

THE DEPOT RIFLE TEAM. SURREY RIFLE MEETING, 1931.



Back Row—Sergeant F. Hill. Sergeant T. Dodds. Sergeant J. Torkington. Sergeant A. Manners. Sergeant W. Spence.
Sitting—C.O.M.S. R. Clark. R.S.M. S. Tedder, D.C.M. Major G. K. Olliver, M.C. Lieutenant J. F. K. Ponsford. C.S.M. G. Jude. (Cpl. J. Salmon, absent).



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EDITORIAL

WE desire to take this opportunity of expressing our thanks to unit sub-editors for their ready compliance with our request that all copy, etc., for this number should reach us by September 1st. The request was made on account of the proposed trip abroad by the Editor and his desire to leave everything ready for publication before his departure. We ask the indulgence of our readers for cutting short the news period, but hope they will find that this number fulfils expectations.

We have been favoured with an advanced copy of the "Unofficial War History of 4th Bn. The Queen's Royal Regiment." The volume is, as it purports to be, an unofficial record of the doings during the Great War of the 1st/4th, 2nd/4th, 3rd/4th, and 2nd/5th Battalions. It is written from the intimate and personal point of view, and may well be described as a family record containing as it does many happy anecdotes of those who served in the Battalions. It is a most readable book and should be in the hands of all those who were in any unit of the 4th Battalion. The author has been at great pains to collect and arrange the numerous yarns and to publish them in an interesting form. The book (price 5s., 5s. 6d. post free) is, we understand, to be published shortly. Information may be obtained from the author, Capt. Ronald Bannerman, M.C., 10, Duppas Hill Terrace, Croydon.

It is with the greatest regret that we have to announce the death of Capt. H. R. Hardy, which took place in May this year. Our readers will remember that Capt. Hardy was one of the first subscribers of the JOURNAL and wrote the article on medals, for which he had expert knowledge, in our first number. Capt. Hardy always maintained a very deep interest in the doings of the Regiment. He had lived for many years at Worthing and took a prominent part in all local affairs. He was Chairman of the Worthing branch of the British Legion and was always ready to champion the cause of the ex-Service men and to give his services in the interests of the town in which he had chosen to reside.

The Army Sport Control Board is issuing a book entitled "Games and Sports in the Army." The book will contain full particulars of all Army Games Associations, together with rules of the various games and sports and technical information as to sizes, etc., of grounds and hints of upkeep. There will, in addition, be articles on subjects of interest connected with games and sports. It is a book which should be in the hands of every officer, and will contain much valuable information in concise form. Units will probably receive one or two copies gratis, and other copies can be purchased at a reasonable price.

We publish in this number an account of an interesting Race Meeting held by the 1st Battalion in China. As the writer of the account states, it is probably unique in the history of the Regiment. It must certainly have provided an excellent afternoon's amusement, and we shall look forward to hearing an account of the second meeting which it was proposed to hold.

We have on hand copies of most of the back numbers of the JOURNAL, and readers wishing to obtain them should make application to us. The price is 2s., post free. We can also supply bound copies of Vols. II and III (price 15s., post free).

We have received a preliminary notice of the War History of the 11th (S.) Lambeth Battalion of the Regiment. The book is a record of the doings of the 11th Battalion and gives the whole story of its existence and its doings through the War. It is expected that the book will be issued very shortly at the price of 10s. 6d. Further information can be obtained from the Honorary Secretary of the 11th Battalion Old Comrades Association, 5, Troy Road, S.E. 19.

The next number of the JOURNAL will be published in May, 1932, and we shall be glad if contributors will send matter for publication so as to reach us not later than April 15th.

1st BATTALION.



A VIEW OF THE HILLS AT SHANHAIKUAN.



A VIEW OF THE HAI-HO RIVER FROM THE INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE, TIENTSIN, SHOWING COOLIES UNLOADING COTTON.

(1st Prize, Battalion Photographic Competition: Pte. Beavan, "C" Coy.)

1st BATTALION

AS forecasted in our last issue, the Battalion is now in its summer quarters, *i.e.*, in three different places. The spring passed pleasantly enough, and the first exodus from Tientsin took place on May 21st, "B" Company and one Machine Gun Platoon leaving for the seaside. On April 23rd, prior to the summer "break up," the Battalion Trooped the Colour on the Ming Yuan Sports Ground. The ceremony was witnessed by a thoroughly international gathering. His Majesty's British Consul-General took the salute; the Commandants of the American, French, Italian and Japanese troops, together with their respective Consular representatives, were present.

The trooping took place at 5.30 p.m. and lasted about forty minutes. After the Guards had left the ground the Band and Drums beat a Massed "Retreat."

The precision of our Arms drill and the work of the side drummers was much appreciated, and freely commented upon by the spectators generally, but in particular by our American "Dough Boy" comrades, who were really impressed.

For the first time since 1923 this Battalion was forced to celebrate the Glorious First of June without the presence or even the sight of a sailor; sad circumstances indeed, but if we were not with them in person we certainly were in spirit—and of course the usual cables were exchanged.

The detachment at Tientsin paraded in the British Infantry Barracks on the King's birthday and fired a *feu de joie* and marched past the Consul-General and our Brigadier.

On the whole, we have been remarkably lucky in so far as the hot weather has been concerned, both at Peking and Tientsin. It did not really start to stoke up until well in July, although some hot days were experienced in June. The highest shade temperature up to the time of writing in Tientsin has been round about 106.

The rains are, however, now here, and although the temperature is less the humidity is at times rather unpleasant.

While in camp at Shanhaikuan each Rifle Company, accompanied by one platoon of the Machine Gun Company, does a company march into the hills for about three or four days at a time, and given reasonable weather this is a thoroughly enjoyable form of training.

Our summer camp is situated within three-quarters of a mile of the sea, the officers being accommodated under canvas in what is called the British Fort. This is actually a small plateau contained in the angle formed by the Great Wall and the sea coast and surrounded with barbed wire, a relic of the 1828 troubles. Here also are accommodated the married families, some in tents and some in small stone huts. The majority of married officers have bungalows on the beach.

It is with the deepest sorrow that we have to record the following deaths:—

Reginald Frank Neil, aged one year, son of Pte. H. Neil, died at Tientsin on May 27th, 1931, from gastro enteritis-tubercle.

Gerald Robertson Bingham, aged eight years and ten months, son of Capt. E. S. Bingham, M.C., died at Victoria Nursing Home, Tientsin, on June 1st, 1931, from pneumonia.

No. 6081281 Pte. Soper, Albert Edward, "H.Q." Wing, aged 29 years, died at the British Military Hospital, Tientsin, on July 15th, 1931, from acute gastralgia, heart failure.

SERGEANTS' MESS.

At the time of writing (August), Headquarters, consisting of "H.Q." Wing, "C" and two platoons of M.G., are at Shanhaikuan, while the detachments at Peking and Tientsin are keeping the barracks warm for us. Our strength is split up as follows: Apart from the Camp party, *i.e.*, Headquarters, "B" and one platoon of M.G. are at Peking, while "D" and one platoon of M.G. are at Tientsin. Incidentally, the weather at both these places is very warm indeed, in fact I have heard it described in many ways.

Shanhaikuan, during the summer, is very nearly perfect, except when it rains, and then—well, we move our tents to a dry spot, and wait to be washed out again.

As one of the local amusements is our old friend mountain warfare, which each company suffers from while in camp, the general opinion appears to be that our site is far too near the hills.

Members look forward to "Shan" with a view to recuperating physically and financially, so we were credibly informed; some, however, do not seem to be laying up much treasure on earth—perhaps the amount of salt in the air may have a little to do with it.

Readers of the last issue will remember an interesting account of an international luncheon party, when representatives of the Battalion were entertained by the Japanese troops in Tientsin. Shortly after this there followed an entertainment by the French at East Arsenal, where, we understand, the hospitality as dispensed *à la* France was very much appreciated by all present. The Italians followed suit with a similar effort in their very up-to-date barracks, completely equipped with central heating. After these international efforts, it was hoped that a return could be made, but unfortunately this was found to be impossible, for various reasons.

We then decided to extend an invitation to our late hosts as far as possible through the Mess. Owing to our lack of accommodation, we were forced to limit the monthly invitation to six each month, so making our monthly Mess dinners an international affair in a very small way.

The French dinner was a great success, while the band number "Madelon" was found to be especially popular with the visitors. One member is of the opinion that French is an easy language to learn, for he maintains that he was speaking it fluently at about 11 "pip emma."

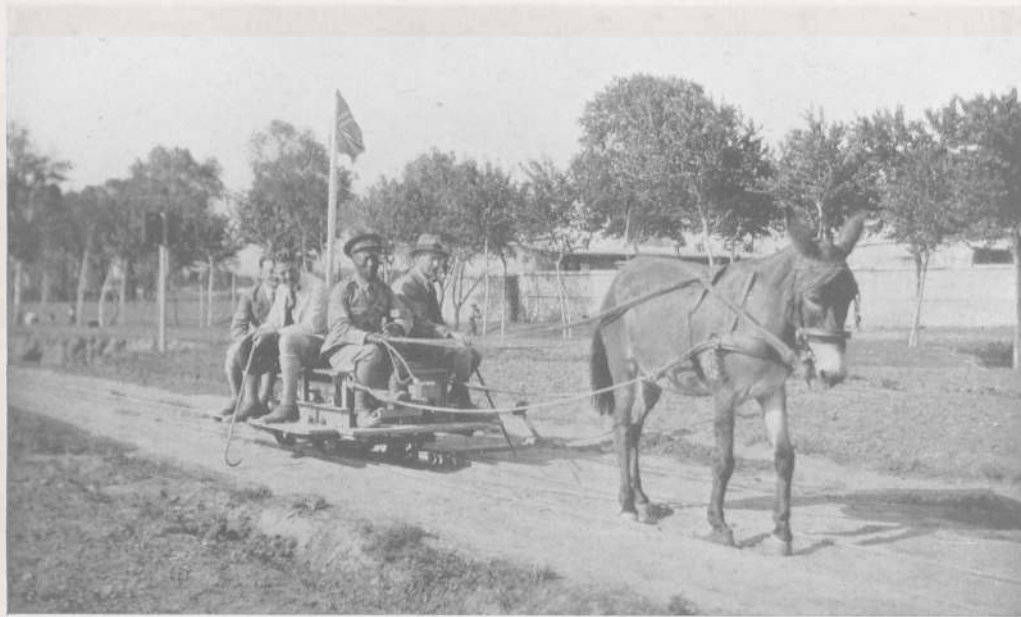
The Italian dinner was also a marvellous success, and the number of members who volunteered to interpret the speeches was surprising. We are afraid that the powers of imagination possessed by our linguists were strained somewhat before the evening was finished. We were much intrigued by the Facisti Salute which was accorded us by our guests before leaving.

While at Shanhaikuan we again came into close contact with our Japanese friends. "Beer" Company (and "Emma" Company) spent a considerable part of their valuable time while in camp introducing British customs to our Nipponese friends. On the arrival of H.Q. we were absolutely astounded to find the extent to which this friendly feeling had developed. The Japanese customs are slightly different from our own, as a few of our members were surprised to discover. Having entertained a party at the Mess, they (the Japanese) insisted that, the night being yet young, they should return the compliment there and then. It is believed that our contingent enjoyed a very good evening, but they were shocked to receive, a few days afterwards, a little bill for expenses incurred during the festivities. It appears that this is a Japanese custom, but for the moment our morale was badly bent, if not shattered.

Pony riding and swimming are the chief amusements in camp. We had read a lot about the hardy Manchurian ponies, and we believe that a number of our rough-



"AFTER THE STORM": H.Q. WING LINES, SHANHAIKUAN.
(2nd Prize Battalion Photographic Competition, Pte. W. Chennery.)



THE BRITISH TROLLEY WITH 1 m.p. "ENGINE."

riders consider them to be more hard than hardy. It is certain that very few, for the first week or two after arriving in camp, sit without care—in fact, sitting about is positively painful to many. Swimming here is excellent, and the sands are wonderful, although an attempt to acquire the Italian foreshore met with no approval on the part of the owners. There is, however, ample space for everyone. The complexions of members range from a light brown to a dark purple, owing to the popularity of sun-bathing.

All members are rapidly acquiring a working knowledge of the noble game of ping-pong. This is becoming very popular, and younger members are being initiated into this energetic pursuit at all times.

Our local race meeting was well attended, and although none of us won a fortune, the direction of the "Tote" and other administrative work lay with our members, who acquitted themselves nobly. It has been said that the aptitude which certain "Quarterblokes" showed in deducting the "ten per" showed an unholy knowledge of the mysteries of "stoppages."

Before leaving Tientsin, a "Panto" was staged, in which several of our members took leading parts. They have continued the good work in the form of several concerts in the "Dell," which have caused much amusement during the evenings.

We regret to place on record a complaint by a prominent member with a Scotch name, but, we are glad to say, English manners. The local type of camp bed, as issued, is causing him grave anxiety. The first he used sank two feet earthwards with great suddenness, and the next is so narrow that he complains that he overlaps in places. His "taches" are also suffering from hanging over the side, and are developing a pronounced droop.

We have great pleasure in congratulating the following on their promotion since the last issue: R.S.M. Watford, R.Q.M.S. Jackson, and L./Sergt. Fox.

We are given to understand that L./Sergt. Godwin and L./Sergt. Dennis have been selected for the next S.A. Course, and we wish them every success among the experts.

CORPORALS' MESS.

Our activities have been somewhat restricted owing to the three detachments into which the Battalion is divided. Nevertheless, we have managed to keep our heads above water, both socially and aquatically.

Those of us at Peking are fortunate enough to have a tennis court solely for our own use, but those at Shanhaikuan and Tientsin have to share the courts with anyone who comes along.

The Mess at Shanhaikuan is hardly luxurious—in fact, distinctly the opposite. However, we manage to get into it in relays, owing to its enormous size!!!

Our members at Peking had a really fine mess. The use of the past tense has probably been noticed. The water in the Military Compound was turned off, so it was decided to have a fire. All fires burn much better in the absence of water. This fire, not to be outdone by any other fire, completely gutted the Mess. It has now been restored to its former owners, thoroughly renovated. One good thing resulted, to wit, a new billiards table.

The things one can do at Shanhaikuan are limited to swimming, tennis for the few, cricket and polo riding for those who like it. Several members bear the scars which inevitably follow a ride on Friday. Various records have been broken, and one is forced to the conclusion that pony riding has some relationship with angling.

The Mess has run a cricket team during the season, with a fair amount of success. We have played on Sundays, commencing at 11 a.m. This has obvious

advantages if one bats before dinner, a certain amount of falling off having been observed after the midday meal, though not, it is suspected, in any culinary efforts, but to what happens between the four white walls.

So much for the great out-of-doors. In the Mess we have darts, plebian but necessary when one has so little to do. Several "time expireds" should, with practice, get into the village team, "being as they throw a main good dart." Then there is the chess set for the intelligensia. Though we doubt that any of us can play at all, having failed lamentably, of late, to solve any problem set us by correspondents to the various periodicals that one sees in the Mess.

No Mess functions have been held recently, this being obviously impossible owing to the limited accommodation at Shanhaikuan. There are, of course, the unofficial levees held on Fridays. Even these have ceased with the departure of certain people, together with a certain mysterious motto, to a far, far better place—to wit, Tientsin.

In conclusion, we extend a welcome to those new members who have joined us since we were last in print, and congratulate all those who have joined that upper strata where we believe that Euchre is supposed to have originated, or so they say.

CRICKET.

Cricket in Tientsin has been a very different matter to Malta, and I am afraid not nearly so good, due entirely to the fact that the Battalion has been split up into three different detachments and that the Tientsin Cricket Club and the Staff and Departments are the only two teams to play.

We have not been able once to produce a representative side, but companies have had a fair amount of cricket and have played the two teams mentioned above with varying success.

We have been running an Inter-Platoon Knock-out Competition, which has now reached the semi-final, and it looks very much as though the Signals, Employed and Transport will win.

On the Glorious First of June the Officers and Sergeants played the Corporals and Privates at Shanhaikuan, but were badly beaten. Pte. Keen has been the most consistent scorer in the Battalion throughout the season.

ATHLETICS.

Since the last issue of the JOURNAL, our activities in athletics have been chiefly confined to long-distance running. Thanks to sound training, the regimental team has improved considerably. 2/Lieut. Sydenham-Clarke is to be congratulated on gaining first place in four international events since the Battalion has been in China. Owing to the Battalion being so scattered, teams to represent the Battalion have had to be found from the Tientsin Garrison. The Regimental Athletic Meeting will take place at Tientsin early in October, prior to the Annual International Sports.

The following events have taken place:—

TIENTSIN ANGLO-CHINESE ATHLETIC MEETING.—April 25th.

1,500 Metres (International).—Won by 2/Lieut. Sydenham-Clarke; 4th, L./Cpl. Waite.

FETE SPORTIVE INTERNATIONALE.—Held at the French Arsenal on May 13th.

Cross-Country nine kilometres (teams of eight).—Winners of the Cup presented by the French Consul, 1st Bn. The Queen's Royal Regiment. First man home,

1st BATTALION.



Capt. Coward about to make a "home run."



Colonel Taylor, Commanding U.S. Troops in China, pitching the first ball.

BASEBALL: v. 15th AMERICAN REGIMENT.

1ST BATTALION

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2/Lieut. Sydenham-Clarke; 3rd, Pte. Callaghan. Members of the team: 2/Lieut. Sydenham-Clarke, L./Cpl. Ellis, Ptes. Callaghan, Winter, Blanchard, Saul, Dennis, Taylor. The above have been awarded Regimental Colours for cross-country running.

440 Yards.—Won by Pte. Thomas.

Putting the Weight.—2nd, Lieut. Kealy.

Discus.—3rd, Lieut. Kealy.

TIENTSIN AMATEUR ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION.—May 19th.

Cross-Country Run, 10,000 Metres.—Won by the French team. First man home, 2/Lieut. Sydenham-Clarke; 4th, Pte. Winter.

SWIMMING.

SHANHAIKUAN, 1931.

Swimming in the Battalion has seen a vast change this year from last. Instead of calm, blue deep water in a bay of our own, with every facility for diving, we have this year an uninteresting stretch of international beach, not more than 300 yards in length, with the Italians on one side and the Japanese on the other.

With some difficulty and for a fabulous sum a sampan was hired to come round every day to act as a picquet boat, but if the sea was at all choppy it was unable to get out of the mouth of the river where it was normally berthed, and this sadly restricted our activities.

The married families, when swimming first started, bathed from a portion of the Italian beach, but as the Italian range—a strange affair, apparently entirely devoid of stop-butt—was just behind, and as the Italians seemed to live on the range, it was not a popular stretch, especially when one afternoon a shell bumped its way casually down the beach.

Nevertheless the abolition of the non-swimmer has been progressing apace, but we all heartily wish from a swimming point of view we were back at Malta.

BASEBALL AND CRICKET MATCHES v. 15TH INFANTRY, U.S. ARMY.

BASEBALL.

On arrival in Tientsin we were informed by the departing regiment that we were expected to produce an officers' team to play the American Army at baseball, and that in return they would play us at cricket.

Bar the fact that we all knew that baseball was rather like rounders (though we did not tell our American friends this!) none of us had ever seen the game played, much less had we handled the vicious-looking dumb-bell, which is used in lieu of bat, or the extremely hard ball they produced for us to play with on the day, and we were all, naturally, rather alarmed at the thought of it.

The American officers were most helpful to us and attempted to explain the game, but in spite of all this the tension in the Officers' Mess almost reached breaking point. The fateful day arrived, and we proceeded to the Recreation Ground, where the match was to take place, in what we hopefully considered was the correct kit. We were soon disillusioned when we got there; however, we arrived on the ground to find it packed with American soldiers, all shouting, and a band playing, whilst the opposing team were practising, and one man who we imagined was going to give a fencing exhibition, though we couldn't see his opponent anywhere.

He turned out to be the "catcher," who corresponds to our "wicket-keeper."

This very essential man, and a "pitcher," *i.e.*, the man who literally hurls the ball as hard as he can at the unfortunate batsman, or striker, were lent to us by the 15th Infantry.

We do not propose to describe how the game is played, for the excellent reason that even now we couldn't; neither do we intend to bore you with a detailed account of the game, but after we had all had an attempt to hit the ball, the game commenced, and we took the field amid cries of "Atta-Boy," and "Come on Big Boys."

The game proceeded, and eventually finished. I don't think anyone knows the result, but the kind referee, by allowing us to go in several more times than we really should, and by displaying heroic leniency towards us (which caused such displeasure to their "pitcher" that he left the field!) allowed us to make several runs.

We all enjoyed the match very much indeed, and what is more, did not disgrace ourselves, though no doubt, judging by the laughter, we were a constant source of amusement to the spectators.

CRICKET MATCH.

The cricket match which took place between the Regiment and the 15th Infantry took place on the following week after the baseball match on our cricket ground.

We lent the Americans two officers who were supposed to be able to bat and bowl a bit, and also attempted to explain the rudiments of the game to our visitors.

We fielded first in order to help the Americans to get some idea as to how the game was played. The game ended in a win by a narrow margin for us, but we were all greatly surprised by the excellent fielding and batting of the Americans, who, with a little more practice, would become really good players. Their bowling was not quite so good, due to the fact that in baseball the ball is thrown and not bowled.

The game was a great success, and next year when we play them again, the result will probably be reversed.

PANTOMIME.

The Regimental Dramatic Club produced "Dick Whittington and His Cat," an original pantomime in two acts, five scenes. The pantomime was similar to the one produced by the Battalion at Kilworth in 1922. The performances took place at the Garrison Hall on April 7th, 8th and 9th, with a matinee on the 9th.

The scenery was most effective, designed by Pte. Hammond, and painted by a local Chinese scene painter. Dresses were made by the regimental tailor, Feroz Din, and compared very favourably with the 1922 production. The orchestration was most ably carried out by Lieut. Dickinson, who was also responsible for most of the lyrics. The entire caste is to be congratulated on putting up a really good show, which incidentally was appreciated by the local civilians. The orchestra did extremely well under the baton of Cpl. Rowbottom. Our thanks are also due to the many helpers off the stage.

The characters played were as follows: Prologue: Lieut. L. H. Fairtlough, The Demon Rat, Capt. G. A. Pilleau, M.C., The Fairy Queen, Sergt. H. Godwin, Mr. Fitzwarren, Bandmaster H. Perry, Mrs. Fitzwarren, Sergt. E. Philpot, Dick Whittington, Lieut. D. C. McC. Ettles, R.A.M.C., His Cat, 2/Lieut. J. Sykes-Wright, Bindles, Capt. H. G. Veasey, A Sea Captain, R.S.M. W. Watford, Steward, Pte. E. Batters, Bosun, Pte. H. Grove, Deck Hand, Pte. G. Williams, The Great Moghul of Malta, Capt. W. G. R. Beeton, Captain of the Guard, Sergt.

R. A. Wakley, Arthur Rizzio, Pte. G. Williams, Princess Salina, Lieut. D. C. G. Dickinson, A Town Crier of London, Sergt. R. A. Wakley, General Strikehard, Capt. H. G. Veasey, Coffee Stall Actors, Osric, Pte. E. Batters, Vivian, Pte. G. Williams, The Dude, Lieut. D. C. G. Dickinson, A Customer, Pte. H. Grove; Chorusmen: Bdsn. Willis, L./Cpl. Edgington, Boys Thorpe, Ivatts and Middleton; Chorus Ladies: Boys Nicholls, Gill, Pankhurst, Farmer.

AN UNUSUAL RACE MEETING.

The 1st Battalion held a Race Meeting, which must have been the first of its kind in the history of the Regiment, on July 20th, 1931, at Shanhaikuan. The circumstances leading up to this unique event need a little explanation.

One of the features of the summer camp has been the opportunity, of which the men were quick to take advantage, of plentiful and cheap riding.

A certain spot just outside the bounds of camp, and known as "Dollar Hack Corner" is the scene of much equine and even more equestrian activity every afternoon and evening.

The name explains itself. One pays one's dollar (the Chinese owners soon found that the chit system had its disadvantages) and one takes one's choice. At least that is on five days of the week; on Saturdays and Sundays one has to pay a premium to get a mount at all, and upwards of sixty Chinese ponies of all shapes and sizes are being walked, trotted or galloped (usually galloped) all over the countryside until nightfall.

The early efforts of our budding jockeys were amusing to spectators, and must have been painful to the performers, but it was remarkable how soon they began to look at home in the saddle; the sight of anyone holding the back of a saddle in one hand and keeping a firm grip with both heels in his pony's belly whilst he bumped uncomfortably in the saddle, with his helmet usually doing ditto on his head, soon became quite infrequent.

The obvious outcome of all this was to organize races; that is to say an official race meeting instead of the three times round the ground where the Chinese Army may be seen parading once a month, because that had the disadvantage that the participants took the risk of a charge of being out of bounds.

The suggestion met with approval on all sides, and the next step was to discuss ways and means.

It was decided that there should be five races with eight ponies in each; the winner of these races subsequently to compete for the Shanhaikuan Championship. It was also decided to hold a Children's Donkey Derby, a Ladies' Race and a Mule Race for Mafoos.

The next step was to choose a course. The country being intensely cultivated made this somewhat difficult.

The beach was considered, but the Chinese tides, like most other things Chinese, do not appear to abide by the usual laws, and the possibility of finding the course under two feet of water on the day was deemed too risky.

Eventually a road leading to camp, unmetalled and moderately straight, was chosen as answering the purpose. The length was approximately two furlongs, and a dozen coolies were turned out to fill up ruts and generally make it reasonably safe for racing.

As the number of ponies was limited to forty, a sweepstake was arranged to decide the owners and to pay for the hiring. About five hundred tickets were taken in this, and the draw, on being published, showed that thirty-two had gone to Headquarter Wing, whilst one individual already in the Transport drew no less than three, which the unlucky ones thought was decidedly more than his share.

The Children's Derby drew nineteen hopeful "Steves," and had to be split into two heats, while the Ladies' Race produced four entries.

Owners were permitted to name their ponies (subject to strict censorship), and to nominate jockeys if they did not wish to ride themselves owing to grey hairs or great weight.

The betting side was catered for by having a Totalisator and a Cash Sweep for each race. By the time the tents and marquees for these, in addition to those of the N.A.A.F.I. Canteen and Officers' Mess, had been erected, and enclosures and paddocks roped off, the course began to assume a business-like appearance.

Owing to the course being water-logged by rain, the races had to be postponed from a Friday to a Monday, and pessimists said that many of the would-be bettors would have already spent their week's pay by then, and that expenses would not be cleared. Fortunately, as events proved, they were wrong.

The actual day turned out to be a real scorcher, without a cloud in the sky, and by the time of the first race nearly everyone in the camp must have been present, together with a large number of assorted Chinese, while a slight perfume of garlic, contributed by the latter, floated in the air.

The first race on the card was the "Juvenile Derby (Handicap)", nine runners facing the starter in each of the two heats.

The riders were ably assisted by the Chinese owners of the "Mokes," who ran behind their charges shouting fierce words of encouragement, cracking whips, and occasionally giving assistance to the jockeys who looked like falling off.

The first heat was won by Miss Irene Parker, while the second was won by Master Tiny Oxley-Boyle. There is a suspicion that the Mafoo picked up the latter and his mount and ran with them under his arm for a part of the race, but no objection was lodged.

The second race, the "Strada Stretta" Stakes for Chinese ponies, was won by Pte. E. Smith, on "Shipwreck," and resulted in a very close finish, which caused the judges to mop their brows and pray that the remaining races would result in easy wins.

The third race was the "Foochow Trial Plate," and was won by "Papyrus" (not related to the Derby Winner of that name), "owned" by Pte. Sinclair, and ridden by Pte. Franklin.

The Ladies' Race, which was run next, produced the heaviest betting of the day, over a hundred tickets being taken on "Saracen," ridden by Mrs. Ponsonby. Backers showed that their choice was correct, as Mrs. Ponsonby, riding the best finish of the day, won by a head.

The result of this race demonstrated that races are better won by sitting still and keeping a tight rein than by the flourishing of arms and a loose rein. It is hoped that other riders at the meeting will forgive this criticism, which is meant helpfully.

The fifth race, the "Misida Handicap," was won by Pte. Shuttleworth on the aptly named, "He Goes"; he certainly did go, and won by about twenty lengths.

The sixth race, which was the "Trolley Trial Plate" named after the camp railway, which has mules instead of locomotives) gave Pte. E. Smith his second winner of the day on "Sweat," while the same jockey completed the hat-trick in the next race, the "Ship-Ho Stakes," on "Salvage."

This race gave the spectators some thrills, as one runner collided with a tree on the side of the course and ended up in a field of millet, while an unlucky spectator was knocked down by the winner, but was, fortunately, not seriously damaged.

The "Blossom Mule Scurry" gave the starter his only job at the meeting, chiefly owing to his ignorance of how to swear in Chinese. It was a pity that the runners for this race had been given a "secret" trial some days before, because the winner, "General," ridden by "Nee Wu," was such a red-hot favourite that

1st BATTALION.



A Group showing the American Reserves.



The American pitcher just after delivering the ball. Just behind him is the referee. Lieut.-Colonel Drysdale.

BASEBALL: v. 15th AMERICAN REGIMENT.

backers were only returned seventy cents. for their dollar. The mules showed a remarkable turn of speed, no doubt due to the fact that the course lay in the direction of the Transport lines.

The last race on the card was the "Champions' Stakes," for the winners at the Meeting. As was anticipated, "He Goes" carried this off fairly comfortably. The losers may be commiserated with, since the winner stood very nearly a hand taller than any other runners at the Meeting.

Favourites as a whole won their races, and consequently prices were small. A word of congratulation must be given to those in charge of the "Tote" and "Cash Sweep," which for the first attempt ran remarkably well.

A number of French, Italian and Japanese officers were present in the enclosures, giving the meeting quite a cosmopolitan aspect.

During the afternoon the Band played on the "lawn" and added to the success of the day. It would be invidious to mention any particular names of those who helped at the meeting, and in any case they enjoyed the satisfaction of having organized a really well-run show.

It was found that the financial side of the day was so successful that a small profit was made, and in consequence of the general popularity of the venture it has been decided to hold a second meeting in August.

NOTES FROM PEKING.

Since the last issue of the JOURNAL, "D" Company and No. 1 M.G. Platoon have been relieved by "B" Company and No. 3 M.G. Platoon. The former Company, by their exemplary behaviour and prowess at games, had become very popular in Peking, and everyone was sorry to see them go, but "B" Company have no doubt in their minds that they can better that record. In fact, they fully anticipate being asked to remain for the duration of extralimity, whenever that may be.

"B" Company and No. 3 M.G. Platoon, having spent six weeks in Shanhaikuan, which included three days' strenuous camp at Ehrling Temple in the hills, were inclined to regard a tour of duty as Legation Guard in the nature of a rest cure, but various inspections rapidly dispelled that idea.

Within a month of arrival the Detachment was inspected by the Commander, Tientsin Area; the Commanding Officer; the local Chinese Brigade Commander, prior to leaving Peking to defeat the rebel General, Shih (now ancient history); the Minister, Sir Miles Lampson, and the Chief Engineer, China Command.

These rapid inspections, together with a small detachment and an equally small parade ground, taxed the ingenuity of the Commandant to produce suitable ceremonial evolutions of sufficient variety, but, as always, he was equal to the occasion.

Hardly had we time to recover our breath and retrieve our sorely tried drill from the flying dhobi, when we heard that we were to be rewarded with a visit from the G.O.C., China Command. Our Company Sergeant-Major, who had been awaiting an opportunity, seized his chance and ordered a new suit of green drill for everyone. While the harassed Second-in-Command was taking innumerable fitting clothing parades, the G.O.C. took pity on us and abandoned his visit in favour of two months' leave; but the green drill remained with us, and instead the C.S.M. gave a lecture on "Opportunity."

The weather has been very sticky and hot of late, and, due to the fact that the legation is surrounded by a high wall, very little breeze manages to get into barracks, except when the gates are open; but the opportune building of a swimming pool in the vicinity of barracks, initiated by the Commandant, has gone a long way to solving the heat question.

