



THE SIGNALLERS, 1ST BATTALION, INDIA, 1906.
The Champions of the British Army in India for 1906, with a record number of points.



The Journal of The Queen's Royal Regiment

VOL. I.]

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Editorial.

WE offer our congratulations to the Regimental Fencing Team on winning the Inter-Unit Team Championship at Olympia. It is the first year of the competition, and we hope to see this success repeated in the future. We also congratulate the 1st Battalion on winning the Small Arms Cup at the Army Rifle Association Meeting at Bisley.

We desire to draw the attention of our readers to the paragraph in the Old Comrades Association report dealing with the All Ranks Dinner. The Committee have decided to hold next year's dinner at Guildford, and it is believed that many members are against this. A possible solution of the difficulty is to hold two dinners, one in London and one at

Guildford. We are asked to say that the Secretary of the Old Comrades Association will be glad if members will write to him and give their views regarding the dinner.

In this number we have put into execution a suggestion from one of our readers and have included news regarding Officers Training Corps and Cadet Units affiliated to the Regiment. We shall now make this a regular feature and shall give historical notes of all such units in turn and also current news. We wish to thank the officer who made this suggestion. We shall also be glad to receive other suggestions and criticisms from our readers.

In our next number we propose to start

a correspondence column and we hope that we shall receive letters on points of Regimental interest and kindred subjects.

Again we have to thank a large number of contributors for their interesting articles and stories. We cannot have too many of these, and shall be glad if all those who have not yet contributed will send us something for our next number.

We are glad to be able to state that financially the first two numbers show a balance on the right side. The accounts are in process of being completed and will then be audited and circulated.

We wish the 2nd Battalion a pleasant journey to Khartoum and hope that they will have a prosperous stay there.

Our next number will be published in May, 1927.

Fencing.

THE ARMY INTER-UNIT FENCING TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP.

THE final round of the Army Inter-Unit Fencing Team Championship took place at the Royal Tournament at Olympia on July 13th, 14th and 15th. The Championship is organized on much the same lines as the Hockey Championship, i.e., it is fought off by Commands first and the winning teams of each Command fight off until four teams are left. These four teams meet in a final pool.

In addition to the Regimental team, the following teams competed in the final:— 13/18th Hussars (Scottish Command), East Lancashire Regiment (Aldershot Command) and Durham Light Infantry (Northern Ireland District).

Under the conditions of the competition each team had to fight the other three and it was so arranged that the foil part of the competition was fought off on the first day, the sabre on the second day, and the épée and bayonet on the third.

The foil team consisted of Major Dyer, Lieut. Sullivan and Cpl. McNeff, and were successful in defeating the other three teams: the 13/18th Hussars by 6 wins to 3, the East Lancashire Regiment by 8 wins to 1, and the Durham Light Infantry by 6 wins to 3. The sabre team was Major Dyer, Lieut. Sullivan and

Lieut. Fairtlough, which beat the 13/18th Hussars by 5 wins to 4, East Lancashire Regiment by 5 wins to 1, and Durham Light Infantry by 6 wins to 3. In the épée Major Dyer, Sergt. Inkpen and Cpl. Fox beat the 13/18th Hussars by 5 wins to 4, the East Lancashire Regiment by 5 wins to 3, and the Durham Light Infantry by 6 wins to 3. In the bayonet Lieut. Fairtlough, R.S.M. Fulbrook, and C.S.M. Watford lost to 13/18th Hussars by 5 to 4, East Lancashire Regiment by 6 to 3, and Durham Light Infantry by 5 to 4.

The final result was:—

The Queen's Royal Regt. beat 13/18th Hussars, 20—16.

The Queen's Royal Regt. beat East Lancashire Regt., 22—12.

The Queen's Royal Regt. beat Durham Light Infantry, 24—12.

The 13/18th Hussars beat Durham Light Infantry, 19—16.

The Durham Light Infantry beat East Lancashire Regt., 18—18.

The East Lancashire Regt. beat 13/18th Hussars, 18—18.

In the two latter cases the bouts won were equal and the result was decided on hits received.

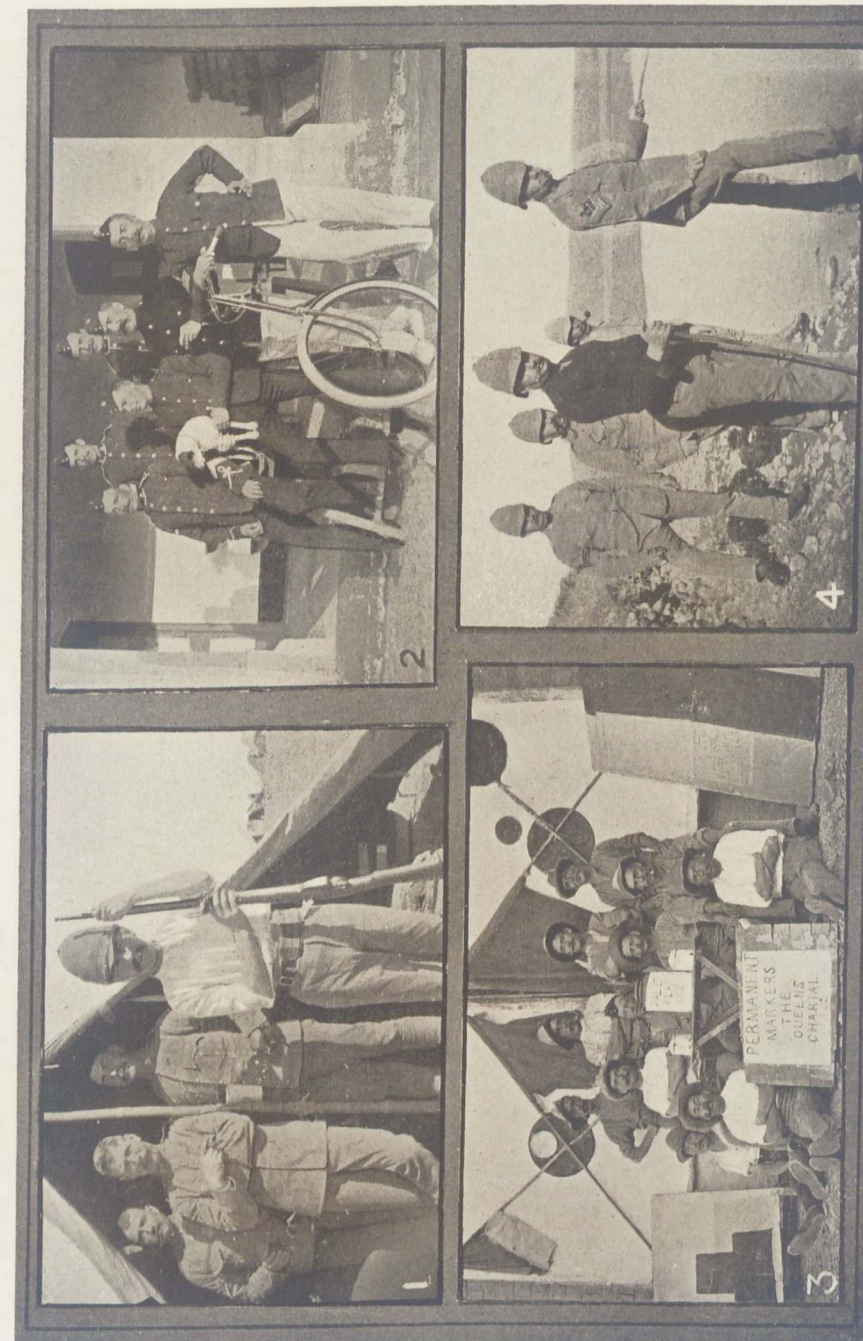
The final placings were:—

1. The Queen's Royal Regt., 3 wins.
2. The 13/18th Hussars, 1 win (54 bouts won).
3. The East Lancashire Regt., 1 win (48 bouts won).
4. The Durham Light Infantry, 1 win (47 bouts won).

The fencing throughout the competition was of a very high order, and all bouts were keenly contested. Considering the fact that the Regimental team was composed mostly of those who had been fencing for a comparatively short time, they are much to be congratulated on their win.

The challenge trophy for the competition is a silver statuette of a fencer, a replica of which is given to the winning unit, and in addition silver and bronze medals to the winners and runners-up respectively.

SOME OLD FRIENDS OF 1ST BATTALION



1st Battalion News.

GENERAL.

THE winter is upon us again, but since the publication of our last number there have been various summer doings which are worthy of note.

On the anniversary of the Glorious First of June, we had a very pleasant visit to H.M.S. *Excellent*, when 21 Officers, including some on leave from abroad and from the Depot, and 23 W.Os. and N.C.Os. went down to Whale Island and stayed the night at the Gunnery School. This year, in addition to the regimental cricket match against the *Excellent*, the W.Os. and Sergeants were challenged by the Petty Officers. A report of the ensuing game will be found in the Sergeants' Mess news. It was very disappointing that the weather put all thoughts of cricket from our minds on the second day of our stay.

After dinner in the Officers' Mess, speeches were made by Capt. Best, R.N., Commanding H.M.S. *Excellent*, Lieut.-Col. R. G. Clarke, C.M.G., D.S.O., the senior officer of the Regiment present, and Admiral Fremantle, R.N., Capt. Best also read out the telegrams received from General Monro, the 2nd Battalion and the Depot. During our stay at Whale Island, we were presented with a replica of the figurehead of the *Queen Charlotte*, made in the workshops of the Gunnery School, and a most excellent likeness to the features of the original. The dinner was followed by what might be described as an "athletic" evening.

The outbreak of the general strike did not, luckily, lead to any move for the Battalion, although local guards had to be furnished (a test for the adaptability of the platoons concerned).

The two chief results of the general strike, as far as we were concerned, were the installation of wireless in the Corporals' Room, the men's recreation room and the boys' room, and the cancelling of the Trooping of the Colour, which had been arranged to take place on July 11th.

In place of the Trooping of the Colour, a small torchlight tattoo was given on the Battalion parade ground, and a large gathering of retired officers and their wives and families were invited to dinner

for the occasion. The weather was propitious and a very pleasant evening resulted.

During the absence of the rifle team at Bisley, the Battalion sustained a great loss in the death, at Aldershot, of Sergt. W. Ellis, who was taken ill very suddenly at Guildford and died very shortly afterwards.

The Bisley team are to be congratulated on winning the Small Arms Cup with a very creditable score. Another notable success was that of the Regimental fencing team at Olympia, when they won.

Although there were no manœuvres this year, and in spite of Brigade Training having to be abandoned owing to foot and mouth disease, the Battalion has had a very interesting and instructive Collective Training season. In July, "D" Company was brought up to war strength by the addition of the requisite numbers from "A" Company and went on a "war march" through Kent. This march lasted 10 days, and a short period was spent in camp at Swalecliffe, near Herne Bay. Various field days took place and the Company was matched against the O.T.C. contingents of several schools in the neighbourhood, to the advantage of both parties. On the last day, "B" Company, working from barracks, were brought into contact with the returning warriors. Under the very able leadership of Col. Giffard, the composite company went through a really useful training period.

From August 24th to 31st, 1926, the Battalion was at Swalecliffe Camp for Battalion Training and derived great advantage from the change of scene. Incidentally, the daily bathe after our return to camp was by no means the least agreeable part of the period.

On September 9th, 1926, General Sir Charles C. Monro, Bt., G.C.B., G.C.S.I., G.C.M.G., Colonel of the Regiment, inspected the Battalion on parade and also went all round barracks. He expressed himself very satisfied with what he saw.

October saw the addition of 2/Lieuts. E. J. Foorde and H. G. Duncombe to our strength from the R.M.C., Sandhurst.

The Christmas Shoot took place at Lydden Spout Rifle Range on October 15th, 1926, and, in spite of the cold and inclement weather, was carried through to its conclusion.

Before this number of the Journal is issued, we shall have sent another draft to the 2nd Battalion, and we take this opportunity of wishing them the best of luck in the Sudan and elsewhere.

Rumour is rampant as to our destination next trooping season, but there is little doubt that we shall remain ignorant until the end of January, when the movements for the forthcoming trooping season are published by the War Office. Let us hope that the "Gods of Olympus" will prove kind to us.

The Officers have just received a very fine addition to their silver in the form of a silver drum-major's mace, presented by Lieut.-Col. R. G. Clarke, C.M.G., D.S.O. This mace will, it is understood, be carried on ceremonial parades, and we are very grateful to Lieut.-Col. Clarke for his most generous gift.

SERGEANTS' MESS.

Happenings since the publication of the news contained in the May issue of the Journal are set out hereunder.

ENTERTAINMENT.

Visit to H.M.S. "Excellent."

Precedence is given to our visit this year to Whale Island.

A party of twenty-three members proceeded by charabanc from Dover, a distance of 140 miles. We commenced our journey at 6 a.m., arriving at 2 p.m. after an adventurous journey.

We were immediately made to feel "at home," our comrades of the *Excellent* vying with each other in showing their hospitality. A strenuous programme had been prepared for us. After the "inner man" had been satisfied, we commenced a game of cricket, but unfortunately the result remained undecided owing to inclement weather. However, we all enjoyed the match, many amusing incidents keeping the game alive, until we were forced to retire. We then participated in various indoor games until 8 p.m., when we all assembled in the Petty Officers' Mess and sat down to a sumptuous spread. Full justice was done to the fare provided, which was excellent in every way. Afterwards a "Smoker" was held, our comrades having provided a programme of marked talent. The rendering of various chanties, songs and recitations was particularly good, two

items, "I hate 'em" and "Spotty," being vociferously encored. At the end of the programme several speeches were given, emphasizing the bond between H.M.S. *Excellent* and the Regiment, after which we retired to our berths.

The following morning we were shown round the gunnery establishment, under the guidance of experts. This tour, which lasted about two hours, was most instructive and very much appreciated.

We lunched at 1 p.m. and afterwards participated in various indoor games until it was time to depart.

Farewells were said about 4.30 p.m., and we started homeward. We eventually arrived in Dover about 3 a.m. the next morning, after a journey full of incidents.

As far as can be ascertained, this was the first occasion where the members of the Mess had gone down *en bloc* to H.M.S. *Excellent* to cement the friendship which has existed so long between the Navy and the Regiment.

More members would have gone down, but unfortunately were prevented from doing so owing to the Battalion being in the midst of its Annual Musketry Course at Lydden Spout.

Twelve members attended the Regimental Dinner held in London.

CRICKET.

On August 4th the members of the Mess were "At Home" to the members of the Sergeants' Mess, 1st Bn. Lancashire Fusiliers. During the afternoon, an enjoyable cricket match took place. "Big Mitts," as usual, worthily upheld the reputation of the Mess, ably assisted by "Mary." Despite several good efforts, our guests were successful.

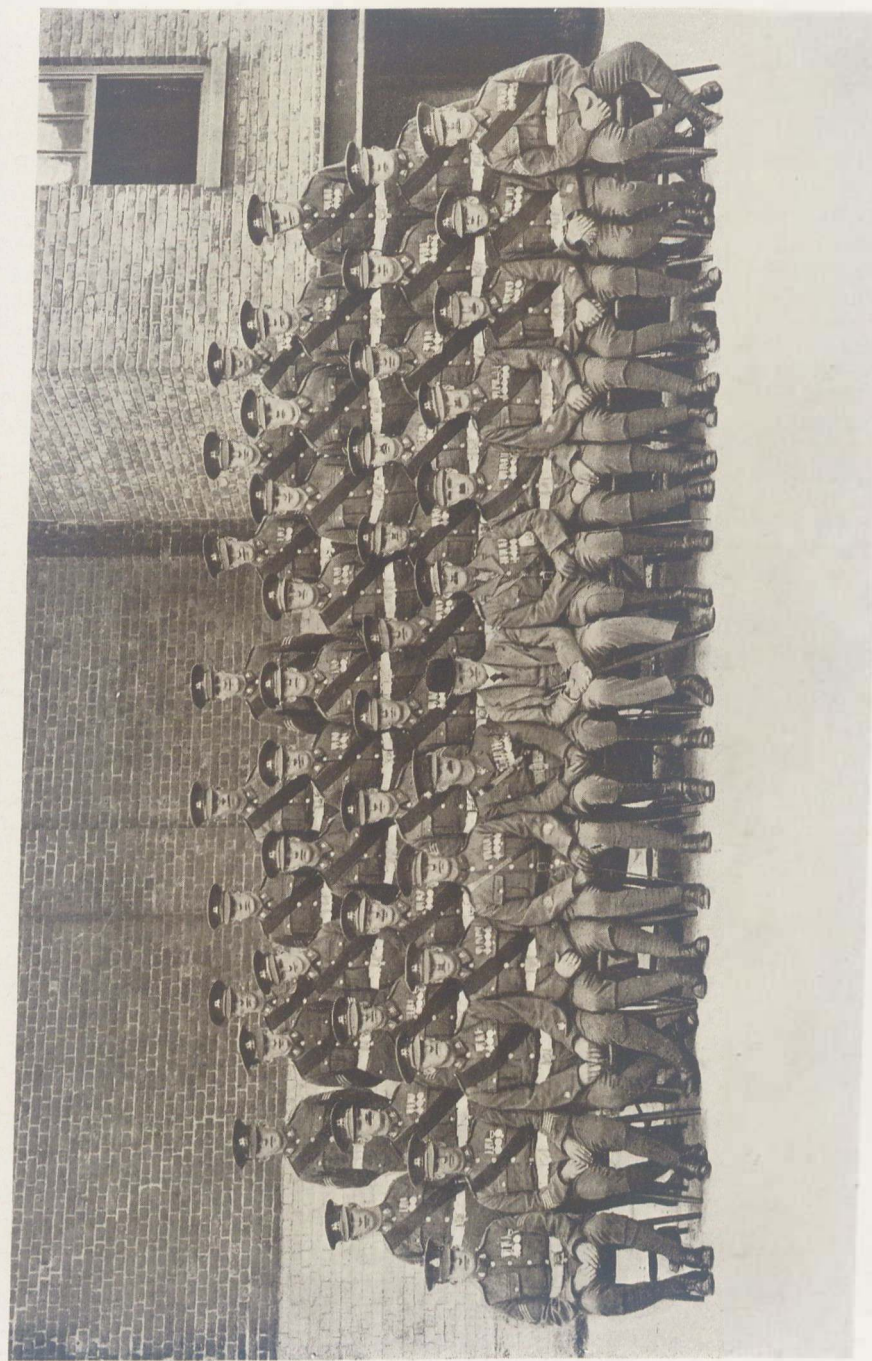
WHIST DRIVE.

On October 8th the first whist drive and dance this season was held in the Mess, conducted under arrangements admirably executed by the Entertainment Committee. All who attended thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

VISIT.

General Sir Charles Monro, Bart., G.C.B., G.C.S.I., G.C.M.G., Colonel of the Regiment, paid the Battalion a visit on September 9th and honoured us by inspecting the Mess. A "group" photograph of the Colonel of the Regiment, the Commanding Officer, Lieut.-Col. R. G. Clarke, C.M.G., D.S.O., the

1ST BATTALION



[Dover Street, Dover]

GENERAL SIR CHARLES MONRO, BT., G.C.B., G.C.S.I., G.C.M.G., COLONEL OF THE REGIMENT.
WITH THE WARRANT OFFICERS AND SERGEANTS

Adjutant, Capt. G. A. Pilleau, M.C., and all members of the Mess present in barracks, was taken to commemorate the visit.

MESS.

The Mess has been renovated. Annexes have been built and a considerable amount of furniture has been purchased. In consequence, the Mess is now very comfortable and has a homely appearance.

MEMBERS.

The following members have joined:—
C.S.M. Marchant, Drum-Major Wallis, L./Sergts. Philpot, Tidmarsh, Hooper, Mallion, and Norman.

The following have departed:—
C.S.M. Hart, C.S.M. Reeves ("Joe"), Drum-Major Mawditt, Clr.-Sergt. Hopkins, Sergt. Bastin, L./Sergts. White, Drake, and Jeffries.

OBITUARY.

On June 23rd, the Mess sustained a very grievous loss. On this date, we deeply regretted to hear of the death of one of our oldest members, the late Sergt. W. Ellis, at Connaught Hospital, Aldershot. Our late member was one of the team chosen to represent the Battalion in the Small Arms Cup Competition at Bisley. Whilst participating in a practice shoot he was stung on the face by a mosquito; septic poisoning set in with fatal results. Cause of death, acute septicæmia.

The funeral took place at Chatham—members attended as bearers.

CORPORALS' ROOM.

Owing to successive periods of training, it has been very difficult to arrange any kind of sport or social functions during the summer months. However, on June 12th the Mess was, as usual, strongly represented at the annual O.C.A. dinner, about forty members being present. Needless to say, it was a great success.

On September 10th we held our first dance of the season in the Grand Shaft Gymnasium. This also, we might add, was a great success, over 250 people being present, including Officers and N.C.Os. of the other units in the garrison, who readily responded to invitations sent, in spite of inclement weather. The Entertainment Committee is to be warmly congratulated on their excellent work and organization of the dance.

We have again entered the Dover and District Billiard League (Junior Division), and hope to do better than last year, as we have some very promising young players amongst the new members.

Our neighbours in the Corporals' Mess of the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment have sent us two invitations to dances, at which we were warmly received. These invitations were so eagerly responded to that it was difficult to ascertain whose dance it really was. We have also received invitations from the Corporals of the Lancashire Fusiliers and from the Depot.

We wish to congratulate Cpls. Foat and Stewart on gaining their Special Certificates of Education, and the former on being accepted on probation in the Army Educational Corps.

In conclusion, we wish to add that the Mess is very contented and is gradually becoming like one large family.

CRICKET.

We had quite a fair season; but many of our matches were ruined by the weather. The first eleven was quite a strong team, having plenty of batting as well as bowling talent.

We were unfortunate in not finishing our match versus H.M.S. *Excellent*, but after the first day's play rain fell and made cricket impossible. It looked as though the match would end in a close finish. Our next-best match during the season was versus the Duke of York's School, and had time allowed would have ended favourably for us.

Lieut. Burton, L./Cpl. Miles and Pte. Winfield were new members of the cricket team this year.

In all garrison cricket matches, The Queen's were well represented: Lieut.-Col. Faviell and Lieut. Burton played in all garrison fixtures, and Capt. Bingham, Capt. Welman and L./Cpl. Miles also played for the garrison.

There is every prospect of the Battalion having a good team next year; most of this year's team will be available again, and there will be new material to select from in the form of officers returning to the battalion and new ones joining.

CRICKET SCORES.

1st Queen's, 109 (Capt. Welman 35);
1st K.O.Y.L.I., 111 for 9 wkts. (Capt.

Farrell 26) (Capt. Bingham 5 wks. for 30).

1st *Queen's*, 195 (Lieut.-Col. Faviell 34, Lieut. Burton 39, L./Cpl. Miles 57, Pte. Woodards 23); *Adisham C.C.*, 1st June: 69 (Dowle 23, H. Dowle 22) (L./Cpl. Miles 5 wks. for 21); 2nd June: 50 for 9 (Samson 27) (Capt. Haggard 3 for 18, Pte. Woodards 6 for 30).

Dover College, 176 for 6 (Tennant 55, Ashby 63) (Capt. Haggard 3 for 32); 1st *Queen's*, 115 all out.

1st *Queen's*, 162 for 6 dec. (Lieut.-Col. Faviell 37, Lieut. Burton 84); 1st *Lancs Fusrs.*, 78 for 4 (Capt. Bingham 2 for 27, L./Cpl. Miles 2 for 26).

1st *Queen's*, 213 for 9 dec. (Lieut.-Col. Faviell 113, C.S.M. Hart 54); *Adisham C.C.*, 72 (Lieut. Burton 5 for 27, Woodards 5 for 41).

1st *Queen's*, 1st Innings, 101 (Lieut.-Col. Faviell 37, Lieut. Burton 20); 2nd Innings, 89 (Capt. Welman 24); 1st *King's Own*, 1st Innings, 156 (Lieut. Mead 28, Lieut. Aslett 62) (Pte. Elbourne 4 for 23); 2nd Innings, 42 for 5 (Lieut. Burton 4 for 24).

1st *Queen's*, 150 (Lieut.-Col. Faviell 36, Capt. Pain 23); *Royal Innis. Fusrs.*, 151 (Bateman 50) (Woodards 5 for 34, Lieut. Burton 1 for 6).

FOOTBALL.

We have again entered the Folkestone and District League, the R.C.P.U.S. League, Divisions 1 and 2, also the Army Cup and Dover Hospital Charity Cup, which fill the programme, booking up all Wednesdays and Saturdays, except the period December 10th to January 10th, during which time our players will be on furlough.

Since the last issue, we have lost Cpl. Trew, transferred to the Army Reserve, and Cpl. Hamilton, who, we regret, will not be able to play again owing to injuries.

Our first eleven is not yet the team we should like. Our difficulty is to find two backs to replace Trew and Hamilton. However, new players are being tried and we are holding our own.

Results of the first six matches are as follows:—

Folkestone and District League.—First Eleven: *v.* R.A.F., Manston, won 9—2; *v.* Margate Amateurs, won 7—0; *v.* Royal

Marines, drew 5—5; *v.* Royal Warwicks, drew 2—2; *v.* Folkestone Reserves, drew 1—1; *v.* Royal Tank Corps, lost 2—3. Goals for 26, against 13.

Second Eleven: *v.* R.A.F., lost 2—8; *v.* Royal Marines, drew 4—4.

The Battalion has been called upon to supply players for the Army and also the Eastern Command, Cpl. Caldicutt, Ptes. Woodards and Larking all showing good form.

Football in the Battalion has improved since last season, all companies playing many more matches, and the Inter-Company Competition should prove a great struggle.

The boys of the Battalion have entered the Boys' League, which consists of six Army teams, and also the Boys' Army Cup. They are keen and will, in time, be players fit to fill the vacancies in our first and second elevens.

Pte. Woodards has been selected to fill the position of centre-forward for the Army XI. versus a Football Association XI., to be played at Millwall on October 28th, in aid of the Ypres Memorial Church Fund.

HOCKEY.

Since last season we have lost the services of two stalwarts of the defence, Drum-Major Mawditt and Cpl. Cawte, both discharged (time ex.).

We commenced our fixtures this season with a match on September 29th, since which date we have played six matches. Unfortunately, injuries have been very frequent and it has been difficult to get the full team together. Several younger players have been given trials and have shown much promise. It is hoped that by the time the first round of the Army Hockey Cup is due to be played the team will be as strong as it was last year.

Appended are the results of the six matches: *v.* Cavalry Depot, Canterbury, won 4—0; *v.* Canterbury H.C., won 6—0; *v.* 3rd Bn. Tank Corps, lost 1—7; *v.* 11th Hussars, won 11—2; *v.* Dover H.C., drew 3—3; *v.* Cavalry Depot, Canterbury, won 7—2.

REGIMENTAL RIFLE MEETING.

Competition, it is said, is one of the doorways leading to efficiency, and the events in the Battalion Rifle Meeting are

1ST BATTALION



Photo

BISLEY TEAM, 1926

[Gale & Polden, Ltd.]

usually keenly contested and productive of much good shooting.

The meeting at Lydden Spout on June 3rd and 4th, 1926, ably organized by the W.T. Staff, proved no exception to the rule. The weather was fortunately fine, and the eternal South Down wind for once a mere zephyr.

Cars, charabancs, 'buses and feet, all brought enthusiastic competitors to the arena, and the numbers, 22 officers and 426 other ranks, taking part proved the popularity of the meeting.

TEAM MATCHES.

1. *The Young Soldiers' Championship* (shield and 8 silver medals) was won by "A" Company with a score of 228 out of 480. The team was as follows: Ptes. Jewell, Binder, Conway, Cannon, Moles, Coles, Allen and Arthur. "B" Company were second with 214 (bronze medals).

2. *Inter-Company Team Competition* (for teams of 10) was won by "A" Company (silver medals) with 472 out of 1,100. "B" were again the runners-up, being 50 points behind the winners (bronze medals). Team (winners): Lieuts. Ponsford and Elliott, Clr.-Sergt. Bastin, Sergt. Handscombe, L./Cpl. Larking, Ptes. Bird, Sherlock, Moles, Jewell and Binder.

3. For the *Inter-Company Lewis Gun Match*, two teams of 4 from each Company and "H.Q." Wing competed. The prizes, a spoon and four silver medals, were won by "H.Q." Wing (second team), whose team was as follows: Cpl. Tidmarsh (leader), L./Cpl. Delaney, Ptes. Gatum, Roberts and Crokam. The leader did not fire. Score, 154 out of 188, which showed that the Lewis Gun, when not engaged in its favourite pastime of stopping, is a very good weapon when it has a good man behind it.

"B" Company's second team (L./Cpls. Sullivan and Sheppard, Ptes. Hutchins and Jupp) were second with 108. "B's" first team were third, and "A's" second team fourth. This last team made the highest score of the match at 600 yards.

4. In the *Mad Minute* contest, each platoon or group entered a team of 8 Lance-Corporals or Privates, who had to fire 15 rounds at 300 yards. The best score was made by "H.Q." Wing (No. 1 team), who gained the silver medals with 223 (highest possible score 480).

"B" Company's first team were second with 219, "C" Company's fourth team being third with 215.

Names of winners: Cpls. Bramley and Ives, Ptes. Jess, Potter, Fisher, Reid, Sims and Regan.

5. *The Revolver Match* was won by "A" Company, represented by Lieut. Ponsford, Ptes. Methven, Binder, Moles and O'Brien. To them went the cup and silver medals, "H.Q." Wing being second. Scores: "A," 172; "H.Q." Wing, 166 (highest possible score 600).

6. The best team match was that time-honoured event between the Officers and the Sergeants for the "Maude" Challenge Cup. The Officers this year vindicated their shooting powers of 1925 by winning the match with a score of 434. The Sergeants made 401. Previous results were: 1924, Officers; 1925, Sergeants. Teams were:—

Officers: Lieut.-Col. Faviell, Major Hull, Capt. Pain, Welman and Pilleau, Lieuts. Coward, Denton and Ponsford.

Sergeants.—R.S.M. Fulbrook, Clr.-Sergts. Eastman and Cooper, Sergts. Hillier, Handscombe, Ellis, Skinner and Dodds.

INDIVIDUAL MATCHES.

1. In the *Rapid* at 300 yards, a long list of prize-winners was headed by S.I.M. Cromwell (Class "B"), Cpl. Lee (Class "C") and Pte. Kirk (Class "D").

2. *The Snapshooting* at 300 yards resulted in a tie in Class "B" between Clr.-Sergt. Bastin and Sergt. Jude. Pte. Bryant was first in Class "C," and Ptes. Saunders and Furniss divided the first prize in Class "D."

3. In the *Application* (500 yards) competition, Sergt. Huskinson was first in Class "B," Cpl. Dyer and Pte. Parker heading Classes "C" and "D" respectively.

4. The winners of the *Aggregate* were as follows: Class "B," Clr.-Sergt. Bastin; Class "C," Pte. Epps; Class "D," Pte. Curtiss.

5. In the *Regimental Championship*, Capt. Pain and Lieut. Coward tied for Col. Warren's Cup in Series "A." Pte. Epps won the cup in Series "B," and L./Cpl. Deverinne the Young Soldiers Cup in Series "C."

6. In the *Boys' Matches* (application at 200 yards with and without rest), Boy Thompson won the first, and Boys

Gallivan, Hall, Harrison and Salisbury tied for the second match, the last-named being an aggregate winner, bracketed with Boys Hall and Gallivan. The boys showed themselves to be full of zeal and enthusiasm, and the competition was keenly fought out.

7. The last individual match was the *Revolver*. The medal-winners in Class "A" were Major Hull, 2/Lieut. Burton, Sergt. Handscombe and Lieut. Ponsford. In Class "B" Ptes. Leahy and Day won silver medals, Ptes. Hutchins and Butler carrying off bronze medals.

The usual pool shooting was as popular as ever, though pool bulls were so numerous that the winners were somewhat disgruntled when they came to collect their prize money.

A very pleasant meeting was brought to a close late in the evening of the second day, when Mrs. Clarke kindly presented the prizes. Gratitude is due to the organizers and officials of the meeting for the smooth and efficient working of the necessary detailed programme.

BRIGADE RIFLE MEETING.

The Brigade Rifle Meeting took place at Lydden Spout on September 2nd and 3rd, but owing to the rain it had to be cancelled on the second day.

The results of the first day's shooting are as follows:—

Class "B" (Corporals, Lance-Corporals and Privates).—L./Cpl. Brent, second.

Class "C" (Y.S., Lance-Corporals and Privates who were under 25 on August 1st, 1926).—L./Cpl. Coales, first.

FINAL RESULT OF POINTS FOR "CHAMPION COMPANY AT ARMS," 1926.

Points Awarded For.	Company.					Total.
	"A"	"B"	"C"	"D"	"H.Q."	
Classification, Rifle ...	20	4	12	0	28	64
Classification, Lewis Gun ...	0	15	21	9	3	48
Classification, Revolver ...	1	3	5	0	7	16
Match I. Regimental Rifle Meeting (Young Soldiers)	7	5	1	0	3	16
Match II. Inter-Company Rifle Teams ...	7	5	1	3	0	16
Match III. Inter-Company Lewis Gun ...	1	8	0	0	7	16
Match IV. Mad Minute ...	0	5	3	0	8	16
Match V. Revolver ...	7	0	3	1	5	16
Aggregate of points obtained in Individual Matches ...	6	0	10	2	14	32
Total ...	49	45	56	15	75	240

Commanding Officer's Decision: "H.Q." Wing to have the Shooting Shield. "C" Company to take precedence on parade and wear badges as laid down in S.A.T.

SMALL ARMS CLUB.

BISLEY MEETING, 1926.

The Battalion entered for the following competitions:—

- (1) Army Championship.
- (2) "Roberts" Cup.
- (3) "Roupell" Cup.
- (4) Army Hundred Cup.
- (5) "Worcester" Cup.
- (6) Small Arms Cup.
- (7) Britannia Trophy.

The Battalion team proceeded to the Depot on June 12th, and up to July 2nd spent the time practising for the various events.

The team reached a very high standard of efficiency, but had hard luck in all events except the Small Arms Cup, which they won with a record score.

