attention to those who are deserving of praise.

To Lieut. Unwin we all extend our heartiest congratulations on keeping his place in the English side; may he long remain there. He has had a remarkably good season, crowning it by scoring the only try for England in the Calcutta Cup; no mean feat against crashing tackling.



Pte. Kent has at last made his mark in first-class rugby; he has played regularly for United Services 1st XV and has thoroughly deserved his place. Congratulations, Kent!

This year Cpl. Trotobas proved himself fleet of foot with a genius for getting through the defence; the only weakness in his game at the moment is his passing.

L/Cpl. Rimmer, tried at stand-off half for the first time, proved that he is a very penetrating runner with a good pair of hands; with a little more experience in this position he will make a very valuable player. Another player of promise outside the scrum is Pte. Clark (13). He runs with determination, and again, with more experience, will be a great asset mid-field.

Apart from our old stalwarts, L/Cpls. Rawlinson and Williams, we have got some more players of promise in Sergt. McDowell (with a good reputation from the 1st Battalion), L/Cpl. Jennings and Pte. Bishop, with Pte. Coleman undoubtedly a player who will improve with experience. L/Cpl. Rawlinson was unlucky to fracture a rib early in the season; next year we hope to find him back in the pack, playing with renewed vigour.

Major Haydon has set us a fine example, both in his keenness on the fortunes of the rugby team, and by turning out himself on two occasions, so dispelling the fallacy that one is too old for rugby at 30 years of age and over.

Possibly the Journal should not savour so much criticism as these notes have, but I feel that with the undoubted talent which we have got in the Battalion something must be done to win the Army Cup. May we win the Bournemouth Seven-a-sides, for which we are entered, and so end the season with a striking success.

### BOXING

There has only been one Battalion boxing fixture up to the time of writing and that was the Girdwood Cup, which we unsuccessfully defended against the rest of the Brigade. The Lincolnshire Regiment proved to be too good for us and went back with the Cup, which had been held by the Battalion for the last two years.

The following represented the Battalion:

*Bantam-weight.*—L/Cpl. Hudson.

*Feather-weight.*—Cpl. Wray and Pte. Tostevin. Reserve: Pte. Smith (15).

*Light-weight.*—Pte. Markham and Pte. Christain. Reserve: Pte. Whitehead.

*Welter-weight.*—L/Cpl. Harwood, L/Cpl. Morley and Pte. Tyler. Reserve: Dmr. Lewin.

*Middle-weight.*—Cpl. Trotobas. Reserve: Pte. McDouall.

*Light Heavy-weight.*—L/Cpl. Betts.

*Heavy-weight.*—Pte. Moran. Reserve: Pte. Flood.

For the local Inter-Services Boxing Tournament, on 31st March, the following have been selected from the Battalion to represent the Army out of a team of 15:

*Light Heavy-weight.*—Pte. Moran and L/Cpl. Betts.

*Middle-weight.*—Cpl. Trotobas, L/Cpl. Chapman and Pte. Whitehead.

*Light-weight.*—Pte. Markham and Pte. Christain.

*Feather-weight.*—L/Cpl. Hudson.

It is hoped that next year we will have many more people boxing than this season. To meet this probability, we have bought our own new ring, and to prevent the novice from being discouraged and the remainder from being hurt during training, the Battalion have purchased head guards, waist guards and 16-oz. training gloves.

### HOCKEY

On arriving in Gosport we were very pleased to find that we could hire from the Corporation two good hockey grounds. This has resulted in the Battalion being able to have more hockey than was possible at Portsmouth.

Of the seven Battalion fixtures played since the last issue, four were won, three lost.

The Inter-Company Tournament proved a very even struggle from the start, largely because all Companies now have roughly the same numbers. The two finalists were "D" and "H.Q." Companies, and this proved to be a real "blood match," in which "H.Q." gained a victory, which they undoubtedly deserved, by 3-2, through their definite superiority in the first half.

### CROSS-COUNTRY RUNNING

By the time these notes go to press the cross-country running season will be over.

It is unfortunate that more could not be done, but the move over here seriously interfered with training. At Portsmouth we did at least have the Common to train over, which,

although flat, did away with having to do all road work, which is the case here.

The first inter-Company run took place in November last, "C" Company doing particularly well, having seven home in the first twelve. "H.Q." Company was second.

Cpl. Peasley was the first home, having completed the course of just over three miles in 16 mins. 40 secs. Pte. Coleman was second five seconds later.

Cpl. Peasley, Pte. Coleman and Pte. Mills entered as individual competitors in the Southern Command Cross-country Championships. All did well, though Cpl. Peasley and Pte. Coleman are to be particularly congratulated, being placed fourth and fifth respectively. The course was one of approximately seven miles of hard going; most of their training was done on hard roads.

They represented the Southern Command as individual competitors in the Army Championship, which took place at Aldershot on 10th March.

Unfortunately, Cpl. Peasley met with an accident in the early stages, twisting his ankle badly, so was out of it for the rest of the run. Pte. Coleman did very well most of the way, but did not get a place—perhaps he was depressed over Cpl. Peasley's accident.

However, with the example of these two before us, we hope next year to be able to send a team instead of individuals, but we learn with regret that we will not have Cpl. Peasley to assist us, as he will have left us by that time for civilian life. We wish him the best of luck and hope he will be able to continue his cross-country running in civilian life.

W. M. F.

### THE TRANS-JORDAN FRONTIER FORCE

THE heterogeneous nationalities and races in the Trans-Jordan Frontier Force must nearly approach that of the French Foreign Legion. At Zerka, the Headquarters of the Force, one can recognise the characteristic faces of Assyrians, Armenians, Britons, Chichanes, Circassians, Druzes, Egyptians, Germans, Greeks, Hejagies, Hungarians, Indians, Iraqies, Kurds, Persians, Poles, Roumanians, Russians, Sudanese, Syrians, Turks, and Yemenites. An American citizen has also been enlisted in the Force. The diversity of creeds

is obvious, but Christian, Moslem and Druze religions are the commonest. Notwithstanding this cosmopolitan symposium it is an Arab Force and Friday is observed as the official holiday.

The Force is commanded by Lieut.-Col. J. I. Chrystall, M.C., 13/18th Hussars, who is responsible for the administration, training and financial arrangements of the Force. To assist him a British Officer is in charge of each Department. The Force Headquarters is at Zerka, some fifteen miles distant north-east from Amman, the capital of Trans-Jordan. Stationed at Zerka are one Cavalry Squadron and one Mechanised Squadron, Depot, Q.M. Stores, Hospital, Workshops, Wireless Section, Pay Department and Armourers' Shop. At Ma'an, the termination of the Hedjas Railway, is another Mechanised Squadron, while two Sabre Squadrons are stationed in the Jordan Valley.

Mechanised Squadrons work in the desert east of the Hedjas Railway and south of Amman; the Sabre Squadrons patrolling the hill country west of the railway, including the Jordan Valley in Palestine and Trans-Jordan.

A Squadron has three British Officers: the Squadron Commander and two Half Squadron Commanders. A Half Sabre Squadron consists of two troops and a H.G. troop, an aggregate of about 75 men and horses. One mechanised Half Squadron is being re-organised and will probably consist of about eight cars; one car for the Half Squadron Commander, containing W/T, one tender and six Commers. The latter are to be mounted with Bren guns, which can be fired from the cars on the move or from the ground when the personnel are dismounted.

A Troop is commanded by a Local Officer, who obtains his commission by promotion from the ranks.

The climate of Trans-Jordan varies considerably. Zerka and Ma'an, situated some 3,000 to 4,000 feet above sea level, enjoy a hot but dry summer and a bitterly cold winter. Snow is not unusual and cars are occasionally rendered immobile by snow drifts. In comparison, the Jordan Area stations which lie about 700 feet below sea level experience a hot and sticky summer but a mild and pleasant winter.

The Felaheen has a most delightful character. He is cheerful, good natured, and always ready for a joke. As he can seldom read or write, he spends the greater part of his life sipping coffee and listening to the gossip of his village. Laziness is one of his characteristics; he does



the minimum work necessary to keep the wolf from the door and, consequently, he is extremely poor. He seldom attempts to improve the land, and works only during the ploughing and reaping seasons, during which seasons he may be seen working in the field from daylight to sunset. The harvest gathered, he drifts back once again to leisurely idleness.

The generosity of the Arab is well known. It is difficult to pass a door without an invitation to a meal and a bed for the night. Once in a house or tent everything is at the command of the guest. On occasions this generous hospitality is most embarrassing when one is on patrol and all troops have to be fed. A meal will take two hours to prepare as the sheep are not killed until the guests arrive, and as the patrol has to reach its destination by a certain time, unnecessary delay is caused if invitations are accepted. If the patrol accepted every invitation the distance covered in a week would be very small. Time means little to the Felaheen and still less to the Bedouin, and it is difficult for them to understand why you cannot remain a day or two with them.

A well-cooked Arab meal is excellent. Large *salvas* are brought into the room, piled up with rice and sheep on top. The guests sitting on the floor encircle the *salvas* and commence eating with their hands. The host will remain standing and wait upon his guests until all have finished. The food left over is taken outside, where the remainder of the tribe feed.

The Bedouin Arabs, who, as a whole, are not enlisted in the Force, are even more casual than the Felaheen, as they do not even cultivate land. They migrate from north to south or from colder to warmer regions, are restless and easy going. They have considerable difficulty in becoming accustomed to military discipline, after their gipsy life.

The Arab is a fatalist, taking all disappointments, successes and failings as the wish of Allah. It is difficult to obtain an opinion from the Arab as to the weather, crops, etc., since he will inform one that it all depends on Allah. If a child is ill and is likely to die, little attempt is made to save it, since Allah has willed it to be ill, and, therefore, on Allah depends the issue. When the Felaheen becomes a soldier he realises pretty quickly that time means something and that other wishes besides those of Allah must be obeyed. He soon becomes a trained soldier, being naturally a good shot and rides well. He has great faith in his B.O. and looks to him for help in both military and private affairs.

## SPORT

Polo is played two days a week during the greater part of the year on the local Arab ponies. The standard is not high, but improving each year. The main tournament is played at Samakh in October, when the entries will be from six to nine teams. The open Polo Cup, played for in Palestine, is usually won by a Frontier Force Squadron team. The Arab has a good eye for the ball, but is wild and excitable. He gallops madly up and down the field with a loose rein and his horse out of control, chasing the ball wherever it goes, and seldom thinking about the rules.

The best sport with a shot gun is found on Lake Huleh, when a week-end party will collect from 150 to 250 head of duck, teal and snipe. Chukor shooting is found in the hills; hard walking over difficult country is the only method of producing a good bag. Sandgrouse varies from year to year. One year four hundred was considered a small bag with six guns.

There is no rifle shooting, except gazelle and oxen, in the Jabel Jabaik. Panther are reported from reliable sources in the Kerak hills.

Fishing is poor except at Akaba, where good sport can be produced after king fish, tunney and baracouta. The king fish run up to 70 lbs. and need careful handling. The fishing requires further investigation and is increasing in popularity. A tunney of 50 lbs. was caught last Christmas.

The Trans-Jordan Frontier Force is an excellent training ground for young Officers. They are given responsibilities which they seldom get with their units at home. They are often on their own in Half-Squadron stations, and constantly called out in aid of the Civil power. There is no one to assist them or to give advice; they must act on their own. They must ensure that their Half Squadron is up to the standard of training that is required of them, and must be prepared to answer, without referring to musketry or training books, any questions put to them by a Trooper or Arab Officer. It is by the example they show and the interest in the men that they take that a good Squadron is formed. The Frontier Force boasts that it can turn out and take the field at any time in under twenty minutes. A Mechanised Squadron is self-supporting for four days and a Sabre Squadron for two days.

During the past two years the Force has been "in the field" or acting in aid of the Civil power more or less continuously in Palestine

and Trans-Jordan. Amongst the Arab personnel one Officer has been awarded a Military Cross, two Officers made Members of the British Empire and four Troopers awarded the Military Medal. The great loyalty shown by the members of the Force during the recent troubles, notwithstanding the seditious literature and propaganda, has been markedly noticeable.

C. M. B.

## DEPOT NOTES

IN the last journal notes some lively illustrations of affairs in Hong Kong were published. One of these which interested us more than the rest showed the Commanding Officer happily surrounded by his Quartermasters. We congratulate the 1st Battalion on this good fortune. At the same time, without wishing to be axiomatic, or in any way to insinuate that this tide of good fortune may have left its ebb in other regions, we, too, publish a few simple illustrations of contemporary life at the Regimental Depot. It is to be hoped that their eloquence may not be misconstrued, since they are intended only to demonstrate a way the Depot has of overcoming obstacles, without awaiting the turn of the tide. In any case it will be seen that the story ends happily. In January, Capt. Clark rejoined, and it cheered everybody to see him and his family back here at last. We hope his tour will be a long and pleasant one.

Those who have lately returned here, after a year or two of absence, have been struck by the changes which have lately come over the face of the Depot. Within and without, the Barracks are undergoing a very thorough spring cleaning. Roads, walls, ceilings, pipes, cupboards and floors have all, in their turn, been either uprooted, stripped, tarred, varnished or painted; and the whole lot has come under the heading of "modernisation." We are far from being out of the wood yet. Nevertheless, out of the din of hammering and splashing of paint, something seems to be taking shape. Returning drafts have been seen rubbing their eyes and giving vent to pointed observations, for the benefit, perhaps, of recruits now serving, but significant, none the less, of the transformations brought about by the Brighter Barrack Movement. Such remarks have included allusions to the Crystal Palace,

the Arabian Nights and The Ideal Home Exhibition.

Another development, which has caused considerable misgivings since its inception, is the new R.A.O.C. Depot. This huge enterprise has been showing signs of eclipsing the Gas Works of late. To the eye, accustomed to the smiling panorama of gently undulating greenery falling evenly away to the Cricket Ground, it has almost appeared at times as though this view would be shut out for evermore; and one wondered indeed where things were likely to stop. It was some relief then to learn one day that the spectre of our fantasy had stopped growing upwards, and was, in fact, engaged in digging itself in, downwards, where the magazine is to be.

Of course, we may yet see it go up; but then the gas works will go "up" in "sympathy," and after that we shall hardly be in a position to care much about what happens. Apart from this, the Depot is providing all that could have been wished for by those back from foreign service and who, in previous years, must surely have experienced their moments in feeling like the poet: "Oh, to be in England now that April's here."

Well, here it is, and though we have to thank Mr. Hore-Belisha for much that has been set afoot, yet there is much more in its outward charm, for which one must thank Nature on the one hand, and, on the other, some who are present now, and others again who must content themselves with picturing the harvest of their sowing from the distant scenes which we have ourselves so recently left.

At the moment, Spring seems to have vested the Depot with all its freshness; the fairest blossoms are bursting from every bud of peach and pear, from every twig of almond and may, and from every chestnut bow where the song of the robin is giving place to the blackbird's cheerful note. On the grassy banks bordering the drive, white and yellow primroses mingle interspersed amidst a profusion of waving daffodils "That come before the swallow dares and take the winds of March with beauty"; only, unfortunately, the swallow may be a wiser old bird, and further afield than we are being led to think.

Nothing daunted, however, we are cheerfully setting in further store for the approaching summer.

Dmrs. Beach, Nevill and Firman have recently hatched a plot of polyanthus, wall-



flowers and narcissus, calculated to dispel guard room gloom on the dreariest day.

Outside his window, Mr. Smith has done a conjuring trick with a pair of bramble bushes, converting them into a rockery seemingly overnight.

"Procter's Folly," outside the Gymnasium, is rapidly refuting its nickname. This rockery promises shortly to burst into a blaze of colour; and it is hoped that its creator will be able to see this for himself, during the Golf Meeting.

Down by the Museum, the gorse is ripening from yellow to gold, against its darker background of blackthorn, and this, in turn, has broken into bud. Beyond here, the green patchwork of meadowland slopes gently away towards Totteridge and the whole aspect, as viewed from the Reading Room window, is pleasant in the extreme.

Early in March, R.S.M. Newman took a fortnight's gardening leave. He evidently intends that his garden should be the first in Barracks—a goal foremost in all our minds, and one from which we have no intention of being diverted, even if it means getting up before Rastus and Rattler!

There has lately been an influx of old faces from overseas. These have come from all quarters and their reactions to the English climate have been equally varied. Lieut. Bellers blew in with a swirl of sleet one winter's day; but, having decided he is good for several more years in the sun, he is off again shortly, this time it is to the backwoods of Burma. A pair of Burmese elephant tusks would stand out well among our 41 heads and horns; so we wish him "good shikar."

Lieut. Sword arrived under happy circumstances rather unexpectedly, in March. He has selected the Depot as the safest repository for his collection of worldly goods, swollen since his East African tour. This country would appear to be a happy hunting ground for the sportsman and collector. To us, however, it is somewhat of a closed book, being singularly unrepresented in the Museum, so far.

We are hoping soon to see Capt. Herapath also from the K.A.R., who seems to be following close on his heels.

Everyone was glad to see Capt. and Mrs. Crawford, and Mrs. Tidbury, safely home from China. The party which accompanied them brought the latest news from Hong Kong; this included: accounts of excavations in the mountains and of "A" (S.) Company's success in the Small Units League. Pte. Desborough

brought the latest stable tip from Singapore. Sergt. Chaplin arrived separately on six-months' furlough, and he is now engaged in promoting the entente cordiale between the two Orderly Rooms. From Egypt came Capt. Gordon Parker and his family, whom we were glad to see looking so well, and Capt. and Mrs. Weller spent a short spell of their leave here too.

2/Lieuts. Campbell and Warren did their preliminary attachments here. They left just in time for the 2nd Battalion's Sherry Party, which was voted a great success. 2/Lieuts. Warwick and Heath of the Supplementary Reserve have likewise passed on to the Battalion. The former left us in the first place for Paris to collect material for his next novel. We congratulate him on the publication of his *M'Uchangi*—a stirring account of adventure in the Kenya Jungle, and we hope to see it shortly in the Museum.