There are not many units in the British Army who have their own swimming pool. Other ways of relieving the monotony of a hot summer have been organized. Visits to the Great Wall and the Nankou Pass, the Forbidden City, Summer Palace, etc. These visits have been greatly appreciated by the men, and have nearly always been instigated and organized by the Commandant.

We are also in the midst of an inter-platoon cricket league, and a six-a-side hockey tournament on a reduced pitch. Great enthusiasm prevails over these games, especially the former. Every run is vociferously cheered, and lucky snicks for one are greeted with cheers of "Lovely," "Pretty to watch," etc. The Chinese have long decided that we are mad, and even the American Guard are puzzled to know how we derive any amusement from such a ridiculous game, for our games are played outside the Legation wall in the "Glacis," in full view of the public.

"The Legation Follies of 1931," a concert produced by Ptes. Winfield and Buckett, was presented during August and was greatly appreciated by a large audience. Two of the items, "Company Orders" and "Guard Mounting as *we* should like it," found great favour in the eyes of the rank and file, as did Pte. Dodd as a comedian and our old favourite Pte. Brudenell. It is hoped to organize a farewell concert party, in honour of time-expired men, on the completion of the musketry camp, and this is expected to eclipse all previous efforts.

"IN MEMORIAM."

Marksmen fire for sixpence a day,
A sixpence with wings on, so they say,
But if bullets can fly, I ask you why,
Should not a sixpence soar to the sky?

For that is the way it is sure to go,
Unless your nerves are just so-so,
Physically fit and trained to the letter,
It can't be done by anything better.

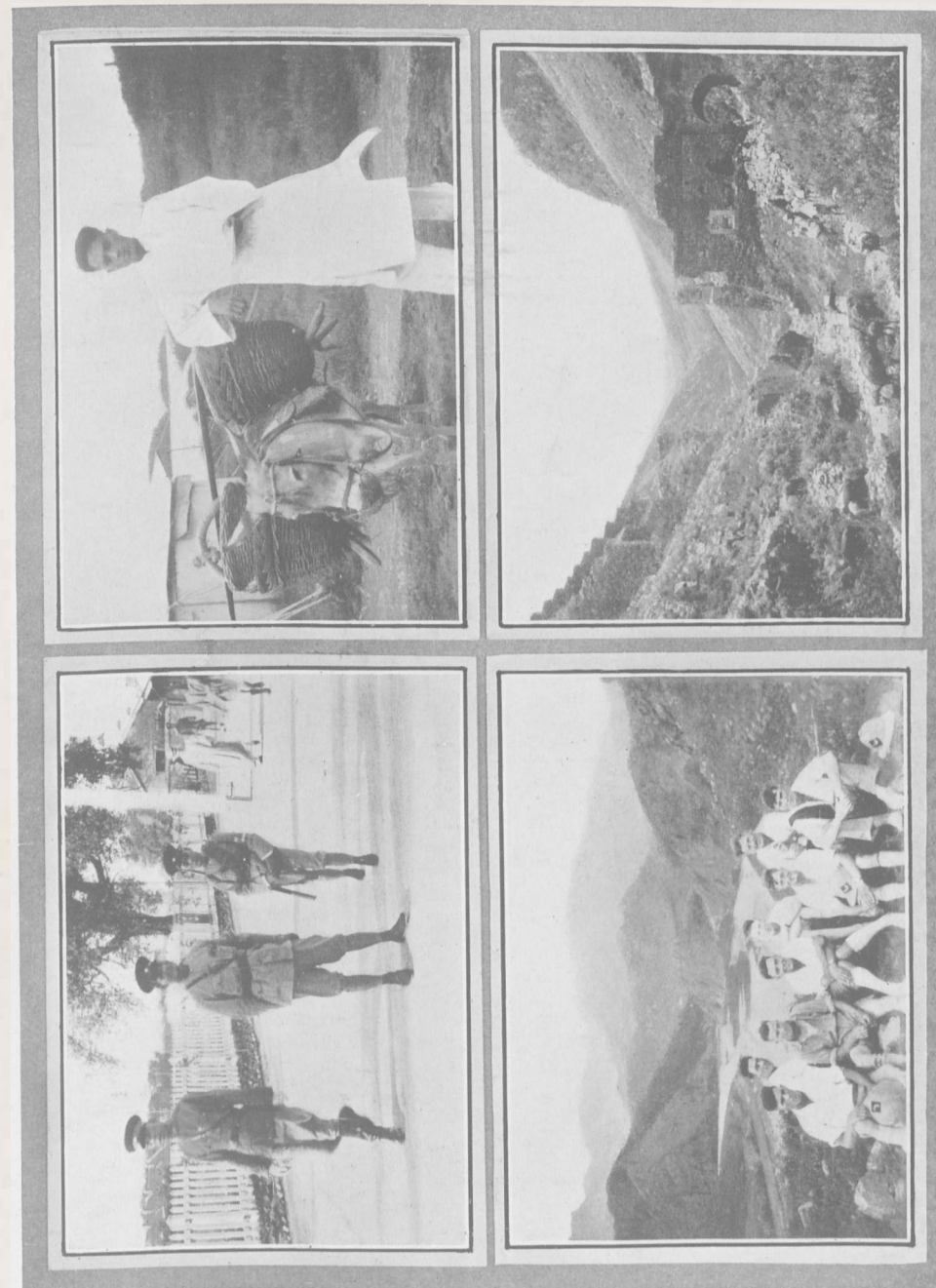
Oh! that sixpence, elusive thing,
A nice steady aim, a squeeze, a ping,
Then silence so weary, as still as the grave,
Then, wave to me markers, wave to me, wave.

At five hundred yards, a wee tiny mound,
A burial service without a sound,
The "guns" that once adorned my sleeve,
Have taken a holiday, one year's leave.

HEARD ON THE RANGE.

It was a well-known fact that the "Don 3" telephones laid on the Shanhaikuan Ranges had not been in working order since they had been laid. Our own Regimental Signallers had been employed on them for several days trying to get them into working order. At last it was announced that they were ready for use. It so transpired that one of the first persons to use the phone was a certain C.S.M. who tried about fifty times in as many minutes to get through to the butts. After much flowery language and several profanities hurled at the heads of the Signallers, he was heard to remark that "If seats in heaven were booked over a 'Don 3,' seats in hell would be full of disappointed signallers."

1st BATTALION.



1. CHINESE SOLDIERS AT PEITAHU.

3. A PICNIC PARTY AT EHRLING TEMPLE.

2. N.A. & A.F.I. "DELIVERY VAN" AT SHANHAIKUAN.

4. A GAP IN THE GREAT WALL NEAR SHENTAKUAN.

MEDALS OF THE BRITISH ARMY.

By COL. E. J. WOOLLEY, M.C.

WHEN one contemplates the magnificent military record of Great Britain, it is curious how dilatory she has been in showing appreciation for the great deeds of her Army as a whole.

After Cromwell's victory at Dunbar in 1650, the Parliament ordered medals to be struck in gold for officers and in silver for other ranks who took part in the battle. These, however, were issued more as a commemoration of a great victory than as a Campaign Medal, and it was not for many years to be remembered that it is the hope of reward that sweetens labour.

There are instances of medals and decorations being granted to successful Naval and Military Commanders, but not until the Peninsular War do we find anyone below the rank of a General Officer receiving any medal or decoration in the Army. The victory of the "Glorious 1st of June" appears to have inspired the whole nation with admiration for the veteran admiral, Lord Howe, then in his 70th year, and for the gallant men who served under him. It is recorded that the shore was lined with thousands of people when the Fleet sailed into Portsmouth, and salutes were fired from the batteries.

King George III visited Portsmouth with the Queen and presented the Admiral with a diamond-hilted sword, and a gold chain, to which the medal given to the Admiral was afterwards attached. Gold medals and chains were given to certain Vice-Admirals, and a small gold medal was given to all captains commanding ships.

After the battle of Talavera, which was considered of great importance, following as it did on the somewhat discouraging beginning of the Peninsular War, Sir Arthur Wellesley was raised to the Peerage, and a gold medal was struck in two sizes, the larger being distributed to General Officers and the smaller down to Lieutenant-Colonels, or those who succeeded to command owing to the death of Battalion Commanders. It was also issued to Commanders of Artillery, Engineers, etc.

As the war progressed further medals were issued, and as the same officers became entitled to them it became necessary to alter the method of distribution of decorations.

A general order was therefore issued, which stated that in future only one medal should be worn, and that for the second or third event a gold clasp bearing the name of the action should be carried on the riband. Upon a claim being admitted for a fourth distinction, a gold cross should be substituted for the medal with the names of the four actions inscribed on it. Upon a further claim for an additional distinction a clasp should again be issued and borne on the riband as in the case of the medal.

This decoration is in the form of a Maltese Cross, $1\frac{1}{2}$ ins. across, having in the centre in high relief a British Lion statant. The names of the battles are inscribed on the four Arms, the first one at the top. Each arm is surrounded by an edge of laurel leaves with a double raised border.

In the possession of Capt. H. Carr-Gomm, late of the 22nd London Regiment (The Queen's) is the gold cross awarded to Field-Marshal Sir William Maynard Gomm, G.C.B.

Field-Marshal Sir William Maynard Gomm, G.C.B., was born in 1784. In 1794 he was gazetted to the 9th Regiment of Foot (now the Norfolk Regiment). He was then not quite ten years old.

From 1799 to 1816 he saw much active service. He went with his regiment to the Helder against the French in 1799. In 1803 he was promoted Captain: 1805 saw him at the Military College at High Wycombe from which emerged the present Staff College. In 1807 he was employed under Lord Cathcart at the destruction of Copenhagen. From then onwards he served almost continuously on the Staff. In 1808 he went with Sir Arthur Wellesley to Portugal and was present at the battles of Roleia and Vimiera. In October of the same year he served on Sir John Moore's staff, was through the retreat to Corunna, and was the last man of the Army to embark. He accompanied the ill-fated Walcheren Expedition in 1809. The next year he was again in Spain, but arrived too late to take part in the battle of Talavera. He was present at most of the Peninsular battles. He was promoted Lieutenant-Colonel after the battle of Salamanca. In 1814 he was transferred to the Coldstream Guards and created K.C.B.

In 1815 he once more took the field and in his old appointment of Quartermaster-General to Picton's Division. After he had been promoted to Major-General he commanded in Jamaica from 1839 to 1842. In the latter year he was appointed Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Mauritius. In 1851 he was appointed Commander-in-Chief in India, which he held for five uneventful years.

He received his Field-Marshal's baton in 1868.

In 1871 he became Constable of the Tower, which appointment he was holding at the time of his death in 1875 in the 91st year of his age.

He was Lord of the Manor of Rotherhithe, and for some years was Honorary Colonel of the 6th Surrey Rifles, afterwards the 3rd Volunteer Battalion of the Queen's Royal West Surrey Regiment, now the 22nd London Regiment (The Queen's). Relatives of his have served for many years in this Battalion.

He was awarded the following clasps on his Military General Service Medal:—Roleia, Vimiera, Corunna, Busaco, Fuentes d'Onor, Nivelles, and on his Peninsular Cross are Salamanca, Badajoz, St. Sebastian, Vittoria, with a clasp for Nive.

Up to now, medals had only been issued to commissioned ranks, and then only to General Officers and, in the case of the Peninsular War, to Senior Regimental Officers.

The medal for Waterloo was the first instance of one being granted to all ranks, since those given for the Battle of Dunbar. The first thought of giving a medal to the rank and file appears to have emanated from the Duke of Wellington himself. Those present at Ligny and Quatre Bras also received it. It was originally intended to issue a copper medal to the rank and file, the silver medal being confined to commissioned ranks. This did not meet with approval, and the silver one was distributed in 1816.

While the British Government was slow to recognize the services of its Armies, the Honourable East India Company, to whom we largely owe our Indian Empire, was more generous in rewarding its soldiers. As early as 1778 we hear of them making a distribution of medals, and for the many campaigns in which their troops, as well as British, took part, the Company gave medals to all ranks.

To embark on a description of the many Indian campaigns and medals is too big a subject to be included in this article. There is enough matter in that alone for a separate one.

In 1840 the Duke of Wellington was petitioned by some of the surviving officers of the Peninsular War to forward through the usual channels a request that a medal might be granted for the Peninsular War. This he refused to do.

In 1845 the Duke of Richmond presented a petition to the House of Lords for the grant of a decoration for the War. In the debate which followed, the Duke of Wellington strenuously opposed the motion. Nevertheless, the petition was ordered to lie on the table. Two years afterwards the medal was issued.

MEDALS OF THE BRITISH ARMY.



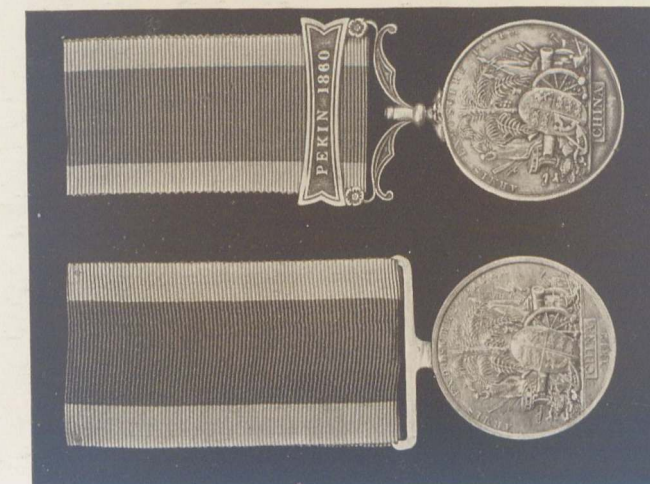
CRIMEA.

Left, Reverse.
Right, Obverse.



NEW ZEALAND, 1845-47.

Left, Obverse.
Right, Reverse.



Left, CHINA, 1842.

Right, CHINA, 1857-60.
Note difference in clasp.

The medal is of fine workmanship, being designed by Mr. William Wyon, R.A., and struck at the Royal Mint.

On the obverse is the diademed head of the Queen with the date 1848 below, and above, the legend "Victoria Regina."

Reverse: upon a dais stands the Queen robed and crowned in the act of placing a laurel wreath on the brow of the kneeling figure of the Duke of Wellington as personifying the British Army. By the side of the dais lies the British Lion couchant. Above is the legend, "To the British Army," and in the exergue the date 1793-1814.

Twenty-eight clasps were issued, but of these twelve were the greatest number anyone in The Queen's could obtain, *viz.*, Egypt, 1801, Vimiera, Corunna, Salamanca, Talavera, Vittoria, Pyrenees, Nive, Orthes, Toulouse, San Sebastian, Nivelles.

As readers will doubtless recollect, the Regiment was never at full strength during the latter part of the War, so that the number of survivors who were able to substantiate their claims must have been small.

No doubt this accounts for the rarity of the medals awarded to men who served in The Queen's. According to the Medal Rolls at the War Office, 148 medals are known to have been issued to men exclusive of officers.

It would be extremely interesting to find out how many medals are known to be in existence, and a record made of where they are.

To the tardy recognition of the services of the soldiers of Britain must be to a large degree attributed the institution of Regimental Medals, and also to the fact that the Army was largely composed in those days of men of not too good character. To encourage morale and as a means of fostering the military virtues, Commanding Officers no doubt found the issue of a medal a good means of recognizing meritorious service, and the gallantry of the individual soldier.

In these days when no gallant act goes unrewarded, and medals are distributed profusely, it is hardly possible to believe that men who volunteered for such hazardous enterprises as the Forlorn Hope of Badajoz received no recognition whatsoever from the Crown. It was left to individual regiments to make some recognition of the bravery of these men.

The end of the 18th and the beginning of the 19th century saw the institution of regimental decorations. These were of a more or less private character, being paid for either by the officers or the Colonel of the Regiment concerned. They were generally bestowed for valour, merit, long and good service, and in some cases for marksmanship and temperance.

These medals were undoubtedly the forerunner of the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal issued by King William IV in 1830, which gradually put an end to the regimental medals and badges.

The earliest regimental medal known to the writer is one struck to commemorate the departure of The Queen's Bays from Norwich Barracks to join the army of the Duke of York in Flanders in 1793. The medal given by Pope Pius VI to the officers of the 12th Light Dragoons as a mark of his regard in 1791 hardly comes within the scope of this article, nor does that given to eight officers of the 15th Light Dragoons in 1794 by the Emperor of Germany.

The majority of regimental medals seem to have made their appearance between 1800 and 1835.

In addition to the regimental medals of The Queen's mentioned in the article which appeared in the first issue of this JOURNAL, a small engraved regimental medal seems to have been in existence prior to the issue of the silver cross made in 1829. The obverse of the medal has in the centre "2nd Regt." surrounded by a garter containing the words "Queen's Royals." Above is a crown and on each side a trophy of flags.

To the initiative and thoughtfulness of Lieut.-Col. T. Willshire, who was in command of the Regiment in 1829, must be attributed the institution of the Silver Cross for ten years' meritorious service.

The extract from Regimental Orders dated May 24th, 1829, runs as follows:—

"It must be gratifying and acceptable to the proper pride of a well conducted and deserving soldier, to wear upon his person an authorised testimonial from his Regiment that to the perfect stranger points out the bearer to be a meritorious soldier. Such badges, which will be crosses with a suitable inscription, the Commanding Officer has decided upon immediately establishing in the Queen's Royal Regiment, and he flatters himself that he will soon have the happiness of seeing numbers of them in the ranks of the corps. Many non-commissioned officers and men at the present moment are able to establish their claims, and many others who are well conducted, but who have not yet completed the period required to ground their claim, will be constantly arriving at it."

The Regiment certainly flourished exceedingly under Col. Wilshire's command, for the reports of the Inspecting Officers during his period of command speak in the highest terms, both of the Regiment and of its Commanding Officer. He saw much service during his career both in the Peninsula, Cape of Good Hope, and India, being present at the capture of Ghuznee. For his services at this battle he was created K.C.B., and a baronet after the capture of Khelat. Like General Baumgardt he was awarded the Order of Dooranee Empire 2nd Class. For his service in the Peninsular War he got the Military General Service Medal with seven bars—Roleia, Vimiera, Corunna, Salamanca, Vittoria, St. Sebastian and Nive. He was promoted Major-General in 1846, Lieutenant-General in 1854. General in 1861, and he died in 1862 at the age of 82. He appears to have been a man not only of considerable efficiency, but also of some strength of character judging by his nickname of "Tiger Tom." Judging from his subsequent career, the encounters he had with his superiors do not appear to have injured him.

On March 22nd, 1837, an order was issued abolishing this Meritorious Service Medal, which runs as follows:—

"His Majesty having been pleased to authorise a distinctive mark of merit to be conferred on soldiers as shall render themselves remarkable for habitual good conduct, it will supersede the system of honorary rewards hitherto in use in the Regiment under the rules laid down in the Regimental Orders of May 24th, 1829. Those soldiers, therefore, now in possession of Crosses of Merit (and who do not forfeit them by a breach of the Cross Regulation) will continue to wear them until further orders, but from the date of promulgation of the warrant above cited, no distinction will be considered greater or more honourable than the Ring to be worn on the right arm, as directed."

Two of these medals are in possession of the writer, Michael Byrne's and Stephen Preston's.

The Long Service and Good Conduct Medal was first instituted by King William IV on July 30th, 1830, for non-commissioned officers and men who had served 21 years in the infantry, and 24 years in the cavalry, who had been discharged in receipt of a gratuity.

The obverse has a military trophy of cannons, arms, cannon balls, and helmets, with a shield in the centre bearing the Arms of Hanover. The reverse has the inscription, "For Long Service and Good Conduct."

In 1837 the medal was slightly altered by the omission of the surcharge of the Hanoverian Arms. The suspender is a small steel clip to which is attached a steel



Left. LONG SERVICE AND GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL OF 1830: OBTVERSE.
Centre. LONG SERVICE AND GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL OF 1837: OBTVERSE.
Right. LONG SERVICE AND GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL OF 1851: REVERSE.

(Note the omission of Hanoverian Arms from 1837 medal, also change of clasp.)



GROUP OF MEDALS OF CPL. WM. ROFE.

Left. Ghuznee, 1839.
Centre. Regimental Ten Years' Meritorious Service Medal.
Right. Long Service and Good Conduct Medal.

loop. The ribbon is crimson. About 1851 the suspender was replaced by a clasp, and the letters of the inscription were slightly smaller.

The writer has recently seen, and was fortunate enough to be able to obtain a photograph of an exceptionally interesting group of medals consisting of the Ten Years' Meritorious Service Medal, the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal of 1837, and the Ghuznee Medal belonging to Cpl. William Rofe. The photograph appears facing page 16 of this journal. Until recently these were in Lord Cheylesmore's collection. It is hoped they have now found a permanent resting-place with the Regiment, where all who are interested in its past history may see them, recalling as they do the fact that the recipient must have performed many years of good and faithful service.

A misunderstanding having arisen with the Chinese over the opium trade, England declared war in April, 1842. As a result of this we acquired Canton, Hong-Kong, and Shanghai among other places. For this war a medal was granted. The medal is of interest not only because the war gave us Hong-Kong and Shanghai, but also because this is the first medal to be issued with the Queen's head.

Obverse: diademed head of the Queen, over which is the inscription "Victoria Regina." Reverse: a trophy of naval and military weapons. In front, a shield charged with the Royal Arms; behind, a palm tree. Above is the legend, "Armis exposcere pacem." In the exergue, "China 1842." The ribbon is crimson with yellow edges.

A medal for the war against the Maoris in 1845-7 was not granted until 1869. Only four regiments took part in the operations, and the crews of nine warships.

The obverse has the diademed head of the Queen with a veil covering the back of the head and neck. Above is the legend "Victoria D.G. Britt. Reg. F.D." Reverse: a laurel wreath within which the dates of service of the recipient are inscribed; the words "New Zealand" above, and "Virtutis Honor" below. The ribbon is dark blue with a broad red stripe down the centre.

We now come to the Kaffir wars, which took place in 1834-5, 1846-7, and 1850-1853. The first two campaigns entailed much hard work but not a great deal of fighting. Only three regiments took part in the first. Ten were engaged in 1846-7, while twelve and the crews of five warships made up the force of the 1850-53 campaign, which was a far more serious affair than the other two.

The Queen's took part in this last campaign, and part of the Battalion embarked on the ill-fated *Birkenhead* on June 24th, 1851, but did not arrive until August 14th, the delay being caused by engine trouble. The whole Battalion had not assembled before September 7th. Colonel Burns was in command.

It is not intended to digress from the subject of this short article into a history of the part the Regiment played in this war; suffice it to say the Battalion saw much hard fighting, always covered itself with distinction, and suffered many casualties and privations, among the casualties being its Commanding Officer.

The writer may perhaps be forgiven if he reminds readers that it was while bringing reinforcements that the *Birkenhead* foundered off Point Danger, about fifty miles from Simons Bay, early on the morning of February 26th, 1852.

By a General Order dated November 22nd, 1854, a medal was granted to commemorate these wars in South Africa. The medal was the same in all cases, and the only way of distinguishing for which campaign the medal was given is by the number of the regiment indented on the edge of the medal, after the name of the recipient.

On the obverse is the diademed head of the Queen with the legend "Victoria Regina." On the reverse is a British Lion stooping to drink under a mimosa bush. The ribbon is light orange with two broad and two narrow blue stripes. No bars were issued.

While The Queen's were in Africa, the Crimean War broke out in March,

1854. It has become famous in the annals of British history more for the valour exhibited by the British soldier than for any outstanding ability on the part of the higher command.

This war saw the inception of the Victoria Cross and the Distinguished Conduct Medal.

In December, 1854, an order was made for the issue of a medal, and only two bars were authorized, namely, Alma and Inkerman.

In February, 1852, a bar for Balaklava was sanctioned, and in October one for Sebastopol. A special bar—Azoff—was issued to the Navy. It was not possible for one recipient to receive more than four bars.

The medal has, on the obverse, the usual diademed head of the Queen, with the legend "Victoria Regina," and the date 1854 in the exergue.

On the reverse, a flying figure of Victory is crowning a Roman warrior with a wreath. The word "Crimea" is inscribed vertically on the left of the figure. The medal was designed by Mr. W. Wyon, R.A., and, like most of his work, is fine.

The bars are of an unusual type and are very ornamental. They are in the form of an oak leaf with acorns. The name of the battle they commemorate is in raised letters in the centre. The clasp for suspension matches the bars, and is unique to this medal. The riband is light blue with light yellow edges.

They were presented to recipients by the Queen in Hyde Park. There are numerous combinations of bars. There are six different combinations of three bars, and seven combinations of two bars.

The medals issued to the regiments comprising the Light Brigade are of most interest to collectors on account of the celebrated charge. The regiments were the 17th Lancers, 13th Light Dragoons, the 4th Light Dragoons, the 8th Hussars, and the 11th Hussars.

The Victoria Cross is undoubtedly the most famous and most highly prized of all medals and decorations. It was issued in 1856 at the instigation of the Prince Consort, who is said to have designed it. It is made of bronze and cast from captured cannons. This was done on purpose so that the intrinsic value should be as small as possible.

One hundred and seven Crosses were issued for the Crimean War.

The first Victoria Cross to be gained in The Queen's was in 1903, during the Kano-Sokoto Expedition in West Africa, when Lieutenant W. D. Wright, then serving with the Northern Nigeria Regiment, was awarded this highly prized decoration.

The circumstances were as follows:—

On February 26th, 1903, during the Kano-Sokoto Expedition in West Africa, Lieutenant Wright, with only one officer and forty men, made a most gallant stand for two hours against the repeated charges of 1,000 of the enemy's cavalry and 2,000 infantry, inflicting such losses upon them that they were forced to retire, upon which the little party pursued them until they broke into full retreat.

The *Gazette* states that the success of this affair was greatly due to Lieutenant Wright's personal example and skilful leadership.

The Distinguished Conduct Medal was instituted on December 4th, 1854, as a mark of the "Sovereign's sense of the distinguished service and gallant conduct in the field of the Army then serving in the Crimea." It has now, of course, been awarded in subsequent campaigns.

The original medal was the same as the Long Service Medal awarded by Queen Victoria, but on the reverse is inscribed "For Distinguished Conduct in the Field."

The Sultan of Turkey also gave a medal for the Crimean War to all soldiers and sailors engaged.

By a General Order in Council the Queen granted a medal to the troops

engaged in the Chinese War, 1857-60. The medal is the same as that issued for the 1842 campaign, except that the date "1842" is omitted from the exergue.

Five bars were issued to the Army, namely:—China 1842, Canton 1857, Taku Forts 1858, Taku Forts 1860, and Pekin 1860. Anyone who fought in both wars received this medal with a bar for 1842 to replace his original medal.

A clasp for Fatschan was issued to the Navy.

Only one medal with five bars was issued, and that to a gunner in the Royal Marine Artillery. It has the following bars:—Fatschan 1857, Canton 1857, Taku Forts 1858, Taku Forts 1860, and Pekin 1860.

It is perhaps worth recalling that the troops for this campaign all came either from England or India with the exception of The Queen's, who were specially selected to come from Africa to form part of the Army.

The battalion sailed straight from South Africa, and spent some four months on board the troopships before eventually landing to take part in the operations which resulted in the capture of the Taku Forts and the burning of the Emperor's Summer Palace outside Pekin in 1860.

The campaign was particularly arduous, and the troops suffered severely from dysentery owing to the vagaries of the climate and the lack of good water. It is recorded that practically the whole battalion suffered from this disease at some period of the campaign.

The writer has seen a medal with the bar "Taku Forts, 1858" awarded to Jas. Burke. It is one of peculiar interest because the Regiment was not present at this action. This man, therefore, must have been on some extra regimental employment.

This brief treatise closes with this campaign. The numerous wars fought in various parts of Africa and in New Zealand which, from 1860 onwards, occupied most of the attention of the authorities at home, may perhaps be dealt with in some future article, as well as the many wars in India which are of absorbing interest to the numismatist.

Naval medals have not been touched on, although the earlier ones are of much interest. Some one better qualified than the writer of this article may perhaps take up the tale at some future date and give an account of them.

THE REGIMENTAL DINNER

THE Regimental Dinner was held at the King Edward VII Rooms, Hotel Victoria, on Monday, June 15th, 1931. The Colonel of the Regiment, Major-General Sir W. D. Bird, K.C.B., C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., was in the chair, and the following were present:—

Lieut.-General Ellison; Major-Generals Hamilton, McNamara, Sillem and Vesey; Brig.-Generals Glasgow, Mangles, More-Molyneux, Pink and Wright; Cols. Clarke, Coles, Dyer, Harris, Lee and Watson; Lieut.-Cols. Bacon, Basset, Bell, Bolton, Boyd, Carr, Elias Morgan, Engledue, Evans, Faivell, Feneran, Giffard, Kemp-Welsh, Rainsford-Hannay, Sanders, Tringham, Watson, Whinfield and Wigan; Majors Barton, Dorman-Smith, Furze, Grubb, Hawarden, Hooker, Jebens, Mott, Olliver and Pain; Capt. Block, Bolton, Clayton, Coates, Foster, Girling, Haggard, C. A. Haggard, Hughes, Jacob, Morton, Palmer, Philpot, Ross, Ryan and Willis; Lieuts. Burton, Combe, East, Elliott, Evans, Gibbs, Grimston, Ponsford, Sheldon, Sillem and Wood; 2/Lieuts. Barrow, Jenyns, Pares, Piggott and Richardson.

2nd BATTALION

DURING the past month we have been hard at work with our training, most of the time under deplorable weather conditions which, however, improved considerably during Battalion Training. There was no Divisional Concentration this year, and we have been doing everything from barracks. From August 26th till September 9th the 131st Territorial Brigade was in camp here, and we saw a good deal of the 4th and 5th Battalions.

The Regiment were the guests of H.M.S. *Excellent* at Whale Island this year, and, needless to say, we were entertained with their usual hospitality. Lieut.-Col. Giffard was fortunately able to leave his arduous duties at the I.D.C. for a few hours and attend the gathering for dinner on June 1st. After the dinner the usual "naval gymnastics" took place in the Mess, including an "After Port (or is it 'Inter-Port'?) Iron Bedstead Competition" against the soldiers. In this The Queen's ably acquitted themselves, in spite of their leader, Lieut.-Col. Giffard, being hit on the forehead and somewhat trampled to death in the battle for positions.

The weather was fair and enabled us to have two good afternoons' cricket, but the match was a draw.

It was with much regret that we learnt of the Rev. Goudges' pending retirement to civil life. For many years he has been a prominent member of Whale Island and taken an active part in our annual celebrations. We shall miss him in future years, but offer him a warm welcome should he find it possible ever to join us again on the 1st of June.

Bowling.—Lieut.-Comdr. Agnew 6 for 41 and 2 for 52; P.O. Bradley 2 for 19; Sub.-Lieut. Donald 2 for 17; Lieut.-Comdr. Swanston 3 for 32; Lieut.-Col. Basset 4 for 11 and 5 for 28; Capt. Block 4 for 32; Capt. Haggard 2 for 25; Lieut. Piggott 1 for 6.

On June 3rd there was a Brigade Parade on the sea front, in honour of the King's birthday. Though sadly under strength, our young soldiers comported themselves very well and won the praise of old officers of the Regiment who witnessed the parade.

In July, Major R. H. Philpot, M.C., decided to retire for reasons of health. He spent the whole of his service with the Regiment, being with this Battalion practically the whole time. It is with great regret we say good-bye to this very popular officer.

Capt. I. P. P. Hughes, M.C., has received a Staff appointment and will be leaving us in December. 2/Lieut. P. H. Richardson leaves us to join the 1st Battalion next October.

We have to congratulate Capt. J. B. Coates, M.C., who has spent most of his service in this Battalion, on his nomination to the Staff College.

In the Garrison Horse Show, held on August 3rd in pouring rain, Lieut. H. A. V. Elliott, on "Christopher-Robin," won the Jumping Competition for Government chargers of the Garrison. "Babs" took second place in the "Mules-in-hand." In the Tent-Pegging the Battalion was placed third. The general standard showed a marked advance on last year.