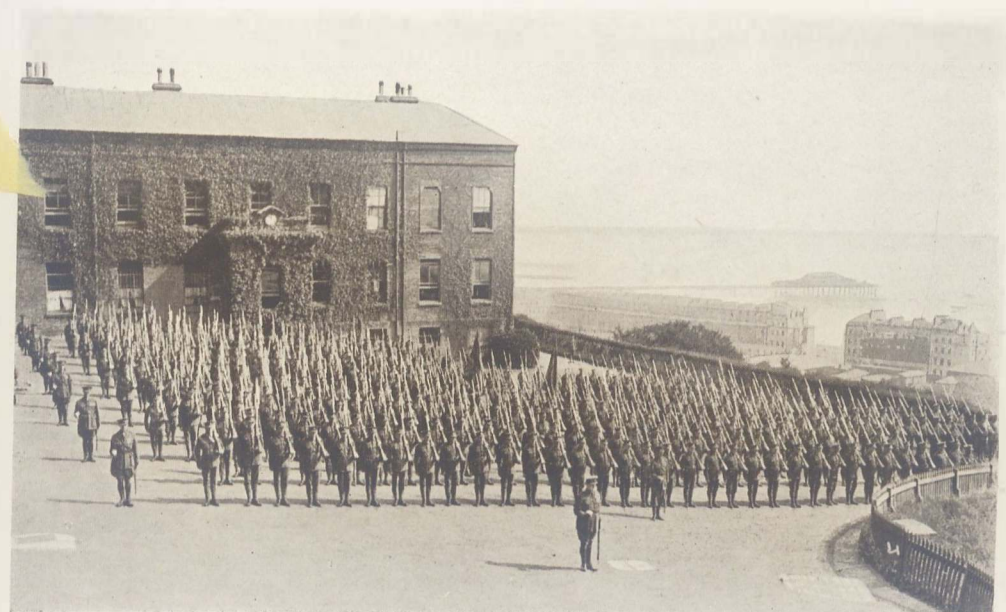
The Small Arms Cup is a combination of rifle and Lewis gun. The team consists of eight, four of whom must have entered for the Army Championship (Rifle) and four for the "Worcester" Cup (Lewis Gun).

The team was as follows:—

Capt. E. S. Bingham, M.C. (captain); Lieut. J. F. K. Ponsford, Cpl. W. Wadey, Pte. E. Cotton and Pte. W. Saffrey, Riflemen; C.S.M. W. Watford, S.I.M. C. Cromwell, L./Cpl. C. Pearce and L./Cpl. E. Sullivan, Lewis Gunners.

Next year we not only want to aim at retaining the Small Arms Cup, but to win one or two of the other events as well, particularly the Britannia Trophy, which, with the Small Arms Cup, are the only two team events at the Bisley Meeting for which the Battalion is eligible to enter.

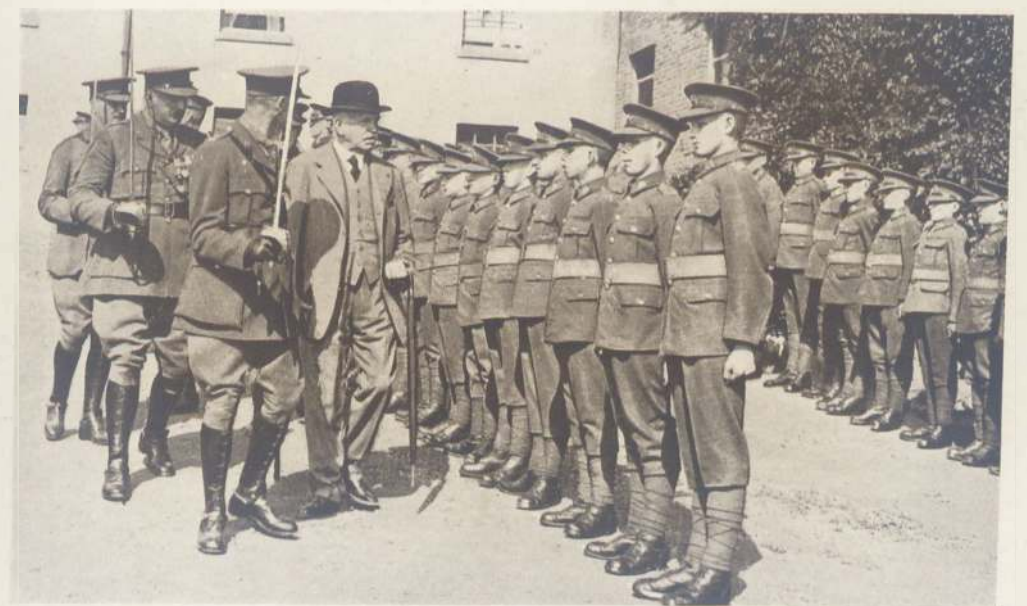
1ST BATTALION



[Whorwell & Son]

[Bench Street, Dover]

The Battalion drawn up for Inspection by General Monro, Colonel of the Regiment, Dover, September, 1926.



[Whorwell & Son]

[Bench Street, Dover]

General Monro inspecting the Battalion.

A Fishing Holiday in Scotland.

"**L**ORD, suffer me to catch a fish so large that even I, In speaking of it afterwards, shall have no need to lie."

So runs the fisherman's prayer, never to come true, I fear, or, at least, it never has yet come true as far as I am concerned. I do not mean that I never tell the truth about the fish I catch, but I never have, and I do not suppose I ever shall, catch one big enough to satisfy me. I think all fishermen are alike in wanting to break their record every time; I know I do.

With this object in view we left London by car for the Hebrides at the end of August, 1924. We went via Newark, Keswick and Ayr to Ballachulish, where we had an awkward ferry to cross, thence alongside the Caledonian Canal as far as Invergarry, where we branched north-west for the Kyle of Lochalsh to cross to the Isle of Skye. On the way we had the most fearsome ferry to cross at Dornie. We approached the ferry boat down a steep and very rough stone ramp, which was so narrow that it was impossible, without backing, to turn the car sufficiently to get on to the ferry boat. There were no curbstones at the edge of the ramp, and a slight mistake meant a six-foot fall into the loch. There was a large notice to say that cars crossed at their owners' risk. The ferry was an ordinary rowing boat, with two rather narrow planks placed obliquely across it. The stone ramp was so steep that while one plank touched the ramp the other was still eighteen inches in the air, and, until one wheel of the car was on the first plank, it was impossible to get the other wheel on to the second plank. I crawled on to them eventually, and there we were in the car balanced on top of the rowing boat. Luckily it was not rough. We had the same job reversed to get on to a similarly steep ramp up which we had to drive the car on the other side. We were glad to be safely over. We came home another way.

We slept that night at Kyle of Lochalsh and crossed to Skye next morning on a ferry like that at Dornie, but slightly

better, as the planks had raised edges to keep the wheels from slipping off.

That day we motored to Dunvegan, where we had to wait three days for the steamer.

The steamer arrived on a Saturday night, and the car was put on board, but it did not leave till Monday morning, when its advertised sailing time was 1 a.m.; we got on board at that time, to find the weather wet and misty. The captain then said he would not sail till 6 a.m., as he could not turn his ship in such weather in the narrow harbour. He added that he would put out all the lights on the steamer at once, and that we must get below. This was no joke on a little crowded steamer, and all I got to sleep on was a narrow bench, where I balanced myself and tried to sleep until six. My wife succeeded in getting a seat on a bench in the crowded ladies' cabin, after prodding the different bunks to see if they were occupied. My companion on the bench was a large Scotch commercial traveller.

When we got up on deck at six, rather cold and very stiff, he took me aside, produced the largest whisky flask I have ever seen—it must have held a bottle of whisky at least—and gave me nearly a full tumbler of neat whisky and then had one himself. I drank mine and was very glad of it. We reached Loch Maddy, in the island of North Uist, our destination, at about 8.30, and got some breakfast at the hotel. If the steamer had sailed at her scheduled time we should have arrived at 3 a.m.

North Uist is a wild, barren island, about thirty-five miles round, covered almost entirely with heather and rocks. It is broken and hilly, but no hill is more than 1,500 feet high. There are a few patches of cultivation and grass in the more sheltered parts of the island, but nearly every depression holds a loch, and there are literally hundreds of these on the island; some are fresh and others are brackish, while some are sea lochs. All hold fish—some brown trout only, others salmon and sea trout. There is not one single tree on the island.

I had allotted to me as a ghillie an old man of nearly seventy, called Coull, who had been a keeper in Skye for many years. He was a delightful old man, full of stories of fishing and shooting, and he knew all about the various lochs which

visitors at the Loch Maddy Hotel were allowed to fish.

I started fishing that day, and fished every day except Sundays during the six weeks we were there. The total bag was 32 sea trout, weighing 68 lb.; 4 salmon, average weight 8 lb., and many brown trout.

The salmon at this time of the year are not the beautiful silver fish which can be seen on the fishmonger's slabs, but, owing to their long stay in fresh water, which they enter in May and June, are a dark olive green all over, with patches of red on their fins. The male fish have developed, too, a great hook on the point of the lower jaw. They have lost a great deal of their fighting spirit.

The sea trout, on the other hand, which enter the fresh water from August onwards, are the most beautiful silver fish at this time, and are full of fight. On light tackle they give fine sport. In the Hebrides they run to a good size, fish up to 9 lb. being caught. I was never luckier enough to catch one heavier than 5 lb., though the average weight of those I caught was over 2 lb. The different lochs varied very much, and in order to give everyone at the hotel a fair chance a roster was kept, and we all got the good lochs in turn; the best one, called Horisary, was some twelve miles away.

The day on which my turn came for Horisary was a perfect fishing day, and everything went well from the beginning. I started by getting a fine 2½-pounder just fresh from the sea. He was full of fight, and kept running out the line and jumping into the air, but the end came at last, and he was in the boat in about ten minutes.

I then fished without a rise for nearly an hour, when we had gradually worked round to the bottom end of the loch, where there was a large weed bed. I had begun to fish near the edge of the weeds when there was a swirl, followed by a tug, and I had hooked what seemed to be a heavy fish. He seemed a bit puzzled for a moment or two, and then dashed off at full speed for another bed of weeds about fifty yards away, taking the line round a small patch of weeds. I put as much pressure on him as I dared, and, when just short of his goal, he jumped about two feet clear of the water. The line was

much weighted with floating weed, and I was afraid I should lose him. As it was, I only had just time to drop the point of the rod and all was well. I got him back gradually closer to the boat, but he was not done for yet, and twice again he went off and jumped. After twenty minutes of this he was finally exhausted, and Coull was able to net him and get him into the boat. He was in perfect condition, and just up from the sea, with the sea lice still on him.

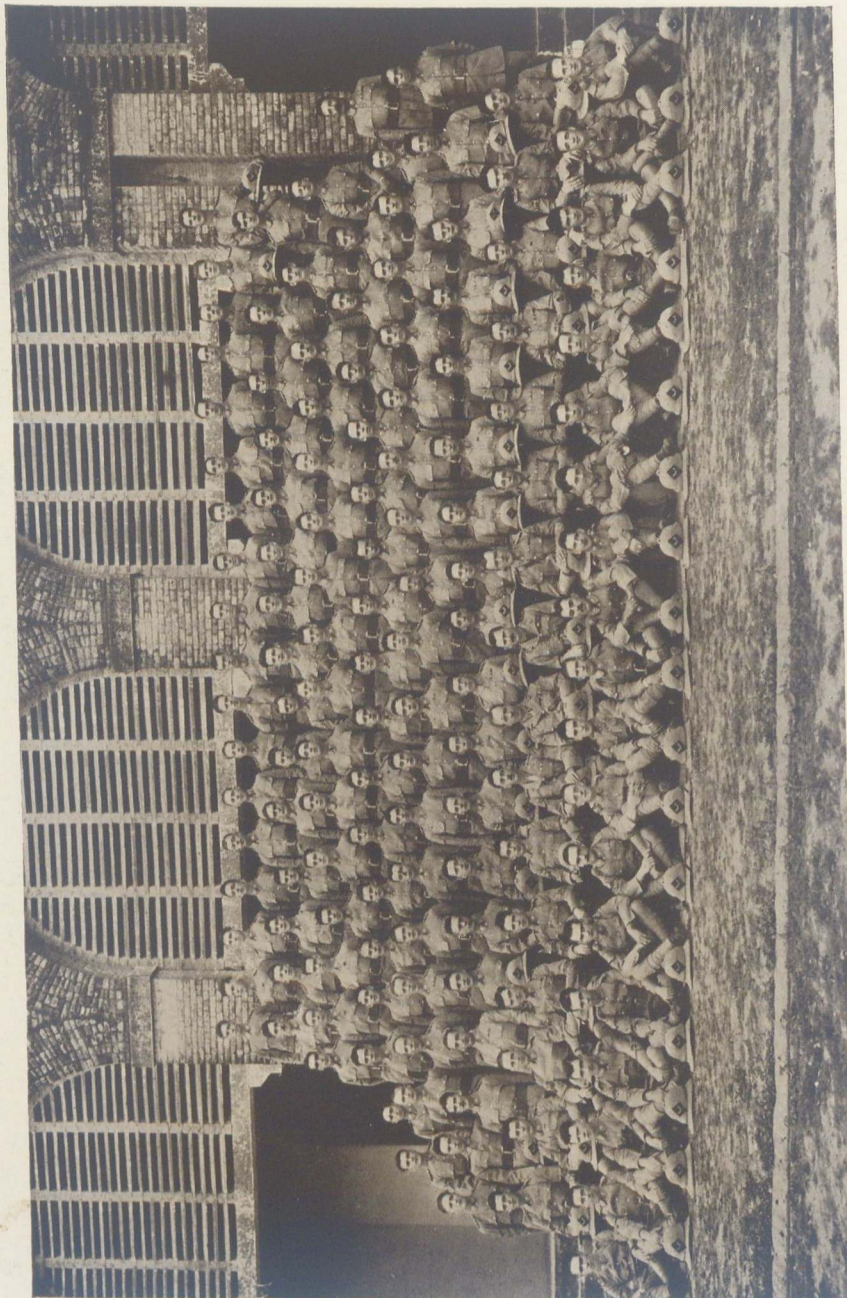
We caught two more sea-trout that day, both fresh up from the sea, one just over and the other just under 3 lb. There is no fish that fights so well as a fresh-run sea-trout. We had several other good days, getting seven sea-trout one day, total weight 12½ lb., the best being 4 lb., but the rest smaller.

We had a fine holiday, but the weather was very rough at intervals, as we got the full force of the Atlantic gales, and on one occasion the little mail boat which called three times a week could not put in, a most unusual event, as she usually managed to arrive, however bad the weather.

Our holiday came to an end at last, and we left on October 12th by the steamer *Hebrides*, the only one that would take a car, for Oban, a three days' sea journey. The weather was gorgeous, and we pottered along from little port to little port on the eastern or mainland side of the Hebrides, collecting sheep from each one. Sheep are very stupid, and will only go on board if one sheep can be persuaded to lead. The method of persuading a leader was most drastic; it was usually dragged on board by the horns, protesting loudly. The other silly sheep were not a bit put off by the sight of their protesting leader, and followed meekly on to the ship.

By the time we reached the southern end of the island of South Uist we had collected 969 sheep, the smelliest cargo imaginable, and then went on to Castle Bay, Baira Island, where we arrived in the early morning. We did not stop long here, and then headed direct for Oban, a six hours' run across the channel between the Hebrides and Scotland.

I prefer to draw a veil over this part of the journey, as it was rough and the sheep smelt.



CORPORALS, 2ND BATTALION, ALLAHABAD, 1926

Before these took effect we were much interested in watching the antics of a small shoal of porpoises which accompanied the ship, rolling over and over, so close to the bows that on many occasions they were actually touched by the ship.

These porpoises were a regular feature of the voyage, and the captain told us that they always escorted the ship out of Castle Bay, taking post in front of the ship when it hooted just before starting. The ease with which they kept up with us was amazing, and they appeared to enjoy themselves immensely.

We landed at Oban, stopped the night there, and motored back to London, via Ayr, Carlisle and Leeds.

WOSATA NYAMA.

GOOD SHOOTING.

An N.C.O. with two men was one night patrolling the railway line between two blockhouses about a mile apart. Half the journey was done, when a mounted party of Boers was heard approaching. Our patrol lay low behind the ballast, and allowed one of the enemy to dismount and cut the wire. Then they fired, one round each; the horse galloped away into the darkness, but his rider remained behind, stretched on the ground stone dead.

The patrol waited to see if his companions would come to him, but they galloped off, and failed to return. Next morning the officer commanding the company went out to get what identifications he could, and to arrange to bury the man who proved to be one of De Wet's scouts. But the extraordinary thing was the position of his wounds. Two out of the three shots had hit him, and they were less than an inch apart, and dead between the eyes!

And now for a note of unconscious comedy. Later in the day the officer conducted a little burial service, and at the end of it gave orders for the grave to be filled in. But before it could be begun No. 11052 Pte. Clarke, N., stepped forward and solemnly said: "Beg pardon, sir, but he's got one of our greatcoats on; may I go in and get it out?" (Collapse of officer!)

2nd Battalion News.

FIRST of all let us congratulate the Editor of the Journal on keeping up in the second number the very high standard which he set himself in the first.

Since the last number appeared we, in the 2nd Battalion, have been chiefly engaged in trying to get through the hot weather with the minimum of discomfort. This year the number sent to the hill station at Kailana was, by medical advice, twice the normal number. In April Capt. Coates took "C" Company up, and in July Capt. Olliver followed with "D" Company. Later the Band went to the hills on leave. With one company permanently in the forts at Allahabad this has left at Headquarters only "H.Q." Wing and one company. All ranks, however, have stuck it out and been very fit, in spite of an unusually hot June, although we have had to deplore the loss of two men of the Battalion, one of whom lost his life in the Ganges whilst swimming transport mules.

Riots between rival parties of the United Indian Nation have taken place from time to time in Allahabad, but the Battalion has not been called upon, so we have been denied (perhaps mercifully) that little hot weather excitement.

The hill party do not return to Allahabad until the beginning of November, by which time we shall all be busy preparing for our move to Khartoum in the comparatively good ship *Assaye*. By the kindness and forethought of whoever arranges these moves, the Battalion will eat their Christmas dinner (those of them who feel sufficiently strong to do so) in the Indian Ocean, for by a convenient arrangement we embark on Christmas Eve.

Various entertainments are being staged in order to make a fitting termination to our three years' stay in Allahabad, and to bid "good-bye" to our many very excellent friends, military and civilian.

On November 27th we are to troop the Colour on the Polo Ground. On November 30th there will be a torchlight tattoo; on December 1st the officers are giving a dance at the club, and on December 3rd the sergeants are doing the same at the Rink. There is also to be a corporals' dance. Another coming

event which is likely to attract considerable attention in Allahabad is the marriage of Capt. Guy Olliver to Miss Diana Rowan-Robinson, which is to take place in the Cathedral early in December. By the time this Journal reaches us the event will be over, so we offer them our very best wishes for their future happiness, which, from our knowledge of them both, we feel certain is assured.

In the middle of April an attempt was made to resuscitate some kind of Battalion Concert Party. This sort of thing has fallen into abeyance with modern cinemas everywhere. On this occasion a successful concert was got up by Lieut.-Col. Lee, Capt. Carpenter, and Bandmaster Fleckney. The Band sang a part song, Sergt. Gibbes sang, Col. Hannay amused us with a song with topical verses, and Col. Lee sang several songs in character. This is probably the first time he has appeared before a regimental audience since his subaltern days. Capt. Olliver gave us some of his excellent juggling in his well-known policeman's kit, and with Sergt. Buckenham as an attendant "strong man." The programme ended with a duologue by Mrs. Lee and Col. Lee, which produced a great deal of laughter. The Band contributed very largely to the entertainment with popular airs, and Capt. Carpenter played all the accompaniments in his usual efficient way. In Khartoum cinema facilities will be fewer, and some kind of home-made entertainment will be necessary, so it is hoped to revive an almost forgotten art.

The Battalion has joined a local football league, and its progress up to date appears elsewhere.

We have had the excitement of seeing the arrival of Sir Alan Cobham at Allahabad, both on his outward and homeward journeys to Australia. He has landed on each occasion on the River Jumna, just under the walls of the Fort, and has spent the night in the Fort as a guest of the Officer Commanding The Queen's Company there. Many of us, therefore, have had an opportunity of listening to the story of some of his experiences.

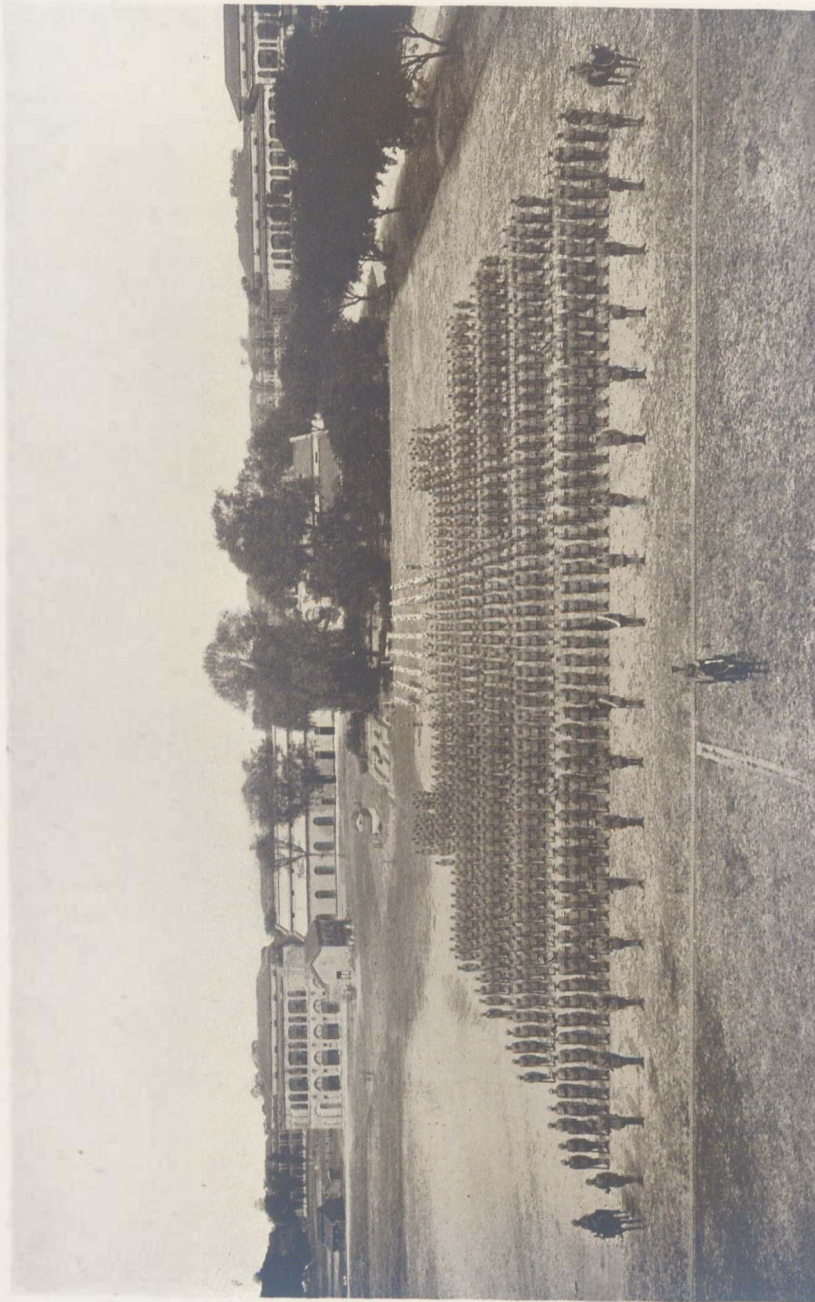
In the next number of the Journal we hope to have something to say about the festivities attendant upon our departure from Allahabad, and also about our voyage (if the memory of it is not too

painful), and of our new station at Khartoum.

SERGEANTS' MESS NOTES.

Following our last report we gradually settled down to endure the hot season. "C" Company and the families were dispatched to the hill stations, and everyone prepared to make the best of things. Our first event of importance was a dinner and smoking concert to R.S.M. Sullivan and family. Much has already been written concerning this Warrant Officer's long and valuable services, and it will be readily appreciated that his loss to the Mess was keenly felt by all. All present, however, put their best into making the affair a success, and banishing dull care for a while; their efforts were crowned with success. The dinner having put everyone into a good humour, R.Q.M.S. Scolz rose, and, on behalf of all members, wished R.S.M. Sullivan farewell and good luck, to which R.S.M. Sullivan suitably replied. Immediately the tables were cleared the "smoker" commenced, and was carried through with a right good will, ending with long and hearty cheers for our departing guests. A few days later, as many members as possible assembled at the railway station to bid a last farewell and give a last rousing cheer. Thus passed a most valuable and respected member, and one who will long remain in the thoughts of those left to carry on.

The only other large function held was in June, when the corporals were entertained to a "Sports at Home." Here many thanks are due to "Skinbasher" for the excellent manner in which all arrangements were made. Tennis, Badminton, quoits, billiards, tilting the chattie, blow-ball, and table-hockey were all indulged in and heartily enjoyed, tilting the chattie and blow-ball taking first honours. The accepted form of "tilting the bucket" not being possible, chatties were substituted for buckets, and riders were mounted "piggy-back" fashion on each other, the object being to race the length of the verandah, breaking the chattie with a long rod (used as a lance). The amount of water used proved ample for keeping both participants and spectators perfectly cool for the remainder of the evening. Blow-ball consisted of keeping as nearly as possible to the rules of the "blow



2ND BATTALION ON PARADE AT ALLAHABAD, 1926

football," and was played on the billiard table with a tennis ball. This provided great fun, which was rather enhanced by the wit who discovered that gramophone needles applied surreptitiously to the bending players caused them to blow harder than ever.

Throughout the hot season matches have been arranged at football, hockey, cricket and billiards. "D" Company having been sent to join "C" Company at Kailana Hill Depot in July, and our numbers being consequently greatly reduced, it became necessary for us to get assistance elsewhere to complete teams for outdoor sports. This assistance was readily forthcoming from either the officers or corporals as occasion demanded, and some good games were witnessed. The rains having set in, hockey was abandoned owing to the state of the grounds, and full rein given to football. The formation of the Allahabad Civil and Military Football League shortly afterwards terminated our efforts in this direction as members were required to play for their respective companies. Billiards has been active throughout the season, and many interesting matches have been played against the 15th Field Battery, R.A. (the only other British unit in Allahabad), and the corporals, with varying success. Here again our strength has been depleted by hill detachments, but those remaining have managed to get along very nicely, and have done their utmost to maintain the reputation of the Mess on the green table.

Three important promotions have taken place since the last report, viz., C.S.M. Waspe to Regimental Sergeant-Major, Ctr.-Sergt. P. G. Smith to Company Sergeant-Major, and Sergt. Fineham to Colour-Sergeant, all of which have given great satisfaction to all members, who extend their heartiest congratulations to those concerned.

CORPORALS' ROOM NOTES.

MOVE HILL DETACHMENTS.

Since the last number of the Journal appeared, life in the Corporals' Room has been fairly quiet. Owing to the heat, and the fact that the married families are still in the hills, it has not been thought advisable to run any dances.

Instead of these, we have adopted a series of social and billiard tournaments which have been held during each month, with the sergeants of the Battalion and the Topes (15th Field Battery, R.A.); these have, of course, proved extremely successful, and have been thoroughly enjoyed by all who have attended them.

SPORT.

"C" Company proceeded to the hills at the commencement of the hot season, and we were very unfortunate in losing "D" Company at midsummer, as this company also went to the hills, and are not expected to return until early in November. This leaves us with the corporals of the "H.Q." Wing and either "A" or "B" Company, as one of these companies have to do duty in the Allahabad Fort. "C" Company took with them the better half of the Mess "footer" team, and after "D" Company left us the ranks of our sportsmen were sadly depleted. However, the sports reputation which the mess holds was nobly kept up by the few members who have remained in the Cantonments. Several games have been played (football, cricket, and hockey), the latter being occasionally with the privates. Pucca games have been arranged with the Y.M.C.A., the East Indian Railway, and various other teams, but owing to there only being a few sportsmen left with us during the hot season the Sergeants and Corporals have amalgamated together as one team, and have put up some very good shows. Hockey has not been played a great deal, owing to the ball being too hard for some of the players, and of course they seem to think that the stick should be waved round the head three or four times before striking the ball. The ground has not been very suitable for hockey, but we hope to bear this in mind and get the game a-cracking.

Our monthly whist drives are still being held, and we find that they are being well attended.

An experiment was tried last month, in that the Corporals of the Battalion Headquarters visited those in the Fort for a day. Cricket was played in the morning and up to the hour of 3 p.m., and after refreshments had been taken a billiard match took place. The Corporals in the Fort ("A" Company) were the

winners in both games by a small margin. However, the day was well enjoyed by all present, and it is to be hoped that more of these outings will take place with other companies before we leave India.

Several late members of our happy home are to be congratulated on leaving us for the Sergeants' Mess, while at the same time we are still welcoming new members every day.

Like the rest of the Battalion, the Mess Committee are busy at the present time making preparation for some form of function before the Battalion leaves India for Khartoum. No doubt this will be a barracks affair, and some further particulars will be available for the next copy of the Journal.

SPORTS NEWS.

The hot weather is not conducive to the bigger events of this kind. Football has been the chief game, with some hockey before the wet weather set in. Company and platoon games have been played regularly. We had a six-a-side football tournament during May, which raised a good deal of enthusiasm. Each platoon put in two teams, No. 7 winning the laurels by a somewhat unexpected victory over the Band. Lieut.-Col. Rainsford Hannay had very kindly provided prizes for the members of the winning team and the runners-up.

For the first time a football league was started this year in Allahabad. This was just the thing that was wanted to fill in the time when inter-company and battalion games are difficult to arrange. Both the military and the civilian population are showing great keenness. Out of a total of twelve teams the Battalion entered five. To date (September 23rd) just half the matches have been played. The teams for the Battalion have been doing very well, as the list of results for the first half of the league shows.

Now that Lieut. K. J. Wilson has joined the Battalion we are hoping to get a School-at-Arms going, so that some day we may be able to follow in the footsteps of the 1st Battalion and the Depot, who have done some good work at Olympia and elsewhere. We had quite a good Inter-Company Bayonet-Fighting Competition in April, which was won by "H.Q." Wing; but bayonet-fighting kit

is not a very attractive garb for the hot weather.

In boxing there has not been much doing. We sent a team to Khargpur in March, to take part in a small tournament organized by the Bengal-Nagpur Railway. Four teams entered, and we came out second, being beaten by a small margin by the 2nd Battalion Wiltshire Regiment.

Six-a-side Tournament.—Winners, No. 7 Platoon, "A" Team, Pte. D. Bailey, Pte. E. Cable, Pte. S. Crooks, Pte. W. Burton, L./Cpl. L. Burnett, and Pte. W. Jarrett).

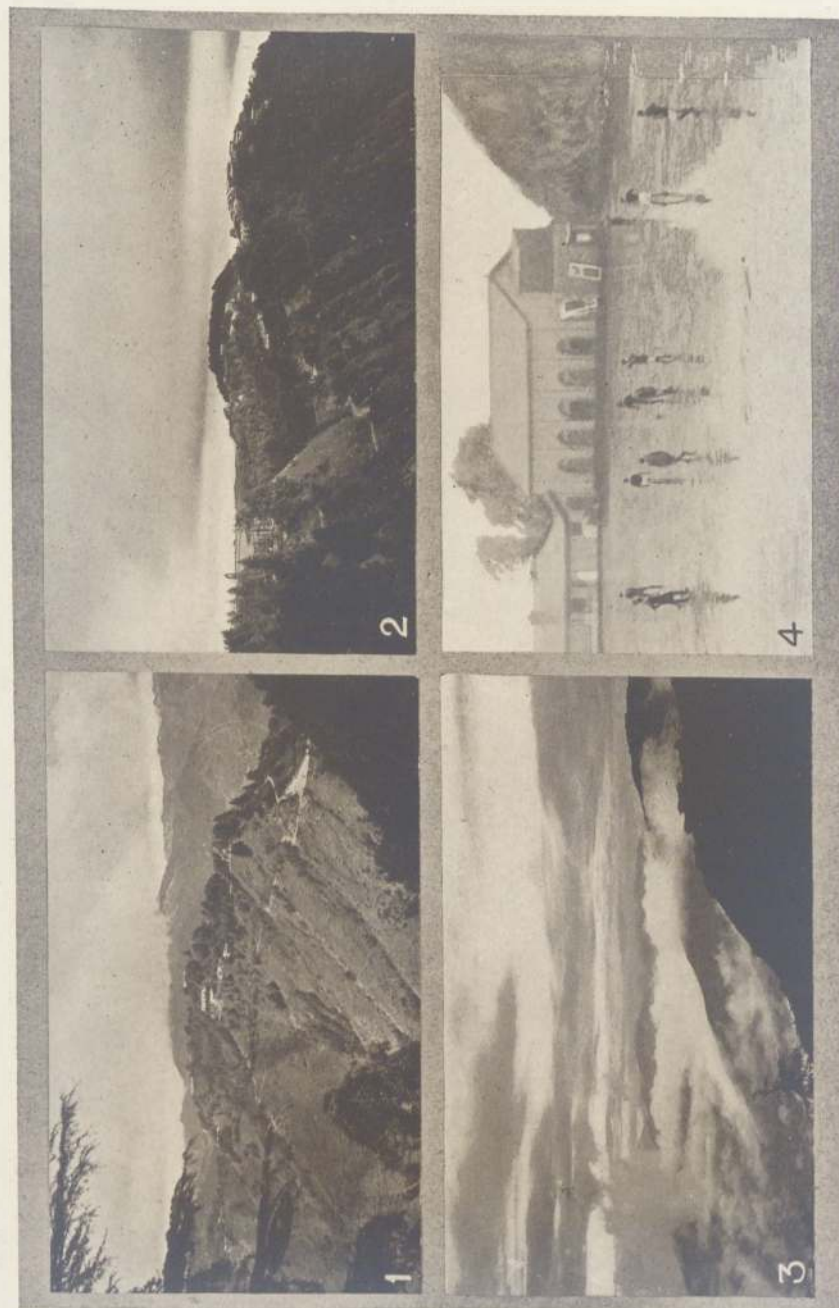
ALLAHABAD LEAGUE.

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Goals		Points
					F.	A.	
15th Battery "A"	10	9	—	1	37	8	18
Queen's Drums.....	10	8	1	1	38	11	17
Queen's Royal Regt.,							
"B" Company	10	6	2	2	27	11	14
Queen's Hqrs. "A" ...	11	5	2	4	24	20	12
Queen's Royal Regt.,							
"A" Company	11	4	3	4	28	23	11
Allahabad Bde. Hqrs. ...	11	5	1	5	17	31	11
E.I. Railway	6	4	2	—	14	7	10
Queen's Hqrs. "B" ...	10	4	1	5	15	16	9
Y.M.C.A.	10	2	2	6	12	30	6
Allahabad Auxly. Force	10	3	—	7	11	32	6
15th Battery "B"	11	2	1	8	14	28	5
Allahabad Fort	10	—	1	9	8	28	1

Kailana Letter.