The Depot had its full share of 'flu this winter and several social activities were postponed in consequence.

We have lately brought off our Corporals' and All Ranks' Dances, however; these were enjoyable affairs—the more so thanks to the large attendance from the 2nd Battalion.

Lieut. Unwin was among the 'flu victims, as was Col. Waters, our Medical Officer. The latter was relieved by Lieut. Ledingham, R.A.M.C.

It speaks much for the chivalry of Aberdeen University that Lieut. Unwin was able not only to play for England versus Scotland, but to play the good game he did, when he might so easily have been incarcerated that day on a diet of bread and milk and number nines.

Early in April, C.S.M. Hazeldine was presented with his Long Service and Good Conduct Medal. It is to be hoped that his example, and the accompanying remarks of the Commanding Officer, may influence those of us who had the fortune to assist at his presentation.

A new and entertaining sideline in our training took the form of a visit to the Ford Works at Dagenham. One foggy morning we all packed into a fleet of buses and set off some 160 strong. We were pleased to find that the tour started with a free flicker show and ended with refreshments "on the house." These were well earned after a very full 2½-mile walk. In the course of the latter, one saw an amalgamation of raw materials evolving from fluid form into the finished article; a final turn of the screw; a flick of the handle—and she's off.

It was surprising to learn how many of these machines are shipped to America. Less surprising, but equally impressive, was the car park, crammed with Fords, many of them V.8s—belonging to the employees.

A point in connection with the factory site appealed to those from Malaya; some 600 acres had been reclaimed from the marshland bordering the Thames—a case somewhat parallel to that of the newly-opened Singapore Air Port.

Lieut. Marsh has been learning all the latest about mechanisation, but is carrying his knowledge away with him to Hong Kong. He sails from Birkenhead on 16th April. We shall be sorry to lose him and wish him luck.

Capt. Hutchinson, of the Perak Battalion F.M.S.V.F., was attached for three weeks in March. The Middlesex Regiment has on more than one occasion enjoyed the hospitality of Perak and we were glad of this chance to return a little of it. Since he was concerned with the "Q" side of his arm, we sent him to the Quartermaster's Office, where he browsed daily, deeply immersed in regulations and debit vouchers. Exactly what information he gleaned from among those dusty shelves we are not sure; but it is certain that even in so short a contact with Capt. Clark, he will have learned enough of his methods to arm him against the astutest designs of the wiliest Chinese.

With reference to the 1st Battalion notes of the last issue asking whether the O.C., Depot, had any remarks to make with regard to a photograph of their grossly overstaffed Headquarters, three photographs are published below, from which members of the 1st Battalion may take their choice as to the correct answer.

Depot H. Q. Staff



A well-organized unit runs itself

The Depot H. Q. Staff October, 1937, to February, 1938



Top Row (left to right): R.S.M. and A/C.S.M., A/R.Q.M.S., A/C.Q.M.S., Training Officer and Recruiting Officer.

Sitting: O.C. Training Company, Adjutant, O.C. Depot, O.C. Administrative Company and A/Quartermaster.

A Depot Establishment



Left to right: A/Adjutant for current affairs; Adjutant for Mobilization, Passive Air Defence, Internal Security and Regimental Records; Commanding Officer; Adjutant presumptive.

SERGEANTS' MESS

The Annual Dinner was held in January and was a great success. The food was of a high standard, the company of fifty-one was arranged with taste, and the whole affair spoke volumes for the organising ability of the President, Sergt. Boen. The opportunity was taken to make a presentation to R.Q.M.S. Crouch and Mrs. Crouch, to whom we repeat our good wishes. The informal dancing to a radio dance band was very enjoyable, and even the "boat race crew," christened with soda water,



revelled in it. With such a 1938 send-off, the year should be a good one for festivities.

Early in February, a party of twenty-three went to Gosport to watch the Battalion lose a close fight in the Army Cup fifth round. The Depot congratulates the side on a good fight, and on having got so far in the competition. We hope that some of our recruits, advised by Sergt. Williams, the Depot football captain, may turn out more than useful players. In the evening the Mess extended its most hospitable hand, and all who went still remember (or not, as the case may be) a very happy evening.

While on the subject of sport, we all congratulate Lieut. E. J. Unwin on having played in all Internationals this season and on having been selected for the South African tour. It is now the duty of the Test selectors further to honour the "Die-Hards" by giving Capt. J. W. A. Stephenson the chance of getting rid of Bradman. It is hoped that his ankle injury will in no way prevent him from doing this.

One of our most enthusiastic honorary members, Mr. Reg. Hibberd, the walking advertisement for woolly pantaloons, brought a "Games" side down. That we won matters little; that we had a convivial and enjoyable evening raised the hope that it is only the first of many such contests.

The first quarterly dinner vied with the annual dinner, a great compliment. On this occasion fifty-nine members and their charming guests made the Mess look quite unreal. The R.S.M. must be congratulated on rapidly acquiring that "light, fantastic touch," the hallmark of a good chairman. Sergts. Blake and Chasney were both given their presentations and made very apt, sincere speeches of thanks. It is worth recording that among those present was Mr. Chasney, senior, who, twenty-six years before, had been given his presentation in the same room. Sergt. Chasney, in recalling the days when, as a boy, he had received small gifts from members and had made mud pies outside the building, was extremely funny, yet rather pathetic. We are extremely sorry to lose both the Blake and Chasney families.

After the dinner, the Mess was the guest of the Corporals at a dance in the Gymnasium. It was a grand affair, and we noticed our single members making hay while the Band played. How long will they be single? Thank you, Corporals, for the invitation and the good time. We shall hope to do the same for you.

Our nominal roll continues to change. C.Q.M.S. Sherriff has returned to the 2nd Battalion after performing the duties of R.Q.M.S. for many months. Everybody is sorry to lose him and hopes that he will soon slip back into the even tenor of his life at the Battalion.

"Freddy" Franklin is again with us, and we need hardly say that he is very welcome. His Falstaffian bulk and hearty chuckle are his passport to any Mess.

R.Q.M.S. Goodall and C.S.M. Hazeldine are now safely embedded in their respective jobs; to judge by them, the 1st Battalion must be a very cheerful place. They could be used as advertisements for the phrase "Join the Army, see the world and enjoy it!"

Hearty congratulations are extended to C.S.M. Hazeldine, Sergt. Mason and L/Sergt. Makewell on their Long Service and Good Conduct Medals. What a pity they are not Marines!

Felicitations to Sergt. Tiller, who recently arrived back at Mill Hill. He has married, and we extend to Mrs. Tiller and "Tommy" our best wishes for great happiness. L/Sergt. Wadsworth also arrived, and high spirited as usual, met with a severe accident. We are relieved to know that he is out of danger and hope that he will soon be back with the twinkle in his eye as bright as ever.

Our "Infant," Sergt.-Instr. Rogers, has been confirmed in his appointment. Well done! L/Sergt. Endersby has now joined us. We congratulate him in the appointment and hope that he will be as comfortable in the Mess as we feel sure he was in the Corporals' Room.

L/Sergt. Burgess has gone to Hong Kong. He was extremely popular here. When we listen to the radio we still think of him. Aren't we sentimental! We all hope he finds the topi "Crispy."

O.R.Q.M.S. Baldwin has returned from hospital and leave, and we hope that he will maintain a steady improvement. We all tender sincere sympathies to Sergt. Boen in the extreme misfortune of his wife's illness, and we wish her a speedy recovery.

Sergt. Chaplin, on leave from the 1st Battalion, came to see us, a visit much appreciated. Unfortunately, we are losing the Mess shortly, for the decorators will be in to transform it into a hotel, so we learn, but we can forecast that if B.M. Judge should come along while on leave our temporary premises will be more than comfortable.

So we pass on, sending our periodic greeting to all friends in every part of the world, to wish them a continued peaceful existence.

## CORPORALS' CLUB

The topic of this quarter mainly consists of days' outings. The first was a trip to the 2nd Battalion at Gosport on Saturday, 14th February. On arrival at the Barracks we were given demonstrations on the new methods of mounting the machine gun from the M.G. carrier; we also watched "D" Company perform with their anti-tank gun. We thank the Companies concerned for giving these demonstrations.

The main reason for our visit was to watch the 2nd Battalion football team compete in the fifth round of the Army Cup, the opponents being the R.A.O.C. at Hilsea. After extra time, the Battalion were unfortunate to lose 0-2. We will not dwell upon this subject as the writer of football notes has probably given an account of the game elsewhere in this journal. We must take this opportunity of congratulating all members of the team on reaching the fifth round, also for providing us with an excellent game of football.

Our next journey was on 8th March; this time we went to Dagenham, where we viewed Ford's motor works. Everyone available journeyed this time, five coaches being needed to convey us. Unfortunately there was a very thick fog over London and we practically had to crawl to our destination, but we eventually arrived. We were then put into groups and placed in the hands of guides, who took us through the various workshops, explaining points of interest as we went along. Probably the most interesting of all, to some, was when the guide led us to the refreshment rooms, where refreshments were kindly given free on completion of the tour.

On Saturday, 12th March, the Corporals had still another trip to Gosport. The reason for this was to watch the Battalion football team play an important game in the afternoon, and to attend a dance given in the evening by the Corporals of the 2nd Battalion. You can imagine our surprise when we arrived to find that neither of these events were taking place. We were not to be done as regards the football; we went to Fratton Park and saw Portsmouth play Brentford.

Well, so much for our outings. Now about the Club. First, we welcome "Duff" Reeder on his appointment, this being his first step to

Sergeant Master Cook. We think it wise to let readers know that Dick is not really "duff"; he owns that title because he works among the currant "duff." This new member of the Club, incidentally, has stepped into the shoes of "Barrel" Read, who is at present away on his "Voco." We wish him success among the "civvies."

We are sorry to record that "Pancho" Ball has been in "dock" for some time. We wish him a speedy recovery, and hope to see him among us again soon.

Congratulations to L/Cpl. Blan on obtaining the coveted "D" on his recent Education Course. We wish L/Cpl. Stebbing a similar result when he returns from a Course of the same nature.

Again we welcome L/Cpl. Morley back to the fold, after leaving us to have a look at New Barracks. We say with utmost confidence that he will soon settle down once again.

At the time of writing these notes there is a billiards handicap taking place in the Club. We hope to be able to name our billiards champion in our next notes.

Best wishes to Corporals of all Battalions.

## SPORTS

### FOOTBALL

The football season is now drawing to a close, and we can look back on a satisfactory season of league football. This is the first time that we have attempted to match our play against regular civilian teams, and the results have shown that we are not so very inferior.

This is our table to date:

Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Goals		Pts.
				For	Agst.	
15	7	4	4	38	33	18

There have been several changes in the team, but the return of Pte. Howie to the Battalion weakened our front line, but we were fortunate enough to get another recruit, Pte. Conner, to take his place. We wish Howie all success in the Battalion, and we hope that Conner will enhance his reputation with his Drake-like methods of attack.

The weather has not been very kind to us, except during the past few weeks, and, in consequence, we have played on pitches that have closely resembled mud baths. If the mud has a beautifying effect, then the team must be one of the best looking in the country.

Injuries have been very few, but for some time we lost the services of Pte. Hicks. We



missed Joe with his stopping methods, but we hope that he will be fit enough to return to the team before the end of the season.

The team that has done duty for some time is as follows: Pte. Barnes; Sergt. Duncan, Pte. McClintock; Pte. Bridge, Sergt. Williams, L/Cpl. Daly; Pte. Woollen, Pte. Lake, Pte. Conner, L/Cpl. Blan and Cpl. Powell. This is probably the strongest team that we could put out, and it was unfortunate that we could not have started the season with this line-up.

Recruits' games have been popular and up to the present they have done exceptionally well, only losing one game all the season. Inter-squad football has been on the increase since the weather brightened and two or three games a week are not uncommon. Enthusiasm has been the keynote, but several recruits have shown promise of developing into Battalion players. Appreciation for the coaching of the recruits must go to Sergt. Williams, who is still our leading light in the soccer world. He considers that the Cup games of the Battalion are started on the field at the Depot.

We congratulate the Battalion team on their most worthy efforts, and we sincerely hope that next year we shall see several new cups reposing in the Battalion.

#### INTER-SQUAD BOXING

The Inter-Squad Boxing Competition was held here on Monday and Tuesday, 7th and 8th February, and it supplied the Depot with two sessions of first-class Novices' boxing.

The first meeting was on Monday between 8 p.m. and 10 p.m. The teams concerned were Mons and Seringapatam, and Albuhera and Ypres. The general standard of boxing was good; the first classy display we had was by Bradshaw, his style and technique of ringcraft was above average, and he seemed to specialise in hooks of a destroying nature.

Where style was lacking it was amply compensated with "guts." One outstanding example was Bedding, who, against a man who was much taller and heavier, plus an accurate straight left, took the fight inside, but was just a little blind, and the verdict went to Maloney. Lane deserves some mention; he had a flashy attack by striking his gloves together and the result was most effective, the referee stopping the fight in the second round.

To introduce the wild men, we have Murray and Hogan. It reminded us of the picture "The Irish in Us"; they were dubbed "Murray the Mauler" and "One-round Hogan." Their intentions were the same and

both were successful in having k.o.s in the first round.

The first session over, we now come to Tuesday afternoon. Considering the fact that we had the finalists matched, we looked for big things and we got them.

Mons and Ypres were the first teams on the boards and on the first fight we had quite a surprise. Harvey of Ypres, who, on the previous night had insisted upon turning his back on his opponent, this time found an unorthodox straight left and took the verdict. The remainder of the fights were good value.

Then we came to the two winning Squads, Albuhera and Seringapatam.

The first three bouts went to Albuhera, the next three to Seringapatam, and it was good fighting all the way. The scores now were even, and with two fights to go, the team spirit came to the fore. Albuhera took the next bout on a k.o. by Wright, who was merely repeating his performance of the previous night.

With Albuhera two points up, the last fight was due, and, after a good fight, Pte. Emery of Seringapatam took the verdict.

The result was a draw, but it had been decided that, owing to the size of the team, the verdict would be awarded to the team winning the second string middle-weight, so the final result was as follows:

1, Seringapatam; 2, Albuhera; 3, Mons; 4, Ypres.

In conclusion, let us take this opportunity of thanking the Commanding Officer for presenting the Shield to the winners, and give a good word of praise to the runners-up and losers; also a vote of thanks to all the Officers who officiated.

#### BOXING MATCH

##### Depot v. 7th Battalion

Our first away match of the season was against the 7th Battalion (T.A.) at Hornsey, and we were rather sceptical as to the result; after all our team was purely a novices', whereas we expected to find experienced talent amongst the "Terriers." We arrived there in good time, plus a char-a-banc full of spectators, who gave us moral support later in the evening. The boxing commenced at 8.30 p.m., but before continuing, let me point out that three of the team came back from leave to have a basinful (they were Ptes. Bradshaw, Bedding and Emery), which proves that what we lacked in experience was certainly compensated by enthusiasm.

To resume the narrative, the fights were in the following order:

1. Pte. West (7th) v. Pte. Hogan (D.). West was a trifle too good for our man, but Hogan put up a good show and although he looked a trifle gory at the end of the fight, he was still smiling. The verdict went to West.

2. Cpl. Gray (7th) v. Pte. Burke (D.). Once again the 7th were the victors, Pte. Burke having a technical k.o. awarded against him through a strong stomach punch.

3. Pte. Pennick (7th) v. Pte. Emery (D.). Things began to even out at this fight. Emery put up a good show against a man with more experience. He lost the verdict by a narrow margin of points.

4. Pte. Barrister (7th) v. Pte. Bedding (D.). Here was the first victory for the Depot. Barrister fought a good fight, but Bedding seemed to beat him each time on the inside work.

5. Pte. Cockell (7th) v. Pte. Bennett (D.). The 7th Battalion form returned here and Cockell took the verdict.

6. Pte. Fox (7th) v. Pte. Willis (D.). This was the first string middle and we saw a good scrap. Pte. Willis was the aggressor the whole time and he took the verdict.

7. Pte. Bolicho (7th) v. Pte. O'Brien (D.). Our form was up and after another good fight the verdict went to the Depot man.

8. Pte. Holding (7th) v. Pte. Bradshaw (D.). Although Bradshaw's opponent was an unknown quantity we put our shirt on our own man, and, after a clean and clever fight, we were still fully clothed. It was our verdict.

The score was now 12 points all with three fights to go; the next fight was No. 9:

9. Pte. Day (7th) v. Pte. Hammond (D.). The fighting blood of the Depot was up and Hammond fought his way to a two-handed victory. His opponent put up a good show, but seemed very vulnerable to Hammond's swings, which came from out of the blue.

The next two fights were walk-overs, which was rather hard lines on the 7th, but Pte. Lane and Pte. Littlefield were disappointed as well, as they were looking forward to a scrap.

Major Phillips presented the prizes and complimented both teams on a very good show.

After the cheers and hand-clapping, the teams found their way to the refreshment bar and indulged in a hearty supper.

In conclusion, let us thank the 7th Battalion for a very good sporting evening, which was enjoyed by everyone. The final result was:

7th Battalion, Middlesex Regt. 13 points.  
Depot, Middlesex Regt. 18 "

#### INTER-SQUAD PASS-BALL

After a considerable amount of trouble we eventually arrived at a result of the Inter-Squad Pass-ball.

The Competition originally started on 28th February and we completed it on Tuesday, 29th March.

To discuss the pass-ball games. Although the games were hardly gentle, we had no casualties, except six broken windows; all hands escaped with minor injuries, i.e., a few feet of flesh.

