

THE WRECK OF THE "BIRKENHEAD"



THE MEMORIAL PLAQUE AT DANGER POINT, UNVEILED ON FEBRUARY 26th, 1938.



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## EDITORIAL

WE feel sure that our readers will be delighted to hear that Her Majesty Queen Mary, Colonel-in-Chief of the Regiment, has been graciously pleased to accept from the Officers, present and past, of the Regiment the gift of a brooch of platinum and diamonds in the form of the Regimental Badge. Her Majesty's gracious message appears elsewhere in this issue, together with a photograph of the brooch.

We desire to draw the attention of ex-serving members of the Regiment to the Church Parade, to be held at Guildford on Sunday, 26th June. The All Ranks' Garden Party will be held at the Depot in the afternoon, and for those who wish for it a cold luncheon will be supplied at the Depot. This holding of the Church Parade, followed by the Garden Party, was an innovation last year, and those who attended considered it to be so successful that it was decided to make it an annual event. We hope to see a really representative gathering this year, but we desire to remind readers that they should notify the Secretary of the Old Comrades Association if they intend to be present, and more particularly if they require lunch. A notice of the event appears under the heading of Old Comrades Association News.

The All Ranks' Dinner will be held at Thames House, Embankment, on Saturday, 4th June. Those intending to be present should warn in to the Secretary of the Dinner Club.

As will be seen from their news our allied Battalions in Canada and Australia continue to give a good account of themselves. We congratulate the Queen's York Rangers very heartily on gaining first place in the Canadian Infantry General Efficiency Competition—a very fine performance. Our congratulations are also due to the 2nd/35th Bn. Australian Military Forces on the successes gained in their Brigade Competitions. We are sure the Battalion teams will give a good account of themselves in the Anzac Day Competitions at Sydney.

An interesting ceremony took place in South Africa in February this year when a plaque was unveiled at Danger Point to commemorate the wreck of the *Birkenhead*. We publish elsewhere in this issue an account of the ceremony as well as photographs. We have also included the story of the wreck, taken from Col. Davis's history of the Regiment. We had hoped to visit the plaque in person, but circumstances prevented it.

The 2nd Battalion of the Regiment, now at Parkhurst, have been designated for a one-year tour of duty in Palestine. As the Battalion may have sailed before our next issue we take this opportunity of wishing them a safe journey and a not too strenuous time. We hope that the Assistant Editor will bear in mind our unquenchable thirst for news and keep us well supplied with accounts of the doings of the Battalion.

We ask readers who change their address to send us early notification of the same. A certain number of copies of the JOURNAL are returned to us owing to the fact that the addressees cannot be traced, and we have no means of tracing the subscriber unless we receive the information.

The next number of the JOURNAL will be published in November this year, and we shall be glad if all items of news or articles for publication can be sent to us by 15th October.

## 1st BATTALION

(*McPherson Barracks, Allahabad.*)

ANY history of the Battalion in Allahabad must necessarily be a history of the weather which seems to govern our goings out and comings in.

With the publishing of our notes last October the earth began to cool and "D" Company, with all the married families—not to mention their dogs—descended from the hills to rejoin the Battalion and return to the vigours of military routine. At the same time "A" (S.) Company emerged perspiring from The Fort, and "B" Company took over. "C" Company proceeded to disturb the peace of the golf course with two weeks' Company Training, where they were later followed by "D" Company. All companies had now changed over in the "Cockpit of India," and the climate had turned a full circle.

In November, however, Platoon Training was rudely disturbed by orders to reorganize as a Rifle Battalion at once. Steps were immediately taken to abolish "A" (S.) Company who now become "A" Company, and to reorganize all four companies on the basis of four platoons, each consisting of Platoon Headquarters (including a L.M.G. Detachment) and three Rifle Sections. In addition, "H.Q." Wing now becomes plain "H.Q." Company, consisting of Battalion "H.Q.", Signal Platoon, L.M.G. Platoon and Administrative Platoon.

All this entailed little change for the established rifle companies, but "A" Company were observed in thoughtful mood for many weeks learning their new "Cries" and executing complicated deployments across the Grass Farm. That they learnt their new job well was proved on Battalion Training, where their speed of movement across country—forward and back—was really remarkable.

Christmas pounced on Allahabad with a welcome grace. For four days there was stillness and peace and a number of good Christmas shooting camps were arranged. The rigours of Christmas weather and parties being over, the Battalion marched sixty-two miles to a training camp at Barkachha Kalan, near Mirzapur. The march occupied four days, but there was no M.T. for those accustomed to it at home; nor were there any deaths. There were murmurings of "Kojak" throughout the march, but this was seldom repeated after a few of Lieut.-Col. Gattie's Battalion Exercises, the most popular of which was an "Inter-Platoon Night March" of eight miles carried out across the wildest of country as a suitable conclusion to a two days' exercise. How much was accomplished by compass, and how much by assistance of native guides, or friendly signals from the Quarter-master in camp, will never be known.

Other wanderings by night included a Battalion night attack when we crossed a river—somewhat damply—and found ourselves tottering over what appeared to be the surface of the moon, a series of unchartered, unexplored, craters filled with water, on which ghastly forms fluttered and screeched (probably duck), and into which we fell, while "D" Company, our enemy, laughed heartily from behind their watertight defences.

As if this were not enough, Christmas rains then set in and even our camp became a duck pond. Swamped with rain and surrounded by plague in the neighbouring villages the camp came to an abrupt conclusion by our having to return to Allahabad by train on 26th January. The Brigade and District Exercise had to be cancelled, but one of these took place later near Allahabad.

On the way to camp the Battalion was inspected on the line of march by the G.O.C. Eastern Command, Lieut.-General Sir H. B. Douglas Baird, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., who sent the following message to Lieut.-Col. Gattie the same evening:—

## 1ST BATTALION

"I inspected the 1st Bn. The Queen's Royal Regiment on completion of a twelve-mile march. The Battalion has just been reorganized as a Rifle Battalion. I was very pleased with the physical fitness of all the men who are also very well set up. The Battalion maintains its Regimental smartness."

Our notes would not be complete without saying how pleased we all were to see Col. and Mrs. R. G. Clarke and family when they visited Allahabad in January. Only a few days later did we hear of the bad motor accident which had befallen them near Benares. We are delighted to know that they are now all out of danger. We also wish to acknowledge Col. Clarke's generous offer of help in Regimental matters. It has been gladly accepted.

On 1st January the usual Proclamation Parade was held at Allahabad, and Brigadier G. N. Ford, C.B., D.S.O., presented Long Service and Good Conduct Medals to the following:—

Bandmaster C. Brooks, Clr./Sergt. P. Tasker, Sergt. E. Witts, Sergt. W. Howland and Cpl. C. Holdaway.

Capt. L. S. Sheldon, 2/Lieut. P. Bosanquet, 2/Lieut. R. W. M. Hartland-Mahon and Capt. J. B. P. Phillips have joined us since January. In February we were sorry to lose 2/Lieut. Rajendra Singh and 2/Lieut. M. S. Virdi on their posting to Indian regiments. Their places have been taken by 2/Lieut. Virendra Singh and 2/Lieut. Niranjan Pershad, both from Dehra Dun.

Our District Commander, Major-General Sir C. A. Milward, K.C.I.E., C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., is leaving us this month to the great regret of all. He paid a farewell visit to the Battalion on 18th February, and in the course of his address on parade said:—

"I wanted to come and say good-bye to you before giving up command of the Lucknow District. You will remember when you arrived in Allahabad eighteen months ago I told you that ever since I joined the Service the one regiment which had always been held up to me as an example of what a regiment should be was The Queen's."

"My own regiment has been great friends of The Queen's ever since the frontier expedition of 1897, and when I was Adjutant I used to send our drill instructors and Drums to be trained by The Queen's."

"It has, therefore, been a very great pleasure to me to have you under my command. I only wish you had been in Lucknow instead of here at Allahabad."

"Quetta, where you came from after the earthquake, was not a good place for training, but you soon put that right, as I knew you would, and you worked very well indeed the day before yesterday during my exercise in the field."

"Your drill and turn-out is first class, and your conduct here ever since your arrival has been all that could be desired."

"It was a great pleasure to me last summer to have your Detachment up in Chaubattia, and I always enjoyed going to see them."

"I know that every man of you will always maintain the very high tradition of The Queen's, and that as long as the British Army lasts you will be second to none."

"I now wish you the best of good luck and good-bye."