ON April 16th a detachment numbering 135, under Capt. J. B. Coates, M.C., left Allahabad for Kailana. Army Headquarters had decided that every available man must go to the hills because of the prevalence of malaria in Allahabad, so in July another detachment, under Capt. G. K. Olliver, M.C., was sent up, bringing our present strength up to 332. Some short description of the place may be interesting, and help to show how we spent our days.

The Cantonments.—Chakrata and Kailana lie on twin hills among the peaks of the outer Himalayas; the former, about two miles away, is a permanent station of a British regiment. Detachments from several units, making a total of about 900 men, together with women and children from these units, occupy Kailana in the hot season. The place was built about 1870, a start being made by the 55th Regiment, under Col. Hume. It is reached, as a rule, by a motor from



1. Chakrata.

3. A view in the hills during the rains.

2. Kailana.

4. Kailana parade ground during the rains.

Dehra Dun, the railhead, 60 miles away, but, of course, troops march up. The old pony road from Simla (105 miles), and in the other direction from Mussoorie (36 miles), is still kept in repair, and is used occasionally by people who take leave in either of these places or by the coolies to bring goods in from Mussoorie. Our bungalows and detachment offices are nearly 7,200 feet above sea level, and the officers' quarters are on a spur 800 feet below. Away to the north-east rise the immense masses of the true Himalaya group, amongst them Nanda Devi, over 25,000 feet. The view just before the sun rises, and on a clear evening, is very wonderful. Except for the direct heat of the sun, the climate is European in character, and after the rains have finished it takes a lot of beating. During the monsoon period the hills are shrouded in heavy clouds. The average rainfall is about 75 inches, and as most of this falls from July to September conditions then are far from pleasant, and at times only to be described in the straightforward language of Tommy Atkins. Monsoon time brings other disadvantages. The one football and hockey field serves as a Depot parade ground, and three days out of four is inches deep in mud. Except for a small cinema show there are none of the amusements to be found in a big station on the plains, and unless a man is fond of dancing or has a hobby he is left often with nothing to do but cuss! But these disadvantages are inherent in an isolated military hill station, and when weighed against the fitness which we recover after a few months' stay here they matter very little. Besides, the last month or so of the season compensates in full measure. Then there is plenty to do; the climate is delightful, and the scenery of these mountain slopes hard to surpass.

The natives of the surrounding hills are very interesting. Polyandry (the practice of women having more than one husband) is common amongst all classes of them. The husbands sometimes have as many as six or seven, and take a wife in common. They must all be the sons of the same mother or the same set of fathers. A brother may marry another wife, but he does not lose his privilege of sharing the common wife. The advantage of the system, so says the hillman, lies in the fact that the land is not subdivided. Many of the

women are very good-looking, and some of them, possibly those popular with their sets of husbands, wear many and weighty silver ornaments. I forgot to mention that Kailana possesses what I believe is the highest polo ground in the world.

THE MARCH UP.

The journey from Allahabad to Dehra Dun takes about twenty-four hours by troop train. The march up to Kailana is done in four stages, there being three pucca rest camps on the way. The first two marches to the half-way rest camp at Kalsi are fairly easy if early morning starts are made so as to get in before the sun is high. The bridge at Kalsi over the Jumna is always a source of much conversation, and at times of anxiety and danger. The river has unpleasant habits. In 1924 it smashed the bridge (a really solid structure), with the result, I believe, that troops in Kailana lived on half rations for some days. During the 1925 monsoon the river thought of a new trick. Completely ignoring the bridge, it carved for itself a new course, taking part of the country with it. This year it has been coaxed back to its old bed, but has been trying its best to give the new bridge the cold shoulder. From Kalsi, which is about 1,500 feet, we begin to climb. Sahiya, the last camp, eleven miles from Kalsi, is 3,500 feet. The place is a little bazaar, consisting of a few hovels next door to the camp itself. It is a resting place, where the native pedlar displays his wares, while on the way up to Chakrata or the higher native villages. Adjoining the few houses is a frail-looking bridge over a tributary of the Jumna. This tributary is quite a formidable torrent during the rains, and it is a miracle the bridge stands up to it. The bazaar, little bridge and swift mountain stream, surrounded by the walls of hills, make Sahiya a pleasant little camp prior to the "cliff" climb into Kailana. A couple of miles out from Sahiya we leave the motor road, and take a short cut into the cantonments. The distance is only seven miles, but the road ascends 3,700 feet, and is nothing but a rough track. The climb certainly tests a man's fitness, the more so that unless one gets used to the rarer air quite ordinary exertion is very tiring. Both detachments did the marching with little difficulty. The boys with the first detachment

marched so well that a special report about them was sent to the Battalion Headquarters.

GAMES, ETC., FIRST HALF SEASON.

There is a tremendous amount of rivalry amongst the various detachments, in games particularly. In good weather the men crowd to watch the detachments and platoon matches.

FOOTBALL.

We reached the semi-finals of the inter-detachment football, but were then beaten 2-1 by the winners of the tournament—South Wales Borderers.

HOCKEY.

Some very fast and keen games were played. We got into the final of the inter-detachment games, but after extra time we were beaten 3-2 by the South Wales Borderers. In the Depot platoon hockey, No. 11 Platoon, playing with great dash, reached the final and had very bad luck in losing to the Machine Gunners of the 1st Worcestershire Regiment, after an excellent game.

BOXING.

We entered quite a number to put up a show in the Depot boxing. All fought well, but only L./Cpl. Horeham won his weight. His fight with Pte. Jayes, another of our entries, was one of the best fights of the competition.

SHOWS.

Several of the detachments have done valuable service as members of our popular entertainment show, "The Kailana Revels," while others have assisted in running it.

JUNE 1ST.

This day, a holiday for us, of course, was very enjoyable. During the afternoon a friendly detachment match took place between ourselves and the detachment 1st Worcester Regiment, which regiment also went to sea in 1794. The match resulted in a win for the other detachment by a fairly considerable margin. In the evening we gave a dance to the Worcester detachment, officers, warrant officers, sergeants and married families of the Depot. We obtained a jazz band from the Oxford and Bucks Light Infantry, at Chakrata, and the whole day was an enormous success.

DANCES.

We set the fashion of giving detachment dances, a fashion which other detachments have now followed, with the result that a week-day without a dance is unusual. Our dances attract a large number of people, and now that we have our own band and the support of "D" detachment they are more popular than ever.

GAMES—LAST HALF-SEASON.

The arrival of "D" detachment with the Band made us double the strength of any other unit in the Depot, but it was decided that the two detachments, "C" (under Capt. Coates) and "D" Company, with the Band (under Capt. Olliver) should remain separate. "D" has beaten all the other units in the Depot at football, and should go far when the inter-detachment matches commence later in the season. Hockey is at present quite out of the question, for the ground is hopeless. Even the footballers, who are not easily put off and seem to revel in the mud baths which the made-up ground so easily provides, are at times compelled to abandon their games.

A WILD NIGHT.

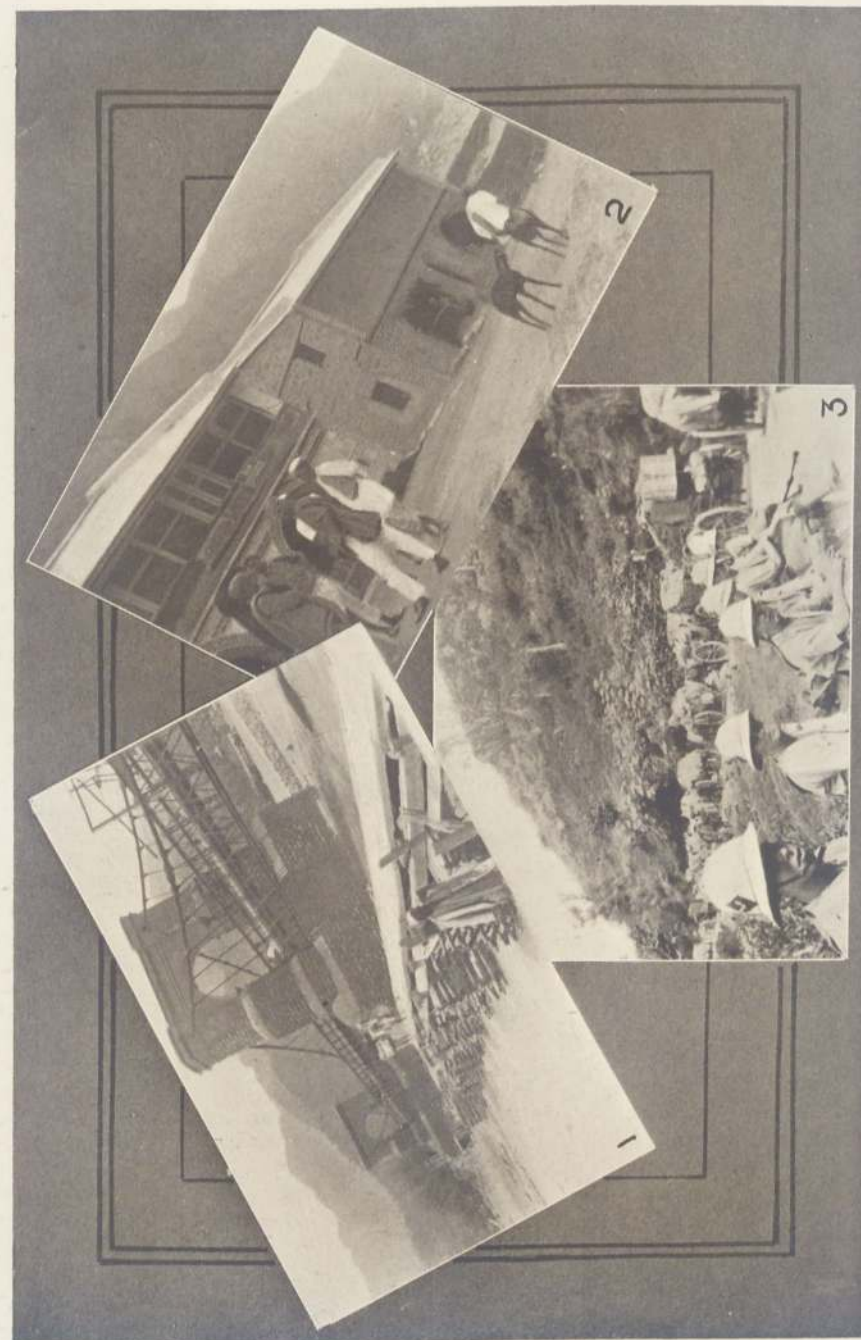
The G.O.C. was noted for his sulphuric language. He had come to inspect an outlying battalion, and was put up for the night in a tent which had been pitched for him and his A.D.C.

The night proved atrocious; rain leaked down, and was accompanied by a hurricane of wind. In the next tent to the General slept an officer who had incurred his wrath during the previous afternoon, but he had some compensation when he was awakened in the night by a voice which roared above the thunder, and by words more lurid than the lightning.

Peering out from his tent he saw the distinguished officer, night-cap a-pie, his nose blue with cold, and his cheeks red with wrath, holding on to a quivering tent-pole, what time his miserable A.D.C. wandered around the flapping wet canvas trying to drive in the uprooted tent-pegs.

Well, the rigours of campaign have occasioned compensations!

ILLUSTRATIONS TO KAILANA LETTER



1. Kalsi Bridge with the temporary bridge.

2. Sahiya.

3. "D" Detachment's Transport on the road up.

To South Africa with the 2nd Battalion, 1899.

IT is not an easy matter to sit down and write entirely from memory an account of events which happened 27 years ago. At the present moment I am sitting in a small bungalow at Ranikhet, a small hill station in the Himalayan foothills, without access to any records. Outside the monsoon rain is falling in sheets, and I am proposing to spend a wet day in recording some of the incidents of a journey which made a tremendous impression on a junior Second-Lieutenant of 20 years of age. I believe I am right in saying that Lieut. and Qrmr. Routley of the 1st Battalion and myself are the only survivors now serving in The Queen's Royal Regiment of all those who embarked in the s.s. *Yorkshire* at Southampton on October 20th, 1899. The lapse of 27 years and my inability to check the details of my account from records, must be my excuse for any inaccuracies which may creep in.

At the outbreak of the South African War, the 2nd Battalion was split up in detachments in the forts which crown the long ridge of the Portsdown Hills. These forts were originally built after the Crimean War to protect Portsmouth from the landward side. In addition to these detachments, one Company ("D," I think) was quartered at Tipnor in charge of a magazine. It was therefore by no means an easy matter to mobilize and arrange for the reception of several hundred reservists. That the mobilization was carried out without a hitch reflects a great deal of credit on the battalion staff and more particularly on the then adjutant, Major G. G. Whiffin.

I often wonder if any battalion went on service with so many officers who subsequently rose to high rank in the Army, and it may be of interest to readers of this account of our voyage if I run through a few of the names. Lieut.-Col. E. O. F. Hamilton, commanding, now Major-General Sir E. O. F. Hamilton, K.C.B. Major W. S. Burrell, second-in-command, subsequently commanded the 1st Battalion when it won the Kitchener Trophy for being the best British Battalion in India. Of the Captains, "A" Company was commanded by Capt. C. Raitt, killed near

Spion Kop in January, 1900. "B" Company was commanded by Capt. O'B. Z. Darrah. "C" Company by Capt. L. M. Crofts, now Lieut.-Col. L. M. Crofts, D.S.O., late 2nd Battalion, when Lieut.-Colonel, commanding the 1st Battalion. "D" Company by Capt. H. C. Pilleau, killed on the Aisne in 1914. "E" Company by Capt. H. E. Warden, now Lieut.-Col. H. E. Warden, D.S.O., late O.C. 1st Battalion. "F" Company by Capt. A. F. Sillem, now Major-General Sir Arnold Sillem. "G" Company by Capt. H. C. Bottomley, killed at Festubert in May, 1915, when in command of the 2nd Battalion, and holding the rank of temporary Lieut.-Colonel, and "H" Company by Bt.-Major F. J. Pink, D.S.O., now Brig.-General F. J. Pink, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.

Among the subalterns were A. C. Tufnell, who rose to the rank of Brigade Commander during the late war and was murdered in a train when travelling in India. R. H. Mangles, now Colonel-Commandant in Egypt. R. O. H. Livesay, who retired as Colonel-Commandant, C. F. Watson, now Col. Watson, D.S.O., commanding 2nd Bn. The Warwickshire Regt. C. E. Wilson, killed in action on the Aisne in 1914 when adjutant of the 1st Battalion. A. E. McNamara, now Col.-Commandant A. E. McNamara, C.M.G., D.S.O., and at the present moment officiating in command of the U.P. District, and by the time this article appears in print he will be commanding the combined Small Arms School at Hythe and Machine Gun School at Netheravon. Last, but not least, comes I. L. B. Vesey, now Colonel-Commandant temporary Major-General, and at present Acting Air Vice-Marshal Sir Ivo Vesey. One other name must not be left out. I refer to Regtl. Sergt.-Major R. T. Dormand. I quote from his obituary notice which appeared in the last number of the Regimental Journal: "Over age and having completed thirty-one years' service when the Battalion were ordered to South Africa, he could have remained behind without dishonour, but his soldiering spirit refused." An example commendable to all young soldiers. I remember making a trip, in company with the next junior subaltern, Du Buisson, immediately prior to embarkation to lodge the Colours at the

Depot, and to escort a large draft of reservists from Guildford to Cosham. I can't remember Du Buisson's initials, but he was a man who could have risen to a high rank in the Army had he lived. He died of wounds received near Acton Homes in 1900.

If my memory serves me correctly, the Battalion was closed up into the two largest forts, Purbrook and Widley, prior to its departure, and early on the morning of October 20th, 1899, we marched down to entrain at Cosham station. There was not a single absentee, though I believe that there were a good many men who failed to answer their names punctually at tattoo roll on the 19th. I remember one man in my Company who had obviously had a slight bickering overnight. Both eyes were bunged up, and every part of his face showed signs of conflict. The front of his khaki jacket was covered with blood and he presented an appearance very much the worse for wear. However, we put him in the middle of the Company and hoped he wouldn't show. This was the first occasion on which I had put on putties, and I remember so well the acute agony I suffered on the march down to Cosham station owing to the putties being far too tight. Had it not been that we had a short halt soon after we started I think I would have been the first man to fall out. However, the halt gave me the time to loosen them and I don't think I've ever made the same mistake again. The band of H.M.S. *Excellent* (Whale Island) played us down to the station, and a large number of officers and petty officers were present to see us off. This was, of course, in pursuance of the old tradition which dates from 1794, and has been kept up ever since. The close friendship between Whale Island and The Queen's Royal Regiment is so well known that it is unnecessary for me to go into details here, but I know that none of us who had the luck to be present on October 20th, 1899, will ever forget the hearty send-off we were given by our comrades of the Royal Navy.

The next thing I remember is detraining at Southampton and being very much impressed with the expeditious and orderly manner in which the embarkation was carried out. The *Yorkshire* was at the quayside, and the men filed on board.

All heavy kit had been loaded the previous day and all that remained to do was to stow rifles and small kits. I don't think that more than twenty minutes elapsed from the time the train steamed into the station till the last man was aboard. We left Southampton soon after mid-day on October 20th, in company with the 2nd Bn. West Yorkshire Regt., who were on the *Roslin Castle*. She was a faster boat than the *Yorkshire* and soon left us astern. The *Yorkshire* was a Bibby liner of some 4,000 tons. Her passenger accommodation was limited but comfortable, but the men were very crowded on the troop decks. We had, however, a good passage across the Bay of Biscay, and made St. Vincent in the Cape Verde Islands without incident. One of the first things that happened on the voyage was our inoculation against enteric fever. This was a new affair in those days and inoculation was voluntary. I think that most of the officers were inoculated. The men, however, adopted a "wait and see" attitude, and when they saw that most of the officers had a bad time of it for a day or two after their inoculation, the vast majority of them decided to do without, and chance the enteric, a fateful decision for many. We all went in turn to the Medical Officer's cabin. Being the junior I came last, and I fancy that the needle was blunt, as the M.O. told me I had an "infernally tough hide." The injection was made into the loose skin near the stomach, and I have a vivid recollection of the needle first of all failing to penetrate, and then going in with a vicious jab! The next day I felt very stiff and sore. I had a look at my breakfast and fled, but by lunch-time, though still the worse for wear, I was able to re-adjust the deficiencies of breakfast!

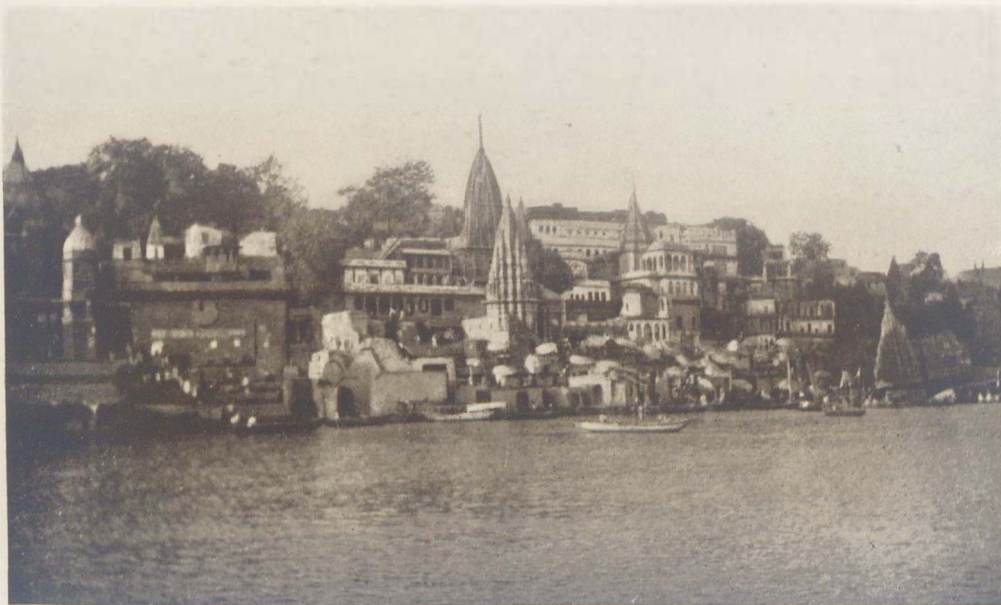
Of course, there had been no opportunity of practising our reservists in any musketry prior to departure, so one of the first things that had to be done was to fix up some form of towing target. I don't think that the average landsman realizes the strain on any object that is being towed at from 12 to 13 knots astern of a steamer. The target had to be 200 to 300 yards astern, and it had to stand knocking about. I imagine that the carpenter and his staff on the *Yorkshire* had their work cut out in keeping us supplied with towing targets during our voyage.

RANDOM SNAPSHOTS IN INDIA



THE GATE OF INDIA, BOMBAY

When one is nearing Bombay for the first time, old hands on board will point out the gate of India. This gate was built just before King George V (then the Prince of Wales) paid his visit to India, and he was the first person to make his entry into India through its splendid archway, a right which is now reserved for Royalty and the Viceroy.



BENARES FROM THE GANGES

A view of the sacred city of Benares from the river. The City is the most sacred of all Indian cities to Hindus. Its numerous temples with gilded domes make a very picturesque sight from the river.

When the weather was suitable, the officers used to have revolver practice at tins and empty bottles thrown into the sea from the bows of the ship. The officers lined the side of the short promenade deck and took their shots as the ship passed the mark opposite them. I once got a thorough and well-deserved slating for shooting when the mark was not directly opposite me, and it is obvious that with a dozen or so officers lining a rail and firing at a mark, which they are rapidly passing, it is very dangerous to shoot anywhere but directly to the front. We reached St. Vincent after dark, about a week after leaving Southampton. Heaven forbid that I should ever have to pass any of my life at such a place! I've never seen it again, and I never want to. Imagine an island entirely composed of volcanic rock, without an ounce of earth on it. Nothing green grows except in tubs of imported earth. Some of us went ashore and saw the sights, but we didn't stay long, and found that the decks of the *Yorkshire* were infinitely preferable to the squalor of St. Vincent. The Eastern Telegraph Company have, or had, a post there and played a good many cricket matches against ships passing through with troops on board. At St. Vincent—this was long before the days of wireless—we got the news of Talana Hill and Elandsplaagte. Some of us—the young and foolish, and I was one of them—were afraid that the fun would all be over before we got to South Africa, and I must put it on record that we all rejoiced to hear there was a "certain liveliness" about the Boers. It is easy to be wise after the event, but it always appears to me to be much easier to be a damn fool before it.

One incident at St. Vincent I must record. We took in coal there from iron lighters which were moored at the side of the ship as we were anchored in the harbour. A number of boys of various ages and descent swam around the ship calling for coins to be thrown for them to dive after. Between intervals of diving they often rested on the lighters, sunning themselves on the iron deck forward. One of these lads annoyed us all. He was far and away the biggest, and I imagine was of mixed Portuguese and negro parentage. He would swim after a lad who had got a win by diving,

and being stronger and faster in the water, would rob him of it. He did this several times, and we decided to punish him. In between his raids on the smaller lads he would sun himself, lying on his stomach on the warm iron deck of a lighter, and I may say that his costume consisted of a loin cloth. Charles Wilson collected half a dozen of the subalterns and we armed ourselves with certain hard and unripe oranges from the saloon table. Wilson waited until the raider was in his favourite position on the lighter, just under the rail of the quarter deck, and at the word of command from him we all let drive simultaneously with one or more oranges. The aim was good. If you can imagine yourself being struck simultaneously on your bare back by half a dozen or so hard oranges when lying at full length on your face, you may perhaps appreciate our friend's feelings. He gave a series of howls, hopped about for a few seconds to get his wind and then flopped into the sea. The last we saw of him was sitting in the stern of a small boat which was being pulled rapidly for the shore, shaking his fist at us. We couldn't hear or understand what he was saying—which was perhaps just as well. A British cruiser—I think she was H.M.S. *Diadem*—was lying in St. Vincent harbour when we were there, and on our departure the crew manned the ship and cheered us as we passed them on our way out. We were all much impressed by one man who stood on his head on the cap of one of the masts.

After leaving St. Vincent, the voyage was without incident until we got within three days of Cape Town. The mornings were passed in drill and musketry, and during the afternoons the voice of the owner of the "House" sets was heard in the ship. Attempts to exploit "Crown and Anchor" had met with disaster to the exploiters early in the voyage, but "House" was recognized as a legitimate mild gamble. One thing that used to amuse me was watching the barber at work. He had an assistant who applied the lather, and a queue used to form with lathered chins awaiting their respective turns for the razor. The method of cleaning the razor was effective, if crude; it was merely wiped on the hair of the man being shaved and then the next took his place.

Most evenings we had concerts. The piano was on the promenade deck looking aft over the well deck, and the performers stood by the piano. Among the officers the chief performers were General Sir E. O. F. Hamilton and the late Col. Tufnell. I remember the former's most popular song was one whose chorus ran:

With guns an' drums, an' drums an' guns,
The enemy nearly slew ye;
Ah, me darling dear, ye look so queer,
Ah, Johnny, I hardly knew ye.

Tufnell's songs were also Irish. Other occasional officer performers were Raitt and Hastie. Both were killed before the relief of Ladysmith. Poor Raitt's song was "Ehren on the Rhine," and in his case the words were prophetic. Our great comic man was one Pte. Rory Moore, whose chief effort, "Before 6 o'clock in the morning," always brought down the house. He invariably introduced topical verses into this song, the humour of which at times bordered on the Rabelaisian. Another performer was an enormous sergeant, who regularly informed us that he "feared no foe in shining armour." I can't remember if performance in the field came up to promise at the concert. Prime favourite, perhaps, was a doleful dirge entitled "Break the news to mother." This was an invariable item, and we all got very tired of it, as we not only heard it every night on board ship, but at every camp fire concert after we landed. Eventually it died a natural death. I heard it again nearly 18 years later in New York. I landed in America as a member of the British Mission in April, 1918, and the same night I was taken to a theatre. During the interval one of the War Loans was being "boosted" and a leather-lunged individual, armed with a megaphone, was endeavouring to induce individual members of the audience to guarantee subscriptions to the loan. He shouted a patriotic speech about the "boys" in the trenches, appealing to his audience with all the arts of the practised "booster" to fill in the forms which had been distributed among them. After a form had been filled in, signed and passed to him on the stage, he would shout the audience the amount promised and the name of the subscriber. In this way he collected guarantees for many thousands

of dollars. Behind him were grouped a number of well-turned-out, smart looking and very self-conscious sailors from some American warship, and whenever things were getting slack he started them off by singing something patriotic. Eventually he shouted out, "Now, boys, let's have some of the sob stuff," and to my intense amazement they started in on "Break the news to mother," the ditty which had disappeared from our concerts in 1900, and yet they say that America is a progressive nation. But this is a digression.

At the commencement of this narrative I said that the troop decks were very crowded. This was very evident at night, when one went round as officer of the watch. The hammocks were touching each other, and to get from one troop deck to another one had to bend double for considerable distances in order to pass under them. As we got nearer the equator the heat below decks must have been intense, but the men never complained. A sail bath was rigged for them on the forward deck, which was much appreciated.

Three or four days before we got to Cape Town we ran into heavy weather, and the *Yorkshire*, which was lightly loaded, showed us what she could do in the way of rolling. Sleep in a bunk was impossible, and we used to wedge ourselves in with cork mattresses from our valises. Any suitcase or box in a cabin had to be secured, as, if not firmly fixed, it would career from side to side of the cabin, to the imminent danger of the limbs of the occupants. One night we had to lie to for four hours with a heated bearing, and the rolling was very bad. A certain distinguished officer, whose name I will not divulge, had suffered from sea-sickness for most of the voyage. The rolling had made him worse than ever, and it is reported that when asked by his cabin mate, at the time of the breakdown, if he wanted anything, he replied, "Only a cup of poison and a coffin." At Cape Town we got our orders to go on to Durban, to join Buller's Army in Natal. The only things I can remember about this part of the voyage are that it was rough weather all the time and the ship rolled a lot, that we were in sight of land nearly all the way, and that one of the ship's officers

pointed out to me the approximate place where the *Birkenhead* had foundered. On our arrival at Durban we steamed across the bar and tied up at the quayside, where we were greeted by the bulk of the population of the town, who pelted the men with cigars and cigarettes by the thousand. At the quayside we entrained for Maritzburg—but all that—as Kipling says—is another story.

THE BUSHMEN.

The battalion had been on lines of communication for some weeks and had been re-fitted with clothing and equipment. Then came the order for part of it to join a flying column, and it was an extremely smart four companies that formed up at the rendezvous, all properly shaved and cleaned, as neat as ninepence.

There rode past them, troop by troop, a regiment of New Zealanders; wild, unshaven-looking men, with torn clothes, and rough horses, and hardly marching in such form as one sees at an Aldershot Review. But they were a hard-bitten fighting crowd, these Bushmen, and had earned a good reputation at mobile column work.

One of them, however, thought it fit to jeer at the smart appearance of the troops with whom they were shortly to be associated, and in suitable (but unprintable) language, expressed his opinion that such cleanliness was hardly compatible with hard fighting. But the taunt was aptly countered by one of the infantrymen, who said, "Look here, we earned several clasps to our medals before you thought of coming to this (epithet)—(epithet) country."

It should be added that The Queen's men and the Bushmen soon became the best of friends, when they realized that the spirit was equally good, whether it came out of bottles whose exterior was dusty or wiped clean.

4th Battalion.

Headquarters: Old Barracks, Mitcham Road, Croydon.

Hon. Colonel: Col. Lord Ashcombe, C.B., T.D.

Commanding Officer: Lieut.-Col. F. E. Bray, M.C.

WE have again to open our remarks by bidding au revoir to some old friends and by welcoming to our fold the new ones appointed to take their place. C.S.M. J. Phillips, probably better known as "Spot," has left us, time-expired, and in his place we welcome C.S.M. A. R. Hart from the 1st Battalion, who we have no doubt will do us much good. It is a little doubtful whether he will completely fill the space vacated by "Spot," though with strict attention to diet he may in time approach it. We are very shortly, too, losing both our R.S.M. and another of our Permanent Staff in the person of Sergt. P. S. Taylor. R.S.M. Callar has now been with us for six and a half years, and few of us had realized how soon his time would be up; it makes us feel how time is passing, and that the same fate awaits some of us at no very distant date.

Sergt. Taylor, who has so carefully nurtured our rifles will, we understand, not be entirely lost to us, as it is believed he contemplates a period of service with us as a Territorial soldier. We hope this will eventuate. Sergt. Bastin comes to us in his place, and to him, too, we extend a hearty welcome. Mr. K. Osbaldestone has been gazetted to us, and is posted to "H.Q." Wing.

The training season has been somewhat of a disappointment, the effect of the general strike and coal strike.

As the Territorial Army cannot be used in aid of the Civil Power, all parades were cancelled during the period of emergency proclaimed at the time of the former, and there could then be no suggestion that the Territorial Army were being so used. The period of emergency in connection with the general strike did not end until some time after the close of that event, and in consequence the whole of May was lost. Then, again, as a consequence of strikes,

we were threatened with the cancellation of Annual Camp, and it was not until the last days of June that it was finally decided to hold it. We have, therefore, a very limited period to write about. During June we had to make up time lost in the Annual Musketry Course, and week-end camps were held on the rifle range at Marden Park, Woldingham, throughout June and most of July, with the result that the major part of the Battalion had completed before camp.

The Battalion proceeded to camp at Worthing on July 25th, and there spent an instructive and pleasant two weeks.

A Cadre from the Battalion Depot Staff, under command of Lieut. A. J. Sullivan, was detailed to the 4th and 5th Battalions, and our non-commissioned officers derived much benefit therefrom.

A Demonstration Platoon was furnished by the Inniskilling Fusiliers, and functioned during the first week.

At the Brigade Sports Meeting held on July 31st, the Battalion won the Tug-of-War and the Company Commanders' Charger events, and was second in the Relay Race and the Transport Turn-out, missing this event (for the first time for several years) by one point, due to a deficiency in an issue which we were powerless to rectify. There is a grain of comfort in defeat in that this event remains in the Regiment, the 5th Battalion dethroning us, on which we offer them our congratulations.

The Inter-Battalion Rifle Competition was held on August 2nd at the range near Cissbury Ring, and the Battalion was third with a score of 506 points. C.S.M. Gunn was fourth in the individual scores with 50 points.

Certain Battalion cups were competed for in camp, and resulted as follows:—

Camp Cup (for the most efficient company in camp).—"A" Company (Capt. B. W. Cummins).

The Atkins Training Cup (awarded to the company adjudged to be the most efficient in training and manoeuvre).—"B" Company (Capt. R. Papworth).

The Lord Ashcombe Cup (for Judging Distance and Fire Orders).—"D" Company (Capt. L. J. Wallenstein).

The Hooke Cup (for Bayonet Training).—"A" Company (Capt. B. W. Cummins).

In the last issue, owing, doubtless, to the writer's illegible hand, this cup was called the Hooter Cup. It is not musical, however (though it takes a lot to fill it).

The Dashwood Cup (for Inter-Company Football).—"H.Q." Wing (Capt. J. H. Bryer).

For the first time for a great many years the 4th and 5th Battalions and the 22nd and 24th Battalions of the County of London Regiment were in camp at the same time at no great distance from one another, and a combined dinner was held at the Metropole, Brighton.

As we have no doubt that each of the other battalions concerned will describe this in detail, we will content ourselves with saying how greatly we enjoyed it. Lieut.-Col. R. G. Clarke, C.M.G., D.S.O., commanding the 1st Battalion, was the principal guest, and replied in an able and vigorous speech to the toast of "The Guests." His theme was the "one-ness" of the Regiment. His promises of help were much appreciated, and gave us all a hopeful outlook for the future. We hope we shall be able to afford him many opportunities of implementing his promises.

During camp the Brigade Football Championship was held, and the Battalion, by beating the 5th East Surrey Regiment by 11 goals to 2 (we also beat the same battalion in a cross-country run held on August 5th), and the 5th Battalion The Queen's Royal Regiment by 4-2, were successful. Having drawn a bye in the next round, we are for the third year in succession left in the final of the Divisional Championship, and as we have a superior team to last year's we are not without hope.

Sergt.-Dmr. Hall was run over by a motor during camp, but is now, happily, fit again.