The first round ended as follows:

Seringapatam beat Mons .. 2-1  
Albuhera beat Ypres .. 6-3

The next round was played on Saturday, 5th March, and the winners in the first round played the losers, the form remained the same and after twenty minutes' playing in each match the result was as follows:

Albuhera beat Seringapatam .. 4-3  
Mons beat Ypres .. 3-0

The final match had to be played to decide the third and fourth places. This was an unlucky affair, because each time we catered for it something else cropped up. We eventually played it on Tuesday, 29th March.

The ultimate result was:

1, Albuhera; 2, Mons; 3, Seringapatam;  
4, Ypres.

#### INTER-SQUAD CROSS-COUNTRY RUN

The cross-country run was held here on Wednesday, 23rd March, at 2.45 p.m., a pleasant means of spending an afternoon for those who like cross-country running.

The course of about three miles was mostly road work, but it served the purpose and the first man romped home in 19 mins. 23 1/5 secs., a good time considering the course; the weather was ideal, warm and dry under foot.

Pte. Whitby of Seringapatam was the first man and the remainder of the Squad kept the ball rolling; they finished with 167 points, thus winning it easily.

The order of finishing was as follows:

1, Seringapatam (167 points); 2, Albuhera;  
3, Mons; 4, Ypres.

#### INTER-SQUAD OBSTACLE COURSE

Here we are at the final event in the Inter-Squad matches, and, as usual, this calls for an enormous amount of shouting and barracking. The course was laid out in the Gymnasium, the one usually adopted for the event. The date was Tuesday, 29th March, and it was run in the afternoon at 3.15 p.m.

The squads went off in their order of seniority, the time being taken from when the



first man starts to when the last man finishes. Each squad was represented by a team of eight, each man being started at five-second intervals after the leader.

As usual we had a list of minor injuries, the people who insisted on falling off beams, etc., but we all enjoyed the fun, including those taking part.

The times and positions of finishing were as follows :

- 1, Mons (1 min. 32 1/5 secs.); 2, Seringapatam (1 min. 54 4/5 secs.); 3, Ypres (2 mins. 5 secs.); 4, Albuhera (2 mins. 20 secs.).

#### INTER-SQUAD ATHLETIC SHIELD

We all congratulate Seringapatam Squad on winning the Inter-Squad Athletic Shield.

The final result was as follows :

- |                             |            |
|-----------------------------|------------|
| 1. Seringapatam Squad .. .. | 17 points. |
| 2. Mons Squad .. ..         | } 13½ "    |
| Albuhera Squad .. ..        |            |
| 4. Ypres Squad .. ..        | 6 "        |

#### SQUAD BADGE WINNERS

Pte. Wise of Ladysmith Squad.  
Pte. Allingham of Mons Squad.

#### SHOOTING SPOONS

Shooting spoon winners for the quarter :

*Ladysmith Squad.* — Empire Test — Pte. Pearce (score 78).

Table "A"—Pte. Melbourne (score 90).

*Mons Squad.*—Empire Test—Pte. Allingham and Pte. Howlett (score 77).

Table "A"—Pte. Allingham (score 90).

#### COMMANDING OFFICER'S P.T. MEDALS

*Silver Medal Bronze Medal*

Ladysmith Squad Pte. Eaton. Pte. Corrigan.  
Mons Squad .. Pte. Mann. Pte. Baker.

### REGIMENTAL HISTORICAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM

RECEIPT is acknowledged with thanks for the following contributions to the Museum :

1. Set of 12 magic lantern plates, showing battles of The Middlesex Regiment. Presented by Major-General O. H. Delano Osbourne, C.B., C.M.G.

2. Set of 12 magic lantern plates, showing battles of The Middlesex Regiment. Presented by Miss Daphne Owen.

With reference to the Silver Bugle mentioned in the February issue, on page 194, as having been presented by ex-Drum-Major A. Cottrell, it is interesting to note that this bugle was subscribed for by all the Officers of the 16th Battalion and was bought as the C.O.'s bugle. When the Battalion went to France, the bugle was left in the care of the Reserve Battalion of the 16th Battalion in England.

### "DIE HARD"

(A STORY OF THE 57TH)

(*Republished by the courtesy of the Executors of the late Edgar Wallace*)

#### Incidents of British warfare

Have been told in rhyme and prose,  
As 'gainst numbers overwhelming  
We have thrashed our foreign foes.

#### Every regiment in the service

Can look back, and tell with pride  
Of some far-off scene of battle  
Where men have for their colours died.

#### Though we may have been out-numbered,

Though our foes were ten to one,  
Yet heroic deeds of daring  
Have by Englishmen been done.

#### Search the records of your regiment

And you'll find such names as these :  
Nivelle, Nive, Albuhera,  
Inkerman and Pyrenees.

#### Have you ever heard the story

How your regiment got its name,  
When the gallant 57th  
Earned itself undying fame ?

#### On the plains of Albuhera,

Fighting 'gainst a tyrant's rule ;  
Though he'd conquered Europe's armies,  
Britain would not be his tool.

#### They'd been fighting all the morning,

Tired and weary of the fray ;  
Waiting till the "cease fire" sounded,  
Waiting for the close of day.

By some unforeseen occurrence,  
How it happened no one knows,  
They were somehow separated  
And surrounded by their foes.

#### Cut off by o'erwhelming numbers,

Not one chance of rescue there ;  
British soldiers ne'er surrender,  
Englishmen do not despair.

#### Had it been a foreign legion

Caught in such a hopeless place,  
They'd have broken, cried for quarter,  
To their country's dire disgrace.

#### Did the 57th waver

At the enemy's attack ?  
No, they fought like British soldiers,  
Man to man, and back to back.

#### A hundred times the Frenchmen charged,

A hundred times they turned and fled ;  
Could not face the British bayonet,  
Couldn't stand the hail of lead.

#### At each charge the line grew thinner,

Men were falling thick and fast ;  
Colonel Inglis saw too clearly  
That the battle could not last.

#### Once again they charged upon us,

Charged upon our weakest part ;  
My God ! the regiment wavered,  
Tired of fighting, sick at heart.

#### Colonel Inglis saw the danger,

Rushed amongst them, battle scarred ;  
Raised his sword on high, and shouted,  
"Die hard," for God's sake men, "Die hard."

#### Hard they died, who could die harder,

Blow for blow, and thrust for thrust ;  
For every Englishman that died  
A dozen Frenchmen bit the dust.

#### When in time, perhaps not far distant,

You stand on a battlefield,  
English soldiers die, remember,  
But their ground they never yield.

#### Though surrounded by your foemen,

All our old traditions guard ;  
Think of that old Colonel's order,  
And as your fathers did—Die hard.  
EDGAR WALLACE.

### 7th BATTALION NOTES

DURING the last few months the Battalion has done well in boxing and cross-country running. Our two representatives, Ptes. Hoy and Trafford, won their weights in the Brigade and Divisional Boxing Meetings, and although unsuccessful in the T.A. finals, gave of their very best in that meeting. We have wrestled the Divisional cross-country running cup from its semi-permanent owners, the 4th Battalion, Essex Regiment, and the team is now training for the T.A. run at Northolt, in which we represent the 54th Division.

During January and February, each Company ran a T.E.W.T., after which a Battalion T.E.W.T. was held at Ridge, near Shenley, when we were able to discover how much knowledge had been gained on the Company exercises. We were not disappointed.

Mr. Clibbens is happily recovered from his illness, and is back again with the Band. It must be a matter of great satisfaction to him and to Sergt. Gilyatt that the musical proficiency of the Band has not diminished during his absence.

We regret to report that Mr. Aitken-Quack has had to leave us after a very short stay, as he has taken up an appointment in Malaya. We hope he will be able to find an outlet for his energies with the local Volunteers.

No. 2 Priory Road is still firm on its foundations, and has survived all threats of demolition. We confess we are completely in the dark as to when the rebuilding will commence, but we hope to report progress a decade or so ahead.

A big recruiting drive is taking place in Middlesex in April and May, which we hope will bring us in the 47 men needed to bring us up to establishment. We are doing our share of this activity from 2nd to 7th May and on 15th May. It will consist of demonstrations, marches and a church parade, the latter at Enfield.

#### "B" (S.) COMPANY

"Fool!" said my muse to me,  
"Take up thy pen and write!"

"But what about?" say we, a little rebelliously, because even muses have to be kept in order, and the day has gone when we would sit down to write our Company notes and quips with jests and quotations flowing from our pen like water from a tap, once our pages were even graced by a quotation from Plautus. Alas!



We have very few Latin tags left now, and those which we have are quite unsuitable, so we sit sucking at our pencil and gazing at the telephone, praying for the inspiration which still eludes us. Capt. Marryat, under similar circumstances, wrote a whole chapter on the great difficulties of prose composition, and put it into one of his books as it stood. But such methods would meet with no favour in the eyes of the Editor of THE DIE-HARDS. "Facts," he would say, poisoning his blue pencil to strike, "facts are what my readers desire." Very well then, facts they shall have.

Since a breathlessly waiting world last heard from us, we have held two more dances. Both were successful—very successful, but we believe that if many more people attend the next one it will be necessary to engage the services of a skilled sardine-canner to pack them all in.

Our sports bulletin is creditable but not spectacular. Various members of the Company have boxed with considerable success. Our cross-country team, however, despite the unusual care and skill devoted to its training by Pte. Panniers, had very bad luck in the Battalion run, and came in fourth. Nevertheless, two of its members, Ptes. Emmet and Watson, ran for the Battalion against the 4th Battalion, Essex Regiment, and were both very well up.

We have recently varied our normal training routine a good deal to add to the variety and interest of the work. One parade a month is now held on Sunday morning, and we are then able to do small schemes in the open. On 15th May next we intend to hold an Albuhera Sunday Church Parade at the Parish Church, complete with drums. Unfortunately we cannot yet find any precedent for carrying Colours on such a parade, although we spend much of our spare time looking for one.

Recruiting, which has been a little slack, was much improved by Hitler's invasion of Austria. Some Officers have been heard to say that they hope he will do it again.

Finally, we wish most strongly to deny the rumour that owing to certain digestive disorders in a high quarter we are about to install a milk bar under the personal supervision of the junior subaltern. We have merely bought a little tonic water and some ginger beer.

#### "C" COMPANY

During the last three months "C" Company has put away childish things and gone in for work in a big way. Our Company Commander

has been away to the L.D.S.I. to prepare himself for a promotion examination. C.S.M. Howard has been learning how to form threes by numbers, and Cpl. Smith is now a fully qualified gas instructor. In addition to this, coveys (or should it be "schools"?) of very senior N.C.O.s, who on the range invariably miss the bull at 100 yards, have been learning how to bring down aeroplanes from incredible distances.

We have also held two T.E.W.T.s (Enfield scribe, please note!), and while admitting that Messrs. Taylor, Walker & Co. were partly responsible for the loquacity of certain gentlemen on the subject of food containers, mortars and the relative merits or demerits of "digging in," we hope and believe that much valuable knowledge was gained. We were very gratified at the presence of our Brigade Commander at the former of these shows, which was only a Company exercise, and are glad to say that he was quite pleased with what he saw.

In the competition line we had a mixed bag. The Battalion Cross-country Run was held at Mill Hill in January, and this we won, after a close struggle with "D" Company, who were unfortunate in not having Pte. Trafford to run for them. Pte. Morris did what was expected of him, and duly came in first, and he was well supported by Pte. Smith and Cpls. Sutton and Cox. Ptes. Bannister and Roberts completed our team, and we would also mention our reserve man, Pte. Rockett, who, having turned up, very sportingly ran as an individual entrant.

Over the Barnet Cup we will draw a veil. Our team worked hard for several weeks before the event, but it just wasn't one of their lucky days.

Ptes. Holding, Bannister and Cockell have worthily upheld the honour of the Company in the boxing world; and Cpls. Sutton and Cox and Ptes. Morris and Smith, H., represented the Battalion in the Divisional Cross-country run, which we won by beating the 4th Essex Regiment, at Epping. We are now looking forward to the T.A. Championships at Northolt.

We have to congratulate Sergt. Pooley, Cpls. Sutton, Warwick, Smith and Cox, and L/Cpls. Toms and Wilkinson on their various promotions and appointments, and would remind them that it was Napoleon himself who said that every soldier has a field-marshal's baton carried for him on his platoon truck.

We also offer our heartiest congratulations to R.S.M. and Mrs. Colton, and Cpl. and Mrs.

Sutton, on their additions to the marriage allowance roll.

Finally, we would remind all ranks that a recruit in the Orderly Room is worth two hanging about outside the railings, so wheel 'em in "C"!

#### "D" COMPANY

Weapon training has been the dominant note in our training in the quarter under review, and we hope to see the fruits of this when we fire our Musketry Courses in the next few weeks. In addition, we have had a number of "gas attacks" in the Drill Hall, in order to give our small quota of respirators an airing! On occasions also we have raked the roof of our Hall, repelling enemy low-flying aircraft, using our well-developed T.A. sense of imagination whilst aligning our sights on imaginary bombers.

Our Canteen has at last been redecorated and has taken on a cheerful appearance with chocolate and cream paint. We understand that later in the year the Drill Hall itself is to be entirely redecorated—seeing is believing!

In February, two Tactical Exercises for N.C.O.s were held, the first for "D" Company only at High Beech, Epping Forest, and the second with the rest of the Battalion at Ridge, near South Mimms. Both of these were well attended, and we understand that the local pubs were unable to open in the evening, owing to their having been drunk dry at lunch time.

Successful dances have been held in January and February, the latter being our big invitation dance, whilst yet another will have been held by the time these notes appear. We were pleased to see so many Officers and their ladies present on 26th February.

The Company team again won the Barnet Cup for the Inter-Company Fire Direction Competition at Hornsey, Sergt. Huggins leading the team to victory once more. Unfortunately we did not shine in the Brigade shoot at Hounslow, but none of the teams may be said to have excelled themselves.

In the realms of sport we have to record successes both at boxing and cross-country running. Ptes. Hoy and Trafford won the light heavy-weight and light-weight championships of the Battalion, Brigade and Division, and with a little luck would have reached the T.A. finals at the Albert Hall. Hoy did remarkably well in his first year of serious boxing, and with added experience should go the whole way next year. Trafford had four

fighters in one day in the Divisional Championships at Bedford, a fact which received special comment from the Divisional General. In the semi-final round at the London Scottish H.Q., Trafford met the London Divisional Champion, Pte. Parkinson, who, incidentally, boxed in the English team against Wales last year, and only lost after a very close fight indeed.

We must not forget to mention Pte. Fox, who received a fine cup at the Brigade Meeting for being the best loser, and Pte. West, who was a good winner in the boxing match versus The Depot. Altogether the Company may be said to have had a successful boxing year.

At running, a succession of injuries and illnesses has deprived us of the services of 2/Lieut. Hatfield and Pte. Thompson on occasions. In the Battalion Championships, when the first four home count, Pte. Thompson (runner-up in 1937) was unable to run, owing to blood poisoning. As our leading three men arrived in the first six, we may be considered unlucky, but, nevertheless, we do not begrudge "C" Company their fine victory.

The Battalion won the 54th Divisional Cross-country Race, held at Epping on Saturday, 12th March. Unfortunately there was only one other team, the 4th Essex, in the race, but as they had won the Cup for a great number of years, we felt that something had been achieved. We hope that the 8th and 9th Battalions will enter for this event next year. Ptes. Morris ("C" Company) and Trafford were winner and runner-up respectively, both in the Battalion and Divisional Race, and have run consistently well. Other members of the Company in the Battalion team were Capt. Scott Lowe and Pte. Thompson.

All thoughts are now on Camp, to be held this year at Arundel, which, according to those in the know, is the best spot of the lot. The site for the Camp is set in a magnificent private park owned by the Duke of Norfolk. We shall be on the outskirts of Arundel, which is in itself handy for the sea. It only remains to be there in full force.

#### 8th BATTALION NOTES

I WAS reminded that in the notes for the last issue of the Journal I had omitted to mention the Annual Christmas Party. It is a little late in the day to comment upon an event so long past, but knowing we have a



number of friends at present overseas who on former occasions joined in this usual festivity, I should perhaps mention that, as usual, this was held in January. A large number of serving men were present with their wives and families to a total of more than 350 and had a riotous time. Mr. Reddy, in the familiar character of Father Christmas, was the very spirit of yuletide.

This season of the year always sees great activity amongst the boxing fraternity. Opening with a keenly-contested Novices' Competition, we proceeded to the Battalion Boxing Meeting, from which "D" Company emerged victorious. The 8th Battalion have never been able to recruit men from local boxing clubs and have to rely entirely upon, as it were, home-grown talent. We can therefore be satisfied with our men's showing at the Brigade Meeting, two of whom went forward to compete in the Divisional Championships.

It is not unusual to find the 9th Battalion carrying off a goodly portion of boxing awards, but though oft repeated, our congratulations upon their excellent performance this year are none the less sincere.

With the early summer now upon us, we begin to think very seriously about Annual Training and there is real activity throughout the Battalion in the various Drill Halls where pre-camp training programmes are now being carried out. The Officers spent two very interesting and enjoyable week-ends at Arundel and Colchester. At the first-mentioned, the senior Officers were made acquainted with the camp training areas, whilst at the second we had a most instructive T.E.W.T., which was attended by an almost full complement of Officers.

Again we have to say hail and farewell. Lieut. A. J. McFarlane, finding himself on the threshold of Harley Street, and determined to get a double first, or whatever is the equivalent in the final Medical Examinations, has felt it necessary to transfer to the Reserve. The Officers' Mess, and, I am sure, all ranks of the Battalion, will miss him very much, and we hope that one day, perhaps, he will be able to rejoin us and that, in the meantime, he will achieve every possible success in his career.

Then we have to record a severe loss to Battalion Headquarters in the person of our Quartermaster. Mr. Cox has served the Battalion well, and the efficient manner in which our Quartermaster's side of the Battalion organisation has been carried out is in itself the truest indication of the loyalty and

energy he has unceasingly devoted to the interests of this Battalion.