On August 24th, Lieut.-Col. G. J. Giffard, D.S.O. (who has not yet taken over command of the Battalion, as he is at the Imperial Defence College), came to stay with us and remained till the end of Battalion Training.

VISIT OF THE BAND AND DRUMS TO CROYDON.

On Monday, June 29th, the Band and Drums visited Croydon for the first time in history. The visit had been arranged for the purpose of stimulating recruiting. Lieut.-Col. R. A. M. Basset, M.C., represented the Director of Recruiting at the War Office, and the Chief Recruiting Officer for the London Zone (Col. H. Clay) was also present. The local arrangements, which worked excellently, had been made by Capt. N. A. Willis, Adjutant of the 4th Battalion.

The Band and Drums camped at the Headquarters of the 4th Battalion, the barracks. Mitcham Road, where an entertainment had been arranged for them on Monday evening. On Tuesday they visited Messrs. Kennard's, and in the evening they beat "Retreat" at the South Norwood Recreation Ground.

On Wednesday there was an official reception by the Mayor, the Band and Drums being drawn up before the Town Hall. The Mayor (Alderman T. A. Lewis) made a speech of welcome. After the ceremony the Mayor was officially thanked by Lieut.-Col. Basset. A performance was then given in the Town Hall Gardens before a crowded audience. That evening at the Headquarters of the 4th Battalion, on Thursday at Duppas Hill, and on Friday at Wandle Park, "Retreat" was again beaten before large and appreciative audiences.

Our thanks are due to the Mayor and Corporation of Croydon, without whose help the success of the visit would not have been possible; also to Lieut.-Col. B. L. Evans, T.D., and the officers of the 4th Battalion, for their hospitality and assistance. Capt. N. A. Willis, who was responsible for the original inspiration and the organizing work connected with it, deserves special recognition. It is the hope of all that the visit will bear special fruit in the shape of recruits when the recruiting season gets into full swing.

COMPANY MARCH.

Leaving Connaught Barracks, Dover, at 8.15 a.m. on July 27th "A," "B" and "D" Companies, 2nd Battalion, organized so as to form one full-strength company, started on a "Company March" which was to last for five days.

These marches have always been a special feature of training at Dover, but this year orders were to the effect that active service conditions were to prevail, and a continuous war exist except at specified periods.

To comply with the Brigade Orders on the matter, an interesting scheme was compiled, based on the American Civil War, 1861, whereby the amalgamated company assumed itself to be part of Stonewall Jackson's Brigade concentrating at Barham for an attack on Canterbury, an important Ordnance Depot belonging to the Federals.

The Company, which carried bivouac equipment and no tents, spent the first night at Barham where they were received with the usual hospitality of Col. and Mrs. R. G. Clarke, who were generous enough to entertain one hundred and seventy other ranks to a huge tea in their garden, followed by dinner for twelve officers in their house that night.

On the 28th hostilities commenced, and the company carried out an interesting attack scheme through Bourne Park, towards the high ground north-west of Bridge which was eventually captured and consolidated for the night. The afternoon being designated a "specified period," teas were eaten round the cooker and football played until 7 p.m., when defensive positions were re-occupied and "battle outposts" put out.

Except for a few Very lights being sent up by the enemy, and the insistence of one enemy patrol sergeant to creep into the outpost line and let down an officer's bivouac, the Company had a peaceful night. Orders being received during the

night to retreat down the Valley Turnpike (road Bridge-Lyminge), the positions were evacuated at dawn and a withdrawal ensued. This was carried out in an orderly manner through Whitehill Wood; while the principle of "Surprise" was well effected by the Officer Commanding 2nd Battalion who started from Dover at an early hour and suddenly appeared from the undergrowth to witness the operation at 4.30 a.m.

A soldier has little love for the English countryside when carrying a Lewis gun hundreds of yards over rough country, but those who took part in the exercise could not fail to enjoy the march on this morning down a most beautiful Kent valley with the sun just rising over the hilltops. After a hot meal on the march, Farthingsole Farm, north-west of Elham, was reached at 8 a.m. Here a most enjoyable day was spent resting and playing organized games. Thanks to the existence of a large barn an extremely jolly camp concert took place that night, a special feature of the evening being an inter-platoon singing competition which was warmly contested and opened the throats of everyone present. Many of the songs had been composed only a few hours before, necessitating groups in various corners of the camp gathering together in secret to practise the chorus all the afternoon. The Revs. Bond and Heale kindly brought artistes from Dover, and the evening concluded with a bivouac supper round the officers' lines.

On the 30th the withdrawal continued, and the company, acting as left-flank guard, was attacked by Federal cavalry patrols while proceeding to its next camping ground at Mountscourt Farm, south-east of Elham. Rain fell most of the day, but Mountscourt Farm provided good barns for men and animals, so that little discomfort was experienced. Fearing the worst, Brigade Headquarters sanctioned a rum issue that evening, and this arrived in time to be issued just prior to another camp concert at 8 p.m. With hurricane lamps as footlights, no stage or piano, the entertainment proved even more successful than the first, and police were necessary to prevent the arena being overcrowded with enthusiastic artistes desirous of showing their talent. The evening closed with the Froth-blowers' Anthem, "The more we are together the merrier we will be."

Friday, the 31st, ended the exercise with an eleven-mile march to rejoin the Confederates main army defending their capital at Richmond (Dover).

Three planes of the R.A.F. from Manston attacked the company with flour bombs while marching and succeeded in making a direct hit on the cooker.

The march was enjoyable and gave the young soldiers a good insight into the conditions of living and feeding in war. There is no doubt that the men appreciate this type of training as a variation from long day schemes from barracks.

SERGEANTS' MESS NEWS.

Looking back through the months since our last issue, the period seems to have been more uneventful than any previous period.

We have not gone in for much entertainment, our last dance being held on April 18th, but when the 4th and 5th Battalions were encamped at Swingate we managed to put in three consecutive social evenings, which were most enjoyable; the inevitable headaches are almost forgotten.

The Sergeants' Mess Outing took place on August 15th, Margate being selected for this honour. Dinners and teas for that day were arranged at the Victoria Restaurant. To our surprise we found on our table a toy lamb bearing a pennant inscribed 1661. It transpired that Bandmaster Hespe, of the Seaforths (an old Queen's man) was conducting his band on the sea front and had helped to decorate our table. He later turned up and sympathized with us for having selected a flag day for our visit, which proves how "Scotch" he is becoming.



1. THE OFFICERS' LINES.

2. No. 1 PLATOON CLEANING UP.

3. THE OFFICERS' MESS.

Unfortunately only 22 members were able to turn up, but these managed to enjoy themselves very much on the sands, in the Amusement Park and in certain restaurants. The single members were much struck by the charming pyjama suits and their contents promenading the front, although it was thought very strange that the three members who managed to miss the bus home were all married.

Members and their families were entertained to a most enjoyable afternoon and evening by the officers. Coconut shies, miniature golf, fortune tellers, clowns and a treasure hunt (winner, L./Sergt. Kidson) contributed to the enjoyment. The officers rather swamped us at billiards fives, but judging from the numerous dents in the walls of the billiards room they must practise a lot. The large area of glass that surrounds our table forbids us such practice, although no doubt our Pioneer Sergeant would welcome its initiation.

We welcome to our midst Sergt. Lowe, and regret the loss of that staunch old member Sergt. Larcombe, who has reverted to civil life. We wish him every good wish. Our good wishes also go to L./Sergt. Forrest, who has left us for the Nigeria Regiment.

We also congratulate Col.-Sergt. Williams and Col.-Sergt. Burgess on having escaped the long arm of the law for a sufficient period to gain the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal. Their blushes during the address that preceded the presentation will long be remembered.

Our congratulations are also due to Sergt. Bacon and L./Sergt. Webb on their promotion and appointment respectively.

The coming move to Aldershot is welcomed by some and deplored by others. Dover people no doubt will miss seeing our badge, which has been so familiar with them for a good number of years, but no doubt Aldershot will be suitably impressed when we descend upon it once again.

CORPORALS' MESS NOTES.

Since the last issue of the JOURNAL, life has been rather uneventful. Our Annual Musketry Camp, the absence of the Machine Gunners at Netheravon, and the Company March, left us little time for social recreation.

We managed to hold two dances and arrange a smoking concert for the 4th and 5th Battalions of The Queen's (T.A.), who were stationed at the adjacent Territorial camp.

Our dances—judging from the local attendance—seem to find particular favour with the “natives,” and it is rumoured that even the “Granville” shuts its doors for the occasion and turns up in force. Our smoker, which lasted until 12 midnight, was an unqualified success and was attended by all but the *very* élite. A lot of unsuspected talent was discovered and we were treated to every form of entertainment, from community singing to a lecture on the history and campaigns of a very famous pair of moustaches. The quality and quantity of the liquid refreshment may be guessed at from the fact that a well-known lance-corporal, of hitherto unblemished reputation, was discovered at 2 a.m. “tangoing” round Fort Burgoyne. The atmosphere of the Mess on the day following was decidedly thick, and large lemonades were in great demand.

Two of our members—L./Cpls. Wood and Cook—have fallen by the wayside and joined the married ranks. Judging from results, our bar must be regarded as “Mecca” by the feminine staff of the N.A.A.F.I., and the burning question in the Mess is: “Whose turn next?”

We are looking forward with mixed feelings to our approaching move to Aldershot, and hope to have our first impressions of the new station ready for the next issue of the JOURNAL.

THE SMALL ARMS CLUB.

The Battalion Rifle Meeting was held at Lydden Spout Range on June 4th and 5th, 1931. This year the meeting was held before the Annual Weapon Training Course as these were the only dates that the whole Battalion would be together. The meeting was a great success, there being a large number of entries, especially among the Young Soldiers, and our thanks are due to Lieut. H. E. Wilson for a very enjoyable two days, which fully justified all the extra work he had done to organize it.

The Battalion Championship was won by Sergt. J. Wells, "D" Company, with a score of 50, the runner-up being Dmr. A. Cousins with a score of 47. The results in each class were as follows:—

Class "A."—1, Pte. Sergt. J. Wells, "D" Coy., 50; 2, Pte. Weight, Signals, 45; 3, Cpl. Collins, Band, 45; 4, Bdsn. Lawrence, Band, 45.

Class "B."—1, Pte. Christian "C" (M.G.) Coy., 41; 2, L./Cpl. Stone, "D" Coy., 37; 3, Cpl. White, "D" Coy., 34.

Class "C."—1, Dmr. A. Cousins, Drums, 47; 2, Bdsn. C. Smith, Band, 45; 3, Bdsn. Jenner, Band, 33.

Class "D."—1, Pte. H. Mason, Signals, 37; 2, Pte. Payne, Signals, 28; 3, Pte. Dexter, "B" Coy., 28; 4, Pte. Stoner, "D" Coy., 28.

Capt. E. F. Bolton again won the Battalion Individual Revolver Championship, and Cpl. Arbour, this time with Cpl. Court as his No. 2, again won the L.A. Pairs Competition. The Young Soldiers' Cup was won by "A" Company, the team being 2/Lieut. F. C. J. Piggott, L./Cpls. Upchurch, Bruce, Hughes, Malpass and Ptes. Chambers, Cane and Hunt, after a close finish with "H.Q." Wing, the scores being 252 and 235 respectively.

The Officers, as usual, beat the Sergeants in the Falling Plate Competition, and the same team also beat the winners of the Inter-Company Knock-out Tile Competition.

We congratulate the 1st Bn. The Royal Sussex Regiment on winning the Inter-Unit Competition, and 2/Lieut. R. A. Dawson on obtaining the highest individual score in this event, and also on his very excellent shooting at Bisley where he got into the Army Hundred and also the King's Fifty. We hope to see him win this event next year.

We were again very unlucky with the Lydden Spout weather, but in spite of this the Battalion shot better than last year. Sergt. H. Matthews, "B" Company, was the best shot of the Warrant Officers and Sergeants, and Cpl. Eastmond, "A" Company, the best shot of the Corporals and Privates.

The Battalion entered teams for all the competitions in the 12th Infantry Brigade and Dover Garrison Rifle Meeting which was held on July 20th and 21st, and this year was second in the Inter-Unit Championship after a close finish with the winners, the 1st Bn. The Royal Sussex Regiment. We congratulate our Young Soldiers of "H.Q." Wing (L./Cpl. V. Moth, Ptes. D. Smith, G. Brooker, H. Mason, F. Batho, G. Payne, J. Grigg, and Boy A. Horsfield) on winning the Inter-Unit Young Soldiers' Competition, and also Sergt. G. Selmes and Pte. E. Knell on being runners-up in the L.A. Pair Competition after a tie.

Next year we hope to win more events, as we shall have more range facilities at Aldershot than we have here.

FOOTBALL.

The 1930-31 football season concluded with the Inter-Company Shield Competition, when "A" and "C" Companies met in the final, and "C" (M.G.) Company were the winners.

In the semi-final, "A" Company had beaten Remainder "H.Q." Wing, and "C" (M.G.) Company beat the Drums.

"H.Q." Wing were selected to represent the Battalion in the Garrison Inter-Company Competition, but were defeated by the 2nd Seaforths' Company, who eventually won the Garrison Cup. Interest in football is now centred round Aldershot, where we have entered for the Senior, Junior and Boys' Leagues for the forthcoming season. The Battalion has also entered for the Army Cup.

CRICKET.

In spite of the appalling weather this season there has been no lack of enthusiasm for cricket, and a great deal has been done to improve the general standard of the game throughout the Battalion, instead of merely concentrating on the Battalion team.

By purchasing an extra net and length of coconut matting it has been generally possible for two companies to have practice nets on each day of the week. A noticeable feature of this season's cricket has been the much improved "turn-out" of all teams, for both Battalion and Company games.

This matter has not always received the attention it should, but has now been possible through the Sports Store having bought an entirely new set of cricket gear, which includes pads, white trousers, shirts and eight thick sweaters lined with Regimental colours. These have been much appreciated, and they certainly add tone to the Battalion team in the field. Next year we hope to see the whole team wearing Regimental cricket caps of the pattern now being circulated to the Depot and 1st Battalion for their approval.

The Battalion team started the season having lost Lieut.-Col. Basset, Major Olliver, Capt. Block and Bandmaster Fleckney from last year's side. Three good bowlers and an excellent wicket-keeper are difficult to replace in one season, but with the arrival of 2/Lieut. Piggott and Sergt. Wells the team has seldom been at a loss for a bowler, while Cpl.-Sergt. Swanwick has very ably filled the gap of wicket-keeper. Sergt. Wells has made many high scores during the season, and has pulled us out of the cart on several occasions. As regards bowling, 2/Lieut. Piggott and Sergt. Garrod about share the honours.

From July onwards the Battalion team was much strengthened by two attached officers—2/Lieut. Welby Everard and 2/Lieut. Phillips. The former is a fast bowler and the latter a good bat who is now qualifying for the "Incogs." Capt. Bolton and 2/Lieut. Piggott both played for the Garrison during the season.

Matches for the Inter-Company Cricket Cup commenced in July, and the final has yet to be played between "A" Company and the Drums. An encouraging feature of this year's cricket has been the Boys' team, which so far has won all their matches in the Garrison Boys' League. The team contains three promising players—Horsfield, Panther and Skinner, the former two particularly as regards their bowling.

An account of Battalion cricket would not be complete without a word about the Depot Cricket Week last June. It was a most enjoyable week, and credit is due to Major Olliver and Capt. Haggard, who prepared the ground and made the first cricket week such a great success. The complimentary remarks since received from the opposing teams should alone be sufficient to make us repeat the week in future years.

2ND BATTALION MATCH RESULTS.

v. Goodnestone Park.—The Queen's, 117 for 9 wkts; Goodnestone Park, 150 for 6 wkts. Drawn.

v. Duke of York's Royal Military School.—The Queen's, 106; D.Y.M.S., 88. Won.

v. 2nd Bn. Lincolnshire Regt.—The Queen's, 108 for 7 wkts.; Lincolns, 129. Drawn.

- v. Duke of York's Royal Military School.*—The Queen's, 61; D.Y.M.S., 188 for 6 wks. Lost.
- v. Depot, The Buffs.*—The Queen's, 114; Buffs, 49. Won.
- v. 2nd Bn. Seaforth Highlanders.*—The Queen's, 115 for 7 wks; Seaforths, 203 for 2 wks. Drawn.
- v. 1st Bn. The Royal Sussex Regt.*—The Queen's, 140; Sussex Regt., 91. Won.
- v. Old Pharosians.*—The Queen's, 181; Old Pharosians, 128 for 2 wks. Drawn.
- v. 1st Bn. The Royal Sussex Regt.*—The Queen's, 82; Sussex Regt., 88. Lost.
- v. 1st Bn. Manchester Regt.*—The Queen's, 165 for 7 wks.; Manchester Regt., 129 for 6 wks. Drawn.
- v. Old Pharosians.*—The Queen's, 97; Old Pharosians, 84. Won.
- v. St. Barnabas C.C.*—The Queen's, 120 for 9 wks.; St. Barnabas, 38. Won.

HOCKEY.

12TH INFANTRY BRIGADE INTER-COMPANY HOCKEY TOURNAMENT.

The Battalion, represented by "H.Q." Wing, won the Brigade Hockey Cup by defeating the "H.Q." Wing of the 1st Bn. The Royal Sussex Regiment in the final by 5 goals to 1. The Wing side gave a very good account of themselves, and we congratulate the team on winning by such a good margin.

INTER-COMPANY HOCKEY.

The Inter-Company Hockey Shield this year was won by Remainder "H.Q." Wing, who defeated the Band in the final.

PROSPECTS FOR THE SEASON 1931-32.

Our great rivals, the K.S.L.I., are moving to Colchester, and we are going to Aldershot. We may hope, therefore, that we shall meet in the semi-final or final of the Army Cup next year as representatives of the Commands which we are about to exchange.

We shall have to find a new centre-forward to replace Major R. H. Philpot, M.C., who has left the Regiment. For many years he has been the terror of opposing goalkeepers, and his position in the field will not be easy to fill.

Our half-back line is as good as ever, and therein lies our strength. This half-line can be very good indeed, and only when they take it into their heads to play about with the ball instead of feeding the forwards instantly (and we except no one of the three), do they descend from the high standard which they have set themselves.

The backs are getting long in the tooth, if we may use the colloquialism, and they have rendered yeoman service in the past. Our crying need there is for young players. Perhaps Lieut. J. H. Dyke may be back from his sojournings in East Africa to stiffen the line with some of his brilliant, even at times erratic, clearances. We have several young goalkeepers in embryo, and this somewhat despised place will, we hope, come into its own. It is one of the most difficult positions on the field, and needs cleverness, swiftness of action, and a degree of courage—and what a difference to a side a first-class goalkeeper makes!

The forward line needs some new blood, and during the early part of the season it is hoped to experiment with all the possible talent we have at our command.

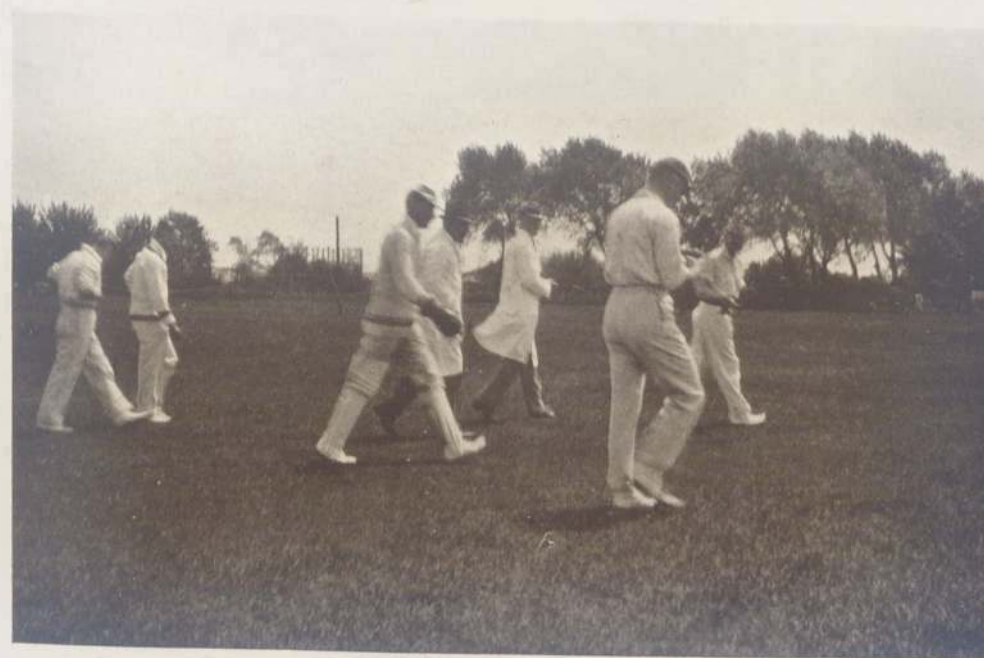
SPORTS STORE.

A well equipped sports store is an essential item to any unit intending to participate in sport of all kinds, and opposing teams are quick to note a good turn-out for games.

2nd BATTALION.



"20 for none."



The Battalion going out to field.

CRICKET: v. H.M.S. "EXCELLENT."

Those who pay regular subscriptions to the Sports Fund will be glad to know their money has not been wasted when they hear that over £134 has been spent during the past twelve months in re-equipping the Battalion Sports Store with new gear, amongst which are 48 pairs of Regimental football stockings, 18 pairs of cream hockey stockings, 20 hockey sticks, 39 pairs of football shorts, 24 Company football jerseys, 12 cricket shirts, 8 pairs of cricket trousers, 6 Regimental cricket sweaters, 15 Regimental running vests and shorts, besides numerous other articles. It is satisfactory to know that the Battalion will now go to Aldershot fully equipped with practically all new gear and, above all, a substantial credit balance in the Sports Account.

CROSS-COUNTRY RUNNING.

INTER-COMPANY CHALLENGE SHIELD.

The final Inter-Company run took place on April 1st, and was won by the Drums with "C" (M.G.) Coy. a close second.

The final position for the season were as follows:—

1, "C" (M.G.) Coy., 12 points; 2, "A" Coy., 13; 3, "B" Coy., 27; 4, Drums and Signal Section, tie, 30; 6, "D" Coy., 33; 7, No. 3 Group, 34; 8, Band, 37.

DOVER HOSPITAL OPEN CHALLENGE CUP.

The Battalion took part in the Marathon Race on August 13th for the Dover Hospital Open Challenge Shield. The race, which started at Elvington, was run entirely on the road, and the finishing point was in Pencester Gardens. The distance was approximately seven miles.

The entries were unlimited, and the first six men home in each team counted for their unit. In addition, there were medals for the first three individuals to finish.

The result was as follows:—

1, 2nd Bn. The Lincolnshire Regiment, 44 points; 2, 2nd Bn. The Queen's Royal Regiment and 1st Bn. The Royal Sussex Regiment, tie, 78; 4, Tilmanstone Colliery, 144.

Pte. Reeves, "C" (M.G.) Coy., soon settled down in the lead, and, running an excellent race, he steadily increased this lead and won as he liked some five to six hundred yards in front of the next man. A fine performance.

Truscott (Signals) was placed seventh, and then we had a goodly bunch, the first of which filled the 16th place.

There were several notable absentees from the Battalion, and had they been present the result would have been very close indeed.

PROSPECTS FOR THE SEASON 1931-32.

The first monthly run will take place in September, and the final run will again be held in April.

We look forward confidently to the Battalion gaining a high position in the Aldershot Command Championships next year, and if companies will really get down to it and train for the monthly runs, we have no doubt that we shall do well. Cross-country running, however, demands care and training, and results cannot be achieved unless this training is carried out on sound lines and with real enthusiasm.

We anticipate both Reeves and Waters running for the Army next year, and if the other members of the Battalion team improve in proportion to the promise they have already shown, we shall have quite a nucleus of Army runners.

OLD MILITARY CUSTOMS

THE BRITISH ARMY FROM THE BEGINNING.

FIRST PERIOD.

THOUGH we are members of His Majesty's Forces we probably give little thought as to how, when or where the Army, as we know it, came to take its place as a competent body to preserve peace and order throughout our many possessions.

The Military Forces of Great Britain have been through several stages, and after many outbursts and fears from King and Parliament it is now almost looked upon as a national birthright.

A regular army differs from other armed bodies in being permanently embodied and paid by one central authority. The men-at-arms who fought the battles of England in the earliest part of her history can only be classified as masses of armed men, serving under their respective War Lords. They were "armies," but the men did not select the army as a profession, and at the close of each war they returned to the "land." The armed forces of England have passed the following stages:—

- 1 The fighting organization of the Saxons.
- 2 The feudal system of the Middle Ages.
- 3 The present permanent national force.

Every Saxon freeman was bound to serve the State, for both national defence and the preserving of peace. He was called out by the rieve of his shire, whence the title "sheriff" is derived. He was led by his thanes, and acted as infantry. The only trace in Saxon history of a military class, as apart from civil life, can be found in the "housecarles," who were maintained at the thane's expenses as his body-guard.

William of Normandy introduced the feudal system. Military service became personal, being no longer general, but local. The various counties were mapped out in tenancies each of which furnished a man-at-arms, with horse and harness, for forty days' service in the field, at the bidding of the feudal lord. Great land-owners had many such "fees," and were liable to provide, therefore, as many men as their land tenure demanded. Those who were not so classed were still eligible for service at home, and were organized for this purpose by Henry II and Edward I.

Foreign wars were, for the most part, carried on by mercenary troops. Men liable to service were only too pleased to pay forfeit, in the form of a fine, in preference to carrying out their military obligation. These fines provided the funds necessary to pay mercenary troops, who, as time passed, increased in numbers; the pay being more than that of a labourer and there were always opportunities of obtaining loot. To many it gave facilities to travel, and there was always an element of danger that excites most men. These men engaged for the period of a war only.

Armies, therefore, in those days, were masses of armed men, personally skilled in the handling of their weapons, and, naturally, brave. These, by slow degrees, became professional soldiers. Though only raised for limited periods, they formed the nucleus of the professional soldier of to-day.

It is possible to trace his further development in the troubled period of the Civil War of the seventeenth century, which owed its origin, to some extent, to the national feeling against any standing army. Charles I began the establishment of a permanent military force. Barracks and army estimates, however, did not exist, and billeting and forced loans took their place. Both were disliked by the citizens of the country, martial law practically reigned and the poor discipline of the troops caused great dissatisfaction among the populace. The Petition of Rights embodied the objection to this violation of the common law. The establishment of a standing army was contrary to the national feeling. The friction between King and Parliament was not easily overcome. The people mistrusted the King; the King the people. Cromwell formed a most efficient force which was kept almost permanently embodied for some years, and cost the much abused Charles his life and throne. The history of the British Army begins from this time, and a permanent force of armed men, in peace and war, has always existed in England since then.

The army of the Commonwealth numbered, at its highest, eighty thousand trained men, skilled in battle, of splendid morale, and filled with religious fervour. The men felt that "the Lord had delivered the enemy into their hands"; their leader, Cromwell, chose for his war-cry, "Let God arise, and let his enemies be scattered." Cromwell's army was different from all that England had had before. The men were of a better class than formerly, the officers coming from the lower class of gentry. Their so-called "natural leaders" were fighting as officers, and men, too, on the other side. The army was not such a bad profession and the pay was as good as that in civil life.

The superiority of Cromwell's army was its ruin, exactions for its maintenance were, though levied with some appearance of legality, severe and oppressive. The weakness of Cromwell hastened its downfall and disbandment. The new Protector was compelled to dissolve Parliament, and by this act left the people at the mercy of an irresponsible authority. This led to the restoration of the Stuarts. On the return of Charles II all, except a small section of the army, hailed his coming as a relief from military despotism, which was repugnant to the people generally. The work of disbandment was begun, and the natural result followed. The enthusiasts headed by Thomas Venner, revolted. Their conduct alarmed the citizens, gave the Government the opportunity they probably required, which resulted in the determination to retain some portion of the army permanently for the internal protection of the country. They feared to be without the means to cope with even such small risings as Venner's, which might follow at any time from anger, religious mania, or want. Thus, from dread of a standing army, arose the first standing Army of England. It was intended originally only to supply guards throughout the country for arsenals and garrisons, etc.

The experience of the past had made Parliament cautious, and this reluctance to admit of a permanent military force without proper safeguards still exists. Even when the principle was admitted, the force was to be very small, and authority to raise it was hedged in with every possible care. It only consisted at first of the Yeomen of the Guard and the Gentlemen-at-arms,* the Coldstream Guards, and the Life and Horse Guards—a total of 3,000 men.

Every proposal to increase this number was opposed by Parliament, which, although it sanctioned its existence, had left its payment and its government to the King. Its existence was resented by many. The danger of a permanent force in England had been shown during the short reign of Richard Cromwell, and the people had no wish to return to such a state of affairs. The Militia was still the constitutional defensive force of the kingdom, and many wanted no other. In 1674 "the Commons voted that any armed force in England, excepting the Militia, was a grievance." Therefore troops required for a war abroad were raised for the

* Created respectively by Henry VII and Henry VIII in 1489 and 1509.

duration of a campaign only. The disbanded soldiery were a source of evil. The soldier's career ill-fitted men to return and settle down to civil life, which resulted in swelling the ranks of crooks and vagabonds, filling the roads with footpads and highwaymen. The population of ex-soldiers increased or decreased according to the periods of peace or war; but, even so, there was a steady increase of the permanent force. Charles II, owing to the acquisition of Bombay and Tangier by his marriage to Catherine of Braganza, found a force was necessary to garrison both places, and there were raised the Tangier and Bombain Regiments, the latter to garrison Bombay, later known as the 2nd and 103rd Regiments, the 2nd now being The Queen's Royal Regiment. At the same time a troop of cavalry was raised, afterwards the 1st Royal Dragoons, and later was added a regiment to become known as the 1st or Royal Scots, and the Holland Regiment or Buffs, the total strength of the army on the death of the second Charles was 16,500, of which only 8,000 were at home.

SECOND PERIOD.

JAMES II made further efforts to increase his forces, for which Monmouth's rebellion gave cause. He formed a camp of Regulars and Militia at Hounslow, and raised eight regiments of horse and ten regiments of the line. There was no difficulty in obtaining men, the pay being good, ranging from eightpence to four shillings per diem. Unfortunately the discipline of the troops was poor, the civil law not recognizing crimes of a military character, and martial law being illegal during times of peace. The result was that officers could not enforce that discipline necessary to ensure the efficiency of their units.

James, a Roman Catholic, tried to Romanize the troops, placing Irish Catholics to officer English troops, and even Irish recruits were proposed for English regiments.

This was going too far. "No man of English blood then regarded the aboriginal Irishman as his countryman; even the language spoken by the Irish was different to their own." This tactless policy of the King found expression when the acquittal of the seven bishops was received with cheers. A series of disputes, the illegal increase of the Army, oppressive billeting, and partial martial law caused the fall of James, the last of the Stuarts to occupy the throne of England. When William III landed in Torbay little resistance was offered. The feeling towards the English Royal House was very strong, and even the troops were only lukewarm followers of the Dutch King, and all Ireland was most hostile.

It now became necessary to pass a law to punish the soldiery for military offences, for those who would not fight abroad, nor against the Pretender, mutiny, desertion or cowardice, and for lesser crimes as drunkenness, etc. So Parliament recognized an officer's right to punish military offenders in times of peace, this being embodied in the first Mutiny Act, which began the bringing to notice the salient principles of the Bill of Rights, that "the raising or keeping a standing army within the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland in time of peace, unless it be with the consent of Parliament, is against the law." The usual Parliamentary caution was displayed, and the Bill was only to last six months; it, however, became an annual Act, until 1879, when the Army Discipline and Regulation Act came into force, followed two years later by the Army Act, which is still in force. It fixes yearly the number of men permitted to serve in the Army.

In addition to this Act, governing the Army, Parliament stipulated that it should be its paymaster and not the King. The return of James II to Ireland called for the Army's service. William's small Dutch force was unable to cope

with the rebels. Some regiments formed by James were retained, and there were added three regiments of horse and eleven regiments of infantry. War raged in Ireland, Scotland, and on the Continent, but after the treaty of Ryswick in 1697 the home army was considerably reduced.