In General Milward's successor we are fortunate to have Major-General F. I. Nicholson, C.B., D.S.O., M.C., who served with The Queen's from 1903 to 1905.

Since writing these notes we have become part of the 9th Indian Infantry Brigade and, consequently, a member of the Field Army instead of Internal Security Troops. The change, however, is at present only in name, as for the past week one company has been lodged in the city within beck and call of the Civil Police. This is the "Mohurram" (Muslim) and also "Holi" (Hindu) holiday season. As the former wish to mourn and the latter to feast, communal riots are popular, and we are asked to keep the peace. Those who served with the Battalion in Londonderry and stood between Bridge Street on the one side and Fountain Street on the other will understand our feelings in the matter.

## 1ST BATTALION

## BATTALION ROLL.

## BATTALION HEADQUARTERS.

Commanding Officer	...	...	Lieut.-Colonel K. F. D. Gattie, D.S.O., M.C.
Second-in-Command	...	...	Major R. C. G. Foster, M.C.
Adjutant	...	Capt. J. F. Metcalfe.	Quartermaster ... Lieut. W. Watford.
R.S.M.	...	R.S.M. E. Hartridge.	R.Q.M.S. ... R.Q.M.S. W. Jackson.
			Orderly Room Colour-Sergeant ... Clr.-Sergt. L. Peters.

## HEADQUARTER COMPANY.

Company Commander	Major B. C. Haggard.	C.S.M. ... C.S.M. J. Buckenham, M.M.
Signal Officer	Lieut. M. V. Fletcher.	C.Q.M.S. ... Clr.-Sergt. F. Ashby, M.M.
Intelligence Officer	Lieut. F. A. H. Ling.	Drum Major ... Drum-Major F. Wilson.
Transport Officer	2/Lieut. J. A. Watt.	Band Sergeant Sergt. E. Witts.
Bandmaster	Bandmaster C. Brooks.	Signal Sergeant L./Sergt. V. Moth.
Weapon Training Officer	Lieut. J. R. Terry.	A./S./Sergt. ... L./Sergt. W. Wray, R.A.O.C.

## COMPANIES.

COMPANY.	COMPANY COMMANDER.	C.S.M.	C.Q.M.S.
"A" Company	Capt. H. S. Kelly	C.S.M. A. Warner.	Clr.-Sergt. R. Wakley.
"B" Company	Capt. J. B. P. Phillips.	C.S.M. W. Lee.	Clr.-Sergt. A. Manners.
"C" Company	Capt. N. A. Willis.	C.S.M. R. Hawkins.	Clr.-Sergt. A. Budd.
"D" Company	Major E. F. Bolton.	C.S.M. W. Spence.	Clr.-Sergt. P. Tasker.

## PLATOON COMMANDERS.

"A" COMPANY.	"B" COMPANY.
No. 1 Platoon	2/Lieut. I. J. Kiani.*
No. 2 Platoon	2/Lieut. P. Bosanquet.
No. 3 Platoon	Sergt. J. Berry.
No. 4 Platoon	2/Lieut. G. A. Coombe.*
No. 5 Platoon	2/Lieut. W. G. Lewis.
No. 6 Platoon	2/Lieut. M. Sharif Khan.*
No. 7 Platoon	2/Lieut. S. H. Payne.*
No. 8 Platoon	2/Lieut. B. C. Robertson.*

## "C" COMPANY.

No. 9 Platoon	2/Lieut. A. T. Stevenson.*
No. 10 Platoon	Lieut. F. A. H. Ling.
No. 11 Platoon	Lieut. D. de S. Barrow.
No. 12 Platoon	2/Lieut. H. W. Litson.

## "D" COMPANY.

No. 13 Platoon	Sergt. Sims.
No. 14 Platoon	2/Lieut. K. W. MacCutchan.*
No. 15 Platoon	2/Lieut. R. W. M. R. Hartland-Mahon.
No. 16 Platoon	2/Lieut. T. R. Johnson.*

\* Denotes Unattached List Indian Army.

## Battalion Training, 1937-38.

The area for Battalion Training this, as in nearly every other, year was in the hill country south of Mirzapore. It is good training country very much like the less rugged parts of the Frontier, rocks and scrubs interspersed with fertile areas and intersected by nullahs and watercourses which form considerable obstacles.

The camp was about sixty miles from Allahabad, which we covered in four days' marching. Luckily some rain had fallen and the dust was much less troublesome than earlier or later in the year.

What dust there was was made less troublesome by marching by platoons at sixty paces interval, and actually very little discomfort was experienced. The country is pleasant but monotonous to a degree. As always in India, one is reminded of Kipling: "Every blinking camping ground exactly like the last."

The first day was a short one of twelve and a half miles, finished by 11 a.m. The Ganges was crossed on the rickety, crowded and picturesque bridge of boats; the only other event being the march past the G.O.C. Eastern Command (General Baird), just short of our destination. He expressed himself very pleased. It was lucky that we arrived early as bivouacs were pitched and, as this is a new departure in India, not a great success was made of it.

The second day was long (seventeen and a half miles) and completely uneventful. Any part of the march could have been any other part, and feet were beginning to make themselves felt.

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The third day, a short one of eleven miles, was none the less wearisome, but it finished early. It was lucky that we had learnt our bivouacking, as quite heavy rain fell during the night.

The last day was long (nineteen and a half miles) but more variegated, and, owing to the grey sky and rain, cool and comparatively dustless. We again crossed by a bridge of boats (this time the Jumna), marched in great style through Mirzapore City and then by a pleasant road along the foot of the hills to camp, which we reached just before dark, feeling we had had ample marching for the time being. Camp was a pleasant one in a large mango grove not far from a considerable river nullah. Heavy rain again fell during the first night and largely spoilt the excellent work of the advance party.

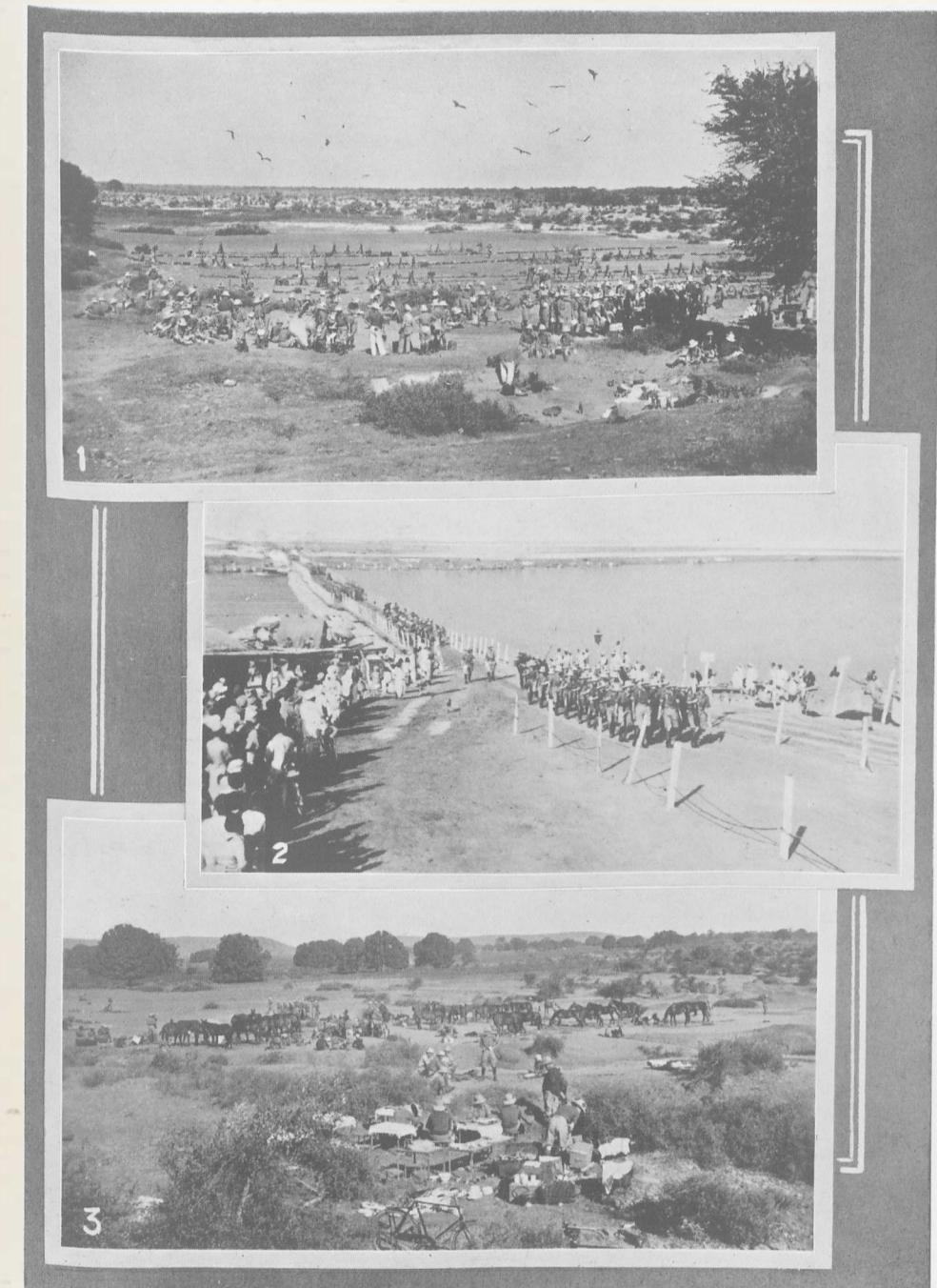
The training was, except for field firing and one or two minor exercises, based on a continuous scheme in which the Battalion, reduced by the absence of the Fort Company and enemy to two companies, tried conclusions in every operation of war against a rather lethargic enemy battalion. The first day, under the command of Major Foster, we sallied out to locate this battalion which had crossed the frontier to the south-west. This was supposed to exercise advanced and flank guard, but eventually degenerated into an advance with the Battalion on a broad fighting front. The next day the Battalion, again under Major Foster, was checked in the previous day's advance by news of a raid of irregulars against our permanent camp. "C" Company, under Capt. Sheldon, dug in a defensive position on the ground we had seized while "D" Company (Major Bolton) rushed back to camp to find the Quartermaster and cooks with their backs to the wall, but they arrived just in time. The third day was a long and trying one, especially for the Commanding Officer (again Major Foster).