We congratulate the Middlesex Association upon securing such an able assistant, and in thanking him for his services to the 8th Battalion we hope that we shall often have the opportunity of welcoming him and Mrs. Cox at our functions.

As we go to press we learn that the mantle has fallen upon Mr. Ward, at present with the 2nd Battalion. His reputation has long been known to us, and we all extend to him and his family the warmest of welcomes.

#### "H.Q." COMPANY

We must apologise for the paucity of our notes in this issue, but this is a period of quiescence and, apart from the normal training there is nothing much which presents itself as being of much interest to our readers, but we will put on our thinking caps and see what we can do.

The annual Christmas Tree Party was held at Headquarters in January. This, as usual, went with a swing and Father Christmas once again received a great ovation. After the many gifts had been distributed to the Companies we sat down to a very good cabaret show by kiddies, whose singing and dancing were excellent.

All groups are now busy with their training and we are holding a special course for drivers M.T., to insure that we have no more truck with truculent trucks. The signallers, under the command of 2/Lieut. Smith, are having well-attended parades, and intend being well represented at Easter training. Cpl. Brooker has now been appointed Signal Sergeant, vice Sergt. Hall, time-expired. The Band and Drums have no notes for this issue, but are apparently keeping them for their instruments. The former have increased their numbers and are now booking up their summer engagements, including several of the principal regattas. The latter, with replenished equipment and the Drill Hall at their disposal on Thursdays, intend making themselves heard.

Some of us have recently had an unusual and interesting experience in helping to make the new film "Territorial Cavalcade," an honour we much appreciate. In a very short space of time the Drill Hall was converted into a film studio with glaring lights, cameras, director and assistants all complete. One "shot" was taken outside when one of the trucks dashed

into the picture laden with grim-looking troops in gas masks. A rapid fall-in, a look at the map and the Section Commander leads his Section quickly into action.

Other "shots" were taken in the Drill Hall and showed two guns of "B" (S.) Company coming into action; a Section of recruits at Arms Drill; a lively bout with the gloves, being watched by all who had taken part in the previous pictures; and, finally, a group comprising Officers, R.S.M. and a Private in full marching order, to distinguish the different uniforms.

The film, when generally released, should be very interesting and should be a great aid to recruiting generally, and should bring home to the public the importance of its Citizen Army to-day.

We are all looking forward to Camp this year, which will be held at Arundel, already familiar to most of us, and news from the Arun front will be continued in our next.

#### "A" COMPANY

Since last we placed our pen upon the paper for these notes, we have held our prize-giving, for which we were fortunate enough to get Mr. Fane De Salis to present the prizes.

The following members of the Company obtained prizes and we congratulate them very heartily, as competition in the Company has been very keen and only the super men managed to get them: C.Q.M.S. Raynsford, V., Sergts. Mortimer, T., and Holden, F., Cpls. Bullen, J., and Crane, R., Ptes. Gibson, J., and King, R.

We are now going all out to make our recruiting drive at the end of April a big success.

Dances are finishing at the end of March, and the Dance Committee will have a rest from the Sunday morning fatigue.

#### "B" (S.) COMPANY

At the time of writing these notes we are all looking forward to the Company prize-giving, to be held on Friday, 25th March, and to the dance and social evening to follow. The Committee, Sergt. Crump well to the fore, has put in a great deal of work to ensure that the Drill Hall assumes a suitably decorative appearance.

The weekly dances continue to attract a good crowd and have now well established themselves among the local dance-goers.

We congratulate L/Cpl. King and Pte. Bond on being selected to represent the Battalion at the Brigade boxing at Bedford.

C.S.M. Rowe and five N.C.O.s attended a Course in Anti-Gas at Shorncliffe in February and all obtained satisfactory reports. The Course was extremely interesting and the knowledge gained by those who attended should prove of great value to the Company during the training year.

The next event after the prize-giving is Easter training at Gosport, and we hope to have our usual good attendance. These four days make a very welcome break and afford us the opportunity of making ourselves cognisant with the latest developments and alterations in Vickers gun training.

There are two rumours circulating at the moment and both, we sincerely hope, will eventually crystallize into hard facts.

No. 1. A new Drill Hall! "And about time, too," the veterans of the Company mutter in their beards! Of course, we have had this rumour with us for several years, but this time we believe there is something in the wind.

No. 2. A Battalion Sports Meeting to be held in June at the R.A.F. Ground at Uxbridge. Another delightful prospect, the more so as we had no sports in Camp last year. If this comes true the lads of the "B" (S.) Company will go all out to maintain their reputation in this sphere and bring the Cup back to its rightful home.

And now for the latest recruits. We congratulate Cpl. Mills and L/Cpl. Mumford on additions to their families.

Although it is rather early, a number of us are already looking forward to Annual Training at Arundel. Roll on August!

#### "D" COMPANY

The last quarter has been quite a successful one for this Company. Our numbers are as high as ever. We have been over the hundred mark for some time.

We tied with "H.Q." Wing for the "Fenton" Boxing Cup in the Battalion Boxing Competition and won the Battalion Fire Direction Competition, thanks to the enthusiastic practising of the whole team, which will now represent the Battalion in the Brigade Competition.

We should also like to mention Sergt. Nowell, who was congratulated by the Brigade Commander on his report after attending a Rifle Course at the L.D.S.I.



The social side has not been neglected, and we have had some very jolly Friday evenings at shooting, darts and billiards with the R.A.F., Legion of Frontiersmen, and "A" Company, the latter expecting to pip us by that one point at shooting again at Hampton, when once we can decide on a clear evening after two attempts.

This year we have started holding Company dances, which, due to 2/Lieut. D. Ellis and an energetic committee, have been a great success. We should like to thank all the Officers who supported our first one so well.

An A.A. Drill Hall has been opened at Southall and one or two members of the Company have transferred to it. It is therefore up to the rest of the Company to stick together and see that our numbers keep as high as ever.

A Recruiting Drive on a large scale is to be held in our area from 25th to 30th April, and we shall hope to see a large increase in numbers as a result.

We sincerely hope that Pte. Roadnight, who is in a convalescent home at Margate, will make a speedy recovery and will soon be with us again.

2/Lieut. Smith has now left us to take over the duties of Signalling Officer, and we wish him all success in his new sphere.

We regret to announce the death of the late Sergt. J. Allen, shoemaker of the 1/8th Battalion, who joined in 1911 and left us after the war. Not many drill nights passed without his presence and he will be missed in the locality, as no party was complete without Jerry. The Company found the bearers and several attended the funeral. We take this opportunity of thanking the 8th Battalion Old Comrades' Association and the British Legion for their floral tributes.

We are pleased to see the announcement of the engagement of Capt. G. Hartley, who commands our Company, to Miss Heseter, of Exeter. We understand the wedding will take place on 22nd April.

### 9th BATTALION NOTES

IT is with the deepest regret that we have to record the death of Sergt. Sangwine. He served with the Battalion for eight years,

during which time he never missed a camp, and his unflinching cheerfulness and loyalty to his Company and the Battalion endeared him to all ranks. Several members of the Sergeants' Mess attended the funeral.

Companies are now busy with the Annual Weapon Training Course. The first week-end at Bisley was well attended and it is hoped that there will be very few casualties to fire after Camp this year.

All Companies are looking forward to the week-end training at Cholesbury. The full moon will, we are sure, be working overtime.

The Battalion boxing team is to be congratulated on its success in the Divisional Championships, and at the Albert Hall, where it again greatly assisted the Division to win the Scarborough Cup.

General Luckock, our new Divisional Commander, himself brought the Scarborough Cup to Headquarters, and congratulated the boxers on their fine performance. Results are given below. "D" Company is to be congratulated on winning the Middlesex Group Fire Direction Competition.

### BOXING

#### DIVISIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS AT BEDFORD

Pte. J. Weaterton, Pte. A. Gaitt and Pte. W. Wiggzell won their respective weights.

Dmr. W. Routledge lost on points after a very close fight with the eventual winner.

#### TERRITORIAL ARMY CHAMPIONSHIPS

Pte. J. Weaterton is to be congratulated on again winning the heavy-weight championship, and we wish him success in the I.S.B.A. Championship Meeting on 4th April. Pte. Weaterton is now the veteran of the boxing team, and is a popular figure with all ranks.

Pte. A. Gaitt lost the welter-weight championship, which he has held for three years after a close fight in the final. We hope to see Gaitt regain the championship next year.

Pte. W. Wiggzell won the feather-weight championship by a k.o. in the first minute of the first round. As "Dusty" Miller was overheard to remark, "the shortest fight on record."

This promising young boxer has had a remarkable number of quick knock-outs this season. He is a fine boxer. We wish him success in the I.S.B.A. Championship Meeting.

### FOOTBALL

With the exception of a couple of friendly matches, the Battalion's fixture list is all but complete, and we think that everybody concerned with the team will agree that the season proved more successful than was at first anticipated.

At the beginning of the season, lack of interest and talent made the future look rather dismal, but, thanks to the energy and perse-

early black days we took some severe trouncings. Then the ray of hope began to shine, tables were turned, and we administered the "wallopings" on our previous victors. Optimism ran high, and some spoke of us finishing at the top of the league table, but we had taken too long in pulling up our stockings.

So, with the season coming to a close, we have finished, not the winners of any competitions, but with harmony in the team, blossoming talent, and ambitions for the future.



9th BATTALION MIDDLESEX REGIMENT FOOTBALL TEAM, 1937-38

verance of a number of members, these difficulties were overcome.

The Battalion entered two competitions, namely, the Territorial Army Football Cup Competition, and the Willesden and District Football League.

The 4th Battalion The Essex Regiment put paid to our chances in the T.A. Cup, beating us 3-0, after a very hard game.

With such an early setback, the team decided to concentrate and try to regain their lost prestige in the League. The gods, however, seemed displeased with us, and during those

### "A" COMPANY

The New Year had a bad start in store for "A" Company, Mr. Hamilton's fractured leg keeping him on the sick list until the middle of February, when he managed to put in an appearance on crutches. We hope that they will soon be discarded and that he will feel no after-effects from his accident.

Mr. Jones and Mr. Sayers have come to us during their probation; we wish them luck and look forward to having them posted to "A" Company in the near future.

The winter Weapon Training period is drawing to its close; Section and Platoon



Training at the Depot will follow with the approach of the longer evenings. May the clerk of the weather be kind—and the trucks not break down.

#### "B" (S.) COMPANY

We are now at 82 per cent. of our establishment, and hope to improve on this figure before Camp.

The Annual Dinner was followed by a successful dance, and particularly pleasing was the number of serving members present. We were warned by one of the speakers at the dinner to "look to it" that we were not taken by surprise in the Boxing Competition. We did our best and managed to retain the trophy, though we have got to share it with "D" Company, whom we congratulate on tying with us.

Not so successful, perhaps, was our football team. We reached the final and recently lost to "Q" by the narrow margin of 2-1. The Company was unfortunate in that they only fielded ten men, one man dropping out at the last moment. We intend to take our revenge at Annual Training this year.

As far as training trophies are concerned, we lost the Battalion Fire Direction Competition by the narrow margin of one point to "D" Company. We have won this trophy for the past two or three years, so refuting the opinions of those in the Rifle Companies who scoff at the idea of a Machine Gunner being able to use a rifle. Though we lost the Competition this year we certainly did not disgrace ourselves. We hope to see the trophy back on the Company shelves next year, so let us repeat a friendly warning: "Look to it, 'D' Company!"

So far this year we have had to be content with either being second or tying in the competitions. We intend to put our backs into it, and make sure of winning those still to be held.

#### "C" COMPANY

Since the last issue, the winter Weapon Training period has come and gone. I suppose it is safe to say that it will be the last time that training will include the Lewis gun. The attendances on parades have been excellent and the Company Commander is particularly pleased that the discouragement of having to work with an obsolete weapon has not affected

the Company's keenness and enthusiasm during the last three months.

The usual reports as to gas masks being issued for all ranks and trucks being available in adequate numbers and the Bren guns issued at least in sufficient numbers for instructional purposes, have been current. It is only to be hoped that the reports have more foundation than in the past.

Training for the forthcoming three months will include the Company Musketry Week-end at Bisley, a recruiting march with band and drums, Company Training week-end at Cholesbury, and evening field training at Ruislip, as well as a visit to the Aldershot Tattoo.

The Company is to be congratulated in being, at the time of writing, over-strength. Recruits of the right type are being enlisted and showing commendable keenness in their work.

Suppers are now being served at the Drill Hall on all parade nights, and all those responsible are to be heartily congratulated. Judging by the number of meals served, this innovation has met a long-felt want.

#### "D" COMPANY

Once again we have to record the Company's and the Battalion's success in boxing. At Bedford the Battalion team won the 54th Divisional Championships, and hold a replica of the Scarborough Cup for a year.

For the seventh time Pte. J. Weaterton won the Divisional Heavy-weight Championship; this must surely be a record. Ptes. Gaitt and Wigzell repeated their successes of last year in the welter-weight and feather-weight events; this was Gaitt's fourth and Wigzell's second win. Sergt. Jenkins and Dmr. W. Routledge were both a trifle unlucky to lose, the other man doing just enough to pull it off. Routledge, however, was picked to represent the Division in the following rounds at the London Scottish Headquarters, as the Division winner could not make the weight. He lost there to the eventual winner, after a very close fight. Ptes. Weaterton and Wigzell well retained their respective T.A. Championships at the Albert Hall later, while Pte. Gaitt, who has held the T.A. welter-weight title for the past three years in succession, lost in the final to a strong, bustling fighter.

The 54th Division won the Scarborough Cup; they had four title winners and one runner-up out of eight weights.

The Battalion Fire Direction Competition was held at Headquarters, and "D" Company was to be congratulated on winning.

Sergt. Heath and his team won by one point from "B" (S.) Company, last year's Battalion and Brigade winners. We wish them luck in the Brigade Competition on 29th March.

On 9th and 10th April we go to Bisley for the Annual Weapon Training Course. From the names already given in it looks as though all "D" Company records for numbers will be broken, as practically all the Company will be there. There will be few casualties this year.

We welcome Mr. Bull to the Company on being posted from "C" Company, and wish Mr. Talbot, who is going to live down in Hampshire, *au revoir* until Camp.

#### SERGEANTS' MESS

We regret that the notes for the last issue of the journal were overlooked.

Things are improving generally in the Mess, and our last Scoial, held on 25th February, was a great success.

There are still a few Sergeants from outlying Companies who do not know what they are missing on these occasions, but we are hoping they will make an effort to get along in the future.

It is with deep regret we record the death of L/Sergt. R. Sangwine, an ardent worker in the interests of the Regiment and the Mess.

Our ex-"H.Q." Wing C.S.M. and Mess President, Reg. Jones, decided to leave the Battalion last month, and we appreciate his offer to help us socially.

"Jock" wishes to know if it will "turn out nice again," but we will see him at Arundel Park with the answer.

#### DRUMS

There is very little to report in this issue. Practices have been extraordinarily well attended. One thinks that the "Fiddlers" have their eye on winning the Cup again at this year's Camp.

The competitive spirit certainly raises the standard of playing, and we think that it has raised us a degree or two above the usual humdrum routine practice.



## REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION NOTES

### PROCEEDINGS OF A MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

HELD AT THE LIBRARY, CENTRAL LONDON  
RECRUITING ZONE, WHITEHALL

On 28th January, 1938

*Present.* Brig.-General V. L. N. Pearson, D.S.O. (in the chair), Col. M. Browne, M.C., Col. G. L. Brown, D.S.O., Lieut.-Col. W. W. Jefferd, Lieut.-Col. W. E. Pringle, M.C., Lieut.-Col. C. P. Rooke, D.S.O., Lieut.-Col. W. H. Samuel, Major H. Phillips, M.C., Major R. A. Slee, Capt. J. R. B. Worton, Capt. H. E. Foster, R.S.M. W. Ward, M.M., R.S.M. P. Newman and Mr. A. G. Hutchins.

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Col. A. M. O. Anwyl Passingham, O.B.E., D.L., Major N. H. B. Lyon, M.C., Capt. C. T. Whinney, M.C., Capt. F. A. L. Lawrence and Mr. E. Morris.

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

2. *The Secretary's Report* for the quarter ended 31st December, 1937, was considered, and it was proposed by Col. Samuel and seconded by Col. Jefferd that the sum of £150 be allocated for the relief of necessitous cases during the quarter ending 31st March, 1938. (Carried.)

3. *Old Comrades' Dinner*, 1938. The Committee decided that the Old Comrades' Dinner for 1938 should be held on Saturday, 12th November, and the Secretary was instructed to write to certain representatives in different districts and ask them to do what they could to encourage Old Comrades living in their districts to attend and endeavour thus to increase the number present.

The Secretary was also instructed to make enquiries of Harrods, Ltd., if the dinner could be held on their premises. It was proposed by Col. Jefferd and seconded by Col. Samuel, that if a suitable dinner could not be arranged with Harrods, Ltd., it should be held under the same arrangements as for 1937. (Carried.)

4. *Review of Weekly Allowance.* After careful consideration of the circumstances under which a weekly allowance of 5s. has been made for many years past, and has been sanctioned up to 1st October, 1938, it was proposed by Col. M. Browne and seconded by R.S.M. Ward, that the allowance should be stopped from 1st October, 1938, and that the recipient

## EMPLOYMENT

### The REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION

pay the  
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

for

EMPLOYMENT OF  
EX-REGULAR SAILORS,  
SOLDIERS AND AIRMEN

£100 A YEAR

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

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

#### London Branches:

62 Victoria Street, S.W.1

Gipsy Corner, Victoria Road,  
Acton, W.3

143 Bow Road, E.3

52a Deptford Bridge, S.E.8

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

should be so informed forthwith by the Secretary. (Carried.)

5. *Battlefield Tour.* It was proposed by Col. G. L. Brown and seconded by Col. Jefferd, that the Battlefield Tour, suggested at the meeting held on 26th April, should be abandoned. (Carried.)