There had been little change in weapons. Lighter fusils had been introduced, and the flintlock took the place of the matchlock. The battalions were organized in companies of six ranks, third and fourth of whom carried pikes and the remainder muskets.

The formation of the "Grand Alliance" against Louis XIV led to British co-operation against France, particularly because of Louis supporting the claims of the Old Pretender.

To preserve the "balance of power in Europe" the Army was increased to nearly 200,000 men, but after the Treaty of Utrecht the forces were decreased to about 20,000 men.

The British Army came through the struggle with a reputation it has never lost. The courage of the troops and the brilliant leadership of Marlborough had changed the feeling at home towards maintaining an army, and generally the people admired its fine qualities. At Steenkirk the bravery of The Queen's, with three other regiments, attracted general attention, as did the mounted units shown by the brilliant action at Neerwinden. At Blenheim the British again distinguished themselves, and established the value of British infantry.

Marlborough believed in the fighting qualities of his troops. He said that "with ten thousand well-fed Englishmen, ten thousand half-starved Scotchmen, and ten thousand Irishmen charged with usquebaugh* he would march from Boulogne to Bayonne in spite of Le Grande Monarque." Unfortunately his soldiers were recruited from the dregs of society; little could be said of their morals, but their fighting qualities, to say the least, were splendid. From this campaign the Army grew stronger by one regiment of horse and eleven infantry battalions.

Ramillies had taught the use of the socketed bayonet; one regiment was charged, much to its surprise, by the enemy immediately after firing, instead of staying first to put the plug bayonets in the muskets.

In early days each company had its colours or ensign, from which the name of the junior subaltern officer, which was used up till 1870, was derived. This was changed with the tactical formation of the battalions into three divisions of pikemen in the centre, and musketeers and grenadiers on either flank; each division carried a separate colour, in case they had to act independently. Later, the colours were reduced to two per battalion, though for some time afterwards The Queen's were permitted to carry a third colour, of a green tint, one of the same colour as the regimental facings, the other the King's colour.

Regiments were usually called after the names of their Colonels. This practice remained till 1751, when orders were issued regulating colours, clothing, and the distinguishing of units by numbers. Later, in 1881, Regiments were given the titles which were in use until after the Great War. In 1920 some further changes in titles were made.

The accession of George I was followed by the Jacobite riots of 1715, and, as many regiments were abroad, two regiments of horse and two infantry regiments were formed to help deal with the situation. The Royal Regiment of Artillery was raised after the Treaty of Utrecht, but not until George II came to the throne was it put on a firm footing. He was the last of our Kings to engage personally in warlike operations of the period.

Hostilities with Spain necessitated the raising of seven more regiments. Favouritism was rampant, and commands and promotions for many years depended upon political influence.

* Old Celtic name for spirit distilled from barley.

At Dettingen, 1743, twenty British regiments were engaged, led by the King himself.

Fontenoy, 1745, though a lost battle, did not tarnish the name of the British forces, and, referring to the twelve British units engaged at Minden, Prince Ferdinand publicly stated that "next to God, he attributed the glory of the day to the whole army, particularly to the English infantry."

Meanwhile Clive was winning India for the Empire, and his success met with national recognition. The reason the Regular Army was sent to assist in India was to prevent the French from having too much influence in the East, rather than to assist the Empire. The Battle of Plassey helped to avenge the Black Hole of Calcutta, and lay the foundation of our Indian Empire. At the end of George II's reign the British Army in India had increased to four battalions. Constant wars had added to the Army many more regiments of horse and infantry, making a total of 100,000 troops at home and abroad.

Regiments were frequently disbanded, some being revived in later years. This accounts for the change in the numbers and designations of many regiments, particularly the cavalry.

(To be continued.)

4th BATTALION

Headquarters: The Barracks, Mitcham Road, Croydon.

Honorary Colonel: Col. J. M. Newnham, O.B.E., D.L., LL.D.

Commanding Officer: Brevet-Col. B. L. Evans, T.D.

THE chief item of interest, apart from Annual Training, since the last issue, was the visit to Croydon of the Band and Drums of the 2nd Battalion at the end of June. They camped on the barracks ground for a week and gave performances in the principal parks and recreation grounds in the Borough before large audiences. On July 1st they played at the Barracks before the largest audience we have had there.

We hope the visit will achieve its primary object. It has already helped us, and we have no doubt that the 2nd Battalion will shortly add to the numbers they have already received from us. We were very grateful to know that the Mayor received the Band and Drums officially, the more so as this atones for the very unfortunate incident which occurred earlier in the year, and which gave to Croydon an unenviable reputation among patriotic Englishmen.

We are stronger in numbers than at any time since the war and hope we shall continue to expand. Recruiting is very slow, however. No sports meeting was held this year for domestic reasons, and for the same reasons there will be no football during the coming season. It is hoped that a year's rest from both may do some good. At cricket we have only played two games, losing the first by one run and winning the second comfortably.

The Dashwood Cup for Inter-Company Football was again keenly contested and displayed a good amount of talent. The result was that "A" (M.G.) Company won it, but "C" Company, from the country districts, made them go the whole way. It seems strange to be reporting football results just now, but this competition was held after the season closed. A higher standard of play and better combination was displayed by all sides in the competition than we seem to be able to get in a representative Battalion side.

Annual Training was at Dover from July 26th to August 9th, and in spite of wind, rain, thunder, lightning and fog, we had an enjoyable and an instructive time. We make, however, one reservation, and that is, that too much is attempted. In the Territorial Army you seldom have the same men on parade for even two consecutive drill nights, and really progressive training before camp is not possible. It is felt that better results would be obtained if far more time in camp were devoted to Platoon Training instead of straining after Battalion Training even in the first week. As it is, all ranks seem to suffer from the feeling that they are being tested instead of being trained, and much of the training is lost.

We were very glad to have the help of Mr. Burton, Sergt. Prizeman and Cpl. Allison from the 2nd Battalion, who worked wonders with the Machine Gun Company. It was largely due to their help that we won the Machine Gun Competition which this year was a real and exacting test and not, as in other years, a competition which six men could be trained for during the preceding twelve months.

In the Brigade Sports we again won the Athletic Cup and tied with the 6th Bn. The East Surrey Regiment for the Aggregate Cup for both military and athletic events.

The camp at Dover was a great improvement on that of the previous year. Everyone was most helpful and everything was made easy for us, which we have not always been able to say.

The Battalion travelled both ways by motor coach which was a comfortable way of travelling, and really saved the first day of training, for instead of arriving at the hour at which the railway chose to deliver it, the Battalion was in camp at 12.15 p.m. on the 26th with ample time to settle in. So often we have arrived at 7 p.m. when part of the following day has had to be wasted from the training point of view. We regret, of course, that the railway was not given the chance of showing whether it could improve on the records of past years. Each year had been an advance on its predecessor in rapidity of movement, culminating in roughly 7 hours for a 2½ hour journey last year! Nor did it matter this year if one coach was faster than others in the convoy. Last year when the first part of the train on the return journey was apparently a little faster than the back, it was found that it had not served, since it was found later waiting on a siding. We are afraid, however, it will be a long while before our railways wake up to the possibility of transporting troops expeditiously.

We were inspected at Dover on August 8th with the other units of the 131st Infantry Brigade by Col. The Lord Ashcombe, C.B., T.D., Lord Lieutenant of Surrey, and a former Honorary Colonel of the 4th Battalion. Unfortunately the day was wet and the parade was held under cover instead of at the Duke of York's School.

The Battalion was represented at the Inspection by H.R.H. Princess Mary Countess of Harewood of the Surrey Branch of the British Red Cross Society at Denbies, Dorking, on June 27th.

"H.Q." WING.

Since the last issue of the JOURNAL we have been preparing ourselves for Annual Training. In this direction the Transport Section is particularly indebted to the assistance rendered by Capt. B. Peacock, M.C., and C.S.M. Fenner. It had been arranged that, to make instruction more interesting, one of the equine species should be produced on drill nights; this was an unqualified success until the friend of man tried one evening to commit *hara-kiri* by falling on a tethering peg, and nearly succeeding in his nefarious design of interrupting our classes.

Thanks to really keen effort and hard work on the part of Bandmaster Young,

a very passable Band was brought into being, and brought to a very fair state of efficiency. Drum-Major Hall also worked his Drums hard and was able to take the greater part to camp. The Signallers make up in keenness what they lack in numbers. One cannot help wondering how it comes that a town like Croydon is unable to provide its own Battalion with a full Signal Section. We must somehow raise at least six more men before the end of October; the work is interesting and should appeal to men of intelligence.

Camp has come—and gone. To many of us each succeeding camp is a milestone along the road which all of us tread but once and, as such, to be made the most of, no matter what the weather. Of the latter other abler pens have written; actually we were not too hardly done by, and, judging by what we have witnessed since, can thank our lucky stars that Annual Training did not fall a fortnight later.

Health all round was excellent, and the food was in the same category. Nobody was overworked, which, of course, did not prevent the "old soldiers" from having their grouse. The Band made a very good showing, and, apart from the musical side, four members obtained their Stretcher-Bearer Certificates. The Anti-Aircraft Section, drawn from the Drums, also did well. There is good material also in the Drums for the formation of an Intelligence Section and Battalion Runners. The Transport Section worked very well and deserves full credit for having won first prize in the Brigade for officers' chargers. It was not the fault of the Section that the conditions for the award of the prize for limber and G.S. wagon turn-out did not give it a chance, as on the day of the Brigade Sports the limbers were out on training until 1.30 p.m. Lest some members of "H.Q." Wing should feel sore that none of the various battalion cups should have gone to us, let us say here that we are only eligible for three. One (the Quartermaster's Cup) has not yet been awarded, and the remaining two (the Watney and Torrens) were lost owing to poor shooting. True we were without Cpls. West and Waterman and L./Cpl. Young, upon whom we usually count so much, but that was just our bad luck. Our lines were much tidier than last year, but there is still room for improvement.

"A" (M.G.) COMPANY.

Annual Training, held this year at Dover, is over once again and we are back at Croydon, filled with quiet satisfaction, for we have begun to reap the harvest of the work which has been done since the Company became the Machine Gun Company of the Battalion. Unfortunately we have not maintained numerical strength, mainly owing to the elimination of slackers and also recruitment to the Regular Army, the latter, of course, giving us anything but cause for regret. *Per contra*, a certain shyness for machine gunnery has not conduced to the filling up of these losses. This fact is hard to understand, as anyone in the M.G. Company will testify.

One or two interesting events stand out from the training period prior to camp. In May last the Company won the Inter-Company Football Cup for the second year in succession, beating "D" Company by 4 goals to 1 and "C" Company by 2 goals to nil on the way. The latter game was particularly hard. Pte. J. A. Reygate got four of our goals.

In June last, our Company Officer, Capt. H. E. E. Ault, and Lieut. A. R. C. Stiby of No. 1 Platoon, acted as O.C. and Adjutant respectively of the Surrey Branch, British Red Cross Society parade at Dorking, on the occasion of their inspection by H.R.H. Princess Mary. C.S.M. Organ and over 50 per cent. of the Company were also present, the C.S.M. acting in the capacity of Sergeant-Major of the parade. He was visibly affected when called upon to deliver his first order.

The parade, held on the only fine day of this summer apparently, was very successful.

One of our most promising non-commissioned officers, L./Cpl. G. D. McKenzie, left us just before camp, to take up a commission in the Royal Engineers (Surrey Group). We were always rather proud of him, and wish him the best of fortune. Once again the Annual Machine-Gun Course was washed out by rain when we travelled down to Westcott early in May. Only 23 fired then, and the majority are to try again at the end of September. It was a most "damping" day.

The Battalion left Croydon on July 26th for Dover by motor bus, and arrived at lunch time. This method of transport deserves every future encouragement. Door to door is a good description instead of the pillar to post experiences of the old transport arrangements. We had the assistance of Lieut. R. M. Burton, Sergt. Prizeman and Cpl. Bond, of the 2nd Battalion, during the ensuing fortnight, and very well indeed they "did" us. Thanks to them and to Lieut. A. R. C. Stiby, we won the Brigade Machine-Gun Competition, under altered and much more testing conditions, for the first time, we believe, since the war. Every individual in the team was excellent. We were also very glad to be awarded the Camp Cup and the Training and Manœuvre Cup, and consider that if we had been allowed to use Vickers guns instead of rifles in the Watney and Torrens Shoots we should certainly have done much better still. However, it is all very satisfactory. C.Q.M.S. Simmons filled his new job very well indeed for the first time, and C.S.M. Organ will never be allowed to forget his company parade every morning at 6.10 a.m. No. 1 Platoon (Lieut. Stiby and Sergt. Child, D.C.M.) were adjudged winners of the Platoon Shield, with Sergt. Dingwall the best Platoon Sergeant.

The following members of the Company ran in the Battalion teams which won the Brigade Athletic Cup for the fifth year in succession, viz., Capt. Ault, 2/Lieut. Howgate and Pte. Parrett. 2/Lieut. Howgate also ran for the Territorial Army team at Stamford Bridge in the Inter-Services match. Mention must be made, in addition, that he played for the Regiment during Regimental Cricket Week.

Congratulations to Lieut. Stiby and Lieut. Ault on their promotion.

"D" COMPANY.

The progress which was foretold in the last notes to this JOURNAL has materialized, and although the Company is mainly composed of recruits, it was able to hold its own with a good deal to spare. The percentage attendance at camp was very good, the only handicap being that there were, besides Company Headquarters, only two Sergeants and one Corporal in each week; therefore it can be seen that many vacancies for promotion are available as soon as men in the Company qualify by passing the necessary standard of efficiency.

The Company's successes, so far, are as follows: The Watney Cup became "D's" property for the year, after a very close shoot with "B" Company, and again "B" were runners-up to "D" in the "Torrens" shoot. These competitions were fired while the Battalion was at Dover, and the march to Lydden Spout Range was very well carried out. The further competitions in which "D" met with success are the Hooke Cup for bayonet fighting, in which the Company finished second, and the first part of the Lewis Gun Competition for the Hussey Cup, in which, thanks to very good work by Cpl. J. J. Marsh, "D" Company leads.

There now remain just a few remarks about the future. This keenness in the

Company must be maintained by every warrant officer, non-commissioned officer and man, and it can be maintained as long as parades are well attended.

The Company's congratulations are due to Clr.-Sergt. White, who passed a course of drill and tactics with distinction.

The Company Commander wishes to thank all members of "D" for the good work which has been done.

SERGEANTS' MESS.

Since the last issue much has been done to cement the bond of friendship existing between the 2nd Battalion and ourselves. Indeed, during our annual camp at Dover, the beaming countenance of a certain warrant officer of the 2nd Battalion did much to atone for the persistent absence of King Sol.

Although Jupiter Pluvius did his worst, we managed to extract the maximum of enjoyment from our stay on the Kentish coast. That the local authorities are not lacking a sense of humour is evidenced by the fact that on the most shocking day of all they sent us a load of pamphlets extolling the virtues of the "sun-kissed cliffs of Dover." Apparently, even with cliffs, kissing goes by favour.

Our farewell concert was a great success, the community singing being the most horrible noise ever heard in the district. Those musically inclined burst into tears, those wishing to sleep burst into a volume of abuse, whilst an adjacent haystack burst into flames.

The annual cricket match *versus* the Officers produced the usual exciting encounter, the Officers gaining a narrow victory. The result may have been different had some of our batsmen remembered the gipsy's warning to "beware of a tall dark man." The atmosphere was tense when, with eight wickets down and their best batsmen out, the Officers required six runs to win. 2/Lieut. Pearson, however, with shocking disregard of the ca-canny methods of present-day cricket, proceeded to clout the ball out of the ground in a manner which would have given any county player heart failure, thus enabling us to put on our greatcoats (the match was played in August) and go home to the fire.

NIGERIAN MEMORIES.

BY MAI KHAKI.

I HAVE been asked for some more memories of Nigeria, but I find it rather difficult to remember anything of general interest. Perhaps a short description of the life we led might meet the case. When I first went out to Nigeria in 1907, all passengers for Northern Nigeria transhipped from the ocean boat to a stern-wheeler at Forcados, a town on a creek of the same name which was one of the mouths of the Niger. That is to say that if we were lucky we did this, but certain ships which were going farther along the coast transhipped the passengers to a smaller boat about ten miles out to sea. I had only to do this once, but it was a most uncomfortable proceeding. We were lowered over the side of the ocean boat in chairs into a surf boat (a sort of whaler) and were paddled across to the other boat. There was a very big swell on, and down between the waves we could see only the tops of the masts of the two ships. When we got to the other boat, we had to climb up a rope ladder. There were so many casualties caused by this method of landing that eventually it was given up. The voyage up the river was hot, but interesting for the first couple of voyages. After that,

though rather boring, it was to be preferred to the train journey which we had to do some years after.

At the time I went out, there were in Northern Nigeria two batteries, one battalion of mounted infantry and two battalions of infantry (nine companies each). On first arrival, we were not posted until we got to Lokoja, where there was a battery and headquarter and three companies of the 2nd Battalion Northern Nigeria Regiment. The other six companies were at out-stations (Maiduguri, Yola, Nafada, Bauchi, Katsina Allah, and one company in Bassa Province, just across the river).

Each company consisted of 145 Native rank and file and two buglers. In addition, we had seven machine-gun carriers. The European strength of the company consisted of one Captain, two Subalterns and two European non-commissioned officers. This was the proper establishment. The Native ranks were always up to strength, but the European ranks were generally short, owing to leave and invalidings. The establishment of Native non-commissioned officers consisted of one Company Sergeant-Major, four Sergeants, four Corporals, and eight Lance-Corporals. Every company had a maxim gun and the seven machine-gun carriers were employed, when the gun was on parade, as follows: One was headman, one carried the gun, one the tripod, one the spare parts box, and three carried the ammunition. When not required on parade, they were employed on permanent fatigues at Headquarters under the Quartermaster. Battalion Headquarters consisted of one Lieutenant-Colonel, one Major (Second-in-Command), one Adjutant, one Quartermaster, one Battalion Sergeant-Major, one Quartermaster-Sergeant, one Orderly Room Sergeant, one Armourer, and one Band Sergeant. These were all Europeans. In addition, there were three clerks, one interpreter, and the Drums, all native. On joining, all Europeans were supposed to be retained at Headquarters to learn the language and get used to the different system of accounting, etc. This was not always possible. There was a certain amount of invaliding, and reliefs had to be found for those due for leave. There was no question of keeping any European over his time. He had to be relieved. This was one of the conditions under which the War Office lent officers and non-commissioned officers to the Colonial Office. At the end of twelve months' service from date of disembarkation in West Africa (not arrival in station) an officer or non-commissioned officer had to embark on leave unless he volunteered to remain up to three months more, but he had to be passed medically fit to remain in the country before he could stop, and he could not remain more than fifteen months in any case in the country.

A great point about service in West Africa was the leave conditions. A European, after twelve months' service in West Africa, received four months' leave on full pay, and ten days more for every completed month served in West Africa over twelve months, *i.e.*, after fifteen months he had five months' leave on full pay. Service for leave counted from day of disembarkation at the coast to day of embarkation. Leave counted from date of arrival at first port in England, and one embarked on the first boat sailing after one's leave expired, so that no leave was lost on the voyage nor did one lose any leave in order that one might get back in time. The long leave combined with the fact that the Government paid the passages out and home again, made the West African Service very popular.

The pay was fairly good, and the allowances made it up to quite a good sum. In addition to horse allowance at 2s. 6d. a day, there were various other allowances which might be drawn, including Colonial allowance, when we were not in permanent quarters. The question of permanent and non-permanent quarters was always causing trouble. The officers' quarters at Lokoja are an example. In 1901, the Secretary of State for the Colonies ruled that they were non-permanent. In 1913, the Secretary of State at that time ruled that they were permanent. Perhaps he wished to acknowledge that the days of miracles were not over. They

were the same houses, and it certainly was a miracle that they were still standing. At this time, 1913, the new Capital (Kaduna) was being built. The Capital was moved but the buildings were not ready. The result was that a large number of officers, civil and military, had to be quartered in native huts. This was expensive, so a ruling was obtained that a native hut with a concrete floor was a permanent building. As may be imagined, a considerable amount of correspondence protesting against this ruling resulted, and the "Minute Paper" became very bulky. In the meantime the Public Works Department got busy and spread their concrete floors in a large number of huts. A certain Staff Officer, who was living in one of these huts, found that a rat had made a hole in the concrete and had removed one of his socks into the hole. The Staff Officer started a new minute on its rounds and attached the sock as an exhibit. Unfortunately the war broke out at this time and everybody was too busy to continue the correspondence.

For the sake of the uninitiated I may explain that when correspondence arrives in a Headquarter Office, it is put in a jacket (a sort of binder) and it then becomes a "Minute Paper" and all correspondence on that subject goes into the jacket. The jacket goes to all concerned, who record their opinions in it. As a matter of fact, some officials seem to suffer from some form of disease in connection with them. They get hold of all they can on any subject and write long minutes on subjects which have nothing to do with them. I came into contact with the things when I was commanding the Brigade, and it appeared to me that when anybody got a Minute Paper which he did not know what to do with, he sent it to me with a minute, "You would like to see this." I soon found that the only way to deal with this was to write "Seen, thank you" and send it back again.

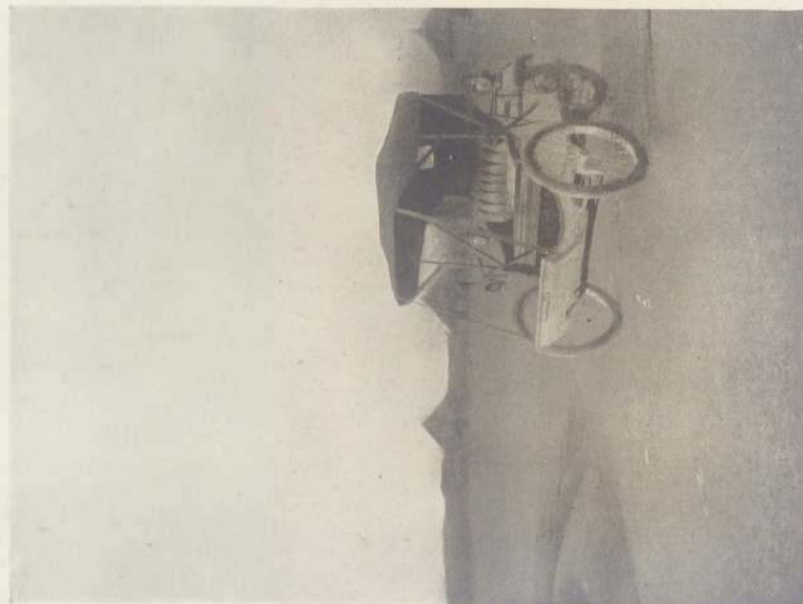
To return to the houses, the old officers' rest house at Lakoja was a most disgraceful (but permanent) building. It was a small and very old tin bungalow with two rooms in it. It was very shaky, and the floor was none too safe owing to dry rot and white ants. The back verandah was a mere shell. I remember when I and another officer were occupying this bungalow, there was a sudden fire alarm during the night in the Native town. We both rose from our beds to see what was happening. Luckily I remembered the state of the back verandah and remained at the door of my room, but my companion stepped out on to it and promptly fell through on to the ground below. It was only a four-foot drop, so he was more frightened than hurt. A Native hut was to be preferred to this. At its worst, you could not fall through the bottom of it.

Native huts were round and made of mud. They were thatched with grass, and, if properly built, were quite comfortable. The main drawback was that the roof sometimes inverted itself—that is, instead of remaining in the form of a cone sticking up in the air, it became like a funnel. This generally happened at night. Natives could get out all right, but a European was held by his mosquito net, and had to wait to be released. Another disadvantage was that the thatch harboured snakes and other creeping things, including hornets.

The officers' quarters in most out-stations, and the men's lines in all stations, consisted of these huts. The officers' and British non-commissioned officers' quarters and the offices and store rooms were generally made by building two huts and putting a single roof over the two huts. The men came from many different tribes, but we were supposed to keep a balance between Mohammedans and Pagans. Companies enlisted their own recruits except where they were quartered in a country where suitable recruits could not be obtained. Companies at out-stations trained their own recruits, but at Headquarters they were taken over by the Adjutant and Sergeant-Major. When the force was first raised, each company was divided into two Hausa sections and two Yoruba sections. This was only nominally so, because many men in the Hausa sections were not from the Hausa states and some of the Yorubas were not Yorubas. It was mainly a question of



A NATIVE BRIDGE IN NIGERIA.



THE FIRST MOTOR CAR TO ARRIVE AT
KEFFI (1910).

language and religion. All the Hausa-speaking Mohammedans went into the Hausa sections. In 1907, however, the Southern Nigeria Regiment (one battery and two battalions of infantry) were finding great difficulty in getting Yoruba recruits, and so we in the North were told not to take any more Yorubas. It did not matter to us, as the Northern Provinces were opening up very fast and large areas supplying good recruits had become available. We were allowed to enlist anybody who applied, provided he came from a fighting tribe and could speak Hausa. All ranks, European and Native, had to speak Hausa. At first the majority of the so-called Hausa recruits actually came from the Hausa states (Kano, Sokoto, Katsina, Zaria, etc.), but by the time I arrived in Northern Nigeria a number of really good Mohammedan recruits were coming from Bornu, Yola, and from over the French border. Again, we were getting most excellent recruits from the Pagan area of Argungu and the Dakakerrri tribe, and an increasing flow was coming in from the Bauchi Plateau (mainly cannibal Pagans, but very hardy and good fighting men). My Corporal of Signallers during the war was a cannibal Pagan from the Bauchi hills. He was killed in action in East Africa, having been twice wounded before and having won the D.C.M. and the M.M. He was a first-class signaller. I instance this man as an example of what can be done with this type of recruit.

Few can understand how little some of these men knew of the outside world. When I was mobilizing my battalion to go to East Africa, one company came in and only about half a dozen men had seen a railway train before. Again, when we got out to sea and the log line broke, there was great consternation, as they thought we were lost because we had broken our line and there was no land to be seen. I speak above of the necessity of getting recruits from the fighting tribes. There appears to be an idea in some quarters that a large and useful black army is awaiting enlistment in Africa. This is not my opinion. First, Africa is a thinly populated country. Secondly, many tribes are quite useless as soldiers; and thirdly, they take a long time to train and there are tribes who, although good fighting men, are useless because they pine away if removed from their tribal area. I could give examples from British West Africa of tribes which are useless as soldiers, but the names would be without meaning to most people. Perhaps, therefore, the best example would be the Kru boys from Liberia, who are known by reputation to the majority. They are magnificent sailors and provide gangs for all ships working on the coast. They do nearly all the boat work on river bars and surf landings, and for these services they are unbeatable. As soldiers, however, they are quite useless. As I have said above, we had very good recruiting areas in Northern Nigeria, and when one arrived at the Company Office one generally found a recruit waiting. We were not allowed to recruit over establishment, but we could put in rations a few good men to fill coming vacancies. While the men were waiting for the vacancies, they were drilled as if they had been attested. The soldier enlisted for six years and could re-enlist for as many further periods of six years as he wished, provided that he was medically fit and the Company Commander wanted him. If he re-enlisted within three months of his discharge, he was paid a bounty of £3 and allowed to count his previous service for good conduct pay and towards the Good Conduct Medal. A man had to serve three years without a regimental entry for each badge. The medal was given to men of eighteen years' service with exemplary characters. I may add there were not many men who got the medal. Swearing-in recruits at Headquarters was done before the Commanding Officer, and at out-stations it was done before the Company Commander. Mohammedans, of course, were sworn on the Koran, and great care was taken that the oath was properly taken. Pagans were sworn on a bayonet which they licked. I always had grave doubts whether the oath had any binding effect on any of them.

(To be continued.)

5th BATTALION

Headquarters: The Drill Hall, Guildford.

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

Commanding Officer: Lieut.-Col. C. R. Wigan, M.C.

TRAINING.

UP to the date of writing it is believed that thirty week-ends this year have been wet. Under these circumstances it is surprising that not a single week-end exercise or musketry has been cancelled, though nearly all have been to some extent spoilt by the rain. Funds were severely limited this year, and under the circumstances it was creditable that the Companies were, in all, able to hold six exercises in addition to those held by the Battalion.

A Brigade Exercise was held on May 31st on completely new ground near Cambridge. For once the weather did not let us down, and those of us who were there had a most interesting and amusing time.

Our first Battalion Exercise (for subalterns and N.C.Os.) was held near Puttenham on May 3rd. It was obviously going to rain, but held off, and only came down to drown the lunch-time beer. We started with a talk from Major-General Sir H. T. Brooking, who commanded first the Brigade and then the Division in which the Battalion served in Mesopotamia. In emphasizing the importance of such exercises the General gave some account of the actions in which the Battalion was engaged while under his command, and added that it was the high standard of training then attained by the Battalion which led him to place so great a reliance on it, in the very difficult operations in which it was called upon to take part. We afterwards split up, the riflemen to study the ever-new problem of "The Platoon in the Attack," and the machine gunners "The Machine Gun Platoon as Forward Guns and in Consolidation." In illustration of the use of the smoke grenade, we put up an excellent smoke cloud to the alarm of the countryside.

Our next scheme was for N.C.Os. only—"The Platoon in the Defence," at Dockenfield. This scheme was completely ruined by rain and could only be carried out in a very sketchy way under cover of a cow shed, with various usual adjuncts of cowsheds to represent the tactical features. It was a pity, as there was an excellent turn-out, and the scheme was a good one. Dockenfield's usual splendid hospitality afterwards did its best to make us forget the weather.

At Whitsun we assembled, as usual, at Stoughton, except for the Machine Gun Company, which broke new ground by camping near Ash Ranges. Again it rained all it knew over Saturday and Sunday, though we got some glimpses of better things on Monday morning. Despite the weather, however, some useful training was carried out and the Battalion had the pleasure of making the acquaintance of our new Brigade Commander, Col. R. S. Allen, D.S.O., who paid visits both to the Depot and to the Company at Ash.

The remaining Battalion Exercise was in the neighbourhood of St. Martha's, where the subalterns, in their turn, studied the Company and Platoon in the Defence. The weather for this was not so bad, and we succeeded in clearing our minds of many vaguenesses and difficulties. Mrs. Wigan then entertained us to a most excellent lunch.

Musketry is going well, and other drill hall training proceeds on normal lines. The Haslemere Detachment, filled with pride in their new lorry, have hit upon what may be a good recruiting stunt, and intend to visit the villages and give demonstrations of their machine gun prowess.

SHOOTING.

We have had a most successful year, especially at the Surrey Rifle Meeting where we were, as usual, not quite able to stand up to the Depot, but otherwise pretty well swept the board.

Lieut. Burton-Brown is to be heartily congratulated on winning the T.A. Championship for the third time, and C.S.M. Smith, Sergt. Keen and Pte. Percy on their excellent shooting.

The detailed results at the Surrey and T.A. Rifle Meetings were:—

SURREY RIFLE MEETING.

Officers Challenge Cup (18 entries. H.P.S. 35).—1, Lieut. Burton-Brown, score, 33 (The Challenge Cup).

Recruits (22 entries. H.P.S. 35).—1, Pte. Percy, "C" Coy., 31 (£1 10s.); 3, Pte. Poulter, "C" Coy., 25 (10s.); 5, Pte. Hall, "D" Coy., 22 (7s. 6d.).

Belhaven Challenge Cup (10 entries. H.P.S. 840).—2, "D" Company, 632 (S.R.A. Spoons to each of team).

Watney Cup (8 entries. H.P.S. 160).—2, 5th Queen's, 124 (£3); 3, 5th Queen's, 122 (£2).

The Allen Cup (6 entries. H.P.S.: Rifle 336, Lewis Gun 132).—1, "D" Coy., 261 (£5 and the Allen Cup); 2, "C" Coy., 206 (£3); 3, "A" Coy., 192 (£2).

T.A.R.A. MEETING.

T.A. Championship (Individual).—1, Lieut. Burton-Brown, 333 (The Earl of Scarborough's Cup and T.A.R.A. Gold Jewel).