The Battalion Rifle Meeting was held on August 21st/22nd and 28th/29th, at Woldingham. The weather (for a change) was good throughout, and two very enjoyable week-ends resulted. The results in the various events were as follows:—

The "Sir John Watney" Cup (for Marching and Shooting).—1, "H.Q." Wing; 2, "A" Company.

The "Captain Torrens" Challenge

4TH BATTALION



OFFICERS, WORTHING, 1926



SERGEANTS, WORTHING, 1926

Cup (shooting at Falling Plates at 300 yards. Teams of eight per company).—1, "B" Company; 2, "H.Q." Wing.

Ladies' Challenge Cup. (Conditions: King's Prize, 1st Stage).—R.Q.M.S. A. Dixon.

Tradesmen's Challenge Cup. (Conditions: 200 yards Snapshooting, 200 yards Rapid, 500 yards Application. Service targets).—Sergt. W. E. Stockdale.

Rapid Firing Cup (ten rounds in 45 seconds, 200 yards).—R.S.M. Callar.

Recruits' Cup (seven rounds Application, 200 yards).—Pte. A. E. Bylett.

Tradesmen's Extras Competition (Snapshooting, seven rounds, 200 yards).—1, 2/Lieut. A. Theweneti, C.S.M. Gunn, and C.S.M. Hart (tied); and, we believe, over fifty other prizes.

An interesting shoot between the Officers and Sergeants took place on September 12th, in which the Sergeants were successful. To save the feelings of certain of the participants we will not give the scores. The margin was only fifty points in a ten-a-side shoot, so that it will be seen there were faults on both sides. Perhaps the fact that the shoot took place on a Sunday is eloquent.

We have a most ambitious programme of social events for the winter months and the early spring, and only hope that our real objective, the acquisition of suitable recruits, will be attained. The first item in this programme has already taken place, in the form of a most enjoyable dance given by the Sergeants on September 25th. The new members of the Permanent Staff seem rather adept in the dancing art.

In football we have a team which is a great improvement upon that of last year, greater keenness seems to prevail, and there is severe competition for places in the eleven.

At present we have not many wins to our credit, but in most games have had rather more than our share of the play, and it is simply a matter of playing together a little more before success attends us. We had a very creditable win on October 3rd against Whyteleafe, a team till then unbeaten this season and undefeated most, if not all, of last season. This should give us more confidence.

Our numbers continue to dwindle, but

we are through with the greater part of our discharges, and look forward with confidence to the future.

Our Annual Prize Distribution takes place in the Drill Hall on Wednesday, November 24th. Col. B. C. Dent, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., commanding 131st (Surrey, T.) Infantry Brigade, has kindly consented to present the prizes.

FOOTBALL.

The Battalion team has been greatly strengthened this year owing to the fact that several men who last season played for other clubs have decided to turn out for the Battalion. This is a great relief to the old members, who have been endeavouring for four years to raise an eleven worthy to represent the Battalion, and we have great hopes of winning high honours before the end of the season.

The first and second rounds of the Territorial Army Cup were played during Annual Training, and once again the Battalion won the Brigade Championship, defeating the 5th East Surreys 11—2 and the 5th The Queen's 4—2. Pte. Bylett scored seven goals in the two matches.

The Middlesex Regiment having scratched, we are now waiting to have our revenge on the 4th Royal Sussex in the divisional final. This year the match will take place on our ground, and the team are determined to make a great effort to carry off the cup.

The team has also entered for the Surrey Junior League, Croydon Charity Cup, and Surrey Junior Cup.

The following players are available this season:—Capt. Papworth, Capt. Bryer, Lieut. Ault, C.S.M. Hart, C.Q.M.S. White, Sergts. Friend, Fenner, Stockdale, Wilkins and Garner, Bdsn. Plummer, Ptes. Bylett, Waite, Pepper, Langridge, Barham, and Dorrington.

All members of the Football Section are extremely sorry to lose their secretary, C.S.M. Phillips, who was time-expired in September. Besides being most popular, he discharged his thankless duties in a most able and thorough manner. He carries with him the good wishes of all.

OFFICIALS FOR 1926-27.

Captain, Sergt. Wilkins.

Vice-Captain, C.Q.M.S. White.

Joint Hon. Secretaries, C.Q.M.S. White and Sergt Fenner.

Selection Committee: Capt. Papworth, C.S.M. Hart, C.S.M. Gunn, C.S.M. Organ, C.Q.M.S. White, Sergt. Wilkins, and Sergt. Fenner.

Since writing the above, news is to hand that the football team has won its first round in the Surrey Junior Cup by 2-1.

SERGEANTS' MESS NOTES.

Annual Training was in every sense a successful and enjoyable time. Many valuable lessons were learnt, not the least being that Cissbury Ring will still be there when all the members of this Mess are not only time-expired, but mere memories adorning the walls.

The Sergeants' Ball held on September 22nd was a huge success, most particularly from a social point of view. The presence of Major Evans, the Adjutant, and many of the officers and their ladies was greatly appreciated.

The Officers v. Sergeants shoot was fired on September 12th, with the following result:—

Officers, 642 points.

Sergeants, 692 points.

Sergeants won by 50 points.

The Sergeants' Cup was fired on the same day, R.Q.M.S. Dixon winning with a score of 87, R.S.M. Callar being second with 79, and L./Sergt. Wilkins third with 75.

It is with great regret that we have to record the retirement from us—at any rate as active members—of C.S.M.I. Phillips and Sergt.-Instr. Taylor, both time-expired.

No one who has known our "Spot" intimately, and who has soldiered with him both on parade and off, would for a moment deny his many qualities of tact, good humour and comradeship. He will be greatly missed in the Battalion, although we all hope he will continue as an honorary member of this Mess.

Similarly so with Sergt.-Instr. Taylor, familiarly known as "Knocker." We all hope to welcome both Mr. Phillips and Mr. Taylor as honorary members.

Does a certain motorist at Worthing now advertise "Drum - Majors a speciality"?

What *was* the joke about the acrobat?

* * *

What was the really bright *Spot* on A.F. 256?

* * *

Did the Caterer-Sergeant really find *crème de menthe* good for the liver?

* * *

Is it a delusion that led someone to call our C.Q.M.S. of "H.Q." a "golden-haired darling"?

"H.Q." WING.

Capt. J. H. Bryer.

Annual Training was much enjoyed by all ranks, and, in view of the far too short time that camp affords, good progress was made with the training of Machine Gunners and Signallers. The Machine Gun Platoon and also the Drums made distinct progress and showed commendable keenness.

A Smoking Concert was held in the Company Mess Tent during camp, and so much talent was discovered that it is hoped to make this an annual event.

The Wing has been very successful this year. It has won the Dashwood Cup for Inter-Company Football, the Watney Cup for Marching and Shooting, and was second in the Torrens Cup Competition for Team Shooting.

If keenness is any criterion there will be many additions to this list to report in the next issue.

"A" COMPANY.

Capt. B. W. Cummins, Commanding.

Since the publication of the last number of the Journal the Company has been going down in strength, but up in quality and efficiency. It has been quite a relief to have had struck off our paper strength a number of men, some of whom have not done a drill for years.

The fact that the Company was adjudged the winner of the Hooke Cup for Bayonet Training during Annual Training for the fourth successive year, and also the Camp Cup which is awarded to the company showing the highest all-round efficiency during Annual Training, also for the fourth time, though not in successive years, is testimony of the

4TH BATTALION



1. Capt. W. H. Stacey, O.B.E., Quartermaster.

2. Words of Wisdom from the C.O., Worthing, 1926.

3. The Third Principle of War - I.T., I, 2: "Surprise."

4. Thick and Thin. C.S.M. Phillips ("Spot") and Sergt. Willerton, Ord. Room Sergt.

efficiency of the Company. The Company is extremely proud to have secured these two much-coveted trophies once more; it was no run-away victory in either case; the competition for both amongst all companies was extremely keen, and until the last day in camp every company thought they had won the Camp Cup. We are very pleased now that we took the trouble to pick up those match sticks, to clean the rifles of the duty men, and to keep our buckets filled with water and the handles of the latter in uniformity, for it was only by attention to these very minute details that we secured the margin necessary for victory. Sergt. Harry Garner is to be congratulated most heartily on the efficiency of his bayonet-fighting instruction, and it is largely due to his excellent work that the Hooke Cup has been won for the fourth time.

In the Field Training Competition (Atkins Cup) "A" were second to "B," and in the Section Leading (Judging Distance and Fire Control) we were amongst the "also ran." Teams this year were selected by lot, and it was our misfortune to have one or two recruits in the team who had never done weapon training. In the twenty minutes available after the selection of the team and the commencement of the competition we taught these lads how to load and fire their rifles, positions, sight setting, and a host of other things. Intensive training, if you like.

On return from camp we began to think of that much-coveted trophy, the "Watney" Cup—the blue ribbon of the 4th Battalion—which is an award for endurance and accurate rapid firing. The competition for this took place a fortnight after return. The team consists of twelve of any rank and a leader, who march from the Town Hall to the range at Woldingham (a distance of eight and a half miles), and on arrival at the latter fire rapid at three ranges. For the last three years the weather has been most inclement—rain, hail, thunderstorms—so this year we much appreciated a really fine afternoon—not too hot, and very suitable for a long march. "A" Company's team was composed of one officer, ten warrant officers or non-commissioned officers, and two privates. We felt it was the best team since the war. The march was done

with ease, though one of the team experienced "sore feet" and one of the harriers had cramp in the thigh so badly that he had to be assisted from range to range. In this competition we were beaten by "H.Q."

With a view to demonstrating that we had not reached the limit of our capacity, we fell in later in the evening and marched down to the Clayton Arms at Godstone, where an excellent repast was awaiting the Company. This is the second annual supper of "A" Company on "Watney" Cup day, and this year our gathering was graced with the presence of Major B. L. Evans, Second-in-Command; Capt. H. G. M. Evans, Adjutant; Capt. W. H. Stacey, O.B.E., Quartermaster; and Capt. L. Wallerstein, commanding "D" Company. After dinner, words of encouragement and congratulation fell from the lips of the Second-in-Command, and the Adjutant told us his little yarn about Mr. Bates, Junior. These suppers are really most enjoyable, and we hope they will become an annual institution.

After the prize meeting we almost closed down, for practically all of our men had got their requisite number of drills in, and most had fired their Annual Course.

The winter social season of the Company opened with a Dance at Queen's House, Poplar Walk, Croydon, on Thursday, October 14th.

"B" COMPANY.

Capt. R. Papworth.

"B" Company has made good progress during the active months of the training season, and, although short of numbers in camp, once again won the "Harold Atkins" Cup, awarded for training and manoeuvre.

Recruits posted to the Company during the past few months have been of a high standard, and, being fortunate in possessing keen and capable non-commissioned officers, the Company is looking forward with every confidence to the future.

Musketry has been of a high standard and the Company average is excellent. C.S.M. Gunn was placed first and Pte. Bylett third in the highest aggregate for rifle shooting during the year, winning the Gold and Bronze Jewels respectively.

The Company was again successful in

winning the "Torrens" Cup for Inter-Company Team Shooting, and was also placed first in a Lewis Gun Team Marching and Shooting Competition.

During the winter months Company dances and other social events will be held at frequent intervals.

"C" COMPANY.

Capt. Eric P. Kingzett.

This Company has the same story to relate with regard to numbers, showing a small reduction. The quality has not deteriorated; in fact, the Company is perhaps better for having shed some of its paper strength.

It is pleasant to be able to record that the Company receives much help from the Guards Depot, who have very kindly lent their Drums on two occasions for route marches.

It is hoped to be able to start a gymnasium class during the winter, under an instructor from the Guards Depot, and there are rumours of a demonstration platoon from the same source.

As a result of concerts held during the past few months, it has been possible to make the club-rooms at the Drill Hall more comfortable.

In April it is hoped to run a Company Torchlight Tattoo with the object of obtaining recruits.

Company dances are being held monthly at Caterham.

"D" COMPANY.

Capt. L. Wallerstein.

MUSKETRY WEEK-END AT MARDEN PARK.

We had a most satisfactory attendance, the whole Company, with one exception, firing their course during the week-end allotted. The Company average is fairly good, but still leaves room for improvement.

DISCHARGES.

We have rid ourselves of a number of men who only encumbered the Company rolls, and in their places have secured a batch of recruits who are shaping well.

STRENGTH.

"D" Company is still the weakest in the Battalion, but this is largely made up for by the keenness of those we have got.

We want more men badly, but only those of the right type.

We have to welcome 2/Lieut. A. R. Theweneti to the Company.

COURSES.

Lieut. G. Ellis recently attended a month's course at the London District School of Instruction, where he secured a satisfactory report.

ANNUAL CAMP.

On the whole the attendance was satisfactory, and it was good to see the general keenness shown and the improvement made. Owing to our depleted numbers "C" Company worked with us during Company training, and we were thus enabled to carry out schemes which would otherwise have been impracticable.

Section Commanders still have a lot to learn. They must realize their responsibilities as leaders, and take every opportunity of studying in order to fit themselves for this important position. It is hoped that all non-commissioned officers will attend the classes of instruction which will be held during the winter.

COMPETITIONS.

We won the "Lord Ashcombe" Cup, which is competed for in camp, for the company showing the best average in judging distance, combined with the giving of fire orders and fire discipline.

"Hussey" Cup.—We unfortunately turned out two men short, but despite this heavy handicap did not finish at the bottom.

PRIZE MEETING.

Quite a goodly number attended, but Company results were poor. 2/Lieut. Theweneti, C.Q.M.S. White, Ptes. Marsh and Hunt made the best showing.

SOCIAL FUNCTIONS.

Dances and other entertainments will be held during the coming winter, and it is hoped that all will make a real effort to attend, and so ensure success.

CAMP INCIDENTS.

Who made such a conscientious sanitary man that he is likely to retain his job?

Who said that he didn't mind being batman to oblige?

Who hid a dixie full of meat under the table and then complained that there had been a short issue?

With the British Fencing Team in America, 1926.

AT the Olympic Games held at Antwerp in 1920 Great Britain and the United States of America were both represented by fencing teams. Being the only two English-speaking teams, and having many ideas in common, especially as regards sportsmanship, a happy entente was formed which culminated in a dinner given by the American team to the British team. At this dinner the question of some sort of a fencing match being instituted between the two countries was discussed, and it was eventually decided to hold such a match. The match was to be held every second year, and was to take place alternately in the two countries. Col. Robert M. Thompson, the President of the American Olympic Association, kindly presented a challenge trophy to be held by the winners. Teams were to consist of four fencers in each of the three weapons, *i.e.*, foil, sabre and épée.

The first match took place in America in 1921, and was won by the Americans by 25 victories to 23; the second match took place in London in 1923, and was won by Great Britain with the same score. Owing to the Olympic Games being held in 1924, it was decided to hold the third match of the series in 1926.

Early this year arrangements for the selection of the British team and for the visit to America were taken in hand by the Amateur Fencing Association. Some of those selected were unable to go, and the team finally selected was as follows:

Foil.—Mr. R. Montgomerie, Mr. P. G. Doyne, Major R. M. P. Willoughby and Mr. A. D. Pearce. Reserve: Major G. N. Dyer.

Épée.—Mr. C. H. Biscoe, Major C. B. Notley, Mr. R. Montgomerie and Hon. I. D. Campbell-Gray. Reserve: Mr. P. G. Doyne.

Sabre.—Major C. B. Notley, Major G. N. Dyer, Major R. M. P. Willoughby and Mr. A. D. Pearce. Reserve: Mr. C. H. Biscoe.

It had been hoped that Col. R. B. Campbell would again be available to lead the team as he had done in 1921, but he was unable to do so, and Major Dyer was requested to undertake this duty.

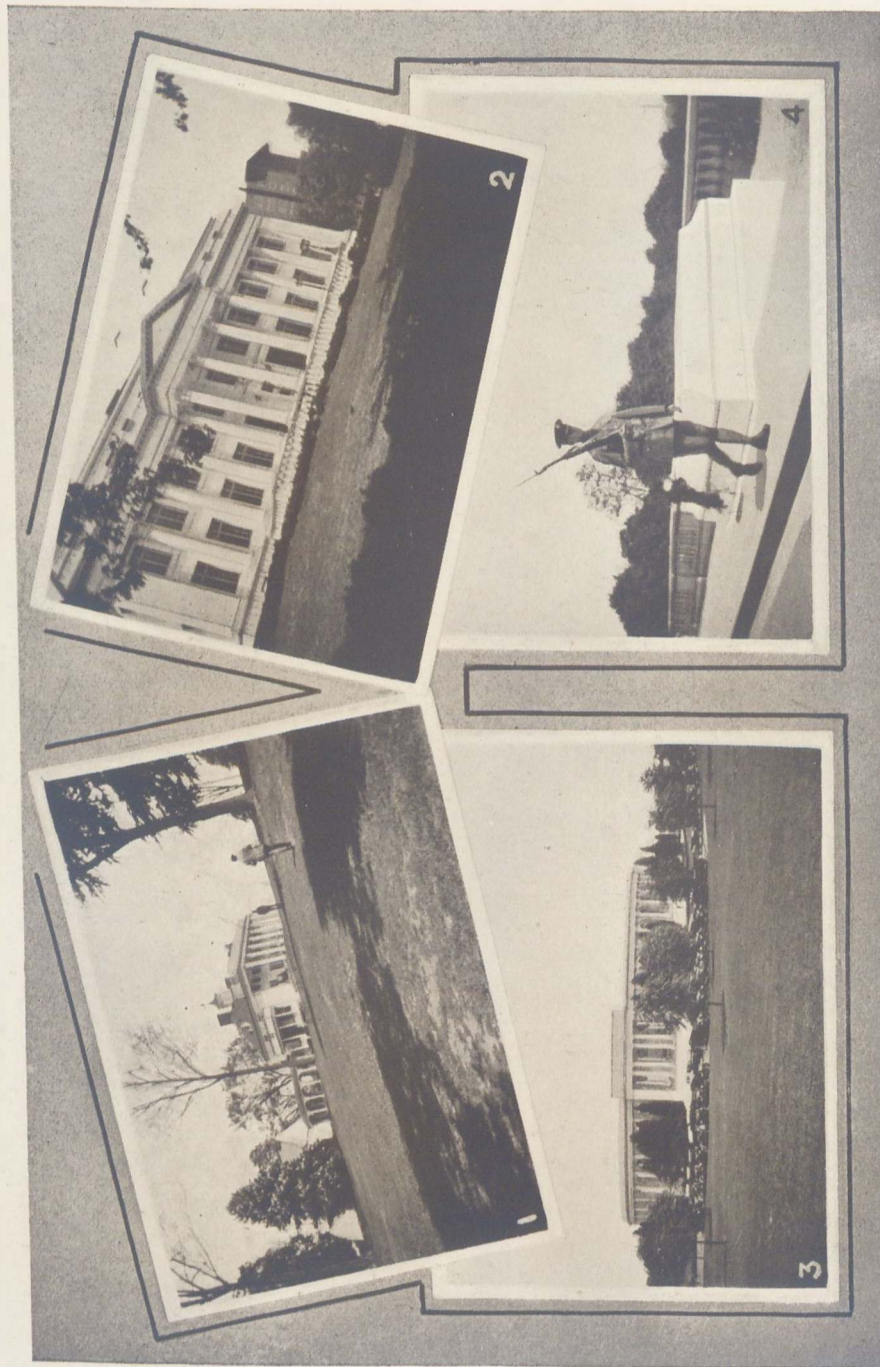
From the moment of selection every member of the team trained hard, and three full team matches were fought before leaving for America. The opposing teams were a strong scratch team, an Army team and a combined Services team. All the matches ended in favour of the British team.

After correspondence with the Amateur Fencers' League of America, the team matches had been fixed for May 3rd, 4th and 5th. The British team embarked at Liverpool on April 23rd on the R.M.S. *Carmania* of the Cunard Line.

Training was continued on board throughout the voyage. The usual programme was medicine ball, relay races, and deck tennis, from 11.15 a.m. to 1.15 p.m., and fencing from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. There was plenty of deck space available for fencing, but as most of it was covered in it was difficult to use the sabre, more especially as rain on several evenings made the open deck too slippery.

The team arrived at New York on Sunday, May 2nd, and was met on arrival by the whole of the American team, headed by Col. Henry Breckenridge, the captain. As the first match (foil) was to be fought the next day it was considered advisable to settle the few outstanding details regarding the matches at once. Both teams, therefore, went straight to the New York Fencers' Club and went into committee. The details as to scoring, officials, and interpretation of rules were soon agreed on, and the British team was then taken to its quarters. Four members were accommodated in a very charming flat lent by a friend of Col. Breckenridge; the remainder were put up at the Roosevelt Hotel.

The foil match was timed to begin at 8.30 p.m. on the 3rd, and was held in the Gymnasium of the New York Athletic Club. Owing to the attentions of numerous photographers the teams were a little late in parading. They assembled in a room adjoining the Gymnasium, and marched in together in file, headed by the respective captains, each carrying the team mascot, the American mascot being a tiger, answering to the name of "Sam," while the British bull-dog was, of course, christened "John." The mascots were deposited facing each other on the fencing strip until the fencing commenced, when



1. George Washington's House at Mount Vernon.

3. American Great War Memorial Amphitheatre, Washington

2. The White House, Washington

4. American Unknown Soldier's Grave, Arlington

they retired to take up their arduous duties of bringing luck to their teams.

It had been agreed that the bouts should be presided over alternately by an American and British referee, and that there should be two British and two American judges. In the foil, Major Dyer was the British referee, and Messrs. Biscoe and Notley the judges. The American foil team consisted of Col. Henry Breckenridge, Lieut. George Calnan (U.S. Navy), Mr. F. Barnard O'Connor and Dr. Rene Peroy. The match produced some very fine fencing, and most of the bouts were very closely contested. The American team proved the strongest, and won by 11 victories to 5.

The épée match was decided the following evening at the same time and place, and curiously enough the score was exactly reversed, the match ending in favour of the British team by 11 victories to 5. For this match the Americans had selected Col. Breckenridge, Mr. Arthur Lyon, Lieut. Calnan and Warrant Officer Dimond (U.S. Army) to represent them. The officials were:—Presidents: America, Mr. Leo Nunes; British, Major Dyer. Judges: America, Mr. Schoonmaker and Mr. O'Connor; British, Major Willoughby and Mr. Doyne.

The score now being level, with 16 victories all, the interest in the sabre match on the following evening was very keen. This match being the final one of the series took place in the ball-room of the Astor Hotel before a very large audience. Representatives of the British Embassy at Washington and the British Consul-General at New York were present, as well as a large number of British residents. The teams marched in as on the first night, and received a very cordial welcome.

The American sabre team was in very fine form, and succeeded in establishing a lead from the start by winning seven out of the first eight fights. They kept their lead, and at the end had increased it to 11 victories to 5, thus winning the match and trophy by 27 victories to 21.

There was an interval after the first eight fights, and during the interval Col. Breckenridge made a speech, eulogizing the British team and British sportsmanship, and making a most complimentary

reference to Col. Campbell, who had captained the first British team. Col. Breckenridge then presented Major Dyer with a silver cigarette box on behalf of the American team. In his reply, Major Dyer thanked the Amateur Fencers' League of America, on behalf of the British team, for the cordial welcome accorded to them, and expressed his gratitude to Col. Breckenridge and the American team for the very charming memento with which they had presented him.

On the conclusion of the match the trophy and medals were presented by Dr. G. B. Hammond, President of the Amateur Fencers' League of America. The fencing platform was then quickly cleared away, and the British team entertained at a dance.

Taking the match as a whole the British team fought very well. The original estimate of form of the team had been foil fair, épée strong, and sabre weak, and it is interesting to note how nearly this estimate proved to be correct. In the foil match the British team were a little unlucky in losing several bouts by the odd hit, and it is doubtful if the American team could really claim the superiority which the score shows. Most of the members of the team fought better in the American Individual Championships which were fought the following week, and it is open to question whether it was wise to fight the International matches so soon after landing. However, the team was very fit, and if the match had been fought a few days later the members might have been feeling the change of climate, food, etc.

On Thursday, May 5th, the team went to Yale College to fence against the College team, who had recently won the Inter-Collegiate Championship. Yale College is situated at Newhaven, about two hours' rail journey from New York. The team was taken straight to the Gymnasium on arriving. The building is a fine one, comprising an entrance hall and staircase filled with trophies, flags and records of all sporting events, a large swimming bath, a changing room with about 100 shower baths and innumerable lockers, a big gymnasium with a running track round the gallery, offices for the Director of Health, and massage rooms. In all a

really well-equipped gymnasium. The College team were very keen and good fencers, and the fencing was of a very high standard. The British team won by a comfortable margin, but nearly every bout was keenly contested. After the match the team were taken round the buildings of the College. These are very fine, and are arranged much on the same lines as those at Oxford and Cambridge, with large courts surrounded by rooms. As far as could be ascertained, the College is run pretty much in the same way as our universities, the principal difference being that the undergraduates, after their first year, are not supplied with meals in the College, but have to get them at restaurants in the town. The two teams dined together at one of these restaurants, and a very excellent dinner it was. The College team were a very charming lot, and entertained us right royally. We returned to New York the same evening.

On the following day Col. Breckenridge kindly arranged a visit to the New York Stock Exchange. There was not a great deal of business being done, as the General Strike in England was causing great anxiety. However, it was interesting to see the methods obtaining, and it was easy to picture what it must be like when there is a rush of business. Col. Breckenridge then entertained us at lunch at the Lawyers' Club, and a visit was afterwards paid to the Woolworth Building, famous as being the highest in the world. There are fifty-eight floors, and the building is over 800 feet high. The journey to the top is made in large lifts. These lifts have a most ingenious air-braking arrangement, which is so adjusted that if the supporting cable was to break the lift would drop a certain distance and would then be gradually slowed down by the air in the shaft being compressed and forming a cushion. In order to avoid a sudden stop when the air is fully compressed, a release valve is fitted, through which the air is forced when it reaches a certain pressure. By this means the lift would be brought gradually to a stop. A magnificent view is obtainable from the gallery which runs round outside the top of the tower. The day was moderately clear, and the whole of New York seemed to be spread out at our feet, while away on one side could be seen

the Hudson River, with New Jersey on the far bank, and on the other the city of Brooklyn, with all the bridges connecting it with New York.

In the evening the team was billed to give an exhibition at the headquarters of the 7th Regiment of the National Guard. The National Guard corresponds to our Territorial Army, and the 7th Regiment is in the nature of a Corps d'Elite. The headquarters, at any rate, fully bore out this reputation, situated as they are on Park Avenue, one of the finest thoroughfares, and consisting of a massive fort-like building. In addition to a large drill hall, there is a smaller dance-room, a company club-room for every company, as well as the usual Commanding Officer's and Adjutant's offices and officers' room. Exhibition bouts were given with all three weapons, and after they were over the team was entertained to a dance.

On Saturday, May 8th, the team went on a visit to Washington. The journey was made by train, and took about four hours. It had been just pleasantly warm in New York, but on the train to Washington we got the first taste of how hot it can be in America, and none of us got really cool until we were taken for a drive round the city after dinner in open cars.

At Washington the team were the guests of Col. Robert M. Thompson, the donor of the International fencing trophy, and were all accommodated in his house. On the way from the railway station official calls were paid at the British Embassy and on the British Military Attaché. After dinner a trip round the city was the programme. Washington is a very beautiful city, artistically planned and laid out with broad, tree-lined streets. The public buildings and memorials are for the most part set in well-arranged parks and gardens, while the Potomac River enhances the already pleasing aspect. The drive at night through the park bordering the river, with the lights of the city in the distance, was a very fitting introduction to a singularly lovely place. The drive took us through the famous Rocky Creek Park, and ended at the Chevy Chase Golf Club, where a dance was in progress.

The following day a visit was paid to the memorials set up to commemorate George Washington and Abraham

Lincoln, and then to the National War Cemetery at Arlington. This cemetery contains the headstones, and in many cases the graves also, of all the Americans who have lost their lives in the various American wars. Among the memorials are the mast and anchor of the ill-fated cruiser *Maine*, which was blown up with very great loss of life in the Spanish-American War. The whole cemetery is laid out on a range of hills overlooking Washington, and about four miles from it. On the top of one of these hills is situated the American Great War Memorial, consisting of a large amphitheatre built of white marble. The amphitheatre is fitted with seating accommodation, and the flags of all the states are displayed. Memorial services are held regularly, and it has become a place of pilgrimage from all over the United States. In front of the amphitheatre, and facing towards Washington, is the Unknown Soldier's Grave. The cemetery originally formed part of Gen. Lee's estate, and his house is now used as a museum and a record office of all the stones in the cemetery. The old memorial amphitheatre still stands, and consists of a pergola built of wood and covered with wistaria creeper. The best of the blossom was just over, but it was still very lovely.

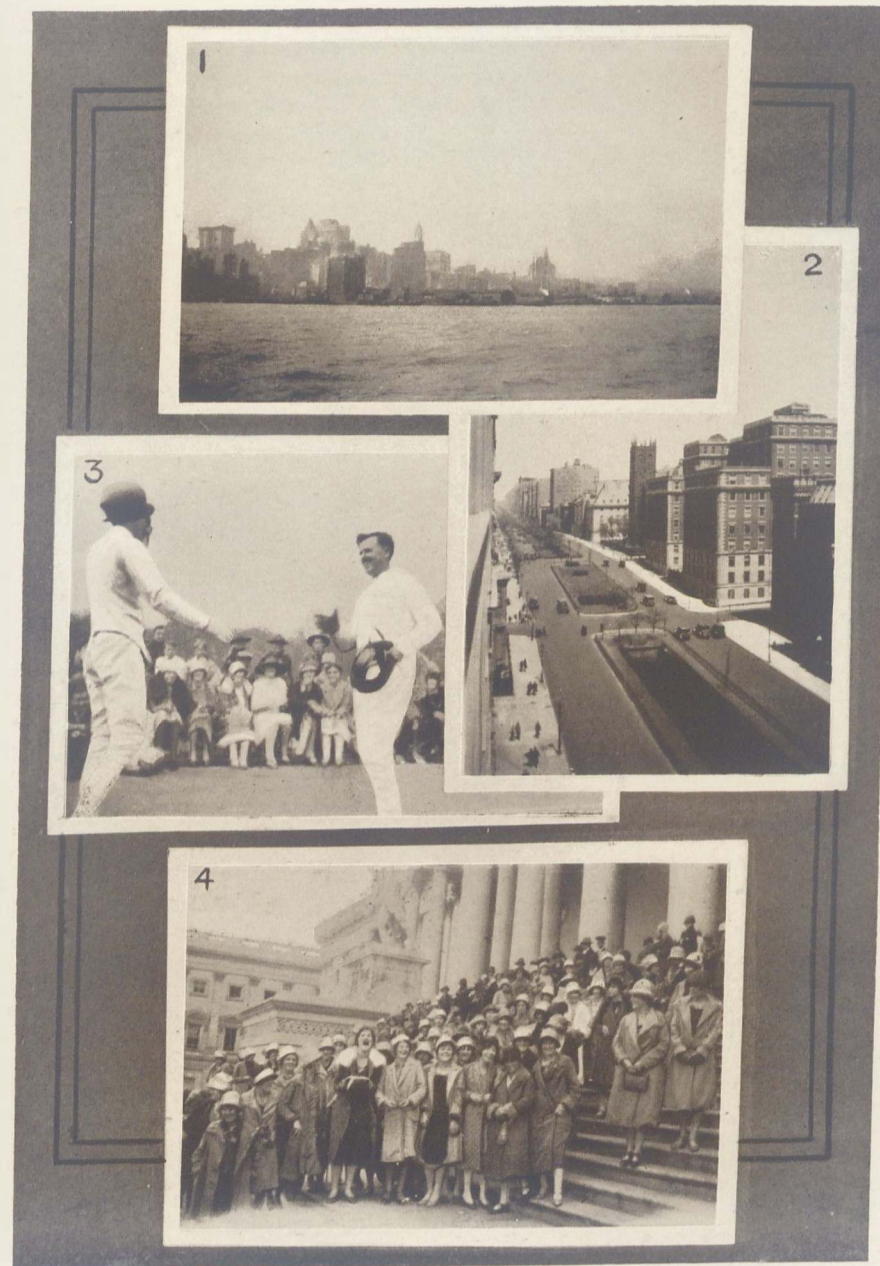
In the afternoon the team was entertained at tea at the Chevy Chase Golf Club by the Washington Branch of the English-speaking Union. For the evening no engagement had been made, and we were thankful to have a quiet evening. On the following day Col. Breckenridge had kindly arranged visits to the various Government offices, and a start was made at the War Ministry, where the Secretary for War, Mr. Davis (of Davis Cup fame), welcomed the team. The next visit was to the Navy Office, where, in addition to being received by the Secretary for the Navy, we were introduced to the Admiral, corresponding to our First Sea Lord. A tour of inspection of the Smithsonian Museum then followed, the Indian exhibits proving extremely interesting. Now came the great event of the day, the presentation to Mr. Coolidge, President of the United States. The presentation was made by Major-Gen. Charlton, the British Military Attaché. After shaking hands with the members of the team the

President welcomed us to America, and expressed a hope that we were having an enjoyable visit. In America every American citizen has the right to visit the White House and see the President, and, in fact, waiting outside when we went in were 150 mill girls from Louisiana, who were about to file past him. We were told that he is kept busy receiving in this manner for about two hours every day. In the afternoon the team was taken to visit the public buildings, including the Houses of Parliament, situated in the Capitol. Both the House of Representatives and the Senate were in Session, and we were able to go into both Houses and listen to the speeches for a time. The mill girls who had been at the White House in the morning were also there, and caused us much amusement by singing southern songs on the entrance steps, while one of them kindly obliged with a demonstration of the now famous "Charleston." One of the ladies in charge of the party told us that the majority of the girls had been saving up for over a year in order to allow of this visit to Washington. Still, from what we saw of them, they were certainly getting their money's worth.

The team was due back in New York on Tuesday evening, so before leaving Washington we were taken by car to see Mount Vernon, the home of George Washington. The estate has been taken over by the nation, and is kept as a museum. Most of the original furniture has been collected there, and the house is arranged almost exactly as it was in Washington's lifetime. The house is beautifully situated on a hill overlooking the Potomac; the whole place is very well kept and looked after. In addition to its historical value, it is interesting as being typical of the Colonial estates of Washington's time.

We returned to New York that evening just in time to change and go to the theatre. The play was a musical comedy called "The Girl Friend," and was quite a good show. The singing and dancing were very good. Some of the American slang was a little hard to follow, but easier than we had expected.