6. *Cover of the Regimental Journal.* It was proposed by Col. G. L. Brown and seconded by R.S.M. Ward, that the latest cover of the Journal should be discontinued and the former one reverted to. (Carried.)

7. *Accounts for 1937.* It was proposed by Major Slee and seconded by Col. M. Browne, that the accounts as audited be passed and that the Secretary should, in conjunction with the Auditors, draw up a resolution, for the consideration of the Committee at the next meeting, making clear the method of settlement of the cost of building the two new Cottage Homes as between the Association and Cottage Homes Funds. (Carried.)

8. *Vote of Thanks.* A vote of thanks to Col. E. E. F. Baker, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., for his valuable and much appreciated work as a member of the Executive Committee was proposed by Col. M. Browne, who expressed the hope that, when a vacancy occurred on the Committee, Col. Baker would be asked to fill it. This was seconded by Capt. Foster and carried unanimously.

#### LADIES' GUILD

The following report for 1937 is written in continuation of the paragraph headed "Ladies' Guild" in the February issue of this year, page 197.

Applications for parcels of clothing from the Guild have been received from parents with families of five, six and eight children. From this it is readily seen that the quantity of garments required to meet the needs of one family only (especially when it is stated, as in some instances, that the children have no boots and scarcely any clothes to wear) is very large.

Owing to the number of garments and cheques received in 1937 from members it was possible to send off some most satisfactory parcels of warm and useful clothing and many very grateful letters of thanks were received. Boots were also purchased with the cash in hand. Even so, the demand was greater than the supply.

We wish to thank all those members who, by sending along parcels and cash, made it possible for us to supply so many applicants with the garments so badly needed. We would, however, like to remind those members who

have not yet been able to send this year that our stock is now low and either new or old clothing would be very welcome.

Applications are so numerous that the demand for garments of all kinds, and particularly boots, far exceed the supply. The Committee would therefore be very grateful if those interested in the welfare of the families of ex-members of the Regiment would help in securing new members for the Guild and further assist by collecting any cast-off garments from their friends.

Parcels may be sent to the Hon. Secretary and all will be gratefully acknowledged.

Anyone who would care to join, and would like further details, should write to the Hon. Secretary, Ladies' Guild, The Barracks, Mill Hill, London, N.W.7.

During the year the following members of the Guild sent parcels:

Miss Alder, Mrs. Ash, Mrs. Barnardiston, Mrs. G. L. Brown, Mrs. H. C. Bucknall, Capt. S. J. Clark, Capt. J. H. Clowes, Capt. A. H. Cooper, Miss E. Cox, Col. W. H. C. Davy, Mrs. del Court, Mrs. Foster, Mrs. Fox, Dr. C. A. Fuller, Mrs. Glover, Mrs. Guscott, Capt. A. E. Green, Mrs. Heape, Mrs. W. P. Hewitt, Mrs. Oliver Jones, Mrs. Lyon, Mrs. Lawrence, Lieut. H. Marsh, Mrs. Newnham, Mrs. L. G. Oliver, Mrs. V. Pearson, Mrs. Poole, Mrs. Ross, Mrs. A. Savile, Mrs. Samuel, Major South, Mrs. Tucker, Mrs. B. E. Ward, Mrs. Wollocombe and Mrs. Worton.

The following sent donations:

	£	s.	d.
Mrs. Passingham .. .. .	1	0	0
Mrs. Hanley .. .. .	1	0	0
Mrs. Cooper .. .. .	10	0	0
Mrs. Samuel .. .. .	1	1	0
Mrs. Baker .. .. .	2	2	0
Mrs. Dundas .. .. .	5	0	0
Mrs. Burrowes .. .. .	5	0	0
Mrs. Tidbury (from Cambridge Club and Jumble Sale) .. .. .	10	0	0
Mrs. Whiteman .. .. .	10	0	0
Mrs. Foster .. .. .	2	2	0
Mrs. O. Jones .. .. .	1	0	0

(Extract from the "Western Morning News and Daily Gazette")

#### RETIRING ON PENSION

Two soldiers who served during the Great War retire on pension from a Devonport unit of the Regular Army this week. They are C.Q.M.S. Bareham, who enlisted in 1914, and Sergt. Phillips, who enlisted in 1915. Both are serving in the 2nd Royal Sussex Regiment, stationed at Raglan Barracks, Devonport.

After the Great War, they enrolled in the 4th Middlesex Regiment at Colchester in 1919, and served in the Battalion at Gibraltar and in Egypt until the formation was disbanded in 1922. They were posted to the Royal Sussex Regiment in August of that year.



## THE REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT

GENERAL BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1937

LIABILITIES				ASSETS			
£	s.	d.	£	£	s.	d.	
Association Fund:				Investments at Middle Market value			
Balance at 1st January, 1937	10,954	8 5		on 31st December, 1937:			
Less Decrease in value and loss on sale of investments	440	1 10		£1,049 1s. 3½% Conversion Stock at 102½	1,075	5 6	
			10,514 6 7	£738 os. 1d. 4½% Conversion Stock, 1940-44 at 106½	784	2 6	
Income and Expenditure Account:				£220 13s. 1d. 4% Funding Loan, 1960-90 at 112½	248	15 9	
Balance at 1st January, 1937	433	16 0		£216 15s. India 3½% Stock at 93	201	11 7	
Add Excess of Income over Expenditure for year	101	18 3		£800 London Transport "T.F.A." Stock 4½% at 106	848	0 0	
			535 14 3	£652 2s. 4d. Australian Government 5% Registered Stock, 1945-75 at 107	697	15 4	
			11,050 0 10	£1,411 3s. Australia 3% Registered Stock, 1955-58 at 90	1,270	0 8	
Sundry Creditors:				£700 Kenya Government 5% Inscribed Stock, 1948-58 at 112 x.d.	801	10 0	
Regimental Journal Account	235	1 9		£108 16s. 4d. New South Wales 3½% Stock at 98	106	12 10	
Memorial Account	10	6		£800 New South Wales 3½% Stock, 1930-50 at 98	784	0 0	
			235 12 3	£103 17s. 5d. Queensland 3½% Inscribed Stock, 1940-60 at 101	104	18 2	
				£97 15s. 3d. Queensland 5% Inscribed Stock, 1940-60, at 106	103	12 7	
				£99 9s. 5d. Sierra Leone Government 3½% Inscribed Stock, 1958-63 at 101	100	9 4	
				£600 South Australian Government 5% Registered Stock, 1945-75 at 107	642	0 0	
				£100 7s. Victoria 4% Consolidated Inscribed Stock, 1940-60 at 101	101	7 1	
				£715 Southern Railway 4% Debenture Stock at 106½	761	9 6	
				£848 Canadian Pacific Railway 4% Perpetual Consolidated Debenture Stock at 86½	733	0 5	
					9,364	11 3	
				Due from Regimental Cottage Homes Accounts, for Expenditure on new Cottages, less Investments realised at 1st January, 1937	1,209	15 4	
				Sundry Debtors for Subscriptions	26	17 6	
				Cash at Bank:			
				Main Account	624	12 3	
				Petty Cash Account	54	17 11	
					679	10 2	
				Cash in Hand:			
				Main Account	7	4	
				Petty Cash Account	4	11 6	
					4	18 10	
					£11,285	13 1	

We have examined the above Balance Sheet with the Books, Vouchers, Counterfoil Receipt Books, and Pass Books of the Regimental Association and certify it to be in accordance therewith.

We have verified the Investments by a Certificate from the Charity Commission and the Balances at the Bank by a Certificate from the Bankers.

9A SACKVILLE STREET, LONDON, W.1.  
21st January, 1938.

G. DIXEY & CO.,  
Chartered Accountants.

## INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1937

EXPENDITURE				INCOME			
£	s.	d.	£	£	s.	d.	
To Grants and Loans to Cases			490 10 3	By Subscriptions	593	14 7	
" Working Expenses:				" Interest on Investments	387	5 1	
Salaries and Allowances	218	0 0		" Refund of Loans	19	12 4	
Office Expenses	29	0 10		" Sales of Badges	5	0 0	
Printing and Stationery	2	6 5		" Entertainment Receipts	68	11 1	
Postage	15	10 0		" Subscriptions to Memorial Wreaths	6	8 0	
Auditors' Fees	6	6 0		" Sale of Histories	7	15 10	
Bank Charges	3	10 0		" Subscription to Secretary's Salary from Officers' Club and Journal	50	0 0	
" Allowances to Chelsea Pensioners			274 13 3				
" Entertainment:			9 0 0				
Cash	74	0 0					
Petty Cash	33	4 11					
			107 4 11				
" Charities			26 5 0				
" Donations to N.A.E. E.R.S.S. & A.			100 0 0				
" Memorial Account			18 9 11				
" Binding, Postage and Packing of "Die-Hards in the Great War"			3 6 3				
" Coronation and Review Expenses			3 9 1				
" Interest on "James Dixon" Memorial Fund paid to Officers' Club			3 10 0				
" Excess of Income over Expenditure, per Balance Sheet			101 18 3				
			£1,138 6 11				£1,138 6 11

## JOURNAL ACCOUNT

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1937

EXPENDITURE				INCOME			
£	s.	d.	£	£	s.	d.	
To Stock at 1st January, 1937	43	7 8		By Advertisements	192	18 11	
" Production of Journals and Diaries	399	8 0		" Sales and Subscriptions	297	4 3	
" Postage	3	0 0		" Stock at 31st December, 1937	47	10 4	
" Office Expenses	40	0 0					
" Subscription to Society for Army Historical Research	1	1 0					
" Subscription to Secretary's Salary	20	0 0					
" Excess of Income over Expenditure for the year	30	16 10					
			£537 13 6				£537 13 6

We have examined the above Balance Sheet with the Books, Vouchers, Counterfoil Receipt Books and Pass Books of the Regimental Association and certify it to be in accordance therewith.

9A SACKVILLE STREET,  
LONDON, W.1.  
21st January, 1938.

G. DIXEY & CO.,  
Chartered Accountants.



## BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1937

LIABILITIES					ASSETS						
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.	
Sundry Creditors:							Sundry Debtors:				
Army Sports Control Board				3	17	0	General Fund	235	1	9	
Income and Expenditure Account:							1st Battalion	29	3	6	
Balance at 1st January, 1937	317	1	9				Advertisers	40	0	0	
Add Excess of Income over Expenditure for year	30	16	10				Stock of Standing Orders and Binding Covers		304	5	3
				347	18	7			47	10	4
				£351	15	7					

## REGIMENTAL COTTAGE HOMES ACCOUNT

## INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1937

EXPENDITURE			INCOME		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Land Agent, Eastern Command, for			By Grant from Eastern Command in		
Rent .. .. .	21	2 0	aid of Rent .. .. .	24	16 10
Repairs .. .. .	7	9 4	Interest on Investments .. .. .	68	18 6
Furniture and Fittings .. .. .	23	15 8			
Gardener .. .. .	4	13 2			
Water Rate .. .. .	1	7 6			
Fire Insurance .. .. .	2	0 6			
Fuel .. .. .	3	4 6			
Legal Charges .. .. .	16	12 0			
Excess of Income over Expenditure	13	10 8			
	£93	15 4		£93	15 4

## BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1937

LIABILITIES				ASSETS			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Income and Expenditure Account:				Investments at Middle Market Value			
Balance at 1st January, 1937 ..	2,100	5	2	on 31st December, 1937:			
Less Decrease in value of Investments	39	16	9	£250 3½% Conversion Loan ..	256	5	0
	2,060	8	5	£460 10s. 6d. 3½% War Stock ..	468	11	8
Add Excess of Income over Expenditure .. .. .	13	10	8	£108 10s. 8d. India 3½% Stock ..	100	18	7
	2,073	19	1	£600 Kenya 5% Inscribed Stock, 1948-58 .. .. .	687	0	0
Due to C. Miskin & Sons, Ltd., for new Cottages .. .. .	133	0	7	£97 15s. 3d. Queensland 5% Inscribed Stock, 1940-60 ..	103	12	7
Due to General Account for expenditure on new Cottages less Investments realised .. .. .	1,209	15	4	£100 East Indian Railway 3½% Debenture Stock .. ..	90	10	0
	£3,416	15	0		1,706	17	10
				New Cottage Homes, at Cost ..	1,653	0	7
				Cash at Bank .. .. .	56	16	7
					£3,416	15	0

We have examined the above Balance Sheet with the Books, Vouchers and Pass Books of the Regimental Association and certify it to be in accordance therewith.

We have verified the Investments by a Certificate from the Charity Commission and the Balance at the Bank by a Certificate from the Bankers.

9A SACKVILLE STREET,  
LONDON, W.1.  
21st January, 1938.

G. DIXEY & CO.,  
Chartered Accountants.

## HINTS ON JOB FINDING

I WAS very interested in Ex-Corporal of Horse's article in the February issue of this Journal.

In the course of my social service work I have had a good deal of experience of ex-soldiers seeking jobs, and should like to give old "Die-Hards" a few words of advice.

Army Vocational Training is a great help in securing a job, because it gives you instruction and has a bureau for employment, but do not think that, because you have been through a course, you can necessarily command a large commencing wage. An employer is not prepared to start a man at the top of the tree, just because he has had six months' training, especially as he knows the man has had no recent experience of civilian life.

My advice is, "Take any job that has good prospects, even if you think the starting wage is low. You will soon be drawing higher pay if you put your back into the job, and prove your worth to your employer."

I have known a number of men who have refused promising jobs because they thought they ought to get more money, and then have had great difficulty in finding anything at all.

Another important point is, "Don't give up a permanent job for a higher-paid one, unless you are certain that the new job is likely to last." I had a case a short time ago of an ex-soldier who had a permanent job in a Government Department, and gave it up for one with much higher pay. The new job came to an end after three weeks, and when I met him, he and his wife were "on the rocks" asking for help.

A man leaving the Army has to consider what type of job he is best suited for, and what are the prospects in the different trades.

A few notes on this subject may be useful.

I. The average man, who is neither exceptionally lucky, nor exceptionally skilled, will probably earn 45s. to 60s. per week; or, if he takes a living-in job, 25s. to 35s. per week.

II. The *Building Trade* is very popular and pays good wages in the busy season, if the weather is fine, but a man who does not have considerable periods of unemployment in the winter is very lucky. In the summer he may earn 75s. per week, but should save some of this to help him through the slack period, especially if he has furniture, wireless, etc., on the hire purchase system. He cannot afford his weekly instalments out of his unemployment pay, which makes no allowances for such outgoings.

III. *Motor Mechanic*. This is popular, and will become more so with an increasingly mechanised army. The competition is keen and the pay moderate. A private chauffeur living out gets 50s. to 80s. per week. If he is living in, probably 40s. to 60s. per week. A mechanic in a firm will get 50s. to 70s. per week. The hours are often long.

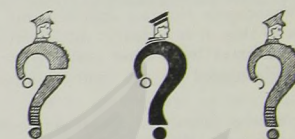
IV. *Engineering Group* is also good, and fitters and machine hands, etc., can find plenty of employment for the next few years and earnings range from 55s. to 80s. per week.

V. *Electric Wiring* is a trade in which it is difficult for a non-union man to get on.

VI. *Living-in Jobs*. The pay for chauffeur-handyman, chauffeur-gardener, club waiter or houseman, etc., varies considerably, but a man should always bear in mind that he saves at least 25s. per week for board, lodging and fares.

I will end by repeating what I said at the beginning: "Prove to your employer that you are worth high wages, and he will be ready to pay them in order to keep you, but you will have to prove it to him first."

W. H. S.



# THE EXPERIENCES OF AN EX-SERGEANT OF THE RIFLE BRIGADE ON RETURNING TO CIVIL LIFE

I WAS a Sergeant and an Instructor for some years before leaving the Army, being specially commended for my service as an Instructor to the Royal Ulster Constabulary. For two years before leaving the Army I was serving in a troopship and, consequently, was unable to take any definite steps to obtain employment before leaving the Service.

On my discharge I at once registered with the Ministry of Labour, the Regular Forces' Employment Association, and with my Regimental Association. I left the Army in 1928 and early in 1929 the Regular Forces' Employment Association offered me employment abroad as an Instructor at a good salary, and I was accepted, but, owing to domestic affairs,



at the last moment I was unable to accept. This was bad luck, as I feel sure that had I been able to take this appointment it might have influenced for good my future career. I accepted casual employment, as a clerk in the Post Office and as a general labourer, in fact, anything I could get locally, but it was eighteen months after leaving the Service that I obtained employment of any reasonable duration, as a labourer.

During the periods of unemployment between these casual jobs, I was submitted, in competition with other candidates, for several jobs by the R.F.E.A., but I was not selected. I learned much of the conduct of interviews from hints given me by the Secretary of the Association, and I consider that the "Hints to Applicants for Employment," as published in the Association's Annual Report, are most useful, especially from "general advice" to the end. I was very keen on obtaining employment in the Post Office and did everything I could to obtain it. I feel that everything possible was done by the National Association to obtain it for me but, unfortunately, in the district in which I reside there were always a number of ex-Regulars who had been Telegraph Messengers awaiting appointments. In addition to this, it is a district which receives many transferees from other postal areas and I eventually passed the age limit for appointment.

After several periods of casual employment in a Government Establishment I eventually became a "hired" man and am now permanently employed as a skilled labourer, assisting welders, drillers and boilermakers. The hours are regular and I like the work, although it is hard and of a somewhat dirty nature. I work in a big shop with a large number of other employees, several of whom are ex-Regular Service men. I look forward to becoming more skilled, and to obtaining a job as a welder or driller, which will give me increased pay. Although the conditions are, of course, very different from what I had been accustomed as an N.C.O. in the Army, I did not find them strange once I had settled down to labouring work.

After three years' experience of this work, I am of the opinion that I am as good as, if not better than, those men who started in the shop as boys, and having learned punctuality, thoroughness and general smartness in the Army, I am sure that my foreman appreciates these virtues.