The Battalion was again deflected from its original task to the south-west and told to seize a bridgehead over a nullah about five miles north-west. This entailed first an advance of about three miles through high crops, where the unsuccessful efforts to prevent the Battalion forming one long, vulnerable and unwieldy line in single file caused much bad temper. "A" Company, as advance guard, reached, but failed to cross the line of the river which is here fringed by a strip of the most difficult nullah country imaginable. A complete lack of information came back either of advance guard, river crossings or anything else. The Commanding Officer went up personally to gain information, having left his probable plan behind, and was away so long that the plan was put into execution in his absence with the difference that the very wide, very precipitous and very bad-tempered turning movement was led by Battalion Headquarters. It ultimately reached its objective after constant holding up by precipitous nullahs, and the bridgehead was established. The Battalion then thankfully bivouacked for the night.

Next day the Battalion, under a fresh Commanding Officer (Major Haggard) was relieved from its bridgehead and told to turn against and overcome its original foe to the north. It was decided to do this by an ambitious and unorthodox night attack. The daylight advance was through three or four miles of scrub-covered jungle quite deserted except for birds and an occasional buck. This led to an assembly area about two miles behind the enemy position. After nightfall a very rough advance over streams and nullahs was made to a forming-up place at right-angles to the dam of the reservoir. From here the final advance was over unreconnoitred country, which turned out to be much worse than expected. It appeared a succession of nullahs, streams and bogs, and the advance became considerably broken up. Actually the first assault was carried out by platoons that had been considered lost—a very enterprising operation which would probably have succeeded in capturing parts of the enemy position, but would have been too disorganized to do much more.

A quiet night and morning followed. The spot was a pleasant one—a strip of trees and garden between the high bank of the reservoir on one side and a

## 1st BATTALION.



1. THE BATTALION IN BIVOUAC NEAR MIRZAPUR.  
2. CROSSING THE BRIDGE OF BOATS AT MIRZAPUR ON THE WAY TO CAMP.  
3. OFFICERS' MESS IN BIVOUAC.

steep cliff, down which fell a considerable waterfall, on the other. It was reputed to be the haunt of panthers.

Next afternoon came the final stage of the exercise—the pursuit south of the remains of the enemy. The country was thick and scrubby and "D" Company advanced at great speed and on a broad front, completely outwitting both a very pusillanimous enemy and a number of harassed umpires. At last the latter, in spite of the unridability of the country, managed to bring "D" Company sufficiently to a stop for the remainder of the Battalion and the battery to be brought into action. The latter were extremely efficient in dealing with the enemy machine guns, aided, perhaps, by the fact that they were not hampered by awkward guns or shells.

The "Cease Fire" went just before dusk, and platoons were told to find their way independently across country back to camp. It was ten miles, unreconnoitred and in places difficult, but the stars were bright and torches were allowed. On the whole it was creditable that no platoon took over six hours. An outstanding performance was that of the "H.Q." party (Commanding Officer, Second i/c, Adjutant and L./Cpl. Rowse) who, in spite of many differences of opinion, arrived among the first. They were handicapped by having no compass, but were slightly aided by the Commanding Officer's car. First home was Capt. Kelly who claimed that the extra five miles round by road was worth it, and justified his contention. On arrival home we were greeted by a number of items of news which, if not bad, were at least detrimental to the future training. Rain set in heavily, plague had broken out in the neighbouring villages, and the only road on which the District Exercise was to be based was found to be almost imaginary. After two unpleasant and dull days' wait in camp it was decided that the District Exercise would be cancelled and we would return to barracks by train forthwith. No disappointment was noticeable as the weather was foul and the camp a quagmire, but it was a sad end to a pleasant and interesting camp.

As our rôle is now changed from Internal Security to Field Army it seems probable that Jhansi and more ambitious higher-formation training will be our lot next year.

#### *Battalion Entertainments.*

The policy of running Battalion entertainments has continued during the cold weather, except for an interval during the holiday period and Battalion Training.

The band programmes had to be discontinued from December until February as, in addition to the above handicaps, it was also too cold to attract spectators to listen. To counteract this two or three Battalion concerts were given under the able leadership of Lieut. J. R. Terry, supported by the Bandmaster. These concerts were of quite good class and were very much appreciated by troops and married families. Hearty thanks are due to all performers.

An occasional tombola was also run, and these were very popular.

The whist drives are still a popular pastime, and if attendances continue to improve a bigger place than the Institute will have to be used.

An attempt was made to run dog racing, which was very popular in the hills, but only a few dogs were entered and it had to be cancelled. Further attempts will be made to popularize this sport during the hot weather.

A Hobbies Competition was run during November, and although the entries were few they were of a very high standard. Prizes for this competition were given by the President, Regimental Institutes. Results:—

*Handicrafts.*—1, L./Cpl. Long, "H.Q." Company; 2, L./Cpl. Jarvis, "H.Q." Company.

*Philately.*—1, L./Cpl. Swann, "H.Q." Company.

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*Art Class.*—1, L./Cpl. Bruce, "A" Company; 2, L./Cpl. Swann, "H.Q." Company; h.c., Pte. Waterfall, "H.Q." Company.

A series of knock-out competitions were also run, and these were very popular. Results were as follows:—

*Battalion Billiards Championship.*—Winner, Pte. Chapman, "A" Company; runner-up, L./Cpl. Marsh, British Attached Section.

*Battalion Snooker Championship.*—Winner, L./Cpl. Hambleton, "D" Company; runner-up, Pte. M. White, "D" Company.

*Inter-Platoon Knockout Billiards Championship.*—Winners, No. 5 Platoon, "B" Company; runners-up, Administrative Platoon, "H.Q." Company.

*Inter-Platoon Knockout Snooker Championship.*—Winners, No. 4 Platoon, "A" Company; runners-up, Administrative Platoon, "H.Q." Company.

The Inter-Company Knockout Billiards Championship will begin next week, and results and details will be given in the next issue of the JOURNAL.

*Families' Christmas Party.*

After two unavoidable delays the Children's Christmas Party was held on Sunday, 23rd January, 1938.

The tea took place in the Sergeants' Mess and the entertainment and presentation of gifts took place in a barrack room, which had been suitably decorated.

The Battalion was at camp on the actual day, but arrangements were made to bring the husbands back. This was very popular and was greatly appreciated by all concerned.

Great excitement was shown by the children when Father Christmas arrived on an elephant. Unfortunately the children were unable to have rides as was intended owing to a downpour of rain which lasted for two days. The presents were given out after a conjuring entertainment, and great exclamations of delight were heard from the children when they received their present from Father Christmas. Presents for the wives were also given, and these were very much appreciated.