On Wednesday, May 12th, the fencing for the American Amateur Individual Championships took place. These championships are organized by the Amateur



1. New York from the Harbour.

3. Major Dyer and Mr. Van Buskirk at fencing display at Bronxville.

2. Park Avenue, New York.

4. Louisiana mill girls on the steps of Houses of Parliament, Washington.

Fencers' League of America, and by the courtesy of the Committee the British team were allowed to enter four members in each weapon. The preliminary pools are fought off by districts, and only the semi-finals and finals take place at New York. The American organization is somewhat different to the British. In Great Britain one week is allotted to the championship of each weapon, and half the competitors in the pools of each round go forward to the next round. In America the semi-finals and finals of all three weapons are fought off in three days, and the semi-final pools are arranged so as to leave six competitors in each final pool. A portion of the final pool is fought immediately after the semi-finals are concluded, and six fights in each weapon are left for decision on the last day. Actually in this championship there were about twenty or twenty-one entries in each weapon, and three semi-final pools were fought off, the two leaders in each pool going into the final. The foil semi-finals and nine fights of the final took place on the evening of May 12th at the New York Athletic Club, épée and sabre at the same place in the afternoon and evening respectively of the following day.

The British team gave a good account of themselves, and obtained three places in the foil final pool, two in the épée and one in the sabre.

The concluding bouts were held in the ball-room of the Astor Hotel on the evening of May 14th, and a large audience assembled to witness them. In the foil the great fight of the evening was that between Lieut. Calnan, of the United States Navy, and Dr. P. G. Doyne, of the British team. Both were undefeated, and to the winner would go the championship. The bout produced a very fine exhibition of fencing. Calnan started the score, but Doyne soon evened matters, and the score progressed from one all to two all, and then to three all. After a tremendous tussle the final hit, and so the championship, went to Calnan. The British team did not actually win any championship, but took the following places:—

Foil.—Doyne, 2nd; Pearce, 3rd; Montgomerie, 5th.

Epée.—Campbell-Gray, 2nd; Biscoe, 5th.

Sabre.—Dyer, 5th.

At the request of the Committee of the Amateur Fencers' League the final pool of the foil and épée were refereed by Major Dyer, and the final of the sabre by Mr. Biscoe.

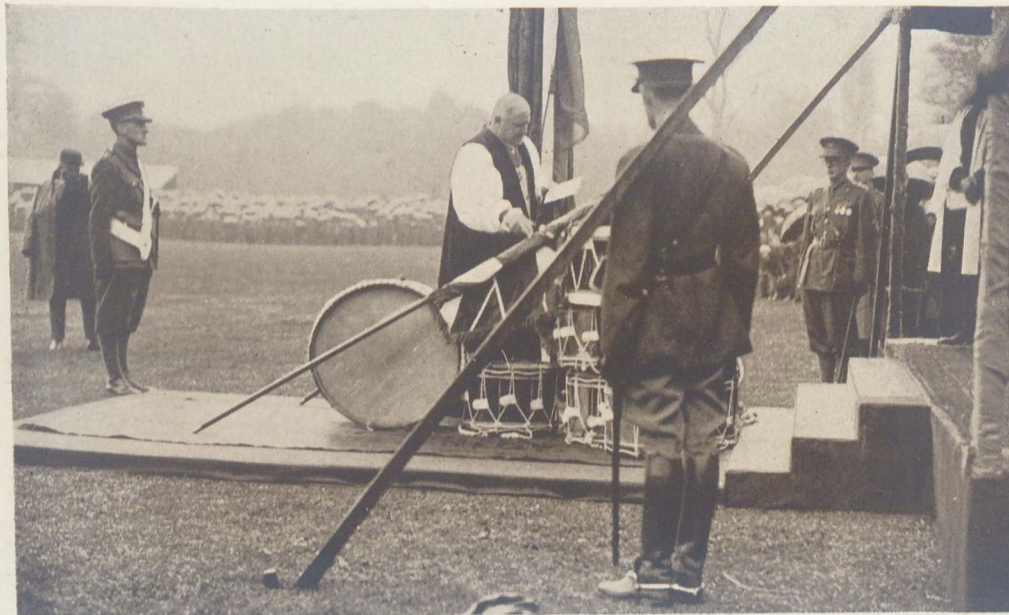
The British team were asked to give two more exhibitions, one on Saturday, May 15th, at the Bronxville Field Club, about ten miles from New York, and one on the following Monday at the headquarters of the Brooklyn Edison Electric Company, which has a large and flourishing fencing club amongst the employees. The Bronxville day was most enjoyable, the exhibitions took place out-of-doors on a hard tennis court, and a large crowd turned out to see them. After the exhibitions the team was entertained at dinner at a neighbouring golf club, and then returned to the Field Club for a dance. The Brooklyn Edison Company show took place in the evening in the large Recreation Hall at the head office. Included in the programme were the lady champion and the lady junior champion of America, both of whom gave a graceful and convincing display.

On the Tuesday the team were taken to the New York Stadium to see a professional Baseball match between the New York Giants and the Chicago White Sox. The great Babe Ruth was included in the Giants' team, but much to our disappointment he was not in very good form. The American fencing team accompanied us, and explained the niceties of the game. There were many exciting moments, but what impressed us most was the speed of the throwing and pitching and the accuracy of the fielding.

We saw so little of America beyond New York and Washington that it is impossible to describe it, but it may be interesting to give some impressions of New York. Everyone has heard of the "sky-scrapers," enormous buildings towering into the air. As the ship steams up New York Harbour these buildings are the first things seen, and they appear to dominate the landscape. But actually walking amongst them their height is not so apparent, although walking along some of the streets such as Wall Street and others in that neighbourhood is a little like walking along the bottom of a precipice. Several of these buildings have over forty floors, and contain as many as twenty or thirty lifts, some of

5TH BATTALION

PRESENTATION OF COLOURS BY HER MAJESTY QUEEN MARY



Photo]

[Graphic Photo Union

THE BISHOP OF WINCHESTER CONSECRATING THE COLOURS



Photo]

[Graphic Photo Union

THE BATTALION MARCHING PAST HER MAJESTY

5th Battalion.

Headquarters: The Drill Hall, Guildford.

Honorary Colonel: Col. W. J. Perkins, C.M.G., T.D.

Commanding Officer: Lieut.-Col. H. H. M. Harris, T.D.

BATTALION NEWS.

WE have two regular correspondents: one has recently got married and so cannot write; the other has failed to come up to scratch for some reason which is not so obvious.

The outstanding event is, of course, the visit of Her Majesty the Queen to present us with our Colours. A full account of this ceremony will be found elsewhere.

Gen. Sir C. C. Monro, the Colonel of the Regiment, also honoured us by paying a visit to the Battalion Headquarters, when he showed great interest in photographs and records of the Battalion. He recollected that he and the caretaker, Mr. Gostling, did their recruits' drill on the square in the same squad about forty-six years ago.

Our annual camp at Worthing was a great success, and will be for long remembered, if only for the unbroken spell of fine and warm weather and the excellence of the food.

The numbers attending were adversely affected by the general strike, but were reasonably satisfactory, considering the total strength of the Battalion.

Sport, as usual, played a large part in the camp life. The officers were well and truly beaten by the remainder of the Battalion at cricket. A keen controversy raged in the Officers' Mess afterwards as to who really was the worst fielder.

The Battalion then played the 5th East Surreys, and after persuading them to declare at 176 for eight wickets we managed to get the runs in an incredibly short time for the loss of only four wickets.

In the Brigade sports we were not very successful, but we did win the Transport Competition and were second in the Officers' Chargers event and the Tug-of-war. In the latter event we were beaten by a very hefty team from the 4th Battalion. We understand they are all

members of the Sergeants' Mess, and would like to know what special diet—or could it be beverage?—they use to train on.

In the Brigade Football Competition we were again second, and were again beaten by the 4th Battalion.

"C" Company are now running a regular side in the Surrey Junior District League. We wish them every success, and hope they may help to form a nucleus of a later regimental team.

In shooting at camp we again won the Brigade Commander's Cup, and Cpl. Buckler won the silver medal for the best individual score.

The Sergeants' Mess Concert was again a great success, and many guests spent a very enjoyable evening.

A very noticeable feature at camp was the large number of friends and relations who came down for long or short visits, all of whom were received and made welcome by the Sergeants' Mess.

Col. Perkins came down to visit us. He came out and watched the Battalion doing night operations, and inspected the Battalion on its way out to training the next morning.

It was the last camp of Col. B. C. Dent, D.S.O., in command of the Surrey Infantry Brigade. It will be hard to find a more universally popular Brigade Commander, and we shall miss him very much. We sincerely hope he will visit us next year, and we would like again to assure him that though everything else may fall down he and his hand of cards will be left unmolested.

Our greatest thanks are due to the cadre from the Depot. The amount we learn, both from their teaching and their example to us in all the details of camp life, is immeasurable.

The whole Battalion deeply regrets that Capt. Reader has had to resign as Quartermaster and R.S.M. Hiney as Regimental Sergeant-Major. It would be hard to express in words what these two have done for the Battalion. Capt. C. J. M. Elliott, late Quartermaster of the 2nd Battalion, has taken over from Capt. Reader, and R.S.M. Reeves, from the 1st Battalion, from R.S.M. Hiney, and we count ourselves very fortunate in having obtained two such excellent men to fill these two posts.

Notes from the companies are scarce and difficult to collect. If silence is golden, then they must be all doing very well indeed.

"A" Company seem to be very satisfied with their new company cook (Pte. Baker), and have also to record that the Section Competition was won by Cpl. Fuller and the Tent Competition by Cpl. Ellis. "C" Company are enlisting many recruits, and are now challenging "B" Company for the honour of being the strongest Company in the Brigade.

They are also learning to sing, for which the other companies will be duly grateful.

We all want to congratulate Major Wigan on his marriage, and wish his bride and himself great happiness and prosperity.

The Territorial year closes on October 31st, and we feel well satisfied with all we have done.

All we want are more recruits of the right type, and we are determined to end next year with a still better record.

Presentation of Colours by Her Majesty The Queen.

ON Wednesday, April 28th, 1926, Her Majesty Queen Mary paid the Battalion the great honour of presenting the Colours subscribed for by the ladies of West Surrey. Unfortunately, the ceremony was marred by drenching rain, which, although seriously inconveniencing the spectators, and greatly reducing their numbers, in no way impaired the smartness and efficiency of the troops on parade.

The rehearsal, which should have taken place at 11 a.m., was postponed in the hope of the weather clearing, but eventually had to take place at one o'clock in pouring rain. The Battalion was much indebted to Lieut.-Col. Clarke, C.M.G., D.S.O., commanding the 1st Battalion, and his Adjutant, for personally supervising the rehearsal.

On return to the Drill Hall for refreshment before the ceremony, the Battalion was cheered by receiving a cablegram of congratulation and encouragement from the 2nd Battalion in India. Col. Harris was able to read this out to the men just

before marching off to the Guildford Sports Ground for the ceremony.

At 3 p.m. the Battalion formed up in line, with the band of the 1st Battalion in the rear. About 3,000 spectators, undeterred by the downpour, were in the enclosures, but all that could be seen was a sea of umbrellas. The approaches to the ground were thronged by Guildford's loyal citizens.

On the stroke of 3.25 Her Majesty alighted at the Woodbridge Road entrance, where she was received by the Lord Lieutenant of Surrey and the Mayor of Guildford.

After a number of presentations had been made Her Majesty took up her position on the dais, the Battalion receiving her with a Royal salute, Her Majesty's own Royal Standard being unfurled at the flag-staff.

The Battalion then formed three sides of a square: the Colours, being uncased, were brought forward and laid on a pyramid of drums, immediately in front of the dais, by C.S.M. Snow and C.S.M. G. E. Smith. The base of the pyramid was formed by the drum presented to the 1st Battalion by Mrs. St. Barbe Staden in memory of her husband, Lieut.-Col. St. Barbe Staden, 5th Battalion The Queen's, who was killed commanding the 1st Battalion at Passchendaele.

The impressive ceremony of consecrating the Colours was performed by the Bishop of Winchester, attended by Canon Kirwan and the Rev. I. K. Jones as chaplains. Major C. R. Wigan then took the King's Colour and handed it to Her Majesty, who handed it to Lieut. Baker. Capt. W. Sturmey Cave next handed the Regimental Colour to Her Majesty for presentation to Lieut. Ponsonby.

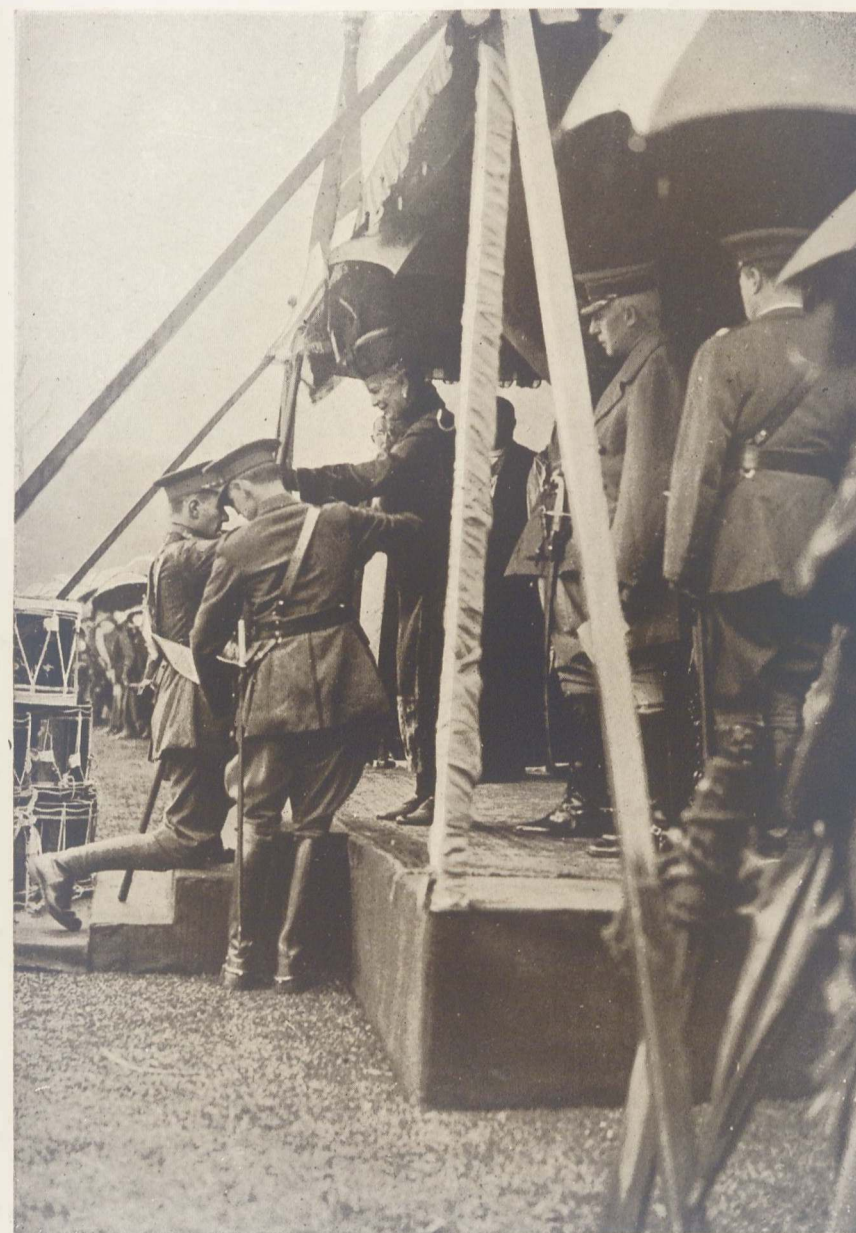
In handing the Colours to the officers, Her Majesty said:—

"It gives me great pleasure to present new Colours—a gift from the ladies of Surrey—to your Battalion, which so nobly upheld the honour and fame of The Queen's throughout the Great War. Remembering the glorious traditions of the Regiment, I entrust to you in confidence these Colours, and I wish the Battalion every success."

Lieut.-Col. H. H. M. Harris, standing facing the dais, replied:—

"Your Most Gracious Majesty,—On behalf of the Ladies of West Surrey and

5TH BATTALION



Photo]

[Graphic Photo Union

H.M. THE QUEEN PRESENTING THE REGIMENTAL COLOUR

all ranks of The Queen's Royal Regiment, I humbly and loyally express our deep gratitude for the great honour Your Majesty has conferred on us. It is our most earnest hope that not only we who stand on parade to-day, but all those who may follow in our footsteps, may ever prove worthy of the confidence Your Majesty has reposed in us."

The Battalion then reformed line, the Colours were unfurled and turned towards the centre and given a Royal Salute. The Colour party then joined the Battalion, marching in slow time to the National Anthem, and the Royal Salute was again given with the Colours lowered.

Col. Harris then called for three cheers for the Queen by the Battalion, which were heartily taken up, not only by the troops, but by the spectators as well.

The Battalion next moved to the left in fours and marched past Her Majesty in column of route, after which they returned via the principal streets of Guildford to the Drill Hall, where an excellent hot meal awaited the rain-sodden but undefeated troops.

Any account of the ceremony would be incomplete without special mention of the Band and Drums of the 1st Battalion. All ranks of the 5th Battalion are deeply indebted to them for their assistance, which, in a ceremony of such importance, was invaluable.

It was a great disappointment that Gen. Sir Charles Monro was unable to attend, owing to the illness of Lady Monro, but the Battalion welcomed his deputy, Major-Gen. Sir Wilkinson Bird, and was much gratified to hear how pleased he was with their performance. In his report to Gen. Monro, he stated:—

"I think that you can be proud of the appearance, steadiness and carriage of the Battalion in very trying circumstances, and that the Regiment to-day lost none of its high reputation."

The Magic Rifle.

NO. 1234 PRIVATE T. BROWN had a Fairy Godmother. This should have been a distinct advantage, for lots of people have been equally lucky and nothing but good has come from it. Unfortunately, however, the demon "Cordite" took an interest in Private Brown's birth, and that was the cause of all the trouble.

It was only natural that his fairy godmother should think of presenting him with a suitable gift, and his mother was asked to think of something useful. Now, his mother was foolish enough to consult her husband, an old Queen's man, and there and then the demon "Cordite" seized his opportunity and made the old soldier ask for a rifle that, when aimed, would never fail to kill.

When the fairy godmother heard this, she tore her long golden hair in horror. She was powerless to alter a wish, although she saw the demon's hand in the request. So she had to content herself with changing the characteristics of the rifle, and she therefore converted it into one that would make bulls, inners, magpies, outers or misses according to the firer's wishes.

Mrs. Brown cried a good deal when her infant son was presented with this gift, and then hunted her husband all round the place for asking such a ridiculous request, and for throwing away the chance of a lifetime. The rifle was then put away, and eighteen years passed before it was thought of.

When Private Brown enlisted no one remembered to give him the rifle. It need hardly be said that he was in The Queen's, and, after learning at Stoughton how a Queen's man should behave, he joined the Regular battalion at Aldershot.

Then came the firing on the ranges at Ash Vale. Now, Private Brown was not famous for his shooting; but he was not bad enough to acquire any fame as a "dud." This was fortunate, as his subsequent conduct might have aroused some suspicion.

"I'm getting on all right," was Private Brown's reply to his mother's inquiries; "but that shooting beats me. The rifle hurts, and the targets are so very small that I can't hit them."

"Bless me," cried Mrs. Brown, "if I haven't forgotten all this time the rifle that belongs to you."

"Belongs to me, Mother?" rejoined Private Brown. Then his mother told him the whole story.

"Let's have a look at it," was the only comment he made on the extraordinary circumstances connected with his birth. So the rifle was fetched from the lumber room, and to his surprise it turned out to be one of the latest pattern.

"I'm blowed if I don't take this back with me," he said; and he did.

Now, a man who loses his rifle is apt to get into trouble, but a man who has two rifles instead of one renders himself liable to searching inquiry, or at least awkward questions. The difficulty was how to get rid of the rifle he had been issued with.

After due thought, he determined to go by the last train back to Aldershot and to get out at North Camp and walk to the barracks.

This he did, and managed to hide the magic rifle in a clump of bushes.

The next evening he sauntered out with his real rifle, intending to effect the exchange after dark.

"Where are you going to with that rifle?" asked the corporal of the guard.

"I'm so bad at shooting," replied Brown, "that I'm going to do a little aiming practice and trigger pressing all on my own."

Now this was a bit thick even for the corporal of the guard, but to check such zeal might involve difficulties, so the corporal contented himself with saying that if Brown remained out long he might get into trouble.

Private Brown hurried away, and after making sure that the magic rifle was still in the bush, he threw his real rifle into Mytchett Pond, where it sank into the mud and disappeared.

Now, Second-Lieutenant Sandown was of a sporting nature, and finding little opportunity for losing money at Aldershot, proceeded to back his company—"C" Company—to beat "A" Company at shooting. Lieutenant Newmarket, who saw there was a chance of picking up some "ready," and knowing "A" Company were really far superior to "C," accepted the challenge, and £10 was the stake agreed upon.

The conditions were that the team was to consist of one of each rank, drawn by lot.

"Laugh!—why, I nearly busted with laughter!" said Sergeant Hythe, of "A" Company. "'C' have drawn all second-class shots from the N.C.Os., and a rookie from the privates, a man called Brown, who can't hit a haystack."

It was only too true. Private Brown was representing the privates of "C" Company, and this alone caused much mirth.

It was a baking hot day when the teams made their way to the firing point. Lieutenant Sandown took Brown aside and said:

"I know that you are not much of a shot, but if you can make a decent score it will make all the difference to me, so do what you can."

Now, the problem that presented itself to Brown was: first, was the rifle a fraud?—and secondly, to what should he set the dial? If he hit the bull every time it might excite suspicion, and to change the dial on the firing point was obviously impossible. He therefore decided to begin with outers at the 200 yards, and outers he made as regular as clockwork. It became almost monotonous, and he knew the result of his shot long before it was signalled.

"Splendid! Why, you are getting along wonderfully," said Lieutenant Sandown, who hadn't expected Brown to hit the target at all.

Still the sad fact remained that "C" were well behind. Sergeant Hythe had made a possible for "A" Company. The lance-sergeant, corporal and lance-corporal had all produced a better score than their opponents in "C" Company.

At 500 yards things were beginning to look critical. "C" Company were getting left behind. Private Brown was told that unless he could make a good score, "A" Company would walk away. He had already set the dial to "inners" when he started at 500 yards, and, having made three inners, he determined to complete his score with bull's-eyes.

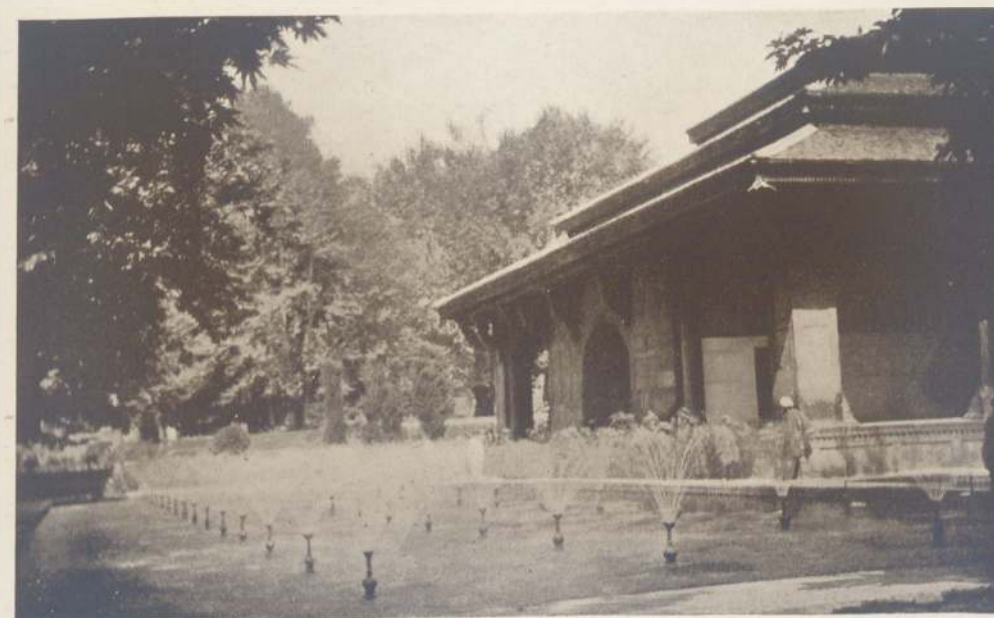
"I'm feeling rather giddy," he said to Lieutenant Sandown. "I should like to lie down a minute, and fire a bit later."

Lieutenant Sandown looked suspiciously at him and murmured something about too much beer, but consented. He

RANDOM SNAPSHOTS IN INDIA



Two views of the Shalimar Gardens, Srinagar, Kashmir. These form one of the many Mogul gardens which were made in the seventeenth century; they consist of four terraces, each with a pavilion surrounded by water and fountains. Hundreds of these fountains play on Sundays and fête days.



had fired first in the team at 500 yards, according to the conditions of the competition. By the time all the rest had fired, he had altered the dial to "bulls." The remaining shots were all bulls, much to the astonishment of everyone.

Excitement ran high at 600 yards. "C" Company were ten points behind, and, although as much as 3 to 1 was laid on "A" Company, it was freely taken by the supporters of "C" Company. When the time came for the last two to fire, "C" Company were only eight points behind. Brown, who had by this time become much excited, had firmly set the dial to bull's-eyes, with the inevitable result that he made bulls consecutively without any apparent effort. When he started his victorious career it became evident that there would be a close finish, but when he continued to score bulls "C" Company could hardly contain themselves, and, amidst wild excitement, Brown's company won the contest.

Never was there such a hero; everyone who had won money loaded the unworthy Brown with praises. At 600 yards he had made a possible. Lieutenant Newmarket, who paid up like a man, said:

"I thought I was on a good thing, but I didn't know about that dark horse of yours."

"Lend us that rifle you made that big score with," said Sergeant Sharpeye, who was preparing to fire his course. Now, Brown hated Sergeant Sharpeye, and had waited for a chance to get level with him. He went to the tent to get his rifle, and took the opportunity of setting the dial to "misses." On emerging from the tent he handed it to the sergeant with a pleasant smile, and wished him every success, in a way that Sergeant Sharpeye didn't quite like. But when you borrow something of value from anyone you have to put up with a little familiarity. Brown was detailed as buttman, curiously enough, on the range that Sharpeye was firing on.

"There's a real old-fashioned rookie on my target," said the buttman next to Brown; "he ain't hit the blooming target once."

The reader will have guessed, even if he is no Sexton Blake or Sherlock Holmes, that this was none other than Sergeant Sharpeye, really a very good

shot, but powerless with the magic rifle set to misses.

When Brown met Sergeant Sharpeye and asked him how he had got on, Sharpeye could only swallow and make noises in his throat, and this was fortunate, for if he had managed to express his feelings his language would have been totally unfit for these pages.

THE BLESBOK.

Dawn was breaking. As detail after detail of the landscape came within the widening vision of the blockhouse sentry, he became aware of a herd of blesbok passing his post at no great distance.

It was contrary to orders to shoot at game from a blockhouse, but the opportunity was more than his sporting spirit could bear. Surely his officer would make allowance for the uncertain light at that time of the morning? He would swear that he thought he had seen a party of Boers passing.

There was no time for argument with himself. He took aim at a fine buck and fired. A word of explanation to the N.C.O., a hurried dash on the part of himself and three of his pals, and the buck was within the blockhouse wire. By breakfast-time, a haunch arrived at the headquarters of the officer commanding that section of the line. (Later the head arrived there, wonderfully stuffed with odd newspapers, dried grass and olla podrida, two beer-bottle ends acting as eyes, and it eventually reached England in quite sound condition!)

After breakfast, the officer walked up to the blockhouse. Assuming a severe expression, he paraded the garrison. "In future," he said, "rifle practice will not take place unless an officer is present. Dismiss."

22nd London Regiment (The Queen's).

Headquarters: 2, Jamaica Road, Bermondsey, London, S.E.16.

Honorary Colonel: Col. E. J. Previte, V.D.

Commanding Officer: Col. C. F. H. Greenwood, D.S.O., O.B.E., T.D.

THE Annual Camp at the end of July marks the zenith of our training, and we were fortunate this year in being sent to Falmer, on the downs half-way between Lewes and Brighton. The training grounds were ample, the out-of-bounds area practically nil, and the camping sites were clean and very picturesque. Tactical training made a distinct advance, and towards the end of the second week, the 22nd, under Major Woolley, attacked the rest of the Brigade, under Col. Greenwood, who were drawn up on the position from Mount Harry to Black Cup, facing south. On the last morning of our training the positions were reversed, and the Brigade attacked the 22nd. The attack, made at daybreak, was supported by artillery from the 63rd Brigade and assisted by aeroplanes, who dropped very accurate messages at Brigade Headquarters during the first two hours of the attack. The approach marches and the forming up at the places of assembly on a very dark night were carried out in good order and very silently, and the whole exercise was most instructive to all ranks.

Proximity to Brighton added to the attractions of the camp, and many visits were made during non-working hours. Reference is made elsewhere to the Reunion Dinner of the officers of The Queen's Territorial Battalions.

In divisional competitions decided during annual training we were placed eighth in the Transport Competition and ninth in the "Vesey Dawson" Competition for scouting. We were placed third in the Brigade Machine Gun Competition, this being the first time we have failed to win it since its institution. In regimental competitions, No. 5/6 Platoon, under Lieut. J. H. C. Owen, won the Previte Cup for the second year in succession, and "D" Company won the Inter-Company Sports Cup.

Four hundred and thirty all ranks

attended annual training, eighty-eight per cent. of our strength. This is the largest percentage for many years, although on a smaller total than the last three years.

Since the last issue of the Journal, Capt. C. R. Doyle, D.C.M., has gone to live in South Africa and Capt. F. M. Pasteur, M.C. ("H.Q." Company) and N. M. Hayford, M.C. ("C" Company) have transferred to the Reserve. Lieuts. D. Barrett and E. R. Broadbent have been promoted to command Headquarters and "C" Companies respectively, whilst Capt. Roger B. B. Wright (late Grenadier Guards) has joined us and taken over command of "D" Company. On October 25th Capt. T. O. M. Buchan, M.C., 2nd The Queen's, will replace Major K. E. B. Mackenzie-Kennedy, M.C., as Adjutant of the unit. Major Kennedy's departure will be a source of regret to us all, but since he must go, we rejoice exceedingly that Capt. Buchan is coming in his place to cement more closely our ties with The Queen's.

A regimental cricket team, with many supporters and followers, visited Stoughton on Sunday, June 6th, and played the Depot. Our cricket form was not good, and we were well beaten, but the Depot showed us great hospitality and kindness, and a most enjoyable day was the result.

Reunion Dinner of The Queen's Territorial Battalions.

AN extraordinarily enjoyable evening was spent by the officers of the four Territorial Battalions of The Queen's when they met and dined together on Saturday, July 31st, at the Hotel Metropole, Brighton. That they were able to do this was brought about by the fact that the Surrey Brigade were doing their Annual Training at Worthing, whilst the 142nd (6th London) Infantry Brigade were at Falmer, both places within easy reach of Brighton. This was the first occasion that the officers of the four units had come together since 1907, for, on the formation of the Territorial Force, the 3rd and 4th Volunteer Battalions The Queen's were withdrawn from the Surrey Brigade to form part of the 2nd London Division.

24th London Regiment (The Queen's).

Headquarters: 71, New Street, Kennington Park Road, S.E.11.

Honorary-Colonel: Col. W. G. Simpson, C.M.G., D.S.O.

Commanding Officer: Lieut.-Col. C. E. Thompson, D.S.O., M.C.

BATTALION NEWS.

WHITSUNTIDE training, when normally a good deal of progress is made in firing the annual Weapon Training Course, had this year to be cancelled, and, in consequence, a large proportion of the Battalion had to fire after camp.

The Battalion entered a platoon to shoot for the "Lady Muriel Cup," which is competed for annually in the 142nd Brigade. The competition took place at Purfleet, and the Battalion took second place.

The present strength of the Battalion is 17 officers (of which four are seconded) and 270 other ranks. Recruiting, stimulated perhaps by the news of the excellent camp near Brighton, shows a tendency to improve, and the class of recruits is good.

There have been more changes amongst officers during the last half year. Capt. R. F. C. Oxley-Boyle, M.C. (The Queen's Royal Regiment) has taken over the duties of Adjutant. We have lost Lieut. G. E. Tatham, whose business has taken him overseas. On the other hand, Capt. E. Teesdale (late of the 14th (Works) Battn. West Yorks Regiment), and Lieut. J. H. Spence Duncan (from the T.A. Reserve) have been gazetted to the Regiment. Lieut. R. H. Senior is understood to be on his way home from the Antipodes, and is expected to resume his service with the Regiment within a few months.

The winter months promise to bring great activity in the way of games and social events. The Entertainments Committee has arranged a full programme of dances and concerts. Great revival of interest is being shown in the Battalion in boxing and bayonet fencing. The former is being looked after by Lieut. J. H. Spence Duncan, and the latter by 2/Lieutenant E. C. Stubbs. Both sports are becoming increasingly popular.

Col. Greenwood, 22nd London Regiment (The Queen's), in proposing the toast of "The Guests," referred to the great bond of union that existed between the four battalions by reason of their connection with The Queen's Regiment. He also stated his belief that the privilege of wearing the badge and sharing the traditions of the Regiment had been a great source of strength to the Territorial units during the war.

Col. R. G. Clarke, of the 1st Battalion, in a vigorous reply, left no doubt in the minds of his hearers of the great desire of all ranks of the Regular units to help their Territorial brethren to the utmost of their ability.

The following officers were present:—

1st Battalion The Queen's Royal Regiment.—Lieut.-Col. R. G. Clarke, Capt. G. A. Pilleau, Lieut. A. U. H. Hackett Pain.

The Depot.—Capt. T. O. M. Buchan, Capt. W. G. R. Beeton, Lieuts. J. L. S. Boyd and A. J. Sullivan.

4th Battalion.—Lieut.-Col. F. E. Bray, Major B. L. Evans, Capt. E. P. Kingzett, Lieuts. J. H. F. Johnson, J. C. Giggins and Osbaldeston, and Capt. H. G. M. Evans.

5th Battalion.—Lieut.-Col. H. H. M. Harris, Major C. R. Wigan, Capt. W. Sturme Cave, R. H. Dorman-Smith, E. G. Ponsonby, C. J. M. Elliott and A. C. W. Upton, Lieuts. A. R. Wise, G. Baker, A. F. F. Young and J. C. Courtney.