We do get occasional rush periods and the hours are longer than one is accustomed to in the Service, but generally we are working at a steady rate.

Very definitely, unpunctuality and scamped work are deprecated. All our work has to be passed and most of it is on contract, so that speed means money, but no employer has any time for a man who scamps his work.

One does miss the active participation in sports, etc., but I find that I have quite sufficient time for amusements, and we have our own Sports and Social Club.

I would advise every man on leaving the Service to try to forget, to a great extent, his Army rank, to be sociable with his fellow-workers, to use his experience to help them and eventually he will obtain their comradeship and respect, and, in addition, that of his foreman.

## 2/10th BATTALION ANNUAL REUNION DINNER

THE 2/10th Branch of the Regimental Association of The Middlesex Regiment held their Annual Reunion Dinner at the "Goat and Compasses," Euston Road, London, on Saturday, 2nd April, 1938. Lieut. B. K. Cattell, of the 2/10th Battalion, was in the chair.

Eighty-seven members of this branch, including Officers and other ranks, attended, and the gathering was honoured by the following guests: Lieut.-Col. Wollocombe, Regimental Association; Capt. Bramall and Sergt. Cockeran, 1/10th Middlesex; Mr. C. Furse and Mr. W. Hensen, 8th Middlesex; Mr. F. Fenemore and Mr. J. Duncan, 9th Middlesex; Mr. W. Flynn and Mr. Edmead, 160th M.G.C.

The words spoken by Col. Wollocombe on the work of the Association were much appreciated, as also were those of Capt. Bramall in response to the toast to the Guests, proposed by Capt. McIvor.

Mr. Chas. Rush proposed the health of the Chairman, in his usual witty style, which was well responded to by the Chairman, who amused the company by telling them the different titles he was known by amongst his comrades when on service.

The evening was well rounded off by a programme of music and community singing by Mr. Harold Nunn and party. Mr. Nunn is an Old Comrade.



"PLODDING ALONG"

## A MONS DIARY

### FIFTH INSTALMENT

#### MONCEAU

OUR march to Monceau was rather a dull one, but we were accorded the usual welcome along the road and in all the villages we passed through, and we left no stragglers on the way. The distance was only about four miles.

The reception by the Mayor and all the village on the large village green, which was promised us by the C.O. the day before, was fully realised.

The population must have been quite large when all the men were there as there was a very large gathering then, mostly old men, women and children, and they all had large bunches of flowers to distribute to the soldiers.

Where the rest of the Brigade spent the night I do not know, but they were in the villages near by.

We halted on entering the village and the Battalion, with all its transport, formed up on the large village green.

The Mayor then made a speech of welcome and wished us all the best of luck, etc., and presented the C.O., Major Finch, the four Company Commanders and myself, with a large bouquet each. What the others did I don't know, but I gave mine to my groom to carry for me.

The Colonel answered through the interpreter and thanked the Mayor for his address of welcome, etc.

The Mayor could not understand a word of English and the Colonel, although he could speak a little French, was not an accomplished French scholar.

This ceremony over, we marched off by Companies to billets and the Companies had to picquet the roads leading out of their areas, i.e., those which led out of the village into the country. Headquarters were in a big brewery in the middle of the village and the Colonel, Major Finch and I were very kindly billeted by the Mayor in his very fine Chateau. It was a beautiful house with a lovely garden and it occupied a very fine position with a magnificent view of the surrounding country, which was very pretty. It was wooded and hilly country.



The Mayor was a very nice old man and he and his wife were very kind to us. Unfortunately we could not get her to talk very much. This was probably because, not being able to talk English, she thought it would bore us. They had a married daughter staying with them who lived in Paris, but had left there for a time as her husband was at the front. She could talk English perfectly, having had an English governess in her childhood.

Now to return to duty. The first thing to be done at Headquarters was to undo about a dozen boxes of maps, which we had brought with us from England and which were not allowed to be opened before reaching the concentration area, and extract the particular sheets which we required then and were likely to require for some time to come. There were enough of each sheet for all Officers and all Platoon Commanders and for Scouts, Signallers and Machine Gunners. This done I went up to the Chateau, where I found the C.O. and Major Finch, who had finished their lunch. It was now 1.45 p.m., and they gave me a most delicious lunch and some real good wine and coffee.

After lunch the C.O. had to go and look over some ground, with a view to taking up an outpost position if required, and Major Finch and I went round the Companies in their billets and visited all the picquets. When we had seen all the picquets we started off for home and an orderly on a bicycle rode up (he was the Signalling Sergeant) and said that the C.O. wanted me at once at Headquarters and that the Brigadier was there. I thought this sounded like business, and trotted off there immediately to find the Brigadier giving the C.O. instructions about the ammunition supply in the field and casualty returns, etc. The Brigadier told me that he wanted me to reconnoitre the road to Limont Fontaine from Monceau, with a view to leading the Battalion with its transport to the main road leading north from the former place to Maubeuge and to report on my return whether it was suitable for the march. I rode off immediately (about 4 p.m.). It was about five or six miles to the beginning of Limont Fontaine and another one and a half from there to the main road. I got there without adventure and found some of our Cavalry occupying billets at Limont Fontaine. This was news to the General. On my way back I stopped at a little wayside inn, where I watered my horse and had a glass of beer. I had only English money and handed the woman a sixpenny piece. She was delighted

with it and showed it to the children, and to another woman in the house, with great pride; she had obviously never seen any English money before.

I got back, via Brigade Headquarters, where I reported the road to be suitable for our march to the General in person and took a message from him to the Colonel to say that the head of the Division would be on the Maubeuge road by 7 a.m., which meant an early start for us in the morning, and orders would be issued to that effect later.

Reaching the Chateau at 7.15 p.m. I found the C.O. and Major Finch had just come in and were upstairs getting ready for dinner. I followed suit and we were given a glorious dinner and more good wine, and at about 10 p.m. we went to bed, after conversing with the family about the German atrocities which they said had been perpetrated in Belgium. The reports of these had only just started then. The Colonel arranged that when orders were received they should be brought up to him from the orderly room.

#### 21st August

He got one lot in the middle of the night and issued his orders from them by the orderly who brought them. My clerk had another lot about an hour afterwards, but on reading them thought there was only a difference of about five minutes between them and the last lot, so did not worry the Colonel with them until Reveille. The Colonel then found, however, that the time was put back three-quarters of an hour and that the clerk had read them wrongly, so we had to get off at once without breakfast. Our hostess gave us some coffee and bread and butter, but I believe we were the only lucky people who got anything to eat or drink.

We started our march at 5 a.m., half an hour late. Major Finch rode on to see when the rear of the Brigade passed the starting point, which was about two miles from where we started and brought back the news that they were about 20 minutes in front of us. I had found a short cut the night before, which saved us about half a mile, and, by pushing along and only having a five-minutes' halt instead of ten, we managed to get to within about 100 yards of the tail of the Brigade when we reached the main road and so, of course, we caught them up at the next halt. Major Finch had seen the Brigade Major at the starting point and had told him what had happened, promised that we would catch up as best we could and said that we knew the road, so they did

not bother about us any more and we never heard anything more about it.

I had, however, learnt that I must, in future, sleep at Battalion Headquarters, i.e., the office, or have all orders brought to me at my resting place and not to my clerk or anyone else. I found later on, however, that I seldom had much resting place or rest as orders were continually on the move.

One thing at Monceau I shall never forget and that was my bed. It was the only comfortable bed I slept in the whole time during my first experience of the War, and I slept like a top until awakened by my alarm watch at 4 a.m. As I had not been aroused by anyone I went to sleep again, but not for long. It was 4.15 a.m. when Major Finch came up and turned me out of bed, having been roused himself by the Colonel.

#### THE MARCH

When we got on the main road, which we found to be paved with cobbles and bad for marching, and this was our first experience of paved roads, we plodded along for about a mile when we had a halt for an hour and let a lot of Cavalry and Horse Artillery go by. The 7th Brigade then closed up on us and also halted; the 9th Brigade were in rear of them. We fell in again and marched on to Maubeuge, which place we marched through. It was very interesting to see the preparations that were being made for the defence of that great fortress. The place looked to me to be impregnable. Of course I did not know then of the existence of the huge German siege guns, nor the value of modern artillery against defence works. We entered the town and found the railway station full of rolling stock and soldiers very busy in and out of it with wagons, etc. I heard that Cavalry and Artillery had just been detained there.

When we had mounted the hill on the far side of the station we had a halt and some French artillerymen, who were resting there with their guns parked, came over and talked to our men (several of them being able to speak English) and gave them French cigarettes and tobacco.

We continued our march through the town, where there were masses of French troops of all branches of the Service. Soon we had another halt and I spoke to an Artillery Corporal of the French Army. In the course of conversation I mentioned the fact that we considered the French Artillery the finest in

the world; he replied, "Yes, but you have the Navy and the Cavalry." I had never heard that our Cavalry had any very special name, but they proved their real worth the very next and succeeding days by the way they romped round the Uhlans. Several French soldiers were reading the newspaper. I asked one of them to get me one and he promptly gave me his. When I offered him a "sou" there was a regular chorus from all his pals of "non, non, non," and he stepped out of the way as if I had had a bomb in my hand. There was not much in it, but one of them pointed out a paragraph to me which said that two German cruisers had been sunk by the British Fleet in the Pacific, saying "tres bon, tres bon."

On resuming our march we found the inhabitants so very pressing with their fruit, water, milk, vin blanc diluted (buckets full) and cigarettes and cigars for the soldiers that we thought the front of the Battalion would be getting intoxicated or over-eaten as they, of course, were the first to be met by these kind people, who gave it all to them, so the C.O. and I stopped them taking any more and told the people to give it to those behind who were getting none. This was our first long march. It was about 20 miles and a very hot day and we had a difficulty towards the end of the march with some of the reservists, but managed to get them in all right with the aid of the transport wagons, which all had one or two men put on them by the Medical Officer.

We reached the frontier for the night at about 3 p.m. The village we stopped at was a quiet little village called Bonnet.

We had at Headquarters a very kind family, consisting of an old man who had been through the 1870 War, his wife and a grown-up daughter. The old man talked away to us all through our lunch and gave us some vin blanc and some very good cigars. He showed us also, with great pride, the portrait of one of his ancestors, who had been a Colonel in the French Army years before the 1870 War. There were several family portraits hanging on the walls of his dining room and his house was very well furnished and had a very nice little garden, though it was nothing more than a little country cottage.

After lunch the C.O. went out to the front with the General to look over some ground with a view to taking up an outpost position.

He left me behind to get on with the orders, to issue some pamphlets on aeroplanes, and pictures of French and Belgian soldiers, and to write up the War diary, etc. When he came



back he changed horses and told me to send "C" Company up the main road and into a certain field on the right of the road, where they would meet him; also to get the tool cart up, for they were going to entrench a small position. They got out there at about 6 p.m. and worked until dark (about 7.15 p.m.).

We were expecting the Royal Engineers to come and help us, but they had been delayed somewhere on the way. An R.E. Colonel came up on his horse and asked for Colonel Hull. I told him that the C.O. was away. He asked me what was wanted of them and I said that we wanted them to help us dig an outpost position. I had put my foot in it. They, somewhat naturally, hate to be told to help the Infantry to dig as they are specialists and have their higher Engineering matters to attend to. However, the Colonel took it fairly mildly and after explaining this old news to me again, rode on to the ground where I told him he would find the C.O.

"D" Company was the next to be moved. Two Platoons were sent to hold a cross roads about a mile and a half away under Capt. Roy and a Platoon under Lieut. Druce was sent up the main road about a mile and a half to an inn, where they were quite comfortable for the night, to watch the road. We had a good dinner and the C.O. and Major Finch retired to bed.

The R.E. had not turned up so I thought I would wait up for them. The C.O., on going to bed, told me not to stay up too long, but, if they turned up soon, to billet them and tell them they would not be required until 5 a.m. at the earliest. They arrived at about 10.30 p.m. and I billeted them with "C" Company and took their Officer back to Battalion Headquarters, where he slept in his valise downstairs and was much pleased with the thought of a night's rest. He said that he and his men had had a long day and were all very tired and glad of a rest. I gave him some bread and cheese and a little vin blanc, which remained over from our dinner, and which he took with great joy. The next trouble was that Brigade orders had not arrived and it was then after 11 p.m. The kind people of the house had given me a little candle lamp and had allowed me to keep the front door unlocked to admit orderlies during the night, so, having shaded the light off my R.E. friend, I decided to go to bed. Bed was not much comfort to me any night

until orders had arrived, as I always knew that I should be pulled out again. I went upstairs and lay as I was on top of my bed and was not there long, I fancy, before I went to sleep.

22nd August

Orders appear to have come at about 3 a.m., as I sent the following round to Companies, etc., timed 3.30 a.m., by cyclist:

ORDERS BY LIEUT.-COL. HULL,  
Commanding 4th Battalion, Middlesex Regt.  
22/8/14.

1. Reveille to-day will be at 6 a.m.
2. The Battalion will form part of an advanced guard under Lieut.-Col. Hull, consisting of one troop of Divisional Cavalry, one Battery 40th F.A. Brigade and 4th Battalion, Middlesex Regiment.
3. "C" and "D" Companies will not continue their trench digging.
4. Outposts will be withdrawn when "D" Company has marched through them.

Issued at 3.30 a.m.

\_\_\_\_\_, Lieut.,  
Adjutant, 4th Bn., Middlesex Regt.

I then got properly into bed and slept soundly, only to be roused again at about 5 a.m. by a second lot of orders, which put back the move of the Division about three-quarters of an hour. Fresh orders had then to be sent round to Companies, etc., as follows:

AFTER ORDER

22/8/14.

Reveille at once.  
The Battalion Head will pass "D" Company's billet at 6.25 a.m.  
Order of Companies: "B," "C," "A," "D."

Issued at 5.15 a.m.

\_\_\_\_\_, Lieut.,  
Adjutant, 4th Bn., Middlesex Regt.

This was the second night running that this had happened. I realised how they must all have hated me for it, but I never heard a word of grouching from anyone. We had not forgotten to order tea and bread and butter at the same time as the orders had been sent off, and we got it in plenty of time before moving off. The old man and his wife and daughter were there to see us off and to wish us good luck.

(To be continued)

## CORRESPONDENCE

THE JUNIOR UNITED SERVICE CLUB,  
LONDON, S.W.1.

9th February, 1938.

To the Editor of "The Die-Hards"

DEAR SIR,

Have you ever seen the report on this act of gallantry?

"A fire broke out on board an ammunition ship in Boulogne harbour on 26th October, 1915, and the ship was at once abandoned by her Officers and crew.

"Lieut.-Commander A. R. S. Warden, R.N., at once went on board, with Pte. Edward Grimble of the 1st Battalion The Middlesex Regiment, went below, amid burning cases of high explosives, and, carrying the fire-hose from on shore, played water on the cases, and extinguished the fire, preventing an explosion which would have caused vast loss of life and property."

Lieut.-Commander Warden received the First Class and Pte. Grimble the Second Class of the Albert Medal.

I do not recollect ever before seeing this brave incident related. I came across it in an article on British and Foreign orders of gallantry by Sir Arnold Foster. The 1st Battalion, owing to active service, may not have the record. I was with the Battalion at the time as Adjutant, but do not recollect the matter being reported to us. I do not know how or why Pte. Grimble was at the Base, but if he is a reader of the Journal and alive it would be interesting to have his account of the incident first hand.

Yours faithfully,

M. BROWNE.

440, STRAND,  
LONDON, W.C.2.

21st February, 1938.

To the Editor of "The Die-Hards"

DEAR SIR,

I regret to announce the death of a subscriber to the journal, the Rev. Canon H. Wesley Dennis, T.D., Honorary Chaplain to the Forces.

Canon Wesley Dennis was Chaplain to the South Middlesex Volunteer Rifle Corps, and when the 10th Battalion The Middlesex Regiment was formed out of the South Middlesex, he transferred with the rest.

As principal of St. John's College, Battersea, he was largely responsible for the formation of one of the Companies in the South Middlesex and 10th Middlesex from Students of the College. He was always keenly interested in the Battalion and always attended the Officers' Reunion Dinner in December each year.

I enclose a notice from Saturday's *The Times*, in case you wish to make use of this matter for the journal.

Yours faithfully,

C. JARRETT, Major.

(Extract from *The Times*, 19th February, 1938)

CANON H. W. DENNIS

Canon Herbert Wesley Dennis died suddenly at the Rectory, Cheam, yesterday, at the age of 77.

The son of a civil engineer, he went in 1870 to Merchant Taylors' School, where he became captain of the XI. In 1879 he was elected a scholar of St. John's College, Oxford, and took his degree with classical honours in 1883. For six years he was a master at his old school, being also curate of Tottenham and curate and evening preacher of St. Philip's, Regent Street. He was then appointed secretary of the Clergy Orphan Corporation also for six years, and was curate of Lee for part of the time. In 1894 he was appointed Principal of St. John's College, Battersea, a post which he held till 1917. He was appointed an honorary canon of Southwark in 1910, and was rural dean of Battersea for four years. In 1917 his college presented him to the rectory of Cheam, and he was also appointed rural dean of Beddington.

The funeral will be at Cheam Parish Church on Tuesday at 2.30.

## A LETTER FROM CANADA

ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE,  
KINGSTON, ONTARIO.

22nd March, 1938.

To the Editor of "The Die-Hards"

DEAR SIR,

The grave situation in Europe now dwarfs all topics of a more or less personal nature. In the last few days, however, the worst of this crisis seems to have passed.

Further news from Canada may be of interest, therefore, to some of our friends, so I send you a few notes covering the autumn and winter here.

A visit to Long Island and New York in August was very interesting and enjoyable, but



terribly hot. The rush and noise of life in New York was rather bewildering. We returned in time for me to take part in a three-weeks' camp near Ottawa at the end of August for a Militia Staff Course of about 150 Officers.