*Families' Rifle Club.*

This has once again been a flourishing club and competition has been very keen. Prior to the Christmas holidays competitions were held for appropriate prizes for the festive season. There was also an aggregate prize.

Congratulations to Mrs. Swain on winning the aggregate prize and also one weekly prize. Other weekly prizewinners were Mrs. Elkins, Mrs. Berry and Mrs. Wells, who was given a consolation prize for having the best score without having qualified for a prize. Mrs. Foster presented the prizes.

Since the New Year the competition for weekly prizes and the Aggregate Cup has been more keen and the lead appears to change hands weekly.

The present positions of the first eight in the aggregate prize are: Mrs. Witts, 168; Mrs. Roadnight, 161; Mrs. Wells, 159; Mrs. Berry, 155; Mrs. Swain, 155; Mrs. Elkins, 155; Mrs. Steward, 152; Mrs. Turk, 150.

*Ladies' Tennis Club.*

On Sunday, 30th January, 1938, a tennis tournament, for the families, was arranged by Mrs. Foster and Mrs. Bolton. Pairs were picked for and each couple played all other couples in the best of seven games. Competitors were permitted to take one friend each, and a very nice tea was arranged. Competition was very keen between Mrs. Buckenham and Mrs. Roadnight and Mrs. Peters and Mrs. Wells. The first-named pair had to win their last match by seven sets to love in order to win the tournament. This, in an atmosphere of great excitement, they managed to do. Very nice prizes were presented by Mrs. Bolton at the conclusion of the tournament.

Scores of pairs playing: Mrs. Buckenham and Mrs. Roadnight, 27 games;

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Mrs. Peters and Mrs. Wells, 26 games; Mrs. Hawkins and Mrs. Manners, 21 games; Mrs. Jacques and Mrs. Swain, 14 games; Mrs. Steward and Mrs. Turk, 9 games; Mrs. Saunders and Mrs. Berry, 8 games.

Other weekly tournaments were run by the families, and the following won weekly prizes: Mrs. Steward, Mrs. Witts, Mrs. Hawkins and Mrs. Roadnight. *Sergeants' Mess.*

Our new Commanding Officer, Lieut.-Col. K. F. D. Gattie, D.S.O., M.C., arrived at Allahabad on 4th December, 1937, and to him we offer our congratulations on his appointment and hope that he will spend an enjoyable tenure of command.

Throughout the months of November and December many social functions were held, and at one of these we had the privilege of entertaining a party of French aviators who landed at Allahabad *en route* to Indo China. Conversation with our French guests was a little awkward, as none of them could speak our lingo, and we were fortunate in having at our disposal an interpreter in the form of our Army Educational Corps Instructor, W.O.(I) N. Bundred, who rendered great service and made it possible for both sides to be understood.

During the period covered by this article it has only been possible to organize two tennis tournaments and one hockey match with the Corporals. As usual, these were keenly contested and thoroughly enjoyed by all who took part in the games.

Prior to moving to Battalion Camp in January, a past Commanding Officer of the Battalion, Col. R. C. G. Clarke, C.M.G., D.S.O., paid us a visit and stayed in the Mess for a considerable time, chatting to old acquaintances.

The Battalion moved to Battalion Camp by march route on 11th January, 1938, to a place called Barkachha Kalan, which is roughly 61 miles from Allahabad. The move took four days to accomplish and the camp site was finally reached on the afternoon of 14th January, 1938. The powers-that-be had allotted us until the beginning of April to undergo training in the surrounding area, but the advent of plague made it necessary for troops to be withdrawn from the area back to Allahabad after only ten days' training had been carried out. Just prior to orders being received for the return to Allahabad, two days' heavy rain had fallen and made the camp site look a sorry spectacle; it was therefore with no regrets that Barkachha Kalan was evacuated. The Mess tent was very comfortable. At first the entrance was inclined to be continually blocked by the form of someone throwing a "nifty dart," but the situation was saved by the board being moved to a new headquarters farther inland. The arrival of the rain also altered the comfortable aspect, and the adjoining cookhouse had on several occasions to be baled out.

On 18th February, 1938, Major-General Sir C. A. Milward, K.C.I.E., C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., G.O.C. Lucknow District, paid a final inspection visit to the Battalion prior to his proceeding on leave to terminate his tenure of appointment. He arrived at the Mess about 10.40 a.m., and after a brief word or two said good-bye to each member.

Congratulations to the following for reasons stated:—

*Award of the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal:* Bandmaster C. Brooks, C./Sergt. P. Tasker, Sergt. E. Witts and Sergt. W. Howland.

*Award of "Q.I" Certificate at a Small Arms Course, Pachmarhi, in December, 1937:* Sergt. T. Jacques.

Sergt. L. Peters on promotion to Colour-Sergeant (O.R.S.).

Sergt. A. Budd on promotion to Colour-Sergeant.

L./Sergt. J. Whittle on promotion to Sergeant (O.R.C.).

Cpl. D. White on appointment to Lance-Sergeant.

Cpl. V. Moth on appointment to Lance-Sergeant.

We welcome the two last-mentioned as new members.

The following have arrived and departed:—

*Arrivals (from 2nd Battalion):* L./Sergt. J. Farrell and Sergt. T. Lloyd.

*Departures:* L./Sergt. T. Peasley—transferred to the Army Reserve whilst on leave in the United Kingdom. Sergts. G. Hooper and H. Jayes—posted to Depot for a tour of duty. Sergts. N. Bradley and C. Litton—posted to 2nd Battalion. Sergt. H. Julian—to Vocational Training Course in the United Kingdom, pending discharge.

To those who have left us we wish the best of good luck and good fortune in their new surroundings, and to those who have joined our ranks we offer a hearty welcome.

The general exodus to the Hills will soon be on once again. This year the Battalion has been allotted Ranikhet as its Hill Station.

#### *Corporals' Mess.*

The Christmas period passed without any very outstanding events, except, of course, the usual social gatherings which were thoroughly celebrated, many members dampening down for the last time, as they were due for the United Kingdom shortly after the festive season.

The social side of the Mess has been very quiet owing to the Company and Battalion Camps being held. During the "Great Rains" at Battalion Camp our Mess gave the appearance of Noah's Ark, the only difference being that the occupants were not in twos.

Congratulations to Cpl. Moth and White on climbing another rung of the "ladder of success"; also to the Band N.C.Os. on bringing home the St. John India Gwalior Shield, which was competed for at Delhi.

In the early part of December we played the Privates at cricket, and, much to our disgust, were thoroughly trounced. Another match was against the Sergeants, when we were again unlucky. We will not pass any remarks about the match except to say that excellent bowling was done by "Bobby Burns" and the skipper of the Sergeants' team. Next we tried our skill at tennis and challenged the Sergeants to a Wimbledon "test." At the social held afterwards, during the evening, we were much more successful. The success of the evening was due to "Slim" Griffin, "Dead Eye" Bradfield and a few others.

We wish all members who have departed for the United Kingdom the best of luck; and to those due to arrive we tender a hearty welcome.

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#### SPORT.

The cold weather is a concentrated rush of training, games and sports, and it is with the greatest difficulty that everything can be fitted in. We maintain the Regimental custom of endeavouring to provide games for every man rather than concentrating on semi-professional Regimental teams. As a result we seldom can go far in Army or big civilian competitions, but we would back our average platoon side against its opposite number in any unit in the Army.

Full accounts of the chief games and competitions follow, and it is only necessary to mention some less popular activities.