22nd London Regiment (The Queen's).—Col. C. F. H. Greenward, Majors E. J. Woolley and K. E. B. Mackenzie-Kennedy (North Staffs Regiment), Capt. B. H. Hughes, W. R. Darnell, W. B. Wray, and H. Carr-Gomm, Lieuts. R. C. Halse, E. R. Broadbent, E. J. D. Agate, H. J. C. Owen, R. J. Pope, J. A. P. Cockerell, A. G. Ling, S. D. Bussey, D. P. Welman, E. J. A. Roberts, R. G. Long, and Glyn Williams (Royal Army Medical Corps).

24th London Regiment (The Queen's).—Lieut.-Col. C. E. Thompson, Major C. J. Saunders, Capt. D. G. Adams and J. H. Spence-Duncan, Lieuts. G. E. Tatham, S. G. Woolmer, E. C. Stubbs, C. W. Leijel, J. L. Ilsley, F. G. Bishop, and Capt. R. F. C. Oxley-Boyle.

NEWS FROM THE SERGEANTS' MESS.

The chief event during the summer season has been the children's Empire Day tea party, which, unfortunately, had to be postponed from May until July 3rd. This delay, however, only seemed to increase the enthusiasm and demand for tickets, so that when the "day" arrived 485 children of fallen members, old comrades and active members of the Regiment were royally entertained to tea, etc., and after an enjoyable time sent home very tired and happy, each guest on leaving being presented with a souvenir to commemorate the event, together, of course, with many sweet things. This was the twelfth annual party, and easily the best and largest one held so far. Great credit and thanks are due to C.S.M. A. Boucher, M.M., and his staff of willing workers, for the wonderful way in which everything was organized and carried out. The Commanding Officer and several officers and ladies honoured us with their presence, and, we feel quite sure, thoroughly enjoyed giving a hand.

On Sunday, July 18th, quite a few members and friends journeyed to the Depot, Guildford, for the cricket match arranged between the Depot and the Battalion, and, although we were defeated, a thoroughly enjoyable day was spent by all present, thanks to the very fine hospitality and welcome accorded us by everybody at the Depot.

Annual camp, easily the most important fixture of the year, was a great success in our opinion. The weather was kind to us, the location of the camp excellent, and the training ideal. The Mess, as in previous years, was well organized and left nothing further to be desired. Unfortunately, the Brigade were separated, so that we were unable to pay or receive many inter-mess visits; however, our friends, the 63rd Field Brigade R.A., were encamped quite near to us, and a close liaison was quickly established and maintained throughout the period of training. Numerous relatives and friends were enabled to visit us, and we did our best to give them a good time. A social evening was arranged during the latter period, and a pleasant time was spent by everybody present. We were honoured with the company of the

Commanding Officer and all officers present in camp, together with many visitors from the remainder of the Brigade. Camp was struck on Sunday, August 8th, with many genuine regrets.

Our thoughts are now turning towards the close season, and already one very successful Mess dance has been held. We are hoping to arrange a number of these throughout the season, and various shooting, billiard and snooker competitions.

From the foregoing it would appear that the social side looms very largely in our estimation. We agree it does, but we feel quite sure you have no desire to read anything of the very practical and serious side.

ANNUAL CAMP.

Camp this year was held near the village of Falmer, midway between Lewes and Brighton. Looking back on one of the pleasantest camps, both as regards situation and weather, held by this Battalion since the war, it seems a thousand pities that more men do not avail themselves of this excellent form of holiday. To be able to go away to the Sussex Downs (at Government expense) when one is "done up" by a hot London summer, and to come back fit for anything, including a war, is really worth while, and if the average man realized what he was missing, recruiting would go up by leaps and bounds.

Training has been serious and arduous, but there was plenty of time for relaxation, as the inhabitants of Brighton soon discovered. Senior officers who have felt it their duty to watch over our work and ask questions, were, in some cases, successfully eluded, and, at other times, completely baffled (?).

Two incidents are worth recording. Our first day's parade is always a little exciting. Our chargers, brought down from the peace and security of a Regent's Park stable, are inclined to be a trifle fractious when suddenly picketed on an open line. The first movement of rifles finds them taken unawares, and incidentally their riders. This year was no exception. An officer of the Reserve, who had nobly come back to take his place in the Battalion at war conditions, suddenly found himself bereft of his



SERGEANTS, 24TH LONDON REGIMENT (THE QUEEN'S), AT CAMP, 1926

stirrups, and his steed prancing gaily towards the orderly room. A convulsive clutch of the reins, a diagonal movement, and the horse continued on his way, this time on its two hind legs, and in the direction of the flagstaff. He (the horse) was about to embrace the pole, when the rider, fearful no doubt that the animal was about to essay a climb, gave the reins a sharp tug. The horse immediately took a smart pace to the rear and promptly sat down on its unfortunate rider. A gasp of horror went through the Battalion which (I regret to record this unsoldierly fact) changed to a roar of delighted laughter when it was seen the rider had escaped injury by some miraculous means.

The other incident concerns a very senior officer. We were manœuvring on the furthest area from camp, and had skilfully hidden ourselves, which no doubt had an annoying effect on the "very senior officer." Suddenly the figure of a soldier was spied, who, on seeing so many distinguished officers, moved off at a tangent on all fours, with a certain portion of his anatomy well in the air. The "very senior officer" turned to his A.D.C. and said, "Fetch that fellow," adding under his breath, "I bet he says he is a scout." A burly member of the Battalion presented himself to the "very senior officer." "Well, my man," said he, "what do you represent?" "A screen, sir," was the reply. "Oh," said the "very senior officer," somewhat taken aback, "what sort of screen?" "An imaginary screen, sir," came back promptly. The "very senior officer's" reply was inaudible, but it is rumoured on good authority that he turned to his A.D.C. and murmured faintly, "Take me home."

On August 31st all the officers attended the Regimental Dinner of the four Territorial Battalions at the Metropole Hotel. It was very interesting meeting everyone, and, as Col. Clarke said in his amusing speech, "an occasion unique in the history of the Regiment." The 1st and 2nd Battalions and the Depot were all represented.

One of the outstanding features of the camp was the Sergeants' Social. It was most excellently organized, and both the entertainment and the refreshments reached a high standard. When the stern

figure of the Regimental Sergeant-Major rose, after a wonderful evening, and applied the closure, as they say in cricket parlance, adding "should there be any doubt in anyone's mind at this time of night that there were only two exits," everyone trooped out of the marquee, humming the tune of the particular song that had caught their fancy. As they, in some cases, came into contact with the tent ropes, the lilt of their song died on their lips, and their voices assumed a coarser tone.

Talking of cricket reminds me that during the evening the sergeants rashly challenged the officers to a cricket match on the following day, which was promptly accepted. Owing to the Divisional Commander inspecting the camp in the afternoon and to the fact that the officers had a regimental guest night, play was confined to between the hours of 5 and 7. It was decided that each side should bat for one hour.

The narrator of this minute portion of regimental history is no cricketer, but he understands on good authority that there is a certain type of player who can, without any previous practice for some months, knock up an excellent innings at any time. The fact that the eye may be slightly "jaundiced" by the night before only improves his play. No doubt the sergeants overlooked this important fact and it probably explains why the only field officer in the match played a most dashing innings. He only gave his wicket away from sheer exhaustion. To cut a long story short, at the end of the first hour the officers had made 97 for 7. The sergeants, on going in to bat, started disastrously. No doubt their *moral* was a little shaken at their opponents' quick scoring and tired by a long day, but they were all out at twenty minutes to seven for the small score of 20 odd runs.

It is whispered that the betting was 6-4 on the sergeants, and that they had carefully prepared a score sheet which was to be hung in the Sergeants' Mess. Up to the time of going to press, this record of the match has yet to be posted up.

Four days later we marched away to entrain at Lewes. The weather held glorious to the last, and it was difficult

to realize this sunburnt Battalion, with band and drums playing magnificently, were the same men who had marched through Lewes 15 days previously. On arrival at Headquarters, we were met by all the females of Kennington and those men who were either too old or too young or too lazy to respond to the call of camp. One felt that another war had been fought and won.

Employment of Ex-Soldiers.

WORK OF THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

LORD ASHCOMBE, Lord Lieutenant of the County, presided over a meeting of the Surrey Association for the Employment of Ex-Soldiers and Territorials held in London in July last.

The report of the progress of the scheme since its inception in November, 1925, was considered by the Committee. The report stated that 2,400 copies of a letter explaining the scheme had been circulated to employers in Surrey, and about 100 promises to report vacancies had been received.

In the Queen's Regiment area 50 men were registered, 21 had been placed in employment, leaving 29 waiting. In the East Surrey Regiment area the number registered was 74, of whom 48 had been placed. It was estimated that at the end of the financial year in November, 1926, there would be a balance of about £115, and it was considered that more could be spent on canvassing for employment and on aiding emigration cases. These points are to be considered at a future meeting of the Association.

The area secretaries were empowered to give financial aid to enable men to take up employment, and also for the provision of necessary equipment.

After discussion, it was decided that the Association, backed as it is by the generosity of the ex-High Sheriff, and with the help of the Territorial Army Association and the registration office at the Regimental Depots of the two county regiments, should make renewed endeavours to enlist the continued co-operation of employers in the county.

With the 2nd Battalion. 1877 to 1890.

(Continued.)

III.

DAWN on August 5th showed the islands of Gozo and Malta outlined against the rising sun as H.M.S. *Euphrates* steamed slowly eastward to her destination.

The ten days' voyage had been uneventful as a voyage, but full of novel experience to young soldiers. The first two days provided the usual casualties from either "foam-sickness" or "home sickness," thence onward the general cheeriness of Thomas Atkins prevailed.

The Indian troopships, of which the *Euphrates* was one, were five in number, the remaining four being H.M. Ships *Crocodile*, *Malabar*, *Serapis*, and *Juanna*. They were officered and manned by the Royal Navy, and the normal naval discipline prevailed on board.

Troops were divided into three watches, one of which was always on deck to carry out such work as might be called for; in addition, each watch found parties to help reel the log, hoist ashes from the engine-room, and perform sundry other duties. There were also other general fatigues, such as "main deck swabbers," "main troops deck swabbers," assistant bakers, assistant cooks, mess orderlies, etc.

However cordially the Navy and the Army may fraternize on shore, they certainly did not do so on the old troopships. The sailor regarded the soldier as an inferior being, and somehow the soldier was always in the way. The Admiralty evidently shared this opinion, as the ration scale was "six upon four," i.e., six soldiers received the same amount of food as four sailors.

Cold storage was unknown, and fresh meat when issued was killed on board. Bread was supplied twice a week, biscuits the remaining five days. Salt beef, salt pork with pea soup and pickles, and tinned beef and mutton filled the menu when fresh meat was not supplied. "Duff," a concoction of flour, fat, raisins and sugar, made by mess orderlies, and boiled in a bolster-shaped bag, was the *bonne bouche* provided on Wednesdays and Sundays. A pint of

porter thick with hops, per man, was issued daily after the mid-day meal. Defaulters were deprived of this luxury. On "duff" days many were the exchanges—"duff for porter," the younger lads preferring the former.

One hammock and one blanket per man were issued to messes, handed in at the hammock store in the morning and drawn again in the evening. I could never understand why one hammock per man was issued, as space and the hammock-hooks provided did not admit of half the number being swung. Those who did not sling their hammocks slept on the mess tables and forms, which were lowered to the deck. Fortunate was the man who found a cosy corner on the upper deck where he could roll himself in his blanket unobserved and undisturbed, though here he would be roused long before daylight by the bugle-call for swabbers, "four G's and the double," otherwise a ducking from the hose-pipe would result.

Smoking was only permitted on the upper deck between certain hours, the signals being the "Commence" and the "Cease" fire. Notwithstanding overcrowding, scanty food and other drawbacks, the voyage would have been enjoyable but for one thing. Someone in authority conceived the idea that "marching order" parades would assist the troops to keep their things together and prevent losses. Hence the order "Marching order parades by Companies" four Companies one day, four the next. Please to remember that we were wearing scarlet kersey frocks, blue serge trousers and black leather leggings; also that the 1875 valise equipment consisted of innumerable straps, two hard back pouches and an auxiliary pouch known as the "ball bag" and that the valise contained the complete kit except the tunic; further, that we were packed like sardines, and that the fresh paint between decks was still wet.

The afternoon before the first parade saw the operation known as "soldiering" being carried on apace in every available corner to which the troops had access.

Now the naval man has peculiar notions as to the spotless cleanliness of his decks. Blotches of pipeclay and sundry other cleaning material did not accord with his idea of the fitness of things, consequently

when the performance was repeated the next day by the other four companies, the fire bell was rung under orders of the First Lieutenant. Troops and crew proceeded at once to fire stations. Pumps were manned and on the main troop deck mess tables, etc., let down while water from the pumps flooded the deck. This without any warning—pipe-clayed straps laid out to dry, greatcoats in process of folding, kits, pouches and the general paraphernalia all were dumped on deck or left where they were to be soured by salt water and irretrievably mixed. However, marching order parades continued, but preparations were carried on out of sight of the First Lieutenant and the resulting deficiencies were made good at the expense of the soldier after landing, in addition to 7 days C.B. for being deficient of etc., etc.

At 8 a.m. we passed St. Elmo and proceeded up the Grand Harbour, eventually mooring to buoys opposite the Custom House steps. The usual relays of "Brass Hats" came on board, and we learnt that we were to occupy Fort Manoel and the Lazaretto on an island in the Marsa-Muscetto Harbour; one company was to disembark at once to take over quarters and stores, headquarters and the remaining companies the next day. Drafts for other regiments on the island disembarked at once.

The day was intensely hot, with not a breath of wind; the heat, together with the glare from the white stones of the buildings surrounding the harbour made this day in harbour very uncomfortable. How we envied the advance party on shore!

Leaving Aldershot each man had been supplied, on payment, with a modified sea-kit consisting of a blue worsted cap, a white cap cover with neck curtain to fit over the glengarry cap, a piece of marine soap and half a pound of cake tobacco.

Each man had also received material for a pair of soles, heels and welts, which was eventually returned to store by those who had not otherwise disposed of it; those who had were mulcted in the sum of 3s. 11d.

The ship was surrounded by boats laden with grapes and oranges. In spite of the efforts of regimental police, considerable barter went on all day. The fruit was tempting and the exchange simple. The

boot material above referred to found ready acceptance and many a 3s. 11d. worth of leather was exchanged for a pennyworth of grapes. Articles of clothing and kit slipped through the portholes in exchange for fruit, cigars and in some instances for wine and spirits of dubious quality.

On Monday, the 6th, we disembarked in lighters and were towed by Admiralty launches to the Fort Manoel landing steps.

The deficiencies due to marching order parades and to the day in harbour became evident when the Battalion paraded for disembarkation; one man of "C" Company, Pte. Rose, being in possession of only shirt, trousers and the braces of his valise equipment.

"G" and "H" Companies with Band and Headquarters were quartered in Fort Manoel, the remaining six companies in the Lazaretto.

Fort Manoel had a peculiar interest for me, as my great-grandmother, the wife of a Master Gunner, R.A., was the first person of the garrison to die of the plague which devastated the island in 1805, shortly after the British occupation. She died in the fort.

The Lazaretto was, as its name implies, a range of isolation buildings and therefore not fitted for occupation by troops. No conveniences for 800 British soldiers were available and the temporary arrangements were crude.

"C" Company occupied two large and lofty rooms of a barn-like nature—no doors, openings in the walls for windows. These rooms occupied three sides of a rectangle, the fourth side of which was on the edge of the water and open to the sea. A raised dais filled one side of the rooms, on which the usual iron cots found a place. Half of "C" Company and half of "D" Company occupied one courtyard, the other half of "C" Company sharing a courtyard with a company of the 2/13th, which battalion arrived on the 7th and was quartered seven companies in Fort Ricasoli and one in the Lazaretto.

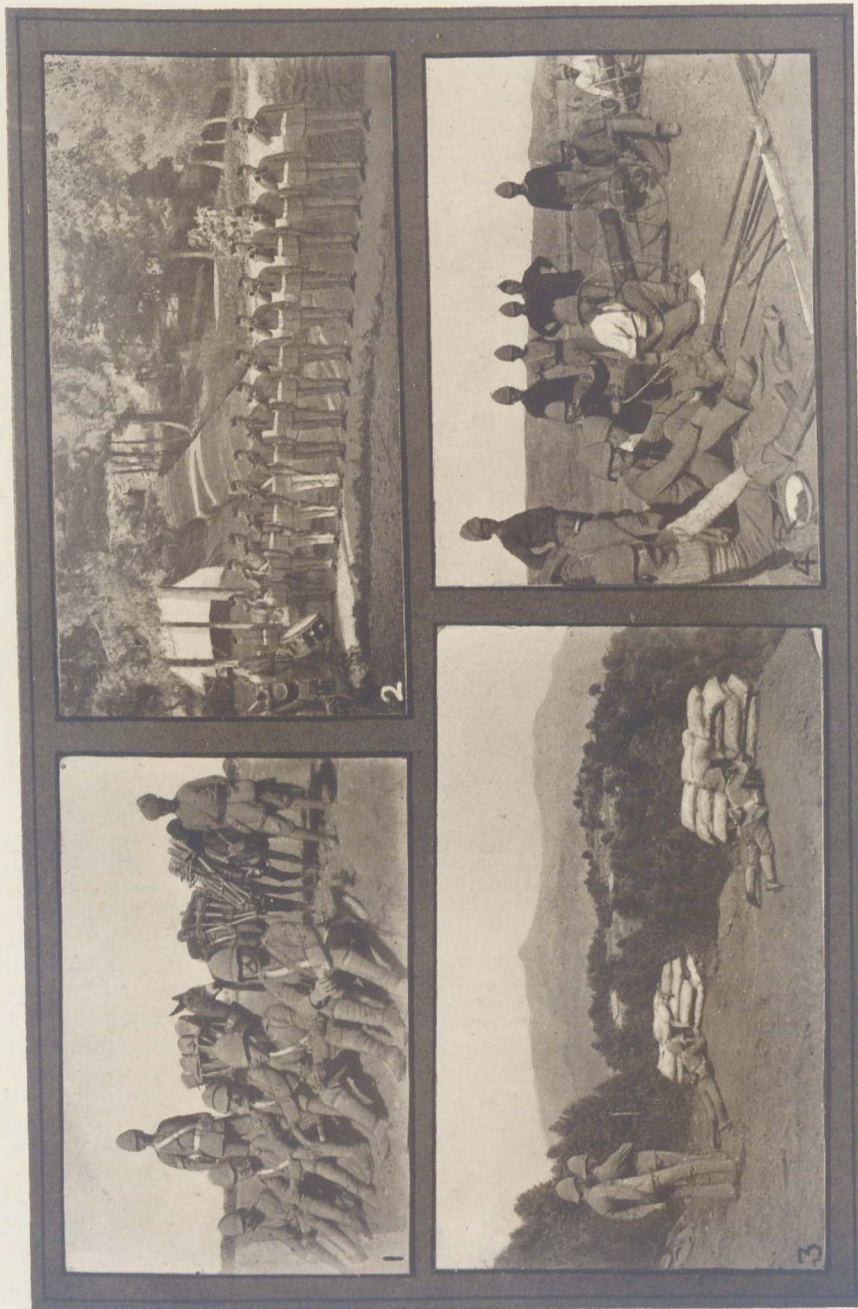
The next two or three days were occupied in settling down and drawing clothing suitable to a warmer climate—white cork helmets, serge jackets and serge trousers were supplied. This was the first occasion on which thin scarlet

serge clothing was issued to troops at colonial stations. It was of an experimental nature and the clothing authorities, being of an economical turn of mind, deprived us of our facings, substituting a small tab of blue cloth at each end of the collar.

The leaving behind of N.C.Os. and men with over 18 years' service necessitated some changes in the regimental staff. Clr.-Sergt. Meaby temporarily filled the position of Quartermaster-Sergeant, but, being in poor health, was replaced by Clr.-Sergt. Tomlinson, who was eventually promoted and held the position until 1887. Clr.-Sergt. Meaby was replaced by Clr.-Sergt. Robinson, who had joined from the Depot, and who was eventually transferred to "A" Company in place of Clr.-Sergt. Tomlinson. Sergt. Hodgkinson became Canteen Steward in place of Clr.-Sergt. McClurg, L./Cpl. Reynolds Master Shoemaker in place of L./Cpl. Buckley and Sergt.-Master-Tailor Duncan was posted to the Battalion, vice O'Neill. The appointment of Sergeant-Instructor in Musketry which was vacant for a time was eventually filled by an instructor from Hythe, named Inglis.

Cheap drink of a seductive but deleterious nature, coupled with the excitement of the sudden move, was the cause of the influx of crime amongst all ranks, mainly "Drunk and absent," but it should be remembered that the Battalion was young and the inducements to over-indulgence many. N.C.Os. were warned that serious notice would be taken of further trouble, and as an example a Sergeant of "F" Company and a Corporal of "C" Company were tried by a regimental court-martial and reduced to the ranks; in addition, the former being sentenced to 14 days I.H.L. and the latter to 28 days.

Now for one of those occurrences sometimes heard of in military life, but seldom experienced. The Sergeant, on rejoining from prison, was appointed Lance-Corporal, within a week he was promoted Corporal in the place of his companion in trouble, and before a month was over he became Sergeant; again in his own vacancy. Shortly afterwards he attended a dance given by one of the other regiments in the garrison when he was challenged by one of the Sergeant-Warders from Cotonera Military Prison



1. The Pioneers, 1900.

3. Rifle Range at Kuldana, 1900.

2. The Drums sounding "Retreat," Gharial, 1902.

4. The "Mountain Battery," 1901.

as having been under the latter's charge a week or two before and as having no right to be at the dance as a Sergeant. To this he replied that it was not he who had been in prison, but his twin brother.

Living as we did on the edge of the harbour, it can be easily understood that the principal recreations were bathing and boating, but the water was deep and many could not swim. Dmr. Keogh, of "H" Company, had a very narrow escape from drowning and was only saved after a hard struggle by Pte. C. Buckley, of "G" Company, and an artilleryman from the fort, both of whom received the Bronze Medal of the Royal Humane Society. This led to an order that no man was to bathe in the harbour or to obtain a pass for boating until after he was certified as "able to swim" by the officer commanding his company. I have in front of me my "small book," in which is a slip of paper endorsed "Able to Swim, A. B. M., Captain Commanding 'C' Company."

The result of the school episode referred to in a previous paper became evident when on the night of August 19th I was instructed to attend the Orderly Room next morning and to report myself to the Schoolmaster at 3 p.m. the following afternoon. So on August 20th I found myself appointed Lance-Corporal with pay and School Assistant. No more recruits' parades, no more fatigues, and, above all, 6s. a month extra pay as School Assistant. Shortly afterwards, the senior School Assistant, Cpl. Barnes, purchased his discharge, and I became School Assistant at 10s. a month.

School hours were: 3.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m., candidates for 3rd and 4th Class Certificates; 5.30 p.m. to 7 p.m., candidates for 2nd Class Certificates. The attendance was large and, although we had only two permanent assistants, a number of temporary assistants were employed.

On Saturday mornings, company order books had to be taken to the School Assistants for errors in spelling. This was before the introduction of printing or manifold copying of regimental orders. Regimental orders and the detail of duties for the following day were dictated by the Sergeant-Major and copied into the company order and detail books by the Orderly Sergeants. Some of the Orderly Sergeants were of the old stamp,

promoted before educational qualification was insisted upon, and the taking of orders was to them one of their most difficult tasks. I have in my mind a senior Corporal who, having a retentive memory, used to take down orders in a caligraphy entirely his own and then laboriously transcribe them into the company order book. Many were the requests received to go easy with the blue pencil, as too many blunders meant a week's extra Orderly Sergeant.

As the weather became cooler, parades of all the troops in the garrison became more frequent. These generally took place on Floriana parade ground and consisted of an inspection by the Governor-General, Sir T. D. Van Straubenzee—and a march past.

The space on Floriana parade ground did not admit of much manœuvring, and after passing the saluting base, battalions would move into column of route and march to quarters. As these parades were in full marching order, and to get to Floriana from Manoel meant a march of 4½ miles, they were not regarded as a source of pleasure by the troops.

When the parade was occasionally held at Citta Vecchia, it was liked still less.

At this time, the whole of the Mediterranean Fleet was in harbour and included H.M.S. *Sultan* commanded by H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh, the Duchess being in residence at St. Antonio. The Duchess generally attended the parades at Citta Vecchia, taking the salute, and it was said these parades were arranged for her gratification.

During October, garrison sports were held at the Marsa. Owing to the number of troops in the garrison and the fleet in harbour, competition was keen; the Battalion won numerous prizes. Regimental aquatic sports were also successful, Pte. "Tim" Farrell of "C" Company winning the regimental championship, and Lieut. G. W. H. Pain the officers' race.

In October, the Battalion was placed under orders for India, to move at the end of the trooping season. This meant a considerable increase in the establishment of N.C.Os., and as the educational qualification was now strictly insisted upon, the school attendance became keener. Two examinations were held by the Acting Inspector of Army Schools,

and a large number of candidates qualified for promotion.

It was peculiar that at Malta the appointments of D.A.A.G. for Musketry and Inspector of Army Schools centred in one individual, Capt. F. N. Woodall, 79th Highlanders, an officer whom I had known in other circumstances before I joined the Regiment. I am sure a number who qualified for promotion at these examinations could attribute their success to his leniency.

Capt. T. Kelly-Kenny left to join the 1st Battalion on promotion to Major, "B" Company being taken over by Capt. G. H. Woodard, who did not, however, join until embarkation for India in February, 1878.

Rations in Malta were poor and the cooking arrangements primitive. For the companies in the Lazaretto only Soyer's stoves were available and these in an open courtyard. The companies in Manoel were better off and, having a proper cookhouse, could indulge in the luxury of an occasional "bake." Salt pork was issued on Saturdays for Monday's consumption. Rumour said it was old Crimean stores. Whether it spoke truly or not, the supply was unpalatable to most and the greater portion went to the Maltese refuse contractor, while the canteen did good business in biscuits and cheese. Bread was very dark, heavy and hard—it was made in the Commissariat bakeries and said to have been kneaded by Maltese bakers treading it with bare feet.

On December 29th the first draft arrived from England and the same ship brought the married families. The draft also brought the newly-introduced collar-badges—the lamb and flag—which replaced the crown previously worn.

Unfortunately, the day the draft landed, Lieut.-Col. Thompson, in stepping out of a boat at the Manoel landing steps, slipped between the boat and the rocks and broke his leg. The Battalion saw him no more, as he had not recovered sufficiently to proceed to India the following February. I had very little personal knowledge of Col. Thompson; so far as my experience went, he had been sympathetic and kindly spoken when I had come to his notice; he was popular and generally liked by the men. My recollection is that of a fairly tall man

with full side-whiskers who generally wore his forage cap at a pronounced angle and was seldom seen without a briar pipe in his mouth.

The draft which joined on December 29th had this peculiarity: it contained more old men but young soldiers and more of Kipling's "Lost Legionnaires" than any similar draft of which I know.

One case in particular—"H" had been an officer in the West India and the 28th Regiments. With the former he had served in the Ashanti Expedition under Sir Garnet Wolsey in 1874; with the latter he had served in Malta some two years before. Being considerably in debt and given to over-indulgence in strong liquor, he and a young doctor had left Malta for Sicily without leave. "H" went on to England and was eventually allowed to resign his commission. The doctor returned to Malta, and so far as he was concerned the matter blew over. When the draft attended at the Medical Inspection Room the day following its arrival, the Medical Officer to carry out the inspection was the doctor with whom "H" had left the island. Recognition was mutual. "H" was unfortunately a "remittance man" and when a remittance arrived generally had a burst which entailed a fine and other punishment. Apart from his one failing, he was a gentleman in every way and entertaining company. He did no good for some time, and when the Battalion went to India he was sent for training to the Indian Telegraph Department, to give him an opportunity of making good. During the Afghan War of 1878-80, he rendered good service in the Telegraph Department, and in 1881, when the Battalion was in Peshawar, "H" was posted to the Peshawar Telegraph Office. The then Commanding Officer, Major W. J. Holt, having received a good report, sent for "H" and told him if he returned to regimental duty he would give him every opportunity of regaining his former position. "H" came back to the Regiment, and the day he rejoined was promoted Sergeant from Private. But it was no use. The first night in the Sergeants' Mess he was totally incapable. Although given every chance, there were two cases of "Drunk on duty" and he was reduced to Corporal. In the meantime, his friends had been communicated

RANDOM SNAPSHOTS IN INDIA



FESTIVAL AT ALLAHABAD

Allahabad lies at the junction of the Ganges and Jumna Rivers, and in consequence, is a very sacred spot to Hindus. At the annual "Magh Mela" in March, over a million pilgrims make their way to the spot from all over India; some of them have walked 800 miles to reach it. The piece of ground in front of the rivers is packed densely with encampments of pilgrims who have come to bathe, food stalls, impromptu temples, and fakirs. The river, too, is a mass of boats, and ceremonial flags are put up everywhere.

with and had agreed to purchase his discharge and send him to the Cape. For two days before he left Peshawar he had to be confined in the cells to keep him sober, and when he left, a steady N.C.O. had to accompany him to Bombay and hand him over to an agent. Of his further adventures, deponent knoweth nought.

Christmas Day in Malta was typical of Christmas Day in the service, but "C" Company was unfortunate. Clr.-Sergt. Meaby had been replaced for a time by Clr.-Sergt. Robinson, and when the latter went to "A" Company, the former being in hospital, the payment of "C" Company was temporarily in the hands of Sergt. M. T. Allen, who, with two other N.C.Os., had been transferred to the Battalion from the 71st Regiment. Capt. Mitchell had, a short time previously, been promoted Major on half-pay and retired with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel. Lieut. H. J. Elverson was in temporary command of the Company. Without any real head, no preparations had been made in the Company for the usual Christmas festivities. On the 23rd, Clr.-Sergt. Gardner, of "D" Company, took over arrangements for "C" Company in addition to his own Company. All went fairly well until Christmas morning, when a few adventurous spirits, including Tommy McCann, the Company cook, tapped the beer provided for dinner. At dinner there was a shortage of beer, and when the puddings were cut, it was found that they had been boiled in sea-water. Owing to a shortage of fresh water, sea-water was used in the cook-house for scouring purposes. Tommy McCann, in his fuddled condition, had dumped the puddings into coppers containing sea-water. Luckily for him, he could not be found when the pudding stage was reached.

Considerable ill-feeling was aroused at Christmas by the parades ordered at a time when general relaxation was usual. A garrison parade at Floriana was held at 3 p.m. on the 24th, and a general route march by battalions in marching order was ordered for 9 a.m. on the 26th. The Scottish Regiments in the garrison were not affected, as they did not keep Christmas Day as a holiday, but their turn came when a similar route march was ordered for January 2nd!

After the arrival of the draft on the 29th, a sudden order was received that all men of the 2/2nd and 2/13th under 20 years of age were to embark on the 31st for return to England, and on that morning about 240 men proceeded on board H.M.S. *Himalaya*, which was also taking invalids and surplus men from the other regiments in Malta.

The Russian scare had passed away and all units on the island were considerably over strength. The *Himalaya* proved to be overcrowded much beyond her capacity and on the representation of the Captain, the sailing was delayed and the young soldiers of the 2nd and 13th disembarked the next morning and returned to their battalions. Clr.-Sergt. Meaby proceeded to England on the *Himalaya* as an invalid, much to the relief and joy of the Company. Clr.-Sergt. Bartlett, who had arrived with the draft, took over "C" Company. He was the senior Colour-Sergeant and had had previous Indian experience; with him came another Indian warrior, Sergt. "Josh" Martin, who had rejoined from the recruiting staff.

Capt. J. P. Lawrie, who had been promoted vice Mitchell, rejoined from leave and took over command of "C" Company.

Capt. Lawrie was noted for using strong language, his favourite expression being: "If you do it again, sir, I'll make you smell b—y hell." However, with Capt. Lawrie and Clr.-Sergt. Bartlett, matters in "C" Company improved.

Information was now received that the 2/1st Foot and the 61st would arrive at Malta on February 5th and 6th respectively; that the Battalion would embark for India on H.M.S. *Malabar* on the 6th, and that all men under 20 years of age would remain behind. A bounty of £1 was offered to such of these men as volunteered to transfer to the 61st. After the Battalion left, the whole of this party with one exception transferred to the 61st.

The accommodation available in Fort Manoel did not afford much comfort for married people, as many as six families being quartered in one barrack room, and it was a relief to all ranks when February 6th arrived. Families and stores embarked in the morning. The Battalion paraded under the command of Major H. P. Phillips at 1.30 p.m. on the Barrier

Gate parade ground, and for the last time did the now familiar march via Misidor, Zabba and Floriana through Calcara Gate to the Custom House, where it embarked on H.M.S. *Malabar* for Bombay.

(To be continued.)

British Cemetery at Green Hill, Gallipoli.

THE following description of the British Cemetery at Green Hill, Gallipoli, is taken from an account of a visit to the British Cemeteries in this area. Many men of the 2/4th Battalion are buried in this cemetery. The account appeared in the *Croydon Advertiser* of September 18th, 1926, and this extract is reprinted by the courtesy of the Editor:—

"The first impression of the cemetery was its striking neatness, and, secondly, the spell-binding peacefulness that only intense silence and solitude could impart. The great plains around gave no signs of human life. They presented glorious views of unspoilt, park-like, well-wooded country, wrapped in a serenity it would be futile to attempt to describe. So still and so beautiful an environment suggested the perfection of restfulness. Yet there had been no rain for three months, so that at other seasons still greater beauty must be seen. Nothing better could be wished for the honoured dead—the sweetest of air, the brightest of sunshine, supernal quietude, and gorgeous colour all around in landscape and seascape, made vivid by a clarity of atmosphere quite unknown at home.

"These men who fought and died came out of great tribulation, and Nature has mantled their resting place in ever-changing glory.

"The graves are marked by concrete tablets. At the higher end of the cemetery is a commanding memorial of ashlar masonry. In a curved recess, with steps in front, is a large plain cross cut into the massive stonework. It faces the broad centre walk, which, by happy inspiration, is bordered with rosemary ('remembrance') bushes, now in flower, and giving welcome touches of green in contrast to the parched stubble that for the time being represents grass. The simplicity of the cemetery is almost severe, but that aspect will be softened

when the young cypresses, pines and scrub oak just planted have matured. They will add a ministering beauty of their own, and cast benignant shade over the little stones. Owing to visitors being so rare the graves are not marked by plot and row, and it was useless to appeal to the native caretaker. Many inscriptions on the tablets begin with the words 'Believed to be.'"