Officers and Cadet Officers, O.T.C.—1, Lieut. Burton-Brown, 174 (Silver Medal and £2).

Match "C" (The Quartet).—4, 5th Queen's, 569.

Riflemen Competition.—2, C.S.M. Smith, "D" Coy., 56 (£2 10s.).

Match "K" (Aggregate).—1, Lieut. Burton-Brown (Winner of the Goldsmiths' and Silversmiths' Cup), 376 (£2); 15, Sergt. Keen, "D" Coy., 339 (10s.).

CAMP.

This year saw an innovation in our journey being carried out by road instead of by rail.

The long journey, in some cases over five hours, in a crowded bus was not enjoyable, but on the whole was made up for by the lack of rush in moving off and by our delivery actually at our tents the other end. We certainly appreciated the latter when we arrived in a typical 1931 day of pouring rain and driving mist. The dense mist between Folkestone and Dover was responsible for an unfortunate accident when one of our buses came into collision with an Austin car, the driver of which, we regret to say, succumbed to his injuries a few days later. At the inquest it was decided that no blame could be attached to anyone, and great sympathy was expressed by all concerned with the relatives.

We had four similarly wet days during our fortnight, but the remainder were fairly fine, so things might have been much worse. One of the advantages of Swingate Camp is the presence of the old hangars in which whole battalions can parade, so that wet days are not entirely wasted. For the first three days Companies were at the disposal of Company Commanders for Platoon and Company Training.

On Thursday we had a spirited Inter-Company Scheme set by the Battalion on the St. Margaret's Golf Course. A feature was the barrage of smoke and whizz-bangs which must have been very upsetting to the old gentlemen's game.

Friday was thoroughly wet. We were visited by the G.O.C.-in-C., Eastern

Command, and we were pleased to be able to show him decent work going on in spite of the weather. He subsequently lunched in the Mess.

On Saturday the Battalion carried out the drill of getting the Battalion into position in the Solton area. A dullish day for the troops, but none the less useful. An Intelligence Section under Capt. Wise made a most promising first appearance. Sunday was very wet and unpleasant. An indoors Church Parade took place in the morning, and we were very glad to see quite a large gathering of friends from Guildford in the afternoon when the weather had somewhat cleared up.

Monday and Tuesday were again devoted to Platoon and Company Training, under Company Commanders, for the benefit of the new arrivals.

On Wednesday we had an inter-company advance and rear guard scheme worked out by Major Cave.

Thursday was again very wet, and the competition for the Adjutant's Shield had to be quickly transformed to an indoor competition. This worked out quite well, and after a close contest resulted as follows: "D" Company, 68½ points; "A" Company, 60; "B" Company, 56.

Friday was to have been a combined Inter-Battalion Exercise, but owing to the weather this was cancelled, and an "all-out" war between us and the 4th Battalion substituted. We raised a fine force of all arms, commanded by Major R. H. Dorman-Smith, including two magnificently equipped and handled armoured car sections (Capt. Barker and the Padre), a dashing troop of cavalry (Lieuts. Pakenham and Watson and the Transport), a mechanized infantry force ("A" Company), besides the usual riflemen and machine gunners. The tactical plan was ingenious and gave scope for the exciting fighting which was expected of the occasion. Many acts of heroism on either side were reported by the umpires, and though little but bullets was required to add to the realism of the combat, it was difficult in their absence for the net result to be appraised. To the value of the exercise as a practical lesson in the importance of keeping a sharp look-out on all occasions, many thrilling incidents bore witness in a way which will not be soon forgotten by those who neglected to take efficient protective measures!

Saturday again was wet, and the inspection by the Lord Lieutenant was carried out in the large hangar. In congratulating the Brigade on its turn-out, the Lord Lieutenant mentioned that it was not an exception for him to have to inspect the Brigade in the rain. This ended the training, which showed a definite advance on previous years, especially in the junior leading.

The number of Section Commanders who really command their sections is most satisfactory, especially as the training of leaders is one of the two chief aims of the Territorial Army. As to the other aim, the training of specialists, we have always been justly proud of our Machine Gun Company, but our Signallers have been a black spot.

This camp, urged on by a special appeal from General Pack and helped by the self-sacrifice of "B" Company, we have more than doubled our numbers, and hope next year to be right up at the top of the competition for the Dartmouth Cup. Before we leave the subject of training, we must pay a most heart-felt tribute to the help we have received from the 2nd Battalion and the Depot. There is a danger that as this help is kept up every year we may begin to take it too much as a matter of course, and not realize that it is really voluntary and often extremely inconvenient. This year Col. Giffard came out and gave us great help in one of our schemes. Major Olliver gave us an absorbing and amusing lecture on the 2nd Battalion on the Frontier, and directed and umpired several schemes. Capt. Hughes was with us all the time, and vainly tried to hide from us the fact that he was an expert on every subject discussed. We heartily congratulate him on his Scotch Gunner Staff job. Capt. Evans worked tremendously hard with our Machine Gunners, Elliott with our Signallers and Dawson with our Transport.

5th BATTALION.



"ARMOURD CARS" AND "CAVALRY" SETTING OUT TO FIGHT
4th BATTALION.



TEA IN THE OPEN AFTER MESS TENTS HAD BEEN STRUCK.

The Depot had nearly denuded itself to run our Mess, Sergt. Woods, L./Cpl. Nightingale and Pte. McJury being spared to us, while Ptes. Newman and Bolch, from the 2nd Battalion, were models of what mess waiters should be.

Sergt. Kidson and Cpls. Bond, Hicks and Steward did the most noble work with our Machine Gunners, and Sergt. Gilbert with our Signallers.

Socially, Dover was an excellent camp with any amount to do, and we greatly appreciated the kindness extended to us by the 2nd Battalion.

Our Inter-Company Football Competition was played rather under difficulties, and resulted in a draw between "C" and "B" Companies, who will each hold the cup half the year.

We were almost universally unsuccessful in the Brigade Competitions, but, most regrettably, we have merely decided that it shows what rotten things competitions are.

There was the most enthusiastic exchange of hospitalities between the 2nd Battalion, the 4th Battalion and ourselves.

Finally, we all went off like gentlemen in our buses at a comfortable hour on Sunday morning, after, in spite of the weather, a very good camp.

There is one sad event to record since the last issue of the JOURNAL, in that we have had to bid good-bye to our late popular Brigade Commander, Lord Roundway, whose term of command expired just before Whitsun.

He has left us a souvenir in the shape of a photograph which will be greatly valued by us all, and in thanking him for this welcome token of remembrance the Commanding Officer conveyed to him the best wishes for the future from all ranks in the Battalion.

SERGEANTS' MESS NOTES.

Arriving in camp on Sunday, July 26th, 1931, at Dover, in buses, saved us from a nice drenching rain, as we were greeted with a lovely Scotch mist and rain pouring down in torrents.

With an average number of 40 members we soon settled down into a happy family and forgot all about the weather.

From a social point of view the camp was a tremendous success, as we renewed acquaintances with the members of the 2nd and 4th Battalions and also the many friends we made during our stay there in 1927. During the first week we usually hold the Inter-Company Community Singing Competition, but owing to a mysterious disease called "wind-up," which was very rampant amongst two of our companies, the competition fell through and "A" Company are to be congratulated on retaining the Cup without opposition for another year.

On Sunday we were visited by the wives, parents and other relatives of the members of the Battalion, and it was no small effort on the part of the members of the Mess to help to entertain and feed them during their short stay. Luckily the weather was fair, which enabled them to enjoy themselves.

"Ye Concerte of ye Sergeants' Messe of the olde 5th Battalion The Queen's Royal Regiment, holden at Dover in the County of Kent on ye 6th day of Auguste, 1931" was a huge success, thanks to the untiring efforts of the Entertainment Committee and the R.S.M. We were very pleased this year to again be able to entertain representatives of the various members of the Sergeants' Messes in the Brigade, and in particular our 2nd Battalion, who turned up in force, being stationed in Dover quite near to our camp. As usual, our own officers turned up in full force, and once again we were honoured by the presence of Col. W. J. Perkins, C.M.G., V.D., Honorary Colonel of the Battalion, and our new Brigade Commander, Col. R. S. Allen, D.S.O.

The concert opened by the band of the 4th Battalion, who rendered several selections during the evening. The singing of the 2nd Battalion seems to have

improved since we met in Shorncliffe in 1929, no doubt being due to a change in the brewers, and our heartiest thanks are due to them in rendering the opening of the vocal part of the programme. The contributors to the programme thereafter were received with enthusiasm, which only goes to show how well the items were enjoyed. The names are far too numerous to mention individually, but nevertheless we really thank them and regret that our chairman, R.S.M. Reeves, had to turn down a great many numbers and encores, otherwise we should not have finished until "Réveillé." The speeches by Col. Perkins, Lieut.-Col. Wigan and the Brigade Commander were very gratifying, and go to prove that the members are still upholding the traditions and efficiency of the Regiment.

The following night, with the aid of the armoured cars which we had at our disposal, we were able to raid the dug-out of the Sergeants' Mess of the 2nd Battalion at Connaught Barracks, and a right royal reception we received, and we trust that when they move to Aldershot we shall be able to hold more functions together and thus create and foster the spirit of comradeship which is so necessary to bring closer liaison between the Regular and Territorial Armies.

The final night (Saturday) was enlivened by many farewell visits from friends, not to mention the Priest of Paris, who did partake of many "Gin and Its" through the aid of his man John.

Sunday morning came, and it was with mixed feelings we saw the buses arrive to take us back to our various detachments and homes, with a reminder that the following morning we should resume our normal civilian occupations for another fifty weeks.

"A" COMPANY.

We have come to the conclusion that the only possible method of compiling these notes is to take our diary and comment on each happening in chronological order. A review of the year's work certainly gives us a feeling of satisfaction.

There have been various promotions, all of which seem to have turned out well, and as a Company we appear to be above the standard of last year.

Recruiting has been quite satisfactory at Dorking, although the youth of Reigate and Redhill still hesitate shyly. Perhaps the amenities of our Club and Drill Hall are still comparatively unknown. Here we may perhaps pause and give Sergt. Dennington full marks for his efforts and success in this direction during the past three years. We may add that we are glad that contrary to all expectations (we thought his fate was sealed by the powers-that-be), he has been granted an extension and will be with us for one more year at least. We hope it will be a still longer period.

Now for the deeds of the year.

First, Battalion boxing. A very good show, which was attended by some thirty files from both detachments. Congratulations go to Pte. Chitty, who won his weight in spite of the fact that he had had very little training. With more practice, he and several others will go far.

In April the annual Officers' Dance was revived, after a lapse of several years. Taking into account the fact that we just escaped financial failure, it was a great success. We were very pleased indeed to entertain Colonel and Mrs. Wigan and a number of officers from the Battalion and Regimental Depot. We intend to hold another in the coming season, followed closely by a dance for other ranks.

On May 10th the Company turned out in strength, and headed by the Battalion Drums, proceeded to the Parish Church at Dorking. After the service, we marched, full of inspiration, to the "Punch Bowl" public-house where we enjoyed an excellent lunch. From there (still full of "inspiration") to Mickleham, down the London Road and home to more "inspiration." We found it quite enjoyable to march under a hard-working sun.

Whitsun, at the Depot, gave us an after-taste of Beaulieu, Whit Monday being the only fine day of the week-end. We took advantage of that day to find Whitmore Common. It was still there and pregnant with unlearned lessons.

On June 17th a party was formed to go to the Aldershot Tattoo, the expedition being open to any Territorials and friends. Several friends came, contributing greatly to the hilarity of the party. On June 27th a representative squad attended the Surrey V.A.D. Parade at Denbies, Dorking, on the occasion of their inspection by H.R.H. Princess Mary. We had a most enjoyable, if not too instructive afternoon.

During the season there was the usual series of lectures and tactical exercises at Guildford for officers and non-commissioned officers. It is gratifying to see such a number of non-commissioned officers taking an interest in these, for they get an insight of the working of the Army, which cannot be brought to them in such detail when working at camp with troops. There was also a series of lectures given by Regular Instructors from the Depot, which were attended by a satisfactory number of effective and prospective non-commissioned officers, the results of which were felt at camp.

Camp, although wet, was a distinct improvement on last year. We started badly. Going to camp by road was voted a failure by the Company, as we found it cold and comfortless even when compared with Southern Railway trains.

In all, we had some sixty of our eighty members at camp, which is quite satisfactory. Although it can safely be said that we were well up to the standard of the rest of the Battalion in the field, we failed in the Adjutant's Shield Competition, we only managed to survive one round of the Inter-Company Football, and our Lewis gun team did not represent the Battalion in the Brigade Sports. However, "nil desperandum."

An interesting competition was revived in the form of an Inter-Platoon Cup, to be held by the best all-round Platoon. This was won by the Dorking Platoon, which is all the more creditable when one remembers that Dorking consists mainly of men with little more than a year's service, and many with less. It shows a unity of purpose and a general keenness on the part of all ranks. Reigate, on the other hand, has the N.C.Os. and trained men, but they did not pull together. It might be pointed out that this competition is an excellent opportunity for a display of friendly rivalry between the two Detachments which should bind them together even more firmly than before.

We congratulate Sergt. Dennis on winning the Efficiency Cup. This is open to all ranks, and can be won by the greenest "rookie"—in fact several were in the running for it this year.

As the training year came to an end with camp, so do these notes, and remembering the lessons learnt in a most interesting year, we look forward to the coming one, which is likely to be far more interesting since our 2nd Battalion is going to live near enough to us to be able to hold our hand.

"C" (M.G.) COMPANY.

WHITSUN.

Owing to unforeseen circumstances it was with many regrets that we were not able to hold our Annual Whitsun Camp on the grounds of our Company Commander, so we had to find new ground to camp on. After much reconnoitring by the Adjutant and Capt. Baker, with R.S.M. Reeves, it was decided that the Ash Ranges would be the best alternative. Owing to the Clerk of the Weather being in his customary mood, we must have our usual moan and wish he would direct his watering activities to other places and thereby let us have some decent weather in future. The Company turned up very strong in numbers and the spot chosen was

ideal from a machine gunner's point of view, and two very interesting schemes had been arranged, but owing to the rain these had to be curtailed and much valuable training was missed. In spite of the weather and with the assistance of Cpl. Dunwoodie, the rangetakers were able to carry out their programme, and derived much benefit from the instruction.

ROUTE MARCH AND TACTICAL EXERCISE.

Lack of funds, due no doubt to economy cuts, was responsible for the lack of tactical exercises being carried out this year. With the aid of Battalion funds we were able to have one route march to Compton just previous to Annual Training, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

ANNUAL TRAINING.

Dover, where Annual Training was held, apparently proved to be a very popular place this year, judging by the large percentage who attended. Most of the training this year consisted of platoon work, and owing to our numbers we were able to form three complete platoons.

The lectures given by Capt. Evans to the officers and non-commissioned officers before carrying out the day's programme proved very instructive and popular. With the assistance of Instructors from the 2nd Battalion, the Company Training was most instructive and popular. For the first time on record one of our rangetakers managed to qualify as 1st Class, and it is hoped that now we have made a start the number of 1st Class rangetakers will improve next year.

On the middle Sunday an excursion train brought many of our families down to camp, and they were enlightened in the ways of how we are accommodated and fed in camp. Owing to the great distance they had to travel, the time allowed in camp was very curtailed, and it was with many regrets they had to return so soon.

SHOOTING (OBLIGATORY COURSE).

Many long hours on Sundays have been spent on the ranges, trying to put our full complement through their Annual Course, but up to the present we still have about twenty to complete.

COMPETITION SHOOTING (OPEN RANGE).

Surrey County Rifle Meeting.—Recruits' Competition: 1st, Pte. Percy; 3rd, Pte. Poulter. Allen Cup: 2nd.

Small Bore.—Surrey T.A. Association Challenge Cup: 1st. Inter-Detachment Competition Shield and Medals: 1st. Lork Wakefield's Challenge Cup: 13th (418 teams competed).

"D" COMPANY NOTES.

Since the last number of the JOURNAL was published the Detachment at Woking has vacated their headquarters which have been pulled down in readiness for the erection of a smaller, but we hope, much more comfortable drill hall. During the rebuilding the Detachment are quartered, thanks to the kind assistance of the Officer Commanding, 2nd Bn. The Royal Warwickshire Regiment, in the old Military Prison at Knaphill.

In spite of the weather, Annual Training at Dover lost none of its charm. Judging from the many remarks on the last day that "we wish it was going on for another fortnight," had the weather been really good we should have had some difficulty in persuading some of the men to return home. We feel that the presence of the 2nd Battalion so close to the camp was a considerable factor in making this fortnight so enjoyable. Also, we hope that when they arrive at Aldershot we shall see much more of them.

Our Lewis Gun Team won the Battalion Competition and represented the

Battalion in the Brigade Competition, where they obtained second place. We also won the Adjutant's Shield, a battalion competition for which each company, except the Machine Gun Company, entered a platoon. Owing to the weather this was held in one of the hangars of Swingate Aerodrome and each Section had to carry out an item of training according to whether they were Rifle or L.G. Section.

SHOOTING.

In the Surrey Rifle Meeting held at Bisley on June 20th and 21st, we won the "Allen" Cup for Rifle and L.A. Teams for the second year in succession. We were second to the Regimental Depot in the "Belhaven" Cup.

Lieut. Burton-Brown won the Officers' Challenge Cup.

At the Bisley Meeting Lieut. Burton-Brown and C.S.M. Smith both shot very well, the former winning the T.A. Championship and Match "K," and the latter the Riflemen Competition.

A Shooting Match against the Woking British Legion resulted in a win for the Company who were represented by C.S.M. Smith, Sergt. Cobbett, Sergt. Keen, Cpls. Kite and Wigman and Pte. Croucher.

We have been unfortunate in losing the services of L./Cpl. Stovold, who has joined the Grenadier Guards. Our good wishes for a very successful and happy time go with him.

3rd (MILITIA) BATTALION EARLIER MEMORIES.

"THIRD BATTALION MEMORIES" in the May number of the JOURNAL caused me to wonder whether any recollections of my time in that Battalion might be worth recording. It has been something of a surprise to find that the incidents I remember are to so large an extent confined to those which occurred after dinner, a time at which it might reasonably be expected that memory, especially during the annual trainings of those days, would be somewhat blurred.

My first recollection of soldiering is, with some trepidation reporting at the Depot for my preliminary recruit drills. Moody (then Lieut. H. de C. Moody, who later exchanged into the 24th and was killed in the South African War) happened to see me arrive, and, having ascertained who I was and what I had come for, welcomed me most hospitably and conducted me into the ante-room. Here a tall grey-haired officer, with a thin pale face and very long legs, was seated in front of the fire, apparently lost in thought.

Moody (addressing his officer): "Fowler, here is T—, come to join for his recruit drills." Fowler (without looking up): "Grunt." Moody: "What quarter shall I put him into?" Fowler: "Grunt." Moody (turning to me): "Fowler is mess president; his first grunt means that he is very pleased to see you and hopes you will be comfortable; his other grunts were intended to convey that you may have the vacant quarter on the upper floor. When you have been here a short time you will understand the meaning of his grunts just as well as I do."

Fowler continued deep in thought, taking not the slightest notice of Moody's remarks about himself. I afterwards found that Fowler's first reception of me was quite normal; he was an extraordinarily silent man who seldom replied to a remark made to him, except with a grunt; his thoughts were always far away. Of what he was thinking no one knew for certain, but it was considered probable he was thinking of India, where he had served several years. Certainly India was one of the very few subjects about which he could speak with anything like enthusiasm. Both Moody and young Hercy (Lieut. Hercy, 3rd Battalion, attached for duty at the Depot; "Young" to distinguish him from his uncle, Colonel

Hercy, then commanding the Depot) used to chaff Fowler unmercifully during meals, but it was uphill work, as he never showed any signs that he was aware they were doing so. I now remember that there was one occasion when Moody succeeded in drawing him, but this was due to the behaviour of the mess waiters, who were so much overcome at some remark made by Moody at Fowler's expense that they had hurriedly to leave the room. Fowler on that occasion was really angry with Moody, who, of course, was delighted at his unwonted success.

On one occasion I had to attend a lecture given by Fowler for the instruction of recruits. I don't remember the subject selected, in fact it is quite possible I did not gather that at the time, but what does remain in my memory is that Fowler, in the course of his lecture, attempted to draw a gun (cannon) on the blackboard, and all I have to say is that it did not look like a gun, and leave it at that. The tittering of the recruits had to be sternly suppressed.

There are many amusing stories about Fowler, which I heard in later years. I would recommend the Editor to try to induce General Pink to tell them for the JOURNAL.

When I joined the Depot, Colonel E. L. Hercy was commanding, Capt. A. Elias (now Colonel A. Elias Morgan) Adjutant. The duty officers were Capt. H. B. Fowler, Lieut. H. de C. Moody and Lieut. Hercy.

There were two other young officers doing their recruits' drill with me—2/Lieuts. H. Fisher Rowe and A. R. C. Saville; the former never got a Regular commission, but years later commanded the Surrey Imperial Yeomanry; Saville, after serving with the 1st Battalion, transferred to the Indian Army, but not before he had been nicknamed "The Bog Rat" by that champion nicknamer, then, Capt. Charles Monro.

The man I had most to do with during this period was Sergt.-Major Lowings, a large man with a great personality and a word of command which, for volume and quality, I have never heard equalled. When directed at and for the sole benefit of some unfortunate, awkward recruit, that recruit would take the greatest pains to avoid giving cause of a repetition of such a terrific experience.

His manner to recruit officers was perfect. I know we all did our best to reach the high standard he expected of us.

In those days the drill uniform for officers was the blue frogged patrol jacket, forage cap with peak and chin strap, overalls, Wellington boots, and gloves. Line recruits wore a blue jumper for drill, Militia recruits red jumper or tunic. A good deal of time was spent on the goose step and acquiring the correct deportment of a soldier: chest out, stomach in, head back, chin drawn in, fingers straight, thumbs lightly touching the seams of the trousers.

Fowler, young Hercy and the doctor Reilly, an Irishman, having performed their various duties, in no doubt a highly efficient manner, every morning retired to Fowler's quarters, where they spent an exhausting hour working out what, I think, was called "accumulators." This was a system of backing horses, by means of which they anticipated winning large sums of money. As far as I could understand, the system consisted of backing a horse running in an early race at a meeting, and in the event of its winning the resulting earnings and stake would go on to a horse in a later race, and so on. I do not remember how often it was intended the process should be repeated. Naturally the selection of the right horses necessitated deep and earnest study of their previous form, and that of their jockeys, probable weather conditions, state of the course, and so on. In spite of all this, I never remember hearing of an accumulator being brought off, and from a remark he made one day at dinner it appeared that Fowler had considerable difficulty in reaching even the second stage. For after sitting in silence for a long time he remarked with colossal gravity, *à propos* of nothing, "I really believe that if the canteen donkey was running against Ormond and I backed Ormond, the canteen donkey would simply romp home," then again relapsed into silence.

Having passed my drills with more or less flying colours, at any rate to the satisfaction of Sergt.-Major Lowings, the great day arrived—that is, the assembly of the 3rd Battalion for annual training.

The Militia man appeared to consider it the correct thing to arrive at the barrack gates in a state of slight intoxication, not sufficient to prevent his marching to camp or the railway station, as the case might be, but enough to cause frequent side lurchings of individual sections of fours which must have given a curious shaky effect to the Battalion on the march, when viewed by a casual onlooker. It will be admitted that to arrive at exactly the requisite degree of intoxication showed remarkable judgment and restraint. As far as I remember, there was little or no drunkenness during training, or any other crime for that matter.

The camp for my first annual training was at Aldershot, at a spot with the unpleasant name of Scrogg's Bottom.

It was during this training that the Battalion took part in an Aldershot field day. The day was hot, the officers were in review order, the heavy and uncomfortable English-pattern helmet tight and padded, tunic overalls and Wellington boots.

The Battalion formed part of an outpost line, my particular company being in support. We were thankful to reach our positions after what seemed, in our stifling dress, a long march. Hardly had we settled down in comfort, and Clr.-Sergt. Fretwell, a stout, comfortable little man, had his sumptuous lunch spread out in front of him, than a galloper came up with an order directing the supports to reinforce the picquet line. Clr.-Sergt. Fretwell, quite naturally, was annoyed, and his complaint to the world at large was touching. "There now! What did I say? I knew as soon as ever I started my lunch something was sure to 'appen!'" My skipper, P—, became greatly flustered, and began hurriedly to turn over the pages of a fat "Infantry Drill" of those days, which he had thoughtfully brought with him, in a vain search for the correct word of command for such an occasion. He was still so occupied when an infuriated Staff Officer galloped up and requested to be informed "Why the — the — company hadn't reinforced the — picquet line"—or words to that effect. I never learnt if, when we did eventually reinforce the picquet line, we were in time to turn the tide of the battle then raging, or if the delay due to the search for the appropriate word of command caused the defeat of our side. As a finale both forces marched past, I think, the Duke of Cambridge. If, on that occasion, the marching of the 3rd Battalion was favourably compared to that of the Guards, it has escaped my memory. It is quite possible no such comparison was made, since it was early in our training and consequently our performance probably fell short of our best.

A year or two before I joined the 3rd Battalion it happened that one company was without a commander for the annual training, and our late Colonel, then Capt. Monro, either volunteered or was detailed to fill the vacancy. He had several stories of his experiences during that training, which when told by him were very funny. Here is one, which I am told on the best authority is quite true.

The scene is laid at Battalion Orderly Room during Battalion Orders. A Sergeant is brought before the Commanding Officer charged with some very minor offence. Having heard the evidence, the Commanding Officer addressed the prisoner thus: "Sergeant Smith, you have committed a most grave offence against good order and military discipline; it is clearly my duty to award a severe punishment. Three days' C.B." The Adjutant murmurs "Admonished" into the Commanding Officer's ear. Commanding Officer: "On reconsidering your case, Sergeant Smith, and in view of your previous good record, I think that my award of three days' C.B. was perhaps too severe; I now therefore admonish you."

I trust that the foregoing and following recollections will not cause my readers (if any) to imagine that the 3rd Battalion of those days was something in the nature of a comic turn. Such an impression would be entirely false.

It must, however, be admitted that some of the senior officers and Captains were not noticeably efficient either on parade or elsewhere. This did not really matter so much as might be expected, as the drill of the battalions was almost entirely in the capable hands of the Adjutant and Sergeant-Major; also we had experienced and reliable Colour-Sergeants who, when necessary could, and to all intents and purposes did, command the companies. They, however, did so with such tact that the nominal company commanders seldom realized the fact. I remember one occasion when the necessary tact either failed or was absent. One of the Captains came into the ante-room tent shortly before lunch, in a state of some excitement. He informed us that he had just been putting his Colour-Sergeant on a thoroughly sound footing. The origin of the trouble was a good deal involved and escapes my memory, but his parting words addressed to the Colour-Sergeant, which he repeated in stirring tones, were most impressive. "Colour-Sergeant Jones, there is only one man in command of this company, and *by God* that's me." Honour was satisfied and things continued to take their usual course in that company.

In those days parades were almost entirely either Adjutant's or Sergeant-Major's. There was one nominal Commanding Officer's parade at 11 a.m., but our Commanding Officer did not shine at battalion drill, and fortunately himself recognizing the fact, usually handed over to the Adjutant, after reports had been collected. There were, on occasions, company parades intended to give the company commanders an opportunity of drilling their commands, but, from my experience, this they left to their subalterns while they themselves superintended.

Musketry, of course, took a large part of the thirty days' training. It was in the days of the Martini Henry rifle with a pretty violent kick. I don't think the standard of marksmanship was very high. By the end of the training the Battalion was quite smart and steady on parade, and well turned out in spite of the fact that the fit of the caps and clothing often left much to be desired. The Glengarry cap was the only headdress of the men; they were not provided with helmets except on very special occasions.

The Militia Reserve were a fine body of men. They were picked men who undertook to serve abroad, and received extra pay. They formed a reinforcement which the commanding officer of any line battalion on service would have been mighty glad to receive. On one occasion our camp was at Rydes Hill, a short distance from the Depot. The site is now overgrown with gorse, and the rifle range is built upon with houses. I remember this particular training because Colonel Davies, the Commanding Officer (the Regimental Historian) had presented two large men's mess tents to the Battalion, and these were first used at this training. The reason why the mess tents are so particularly impressed on my memory is that their introduction caused a rather unpopular addition to the Orderly Officer's duties, which consisted of reading a long "grace" prior to the usual "Any complaints?" when visiting the men's dinners. No doubt the men appreciated the added comfort at meals, but there was really no necessity for them to respond to the grace with loud "Amens"; it made the Orderly Officer feel a little embarrassed.

I think it was during this training that the old 3rd Battalion Colours were laid up in Holy Trinity Church. Fisher Rowe and myself had the honour of carrying the Colours on this occasion. The senior officers, however, did not see why the very junior ones should have all the prominent part in the ceremony; they therefore thought out a little addition, so that they too might come into the limelight. Fisher Rowe and I marched in slow time up the aisle to the chancel steps, and here the extra bit came in; two Majors were waiting and received the Colours from us and carried them to the altar steps, where they were handed over to the officiating parson.

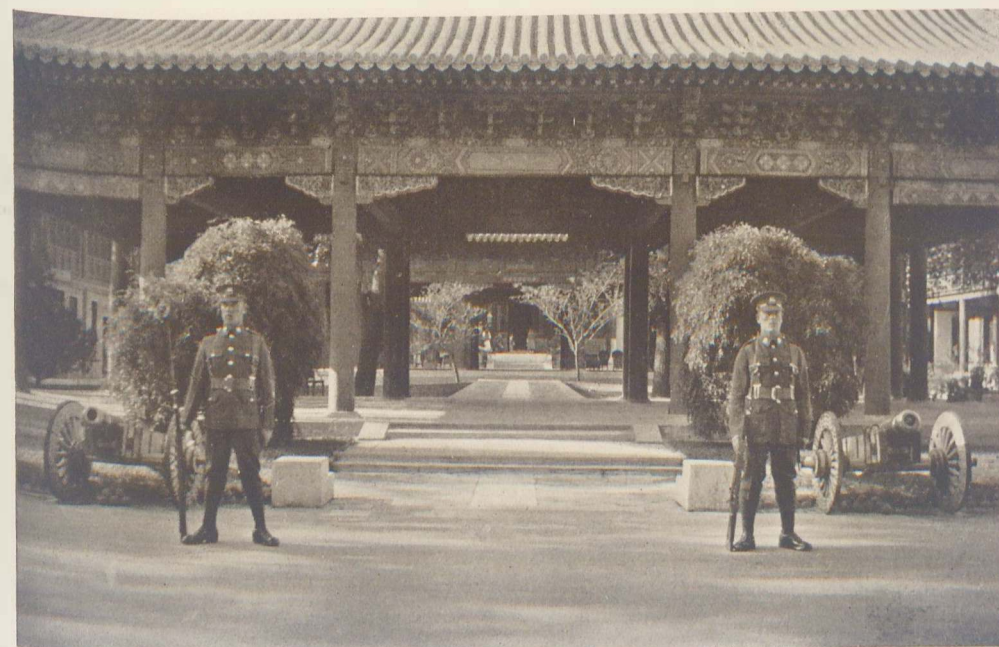
At the time of which I am writing the young officers frequently indulged in a

1st BATTALION.



THE ICEBREAKERS.

It took these men one hour to travel 100 yards.



BRITISH LEGATION GUARD AT PEKING.

A contrast to the winter aspect.

certain amount of mild ragging at night. This usually took the form of pulling down the tent on the top of some officer who had retired early to bed, or of running up the outside of his tent and hanging from the top of the centre pole. Both practices were unrestful for the would-be sleeper. These tent pullings were occasionally carried out in order to teach manners to a brother officer who had made himself obnoxious, but were mostly indiscriminate. We were no respecters of persons in our tent-pulling activities, but there was one tent and the ground for some distance round it that no one dared to approach at night, and that was the Adjutant's. I don't remember a tent occupied by an officer senior to a Captain being actually pulled down, but no other tent was considered as being on holy ground.