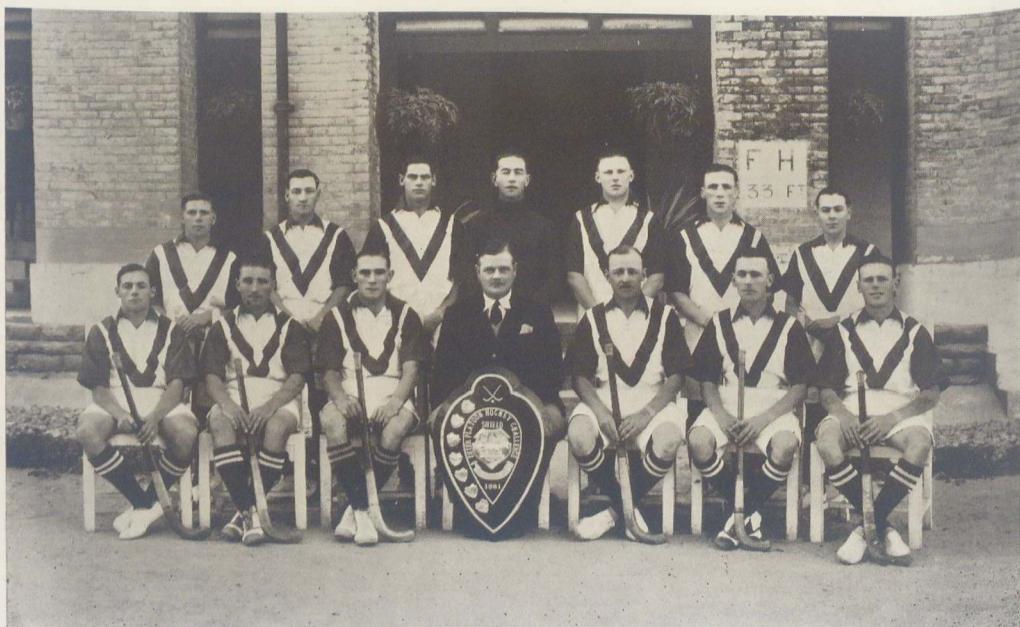
In tennis Bosanquet and Coombe (Indian Army Attached) went to Lahore for the Army Championships, and got through several rounds. Bosanquet has won the Open Singles in Allahabad and he and Coombe are in the final of the Open Doubles.

The Regimental golf course is very popular and has nearly a hundred members, but the standard of play is still low.



"H.Q." COMPANY CRICKET TEAM, WINNERS INTER-COMPANY SHIELD, 1937-38.

Standing—Pte. Whitney, L./Cpl. Bolton, L./Cpl. Burt, L./Cpl. Hulme, Pte. Yates, L./Cpl. Nicholls  
Sitting—Pte. Hughes, Pte. H. Harding, R.S.M. Hartridge (capt.), Major B. C. Haggard, Sgt. Roadnight, Pte. A. Harding,  
Pte. Pankhurst.



THE DRUMS HOCKEY TEAM, WINNERS INTER-PLATOON SHIELD, 1937-38.

Back Row—Pte. Titchener, Pte. Jones, L./Cpl. Cooper, Pte. Mead, Pte. Gold, Pte. Hooper, Pte. Wells.  
Front Row—Pte. Lawrence, Pte. Dalton, L./Cpl. Burt, Major B. C. Haggard, Capt. J. E. Metcalfe, Drum-Major Wilson,  
L./Cpl. Hawks.

*Football.*

Owing to there being no team for our 1st XI to play against in Allahabad, it was decided to send the team and reserves to Lucknow for a fortnight, to practise for the Murray Cup on 11th February at Cawnpore.

We played five games at Lucknow before deciding on the final team to represent the Battalion. Unfortunately Pte. Pawson was injured during one of the friendly games and we had some difficulty in finding a substitute for him.

Two matches were played against The Buffs, whom we beat 2-0 in the first match and 6-1 in the second. Next we played against the 8th Field Brigade, and were beaten 2-0.

The match against the Berkshires was disappointing. The score was 4-3 against us, but we unquestionably had the best of the game.

Our second match against the R.A. resulted in a draw.

The team being finally selected, we went to Cawnpore to play the 1st Bn. The South Staffordshire Regiment.

In this match we started badly, but this was probably due to the wind, which was blowing diagonally across the field, which gave our opponents a slight advantage.

In the first few minutes our goal was in considerable danger, but soon the team settled down and executed some excellent movements and were unlucky not to score. On one occasion the ball came to Sgt. Eastmond, at centre-forward, who took it up the field but failed to score, the ball just missing the crossbar. The backs and halves played very steadily but the forwards were unable to finish. About five minutes before half-time the ball came across from the right and Pte. Massey, who had come in from the left wing, put the ball in the corner of the net.

The second half was uneventful and the forwards were still unable to combine. In the last five minutes of the game, however, the game opened up again and our goal was threatened very determinedly, but Cpl. Bicknell, in goal, produced some fine saves, and the match ended with the score 1-0 in our favour.

Bennett, on the right wing, and the two backs played well in this game.

Before we played in the semi-final of the Murray Cup we had two more trial games, and it was decided that Freeman should be put on the left wing and Danby returned to centre-forward, with Harding and Yates as insides. Pte. Johnson was put in as left-half.

In the semi-final the Queen's played the 8th Field Brigade, R.A. In the first half the Queen's had most of the game and were unlucky not to score in the first few minutes. About a quarter of an hour after the start the ball came from Freeman on the left wing to Yates, who had a clear run and scored from about ten yards range. For the rest of the first half we continued to press and were unlucky not to score.

In the second half both teams took things very easily and it was not until the last five minutes that things brightened up, and our backs were hard pressed to keep the opponents from scoring. Again Cpl. Bicknell, in goal, produced a magnificent save which would have been a certain goal. The match finished with the score 1-0 in our favour.

In the final of the Murray Football Cup the Queen's played the K.O.S.Bs., from Calcutta.

The only alteration in the team was to bring Pawson in as left half, where he played a very good game. Harding went to centre-forward. The match was one of hard knocks, both teams obviously determined to win, and in the first half there was very little to choose between the teams. If anything, the Queen's were playing more as a team. Unfortunately, about ten minutes after the start Freeman was injured and was off the field for some time. This badly upset the forwards, who never really recovered. Ten minutes before half-time Cpl. Bicknell was unsighted and the ball rolled into the corner of the net.

The match continued to be keenly contested with very little to choose between the two teams, but about half way through the second half Cpl. Bicknell, who had the ball in his hands, was charged by the centre-forward and knocked over, and the ball again rolled slowly into the net. After this the K.O.S.Bs. continued to press hard but the backs played extremely well and managed to keep them out. The match finished with the score at 2-0 against us.

#### Hockey.

Since the last issue of the JOURNAL the only Battalion matches have been in the Allahabad senior and junior leagues. In the former the Battalion lacked some of its best players, who were away in the Hills or employed elsewhere, and its record was: Played 8, won 6, lost 2, drew 0. Goals for, 29; goals against, 9. Points: 12. They finally finished up third in the league.

We were, however, able to play a useful team for our 2nd XI, in the junior league, and after piling up scores of ten and twelve goals to nil in our earlier games, were only beaten by one side, 1-0, and finished second. Its record was: Played 12, won 11, lost 1, drew 0. Goals for, 44; goals against, 7. Points: 22.

An Inter-Platoon Knockout Competition was run during December and timed to finish before the 31st. In the final, played on 22nd February, the Drums beat No. 16 Platoon, "D" Company, 1-0.

The reason for the delay was largely the number of replays. There is a general tendency throughout the Battalion to score a goal and then play on the defensive, with the result that the side which is a goal down at half-time usually manages to score during the second half.

During the cold weather we are not allowed to start before 4 p.m., and as it is dark shortly after 5 p.m., extra time is out of the question. The standard of platoon hockey is very high, and instead of a platoon being at a loss to fill up its side, as used to happen, nowadays a man has to have some experience of the game before he can play for his platoon.

The Inter-Company Competition was decided by a league played at express speed during the first week in March. Here again five out of the ten matches were drawn, and to the surprise of most people "A" Company, whom everyone expected to beat, emerged the winners. Their side has only one regular member of the Battalion team, but as that member is Sergt. Berry it is easier to realize how they came to be successful, for not only was he in his own circle when an opponent broke through, but also he either scored or was the producer of his side's goals. The competition was keenly fought out and the play on the whole was very clean, which is an advantage of playing a league.

The results of the competition were:—

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Goals			Points
					For	Against		
"A" Company	...	4	2	2	0	6	4	6
"B" Company	...	4	1	3	0	5	3	5
"C" Company	...	4	1	2	1	3	3	4
"H.Q." Company	...	4	1	1	2	4	5	3
"D" Company	...	4	0	2	2	2	5	2

Our two chief difficulties are grounds and umpires. We have three grounds, one of which has been out of play for some time. The other two have not got the surfaces, and in a competition game a bumpy ground is often the original cause of rough play. It is hoped that the next rainy season will improve these grounds.

As regards umpires we have only (five) qualified umpires, some of whom play for their platoons or companies. Although players and spectators are ready to criticise an umpire's decision, they will not take an interest in learning to umpire

themselves and thus realize the attendant difficulties. An umpire who is frequently criticised early in his career is liable to become sulky and give up umpiring. If more people would take the trouble to learn the rules of the game thoroughly, and become umpires, it is certain that the standard of umpiring would be higher and play would become much cleaner.