September at Kingston, although still pretty hot, was a pleasant month and passed happily with some sailing and golf. By then the Canadian rugby game was in full swing and I watched a number of good games. The game is highly specialised, and lacks the freedom, speed and individual initiative of our rugby. There is a line up, but no scrum. The "plays" are often complicated and interference plays a large part, with the result that everyone is heavily armoured. However, there were some fine struggles.

In October I had some fun with the snipe, which came in punctually from the north. The birds were mostly Wilson's (or common) snipe (fine, strong birds and in good condition), although I did see one or two Jack snipe. It took me some time to find their favourite lies and bogs, and I was handicapped with no trained dogs. This year, however, I shall know much more about them.

The first frosts arrived at the beginning of November, and very soon all the birds moved off to the south. Large flights of duck, mostly big "black duck" and teal, passed over daily. By the end of the month we had heavy snow and were skating. Throughout the winter, however, the snow has been hardly thick enough for pleasant ski-ing. The temperature has varied here between 15 degs. below zero and freezing point. Farther north, Ottawa and above it, temperatures have been down to 50 degs. below zero.

Travelling by road, therefore, was accompanied by grave risks, and our few trips to Ottawa, Montreal, Toronto and London, where misguided people had asked me to lecture, have been by train, and very comfortable.

The St. Lawrence and the Lake here were soon frozen, and the islanders came into market by sleigh across the ice. Ice boating started, but skating generally was not good in the open on the Lakes. The ice was too rough. Ice hockey is the great game of the winter. It is played universally, on all the creeks in the country, and all the rinks in the towns. Splendid efficiency is reached, therefore, and the standard of the best teams is magnificent. Unfortunately, very few teams exhibit what we know as a "sporting spirit" and there is a good deal of rough play.

During the last week there has been a great change in local conditions. Temperatures have risen to 40 degs. and thereabouts, ice is breaking up, and many different sorts of birds have appeared from the south and are very busy. We shall have more snow and cold yet, but the spring has begun.

At this period one is hard put to it to get exercise, and I am fortunate in having the run of the horses in the troopyard for an hour's riding in the school every day. A dozen or so make a very pleasant ride, and jump well and keenly.

Over the winter I have had to supervise a number of Courses in Staff Work and Tactics, and these will continue into July. In August we are to take part in some training at Calgary, just east of the Rockies, and then go on to Vancouver, a trip which I hope to describe to you in a later letter.

Before ending I should mention that at London (Ontario) I was entertained again most kindly by Col. Malone and the Officers of The Middlesex and Huron Regiment, who send their kind remembrances by me to our Regiment at home.

With good wishes to all our friends at home.

Yours very sincerely,  
GERARD BUCKNALL.

## OBITUARY

### MR. EDWARD PENTER

WE regret to announce the death, on 25th March, 1938, of Mr. Edward Penter, who joined The Middlesex Regiment on 27th April, 1896, and served with it until 26th July, 1919, when he was discharged after 23 years' service with the rank of Sergeant. He had the 1914 Star, the General Service and Victory Medals and the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal. The Sergeants' Mess of the Depot was represented at the funeral by a Sergeant, and a bugler attended with a wreath from the Association.

### MR. THOMAS HAWKINS

We regret to announce the death, at the Infirmary of the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, on 23rd January, 1938, of Mr. Thomas Hawkins, aged 84 years. He was buried at the Cemetery of the London Necropolis Company at Brookwood on 28th January. A bugler with a wreath

attended the funeral. He enlisted as No. 540 in the 57th Regiment in 1875 and served for 16 years (including six in "A" Reserve and four in Section "D"). He served in Ceylon from 1875 to 1879 and South Africa in 1879, being awarded the South African 1879 Medal.

### MR. E. HOLMES

We regret to announce the death of Mr. E. Holmes, late No. 607322, Private of 2nd Battalion, who died on Saturday, 29th January, 1938, and was buried at Kensington New Cemetery on 3rd February. He enlisted in August, 1914, and served with the Colours until March, 1920.

### MR. HENRY HEWITT

We regret to announce the death, on 19th March, 1938, of Mr. Henry Hewitt, late No. 3844, of 2nd Battalion, Permanent Staff of the Depot and 24th Training Reserve Battalion.

He enlisted on 29th February, 1892, in The Queen's Royal Regiment. In 1896 he transferred to The Middlesex Regiment to serve with an elder brother. He was discharged as a Colour Sergeant in 1913, after 21 years' service, during which he had served three years abroad. During the Great War he joined up in September, 1914, and served for two years and eight months with 24th Training Reserve Battalion, being finally discharged as being no longer physically fit for war service in May, 1917. A Sergeant and a bugler with a wreath attended the funeral at Ilford on 24th March. We offer our sincere sympathy to his widow.

### MR. JAMES MOONEY

We regret to announce the death, in Foy, County Tyrone, Ireland, of Mr. James Mooney, an old 57th man. Details are not yet to hand, but it is hoped that an account of his service in the Regiment will be forthcoming for our next issue. We offer our sincere sympathy to his widow.



(From the Monthly Army List for March, 1938)

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

[57]

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

1st and 2nd Battalions— (Regular).	1st and 2nd Battalions— Lieutenants—contd.	7th Battalion (Territorial)— contd.
<b>Lt.-Colonels (2).</b>	<b>Lt.-Colonels (2).</b>	<b>Lt.-Colonels (2).</b>
Jefford, W. W. (2) 1/6/35	Man, A. M. (Sch. of Sigs.)	✕Mirams, S., M.C.
Tidbury, O. H., M.C., 1/1/36	Marsh, H. (1), d. 30/1/33	(Capt. ret. pay)
p.s.c. (1) 1/1/36	Hall, J. P. (1) (d. Adjt.) 28/8/33	(Res. of Off.) t.a.
	Weston, G. P. L., a.m. 29/1/34	✕Holt, J. M. 26/1/36
<b>Majors (8).</b>	<b>Majors.</b>	<b>Majors.</b>
Newnham, L. A., M.C., p.s.c. (1) 28/9/32	Gwyn, R. A., s. 29/1/34	Bartram, R. 1/12/32
Thorp, J. R. (1) (2) 28/9/32	Bellars, R. C. H. (2) 29/1/34	Johnson, A. K. 1/2/33
Savile, H. B. W., M.C. (1), c.o. 17/12/32	Beadnell, L. C. (1) 27/8/34	Low, G. C. D. S. 20/7/33
Phillips, H., M.C. (2), d. 1/6/35	Whiting, F. B., c.o. 1/9/35	Jefferson, A. D. 30/5/37
Bucknall, G. C., M.C., p.s.c., n.s., s. 21/8/35	Peal, A. W. F. (1) 1/9/35	
Stewart, H. W. M., O.B.E., M.C. (6.c.) (1) 1/1/36	Willoughby, J. E. F. (2) 2/2/36	<b>Captains.</b>
Horrocks, B. G., M.C., p.s.c. (1) 11/10/37	Porter, G. O. (2) 2/2/36	Unwin, E. J. (2) 2/2/36
Haydon, C. W., M.C. (2) 11/10/37	Unwin, E. J. (2) 2/2/36	Fishbourne, P. A. (1) 2/2/36
	Chattey, T. W. (1) 31/8/36	Beath, C. M. (2) 1/2/37
<b>Captains (14).</b>	Stewart, H. W. M., O.B.E., M.C. (6.c.) (1) 1/1/36	Anson, P. A. R. (1) 1/2/37
del Court, S. F. W. M., M.C. (1) (1) 28/9/20	Attache	Clayton, A. S. J. de S. (2) 1/2/37
Proctor, N. P., M.C. (1) (1) 28/9/20	Allen, W. P. M. (1) d. 30/8/37	Ormiston, J. W. G. (2) 31/1/38
(Spec. Agent)	Gudgeon, H. N. C. (1) 31/1/38	Hewitt, A. G. (1) 31/1/38
bt. maj. 1/1/34	Weldon, M. P. (1) 31/1/38	Weedon, M. P. (1) 31/1/38
Rackham, B. B., M.C. (1) (1) 28/9/20	<b>2nd-Lieutenants.</b>	<b>2nd-Lieutenants.</b>
(Instr. Small Arms Sch.)	Bilbrough, C. V. U. S. (2) 29/8/35	Symes, T. G. (2) 29/8/35
Weller, A. V. (1) 9/5/27	Lane, C. E. A. (2) 29/8/35	Lane, C. E. A. (2) 29/8/35
Pain, E. T., t. 9/5/27	Pullman, A. O. (1) 30/1/36	Langley, H. M. F. (1) 30/1/36
Dobbs, J. E., M.C. (1) 28/9/28	Chiverrall, J. G. (1) 28/9/28	Dawson, G. C. (1) 28/9/28
Jones, W. H. V., s. 10/12/28	Passy, E. L. G. (2) 28/9/28	Lyons, P. M. (2) 28/9/28
Hedgcock, S. F., c.o. 10/12/28	Marshall, P. D. H. (2) 10/12/28	Hancock, F. S. C. (1) 10/12/28
Parker, F. G. (2) 10/12/28	Campbell, I. F. (2) 27/1/38	Warren, A. J. (2) 27/1/38
Overell, A. N. (1) 10/12/28	<b>Adjutants (2).</b>	<b>Adjutants (2).</b>
Wray, E. M. G., D.S.O. (2) 12/4/34	Gordon, I. D. S., capt. (2) 3/8/35	Walden, F., capt. (1) 24/10/37
Cloyden, H. W., t. 14/4/34	Walden, F., capt. (1) 24/10/37	
Clark, S. J., t. 14/4/34	<b>Quartermasters (3).</b>	<b>Quartermasters (3).</b>
Walden, F. (1) Adj. 14/4/34	Clark, A. W. d. 28/4/20	Musclewhite, C. C., capt. 28/4/37
Heywood, E. L. (2) 12/2/35	Guscott, R. T., Lt. (1) 22/1/30	Pilley, W. H., Lt. (2) 28/7/35
Ayscough, E. S. M. (1) 4/4/35	<b>5th Battalion (Militia).</b>	<b>5th Battalion (Militia).</b>
Reid, J. G. E. (2) 4/4/35	Gordon, I. D. S., capt. (2) 3/8/35	Gordon, I. D. S., capt. (2) 3/8/35
Musclewhite, C. C. (2) 4/4/35	Walden, F., capt. (1) 24/10/37	
Tuckey, P. E. C., s. 4/4/35	<b>Quartermasters (3).</b>	<b>Quartermasters (3).</b>
Worton, J. B. (1), d. 4/4/35	Clark, A. W. d. 28/4/20	Musclewhite, C. C., capt. 28/4/37
Gordon, I. D. S. (2) 3/8/35	Guscott, R. T., Lt. (1) 22/1/30	Pilley, W. H., Lt. (2) 28/7/35
Crawford, M., o. (1) 21/8/35	<b>6th Battalion (Militia).</b>	<b>6th Battalion (Militia).</b>
Newton, W. C. (1) 2/4/36	<b>7th Battalion (Territorial).</b>	<b>7th Battalion (Territorial).</b>
Jacob, M. A. O., c.o. 13/3/37	"The Elms," Priory Road, Hornsey, N.8.	
Gilbert, N. G., c.o. 13/3/37	<b>Hon. Colonel.</b>	<b>Hon. Colonel.</b>
Baldwin, C. M., M.B.E., c.o. 13/3/37	✕King, E. J., C.M.G., T.D. (Col. ret. Terr. Army) A.D.C., t.a. 13/8/25	
Else, F. H., o., c.o. 13/3/37	<b>Lt.-Colonel.</b>	<b>Lt.-Colonel.</b>
Herpath, L. H. J., t. 12/4/37	✕Pringle, W. E., M.C., t.a. 22/6/36	
Stephenson, J. W. A. (2) 12/4/37		
Powell, P. D. H. (1) 12/4/37		
Chattey, W. H. P., a.m. 11/10/37		
Green, A. E. (2) 11/10/37		
<b>Subalterns (34).</b>		
Ferguson, W. M. (2) 31/1/32		
Sword, R. W. D., c.o. 28/8/32		

## SENIORITY ROLL OF WARRANT OFFICERS AND NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS OF 1st BATTALION

(Compiled in accordance with King's Regulations, 1935, para. 274, et seq., and corrected to 21/2/38)

Rank and Name.	Date of present rank or appointment.	Rank and Name.	Date of present rank or appointment.
*R.S.M. H. Farrow, M.B.E., 2/12/36		L/Sergt. F. Hissocks 31/8/35	
*B.M. A. Judge 12/4/31		(L/Sergt. 16/12/36)	
*Q.M.S. (O.R.S.) A. Finch 13/6/28		*Cpl. C. Keefe 28/11/35	
*C.S.M. A. Russell (Supn. F.M.S.V.F.) 1/4/31		Cpl. J. McGrady 6/12/35	
*R.Q.M.S. W. Randle 13/6/35		Cpl. F. Shaw 12/12/35	
(R.Q.M.S. 2/11/37)		Cpl. R. Crowley 12/12/35	
*C.S.M. F. Stacey 4/7/36		Cpl. S. Clark (Supn. Sch. Sigs.) 12/4/36	
*C.S.M. R. Challis 2/11/37		Cpl. F. Hammond (40) 25/5/36	
*C.S.M. W. Northcott, M.M. 8/11/37		Cpl. J. Denham 1/7/36	
C.S. (C.Q.M.S.) W. Christie, M.M. 8/11/37		*Cpl. R. Lomax 4/7/36	
Sergt. 1/5/20		Cpl. G. Clark 13/1/37	
(C/Sergt. 7/7/36)		Cpl. P. Cain 8/3/37	
*C.S. (C.Q.M.S.) R. Colbourne 6/10/23		Cpl. W. Lane 2/4/37	
(C/Sergt. 20/2/37)		Cpl. R. Burkill 23/4/37	
Sergt. 16/2/30		Cpl. F. Hammond (64) 23/4/37	
(C/Sergt. 23/1/36)		*Cpl. T. Doyle 23/4/37	
Sergt. 17/12/30		Cpl. A. Savagar 9/5/37	
(C/Sergt. 23/1/36)		Cpl. A. Borrow 2/6/37	
Sergt. 17/12/30		Cpl. C. Freshwater 1/9/37	
Sergt. J. Quick (Pioneer) 23/4/31		*Cpl. G. Sach 2/11/37	
**Sergt. L. Priddy 18/9/31		Cpl. G. Watson 8/11/37	
C.S. (C.Q.M.S.) R. Bayles 10/12/31		Cpl. L. Sibley 30/11/37	
(C/Sergt. 8/11/37)		L/Cpl. W. Mills 17/6/33	
Sergt. F. Donovan 4/2/32		L/Cpl. C. Ellis 30/11/34	
*Sergt. E. Paterson (36) 18/2/32		L/Cpl. A. Burrell 11/7/35	
Sergt. J. Ramsey 23/6/32		*L/Cpl. A. Bisset 15/7/35	
*Sergt. H. Kruck 24/8/32		L/Cpl. T. Baker 15/8/35	
Sergt. W. Bean 23/3/33		L/Cpl. S. Harvey 5/10/35	
Sergt. E. Paterson (29) 8/9/33		L/Cpl. H. White 5/10/35	
Sergt. (O.R.C.) P. Hale 19/10/33		L/Cpl. R. Powell 5/10/35	
Sergt. T. Little (Prov. Sergt.) 19/10/33		L/Cpl. A. Simkins 5/10/35	
*Sergt. J. Bond (Sergt. Cook) 17/6/34		L/Cpl. B. Compton 5/10/35	
Band Sergt. P. Edwards 5/3/35		L/Cpl. W. Barnes 5/10/35	
*Sergt. V. Cooper 15/5/35		L/Cpl. C. Kiefer 5/10/35	
Sergt. B. Bedward 24/8/35		L/Cpl. E. Smith 16/12/35	
*Sergt. R. Chaplin 27/11/35		L/Cpl. R. Turner 21/12/35	
Sergt. S. Bullock 7/7/36		L/Cpl. A. Pace 28/12/35	
Sergt. L. Sheffield 3/8/36		L/Cpl. H. Kidby 28/12/35	
*Sergt. (Sig.) G. Bayford 27/2/37		L/Cpl. C. Haynes 28/12/35	
Drum-Major G. Jeffree 22/5/37		L/Cpl. A. Morris 28/12/35	
*Sergt. R. Overy 16/10/37		L/Cpl. C. Vince 28/12/35	
Sergt. T. Castle 8/11/37		L/Cpl. J. Ringe 3/1/36	
Cpl. S. Phelan 15/9/31		L/Cpl. G. Tattam 1/4/36	
L/Sergt. R. Blackman 26/7/32		L/Cpl. L. Du-Heaume 1/4/36	
(L/Sergt. 13/5/36)		*L/Cpl. T. McDavitt 1/4/36	
*L/Sergt. H. Parnell 17/8/32		L/Cpl. L. Graham 1/4/36	
(L/Sergt. 31/8/35)		*L/Cpl. P. Sturdy 1/4/36	
Cpl. 14/1/33		L/Cpl. F. Ayres 1/4/36	
(L/Sergt. 9/5/37)		L/Cpl. A. Moody 21/4/36	
Cpl. 25/12/33		L/Cpl. W. Fennis 19/5/36	
(L/Sergt. 12/4/35)		L/Cpl. E. Rogers 19/5/36	
Cpl. 20/4/34		L/Cpl. R. Ellis 19/5/36	
(L/Sergt. 18/12/34)		*L/Cpl. A. Hoare 19/5/36	
Cpl. 8/5/34		L/Cpl. T. Perry 19/5/36	
(L/Sergt. 18/12/34)		L/Cpl. H. Ellams 19/5/36	
Cpl. 5/12/34		L/Cpl. H. Gribble 19/5/36	
(L/Sergt. 16/12/36)		L/Cpl. A. Ruddle 19/5/36	
Cpl. 15/2/35		L/Cpl. G. Ravenscroft 29/5/36	
(L/Sergt. 16/12/36)		*L/Cpl. G. Plummer 29/5/36	
Cpl. 28/7/35		L/Cpl. C. Holdford 29/5/36	
(L/Sergt. 20/4/36)		L/Cpl. W. Dowsett 15/6/36	

\* In possession of First Class Certificate of Education.