Charterhouse Contingent, Officers Training Corps

I.—HISTORY AND GROWTH.

THE Charterhouse O.T.C., or Rifle Corps as it was then called, was raised by the Rev. T. G. Vivian in October, 1873, and attached to the 4th Surrey Administrative Battalion. Shortly afterwards its connection with The Queen's Royal Regiment began, as it became the Cadet Company of the 2nd Volunteer Battalion of the Regiment, its strength being about sixty members. The War Office does not seem to have been very generous towards the Cadet Corps in those days, as we learn that the total armament of the Charterhouse Corps consisted of twelve Snider rifles! However, a team was entered for the Ashburton Shield in 1874, and scored seventy-seven hits and seventy-seven misses, just beating Rossall for the bottom place. This performance may be laughed at nowadays, but it must be remembered that even for a grown man to fire with the Snider rifle, standing and without sighting shots, was no easy matter. In 1881 Capt. Tod took over the command, and in the same year the Royal Review at Windsor proved a great spur to recruiting. More rifles were purchased, and Major Matthews, the adjutant at Stoughton Barracks, came frequently to help and criticize the drill, with the result that a greatly improved company drove to Windsor and marched past with the 2nd Surrey Battalion.

In 1882 a long series of shooting successes began, and Charterhouse won the Ashburton Shield for the first time, the captain of the team making 33 at 500 yards, with a Snider, in bad weather.

Two years later the Martini superseded the Snider, and the Corps attended a Public Schools Field Day at Aldershot



[Photo]

OFFICERS, CHARTERHOUSE, 1926.

[Gale & Polden, Ltd.]



[Photo]

CHARTERHOUSE RAPID-FIRING TEAM, BISLEY, 1926.

[Gale & Polden, Ltd.]

for the first time, other notable events being the two Jubilee Reviews in 1887. The Aldershot Review seems to have been a lengthy affair, to judge from the account of a contemporary, who writes that "the Cadets marched past splendidly to a chorus of 'Well done, Dark Greens.' The Corps were on parade at 5.45, missed their breakfast, were under arms until 4, when, black with dust, they were at last dismissed to get food and a wash, and finally reached the school at 11.30. No one fell out."

The appointment of Sergt.-Instructor Grindel, of the K.O.S.B., in 1887, led to a steady improvement in the shooting, and his management of the team produced no fewer than seven wins in the Ashburton Shield between 1889 and 1899. Shortly after this the first detachment attended the Public Schools Brigade camp at Aldershot, and in 1905 Major Tod handed over the command to Major F. W. B. Smart, after twenty-four years of devoted service in the face of many difficulties. An important landmark in the history of the contingent is the inception of the Officers Training Corps in 1908, when the official title ceased to contain any allusion to The Queen's. In the latter respect, however, the change was only a paper one, and the contingent is still immensely proud of its connection with the Regiment, and the fact is duly rubbed into every recruit on his first parade. In recent years the War Office has revived the official connection between the Regiment and its O.T.Cs., to our very great advantage, but, we fear, rather to the Regiment's dismay, when this connection takes the form of an order from the Command for the whole of the Depot staff of officers to repair to the School on a cold winter's day, to steer some ninety candidates through the Certificate "A" examination! Naturally, this is all taken on with the utmost thoroughness and cheerfulness, and the Corps is greatly indebted to Major Dyer, Major Denton, and the many other officers who have come over with them from time to time. Another important appointment in 1908 was that of Sergt.-Major A. G. Locke, who came from the 1st Battn. Grenadier Guards on Sergt.-Instructor Grindel's resignation. He is still serving with undiminished vigour, and it is difficult to say how many officers

must have passed through his hands both before and during the war.

Major Smart's command was a period of steady progress, and his services with the contingent during the war won him a well-deserved promotion. He handed over to Lieut.-Col. Jameson in 1919.

2.—RECENT ACTIVITIES.

The inter-platoon tactical competition for the "Arthur Webster" Cup was held early in June on Shackleford Common. The scheme set by the judges involved the action of a van-guard platoon on a road, and, later, across some rather close common land. There was rather a tendency for platoon commanders to make their plan before the enemy had been definitely located, and a good deal of "stickiness" was evident when the leading sections first came into touch, but in other respects the exercise was very well carried out, and the judges were full of praise for the general keenness of all ranks. No. 9 Platoon (Sergt. Nimmo) were winners, and No. 6 (Sergt. Blair) were a good second. Both of these platoon commanders dealt with the situation quickly and vigorously, and the prompt action of the leading section of No. 6 was specially commended. The umpires (Capt. P. J. M. Ellison, Grenadier Guards, and Capt. E. H. Tuckwell, M.C., Grenadier Guards (R)) issued some very useful criticisms upon the work of each team, and took an immense amount of trouble over the whole of the judging.

The Annual Inspection was carried out by the General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Eastern Command, Gen. Sir Walter Braithwaite, K.C.B., on June 30th. Fortunately, the weather was perfect, and the General was evidently pleased with everything he saw. The contingent certainly rose to the occasion very well indeed, and the general turnout and steadiness was remarkably good and genuinely deserved the excellent report sent in by the inspecting officer. One thing he did not see, and perhaps, in a way, this was the most creditable part of the show: he arrived on the ground at 2.30 p.m., and at 2.22 p.m. the Commanding Officer and the Sergeant-Major were the only people on the parade ground.

The shooting VIII have had a successful season on the whole, and the winning of the Rapid and Snap-shooting Competition at Bisley was a good performance. In the Ashburton Shield, the usual bogies of nerves and a bull on the wrong target dropped us to seventeenth among the seventy-one schools competing. Sergt. Lovell and Cpls. Relph and Freeman did well, the latter's performance on the top of his rather arduous coaching duties being particularly creditable.

The Coal Strike did us a good turn so far as camp was concerned, as it necessitated each contingent going to the area nearest its headquarters. Accordingly, we travelled comfortably by road to Mytchett Camp, Aldershot, and joined No. 1 Battalion, under Major Pilcher, D.S.O., 3rd Grenadier Guards. The Battalion lines were the best placed in the camp, being close to the Mess, pleasantly shady, and slightly separated from the rest of the brigade. The training was on much the same lines as usual, and its value was greatly increased by a series of really first-rate demonstrations put up by a platoon of Guardsmen under Lieut. Goschen. As every member of the platoon had just been through the Hythe Course, we got the best possible value out of what was shown. Other interesting side-shows to the general training included demonstrations by the Royal Air Force and the Royal Tank Corps at Farnborough, and the chance of seeing the latest pattern guns, which were on view in the camp throughout the week.

The weather was perfect after the first day, and the occasional suit of canvas hanging out to dry was no indication of the weather, but merely of the amenities of the canal. In the sing-song, Tennant, Jewesbury and Pilkington gave a series of very amusing turns, which went down very well, not to mention a ukelele band supplied by some other members of the contingent.

We were glad to see many visitors from Charterhouse, and the Headmaster and Major-Gen. Bartholomew came over to dinner on guest-night, together with Major Boyd, who was welcome both as an old O.T.C. friend and as an officer of The Queen's Royal Regiment. Altogether it was a really good camp, both

from the military point of view and on the "off parade" side as well. Everyone seemed to be enjoying himself, and at the same time to be doing his share towards keeping up the general good discipline and smartness right up to the end of the training, when the inspection of the thirty empty tents could only produce a small portion of a luggage label.

The veterans' team were sixth in the Public Schools Veterans' Trophy at Bisley. Unfortunately, after shooting as possible in the morning, G. E. Worssam's rifle became badly nickelled and he never got going in anything like his usual form. It was a piece of real bad luck, as he shot very well throughout the meeting and had borne the labour of raising and captaining the team. Scores:

Capt. T. S. Smith	(H.P.S.) 50
Mr. G. L. Sawday	48
Lieut. N. C. Hendriks	47
Lieut. C. Burton Brown	45
2/Lieut. G. E. Worssam	38

An Unrecorded Incident of the Great War.

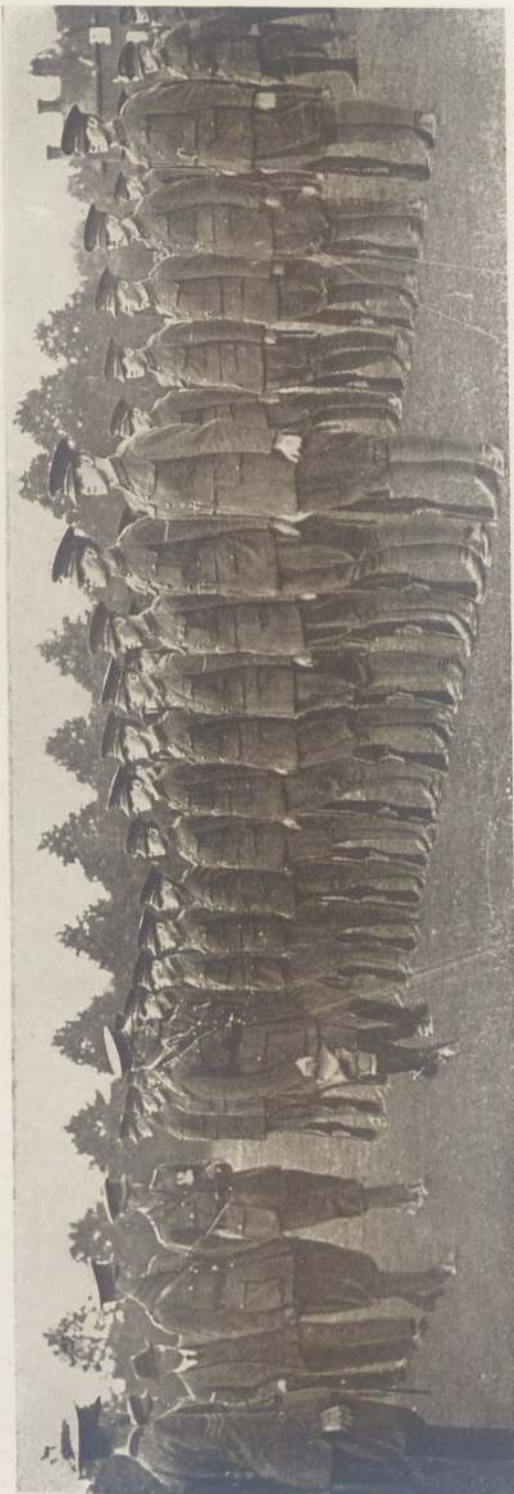
[In 1917 a British Labour Company working in a back area captured a German airman, complete with his machine, which had made a forced landing. The feat raised great enthusiasm throughout the Labour Corps, and the writer was deputed by the Director of Labour—the Great White Chief of the mixed races which made up the Corps—to indite a song of triumph in commemoration of this exploit of unskilled labour.]

RAISE your voices, bang the mess-tins,

Clash the pick-axe on the spade!
Make, in short, the very best din
Labour lungs have ever made.

Kaffirs, Gypsies, men of China,
Blacks from distant Timbuctoo,
Fierce Fiji and wild Welsh Miner,
Laud your comrades' derring-do!

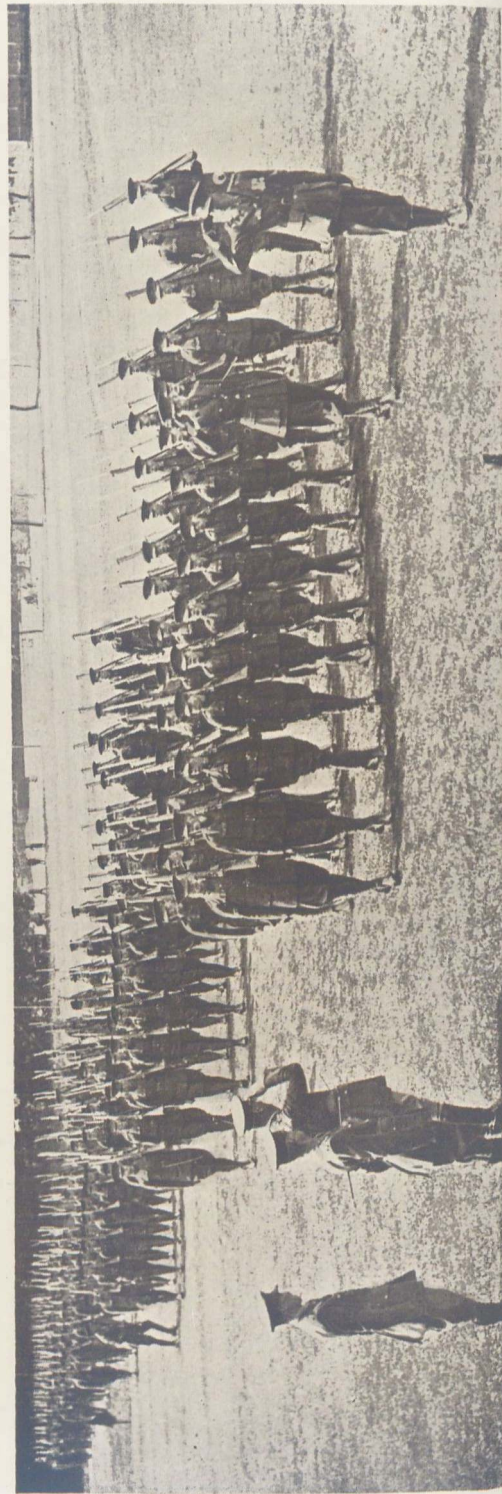
Vimy Ridge fell to Canadians,
Scotsmen stormed the slope of Serre;
Bapaume was captured by Australians,
Tanks were first to enter Flers.



[Gale & Polden, Ltd.]

GENERAL BRAITHWAITE INSPECTING THE CORPS

Photo]



[Gale & Polden, Ltd.]

THE MARCH PAST

Photo]

But the deed which through all ages
To our children shall be taught,
Writ in history's glorious pages,
By the Labour Corps was wrought!

Men of Blankshire, toiling gently,
As 'tis workmen's wont to do,
Suddenly, incontinently,
Came a bolt out from the blue!

Gave them all a dreadful shocker,
Crash! and lo! right at their feet,
Kaiser William's best new Fokker
With its Pilot, all complete.

He, the Hun, unarmed and dizzy,
They all armed with pick and spade,
Asked each other first, "What is he?"
Echo answered, "Who's afraid?"

He was quickly on his guard, too;
"Should he fight with fists and kicks?"
Something told him it was hard, too
Hard to kick against the picks.

By an Archie to be shattered,
That were an adventure big!
But 'neath shovel to be battered
Surely would be "infra dig."

So he thought, and fled before 'em,
Chased by Labour in full cry,
Deeming it was not "decorum"
Thus, "pro patria mori."

Panting came the Blankshire diggers,
Like the pace, both stiff and hot,
For at fifty-odd our figures
All are wont to go to pot.

Like a hare away he bounded,
Whilst with sticks and stones they
plugged,
Like a hare, too, he was hounded,
Like a hare was caught, and juggled!

Shout a pæon loud and long, Oh
Blazon it from sea to sea!
Wire the news to Pongo-Bongo,
Great White Chief of Labour he!

So we end the deathless story
And, as motto for the Corps,
This "Non arte, sed labore,"
Unskilled labour wins the war.

1st Cadet Battalion The London Regiment (The Queen's).

President: H.R.H. Princess Louise,
Duchess of Argyll.

Hon. Colonel: Col. His Grace the Duke
of Atholl, K.T., C.B., M.V.O., D.S.O.

Commanding Officer: Lieut.-Col. R. C.
Grant, O.B.E.

Chairman of Executive Committee:
Col. Sir A. Henry McMahon, G.C.M.G.,
G.C.V.O., K.C.I.E., C.S.I.

Headquarters: "Queen's House," 31,
Union Street, Southwark, S.E.1.

IT is with great pleasure that we make
this our first contribution to the
Regimental Journal. We now feel that
we have been received right into the
family, and very warmly welcomed.

Although our official title is that given
above, we were not always known as
such. When the battalion was formed in
1889—the first Cadet Battalion to be
formed in England—we were the 1st
Cadet Battalion The Queen's Royal West
Surrey Regiment, and we remained such
until 1910, when we were reluctantly
transferred to The London Regiment.
Although much anxiety was felt at the
time over this change, we had great
consolation in permission being granted
to us to retain the title "The Queen's,"
and we became affiliated to the 24th
London Regiment, "The Queen's."
Old customs die hard; the Battalion never
really got over the change in name, and
still we call ourselves, and are usually
known as, the 1st C.B. "The Queen's."

On June 3rd the officers of the
Battalion, past and present, gave a dinner
to Lieut.-Col. L. W. Bennett, V.D.,
O.B.E., on his retirement from the
Battalion, after thirty-seven years' service.
He was one of the pioneers of the Cadet
movement in London, and joined the
Battalion as a lieutenant in 1890, when he
left Sherborne. For ten years he com-
manded the Southwark company ("A"
Company) and in January, 1900, was
appointed Adjutant. In 1902 he was
present at King Edward's Coronation,
and received the Coronation Medal. On
April 24th, 1906, he was promoted Major,

and received the Volunteer Officers' Decoration in 1912. Although over age for service, Col. Bennett responded to the call in 1914, and in December, 1914, joined the 6th (Service) Battalion The Queen's, but owing to slight deafness was not permitted to serve overseas. During the war he also served with the 3rd and 9th (Service) Battalions The Queen's.

On demobilization in 1919 he retired with the rank of Major and returned to the Cadet Battalion as its Commanding Officer. During his period of command he had the satisfaction of seeing his Cadet Battalion win the "Clifford Challenge Shield" as the most efficient Cadet unit in the County of London for six years in succession. From 1920 he organized and commanded the County of London Cadet Brigade Camp, and for two years was Chairman of the County Cadet Committee. Col. Bennett is in the unique position of having the longest Cadet service of any officer in England.

On July 13th, 1926, he was invested with the O.B.E. by the King at Buckingham Palace for valuable service to the Cadet Force and the 1st C.B. The Queen's.

It is a record of service that the Battalion is proud of, and while we all regret his retirement from the command we are still fortunate in retaining his valuable advice on the Battalion Executive Committee.

The chair at the dinner was taken by Col. Sir Henry McMahon, G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., K.C.I.E., C.S.I., who was supported by Capt. Mansbridge, the secretary of the County of London Territorial Army Association, who proposed the health of the Battalion.

Among the many past officers of the Battalion who were present to bid Col. Bennett farewell and a long life, were Major C. R. Attlee, M.P., who used to command "D" Company (Stepney), and has since been Mayor of Stepney and Under Secretary of State for War; Lieut.-Col. C. A. Nussey, formerly O.C. "B" Company; Major Henry Nevinson, the famous war correspondent, who commanded the original "D" Company; and Sir Malcolm Fraser, K.C.B., late O.C. "E" Company, who is now Comptroller and Auditor-General at the Exchequer.

Lieut.-Col. R. C. Grant, O.B.E. (Reserve of Officers) Middlesex Regiment, succeeds Col. Bennett in the command of the Battalion. Lieut.-Col. Grant served during the war in East Africa, where he was Deputy Judge Advocate. He is now general secretary of Toc H, and we hope that through the Toc H movement we shall be able to attract more officers to the Cadet movement, which is greatly in need of them.

The Battalion paraded for the annual League of the Empire parade in Hyde Park on Saturday, June 26th, when Field-Marshal H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught inspected the parade and took the salute. Our Battalion headed the column of Territorial Cadets which was commanded by Lieut.-Col. R. C. Grant. When The Queen's marched past the large crowd assembled gave us a rousing cheer, with which we were much flattered. After the parade the Cadets were given tea in the Ring Café in Hyde Park, by the Battalion Committee.

The Annual Inspection took place this year on July 24th in the Temple Gardens, lent by the kind permission of the Benchers. The Cadets were smartly turned out and looked well. The inspecting officer was Gen. Sir Alexander J. Godley, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., A.D.C., General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Southern Command, who carefully inspected the Cadets and talked to a great number of them. "D" Company came in for special notice, as both Sir Alexander Godley and Col. Grant are Old Haileyburians, and "D" Company is financed and run by Haileybury College. The inspecting officer congratulated the Battalion on the splendid turn-out, the smartness at drill, and the playing of the Battalion band. He considered it a great achievement to have won the "Clifford Challenge Shield" for the seventh time in succession, and hoped the Battalion would retain it for at least another seven years. After the inspection he presented the prizes, and the officers were introduced. Many former officers and cadets were present, as well as a large number of friends and supporters.

The Battalion went into camp under canvas at Haileybury College on July 31st to August 6th (by courtesy of the Master). Besides The Queen's, the 19th London Regiment Cadet Corps and contingents

ANNUAL INSPECTION OF THE 1ST CADET BATTALION THE LONDON REGIMENT (THE QUEEN'S)



[Photos]

[London News Agency]

1. The Battalion marching past the Inspecting Officer (General Sir Alexander Godley, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., G.O.C. in C., Southern Command).
2. General Godley presenting the Clifford Shield for the most efficient Cadet Unit in the County of London to R.S.M. Granger.

from Haileybury, Sherborne, and Christ's Hospital were present.

Training was carried out every morning until 1 p.m., the remainder of the day being devoted to sports and athletics. The O.T.C. contingent under Capt. Denny, of Haileybury College O.T.C., was most useful in the demonstrations they gave in attack and defence. After the demonstrations the exercises were carried out by the Cadets with surprisingly good results. The Thursday evening was the occasion of a night scheme, when the O.T.C. used blank and Verrey lights with very realistic effects. Training in fire control and the use of landscape targets were given in the miniature range, and were concluded by inter-unit competitions. Sports were held on the Thursday afternoon, and included a guard-mounting competition. The Cadets made full use of the swimming baths and the gymnasium, and the week in camp was voted one of the best they had ever had.

Lieut.-Col. R. C. Grant was the Camp Commandant, and the Battalion Chaplain, the Rev. H. J. Fleming, C.M.G. (Chaplain to the Forces, 1st Class) officiated at the parade services.

This year marks an entirely new experiment in Cadet work and camps. Three of the companies of The Queen's are run by Public Schools, viz., "B" Company by Sherborne, "D" Company by Haileybury, "E" Company by Westminster, and Christ's Hospital are going to adopt "G" Company. Invitations were sent out to these school O.T.Cs. to send representatives to the Cadet camp, and the result was very encouraging. The O.T.C. contingents were invaluable, not only in the assistance they were in our training, but also in the way in which they mixed with our boys. We hope that a better understanding and an increased interest between the schools and the companies will be the result of this joint experiment.

It is with much regret that we have to record the retirement of Major H. Claude Hay, T.D., who has been with the Battalion for nearly thirty years. The very valuable work he has put into the Battalion will long remain as a testimonial to his untiring efforts for the success and efficiency of The Queen's.

Capt. J. H. Spence-Duncan has joined the 24th London Regiment (The

Queen's), but will still remain with us in command of "D" Company. Two other of our officers are also with the 24th, Lieut. S. Woolmer (of "B" Company) and Capt. D. G. Adams (late O.C. "D" Company). We hope that, together, they will foster much goodwill and co-operation between the Cadet Battalion and our parent body, the 24th London Regiment.

Two new subaltern officers have joined the Battalion—Mr. A. J. R. Symonds (Clifton and Corpus Christi), who has been posted to "E" Company, and Mr. P. B. Watson (Haileybury), who goes to "D" Company.

We have been fortunate in securing the services of two old members of the 1st The Queen's Royal Regiment on our staff, and we are looking forward to increased activities now that we have R.S.M. Granger and C.S.M. J. Phillips, M.M., to assist us.

The following Cadets have joined the 24th London Regiment (The Queen's):—C.S.M. Clayton and Col.-Sergt. Coulson, of "D" Company (Stepney); Cpl. Warnes and L./Cpl. Knight, of "B" Company (Southwark).

PRIZES DISTRIBUTED AT THE ANNUAL INSPECTION.

"Mount" Musketry Cup for Best Shooting Company.

Winners—"D" Company (Capt. J. H. Spence-Duncan). Team: Sergt. C. Wright, L./Sergt. T. Nicholson, L./Cpl. M. Read, Pte. G. F. Gillman, and Pte. H. Wood.

"Bennett" Shield for Efficiency.

Winners—"B" Company (Capt. A. M. S. Baker).

"Best Shot" Cup.

Winner—L./Cpl. H. Gamble, "B" Company.

Silver Bugle.

Winner—L./Sergt. Battson, "E" Company.

Boxing Medals.

Silver.—Sergt. C. Wright, "D" Coy. (Welter-weight); Cpl. J. Taylor, "D" Coy. (Feather-weight); Cpl. J. Coales, "B" Coy. (Fly-weight); Cpl. J. Chaproniere, "B" Coy. (Bantam-weight); L./Cpl. H. Atling, "D" Coy. (gnat-weight).

Bronze.—Cpl. J. Doree, "D" Coy. (Feather-weight); Pte. A. Driver, "D" Coy. (Fly-weight); Pte. J. Mason, "D" Coy. (Midge-weight).

The order of merit in the Battalion for the undermentioned County Competitions is as follows:—

Lucas Tooth Drill Competition.

1st, "B" Coy.; 2nd, "D" Coy.

The King's Challenge Shield for Musketry.

1st, "D" Coy.; 2nd, "B" Coy.

It is encouraging to note that in the Stadium Club Challenge Cup for boxing for Cadets of the Metropolitan area, the Battalion tied with the 10th London C.L.B., and each unit holds the cup for six months. In the Mile End A.B.A. competitions we were one point behind the winners. Next year we hope to win both cups.

Companies would be pleased to hear from old members of the Cadets who are now serving in any of the Regular or Territorial battalions of the Regiment.

Frimley & Camberley Cadet Corps.

Affiliated to the 5th Battalion The Queen's Royal Regiment.

President: Lieut.-Gen. Sir William Furze, K.C.B., D.S.O.

Officer Commanding: Col. Foley, C.B.E., D.S.O., late Royal Berkshire Regiment.

Headquarters: Maple Leaf Hut, Camberley.

BEFORE entering on our news we should like to say how very highly we value our connection with the County Regiment, particularly as we are probably the youngest of those who have the honour and privilege of wearing the badge of the Regiment.

We are now entering on the eighteenth year of our existence, having been first formed in November, 1908, the President then being Earl Roberts, V.C., who held this position until his death in 1914. He was succeeded by Gen. Furze, who still presides over our destinies.

In 1912 the Corps was affiliated to the 5th Battalion of the Regiment, an honour that was highly appreciated.

The Corps has a strength of 150, and is divided into two companies, i.e., a Senior Company, consisting of lads who have left school and are at work, and a Junior Company of boys still at school; there is also a Bugle Band, which gives a very good account of itself. The Corps is very materially helped by a large staff of volunteers, the majority of whom have served in the Regiment, and who are of the greatest assistance at the Annual Camps and on other occasions.

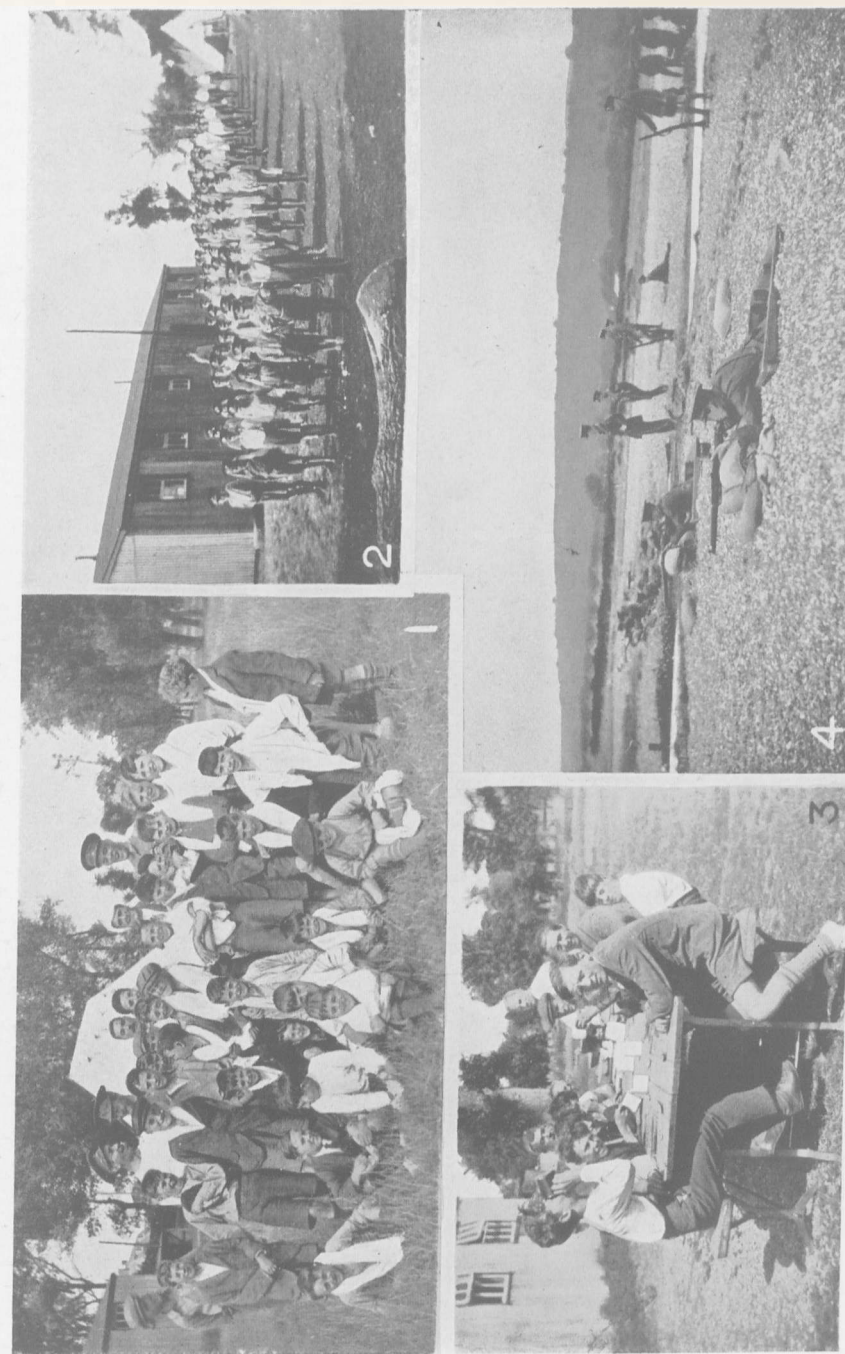
The Annual Inspection was carried out by Col. H. H. M. Harris, the Officer Commanding 5th Battalion. The strength on parade was 137. After carrying out various close and extended order drill movements, the Cadets were inspected at musketry and the recruits at recruits' drill; the parade concluding with a march past by companies. Col. Harris expressed himself as very pleased with what he had seen, and stated that he would be able to report very favourably on the Corps.

For the last three years the Annual Camp has been held at the Small Arms School, Hythe, and through the kindness of the Commandant we have been able to have a real good fortnight each year. Every consideration is shown us, and we are looked upon as "chips of the old block," and we do our utmost to live up to this reputation. Musketry is what the majority of the Cadets live for, and the results obtained, both on the open and miniature ranges, were very good.

Six of the 1st Battalion boys from Dover spent a week-end with us as our guests, and we were delighted to welcome them. Their visit brought the connection with the Regiment very much before the eyes of the Cadets, and should do much to stimulate recruiting.

The great event of camp was the visit of the whole Corps to the 1st Battalion at Dover, where, through the kindness of Lieut.-Col. R. G. Clarke, C.M.G., D.S.O., we spent a most enjoyable afternoon. Major S. T. Watson, D.S.O., specially looked after us, and was delighted with the Cadets, whom he christened "Shrimps." However, when one of the smallest produced his miniature range target showing a score of 17 out of a possible 20, Major Watson began to think that our size was not altogether a criterion of our attainments. After a

FRIMLEY AND CAMBERLEY CADET CORPS



1. One good wash deserves another. Impatiently waiting for Parade.

3. "Duff up." No necessity for roll-call here.

2. Bathing Parade (at last).

4. Firing their Cadets' Course of Musketry, which is:—
5 Rounds Grouping at 100 yards.
10 Rounds Rapid at 200 yards
5 Rounds Slow at 300 yards

pleasant afternoon in the gym., we were entertained to tea by the Battalion, and then followed the great event of the day, our principal object in coming., viz., to whack the boys of the Battalion at cricket. This we managed to do. When the Battalion was at Aldershot we tried very hard to beat the boys at football, with no success, but we now feel we have got some of our own back. Before leaving, the Staff were entertained in the Sergeants' Mess for a short time while the Cadets were busy collecting souvenirs of the visit. The Corps is very proud of its connection with the Regiment, and very grateful for a happy afternoon.

We should like to take the opportunity of expressing our heartfelt thanks to the 2nd Battalion for the handsome gifts of framed photographs of the Battalion on parade and the groups of members of the Sergeants' and Corporals' Messes. They occupy an honoured position on the walls of our headquarters, and are always objects of interest to our many visitors.

We have been able to arrange several football fixtures with the Depot at Guildford, and although we were beaten in our first match, still we had a good game, and shall hope later on to avenge our defeat.

The winter programme is now started, and physical training is the order of the day. All the Cadets are very keen, particularly as there are several competitions in the county open to teams from Cadet Corps.

Work for Discharged Soldiers.

DURING August, 128 soldiers completed their courses of vocational training at Hounslow and Catterick and were discharged from the Army on the termination of their Colour service. Of this number, 98 obtained immediate employment in civil life, some going to bricklaying, carpentry, painting and decorating, and others to motor and electrical work, general farming, market gardening, and other forms of employment.

Remarks on Vocational Training.

By MAJOR F. K. HARDY, D.S.O., ARMY EDUCATIONAL CORPS.

IT has come to my notice that although the trades taught at the Army Vocational Training Centres are set out in detail in Army Council Instruction No. 590 of 1924, many non-commissioned officers and men, not having the opportunity of consulting that Army Council instruction, are ignorant of the range of classes for which they can apply.

For this reason I will give a complete list of the classes at Catterick and Hounslow, and will add some explanatory notes to those held at Hounslow.

The trades taught are:—

AT CATTERICK.

Bricklaying.
Plastering.
Carpentry.
Joinery.
Painting and Decorating.
Smithing.
Boot Repairing.
Overseas Settlement.
General Farming.
Dairy Farming.
Pig Farming.
Poultry Farming.
Market Gardening.
Fruit Farming.
Groundsman.

AT HOUNSLOW.