#### Cricket.

There are now two cricket grounds in barracks—one, a cement pitch between the two hockey grounds, the other a new ground with a grass pitch, made this year, opposite the Quartermaster's Stores. The latter, with a bamboo pavilion surrounded by a box hedge, has considerably added to the pleasure of cricket in the Battalion. With this we started the season in great hopes of some good matches, in more pleasant surroundings than previously, but were doomed to disappointment so far as outside matches were concerned.

Having entered for the Allahabad League in October we reluctantly withdrew from it the same month. Our first match, due to start at 10.30 a.m. on a Sunday, found the whole of our team on the ground at that hour, and still there alone at 1.30 p.m. Although our opponents telephoned at twelve noon to say that they were "on the way," not a soul turned up, nor was there any apology. We thought that was enough.

There are many very keen and promising cricketers in the Battalion and we should like to have shown our form, but previous experience of local Indian teams led us to make this decision.

This, however, did not prevent us from having some excellent cricket between companies. In November we played the Inter-Platoon Cup (knockout) and in December and January the Inter-Company Cup. Both these provided some exceptionally keen and exciting matches, in which the standard was quite high.

Results are as follows:—

#### Inter-Platoon Cricket Cup.

- Match 1.—No. 13 Platoon, 106 for 8 wickets; No. 9 Platoon, 80.
- Match 2.—No. 8 Platoon, 172; No. 5 Platoon, 86.
- Match 3.—Signal Section, 70 for 7 wickets; No. 15 Platoon, 69.
- Match 4.—No. 16 Platoon, 161; No. 12 Platoon, 149.
- Match 5.—No. 7 Platoon, 44; No. 6 Platoon, 24.
- Match 6.—Employed, 74 for 5 wickets; Drums, 28.
- Match 7.—No. 10 Platoon, 37 for 1; No. 14 Platoon, 28.
- Match 8.—Employed, 37 for 1 wicket; No. 11 Platoon, 28.
- Match 9.—No. 7 Platoon, 53; No. 8 Platoon, 30.
- Match 10.—Signal Section, 75 for 6 wickets; No. 10 Platoon, 70.
- Match 11.—Drums, 108; No. 3 Platoon, 105.
- Match 12.—No. 13 Platoon, 293 (Major Bolton 110, Lieut. R. Singh 44, Lovett 7 for 28); No. 16 Platoon, 74 (2/Lieut. Johnson 26, Sergt. Sims 5 for 32).

#### Semi-finals.

- Match 13.—No. 7 Platoon, 100 (Sergt. Manners 50, Brown 4 for 48); Signal Section, 106 for 4 wickets (Harding 44, Sergt. Litton not out 33).

Match 14.—The other semi-final game between No. 13 Platoon and the Employed was certainly the most exciting game in the competition. The Employed's score of 111 seemed hardly enough while Major Bolton was still at the wicket, and memories of his century in No. 13 Platoon's previous score of nearly 300 still haunting the pitch. The situation for the Employed would indeed have been critical if the R.S.M. had not remained as firm as "the rock" until their innings had closed; their score had proved just sufficient and no more. Scores: Employed 111 (R.S.M. Hartridge 37 not out); No. 13 Platoon, 100.

*Final.*

*Match 15.*—The final was won by the Employed by 35 runs. Again R.S.M. Hartridge proved himself the most consistently useful all-rounder in Battalion cricket. He and L./Cpl. Hawkes scored more than half their side's runs, and the latter's 21, a patient, solid innings, was worth twice its numerical value. The Signal Section failed altogether to withstand the formidable onslaught of the R.S.M., Wallace alone offering any determined resistance. Scores: Employed, 102 (R.S.M. Hartridge 31, L./Cpl. Hawkes 21, Sergt. Litton 3 for 4); Signal Section 67 (Wallace 17, R.S.M. Hartridge 6 for 22).

*Inter-Company Cricket Shield.*

*Match 1.*—In the first game of the Inter-Company Shield Competition, "A" Company beat "D" Company in as good a match as could well be desired. "A" Company made 114, and when "D" Company went in, 2/Lieut. Johnson and Major Bolton took the score to 80 before the latter was out. Thirty-five to make, seven wickets in hand, the match seemed "D" Company's for the taking. But 2/Lieut. Coombe and Cpl. Pettifor bowled to such purpose that a fair wicket certainly was soon upset and only 26 more runs were added before the side were all out. Scores: "A" Company, 114 (Matthews 46, Sergt. Sims 4 for 40, 2/Lieut. Spiers 3 for 20); "D" Company, 106 (2/Lieut. Johnson 46, Cpl. Pettifor 6 for 40).

*Match 2.*—"C" Company, 51 (Hardie 17, Pankhurst 4 for 12); "H.Q." Company, 52 for 5 wickets (Harding 26 not out).

*Match 3.*—"A" Company, 87 (2/Lieut. Bosanquet 38, Turner 4 for 29); "B" Company, 91 (Newman 25).

*Final.*

*Match 4.*—"H.Q." Company won the final against "B" Company—a result not without precedent in the history of Regimental cricket—by 3 wickets.

"B" Company's batting broke down completely before the accurate bowling of R.S.M. Hartridge. With such respect was he treated that his 9 overs cost but 10 runs—Verity himself might well have been proud of such an analysis—and the side made the lowest total of the series.

"H.Q." Company, hesitating to take so small a score seriously, nearly failed, and would perhaps have done if the R.S.M., all powerful, had not stopped the rot, and with a few strokes of his bat scattered the opposition's bowling to the four corners of the field. Scores: "B" Company, 51 (Cpl. Grant 21, R.S.M. Hartridge 3 for 10); "H.Q." Company, 53 for 7 wickets (R.S.M. Hartridge 17 not out).

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**ATHLETICS.**

During the past year a great improvement has been made in the surface of the running track. The track now has a hard earthy surface, which is an improvement over last year's grass track.

*Individual Sports.*

The individual sports were held on 28th February and 1st and 2nd March, 1938. The outstanding races were the 440 Yards and the One Mile. The former was won by Pte. 37 Paice in 53 1-5th seconds, and the latter by Lieut. A. R. C. Mott in 4 minutes 54 seconds.

The Individual Athletic Cup was won by Pte. Massey (who was runner-up last year) with 51½ points. He is to be congratulated on his very high performance. He had no serious rival except Sergt. Berry and Pte. Simmons, who obtained 33 points each, tying for second place. Pte. K. Hall was fourth with 28 points.

The following were the results:—

100 Yards.—1, Pte. Simmons, "A" Company; 2, Sergt. Berry, "A" Company; 3, Pte. Massey, "C" Company. Time: 10 2-5 sec.

100 Yards (Boys).—1, Boy Bennett, "H.Q." Company; 2, Boy Mew, "H.Q." Company. Time: 11 3-5th sec.

220 Yards.—1, Pte. Massey, "C" Company; 2, Pte. Simmons, "A" Company; 3, 2/Lieut. A. T. Stephenson, "C" Company. Time: 24 2-5 sec.

220 Yards (Boys).—1, Boy Bennett, "H.Q." Company; 2, Boy Mew, "H.Q." Company. Time: 27 sec.

440 Yards.—1, Pte. 37 Paice, "B" Company; 2, Pte. Massey, "C" Company; 3, Pte. 29 Paice, "B" Company. Time: 53 1-5 sec.

880 Yards.—1, Pte. Edge, "H.Q." Company; 2, Pte. 29 Paice, "B" Company; 3, Pte. K. Hall, "A" Company. Time: 2 min. 14 2-5th sec.

One Mile.—1, Lieut. A. R. C. Mott, "A" Company; 2, L./Cpl. Kemp; "D" Company; 3, Pte. K. Hall, "A" Company. Time: 4 min. 54 sec.

Three Miles.—1, Pte. K. Hall, "A" Company; 2, Lieut. A. R. C. Mott, "A" Company; 3, L./Cpl. Kemp, "D" Company. Time: 16 min. 51 4-5th sec.

120 Yards Hurdles.—1, Pte. Massey, "C" Company; 2, Pte. A. Rose, "H.Q." Company; 3, Sergt. Berry, "A" Company. Time: 17 2-5th sec.

High Jump.—1, 2/Lieut. R. A. D. Spiers, "D" Company, and Pte. Massey, "C" Company, tie; 3, Pte. Good, "A" Company. Height: 5 ft. 5 in.

High Jump (Boys).—1, Boy Mew; 2, Boy Bennett. Height: 4 ft. 6 in.