My own skipper, P—, was a very frequent victim, not because he was at all unpopular, but principally due to the fact that he was so very funny when aroused to anger, besides being an early-to-bedder. He was a most good-natured little man, very easily flustered, most unsuited to hold any sort of command—in fact, the sort who simply must be ragged. One training his tent had come down on to the top of him with such frequency that he eventually became thoroughly "fed up," and made up his mind to retaliate. So one night on retiring to his tent he didn't go to bed, but lay in wait ready to rush out and attack any would-be tent puller. Now that particular night we were otherwise engaged, but it happened that another Captain, a stout pompous man, was making his way to his own tent at a late hour, maybe slightly unsteady on his feet, and tripped over P—'s tent rope. P—, certain that it was a tent puller starting operations, darted out and slogged the innocent stout one in the eye, greatly to his surprise and indignation. He rendered a full report of the incident through the proper channels the following morning, and there was a great to-do. Peace, however, was eventually proclaimed after adequate explanations and apologies had been received and accepted.

Poor P— was the hero of another after-dinner incident. He had a guest who, as a special treat, was to sleep in camp. There was a special tent set aside for guests. I don't remember the surname of this particular guest, and in any case his surname doesn't matter, it was his Christian name (Gerald) which was the cause of all the trouble, combined with P—'s inability to pronounce the letter "R." P— addressed him as "Gewald." Now Gewald may or may not sound like "General," but the fact remains that everyone (except myself, who had been previously introduced to Gerald) took Gerald to be a General. Gerald was a mild little man with a long drooping moustache, and to my intense amusement I heard a hospitable officer after dinner say to him, "Will you have something to drink, General?" and at another and later stage, "What would you like to do, General, play whist? Or would you rather come and help pull P—'s tent down?" I saw a look of puzzled amazement in Gerald's face. He refrained from any form of entertainment and retired early to bed. That night proved to be a fairly lively one, the ringleader being M—, who had served in the 3rd Battalion before getting a regular commission in another regiment. He said that of course P—'s tent must come down, to remind him of old times, and just as a preliminary raced up the tent and, hanging from the top of the pole, vigorously kicked the canvas. Suddenly there appeared at the doorway a small figure, not of P— but of Gerald, clad in a white night gown. Our dismay at having treated a guest in such an inhospitable manner may be imagined, and for the others the dismay was intensified owing to their belief that Gerald was an officer of exalted military rank. We retired with hasty apologies. Not so M—, who was of sterner stuff and the son of a V.C. He entered Gerald's tent and put him to bed again, and, seating himself at the foot of the bed, apologized and continued his apologies so long that he found it necessary to obtain refreshment for himself and Gerald, before he felt that he had dealt with the subject to his entire satisfaction. He eventually left poor Gerald in peace and told us, who were anxiously awaiting him, that

"The General isn't at all a bad chap when you know him. I gave him my word we would not pull his tent down." It turned out that P——, for some reason best known to himself, had arranged to sleep in the guest tent while Gerald occupied his room.

One further after-dinner reminiscence which had rather unfortunate results. It was one night during a training at Aldershot, at the time when the 1st Battalion were stationed there. Several officers of the 1st Battalion, full of bonhomie, turned up in camp and were suitably entertained. The evening ended up with pretty extensive tent-pulling activities. After several had been brought to the ground and we were preparing for action on another, someone asked, "Who does it belong to?" to which someone else replied "It's T——'s" (a junior officer of the 3rd Battalion). One of the 1st Battalion officers then said, "Oh yes, his must come down. He was seen wearing a regimental tie in the Park."

Now this unfortunate remark somehow got to the ears of the senior officers of the 3rd Battalion, who in my opinion made a large mountain out of a very small molehill—in fact, they considered that the Battalion had been gravely insulted. They did not appear to appreciate that the remark had been made by an irresponsible junior officer at a time and under conditions when any remarks made by him would be still irresponsible, and that the objection was not to the 3rd Battalion officer wearing the regimental colours but to their being worn in the Park—a thing considered bad taste whether the officer belonged to the 1st or 3rd Battalion. However, a meeting was held the following day, when the matter was discussed with (more or less) bated breath, and it was finally decided that the 3rd Battalion officers should discontinue wearing the regimental colours and the 3rd Battalion should have its own, which were to be chosen by a select committee.

The next training we appeared in our new colours, which I must say were rather startling, being a combination of red, yellow, and several other brilliant colours. In later years these were changed to a more sober hue, but the 3rd Battalion, even after becoming the Special Reserve, retained its new colours.

The other day I came across a scarf of the original 3rd Battalion colours, which I am thinking of presenting to the Museum with a history of their origin attached.

THE REGIMENTAL MUSEUM

ADDITIONS to the Museum since the last issue of the JOURNAL are as follows:—

1. Tobacco Box, presented in 1914 to Major-General Sir Wilkinson D. Bird by H.R.H. Princess Mary. Presented by Major-General Sir W. D. Bird.
2. Pipe, presented to Major-General Sir W. D. Bird by their Majesties the King and Queen. Presented by Major-General Sir W. D. Bird.
3. Two Medals:—
 - (a) South Africa, 1853 (Jas. Mullins, 1st Bn. 2nd Foot).
 - (b) China, 1860 (Jas. Mullins, 1st Bn. 2nd Foot). Both purchased from the Rev. L. C. Blower, Chignal, St. James, Essex.
4. Medal. Regimental Cross, for Ten Years' Meritorious Service (James Wilkins). Presented by Capt. Clayton.
5. Five Medals:—
 - (a) Regimental Cross for Six Years' Meritorious Service.
 - (b) China, one bar (Taku Forts, 1858), (James Burke).
 - (c) China, one bar (Pekin 1860), (A. Hale).
 - (d) South Africa, one bar (Talana), (Cpl. J. T. Jennings).
 - (e) South Africa, one bar (Relief of Ladysmith), (Pte. T. McCall). Obtained by Major G. K. Olliver, M.C. for the Museum.



Launching the Bridge.



BRIDGING THE CUCKMERE RIVER.

Crossing the Bridge.

22nd LONDON REGIMENT (THE QUEEN'S)

Headquarters: 2 Jamaica Road, Bermondsey, S.E.16.
Honorary Colonel: Col. E. J. Previtte, V.D., T.D.
Commanding Officer: Lieut.-Col. F. M. Pasteur, M.C.

SINCE the last issue of the JOURNAL, we have sampled another English summer. It has been fair in places, but not in many, and certainly not at Purfleet. Considering the weather the attendance for Weapon Training was good, and the results might have been decidedly worse—191 Lewis Gunners were passed by the middle of July, and 91 Machine Gunners.

At the Divisional Rifle Meeting which took place at Pirbright on June 14th, we improved our position in all team shooting events.

A new departure this summer has been a Transport Week-end Exercise which took place on June 27th-28th, fortunately one of the few fine week-ends. Almost the entire section was present with the addition of two cooks, and a start was made from Bermondsey at 3.30 p.m. The column consisted of the G.S. waggon, four limbers and the cooker. The route taken was Greenwich—Blackheath, Shooters Hill to Welling, which was reached by 6.15 p.m. Shooters Hill offered no resistance and Messrs. Tilling's horses apparently waltzed up it.

A camp was pitched at Welling and the horses put on a line between the limbers.

Sunday morning was occupied with classes in grooming, harnessing and riding. Pay Parade and dinners followed, and after striking camp the return journey was commenced at 1.30 p.m., reaching Bermondsey via a different route at 5.15 p.m. The week-end, which was most successful, gave the opportunity for some very useful training, and it is hoped to repeat it next summer.

Two week-ends prior to camp, officers visited the training areas and went through schemes in preparation for exercises to be carried out later. There is no doubt that these visits were of considerable value.

Major S. W. Kirby, O.B.E., D.S.O., accompanied us and rendered us invaluable service in the preparation of these schemes. He is an old friend of the Battalion, and though he has few spare moments, he invariably finds time to give us a helping hand. We are most grateful.

We left Bermondsey on July 26th for East Dean (near Eastbourne) where we spent fifteen days in training. Bad weather interfered with our programme on one or two occasions, but generally we were able to carry out our pre-arranged schemes. We met with the usual difficulty of making the training interesting for all concerned; nevertheless, it was instructive for many, and great keenness was shown by everyone. Considerably more interest was taken by the Division, and their instruction and help this year has been of great value and most encouraging.

Parts of the training areas were under cultivation, but much of the ground was suitable for bringing out a number of useful lessons. The features on the whole were on the large side, which presented certain obvious difficulties in Platoon and Company Training, and cover from view was difficult to obtain on many occasions.

The timed attack scheme was not altogether a success. The attack was made along two spurs (both big features). The valley between was exposed and offered very little cover. The advance was only possible if well supported by machine

guns well forward firing across the valley on to their opposite spurs. Insufficient time was allowed in the plan for the machine guns to get into position for the second objective. Owing to the largeness of the features it was very difficult for the Company Commander to see what was happening, let alone keep in touch with his platoons.

Owing to rain we were unable to carry out the defence scheme in the first week. We carried out much the same plan during night operations against the 23rd London Regiment. This included withdrawing from our forward defended localities. It would need too much space to discuss this operation which was directed by Major Kirby. There were many amazing incidents, but considering the little practice most of us have of moving about in the dark, results might have been much worse. It was a most beautiful night until shortly after we got home, when a storm broke the peace and kept us awake for two hours.

The Brigade Day will be remembered by a most realistic attack from the air. The column was attacked on the line of march and at rest, and it would have been very badly shot up on the first occasion. No doubt under conditions of war a less leisurely attitude would be adopted by the target in question. When fire was brought to bear on the attacking machines it was very reasonably controlled.

Division had nothing to complain of from the Clerk of the Weather. The sun shone throughout their "day," and the country over which operations took place was most attractive. We started in a defensive position from which we were being ejected when we received orders to withdraw under cover of the 21st London Regiment. The withdrawal was carried out, though we should have undoubtedly lost many men, and having taken up a position some distance in rear we remained there until the "Cease Fire"—not being called upon to fight again.

Throughout training the most noticeable thing was the room for improvement in non-commissioned officers. It is not for the lack of trying, for in nearly every case every effort was being made to handle the particular situation in a sound manner. It is in some cases pure lack of knowledge, and in others very careless thinking, and from this follows a lack of confidence and hesitation which has a most devastating effect. It is hoped that every effort will be made during the winter by N.C.Os. to avail themselves of all opportunities offered them to get a real grasp of their job.

The camp site turned out to be better than it appeared on first sight, but the contractors cannot be congratulated on their efforts. The shower baths were a miserable exhibition of modern plumbing.

We had attached to us Capt. D. E. Barthgate, Lieut. J. Y. Whitfield, Sergts. Bradley, Saunders and Lee from the 2nd Battalion. The assistance of Regular Officers and N.C.Os. is worth a great deal to us. It is no exaggeration to say that keen and efficient help such as we received this year accounts for a good 50 per cent. of the value which we can obtain from our Annual Training.

We wish on this occasion once again to thank the 2nd Battalion for doing us so proudly in this respect.

We had a number of visitors in camp to add to our pleasures. Col. Greenwood and Col. Woolley were both very welcome, and we hope to see them again, and other officers who have served in the Regiment; also the Rev. Wilkinson and the Rev. Howard Marshall (Assistant Chaplain-General, Eastern Command) who was an old friend of the 2nd Battalion in Khartoum in 1927.

We were very pleased to see Lieut.-Col. J. G. Giffard, D.S.O., who spent a morning on the Training Areas with us. Knowing he has little time to spare we appreciated his visit all the more.

Our strength in camp was very satisfactory, and the percentage of attendance at 91.5 per cent. the highest recorded for many years. This is due to the great



"SITUATION NORMAL."



THE BAND.

efforts made by Col. Woolley and Capt. Pickering to wipe out paper strength. These efforts are now bearing fruit, and we can also attribute our success in attendance to Capt. Pickering's own personal work and that of the Permanent Staff, R.S.M. P. G. Smith and Staff-Sergts. P. Tasker and W. Coldman, all of whom have worked unceasingly and untiringly in this direction as in many others. Staff-Sergt. P. Tasker leaves us in December to re-join the 2nd Battalion. During his service with us he has won all our hearts by his sterling qualities and his charming personality. No one could have worked harder, or in the short time obtained a better grasp of what is required. Few could have obtained the results or obtained them so happily. In saying *au revoir* to him we wish him great happiness in his future career, and since we feel so much the richer for his having spent four years with us we will set our loss against the 2nd Battalion's gain and be generous for once. We hope very much we shall not entirely lose sight of him.

Recruits have come in well during the summer, and we were again the third strongest unit in the Division at the time of Annual Training.

Since the last issue two new officers have joined us in 2/Lieut. R. H. Pontifex, who is an old Reptonian, and 2/Lieut. A. Stannard, who was at Hailebury. We are very glad to be able to welcome them both to the Battalion.

Lieut. A. G. Ling, who has left us and joined the 6th/7th Manchester Regiment, came to camp with us. He had previously done his camp with the Mancheters, and we greatly appreciated his giving up his holiday to come with us. His services were of great value, and his usual cheerfulness at all times made us realize what a great loss he is to us. We are very pleased he is so happy in his new battalion.

The Brigade O.C.A. Church Parade took place at the Headquarters of the 23rd London Regiment on July 19th. We were the second strongest on parade with an increase of 81 on the previous year. We congratulate Col. Woolley and Lieut. E. C. Shepperd on the excellent results they have obtained. We hope to see a great number of our old friends at the forthcoming Armistice Sunday Church Parade.

Capt. R. E. Pickering and 2/Lieut. C. R. Whittington attended the 2nd Battalion Training at Dover; the former also attended the 1st Divisional Concentration at Aldershot, and at the Fire Power Demonstration at Lulworth Cove with Major W. R. Darnell.

SOME NEW LIGHTS ON REGIMENTAL HISTORY.

1. Capt. Wagstaffe was a very humorist sort of fellow, generally known as "Wagger." He was the O.C. of the Machine Gun Company.
2. The Battle Honours of the Peninsula War are Coronna, Relief of Lady-smith, and the Black Hole of Calcutta.
3. The Regiment was formed in 1661 to garrison Tangier, which was a part of the dowry to Charles II when he married Catherine of Bragans. The Regiment served in Tangier from 1662-84, and first praide was held on Putney Heath under the command of Charles II.
4. The Battle Honours of the Peninsula War were the Transvaal and the Orange River Colony.
5. The reason we wear the Pascal Lamb is that whilst they were travelling through the desert someone trip over a small image, and they said we will keep it and call it a Pascal Lamb, and we have had it ever since as a badge.

THE WATCHFUL FORCE.

By H. M. JACKSON.

THEY still get convictions on charges of witchcraft in Canada, at least the Royal Canadian Mounted Police do. In the minds of the great majority of people, witchcraft is associated with the Middle Ages or those good old days in the New England States when the men wore high steeple hats and women white neckerchiefs.

As late as the spring of 1928 the Mounted Police secured a conviction in a case of witchcraft in Northern British Columbia, in a district which is the very home of superstition among the Indians.

An Indian woman was troubled with a bad knee. Treatment by a white physician failing to effect a cure, Billy Williams, an Indian of Kispiox, offered his assistance.

When Billy Williams came to the house where lay the sick woman, he proceeded to garb himself in the grotesque costume which was part of his stock-in-trade. This consisted of a dress of bear skin, while his head was crowned with a circlet of bear claws.

Armed with a wooden rattle, he danced round the sick woman, singing wild songs in his own language. The following day he returned, again dressing in his weird costume. He was smoking a pipe. Drawing it from his mouth, he blew smoke on the woman's knee and tried to straighten it. On this occasion he kept up the singing and dancing for two hours. As he left the house he announced that the woman would recover. This she proceeded to do, in defiance of the efforts of modern skill.

This ceremony is known as "Swanask" or "blowing away." The woman did get better in less than a week, despite her acknowledged fear of the witch-doctor.

In the early part of 1928 the same woman's father-in-law died, so her husband declared, because the accused threatened his father and the threats hastened his death, which actually occurred on his trap line.

The threat was that the old man would be dead before the snow went off in the spring, and that he would succumb without sickness.

Before the old Indian set off on his long hunting trip, he called upon a nearby physician for an examination. The doctor said that he might go hunting with a clear mind, as there was nothing the matter with him. Yet the old Indian died on the trap line, and his son was firm in the belief that the accused had hastened his father's death, and that he himself and his family were in danger. Moreover, the belief was general among the Indians that the witch-doctor helped kill the old Indian on the trap line.

The superstition went that the witch-doctor had to dance around the grave of his victim twice. The latter's family kept strict watch on the place of interment, armed with a shotgun. The witch-doctor was wily, and, learning of the armed guard, had his daughter-in-law lay a charge against the son for assault. The accused was fined ten dollars on this charge.

While it is common knowledge that the Indians have their medicine men, it is not generally known how great is the influence they exert over the people. One of the Indians of William's village, under what amounted to a death-sentence from the witch-doctor, explained to a Mounted Police corporal some of the

methods peculiar to the profession. He would probably never have dared breathe a word had the witch-doctor not at the time been in jail.

The medicine man cuts a small piece of cloth from the clothes of his victim, and, after repeating certain incantations, puts it in an unclean place. The victim then contracts sores, or a severe cough, and gradually becomes weaker and at last dies.

A variation of the method is to secure a piece of cloth, and, when the victim expectorates, he soaks the cloth in the moisture, placing it away in an unclean place. Still another way of bringing about the victim's end is by walking on his shadow and repeating certain sayings.

To the ordinary educated man or woman all this seems the veriest drivel, but to the Indians of the place it is deadly earnest and a matter of life and death.

The Mounted Police are frequently of assistance to the American authorities. On one occasion certain American citizens acting as emissaries of more important personages whose identity was not revealed, tried to inveigle Canadian paper manufacturers to make a not inconsiderable quantity of paper which would look like the paper upon which liquor permits were printed by the prohibition enforcement authorities in the United States. These attempts were declined by the firms approached, but one of them, in Montreal, warned the Mounted Police, who at once got in touch with the United States authorities. The latter considered the affair of importance, and at their instance the Mounted Police secured a paper-manufacturing concern to assist in trapping the purchasers of paper in question.

It took a considerable time to complete the negotiations and make the paper. Once requests were made for the counterfeiting of the paper utilized in American withdrawal permits, and on another occasion the subject of "currency" paper was opened up. It was a difficult matter to watch proceedings.

One of the Mounted Police detectives, by a piece of brilliant shadowing, established the identity and address in New York of the two men who formed the mainspring of the operations.

The police wished to guide the contraband paper and its buyers across the border, where they would be apprehended by the American authorities, but finally, when it was learned that part of the paper was intended to be shipped to Newfoundland and from there to the United States by water, and that in all likelihood most of the paper was to be left indefinitely in Montreal, the men engaged in the plot in Montreal were arrested. Four were charged with forging trademarks, counterfeiting stamps and other offences, the object of which was to defraud the United States Government. Despite the fact that the case ultimately fell through, several of the men were prosecuted in the United States.

An unusual feature of the affair was the fact that it was very hard to establish any specific protection given by United States legislation or regulation to the paper used for official documents connected with prohibition enforcement.

Promptness and efficiency in crime detection is no mere attribute of the detective of fiction. Mounted Police training and practice is quite effective, and the boast that they "always get their man" is no idle one.

A little way out of Prince Albert near Ditton Park one May night, in 1928, the house of William Robson, a farmer, was burned, and the bodies of Robson and his housekeeper, a Mrs. Swanson, were found nearly consumed by the intense heat. It was common knowledge that the farmer was in the habit of smoking in bed. He was a sufferer from insomnia, and when going to bed at night used to light his lamp and read for a time. He was also known to be careless with his oil lamp. In fact, he had once nearly set fire to the house in this way. All these reasons led the neighbours to believe that the burning of the fire-trap of a house had been pure accident.

But when Constable W. M. Jennings of the Nipawin detachment of the Force made his investigations at the scene of the tragedy, he decided that appearances

were against the simple explanation. The remains of the farmer and his housekeeper were not in a position which was consistent with the theory of accident. He started to get the facts of the case. He found that Robson had some time previously had a hired man named Olson. Robson's wife had left him and for a time was Olson's housekeeper. She later secured employment elsewhere and Olson also got a job in the vicinity.

In the course of his inquiries, the constable found that Olson had been away from his employer's home on the night of the tragedy. Questioned, his story was garbled and unsatisfactory. He began to act in a way that speedily excited suspicion. He went to see Mrs. Robson, who no longer had any relations with him, and told her he had killed her husband and his housekeeper with an axe, had then scattered kerosene over their bodies and the interior of the place and had lighted the house.

Constable Jennings's case was complete. Olson was tried at Melfort in November and duly sentenced.

The arrest of a well-known liquor smuggler in Halifax early in the same year was an exciting incident at the end of a period of routine.

Sergeant Blakeney had information that certain members of a family called Dauphinee, or their brother-in-law, were receiving small amounts of liquor in a certain house in the city. One cold winter evening the sergeant and two constables hid themselves in a yard near the suspected place of delivery.

Silently they waited and before long a car appeared. The Mounted Police started for their quarry, but the blaze of headlights revealed them. The driver threw his engine into second gear and shot forward like an arrow. As the big touring car sped past, Blakeney leaped for the running-board, his outthrust hand catching the front side curtains. As the curtain tore slowly away beneath his weight, he recognized the brother-in-law at the wheel. In the King's name, he commanded him to stop.

Davis's reply was to jamb his foot on his accelerator, and the big car leaped ahead at a speed of forty miles an hour. Blakeney's precarious hold of the ripping side-curtain was every second becoming less secure. In danger of being thrown on to the pavement, he managed to force head and shoulders into the side-curtain. Just as he was about to reach Davis, the latter let go of the wheel with his right hand and struck a blow at the sergeant's face. The sergeant merely pushed further into the car, and Davis let the steering take care of itself as he opened the door beside him. By this time Blakeney was far enough into the car to get hold of Davis's clothes. His feet and legs hanging out over the right door, he hung on as Davis tried to throw himself from the leaping car.

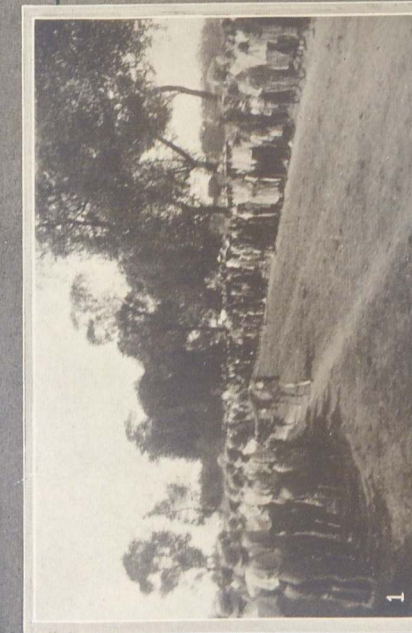
The car struck a board fence with a crash, glanced off and drove straight for a light pole. Davis, with a final intense effort, got clear of the car, but he brought the indomitable sergeant along with him. Both men landed full length in the street, the policeman on his head. Slightly stunned, they struggled, until Davis broke free, part of his overalls in the sergeant's firm grip.

The fugitive raced down the street along the way the car had come, and the two constables, who had seen the crash, saw him. He dodged and eluded them, racing away down a side street with one constable in pursuit. The chase lasted a good half mile, sometimes in a main, crowded street, and sometimes down side streets. Davis, young and well-developed, had plenty of stamina, but so had the constable, and the fugitive was finally caught and arrested.

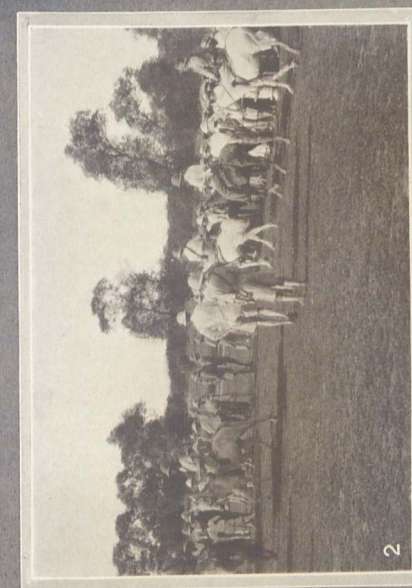
The Sergeant found a five-gallon keg of rum and the damaged car had to be towed to the naval dockyard. The prisoner was heavily fined and the car was seized.

The Mounted Police had done great work in helping to suppress the traffic in drugs. A good deal of the work has been done in British Columbia. In Victoria a Chinese, Wong Wa, was believed to be the most important distributor

1st BATTALION: RACE MEETING AT SHANHAUKUAN.



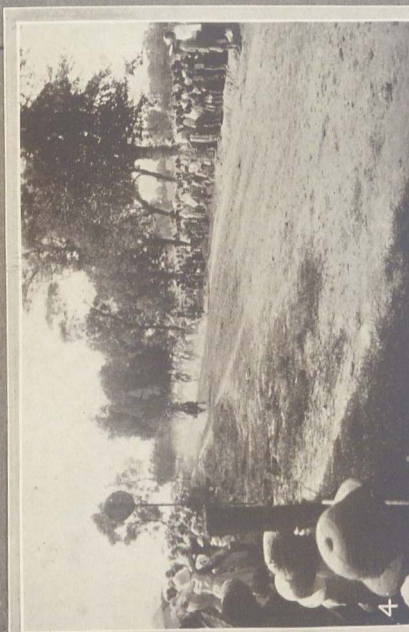
1. THE MULE RACE.



2. THE PARADE ROUND THE PADDOCK.



3. A CLOSE FINISH: THE JUDGES' STAND.



4. THE COURSE NEAR THE FINISH.

on Vancouver Island. Corporal Black, after cautious preliminaries, made Wong Wa's acquaintance in the guise of a buyer from across the border and secured a sample tin of opium.

Again, the Corporal made a larger purchase. Wong Wa refused to touch the purchase money. Leading Black across the street to a warehouse, he introduced him to a Chinaman to whom Black was told to pay the money demanded. Upon receipt of the price, this individual pointed at a second Chinaman, who handed over the opium in a lane.

But the Police had the movements of the astute principal and the wily subordinate covered from then on. They were brought to trial, and Wong Wa convicted and sentenced to a three years' term and a fine, and the assistant to a two years' term and a smaller fine. Wong Wa appealed the sentence; the appeal was dismissed, and he fled, his bail being estreated. During the case the police had to break an alibi, the accused having declared he was in the country on the day in question. Cross-examination as to the amount of snow on the ground on this day revealed the falsity of the declaration.

24th LONDON REGIMENT (THE QUEEN'S)

Headquarters: 71, New Street, S.E.17.

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

Commanding Officer: Lieut.-Col. H. J. Sanders, D.S.O., M.C.

EASTER having fallen sufficiently early this year to enable an account of our stay at the Depot to appear in the May number of the JOURNAL, we have little to report on this occasion beyond our Annual Training, which took place, as usual, in late July and early August.

This year the Division went to the South Coast, our Brigade being sent to Eastdean, near Eastbourne. We ourselves were privileged to have a Battalion camp about a mile from the rest of the Brigade. Apart from the joy of living in such isolation, with no Brigade duties to perform, we were singularly lucky in that the site chosen stood high, was level, and had a fine view of the sea, three advantages denied to the rest of the Brigade.

If only the weather had been as ideal as our surroundings, for once in a way no one could have had any possible cause for complaint; unfortunately it was only moderate. It never became really hot, and although rain only interfered twice with training there was plenty of it about, and our night operations, which had been looked forward to by all ranks, were brought to an untimely end at about 4 a.m. by the worst thunderstorm that anyone present could remember; this after a valiant kapok bridge crossing of the Cuckmere Canal, followed by a still more gallant attempt to bridge the river.

Our bridge was expanded with all available material to what was believed to be a record length, but, alas! it swung about in the river like a great sea serpent and missed the opposite bank by several lengths.

Our misfortunes in this respect were not so comic as those of the 1st Surrey Rifles on our left. They got across the canal all right, counter-attacked by a strong body of mosquitoes, but thereafter a Platoon Commander, seized with a fit of misguided enthusiasm, stole the bridge they had constructed for the river crossing, dumped it down in some unlikely spot, crossed and fought the battle with his slender force, while his comrades, frenzied at the loss of their bridge and anxiously listening to the din of battle in the distance, went off in every direction

to rediscover their sole means of crossing, and when someone finally struck it they had to start all over again finding the people who were looking for it.

The two Battalions eventually got across in good order, were served with an excellent hot meal from their cookers, snatched about two hours' sleep and then marched on to the forming-up place for their dawn attack. It was at this point that the heavens decided to impersonate a vigilant enemy who had got wind of this operation. The storm broke in torrential rain, and thunder and lightning were simultaneous for nearly two hours as the heavy clouds rolled round and round the Cuckmere Valley. And so to camp, breakfast and bed at 6.30 in the morning: while the Drums, who had spent the night in camp, gallantly marched out and rescued the bridges which had been abandoned in the retreat.

Rather more time than usual was taken up with Platoon and Company Training. Some of the schemes for the latter proved to be very interesting, and it seemed that many of the lessons which we strive to learn in theory during the year at Kennington were being put satisfactorily into practice.

Training culminated in a Brigade day, when our Battalion formed the withdrawing enemy and was handled entirely in accordance with the requirements of the situation. Not too cunning to prevent the Umpires from bringing out the required lessons, and at the same time not so palpable as to be unrealistic.

This exercise was followed by one of our celebrated Divisional days—an inter-Brigade battle. Our Brigade was commanded by Col. Sanders, and it is only necessary to read the accounts in the Press to see with what success, and also to note that we ourselves got good marks for our machine-gun positions and also for one or two very resolute counter-attacks. Whether the Press representative who was impressed by the latter was referring to the counter-attack in which our gallant Adjutant, mounted on his charger, led forward our reserve company, represented by a Sergeant with a flag, we are not quite sure.

We had little success in the competitions held in camp. Probably the fact that we were much farther from the scene of these than the rest of the Brigade helped to account for this. In the Transport Competition we were third in the Brigade but sixth in the Division, and should have done better had not a wrong map reference caused us to be nine minutes late at the place of assembly. Our Machine Gun Platoon was last in the Brigade, which was unfortunate, as the junior non-commissioned officers and men had backed the officers up with considerable enthusiasm and had benefited much by the instruction from Sergt. Walters, of the 2nd Battalion, and Cpl. Lewis, of the Welsh Guards. A real downpour just as the platoon was parading seemed to throw everything out of gear.

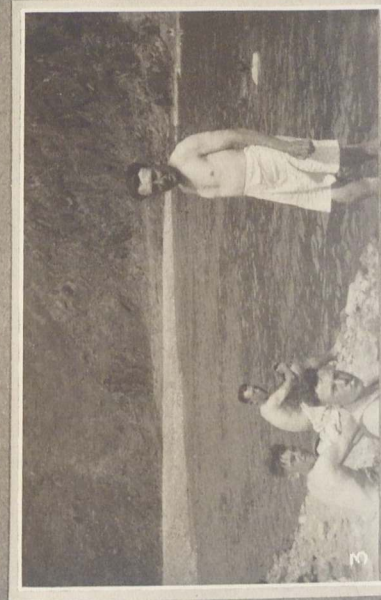
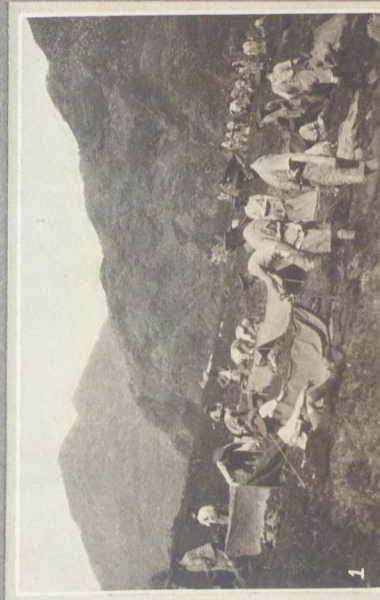
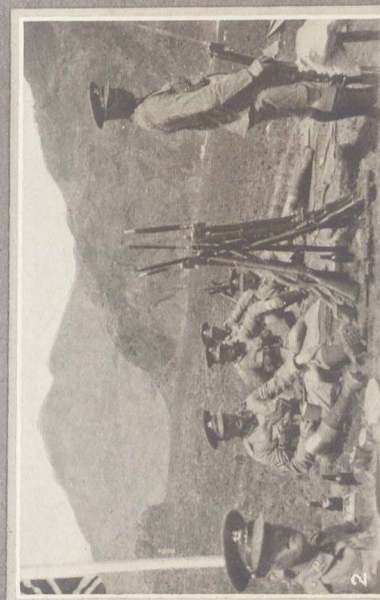
Once more we were ably assisted by many painstaking instructors from the Regular Army. It warms the heart to see the lengths to which these good people will go to help us. In addition to those already mentioned, and among others, we wish to refer particularly to Lieut. F. S. Reid, R.A. Staff College Student, Lieut. J. K. Ponsford, 1st Battalion and Depot, and the two very smart demonstration platoons supplied by the Welsh Guards.