Bricklaying.
Plastering.
Carpentry.
Joinery.
Painting and Decorating.
Smithing.
Boot Repairing.
Plumbing.
Building Construction.
Handyman.
Electric Wiring.
Fitting and Turning.
Moulding.
Motor Mechanics.
Acetylene Welding.
Private Service.
Gardener-Handyman.
Upholstery.
French Polishing.

THE CHOICE OF A TRADE.

Non-commissioned officers and men would be well advised to remember, all through their service, that the day will come when they will have to find civil employment. There are many ways of preparing for that evil day, but the three most important, to my mind, are deciding upon the district in which to settle, choosing a trade which offers prospects in that district, and keeping in with friends and relations who can help in the search for employment.

To emphasize these points, it is not generally recognized that some trades are universally practised throughout the British Isles, others may be localized to certain definite areas. Take as instances carpentry, a trade which is found in every town and village in these islands, and thatching, which is only found in some purely agricultural districts. Human nature being what it is, it is obvious that a friend who is in good employment and well considered by his boss or foreman can, if he wishes to, assist another into a vacant job over the heads of countless unknown applicants.

THE STATE OF THE LABOUR MARKET.

Non-commissioned officers and men are inclined to be over-confident about their ability to find employment. There is no doubt that a man who is determined to get work will do so sooner or later, but there is always the danger that the man will, in despair, join the ranks of the unemployed or take up some ill-paid uncongenial work for the sake of his wife and children. It must be realized that when there are over one million men out of work in Great Britain, competition for employment is very fierce. Remember that our total population is under forty-eight millions, which means that one in every forty-eight persons of our population is unemployed.

Experience shows that it is not unusual for two or three hundred applicants to apply for a comparatively desirable job. It is this that the soldier must be prepared to face on his return to civil life.

THE HOUNSLOW TRADES.

Bricklaying.—This trade, which is suitable for young men, will be found all over the country. In six months a higher standard of skill can be reached than in many other trades.

Plasterers.—Requires a powerful and flexible wrist. It is a young man's trade for which excellent openings exist.

Carpenters and Joiners.—There is a good demand up and down the country for carpenters who understand fixing. Bench work and joinery require skill and experience to ensure constant employment. A small woodmill provides training for those who need it.

Painting and Decorating.—This trade suffers from serious depression in the winter months. All branches of this trade are taught, and those who wish can specialize in sign writing or in coach painting. Spray painting is to be introduced shortly.

Building Construction.—Unless a man has some definite end in view it is inadvisable for him to undergo this course.

Plumbing.—Experience plays a large part in this trade. Students are taught one or more branches, according to their wishes or ability.

Estate Handyman.—This training consists of rough woodwork, plumbing, painting and general household repairs. Care of electric light and pumping plant can be given if required.

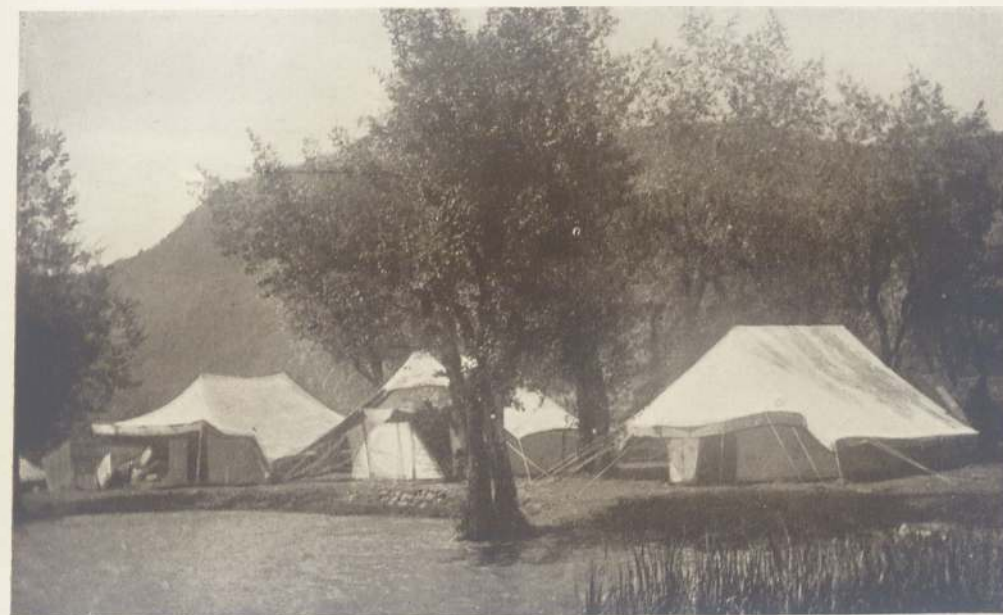
Electric Wiring.—This consists of indoor wiring for lighting, telephones and bells, and the care of electric-light plant. Employment is not easily found in this work, which demands considerable theoretical knowledge. Applicants should have a distinct bent for electrical work.

Upholstery.—This trade is largely done by piece-work, which means that in order to secure a good wage speed is essential. Speed cannot be taught in six months, though an adaptable student should be able to compete with anyone after further experience.

French Polishing.—This is taught as an adjunct to upholstery, but applicants with a definite object in view can take it as a separate subject.

Boot Repairing.—Speed cannot be taught in six months. It only comes with

RANDOM SNAPSHOTS IN INDIA



FISHING CAMP, ISHTAL

A fishing camp at Ishtal, Kashmir. This is a distant and lonely spot, but the bait fishing is good, and a Queen's officer caught twenty-nine trout in a week running up to three and four pounds.



Villagers interested in the fishing party's departure.

experience. For this reason direct employment is not easy to obtain. There are fair openings for those who wish to set up on their own, but for success these must have the business sense and choose their locality with care.

Motor Mechanics.—The openings in this trade are fairly good. Although driving is taught, it is not possible to guarantee that every non-commissioned officer and man attending this class can get driving instruction. Every endeavour, however, is made to give this form of instruction.

Fitting and Turning.—Employment is found fairly readily for those with previous experience.

Smithing.—There is very little opening to-day for the farrier. This course will give him instruction in general smith's work, tool-making and acetylene welding, and so widen his chance of employment.

Moulding.—Only small work is done, but non-commissioned officers and men who have had previous experience can get back their skill. Employment is good.

Acetylene Welding.—Taught as an adjunct to smithing, fitting, and motor mechanics. Can be taken as a separate course by those who have a definite object in view.

Gardener-Handyman.—The aim of this class is to turn out a man useful in the garden and in looking after poultry and a pig or two. Specialized or large scale work is not done.

Private Service.—The training includes valeting, table work, care of silver, glass, china and furniture. Good posts in private houses, clubs and hotels are available for suitable men. Applicants should be unmarried, bear an exemplary character, and have an unblemished medical record. A man whose wife has been in service and is ready to return will find good opportunities, provided that there is no family.

Army Council Instruction 590 of 1924 imposes restrictions on certain of the above classes. These are "previous experience" and "promise of employment," but I can say, authoritatively, that an applicant who can prove that he has a sound reason for wishing to undergo any particular course will be considered for a vacancy as if he had the experience or promise normally required.

Depot News.

GENERAL.

AT the time of going to press, we have three platoons undergoing training. The two senior platoons are due to join the 1st Battalion before the end of the year. Since the last issue of the Journal, the following platoons have joined the 1st Battalion:—

Ladysmith Platoon (25 strong) joined 1st Battalion 7/4/1926.

Tangiers Platoon (26 strong), joined 1st Battalion 1/7/1926.

Namur Platoon (19 strong) joined 1st Battalion 2/9/1926.

Peninsula Platoon (24 strong), joined 1st Battalion 17/9/1926.

TRAINING COMPANY.

COMPETITION RESULTS.

Platoons continue to show great keenness in the inter-section competitions, the results to date being as follows:—

WINNERS, INTER-SECTION COMPETITION.

Ladysmith Platoon—April 1926.—No. 4 Section (Ptes. B. Newton, K. P. Harris, F. J. Whales, S. R. Druce, W. J. Dominy, W. K. Roadnight).

Individual Winners (Drill, Musketry, P.T., Athletics): A. S. Keen, W. G. Garrard, H. A. Martin, K. P. Harris.

Tangier Platoon—June, 1926.—No. 1 Section (Ptes. W. Mortimer, T. W. Botting, J. W. Nicol, W. A. Evans, G. Robinson, G. A. Powell).

Individual Winners (Drill, Musketry, P.T., Athletics): A. Gibbs, W. A. Evans, H. E. Jaggard, G. W. Mundy.

Namur Platoon—August, 1926.—No. 1 Section (Ptes. F. Clarke, A. S. Kyte, G. Turner, W. Hacker, J. Timms).

Individual Winners (Drill, Musketry, P.T., Athletics): F. Clarke, D. L. Simmons, W. Cross, and F. Clarke and W. Ditcham (tie).

Peninsular Platoon—September, 1926.—No. 3 Section (Ptes. D. Thomson, H. E. Gregg, E. G. Harris, F. R. Bond, D. W. Attrell, F. Basham).

Individual Winners (Drill, Musketry, P.T., Athletics): H. E. Gregg, H. C. Moss, F. Basham, H. C. Moss.

VISITS.

On June 2nd, the Commander-in-Chief, Eastern Command, inspected the Depot. After seeing the usual routine training in progress, he visited the barrack rooms, institutes and museum, expressing his keen interest and satisfaction with the methods of training and administration.

On September 10th the Colonel of the Regiment paid us a visit. He inspected the dutymen, and recruits on parade, made a tour of the barracks, and afterwards lunched with the officers. At the conclusion of his inspection he expressed his satisfaction with all he had seen.

On September 16th the General Officer Commanding, Home Counties Area, carried out his annual inspection of the Depot, and his complimentary remarks gave the greatest satisfaction to us all.

FOOTBALL.

Although there is very little talent coming in, the Depot is running three teams—a first and second eleven being found from the Depot staff, and a third eleven comprising only recruits.

The Depot has entered for the Surrey Junior League and the Surrey Junior Cup, and, of course, the Army Cup.

Results to date: Played 8 games, won 4, drawn 2, lost 2. We drew a bye in the first round of the Surrey Junior Cup. With regard to the Army Cup, we have been drawn against the R.A.O.C., Aldershot. Playing on our own ground should give us a little advantage, but the same old fault creeps in—lack of team-work and too much of the individual.

The recruits' eleven played a hard game against the Camberley Cadet Corps, and although they lost 4—1, the score hardly represented the run of the game. We hope to do better in the return match on our ground. Up to the present we have four fixtures with the Camberley Cadet Corps, and we hope to arrange two more before the end of the season.

SERGEANTS' MESS.

The members of the Sergeants' Mess have spent a fairly busy period since May last. Games were played against the Sergeants' Mess, 5th Bn. The Queen's Royal Regiment, and the Corporals of the Depot.

The Sergeants' Mess were entertained by, and entertained, the Sergeants of the 5th Battalion. On both occasions, a series of indoor games was played, honours being evenly divided, and a thoroughly enjoyable time was spent.

The Borough Police visited the Depot twice and played cricket against a Sergeants' Mess side, one game being won by the Borough Police and one by the Mess.

Cricket played against the Corporals resulted in a win for the Corporals, but a team of Sergeants evened things up by beating the Corporals at football later.

The annual Sergeants' Mess outing took place on July 9th, and a most successful day was spent in Brighton, ideal weather greatly adding to the enjoyment of members and their families.

VISIT OF No. 766 CPL. JOHN WILSON, LATE CORPORAL (DRUMS), 2ND BN. THE QUEEN'S ROYAL REGT.

On June 15th, the Depot was visited by John Wilson, late Corporal (Drums), 2nd Bn. The Queen's Royal Regiment, who enlisted at the age of 13 in the 2nd Battalion on its formation in November, 1857. He served with this Battalion continuously until transferred as Band Corporal in 1875 to the 4th Royal Irish Dragoon Guards. He was discharged as a Corporal on March 30th, 1882. He served with the 2nd Battalion at Malta, Corfu, Gibraltar and Bermuda, and holds a number of prizes for skill-at-arms.

After his discharge he was employed as "groom and outrider," and has been and still is an active worker with the Salvation Army for over 40 years. The old gentleman was shown over the Depot and was greatly impressed with all he saw. He was especially interested in the Regimental Museum, where he spent some hours.

Wilson, in spite of his 82 years, is still hale and hearty, and while in the Museum astonished us by bending down and touching his toes in approved P.T. style. He lives at Langley, near Maidstone.

CRICKET.

The Depot cricket side has had a very successful season. Twenty-eight matches were played, of which twenty-one were won, one was drawn, and five lost.



TUG-OF-WAR TEAM, 4TH BATTALION, WORTHING, 1926

No. 766 CORPORAL JOHN WILSON,
late Corporal, Drums, 2nd Bn. The Queen's Royal Regt.

Many of the matches provided exciting finishes, especially the games against our old rivals, the Depot, The East Surrey Regiment. Cpl. Divett, who has now rejoined the 1st Battalion, Capt. Upton, and L./Cpl. Harris have been our most consistent scorers, and C.S.M. Hartridge, Cpl. Divett, and Ptes. Welsh and Crumplin all bowled well. Unfortunately, Crumplin had to leave us half-way through the season. The following are the results of the matches played:—

v. Merrow Cricket Club.—Won. Played at Stoughton Barracks on May 8th. Merrow C.C.: 64 runs (Pte. Welsh 3 for 12, C.S.M. Hartridge 2 for 10, L./Cpl. Harris 2 for 1). Depot, Queen's Royal Regiment: 100 runs (Capt. Upton 69).

v. Cranleigh School Side.—Drawn. Played at Stoughton Barracks on May 12th. Depot, Queen's Royal Regiment: 204 for 7 wickets (L./Cpl. Harris 112, Capt. Beeton 30, Cpl. Divett 21). Cranleigh School: 51 for 3 wickets. Rain stopped play.

v. Westfield Cricket Club.—Lost. Played at Stoughton Barracks on May 15th. Westfield C.C.: 151 for 7 wickets, declared (Pte. Welsh 4 for 30). Depot, Queen's Royal Regiment: 63 (Cpl. Divett 28).

v. Guildford 2nd XI.—Lost. Played at Stoughton Barracks on May 19th. Guildford C.C.: 164 (Cpl. Divett 5 for 50). Depot, Queen's Royal Regiment: 101 (L./Cpl. Harris 41 not out).

v. Hambledon C.C.—Won. Played at Stoughton Barracks on May 29th. Depot, Queen's Royal Regiment: 138 (Capt. Beeton 33, Lieut. East 20). Hambledon C.C.: 63 (C.S.M. Hartridge 4 for 17, Pte. Crumplin 4 for 26).

v. Dennis Athletic C.C.—Won. Played at Stoughton Barracks on June 5th. Depot, Queen's Royal Regiment: 86 (Cpl. Divett 35). Dennis Athletic C.C.: 61 (C.S.M. Hartridge 5 for 22).

v. 22nd London Regiment (The Queen's).—Won. Played at Stoughton Barracks on June 6th. 22nd London Regiment: 35 (C.S.M. Hartridge 5 for 10, Pte. Crumplin 5 for 15); 2nd innings, 58. Depot, Queen's Royal Regiment: 227 (Major Denton 37, L./Cpl. Harris 33, Pte. Welsh 30).

v. Dennis Athletic C.C.—Won. Played at Guildford on June 12th. Depot,

Queen's Royal Regiment: 167 for 2 (Cpl. Divett 94, L./Cpl. Harris 66 not out). Dennis Athletic: 24 (Welsh 8 for 11).

v. Godalming C.C.—Won. Played at Stoughton Barracks on June 16th. Depot, Queen's Royal Regiment: 238 for 5 (Capt. Bingham 56 not out, Capt. Upton 44, Cpl. Divett 45). Godalming C.C.: 75 (C.S.M. Hartridge 4 for 4, including the "hat trick").

v. Westfield C.C.—Won. Played at Westfield on July 3rd. Depot, Queen's Royal Regiment: 127 (Capt. Bingham 51). Westfield C.C.: 91 (C.S.M. Hartridge 5 for 16).

v. Godalming C.C.—Won. Played at Godalming on July 7th. Depot, Queen's Royal Regiment: 146 (Capt. Upton 66). Godalming C.C.: 107 (Cpl. Divett 4 for 34).

v. Woking 2nd XI.—Won. Played at Stoughton Barracks on July 10th. Woking: 32 (Cpl. Divett 4 for 11). Depot, Queen's Royal Regiment: 180 (Capt. Beeton 65, R.S.M. Fulbrook 41).

v. 5th Battalion, Queen's Royal Regiment.—Won. Played at Stoughton Barracks on July 11th. 5th Battalion, Queen's Royal Regiment: 177 (Cpl. Divett 3 for 48, Lieut. Boyd 2 for 7). Depot, Queen's Royal Regiment: 224 (L./Cpl. Harris 40, R.S.M. Tedder 29, Sergt. Lawrence 26, Pte. Crumplin 25 not out). This match produced a very exciting finish, the last two Depot wickets putting on over 60 runs.

v. Cranleigh Wednesday C.C.—Won. Played at Stoughton Barracks on July 14th. Cranleigh Wednesday C.C.: 115 (Cpl. Divett 4 for 15). Depot, Queen's Royal Regiment: 145 for 9 (Capt. Belchem 29, Crumplin 24 not out). A close finish, the last Depot wicket putting on over 40 runs.

v. Chobham.—Won. Played at Stoughton Barracks on July 17th. Chobham: 195 (Welsh 2 for 14). Depot, Queen's Royal Regiment: 202 for 7 (Capt. Upton 62, Sergt. Lawrence 49, Cpl. Divett 34 not out). The Depot was left with an hour and a half to get the necessary runs. Thanks to some magnificent hitting by Capt. Upton 90 was put on in the first half-hour, and with the whole side going all out for the runs our opponents' total was passed with a quarter of an hour to spare.

v. 24th London Regiment (The Queen's).—Won. Played at Stoughton Barracks on July 18th. 24th London Regiment: 72 (Cpl. Divett 6 for 17). Depot, Queen's Royal Regiment: 164 for 5 (Capt. Belchem 35 not out, Capt. Upton 33, Cpl. Divett 32).

v. Merrow C.C.—Lost. Played at Stoughton Barracks on July 24th. Merrow C.C.: 130 (C.S.M. Hartridge 6 for 63). Depot, Queen's Royal Regiment: 93 (Capt. Upton 31).

v. Depot, Royal Berkshire Regiment.—Lost. Played at Reading on July 27th. Depot, Queen's Royal Regiment: 133 (Capt. Beeton 48). Depot, Royal Berkshire Regiment: 134 (Cpl. Divett 4 for 44). A very exciting finish, in which the last man of the Depot, Royal Berkshire Regiment, came in with the score a tie, scored the winning run, and lost his partner with the next ball.

v. Westfield C.C.—Lost. Played at Stoughton Barracks on July 28th. Westfield C.C.: 202 for 3. Depot, Queen's Royal Regiment: 127 (Capt. Beeton 30).

v. Depot, East Surrey Regiment.—Won. Played at Stoughton Barracks on August 5th. Depot, East Surrey Regiment: 202. Depot, Queen's Royal Regiment: 205 (Cpl. Divett 96, Capt. Belchem 61). Capt. Belchem and Cpl. Divett put up a splendid stand of over 130 runs when 5 wickets were down for 30 runs, and virtually won the match.

v. Chobham C.C.—Won. Played at Chobham on August 7th. Depot, Queen's Royal Regiment: 98 (Capt. Belchem 23, Sergt. Lawrence 18). Chobham C.C.: 74 (Cpl. Divett 5 for 22, Crumplin 4 for 20).

v. Depot, Royal Sussex Regiment.—Won. Played at Stoughton Barracks on August 8th. Depot, Royal Sussex Regiment: 57 and 128 (C.S.M. Hartridge 6 for 25, Cpl. Divett 4 for 25). Depot, Queen's Royal Regiment: 237 for 9 (Lieut. Boyd 67, Cpl. Divett 48).

v. Guildford Wednesday XI.—Won. Played at Guildford on August 11th. Guildford Wednesday XI: 97 (Pte. Welsh 5 for 37, C.S.M. Hartridge 4 for 25). Depot, Queen's Royal Regiment: 126 for 6 (Lieut. East 29 not out, Capt. Sturme Cave 27).

v. 2nd Battalion The Royal Tank Corps.—Won. Played at Stoughton Barracks on August 14th. 2nd Battalion Royal Tank Corps: 125 (Sergt. Lawrence 5 for

25). Depot, Queen's Royal Regiment: 202 (Pte. Underdown 57, Capt. Beeton 45).

v. Hambledon C.C.—Won. Played at Hambledon on August 20th. Hambledon C.C.: 72 (Pte. Welsh 6 for 18). Depot, Queen's Royal Regiment: 84 (Lieut. East 28).

v. Cranleigh C.C. 2nd XI.—Won. Played at Stoughton Barracks on August 28th. Depot, Queen's Royal Regiment: 236 for 6 (Capt. Upton 76, Cpl. Divett 74, Capt. Belchem 31). Cranleigh C.C.: 106 (Crumplin 4 for 30).

v. Depot, East Surrey Regiment.—Won. Played at Kingston on August 31st. Depot, East Surrey Regiment: 125 (Pte. Underdown 5 for 48). Depot, Queen's Royal Regiment: 129 (Cpl. Divett 26, Lieut. Boyd 21, Sergt. Lawrence 21). Lieut. Boyd and Sergt. Lawrence both played very good innings at the critical moment, and helped to save the match.

DEPOT AVERAGES.

	BATTING.		Runs	Highest score	Av'ge
	Inns.	Not Out			
Cpl. Divett ...	25	3	696	96	31.6
Capt. Upton ...	17	—	439	76	25.8
L./Cpl. Harris...	24	2	521	112	23.7
Lieut. East ...	18	4	272	29	19.4

BOWLING.

	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wkts.	Av'ge.
C.S.M. Hartridge	172.2	47	417	52	8.0
Pte. Welsh ...	144.3	27	409	45	9.0
Cpl. Divett ...	202.0	41	627	59	10.6
Pte. Crumplin ...	145.0	24	465	38	12.2

RIFLE CLUB.

The Rifle Club has had a very successful season.

The Depot was represented in the Prize Meeting of the Surrey Rifle Association, the Army Championship Meeting, and the Prince of Wales's Cup.

The principal results were as follows:—

THE SURREY MEETING.

The Depot team won the Lord Lieutenant's prize, and were placed second in the Allen Cup.

The County Championship (Rifle).—5th, Sergt. E. P. Collins; 7th, Sergt. A. E. Reynolds; 8th, R.S.M. S. Tedder, D.C.M.; 9th, Sergt. A. Lawrence; 10th, Sergt. P. R. Mole (Army Educational Corps).

The Kingston Cup.—1st, Lieut. A. J. Sullivan; 5th, Sergt. E. P. Collins.

The Surrey Brewers' Cup.—3rd, Sergt. A. E. Reynolds; 5th, Sergt. E. P. Collins; 6th, Sergt. P. R. Mole (Army Educational Corps); 10th, R.S.M. S. Tedder, D.C.M.

The County Championship.—2/Lieut. A. J. Sullivan.

THE ARMY MEETING.

The following were entered for the Army Championship:—Lieut. A. J. Sullivan, R.S.M. S. Tedder, D.C.M., Sergt. A. E. Reynolds, L./Sergt. J. W. Welch, Cpl. N. Holman, and Pte. A. McKay.

Lieut. A. J. Sullivan qualified to shoot in the Army Hundred Cup, and was placed 67th.

THE PRINCE OF WALES'S CUP.

The Depot was placed fourth in this Inter-Depot Competition last year.

The result for this year has not yet been announced.

DEPOT SPORTS.

The sports for non-commissioned officers and dutymen were held during the week September 27th to October 2nd. They were run on an inter-platoon system, and marks were allotted for various standards in each event.

The athletic cup and silver medal were won by Cpl. J. Berry with the very high score of 200 points out of a possible 210. Pte. E. Martin was second with 170 points, and L./Cpl. H. Budgen and Pte. C. Pope tied for third place with 140 points.

The Inter-Platoon Competition was won by Sergt. R. Clarke's Peninsular Platoon. All ranks showed the greatest keenness, every available non-commissioned officer and dutymen competed.

BOXING.

An Inter-Depot Competition for recruits of under twenty-four weeks' service was started in the Eastern Command this year for the first time, for which the following team was entered:—

Welter-weight.—Pte. A. Gibbs.

Intermediate-weight.—Pte. G. A. Powell.

Light-weight.—Pte. A. S. Keen.

Extra Light-weight.—Pte. W. G. Garrard.

Feather-weight.—Pte. J. W. Timms.
Bantam-weight.—Pte. E. Plume.

The team competed at Chatham on February 26th against two teams from the Training Battalion Royal Engineers, and one team from the Depot, The Royal Sussex Regiment, and took third place.

The Depot, The Royal Sussex Regiment, eventually won the whole competition.

Old Comrades Association.

THE following are extracts from the Fifth Annual Report for the year 1925:—

Membership continues to increase. Figures for 1924 and 1925 are as follows:

	Officers and Hon. Members	Other Ranks Serving	Other Ranks Non-Serving
1924	300	1,440	2,050
1925	306	1,572	2,230

All ranks who have served, also those connected with or interested in the old Regiment, not yet enrolled as members are earnestly invited to apply for particulars.

Life Membership is still on the increase. Figures now stand at 347 serving and 120 non-serving, as against 335 and 99 respectively at the close of 1924.

Assistance Given.—During the year over £270 was expended in grants to 180 cases, £420 in loans to twenty-two applicants, and £62 in subscriptions to other societies. Above 500 applications by post were investigated, and sixty-five personal calls were dealt with.

Employment.—Twenty-five men and a married couple were assisted in securing employment. Members, employers and employed are urged to help the Committee by sending particulars to the Secretary of any vacancies known or likely to occur. Men of most trades, etc., are invariably available.

Gifts of Clothing.—Thanks to donors of a number of serviceable and very useful consignments, the committee have been able to make up and dispatch nineteen useful parcels in cases where clothing was the outstanding need. All were gratefully acknowledged. The Committee again appeal that cast-off clothing,

boots, etc., may be dispatched to the Association, particularly before the winter months, when the request for these articles is always most urgent.

Appeals for Legacies.—Incalculable good can be afforded the Association by benefactors remembering it in their wills, and the Committee feel that it has never occurred to many interested in the old Regiment to help the Association, and those for whom it was instituted, by means of this form of assistance, which perpetuates the donor's association with the Regiment, and his or her help to its old soldiers.

Garden Party.—An All Ranks Garden Party, to which all past members and their families were invited to enable them to renew acquaintance with and interest in the old Regiment, was held at Stoughton Barracks on July 18th, 1925. Competitions in which both young and old could take part were arranged, and prizes given. The Regimental Museum was thrown open, and the Band and Drums of the 1st Battalion played at intervals during the proceedings. Some 300 were present.

At a General Committee meeting held on March 5th, 1926, it was decided that the function should be an annual one.

Annual Dinner (All Ranks).—The question having been raised by members that occasionally the Annual All Ranks Dinner should be out of London, it was discussed at the meeting of the General Committee, and it was decided to hold the 1927 Dinner at Guildford (on the same date as the Garden Party is held), and, if results justify, arrangements to be made in future years for one dinner in three to take place at Guildford.

The Committee, on behalf of all ranks, past and present, express their gratitude to those who have shown a kindly interest in the Regiment by supporting the Association by subscriptions and thus becoming honorary members.

The Association continues to gain ground. Members have, apart from financial and employment questions, found the Association useful to them in many other respects—pensions, security, etc., matters.

The help given by the Soldiers and Sailors Help Society, in investigating and reporting upon cases referred to

them, has again proved very valuable. The Committee trusts that the improved conditions will be more noticeable during 1926, also that the steady increase in membership may be maintained.

O.C.A. NEWS.

The Annual Dinner was held on June 12th, 1926, at Harrods Restaurant, London, and between 500 and 600 were present, the chair being taken by Brig.-Gen. W. Glasgow, C.M.G., Chairman of the Committee of the Old Comrades Association.

Before making his speech the Chairman read a letter from Gen. Sir Charles Monro, Colonel of the Regiment. In this letter Gen. Monro asked the Chairman to convey to the members of the Dinner Club his earnest wishes for their continued welfare, and that all good fortune might attend them in the year 1926. He suggested that all should do their utmost to induce fresh members to join the club, for by its agency the opportunity was afforded to past and present members to renew old friendships, and cement the ties formed during the period of regimental service, and, above all, what closely appealed to them, the extending of a helping hand to all comrades to whom fortune had not been kind. The members of the club would be glad to hear of the high praise which had been bestowed on the 2nd Battalion following their recent inspection by Field-Marshal Sir William Birdwood. [This was mentioned in our last issue.]

The Chairman also read a telegram from the 2nd Battalion, conveying the hearty greetings of all ranks in the Battalion.

In his speech Gen. Glasgow referred to the doings of the 1st Battalion at football, and expressed a hope that the Battalion would again carry off the Army Cup. He also referred to the doings of the regimental fencing team, which had reached the final round of the Army Team Championship. He referred to the pride which the Regiment took in their connection with the Royal Navy, dating from that Glorious First of June, 1794, and extended a hearty welcome to the representatives of H.M.S. *Excellent* present at the dinner.

Major F. W. H. Denton, Hon. Treasurer of the Old Comrades Association and Dinner Club, presented the report for the year 1925. After giving details of the Association's activities, Major Denton referred to the financial position, and stated that the capital now invested amounted to £7,299, and that the Committee were in hope that it would eventually amount to £10,000, the sum aimed at when the Association was reconstructed in 1920.

Owing to lack of time, the toasts of "Absent Comrades" and "Our Chairman," which were to have been proposed by Capt. H. E. Reimann, M.C. and

ex-Col.-Sergt. A. E. Ellis, had to be omitted.

During the dinner, ex-Drum-Major H. C. Sales gave selections on the piano.

The Annual Garden Party, which has now been made a regular function, was held at the Depot on June 26th. The weather was perfect, and over 400 members, wives and families were present. The Band and Drums of the 1st Battalion played during the afternoon, and concluded their programme with a very fine performance of "Retreat," which was much appreciated. Several competitions were organized, and the events were keenly contested.

Obituary.

RANK AND NAME.	BATTALION.	SERVICE.	DATE OF DEATH.
— Sergt. R. J. Johnson	...	—	6/1/26
2614 Pte. G. Perry	... 1st ...	1851-1863	1/2/26
1111 Pte. D. Moore	... 1st ...	1866-1876	9/2/26
6077672 Sergt. M. Tidy	... 2nd ...	1919-1922	—/2/26
1091 Pte. M. Hefferman	... 1st ...	1866-1877	1/4/26
620 Pte. P. Bradley	... 2nd ...	1914-1919	4/5/26
3046 Pte. W. Buck	... 2nd ...	1890-1902	7/5/26
5846 Sgt. G. Lawrence	... 1st ...	1898-1920	1/6/26
8391 Cpl. W. Sapsford	... 2nd ...	1905-1918	1/6/26
4408 Pte. F. Stanesby	... 1st ...	1894-1906	12/6/26
6076251 Sergt. W. Ellis	... 1st ...	1910-1926	23/6/26
245 Pte. J. Crane	... 2nd ...	1914-1919	26/7/26
88 Q.M.S. C. Chandler	... 1st and Depot	1881-1902	9/8/26
6081115 Pte. H. C. Collard	... 1st ...	1923-1925	26/8/26
2503 Pte. J. Cotton	... 2nd ...	1876-1899	11/9/26
9184 Pte. A. Henley	... 2nd ...	1907-1919	1/9/26
6079524 Pte. P. Short	... 2nd ...	—	3/5/26
6079227 L./Cpl. W. J. Clark	... 2nd ...	—	1/7/26

A Drowning Fatality and a Gallant Attempt at Rescue.

IT was with much regret that we all read in Orders of May last of the sad death of No. 6079524 Pte. Short, of "D" Company, who was employed with the Transport Section.

The accident occurred while swimming the mules on the banks of the River Ganges at about six o'clock. It appears that Short, being anxious that his mule

should have as good a swim as was possible, ventured too far out into the river. At this particular place the current is very swift, and he was swept off his feet, at the same time receiving a kick from the mule which rendered him unconscious. No. 6079847 Pte. A. Smith, also of the Transport, realizing the grave situation, without hesitation plunged into the river. He was immediately swept off his feet, but, swimming valiantly, managed to dive and get hold of Short. The current, however, was too strong,

and he lost his hold. He made another gallant effort, and again managed to secure Short, but lost him again owing to the current, and in spite of several dives was unable to find him. The police arrived soon after, the alarm having been raised by Cpl. Rootes, the non-commissioned officer in charge of the Transport; but, in spite of many hours' searching, the body was not recovered. We all heartily congratulate Pte. Smith on his very gallant effort to save Short, and hope he will get the Royal Humane Society's Medal, which he so richly deserves.

By a curious coincidence the mule which was the cause of the unfortunate accident was killed shortly afterwards during a severe duststorm, when a branch of a tree under which he was standing was blown off and fell on him.

H. P. C.

Editorial Notes.

Editor:

Major G. N. Dyer, D.S.O.

Assistant Editors:

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2nd Bn.—Lieut.-Col. R. T. Lee, C.M.G., D.S.O.

4th Bn.—Major B. L. Evans, T.D.

5th Bn.—Major C. R. Wigan, M.C.

22nd London Regt.—Col. C. F. H. Greenwood, D.S.O., O.B.E., T.D.

24th London Regt.—Major H. J. Sanders, D.S.O., M.C.

Depot.—Lieut. J. L. S. Boyd.

Hon. Treasurer:

Major G. N. Dyer.

Offices:

Corner House, Worplesdon, Guildford.

The following are suggestions which may be of help to Battalion Assistant Editors and contributors in sending in material:—

1. Assistant Editors should frame their material on the following lines:—

(a) A general survey of things in which the whole Battalion has taken part, *i.e.*, Battalion General News.

(b) Training, Musketry, etc., of the Battalion.

(c) Battalion Games and Sports. In this connection it is suggested that short reports of important Battalion matches should be given, mentioning names of goal-scorers, good scores or good bowling performances at cricket, together with the names of teams in each match. Concerts, dances, etc., should be included under this sub-head.

(d) Sergeants' Mess News.

(e) Corporals' Mess News.

(f) Company and Platoon Games and Sports.

2. Contributions should be written on one side of the paper only, and should, if possible, be typewritten, but this is not essential.

3. Photographs should be marked on the back with the title, and, in the case of groups, names should invariably be given. In this connection, readers are invited to send in all photographs likely to be of interest.

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