Long Jump.—1, Sergt. Berry, "A" Company; 2, L./Cpl. Brown, "D" Company; 3, Pte. Massey, "C" Company. Distance: 19 ft. 1 in.

Long Jump (Boys).—1, Boy Mew; 2, Boy Nash. Distance: 15 ft. 6½ in.

Pole Vault.—1, D./Major Wilson, "H.Q." Company; 2, L./Cpl. Major, "C" Company; 3, 2/Lieut. R. W. M. Hartland-Mahon, "D" Company. Height: 8 ft. 4 in.

Throwing the Javelin.—1, Pte. Francis, "C" Company; 2, Pte. Smith, "D" Company; 3, L./Cpl. Major, "C" Company. Distance: 129 ft. 11 in.

Throwing the Discus.—1, L./Cpl. Biggs, "A" Company; 2, L./Cpl. Nicholls, "H.Q." Company; 3, L./Cpl. Prevett, "A" Company. Distance: 106 ft. 6 in.

Throwing the Hammer.—1, L./Cpl. Major, "C" Company; 2, L./Cpl. Prevett, "A" Company; 3, A./L./Cpl. Slater, "C" Company. Distance: 70 ft. 10½ in.

Putting the Shot.—1, L./Cpl. Jacocks, "A" Company; 2, L./Cpl. Major, "C" Company; 3, L./Cpl. Biggs, "A" Company. Distance: 34 ft. 11 in.

Results of Individual Athletic Cup: Winner, Pte. Massey, "C" Company, 51½ points; 2, Sergt. Berry, "A" Company, and Pte. Simmons, "A" Company, 33 points (tie); 3, Pte. K. Hall, "A" Company, 28 points.

*Inter-Company Athletic Meeting.*

The Inter-Company Athletic Meeting was held on 11th and 12th March, 1938. A composite Company was standing to in the city during the period, but all companies managed to have their representatives available, although the number of spectators was considerably reduced. The meeting was a very close contest between "A" Company and Headquarter Company.

Brigadier and Mrs. G. N. Ford attended the meeting on the second day, and Mrs. Ford kindly consented to give away the prizes.

The final points were as follows: "A" Company, 84 points; "H.Q." Company, 83½ points; "D" Company, 54 points; "C" Company, 51½ points; "B" Company, 36 points.

The following cups were also presented:—

4 x 110 Yards Challenge Cup: "A" Company.

4 x 220 Yards Challenge Cup: "H.Q." Company.

4 x 440 Yards Challenge Cup: "H.Q." Company.

4 x 880 Yards Challenge Cup: "D" Company.

*Athletic Standards.*

*Inter-Platoon Athletic Standards Competition.*—The Inter-Platoon Standards were run on a new system this year. Six days were allotted for standards, which were run under Battalion arrangements (except for "B" Company, who were in the Fort). In the following week two days were allotted, in which any men unable to run previously, due to sickness, were allowed to compete. Only men who were sick throughout the whole period were counted as casualties.

No. 15 Platoon, "D" Company, is to be congratulated on obtaining a figure of merit of 100 per cent., and "H.Q." Company on obtaining the highest Company aggregate.

The following are the percentage of passes obtained by platoons throughout the Battalion.

## FINAL POSITIONS OF PLATOONS IN ATHLETIC STANDARDS COMPETITION.

Platoon.	Strength.	Number of Standards to Complete.	Number of Standards Completed.	Per-centage.	Position of Merit.
No. 15 Platoon ...	...	23	92	100	1st
No. 11 Platoon ...	...	31	124	98.39	2nd
Administrative Platoon	50	200	195	97.50	3rd
Drums Platoon ...	47	188	180	95.74	4th
No. 8 Platoon ...	29	116	111	95.68	5th
No. 6 Platoon ...	33	132	125	94.69	6th
No. 5 Platoon ...	22	88	83	94.32	7th
Band Platoon ...	29	116	106	94.28	8th
Signal Platoon ...	39	156	144	92.31	9th
No. 4 Platoon ...	27	108	99	91.66	10th
No. 13 Platoon ...	32	128	116	90.62	11th
No. 1 Platoon ...	31	124	112	90.32	12th
No. 9 Platoon ...	23	92	83	90.21	13th
No. 14 Platoon ...	28	112	101	90.18	14th
No. 10 Platoon ...	31	124	110	88.71	15th
No. 7 Platoon ...	26	104	92	88.46	16th
No. 16 Platoon ...	29	116	105	83.61	17th
No. 3 Platoon ...	33	132	108	81.81	18th
No. 12 Platoon ...	32	128	97	75.78	19th
No. 2 Platoon ...	31	124	89	71.77	20th

*Lucknow District Sports, 1938.*

Five battalions entered teams for the District Sports, which were contested at Lucknow on 18th and 19th March, 1938.

The Royal Berkshire Regiment, who were champions of all Egypt, and arrived in Lucknow recently, produced a well-trained team which won ten out of the fourteen events, we could hardly hope to beat them, and they emerged victors by 26½ points. However, the Queen's team gave a very creditable account of themselves, and in a close struggle for second place we finished seven points ahead of The Buffs and greater distances ahead of the other two regiments. Considering that the Inter-Company Sports were only a week before those at Lucknow, and that the team had only two good days' training at Allahabad the result is satisfactory.

The events were decided between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., and although the early part of the afternoon was free it was very difficult to produce a good performance when the shade temperature was little short of 100 degrees. None of our athletes produced his very best form, or we should have had more individual winners. As it was L./Cpl. Jacocks won the Shot Putt with 35 ft. 9½ in., and 2/Lieut. R. A. D. Spiers was equal second in the High Jump. Our athletes were equal first in the latter event, and the only event that they won outright was the 480 Yards Hurdles Relay, when each of our four ran faster than usual and Pte. Massey won with considerable ease. The 4 x 440 Yards Relay was the most exciting race, as four

## 1ST BATTALION.



"EMPLOYED GROUP" CRICKET TEAM, WINNERS INTER-PLATOON CUP, 1937-38.  
Standing—Pte. Hughes, Pte. Hanson, L./Cpl. Carter, W.O.1 Bundred, Pte. Bingham, Pte. H. Harding, Pte. Whitney, Sitting—L./Cpl. Morgan, Sergt. Whittle, R.S.M. Hartridge, Major B. C. Haggard, Lieut. J. R. Terry, Sergt. Roadnight (capt.), Sergt. Ellkins.



BATTALION WINNING TEAM, ALL INDIA GWALIOR AMBULANCE CHALLENGE SHIELD.

Team—Cpl. Oliver (capt.), Cpl. Whitewood, L./Cpl. Benson, L./Cpl. Johnson. Reserve, L./Cpl. Watkinson.

of the five teams led at different times. At the end of each leg we were just in the lead on the inside berth, but the taking over was bad and we must have lost at least ten yards altogether on this. Pte. Paice, our fourth runner, chased the Berkshire man all round the lap and, starting his very strong finish at the end of the back straight, overtook his man on the corner in his stride, but his opponent fought back, and after a neck-and-neck struggle down the home straight was only beaten by about a foot.

Our performance in the Sports showed that our athletes were very keen, and with longer training they would certainly have not let the Berkshires win so easily if they had won at all. If the Company Sports could be decided in future before Battalion Training, and the six weeks after camp devoted to intensive training, there is no doubt that we could produce a really first-class team.

#### *Boxing.*

(a) *The Novices Boxing Competition* was held in November, 1937, and was productive of some good fights. The most outstanding feature of this competition, however, was the fact that the majority of competitors were not fit. In consequence the first two rounds of the fights were usually the best, the two contestants being too exhausted in the third round to make a really strenuous effort.

However, there were a good number of entries, and many of the fights were quite exciting.

Perhaps the best fight of the series was that between L./Cpl. Ferminger ("S." Company) and Pte. Myall ("H.Q." Company) in the final of the welter-weights. Pte. Myall had knocked out his opponents in the two previous series, but was not quite good enough for L./Cpl. Ferminger, who was very fast, and was never distressed during the bout.

The results were:—

*Bantam-weight.*—Winner: Pte. Mathews, "D" Company. Runner-up: Pte. Stedman, "A" Company.

*Feather-weight.*—Winner: Pte. Moye, "A" Company. Runner-up: Pte. Gillard, "B" Company.

*Light-weight.*—Winner: Pte. Stubberfield, "H.Q." Company. Runner-up: Pte. Chapman, "A" Company.

*Welter-weight.*—Winner: L./Cpl. Ferminger, "A" Company. Runner-up: Pte. Myall, "B" Company.