We should like to record the very excellent work done by the Transport Section. Their work in all departments was an improvement on the high standard which they themselves have set, and their lines proved an example to the rest of the Battalion. The Drums continue to improve and the Band performed adequately whenever called upon.

In many ways the most important incident this year was the visit of our Honorary Colonel, Col. Simpson, and Lieut.-Col. G. J. Giffard, commanding the 2nd Battalion. Both spent a night under canvas with us and watched our training. Col. Giffard made a few comments on what he had seen to the officers concerned, and his constructive criticism and the method of tackling tactical problems which he advocated are likely to be of much practical use to all who heard them.

So far as personnel is concerned we welcome the arrival of Messrs. Kingsley,

1st BATTALION.



"B" COMPANY AT EHRLING TEMPLE.

1. Pitching Bivouacs.

3. A welcome dip in the River.

2. The Guard.
4. The Canteen.

Berlandina and Huxtable among our officers, and thus for the first time for over eight years we are up to establishment in this department. The other ranks have responded by increasing the strength to just over 400—a goal we have aimed at for some years. It is possible that our numbers may drop back a trifle in the next few weeks, but having once touched the 400 mark it is up to every member of the Battalion to maintain it and aim now at bringing in sufficient of the right type of recruits to make 500 seem a reasonable possibility.

This autumn we are trying a new experiment. Instead of training the men and running our Officer and N.C.O. Cadre classes simultaneously, we are going to concentrate on the latter for the first few weeks, and there will be no drills in the ordinary way for the men until November. Recruits and those who have still to complete their necessary drills will, of course, be catered for, and our School-at-Arms on Friday nights for boxing and bayonet fencing will begin promptly. This new programme and the improvements which are at last being carried out at our Headquarters should, we feel, keep the interest of all ranks busy until it is time to think once more of Easter and Annual Training.

REGIMENTAL CRICKET WEEK

JUNE 22ND—27TH, 1931.

This year it was found possible, for the first time, to hold the Regimental Cricket Week at Stoughton Barracks. This was as the result of a wicket being levelled and re-turfed last autumn, on the New Sports Ground behind the Gymnasium and the New Block. The wicket was left "natural" and little marl or other preparation was added to the natural turf, and although it appeared doubtful how the pitch would play, it stood up to five days' cricket better than was expected. Cricket was possible every day throughout the "Week" with the exception of Tuesday, which was purposely left blank to enable the Depot Staff to prepare for the Garden Party. The games were most enjoyable and a feature of the "Week" was the close finish of every match, whether won, lost or drawn.

With the exception of the 1st Battalion, who had nobody on leave, each Battalion and the Depot were represented in at least one match during the "Week."

v. THE GRASSHOPPERS.

Monday, June 22nd, and Tuesday, 23rd—Drawn.

The Regiment won the toss and elected to bat first. The wicket was fairly easy and Bolton and Block, the opening batsmen, gave a good lead by putting 70 on the board before the first wicket fell. The highest scores on the side were, Bolton 68, Block 46, Lieut.-Col. Bassett 31, and Capt. Haggard 20. The innings finished with 210 on the board. For the visitors Capt. Armitage was the only one to score over 20 runs, and the side was dismissed for a total of 75. Woods's fast bowling was most effective on a fast and fairly true wicket. With only about a quarter of an hour left to bat on the first day, the visitors' team followed on, but no more wickets fell before stumps were drawn.

On Tuesday the visitors went out to retrieve the small scoring of their first innings, and the Regiment were four hours in the field before the innings was declared closed for 370 for eight wickets (Summit 87, Leach 105 and Good 45). The Regiment were thus left with 235 runs to equal, and about two and a half

hours to bat. Wickets fell rather quickly, and it was only a ninth-wicket stand by Bdsn. Norton (32 not out) which enabled Major Olliver (82) to carry the innings to the end of the time, with 181 for nine wickets.

Bowling.—Grasshoppers, 1st innings: Bassett, 3 for 25; Woods, 7 for 37. 2nd innings: Bassett, 4 for 182; Woods, 2 for 60; Garrod, 1 for 31; Piggott, 1 for 50.

The Queen's, 1st innings: Taylor, 3 for 62; Halstand, 3 for 30; Guild, 1 for 40; Armitage, 1 for 36; Piggott, 2 for 37. 2nd innings: Taylor, 6 for 68; Halstand, 2 for 16; Armitage, 1 for 47.

v. THE FREE FORESTERS.

Wednesday, June 24th—Drawn.

Owing to rain in the morning no play was possible until 3 p.m., when, after having again won the toss, Bolton and Block opened the innings for the Regiment. The light was consistently bad, and, owing to the state of the ground, an old wicket was used. The innings was declared at 164 for 9 (Bolton not out 67, Block 26).

At one time it looked as if the visitors would get the runs without much difficulty, but when stumps were drawn the score stood at 137 for 7 wickets (Lieut.-Col. Halstead not out 52). L. N. M. Jones, most unfortunately, played a ball from Woods on to his eye, cutting himself rather badly, and had to retire from the game.

Bowling.—The Queen's, 1st innings: Princetown, 6 for 57; Avonsmith, 1 for 39; Lyon, 2 for 43.

Free Foresters, 1st innings: Bassett, 5 for 60; Woods, 1 for 25; Piggott, 1 for 1.

v. REIGATE PRIORY.

Friday, June 26th, 1931.—Lost by 10 runs.

Col. Bassett won the toss but put the visitors in first in order that the home side might be available to assist in entertaining at the Garden Party in the afternoon. The wicket was fairly easy and the side was ultimately dismissed for 218 (Neal 26, Guy 51, Chamberlain 53 not out, Bootle 35).

The Regimental side retaliated with 208, the last wicket falling just before stumps would have been drawn (Grimston 40, Philpot 42, Dorman-Smith not out 33, Bolton 25).

Bowling.—The Queen's, 1st innings: Budgeon, 6 for 73; Gladstone, 4 for 92.

Reigate Priory, 1st innings.—Bassett, 4 for 64; Woods, 1 for 35; Block, 1 for 15; Piggott, 3 for 19.

v. CRANLEIGH.

Saturday, June 27th.—Won by 3 wickets.

Cranleigh won the toss and elected to bat first, compiling a total of 149 (Mason 68, Gleed 33). Lieut.-Col. Bassett's bowling kept the batsmen continually on the watch and allowed of no liberties being taken. The Regiment opened rather unconvincingly, and with four wickets down for 37 on the board, the prospects did not look too rosy, but the situation was saved by 2/Lieut. P. W. Milligan and 2/Lieut. D. N. Watney who, with 54 and 32 respectively, obtained by hard hitting all round the wicket, brought the score to 109 for 6. Lieut.-Col. Bassett then took the side across the bridge with an undefeated innings of 24. Gede's bowling for the visitors was hard to play, and he well deserved his five wickets.

Bowling.—The Queen's, 1st innings: Gede, 4 for 74; Dowling, 2 for 25; Batiman, 1 for 18.

Cranleigh 1st innings: Bassett, 8 for 56; Woods, 2 for 54.

THE QUEEN'S RANGERS, 1st AMERICAN REGIMENT.



[F. W. Lynde & Sons, Toronto.

LIEUT.-COLONEL W. T. ROGERS, M.C., V.D.,
Commanding The Queen's Rangers, First American Regiment.

THE QUEEN'S RANGERS, 1st AMERICAN REGIMENT.

Headquarters: 860, Yonge Street, Toronto.

Commanding Officer: Lieut.-Col. W. T. Rogers, M.C., V.D.

THE officers of the Regiment have two important items of news over which to cogitate at present—one good, the other the reverse. Putting the good news first, the unit has the satisfaction of knowing that at last it is to be housed adequately in the near future, for the Government, at a session about two weeks previous to the time of writing, voted a sum of money which represents the carrying charges on a new armouries for the 14th Infantry Brigade, to which the Regiment belongs. For these armouries we have waited long, and our former Commanding Officer, Col. Ingles, has made every effort, in common with the remainder of the Brigade Committee.

The officers of the unit are not so enthusiastic, however, at the news that the Government has cut down training next year from twelve days to four. When the news became known some weeks ago, there was grim activity as committees sought to trim appropriations which they had regarded as cut to the bone.

Further, as our unit annually sends a strong representation of officers and N.C.Os. to the various camps of instruction, it was a blow to know that we should only be allowed to send a bare handful.

Early in May the unit marched to St. Alban's Cathedral where the colours of the C.E.F. unit it perpetuates, the 20th Battalion, were deposited on the return of the Battalion from service in France. Accompanying the unit were veterans of the 20th and 35th Battalions, C.E.F. On the return from the church, the unit was formed up at the entrance of the Armouries, and the veterans marched through the ranks.

The annual church parade of the Toronto Garrison was held on Sunday, May 17th, and on this occasion, the Regiment was chosen to provide the guard of honour for the Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario, who took the salute. The officer in command of the Regiment's Guard was Major D. L. Keith, M.C., V.D., with Lieut. M. L. Harris. Drawn up before the entrance to the arena, where the service was held, the guard, at full strength, presented a creditable appearance as they were reviewed by the Lieutenant-Governor, who was accompanied by Major-General E. C. Ashton, C.M.G., V.D., District Officer Commanding, and an old friend of the unit from National Defence Headquarters, Brig.-General A. H. Bell, C.M.G., D.S.O., formerly D.O.C., and now Adjutant-General.

A feature of this parade is always the presence, with the various military units, of the C.E.F. veterans from their representative overseas battalions. The contingent of veterans of the 20th and 35th this year was one of the largest in the parade. They were headed by the bugle band.

During June and July, the officers of the unit every Tuesday afternoon went to one of the golf courses around the city and enjoyed the ancient game. The idea, which was given its initial impetus last summer, seems to be increasingly popular.

Owing largely to the success of the camp "C" Company held in September of last year, it was decided that this year the Regiment should go to camp as a whole. Since the unit has, of course, to finance all such undertakings, they must of necessity be of short duration. Last year it was found that as the Labour Day week-end occurred at the same time as the National Exhibition in Toronto, it was not a particularly good time for a camp. This year the camp was held over the Civic Holiday week-end—first Monday in August, and on the Friday night previously, after a nightmare of preparation, a hasty furbishing of equipment, and

the inevitable last minute rush, the greater part of the personnel was placed aboard street-cars to ride the ten miles or so to the terminus at Long Branch. From thence, met by the officers who had driven their effects to camp and had had to tramp back to the car terminus, the unit marched into camp over a vile clay road whose numerous deviations to avoid bog-holes made the distance appear twice as far as it really is.

Since the annual rifle matches of the Ontario Rifle Association were being held that week on the Long Branch Rifle Ranges where the unit camped last year, the camp site this year was situated at the eastern end of the ranges, still on Government property. The site was, therefore, more difficult of access, but once arrived, there was little to criticize. Camp was pitched on the bluffs overlooking Lake Ontario on a stretch of open ground.

On Saturday the unit went into training until four in the afternoon. C.S.M. Keats, of "B" Company, acted as R.S.M. After dinner in the evening, officers and N.C.Os. were divided into groups to take part in a night-marching scheme by compass bearings. All groups were fairly successful.

On Sunday morning, to the delight of many, a rainstorm put an end to the church parade which had been scheduled. After luncheon, however, the sun revealed itself in all its August glory, and sports and a band concert were held. The most popular event of the sports proved to be the baseball match between officers and N.C.Os., which the latter won, twelve runs to ten. There was much elation, as it was the N.C.Os' first victory in several years.

On Monday morning at eight o'clock the unit moved off in the direction of Port Credit for the scheme which Col. Rogers had arranged. The route followed was along the Lake Shore Road (Toronto-Hamilton Highway) to Port Credit, and thence north along the Stave Bank Road to Pine Grove Park, a march of about five miles. At Pine Grove Park the unit halted, allowing "C" Company twenty minutes to occupy their ground. The scheme was then explained to both sides. The Queen's Rangers were acting as flank guard to a force marching northward along the Port Credit-Cooksville Highway, a road about half a mile east of the Stave Bank Road. This force was moving to attack a force in the vicinity of Streetsville, a few miles to the north.

"C" Company was the advance guard of the force at Streetsville, who had been ordered to move south to gain information as to the movement of the force quartered in the vicinity of the Rifle Ranges.

The leading Section of "C" Company had not long to wait before they caught sight of the "enemy." Half a section of this platoon immediately scrambled to cover behind some shrubs at the edge of a cornfield in the angle of the road. The other half occupied the edge of a wood, 150 yards to the eastward. The first half-section were in an ideal position. Straight to their front ran a ditch which paralleled the roadway up which the "enemy" were coming. Three hundred yards away was a bend in the road, and here a platoon of the enemy halted in full view, be it said, obviously for observation and a somewhat laboured consultation. Several of their men were "potted." They took to the ditch at once, and scrambled across the roadway, advancing cautiously up the ditch the half-section was enfilading. As they continued their advance, they were continuously fired on, and the Advance Guard Commander, evidently thinking a much stronger force confronted him than was actually the case, threw platoons into the fields on either side of the road.

As the platoon on the east side hastily scrambled over the cross-roads, the half-section at the edge of the woods got in about twenty rounds. They doubled back over the road, and then came on again as they observed the retirement of the half-section.

In the meantime, the half-section at the edge of the cornfield kept up a dropping fire, until the "enemy" was within 50 yards, when they withdrew slowly up the road.

On the way, taking advantage of all possible cover, they continually held up the "enemy's" advance guard, until warned by the judges, in the persons of the Officer Commanding and the Brigade-Major, that they were holding them up too long. They then hastily retired to the position held by the remainder of the company.

This position was one admirably adapted for defensive purposes. Situated just south of the Dundas Highway (a road built by the forefathers of the Regiment under Simcoe about 140 years ago), the position might be likened to another Vimy Ridge. It was practically impregnable without the aid of artillery. But the "enemy" decided to take it by direct frontal attack.

On they came, section by section. From the bluffs where the defending force lay, it was possible to see nearly every movement they made as they developed their attack.

The attack while it lasted was hot, and was terminated when the Colonel's whistle blew, leaving the defenders still in possession of the hill.

Owing to the time expended up to that position, it was not deemed advisable to carry the scheme any farther, although Col. Rogers had originally planned two additional defensive positions to the northward of the Dundas Highway.

The unit assembled south of the highway and marched back to the park, where luncheon was eaten. They then marched back to camp, which after dinner that evening was struck.

Although these camps are put on at the expense of the unit, a great deal of benefit is derived from each one. And although money is scarce this year, it is felt that it was well spent in our last camp.

At the picnic held by the Toronto Garrison Sergeants' Association, the Sergeant of the Queen's Rangers won the tug-of-war.

"ON DENTAL"

Below we give a copy of a handbill distributed amongst the troops at Shanhaikuan Camp, North China.

There are no less than two if not three Chinese Dental Officers (?) who live practically in the middle of our camp.

We have not yet any returns to hand to show how many men have availed themselves of this splendid opportunity.

NOTICE.

THE LIST OF PRICE OF DOCTOR SHEN CHIN-TONG'S DENTAL
SUB-OFFICE IN HOP KEE & COMPANY, AT SOUTH SEA,
SHANHAIKWAN.

White Teeth ...	...	...	...	...	@	\$2.00
Gold Crowns ...	...	...	...	...	@	\$6.00
Gold Teeth ...	...	...	...	...	@	\$5.00
Gold Cracks ...	...	...	...	...	@	\$3.00
Gold Hooks ...	...	...	...	...	@	\$3.00
Mending Teeth-dens	...	...	...	...	@	\$2.00
Uniform ...	...	...	...	...	...	\$1.00
Washing ...	...	...	...	...	...	\$1.00

According to our regulation, bargain money to be paid half price on fixed balance beforehand, while the teeth were completed by me and we do not record account of balance on my terms.

The above price on 30% discount during Summer Season.

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

(CITY OF NEWCASTLE REGIMENT)

Headquarters: Newcastle, New South Wales.

Honorary Colonel: The Earl of Dudley.

Commanding Officer: Lieut.-Col. J. J. Dunbar, V.D.

SINCE the last issue of the JOURNAL the period of training for the forces in Australia has again been reduced, and the Camp of Continuous Training suspended, and the Home Training period reduced. Now we have only seven days' Home Training, and in lieu of eight days' camp a series of two bivouacs, one of two days' duration and one of four days' duration, have been substituted. Of course, all this is the result of general depression, which seems to be felt in all countries. The times seem to be particularly distressing in Australia, but we feel assured that the next wool and wheat season will show an improvement in conditions.

Another feature of the Commonwealth Economy Proposals is the limit placed on future recruiting, and instructions have been issued that we are not to recruit beyond the strength of the Battalion at June 30th, 1931, which in effect means we cannot go higher than a strength of 330 for this financial year. This is indeed disappointing, especially as the 2nd Battalion were conducting a strong recruiting campaign. It had been our intention to recruit a complete platoon of ex-Service men, but, although it is partially formed, its future progress, owing to the instruction, will be slow.

In April last a State Gymkhana was held in Sydney, and all units in New South Wales competed in the various events, and we of the 2nd are particularly proud of the result. We entered teams for the Band, Vickers Gun, Lewis Gun, Guard Mounting, Physical Training and Miniature Rifle Competitions, and the results were 2 firsts, 1 third, 1 fourth and 1 fifth. When it is realized that the greater part of the forces, as at present constituted, are drawn from the Metropolitan area of Sydney, and the 2nd is 100 miles away at Newcastle, it will be observed that our victories are signal because of the lack of facilities in Newcastle that are afforded in Sydney.

The first prizes were obtained by the Physical Training team under Capt. C. H. G. Spencer, and the Vickers Gun Team under Lieut. G. H. Whitfield, and to these two officers the Unit extend their thanks for the energetic and efficient way in which they trained these teams. The men who comprised the teams are also congratulated for their hard work to retain our motto of "Second to None."

April was a busy month for the Battalion, and during this month what is known as a "Night and Morning Course" was conducted by Battalion Headquarters. These Night and Morning Courses are held so that members attending do not lose any time from their civil avocations. The men are quartered at the Unit Headquarters and commence the day at 6 a.m. and train till 7 a.m., when, after partaking of breakfast, they proceed to their civil employment and return to barracks at 6 p.m. for dinner, and training again commences at 7 p.m. till 10 p.m.—lights out at 11 p.m. In addition, training on Saturday commences at 2 p.m. till 10 p.m., and on Sunday from 8 a.m. till 5 p.m. During these courses, quarters and meals are supplied by the Defence Department, but attendance is

2nd BATTALION AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES.



VICKERS GUN TEAM.

Winners 1st Infantry Brigade Championship, 1930-31.
State and Divisional Gymkhana Championship, 1931.

Lieut. G. H. Whitfield, No. 1 Pte. J. Colquhoun, No. 2 Cpl. C. W. Ward, No. 3 Pte. G. Messenger (Time for coming into action 15½ secs.).

voluntary, for which no pay is allowed. The attendance at this year's course was the full quota allowed to attend, and all ranks were satisfied that it was the best held to date.

As stated previously, Anzac Day is the big day in Australia, and on the occasion this year the Returned Soldiers' League of Australia (Newcastle Sub-branch) donated a handsome silver cup for competition amongst the Militia units taking part in the Anzac Day Ceremonial Parade. Points were allotted for attendance, turn-out and marching. When the competition was announced the various units were soon working hard to win.

The weather on the day was good, but it had been preceded by heavy floods which resulted in "B" Company, stationed at East Maitland (20 miles away) being prevented, owing to the state of the roads, from being present. This materially affected the parade of the 2nd Battalion. However, the Battalion, with Colours, paraded at 9 a.m. on Anzac Day, the Colour Party consisting of Lieuts. G. H. Whitfield and G. Morgan, M.M., W.O. (II) Fiedler, Sergt. Armbrister and Sergt. Dalton. All the personnel of the Colour Party had seen active service. The parade was the best held in this district and included two battalions of Infantry and one Field Artillery Brigade, two Engineer Companies and two Field Ambulances, and was commanded by Col. J. M. C. Corlette, C.M.G., D.S.O., V.D. Notwithstanding the disappointment caused by the non-attendance of "B" Company, the 2nd Battalion proved formidable opponents for the other units, and was placed second by the judges, the Field Artillery Brigade winning the cup with 86.6 points, whilst the 2nd were awarded 84 points, and the 1st Field Company Engineers, 84 points. After the parade Lieut.-Col. Dunbar expressed his appreciation of the efforts of all ranks and pointed out that as the Cup was for annual competition the 2nd would work harder to secure it next Anzac Day. These sentiments were echoed by the men, and all are keenly anticipating the competition for 1932.

The Headquarters of the Battalion have recently been repainted inside and out, and synchronizing with the new paint the hall has been made very spectacular by the addition of painted Battle Honour Scrolls, and the Memorial to Fallen Comrades has been encased in a maple canopy with interior lights, which ensure that a light is always shining on it. The Officers' Mess has been refurnished and improved. A photograph of the late General Sir Charles Monro has been hung in the Mess, which is indebted to Col. Dyer, Editor of the JOURNAL, for making this photograph available. As General Monro was Colonel of The Queen's at the time our affiliation was arranged, the officers are particularly proud to have a copy of his photograph. The Sergeants' and Men's Messes have also been improved and the Men's Rooms are now in process of refurnishing. A very welcome innovation is the commencement of libraries in each Mess. Although only commenced, very satisfactory progress is being maintained and a good number of volumes will soon be available.

A Tactical Exercise for all officers was conducted during the week-end May 23rd-24th, 1931, and embraced training in Rear Guards, directed by Major F. G. Galleghan and Capt. R. A. Perkins.

These tactical exercises, in addition to providing useful training and experience, serve as a reunion of all officers, and the spare time is fully enjoyed. During this week-end, quarters were provided at an hotel.

At the annual meeting of the Officers' Mess held during June, Lieut. J. Wallace Beckett was again elected Secretary. Since occupying the position of Secretary Mr. Beckett has applied himself most assiduously to the duties, and the thanks of all the officers is accorded to him for his work.

On July 28th, 1931, the officers entertained a number of guests, including the Mayor of Newcastle, at an informal "At Home." We had the pleasure

of having our Brigade Commander, Col. J. M. C. Corlette, C.M.G., D.S.O., V.D., and the G.S.O. (1) of the Division, Col. J. T. McColl, O.B.E., M.C., with us, in addition to visitors from all other Arms. The President received congratulations from all visitors on the appearance of the Mess since being re-decorated. In this work the Mess Secretary has rendered yeoman assistance to the President, and the officers now feel very proud of the Mess.

"A" Company held their annual Smoke during July. The function, which was most enjoyable, was organized by the men of the Company.

During August the Governor-General of Australia, His Excellency Sir Isaac Isaacs, P.C., K.C.M.G., will pay his first visit to Newcastle, and the 2nd Battalion are to provide the Guard of Honour. We feel very proud to be selected for this duty, and further details will be available next issue.

The 2nd Battalion sends greetings to all units of the Queen's.

THE DEPOT

WE were sorry to have to say good-bye to Major M. W. H. Pain who had to relinquish command some six months before his time was up in order to take command of the 2nd Battalion during the absence of Lieut.-Col. G. J. Giffard, D.S.O., at the Imperial Defence College. Major Pain was succeeded in command of the Depot by Major G. K. Olliver, M.C., to whom we extend a very hearty welcome. Our best wishes go to Major Pain in his new sphere of activity.

We shall soon be losing another old friend in the person of Capt. B. C. Haggard who will be leaving us very soon after these lines appear in print. His probable destination is the 1st Battalion in China, and we wish him the very best of luck.

As usual, we were favoured with a brilliantly fine day for the Depot Garden Party. Fine weather for this event has become almost a tradition, and we have now had good weather for nine years in succession. In addition to the usual attractions, one of the cricket matches of the "Week" was in progress and a very close finish made it most interesting. The Band and Drums of the 2nd Battalion again delighted our guests with attractive programmes.

On Sunday, June 28th, the Depot paraded as strong as possible and, headed by the Band and Drums of the 2nd Battalion, marched to the Cathedral Church of Holy Trinity at Guildford. The Mayor of Guildford kindly took the salute from the balcony of the Guildhall in the High Street after the parade. This is the only opportunity we have in the year of "showing the flag" in the County Town, and we are very grateful to the 2nd Battalion for allowing us to have the services of the Band and Drums for the occasion.

The Annual Inspection of the Depot by Major-General H. R. Peck, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., Commanding 44th Division and Home Counties Area took place on Monday, June 29th. We thought that everything went off well, but we are still waiting to learn if the Inspecting Officer's opinion coincides with ours.

INTRODUCTION OF THE NEW SYSTEM OF MARKING FOR INDIVIDUALS AND INTER-SECTION CHAMPIONSHIP.

Acting on the suggestion of Staff-Sergt. Lambert, A.P.T.S., at the Depot, a new system of marking has been introduced. It will be seen from the score card below, that the marks are a searching test for the recruit's ability and behaviour.

It is therefore possible to find quite fairly the best recruit in each platoon. This is done and the best recruit is presented with a silver-mounted Regimental Cane, with his name on it. The runner up is presented with a medal. Medals are no longer presented to the winning section, but their names continue to be put up in the Gymnasium. Among other advantages which the new system has, two are paramount:—

- There is an incentive to those recruits who by nature or otherwise, are more efficient than their comrades, to win the Regimental Cane.
- There is an incentive to those recruits who cannot possibly win the Regimental Cane, to gain marks for their sections.

Recruits start earning marks for themselves and their sections from the moment they start training. Individual and section scores are marked up daily as they are obtained. Each barrack room has a score board so that all may see how they and their sections stand.

Peninsular Platoon, which went to Dover in August, 1931, was the first to try the new system. Pte. Barnshaw won the Regimental Cane and Pte. Pash won the medal, beating Pte. Woods by half a point.

INDIVIDUAL AND INTER-SECTION SCORE CARD.

Individual.

Education.—2nd Class Certificate, 20 points; 3rd Class Certificate, 10 points.

Physical Training (2 points per item).—2nd Class, 20 points; Standard, 10 points.

Drill and Turn-out.—Very Good, 20 points (awarded by Company Commander); Good, 10 points (awarded by C.S.M.).

Weapon Training.—Rifle Score: 90, 20 points; 80, 15; 70, 10; 60, 5. L.A. Score: 75, 10 points; 65, 7½; 55, 5; 45, 2½.

Tabloid Sports (half point per item).—Special, 10 points; First, 7½ points; Second, 5; Standard, 2½.

Interior Economy.—Excellent Kit: 6 times, 10 points; 5 times, 7½ points; 4 times, 5; 3 times, 2½.

Highest Possible Individual Score.—110 points.

(Points may be deducted from individual total for misbehaviour at the discretion of the Company Commander.)

Inter-Section.

	Football	Cricket	Boxing	Kit	Drill
First	40	40	40	40	50
Second	30	30	30	30	30
Third	20	20	20	20	20
Fourth	10	10	10	10	10

Highest Possible Score for Section.—All individual totals plus 170 (e.g., six men in a section, 660 plus 170 equals 830.)

TRAINING COMPANY.

"Ladysmith" Platoon, to Battalion on 14/5/31:—

Winning Section.—No. 1 Section (6084593 Pte. G. Brooker, 6084588 Pte. G. Astridge, 6084604 Pte. G. Payne, 805780 Pte. G. Willis, 806225 Pte. G. Cook, 6084600 Pte. S. Roser, 6084594 Pte. R. Iles, 6084610 Pte. D. Smith).

Individual Winners.—Drill, 6084599 Pte. J. Nixon; Shooting, 6084593 Pte. G. Brooker; Physical Training, 6084604 Pte. G. Payne; Athletics, 6084597 Pte. H. Harding.

"Corunna" Platoon, to Battalion on 9/6/31:—

Winning Section.—No. 4 Section (6084590 Pte. L. Breach, 2025986 Pte. G. James, 6082568 Pte. J. Peasley; 6084627 Pte. F. Brown; 773668 Pte. A. Lloyd; 2565841 Pte. F. Williams).

Individual Winners.—Drill, 6082568 Pte. J. Peasley; Shooting, 6757788 Pte. T. Dimsdale; Physical Training, 6084627 Pte. F. Brown; Athletics, 6082568 Pte. J. Peasley.

"Namur Platoon, to Battalion on 22M/6/31:—

Winning Section.—No. 2 Section (6084631 Pte. H. Bird, 6084632 Pte. A. Pettifer, 6084635 Pte. H. Clark; 6654492 Pte. F. Coomber; 6084640 Pte. T. O'Brien, 6083927 Pte. J. Webb).

Individual Winners.—Drill, 6084729 Pte. G. Cassell; Shooting, 6084634 Pte. P. Dale; Physical Training, 6084639 Pte. R. Hollis; Athletics, 6084635 Pte. H. Clark.

"Peninsular" Platoon, to Battalion on 10/8/31:—

Winning Section.—No. 3 Section (6084742 Pte. C. Crofts, 6084736 Pte. T. Barnshaw, 6084741 Pte. F. Warrington, 780149 Pte. R. Mantle, 6084745 Pte. S. Milner).

Winner of Regimental Cane.—6084736 Pte. T. Barnshaw.

Winner of Medal.—6083934 Pte. J. Pash.

RECRUITS POSTED TO 2ND BATTALION.

"Ladysmith" Platoon, 28 men on 14/5/31; "Corunna" Platoon, 25 men on 9/6/31; "Namur" Platoon, 24 men on 23/6/31, 1 man on 25/7/31; "Peninsular" Platoon, 21 men on 10/8/31.

OFFICERS ATTACHED FOR A COURSE OF INSTRUCTION.

2/Lieut. J. S. de Winton, Supplementary Reserve: Attached from 8/6/31 to 7/8/31.

2/Lieut. D. N. Watney, The Queen's Royal Regiment: Attached from 8/6/31 to 7/7/31.

2/Lieut. R. E. Moss, The Queen's Royal Regiment: Attached from 31/7/31 to 30/8/31.

2/Lieut. P. E. L. A. Myers, The Queen's Royal Regiment: Attached from 27/7/31 to 26/9/31.

2/Lieut. C. R. W. Norman, The Queen's Royal Regiment: Attached from 27/7/31 to 26/8/31.

2/Lieut. G. W. Mabbott, Aldenham School O.T.C.: Attached from 3/9/31 to 17/9/31.

STATISTICS.

Number of men enlisted for Regiment since last publication ...	...	99
Number of recruits posted to 2nd Battalion (Recruits) ...	...	98
Number of recruits discharged ...	...	11
Deserted ...	...	4
Transferred ...	...	1

CERTIFICATES.

6077835 Sergt. J. Torkington, 1st Class Certificate, 18/3/31.

POSTINGS.

Major M. W. H. Pain: Posted to 2nd Battalion on 21/4/31.

Major G. K. Olliver, M.C.: Posted to Regimental Depot on 28/4/31.

6084112 Pte. M. Caffrey, 6079423 Sergt. J. Wells, 6084072 Pte. F. Chambers, 6138278 Pte. N. Brown, 6077603 Pte. P. Taylor, 6340226 Dmr. P. Millard, 6084417 Pte. W. Newman, 6084406 Pte. S. Saunders, 6083790 Pte. C. Gale and 6078709 L./Cpl. L. Nockolds: Posted to 2nd Battalion.