\*\* In possession of Army Special Certificate of Education.



Rank and Name.	Date of present rank or Appointment.	Rank and Name.	Date of present rank or Appointment.
L/Cpl. J. Boggis	10/7/36	L/Cpl. W. Puddifoot	23/10/37
L/Cpl. C. Duncum	24/7/36	L/Cpl. R. Langford	23/10/37
L/Cpl. G. Hodgson	14/10/36	L/Cpl. A. Rasmussen	30/10/37
L/Cpl. W. Ure	23/10/36	L/Cpl. A. McGrady	6/11/37
L/Cpl. H. Ellingworth	22/12/36	L/Cpl. E. Johnson	8/11/37
L/Cpl. R. Pointer	11/1/37	L/Cpl. D. O'Mahoney	21/11/37
L/Cpl. C. Roberts	11/1/37	L/Cpl. W. Connick	23/11/37
L/Cpl. A. Payne	11/1/37	L/Cpl. E. Morrish	23/11/37
L/Cpl. C. Payne	11/1/37	L/Cpl. W. Dee	23/11/37
L/Cpl. F. McCarthy	13/1/37	L/Cpl. F. Wilmer	23/11/37
L/Cpl. F. Waldron	19/3/37	*L/Cpl. B. Cox	25/11/37
*L/Cpl. A. Goodge	12/6/37	L/Cpl. S. Starkey	26/11/37
L/Cpl. E. Shrubbs	12/6/37	L/Cpl. G. Soames	29/11/37
L/Cpl. A. Bond	12/6/37	L/Cpl. E. Chapman	29/11/37
L/Cpl. L. Staley	12/6/37	L/Cpl. A. Miller	6/12/37
L/Cpl. J. Tarnier	12/6/37	L/Cpl. S. Apps	6/12/37
L/Cpl. R. Harris	12/6/37	L/Cpl. M. Beresford	10/12/37
L/Cpl. J. Casey	2/7/37	L/Cpl. S. Cheal	10/12/37
L/Cpl. J. Whitney	2/7/37	L/Cpl. E. Williams	13/12/37
L/Cpl. C. French	2/7/37	L/Cpl. W. Stone	13/12/37
L/Cpl. D. Amos	30/7/37	L/Cpl. H. Perrin	17/12/37
L/Cpl. G. Webster	30/7/37	L/Cpl. F. Smith	20/12/37
L/Cpl. W. Heath	7/8/37	L/Cpl. A. Tyler	3/1/38
L/Cpl. A. Manning	7/8/37	L/Cpl. A. Moggridge	3/1/38
L/Cpl. G. Chelu	7/10/37	L/Cpl. L. Burbidge	3/1/38
L/Cpl. E. Pountney	7/10/37	L/Cpl. A. Keeler	29/1/38
L/Cpl. T. Brooker	14/10/37	L/Cpl. W. Thompson	8/2/38
L/Cpl. S. Cornford	21/10/37	L/Cpl. H. Goodair	11/2/38
L/Cpl. G. Brewer	22/10/37	L/Cpl. A. Page	19/2/38

Dates against L/Cpls. are the dates of first appointment.

### 2nd BATTALION (Home Establishment), April, 1938

Rank and Name.	Battalion.	Date of present promotion or appointment.	Rank and Name.	Battalion.	Date of present promotion or appointment.
R.S.M. W. Ward, M.M.	2nd	18/3/31	C.Q.M.S. W. Kemp	2nd	13/12/37
R.S.M. P. Newman	Depot	13/8/31		(Sergt. 19/1/32)	
Bdmr. C. Dennis, A.R.C.M.	2nd	25/3/33	Sergt. V. Osterholm	2nd	18/10/23
R.Q.M.S. W. Fletcher	2nd	31/1/30	Sergt. J. Beaveridge	2nd	28/1/25
O.R.Q.M.S. B. Baldwin	Depot	2/7/30	Sergt. S. Bishop	7th	24/11/27
R.Q.M.S. C. Goodall	Depot	28/7/35	Sergt. A. Boen	Depot	13/4/29
	(C.S.M. 28/4/29)		Sergt. R. King	Supn., Fire Bde., Bordon	5/7/29
C.S.M. J. Hart	9th	20/1/26			
C.S.M. L. Simmonds	2nd	3/9/32	Sergt. F. Nash	2nd	11/12/29
C.S.M. B. Brockman	2nd	10/12/32	Sergt. L. Honeybun	2nd	13/8/31
C.S.M. R. Mewett	7th	23/3/33	Sergt. S. Thompson	Depot	30/9/31
C.S.M. H. Wright	8th	24/2/34	Sergt. L. West	2nd	10/12/31
C.S.M. A. Jones	8th	10/5/34	Sergt. J. Harper	2nd	19/4/32
C.S.M. C. Donaldson	9th	15/6/35	Sergt. C. Trestain	8th	14/6/32
C.S.M. H. Thomas	2nd	28/7/35	Sergt. S. Smith	2nd	30/7/32
C.S.M. R. Parsler	2nd	17/5/36	Sergt. R. Smith	2nd	2/9/32
C.S.M. E. Hazeldine	Depot	27/2/37	Sergt. J. Scott	2nd	3/9/32
C.S.M. H. Poulter	2nd	10/11/37	Sergt. L. Johnson	Depot	15/11/32
C.Q.M.S. C. Misso	2nd	10/1/37	Sergt. F. Housden	Depot	3/5/33
	(Sergt. 28/2/28)		Sergt. A. Mason	Depot	22/6/35
C.Q.M.S. F. Franklin	Depot	8/9/33	Sergt. R. Wilson	Depot	8/7/33
	(Sergt. 20/3/28)		Sergt. H. Ison	2nd	10/5/34
C/Sergt. (O.R.S.) F. Deane	2nd	10/6/35	Sergt. E. Jennings	2nd	1/3/35
	(Sergt. 10/6/32)		Sergt. J. Chillery	2nd	5/6/35
C.Q.M.S. G. Sherriff	2nd	24/8/35	Sergt. J. Smith	2nd	9/6/35
	(Sergt. 9/12/29)		Sergt. W. Snell	2nd	13/6/35
C.Q.M.S. W. Rogers	2nd	28/7/35	Sergt. A. Hows	2nd	15/6/35
	(Sergt. 26/5/25)		Sergt. A. Whitcombe	7th	16/6/35
C.Q.M.S. C. Kennett	2nd	10/11/37	Sergt. A. Williams	Depot	28/7/35
	(Sergt. 16/1/31)		Sergt. R. Jenkins	9th	23/1/36

\* In possession of 1st Class Certificate of Education.

Rank and Name.	Battalion.	Date of present promotion or appointment.	Rank and Name.	Battalion.	Date of present promotion or appointment.
Sergt. F. Livens	2nd	17/5/36	Cpl. S. Parry	2nd	8/6/37
Drum-Major W. McEnery	2nd	5/7/36	Cpl. W. O'Connor	2nd	12/7/37
Sergt. E. Moir	2nd	28/10/36	Cpl. J. West	2nd	31/7/37
Sergt. P. Maloney	2nd	17/12/36	Cpl. C. Kenny	2nd	2/8/37
Sergt. A. Brett	2nd	20/2/37	Cpl. J. Hinch	2nd	5/10/37
Sergt. H. Frewin	2nd	9/5/37	Cpl. H. Jennings	2nd	16/10/37
Sergt. (O.R.C.) J. Wright	2nd	8/6/37	Cpl. P. Davidson	2nd	10/11/37
Sergt. T. Sargent	2nd	8/6/37	Cpl. L. Harris	2nd	13/12/37
Sergt. R. Etheridge	2nd	10/11/37	Cpl. A. Peasley	2nd	21/1/38
Sergt. R. Smallridge	2nd	13/12/37			
L/Sergt. J. O'Neill	2nd	13/8/31			
	(L/Sergt. 16/12/36)		PAID LANCE-CORPORALS:		
Cpl. A. Stone	2nd	2/9/31	L/Cpl. E. Rochester	2nd	1/9/28
L/Sergt. F. Hawkins	2nd	28/6/32	L/Cpl. R. Weaver	2nd	23/11/32
	(L/Sergt. 16/6/35)		L/Cpl. C. Armitage	2nd	3/1/33
L/Sergt. W. Day	2nd	5/8/32	L/Cpl. A. Lowe	2nd	15/4/34
	(L/Sergt. 23/1/36)		L/Cpl. N. Rae	2nd	17/6/34
L/Sergt. C. Gatehouse	2nd	6/8/32		(A/Cpl. 21/1/38)	
	(L/Sergt. 24/8/35)		L/Cpl. A. Bettell	2nd	11/7/34
L/Sergt. W. Makewell	Depot	17/8/32	L/Cpl. A. Blan	Depot	2/10/34
	(L/Sergt. 7/3/36)		L/Cpl. C. Marsh	2nd	3/2/35
L/Sergt. H. Buckland	Depot	13/10/32	L/Cpl. G. Hockley	Depot	3/2/35
	(L/Sergt. 28/10/36)		L/Cpl. R. Williams	2nd	20/2/35
L/Sergt. E. Wadsworth	Depot	15/11/32	L/Cpl. W. Nicholls	2nd	20/3/35
	(L/Sergt. 3/8/36)		L/Cpl. H. Outten	2nd	4/5/35
L/Sergt. H. Elcome	2nd	16/11/32	L/Cpl. E. Fletcher	2nd	16/5/35
	(L/Sergt. 17/12/36)		L/Cpl. G. Robins	Depot	16/6/35
L/Sergt. F. Knight	Depot	15/3/33	L/Cpl. J. Smith	2nd	13/7/35
	(L/Sergt. 10/11/37)		L/Cpl. C. Jarvis	2nd	16/8/35
Cpl. W. Evans	2nd	15/3/33	L/Cpl. H. Clay	2nd	22/8/35
Cpl. J. Bromley	Depot	15/3/33	L/Cpl. A. Bursill	2nd	24/8/35
Cpl. A. Wray	2nd	23/3/33	L/Cpl. G. McKay	2nd	31/8/35
Cpl. E. Soden	2nd	3/5/33	L/Cpl. A. Rose	2nd	24/9/35
Cpl. G. Endersby	Depot	2/6/33	L/Cpl. F. Pryor	2nd	18/10/35
Cpl. E. Fuller	2nd	8/9/33	L/Cpl. W. Sheen	Depot	5/1/36
Cpl. R. Harman	2nd	25/10/33	L/Cpl. J. Jones	2nd	11/2/36
Cpl. C. Carpenter	2nd	5/5/34	L/Cpl. R. Barrett	Depot	28/3/36
L/Sergt. A. Brown	2nd	8/5/34	L/Cpl. R. Wigg	2nd	16/4/36
	(L/Sergt. 11/3/37)		L/Cpl. E. Stebbing	Depot	17/5/36
Cpl. J. Stickley	2nd	10/6/34	L/Cpl. G. Bignell	2nd	3/7/36
Cpl. W. Smith	Depot	17/6/34	L/Cpl. L. Thurston	2nd	26/8/36
Cpl. W. Powell	Depot	2/10/34	L/Cpl. J. Riseley	2nd	22/9/36
L/Sergt. V. Thomas	2nd	20/11/34	L/Cpl. H. Burchell	2nd	18/10/36
	(L/Sergt. 13/5/36)		L/Cpl. N. Islip	2nd	28/10/36
Cpl. R. Stretton	2nd	16/3/35	L/Cpl. V. Chambers	Depot	19/11/36
Cpl. F. Jacques	2nd	20/3/35	L/Cpl. J. Rawlinson	2nd	1/12/36
Cpl. H. Tye	Supn., Colonial Office	4/5/35	L/Cpl. H. Jennings	2nd	17/12/36
L/Sergt. S. Day	2nd	16/5/35	L/Cpl. F. Hogg	2nd	24/12/36
	(L/Sergt. 13/12/37)		L/Cpl. S. Weller	2nd	25/1/37
L/Sergt. L. McDowell	2nd	9/6/35	L/Cpl. A. Morley	2nd	1/2/37
	(L/Sergt. 16/12/36)		L/Cpl. A. Hudson	2nd	6/2/37
Cpl. W. Sampford	2nd	13/6/35	L/Cpl. W. Phipps	2nd	6/2/37
Cpl. E. Keen	Depot	15/6/35	L/Cpl. E. Haynes	2nd	20/2/37
Cpl. B. Bruniges	Depot	16/6/35	L/Cpl. A. Irons	2nd	8/6/37
Cpl. H. Eastland	2nd	24/8/35	L/Cpl. A. Rimmer	2nd	12/7/37
Cpl. B. Baldwin	2nd	18/10/35	L/Cpl. E. Phillips	2nd	31/7/37
Cpl. A. Ball	Depot	5/1/36	L/Cpl. W. Claxton	2nd	31/7/37
Cpl. G. Blackman	2nd	23/1/36	L/Cpl. C. Tanner	2nd	27/8/37
Cpl. H. Griffiths	2nd	16/4/36	L/Cpl. S. Lloyd	2nd	5/10/37
Cpl. L. O'Doherty	2nd	17/5/36	L/Cpl. S. Mullett	2nd	16/10/37
Cpl. W. Lovell	2nd	3/7/36	L/Cpl. W. Humberstone	2nd	10/11/37
Cpl. L. Delaney	2nd	5/7/36	L/Cpl. D. Baker	2nd	18/11/37
Cpl. W. Millichap	2nd	3/8/36	L/Cpl. E. Lindeman	2nd	24/11/37
Cpl. M. Trotobas	2nd	26/8/36	L/Cpl. E. Avery	2nd	13/12/37
Cpl. R. Ellwood	2nd	28/10/36	L/Cpl. G. Palmer	2nd	13/12/37
Cpl. A. Read	2nd	30/10/36	L/Cpl. A. Hastie	2nd	21/1/38
Cpl. R. Cummins	2nd	17/12/36	L/Cpl. F. Vanner	2nd	28/1/38
Cpl. V. Bint	Depot	20/2/37	L/Cpl. R. Reeder	Depot	18/2/38
			L/Cpl. G. Rouse	2nd	11/3/38
			L/Cpl. C. Clenshaw	2nd	11/3/38



Rank and Name.	Battalion.	Date of present promotion or appointment.	Rank and Name.	Battalion.	Date of present promotion or appointment.
UNPAID LANCE-CORPORALS :					
L/Cpl. R. Newton ..	2nd	18/1/37	L/Cpl. W. Wells ..	2nd	15/10/37
L/Cpl. C. Farrington ..	2nd	18/1/37	L/Cpl. J. Murphy ..	2nd	15/10/37
L/Cpl. J. Pullen ..	2nd	20/1/37	L/Cpl. W. Oakes ..	2nd	15/10/37
L/Cpl. H. Thomas ..	2nd	25/1/37	L/Cpl. S. Maple ..	2nd	15/10/37
L/Cpl. R. Taylor ..	2nd	25/1/37	L/Cpl. R. Addy ..	2nd	18/10/37
L/Cpl. S. Llewellyn ..	2nd	25/1/37	L/Cpl. J. Ceaton ..	2nd	19/10/37
L/Cpl. R. White ..	2nd	4/2/37	L/Cpl. W. Berry ..	2nd	19/10/37
L/Cpl. P. Donovan ..	2nd	4/2/37	L/Cpl. H. Worsdell ..	2nd	22/10/37
L/Cpl. F. Bird ..	2nd	5/2/37	L/Cpl. A. Harvey ..	2nd	26/10/37
L/Cpl. H. Robinson ..	2nd	8/2/37	L/Cpl. J. Barter ..	2nd	25/11/37
L/Cpl. J. Papworth ..	2nd	15/2/37	L/Cpl. R. McNeille ..	2nd	25/11/37
L/Cpl. B. Duggan ..	2nd	6/5/37	L/Cpl. G. Hall ..	2nd	25/11/37
L/Cpl. W. Wyllie ..	2nd	12/6/37	L/Cpl. E. Butler ..	2nd	25/11/37
L/Cpl. R. Skinner ..	2nd	19/6/37	L/Cpl. C. King ..	2nd	3/12/37
L/Cpl. S. Blacknell ..	2nd	24/8/37	L/Cpl. L. Clarke ..	2nd	4/12/37
L/Cpl. A. Budd ..	2nd	11/9/37	L/Cpl. V. Caney ..	2nd	11/12/37
L/Cpl. H. Thompson ..	2nd	15/9/37	L/Cpl. C. Monk ..	2nd	18/1/38
L/Cpl. E. Green ..	2nd	15/9/37	L/Cpl. C. Betts ..	2nd	18/1/38
L/Cpl. C. White ..	2nd	27/9/37	L/Cpl. P. Fegan ..	2nd	26/1/38
L/Cpl. W. Davis ..	2nd	1/10/37	L/Cpl. G. Bailey ..	2nd	29/1/38
L/Cpl. L. Chapman ..	2nd	15/10/37	L/Cpl. H. Webb ..	2nd	1/3/38
L/Cpl. W. Pratt ..	2nd	15/10/37	L/Cpl. J. Firth ..	2nd	3/3/38
L/Cpl. G. Parker ..	2nd	15/10/37	L/Cpl. A. Stanford ..	2nd	10/3/38
L/Cpl. J. Harwood ..	2nd	15/10/37	L/Cpl. W. Watkins ..	2nd	22/3/38
L/Cpl. R. Dyson ..	2nd	15/10/37	L/Cpl. A. Cooper ..	2nd	22/3/38
L/Cpl. W. Cante ..	2nd	15/10/37			

ALBUHERA  
MIDDLESEX REGT