6080316 Pte. H. McJury, 6084227 Dmr. H. Rutledge, 6082965 Pte. P. Burns, 6084225 L./Cpl. W. McGrath, 6082805 Pte. S. Henwood, 6084353 Pte. C. Shreeve, 6084183 L./Cpl. R. Dunn and 6082950 Pte. C. Campbell: Posted from 2nd Battalion to Regimental Depot.

EDUCATION.

None of the various forms of training at the Depot can usually announce a really drastic change, and this is as true of Education as it is of any other form of training. Thus, to write voluminous notes on Educational Training is both a bore to the reader and a waste of space in the JOURNAL.

The following is a summary of the results of our activities in the branch of training:—

1st Class Certificates (1).—Sergt. Torkington, in obtaining his certificate, set a valuable example of determination and steadfastness of purpose, worth emulating by anyone who has designs on this certificate.

2nd Class Certificates (15).—For a recruit to obtain one of these certificates at the Depot requires a good deal of extra work. The fact that all except one, of the fifteen certificates obtained, were obtained by recruits, speaks volumes for the recruits concerned, and for the untiring efforts of L./Sergt. Hill, whose work this is.

3rd Class Certificates (101).—So many readers of the JOURNAL are included in this number that it would not be fair to omit a word of praise where it is due. Those who had a struggle to obtain this certificate are to be congratulated, whilst those who found it easy to obtain deserve a word of sympathy, for many of them, given the opportunity, might have obtained 2nd Class Certificates at the Depot.

Apart from the certificates gained, the results of the Educational Training seem to have been satisfactory, and there has been no decrease in the percentage of recruits gaining certificates.

Tests in Regimental History have produced the usual and too frequent tangles, which are by now unnecessary to publish. A question asked in school shortly before Empire Day will show an example of a similar type:—"Do we have a holiday on Empire Day, when you have to close your eyes for two minutes?"

WEAPON TRAINING.

The chief event of the year, the County of Surrey Rifle Meeting, was held at Bisley on June 20th-21st in fine weather, but a variable wind made shooting difficult.

In spite of changes since last year, the Depot maintained last year's high standard, Cpl. Salmon being in particularly good form and winning the County Championship with a record score of 173. Fortune did not favour him in the Army Meeting, when he was suffering from slight eye trouble. The following are the results of the County Meeting:—

(a) *Class A, Peek Challenge Cup* (H.P.S. 105).—1, Sergt. Dodds, 90; 2, Sergt. Spence, 89; 3, R.S.M. Tedder, 89; 4, Sergt. F. Hill, 88; 5, C.S.M. Jude, 88.

(b) *Competition Firing with Open Sights*.—1, Sergt. Dodds, 90; 2, Sergt. Spence, 89; 3, Sergt. Manners, 89; 4, R.S.M. Tedder, 89; 5, Sergt. F. Hill, 88; 6, C.S.M. Jude, 88.

2. *Surrey Brewers-Talbot-Smith Cup* (H.P.S. 50).—1, Cpl. Salmon, 42; 5, C.S.M. Jude, 40; 7, Sergt. F. Hill, 37.

3. *The Kingston Cup* (H.P.S. 50).—7, L./Sergt. Picton, 41; 8, Cpl. Salmon, 41.

4. *County Championship (Gold Jewel and Cup)*.—1, Cpl. Salmon, 173.

6. *Officers' Challenge Cup* (H.P.S. 35, Entries 18).—3, Lieut. J. F. K. Ponsford, 28.

8. *The Belhaven Challenge Cup* (H.P.S. 840, Entries 10).—1, Depot The Queen's Royal Regiment, 656 (Challenge Cup; miniature cup to each member of team); 2, "D" Coy., 5th Bn. The Queen's Royal Regiment, 632. Depot team: Lieut. J. F. K. Ponsford, C.S.M. Jude, Sergt. Hill, Sergt. Manners, R.S.M. Tedder, Sergt. Dodds, Sergt. Spence, Cpl. Salmon.

9. *The Watney Cup* (H.P.S. 160, Entries 8).—1, Depot The Queen's Royal Regiment, 132 (Lieut. J. F. K. Ponsford 16, C.S.M. Jude 14, Staff-Sergt. Clark 16, Sergt. Torkington 18, R.S.M. Tedder 16, Sergt. Dodds 20, Sergt. Manners 16, Cpl. Salmon 17).

The recruits have maintained their standard in Table "A," "Peninsular" Platoon having the best average (76.2), Pte. R. Wood being the outstanding shot in the memory of anyone here. In Table "A" he only dropped four points out of 90 in Part I, three points out of 130 in Part II, and eight points out of 105 in Part III. Pte. R. Wood and Pte. E. Barnshaw were the first pair to fire in the new 30 Yards Range Match (A.R.A.) for Depots, scoring 82 and 71 respectively out of 90—a very good show, and it is doubtful if we can find another pair to beat it.

The following have won spoons for scoring 90 or over in Table "A" Part III:—

"Ladysmith" Platoon.—8054593 Pte. G. Brooker, 95; 8054601 Pte. M. Tregent, 91; 8054599 Pte. J. Nixon, 90.

"Peninsular" Platoon.—6084730 Pte. R. Wood, 97; 6084637 Pte. T. Hales, 95.

PHYSICAL TRAINING.

Our usual standard of efficiency has not only been maintained, but has been greatly improved upon. At the time of writing the following platoons are under instruction:—"Gheluvelt," "Tangier," "Ladysmith" and "Namur." The last named is just forming. We have in "Gheluvelt" some very promising performers, namely, Ptes. Munday, Robinson, Bussey and Miles, each of whom have been awarded a Regimental Badge—a very fine performance for young recruits. Well done! In this platoon only two men have failed to qualify for either a red, green or blue badge. This is easily a record for any platoon since our badge system started. The system is a great success. This same platoon was selected to give a display to Charterhouse O.T.C. School during July. A very creditable performance was given, and a fine letter was received by our Commanding Officer the following day from the O.T.C. A photograph of one exercise is enclosed.

Pte. T. Barnshaw, of "Peninsular" Platoon was mentioned in despatches by the G.S.O. for Physical Training when the platoon was being passed out. His performance was the best we have seen from a recruit.

Since our last notes L./Cpl. Ferrari has qualified as an Assistant Instructor, and ex-L./Cpl. Hope has been promoted Staff Instructor on the A.P.T.S. Staff.

The latter has shown you how it is done, now it's your turn, Ferarri. A visit by the A.P.T.S. Probationers was paid in July, and they were very pleased with the training, especially the method of dividing the platoons into sections with the object of creating the competitive spirit. Everyone appeared to be well satisfied with the Physical Training and Gymnasium at our Annual Inspection except I believe, so Cpl. Whelan (our veteran instructor) tells me, a few spiders and live-stock generally, which he kindly removed from underneath our footscraper when he painted it.

SERGEANTS' MESS.

Since the last issue of the JOURNAL we have lost the services of Sergt. Wells, who has rejoined the 2nd Battalion.

The Mess supplied several members of the Depot team for the Surrey Rifle Meeting, and a report of successes appears in the Rifle Club Notes.

ENTERTAINMENTS.

The Officers entertained us on July 21st, and, as usual, quashed our tennis aspirations, gaining easy victories at both doubles and singles. Two sets at doubles were our only successes. The scores were: Officers 46 games to Sergeants 16 at doubles, and 36 games to 6 at singles. Frequent collaboration with the Senior Service has, however, given us the ascendancy at Drake's favourite pastime, and the bowls was a success for us by 20 points. The weather throughout the afternoon remained fine, and we spent an enjoyable time.

Borough Police Cricket.

On May 7th we entertained the Borough Police, the afternoon being devoted to cricket, the evening to billiards and a social.

Thanks to some good batting on the part of Sergts. Good and Wells, we won the cricket match, the scores being: Police 89 and 45, Sergeants' Mess 189. Batting honours rested with Sergt. Good (57) and Sergt. Wells (48). P.C. Steele scored 20 in the first innings for the Police. Sergt. Wells also carried off bowling honours with 8 wickets for 32 runs.

The Police won the billiards relay by four points. The social was a success, for music was provided by Mr. Wise's band and several instrumental solos were favourites. Vocal soloists included Mrs. Clarke, who sang old favourites by special request.

Visit to H.M.S. "Vernon."

At 12 noon on Saturday, July 4th, some twenty able-bodied members, with families, boarded our good ships *en route* for Portsmouth. The breeze was fair, and although the glass showed signs of falling our hopes for a fine voyage soared high. The anchor was weighed with appropriate sea shanties well piped by Bo'sun Lambert. With all sails set we were skilfully steered through Stoughton roads and were soon gaily scudding o'er the high seas.

The weather remained fine until we reached latitude X Y Z, longitude A B C, a few points S.S.W. of Hindhead, where we encountered a squall. Smartly piped by Bo'sun Lambert, we reefed the mainsail, hauled up the jib spinnaker, etc., etc., and weathered the storm in seamanlike fashion. King Sol again dismissed the rain and we tacked up Portsmouth Creek in brilliant weather.

A flotilla from H.M.S. *Vernon* met us outside the port and escorted us to the Actaeon Quay, where we berthed. Speedily disembarking, hearty handshakes and reminiscences of a previous rivalry were exchanged with our hosts.

Those of us who desired to change were shown with a courtly grace to a dressing room and were much refreshed with a tot of sailors' friend. Having finished our flannelled ensemble, we quickly made our way to the United Services' Ground, where a well-cared-for turf delighted our eyes with the freshness of the green.

Our captain won the toss and elected to bat first. The sailors soon proved that more than one shot had been added to their locker, only Sergt. Good withstanding their attack until Bo'sun Lambert arrived. The latter smote in all directions, but could not persuade our tail to wag. The last wicket fell at 104.

The Petty Officers then opened their innings in lusty manner and the score board quickly showed 50 for no wicket. Rain then intervened and we adjourned for tea. This meal was excellently served and showed the hall-mark of good catering.

After tea we discovered that the rain had ceased, so we returned to the cricket field. The sailors continued their good work with the bat, and our score was passed before the sixth wicket fell. Rain again stopped play, so we decided to return to H.M.S. *Vernon*.

A wash and brush being provided, our hosts proceeded to entertain us in interesting fashion, by conducting a tour round the barracks and instructional shops. We enjoyed this immensely, for our guides explained to us the intricacies of torpedoes, tubes, mines, and mine sweeping in concise terms, which were yet very clear to us. We were also privileged to see the miniature model of H.M.S. *Victory*. This model is an exact replica of Lord Nelson's ship, and is constructed over the hull of a large service launch. The carving of the stern, galleries, figure-head and scroll-work follow faithfully the details of the original ship.

After this tour was finished our hosts continued the good work by affording us an opportunity for more refreshments and running a really good concert.

Their pianist, comedian, and conjurer were all high-class exponents of their crafts. An amusing side-show was a billiards tourney of eight a-side, ten minutes ordinary cues and ten minutes rubber tips. We here regained some of our lost laurels by winning by 500 points to 435, R.S.M. Tedder, D.C.M., being top scorer with 92.

Time passed very quickly, and we parted regretfully from our hosts at 11 p.m. Our journey home was uneventful, and we arrived back in Stoughton at about 1 a.m.

The heartiness of the welcome, and the lavish entertainment, made the day a memorable one to us all. We therefore hope to persuade our good friends, the Petty Officers of H.M.S. *Vernon*, to visit us at Stoughton, where our endeavour will be to return the compliment in the same hearty manner.

The cricket scores were as follows:—

SERGEANTS' MESS.

Sergt. Good, run out	...	...	33
R.Q.M.S. Wakeford lbw b P.O. Paynter	...	...	7
C.S. Clark, c McLean b P.O. Paynter	...	...	2
Sergt. Manners, c and b P.O. Paynter	...	...	6
Sergt. Dodds, b P.O. Paynter	...	...	0
C.S.M. Jude, lbw b P.O. Paynter	...	...	0
Sergt. Hill, c Stagg b P.O. Paynter	...	...	5
R.S.M. Reeves, b Reynolds	...	...	8
S.I. Lambert, not out	...	...	33
Sergt. Spence, b Lucas	...	...	2
L./Sergt. Fower, c Kennedy b Reynolds	...	...	2
Extras	...	...	6

Total ... 104

Bowling.—P.O. Paynter, 5 for 24; P.O. Reynolds, 3 for 25; C.P.O. Lucas, 1 for 14.

P.O.'s MESS, H.M.S. "VERNON."

P.O. Trusler, c Lambert b Dodds	...	...	52
S.P.O. Trusler, c Wakeford b Good	...	...	30
P.O. Kennedy, run out	...	...	1
P.O. Stagg, b Dodds	...	...	3
S.P.O. Reynolds, c Hill b Dodds	...	...	5
C.P.O. Lucas, b Dodds	...	...	0
S.P.O. McLean, retired	...	...	17
P.O. Knight, not out	...	...	2
S.P.O. Paynter, not out	...	...	12
P.O.s Williams and Bean did not bat.	...	...
Extras	...	...	10

Total (for 7 wks.) ... 132

Bowling.—Sergt. Dodds, 3 for 29; Sergt. Good, 1 for 22; Sergt. Manners, 1 for 28.

Cricket v. Borough Police, at Stoughton, May 7th, 1931.

BOROUGH POLICE.

1st Innings.

P.C. Locke, c and b Sergt. Wells	...	...	7
P.C. Steele, b Sergt. Wells	...	...	20
P.C. Hill, b Sergt. Wells	...	...	0
P.C. O'Shea, lbw b Sergt. Wells	...	...	10
P.C. Truelove, b Sergt. Wells	...	...	9
P.C. Sparks, b Sergt. Manners	...	...	1
P.C. Smith, run out	...	...	0
P.C. Fox, b Sergt. Wells	...	...	7
P.C. Turner, b Sergt. Wells	...	...	12
P.C. Taylor, not out	...	...	5
P.C. Dowd, c Wakeford b Wells	...	...	6
Extras	...	...	7

Total ... 84

Bowling.—Sergt. Wells, 8 for 32; Sergt. Manners, 1 for 9; C.S.M. Jude, 0 for 8; R.Q.M.S. Wakeford, 0 for 28.

SERGEANTS' MESS.

1st Innings.

Sergt. Good, c Hill b Steele	...	...	57
S.I. Lambert, lbw b Smith	...	...	19
Sergt. Wells, run out	...	...	48
Sergt. Manners, c O'Shea b Locke	...	...	4
C.S.M. Jude, c Taylor b Locke	...	...	0
Sergt. Dodds, c O'Shea b Hill	...	...	18
R.Q.M.S. Wakeford, b Steele	...	...	15
Sergt. Hooper, lbw b Hill	...	...	19
Sergt. Spence, b Hill	...	...	0
C.S. Clark, run out	...	...	0
L./Sergt. Fower, run out	...	...	0
Extras	...	...	9

Total ... 189

Bowling.—P.C. Locke, 2 for 21; P.C. Hill, 3 for 47; P.C. Steele, 2 for 33; P.C. Smith, 1 for 37; P.C. Truelove, 0 for 14; P.C. O'Shea, 0 for 28.

BOROUGH POLICE.

2nd Innings.

P.C. Smith, b Jude	...	...	0
P.C. Dowd, b Spence	...	...	6
P.C. Sparks, c Lambert b Spence	...	...	12
P.C. Fox, b Jude	...	...	4
P.C. Hill, run out	...	...	4
P.C. Taylor, c Wakeford b Jude	...	...	5
P.C. Locke, b Jude	...	...	0
P.C. O'Shea, b Jude	...	...	0
P.C. Turner, c and b Jude	...	...	1
P.C. Truelove, b Good	...	...	6
P.C. Steele, not out	...	...	2
Extras	...	...	5

Total ... 45

Bowling.—Jude, 6 for 15; Spence, 2 for 22; Good, 1 for 3.

BATTING AVERAGES.

Name.	Innings.	Total Runs.	Highest Score.	Times Not Out.	Average.
S.I. Lambert	2	52	33*	1	52.0
Sergt. Wells	1	48	48	—	48.0
Sergt. Good	2	90	57	—	45.0
Sergt. Hooper	1	19	19	—	19.0
R.Q.M.S. Wakeford	2	23	15	—	11.5
Sergt. Dodds	2	18	18	—	9.0
R.S.M. Reeves	1	8	8	—	8.0
Sergt. Hill	1	5	5	—	5.0
Sergt. Manners	2	10	6	—	5.0
L./Sergt. Fower	2	2	—	1	2.0
C.S. Clark	2	2	—	—	1.0
C.S.M. Jude	2	—	—	—	1.0

* Signifies not out.

BOWLING AVERAGES.

Name.	Overs.	Maidens.	Runs.	Wickets.	Average.
Sergt. Wells	6.3	—	32	8	4.0
C.S.M. Jude	11	—	51	6	8.5
Sergt. Dodds	5	—	29	3	9.66
Sergt. Spence	4	—	22	2	11.0
Sergt. Good	7	1	25	2	12.5
Sergt. Manners	10	2	37	2	18.5
R.Q.M.S. Wakeford	6	1	40	—	—

CORPORALS' ROOM.

Events since the last issue of the JOURNAL have not been numerous. We welcome members who have joined from the Battalion and our wishes for success go to those who have left to rejoin.

Our annual outing (this year to Brighton) was a great success, the weather being excellent, and all spent an enjoyable day.

We heartily congratulate Cpl. Salmon on winning the Surrey Rifle Association Championship, an outstanding event considering he was matched against some of the finest shots in Surrey, his score being a record one.

CRICKET.

Fortunes have been varied so far this season. We have played 21 matches, won 11, lost 9 and drawn 1. We have been all out for 18 to lose to Hambledon, whereas we have made 185 for 5 wickets in two hours to win against a strong team brought by the Romany C.C. We have always included one or two recruits in our team—Pettifor, Payne, Clark, Miles, Bolton, Bedwell, Stainforth, Tasker, have all played during this season. The averages appear below, but mention must be made of the batting of Sergt. Hooper and the bowling of Dmr. Wood. Both have done great service to our cricket.

BATTING AVERAGES, SEASON, 1931.

Name.	Innings.	Total Runs.	Highest Score.	Average.
Lieut. Watney ...	6	261	108	43.5
Lieut. Grimston ...	11	445	100	40.4
Major Olliver ...	5	156	55	26.0
Capt. Block ...	13	276	86	21.2
Sergt. Hooper ...	23	293	49	12.7
Sergt. Wells ...	4	46	19	11.5
Sergt. Good ...	17	165	50	9.7
Sergt. Manners ...	11	101	23	9.1
R.S.M. Tedder ...	4	35	24	8.7
Capt. Haggard ...	13	107	32	8.2
C.S.M. Jude ...	15	112	41	7.4
L./Cpl. Coe ...	10	71	41	7.1
Sergt. Hill ...	16	74	16	4.6
Dmr. Woods ...	20	35	21	4.2
Sergt. Dodds ...	13	53	21	4.07
Pte. Miles ...	7	27	10	3.8
Chrl-Sergt. Clark ...	9	29	14	3.2
Pre. Pettifor ...	6	19	8	3.1
Pte. Tasker ...	7	20	11	2.8
Capt. Foster ...	4	8	5	2.0
Cpl. Whelan ...	9	18	12	2.0
Pte. Downey ...	6	11	6	1.8

The following also batted:—Sergt. McTravers, 11 and 10; 2/Lieut. Moss, 20 and 9; Pte. Bolton, 14 and 9; Major Dorman-Smith, 34; 2/Lieut. Goodall, 6.

BOWLING AVERAGES, SEASON, 1931.

Name.	Overs.	Maidens.	Runs.	Wickets.	Average.
Sergt. Hooper ...	19.1	4	48	12	4.0
C.S.M. Jude ...	26.5	3	119	14	8.5
Dmr. Wood ...	260.1	51	690	79	8.7
L./Cpl. Coe ...	14.0	1	53	6	8.8
Lieut. Grimston ...	105.3	26	279	27	10.3
Sergt. Manners ...	28.0	4	95	9	10.5
Pte. Pettifor ...	9.9	—	45	4	11.2
Capt. Haggard ...	129.4	26	399	33	12.0
Capt. Block ...	78.7	5	265	22	12.04
Sergt. Dodds ...	12.0	2	42	3	14.0
Pte. Miles ...	14.0	3	48	3	16.0

FENCING.

It is hoped that by combining with the 2nd Battalion who will then be at Aldershot, that a really good fencing team will be available for the coming season. Matches are being arranged with the Mask's, R.A.F., Southern Command, Aldershot Command, and the Royal Nautical College, Pangbourne, amongst others. If possible some London Club fixtures will be obtained.

More recruits to fencing are wanted at the Depot. All ranks are far too inclined to leave it to the Depot Physical Training Staff and just one or two others. A little effort after the first few rather dull lessons, makes fencing a very interesting art, and a physical training "figure" is not by any means necessary to produce the splendid exercise that fencing gives to anyone who takes it up. There is no better opportunity for keeping fit during the winter months, than that which fencing offers, especially to those who do not play football.

So those who have made a start and have found it dull, just have another shot this winter.

L./Cpl. (now Staff-Sergeant) Hope and L./Cpl. Nockolds, are no longer available for the team, and Sergt. Spence will have left us soon after the beginning of the season. These three N.C.Os. have contributed very largely to the success of the team in the past two years, and have always been extremely keen.

OLD COMRADES ASSOCIATION

THE Twenty-third Annual Dinner of the Old Comrades Association and Dinner Club took place on Saturday, June 13th, at the Georgian Restaurant, Harrods, London.

Major-General Sir Wilkinson D. Bird presided, and those present included Major-General Sir I. L. B. Vesey, Major-General A. E. McNamara, Brig.-General C. F. Watson, Brig.-General F. J. Pink, Cols. W. C. Coles, J. J. Rainsford-Hannay, R. G. Clarke, F. Hayley-Bell, Lieut.-Cols. G. J. Giffard, A. M. Tringham, S. T. Watson, J. D. Boyd, H. W. Bolton, Majors M. W. H. Pain, R. A. M. Basset, G. K. Olliver, R. K. Ross, J. J. Grubb, N. B. Avery, Capt. R. C. G. Foster, B. C. Haggard, I. T. P. Hughes, F. E. B. Girling, H. J. Carpenter, C. D. G. Thrupp, W. H. Chitty, R. H. Nevins, C. W. Roff, H. E. Reimenn, A. T. Gammon, J. A. Cowan, Lieuts. H. P. Combe, J. F. K. Ponsford, J. Y. Whitfield, L. C. East, G. S. Grimston, H. Wood, D. L. A. Gibbs, K. M. East, A. P. Stone, R. T. Walters, F. C. Guillan, and the Rev. H. J. Burkitt, T.D. Capt. J. H. Thomas was among the guests, and H.M.S. *Excellent* was represented by Stoker P.O. P. Sainsbury and P.O. E. E. Hill.

Major-General Bird spoke of what The Queen's Regiment had been doing in the past year, and of what was expected of it in the future. The 1st Battalion was at Tientsin, a very large city in the North of China, where there was an international garrison of American, French, Japanese and Italian troops, with The Queen's Regiment representing England, and he was told that The Queen's were "keeping up their end satisfactorily." (Applause.) The 2nd Battalion took part in the tattoo given last summer by their good friends the officers and men of H.M.S. *Excellent*, whose representatives they were glad to welcome that evening. (Applause.) He understood that the men of the detachment were so pleased with the Navy that had they not been in The Queen's they would have chosen to belong to H.M.S. *Excellent*. (Laughter and applause.) The 2nd Battalion would go to Aldershot this trooping season, and would be posted to the 1st Guards Brigade,

in which there were two battalions of Guards and two Line battalions. In the past, The Queen's had had the great honour of being compared not unfavourably with the Guards. (Applause.) In 1891 a great review was held at Wimbledon Common, at which the Guards, the Volunteers, and a brigade from Aldershot representing England, Scotland and Ireland took part, The Queen's being chosen to represent England—(Hear, hear)—, and after the review it was stated in the Press that it was generally agreed that The Queen's had taken the palm for marching. (Applause.) In 1914, when the 1st Battalion suffered cruel losses, an officer of the Guards wrote to one of the survivors that he had often thought the 1st Battalion was equal to the very best battalions in the Brigade of Guards, in every respect.

What The Queen's had done in the past, they could do in the future. (Applause.) Therefore, they looked forward with confidence to the 2nd Battalion, when at Aldershot, maintaining the high traditions of the Regiment.

Sir William Bird announced the receipt of a message conveying "hearty greetings to all Old Comrades dining," from the 1st Battalion at Tientsin.

GREETINGS FROM THE NAVY.

P.O. P. Sainsbury, of H.M.S. *Excellent*, Portsmouth, conveyed good wishes from his depot, where there were many men belonging to the Gunnery School who were "with them in thought" at the dinner. Memories of the Tattoo last year, and its associations, would take long to efface. The real reason why the Tattoo was held was to celebrate the centenary of the formation of the Gunnery School, and all the Naval men who took part in that Tattoo thoroughly appreciated the assistance that The Queen's gave. The Navy men only wished that it could be "an annual affair." (Applause.)

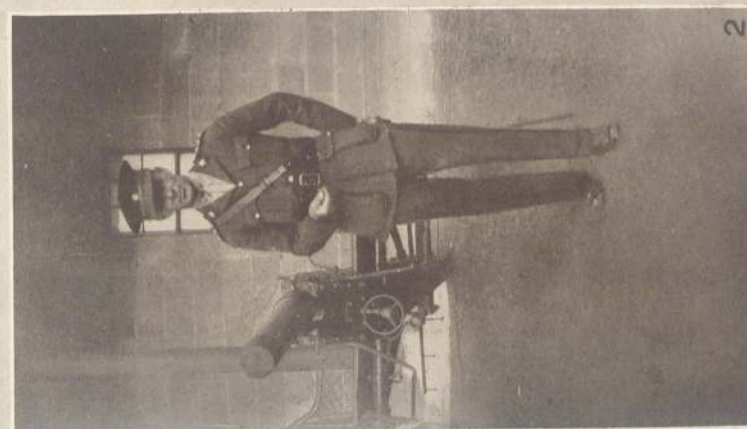
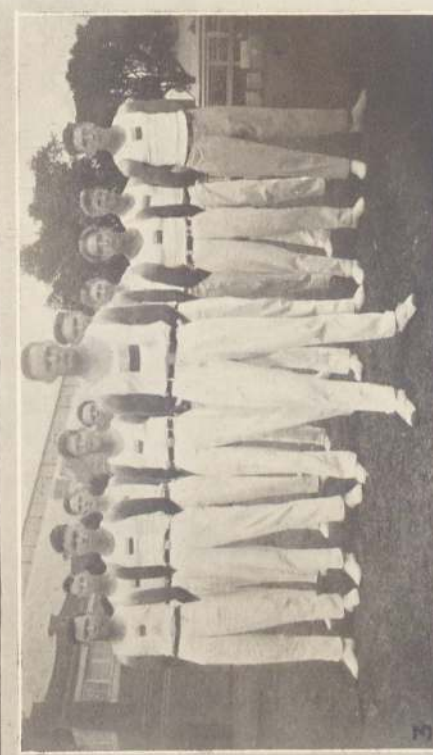
R.Q.M.S. G. S. Kerswell, of the 8th Service Battalion, proposed the toast of "Absent Comrades." It was no formal toast, he said. Some of their comrades were scattered throughout the Empire, and there was another band of members whom they desired also to remember—some who, owing to unfortunate circumstances, were finding that the perils of peace were sometimes as bad as the perils of war, and were handicapped through unemployment and financial distress. They sent a message of sympathy from that happy gathering to any such comrades. Sergt. Joe Cornfield, M.M., was lying seriously ill in hospital, and the gathering would send especial good wishes to him. The Old Comrades Association were in touch with him, and doing what they could to alleviate his lot. (Applause.) Since the last annual dinner 34 Old Comrades had died, and they remembered them very affectionately. They would always remember, too, those who had died during or as a result of the war. (Hear, hear.)

Capt. H. E. Reimann, M.C., proposed the toast of "The Chairman," whom they honoured as being not only the Chairman at the dinner, but also the Colonel-in-Chief of The Queen's Regiment. It was an easy task to sit in the chair and preside over a dinner, but it is not an easy task to be Colonel-in-Chief of a regiment like The Queen's. They were satisfied that, if there was one man to-day who could claim to have maintained the motto of The Queen's—"Remembering their gallantry of former days"—it was their Chairman. He had maintained the great reputation of the Regiment in all he had done. They were glad that he was in sufficiently good health to be with them that evening, and trusted he would live long to meet the Old Comrades at the annual dinners, and to remain Colonel-in-Chief of The Queen's.

Capt. Reimann commended the services of Capt. J. H. Thomas (late of The Royal Scots) as the association's "job finder," and hoped that by next year, with the assistance of the Chairman and his colleagues, a few more Old Comrades would be aided in finding employment.

Mr. H. C. Sales was at the piano during the evening.

2nd BATTALION AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES.



1 and 3. 2nd Battn. A.M.F. Cadets Team. Winners State and Divisional Physical Training Championships, 1931.
2. Capt. C. H. G. SPENCER, Team Trainer.

ALL RANKS GARDEN PARTY

Approximately 500 attended the All Ranks' Garden Party at The Depot, Stoughton Barracks, 4 to 7 p.m. on Saturday, June 27th, under ideal weather conditions. The Band of the 2nd Battalion from Dover played delightfully through a programme of light music, and the Drums afterwards gave a very fine and spectacular performance. The Regimental Museum again proved a great draw to old and young hands alike. The miniature golf course, skee ball and other amusements were well supported.

A cricket match, the final game Regimental Cricket Week against Cranleigh was in progress on the Games Field, and many took an interest in the play.

Refreshments were obtainable at "Buffet Bar" in the huge and florally decorated marquee. The half-dozen N.A.A.F.I. waitresses were kept very busy indeed.

NOTE.—1932 All Ranks' Dinner will, if possible, be arranged for in London, on Saturday June 11th, and the All Ranks' Garden Party a fortnight later at The Depot, Stoughton Barracks, on Saturday June 25th.

Obituary

List of those known and reported to have died since last publication.

No.	RANK AND NAME.	BATTALIONS.	SERVICE	DATE OF DEATH.
	Capt. H. R. Hardy ...	1st & 2nd ...	1889-1906	20/5/31
4387	Pte. W. H. Lloyd ...	1st & 2nd ...	1894-1919	30/3/31
718	Pte. J. Smith ...	1st & 2nd ...	1883-1895 1914-1916	27/3/31
384	Pte. A. Wright ...	2nd Bn. ...	1870-1896	19/4/31
1608	Pte. T. Cox ...	2nd Bn. ...	1868-1884	/4/91
6084590	Pte. L. N. Breach ...	2nd Bn. ...	1930	29/6/31
7758	Sergt. J. Cornfield, M.M.	1st & 2nd ...	1903-1918	16/7/31
6081281	Pte. A. E. Soper ...	1st Bn. ...	1923	15/7/31
3853	Pte. J. Randall ...	1st & 2nd ...	1892-1904 1914-1919	10/8/31
8528	Pte. E. Cadden ...	1st & 2nd ...	1905-1905 1914-1919	13/8/31
	Major J. R. H. Richards	2nd Bn.	1869-1897	30/8/31

It is regretted that in the "Obituary List" in our issue of May, 1931, the late No. 2841 H. Stringell was inadvertently described as Private. We much regret the error, and, having examined his discharge papers, are pleased to correct by stating the late H. Stringell, after serving throughout the South African Campaign, was discharged on completion of term of Service in August, 1902, with rank of Sergeant. He re-enlisted in October, 1914, and was posted to the 4th Battalion, being invalided from the Labour Corps in March, 1918, with the rank of Company Quartermaster-Sergeant.

EDITORIAL NOTES

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2nd Bn.—Major F. J. Jebens, M.C.	24th London Regiment.—Major D. G. Adams.
4th Bn.—Col. B. L. Evans, T.D.	Depot—Lieut. D. L. A. Gibbs.
5th Bn.—Major W. S. Cave, D.S.O.	2nd Bn. Australian Military Forces—Major F. G. Galleghan.
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