*Middle-weight.*—Winner: Pte. James, "C" Company. Runner-up: L./Cpl. Lythgo, "D" Company.

*Light Heavy-weight.*—Winner: L./Cpl. Bolton, "H.Q." Company. Runner-up: Pte. Jones, "C" Company.

*Best Loser.*—Cpl. Finnegan, "H.Q." Company.

(b) *Inter-Company Boxing.* On 3rd, 4th and 8th January, 1938, the Competitions for the Inter-Company Boxing Cup, and the Battalion Individual Championships were run concurrently. The Boys' Competition was also fought during this meeting. The best fight of this competition, although it finished in the second round, was that between Sergt. Spence, "B" Company, and Pte. Constable, "A" Company.

It was a really hard-hitting, though skilful, contest. At the end of the first round the points for each were about equal, but in the second round Sergt. Spence knocked his man out with a hard punch to the jaw.

However, it subsequently appeared that Pte. Constable had broken Sergt. Spence's jaw in the first round, which unfortunately made it impossible for the latter to carry on in the competition.

The Inter-Company Boxing Competition resulted in a win for "D" Company by a comfortable margin of points, the final points being: "D" Company, 52 points; "B" Company, 46 points; "A" Company, 32 points; "C" Company, 19 points; "H.Q." Company, 16 points.

## (c) Boys' Competition.

*Feather-weight*.—Winner: Boy McConnell, "H.Q." Company. Runner-up: Boy Richards, "H.Q." Company.

*Light-weight*.—Winner: Boy. Bennett, "H.Q." Company. Runner-up: Boy Wells, "H.Q." Company.

*Welter-weight*.—Winner: Boy Lynn, "H.Q." Company. Runner-up: Boy Nash, "H.Q." Company.

## (d) Individual Championships.

*Bantam-weight*.—Winner: Pte. Brand, "C" Company. Runner-up: Pte. Kent, "B" Company.

*Feather-weight*.—Winner: Pte. McGaughy, "D" Company. Runner-up: Pte. Gillard, "B" Company.

*Light-weight*.—Winner: L./Cpl. Ferminger, "A" Company. Runner-up: Pte. Hanson, "H.Q." Company.

*Welter-weight*.—Winner, Pte. O'Sullivan, "D" Company. Runner-up: Sergt. Spence, "B" Company.

*Middle-weight*.—Winner: Pte. Swain, "D" Company. Runner-up: L./Cpl. Saggs "D" Company.

*Light Heavy-weight*.—Winner: Pte. Green, "C" Company. Runner-up: L./Cpl. Bolton, "H.Q." Company.

*Heavy-weight*.—Winner: L./Cpl. Prevett, "A" Company. Runner-up: Pte. Slater, "C" Company.

*Best Loser*.—Pte. Savage, "B" Company.

## (e) Boxing at Lucknow.

First Round. Army and R.A.F. Inter-Unit Team Championships, 1938. 1st Bn. The Queen's Royal Regiment v. 14th/20th King's Hussars.

*Bantam-weight*.—Nil.

*Feather-weight*.—Pte. Titchener (Queen's) v. Tpr. Edwards (14th/20th). The result of this match was never in doubt. Titchener won on points against a weaker and less experienced boxer. Titchener timed his blows well and his foot-work was good.

*Light-weight*.—1st String: L./Cpl. Ferminger (Queen's) v. Tpr. Leese (14th/20th). L./Cpl. Ferminger was unlucky to be up against an opponent who was taller and had a much longer reach than himself. He continually tried to close, but was kept away by good use of the left. Nevertheless he managed to score some telling blows to the body. A good fight. 2nd String: Pte. Hanson (Queen's) v. Tpr. Wood (14th/20th). Hanson was a very good loser and up against a former runner-up in Army boxing. In the first round he was floored several times but continued to fight back; in the last round his opponent hit him hard in the throat and temporarily stopped his breathing. The fight was stopped and the loser was congratulated on an excellent performance. 3rd String: Pte. Wood (Queen's) v. Tpr. Davies (14th/20th). In this fight it appeared that Wood was suffering from insufficient training. The first two rounds were very even, but in the last round the superior stamina of his opponent enabled him to force the pace and win the round quite easily, thus gaining the verdict.

*Welter-weight*.—1st String: Pte. O'Sullivan (Queen's) v. Tpr. Gabbitas (14th/20th). An extremely good hard-hitting fight. O'Sullivan's opponent was perhaps slightly faster and timed his punches better, but there was very little between the two. Both boxers took tremendous punishment and it was owing to his opponent's speed that O'Sullivan lost the verdict. 2nd String: Pte. Constable (Queen's) v. Tpr. Cunningham (14th/20th). In this fight both very nearly fought to a standstill. Constable was timing his punches well and hitting hard. This was a very close fight, but Constable well deserved the decision. 3rd

String: Pte. Baker (Queen's) v. Tpr. Jarvie (14th/20th). Again in this fight the Queen's representative showed signs of insufficient training. The first two rounds were very equal but in the last round Baker's opponent fought back, and owing to being fitter was able to last the extra two minutes of hard fighting. Baker lost this fight on points.

*Middle-weight*.—1st String: Pte. Swain (Queen's) v. Tpr. Charles (14th/20th). This was a good fight. Swain's superior ringcraft won him the decision, but the fight was rather spoilt by the competitors having to be checked too often for holding. 2nd String: Pte. Savage (Queen's) v. Tpr. Volley (14th/20th). Savage tried at once to close and in-fight, but his opponent kept him off by excellent straight lefts. Savage scored some good blows to the body, but the superior skill of his opponent wore him down, and he lost the fight on points.

*Heavy-weight*.—L./Cpl. Prevett (Queen's) v. Tpr. Hein (14th/20th). This fight lasted one round, in which honours were fairly even, but Prevett had eventually to retire owing to eye trouble.

## (f) The Army and R.A.F. Individual Boxing Championships. (1937-38—India).

The Battalion produced entries for the first time for these championships, in November, 1937. Only two of our entries got through to the second series: L./Cpl. Cooper, "B" Company, and Pte. Titchener, "H.Q." Company. The latter got into the final of his weight and gave a very good account of himself, being unlucky to be beaten. All the Queen's entries, however, fought very pluckily, a fact which was commented on by several witnesses, and next year should see a greater interest taken in the efforts of our entries, and we hope that the latter will give even a better account of themselves than this year.

Entries for Individual Championships were as follows: Pte. Wood, "B" Company; Pte. Clay, "C" Company; Pte. Titchener, "H.Q." Company; Pte. Swain, "D" Company; L./Cpl. Cooper, "B" Company; Pte. 39 Green, "C" Company.

## Weapon Training.

Notes on the 1937-38 Weapon Training year appeared in the November edition of the JOURNAL. Details of Company averages, etc., which were not included, are shown overleaf.

Since last October the A.R.A. meeting at Meerut has taken place. Although organized for the Indian Army, it does not receive the support that it should from Indian units. Looking down the list of prizewinners during the past few years, it is seen that competitions are repeatedly won by the same regiment. This is only due to lack of entries. We had always intended entering when stationed near enough to Meerut, so accordingly eight brave officers and N.C.O.s. acted as pioneers this year.

The shooting was as good as could be expected under the circumstances, and the main object, i.e., to pick up hints and to gain experience, was achieved. All the tips brought back are most useful and, incidentally, essential, if we are to succeed in competition shooting.

Sergt. Wells is to be congratulated on getting into the Army Hundred. It is understood that one great shot forgot to do up his pouch, lost ten rounds and also the blue riband he won last year. Tch! Tch! Bad luck, considering he had been practising eleven months.

The Battalion Rifle Meeting, which Major Bolton has organized, is taking place at the end of the month. It is regretted that these notes have to go in without any results, but they will be shown in the next number. Four days are being allowed to fire the fourteen matches which comprise the programme. A new feature is the Gattie Inter-Platoon Shield and an All-Station Falling-Plate Competition. Falling-plate matches are always most exciting, and entries from the Royal Garhwal Rifles, the Gunners and the Cavalry make it better still.

## 1ST BATTALION

The Army in India has just been issued with the new Rifle and L.M.G. Course. Practising at representations of men who in some cases will not stand still to be fired at is a great change.

Photographs of the best Company shots appear in this number. The shooting this year has definitely improved, as may be seen by some of the Company averages and highest scores shown below. "One cannot take too much interest in shooting," said a man as he blackened his sights to have his photograph taken. It is regretted that the best Battalion Shot cannot appear, but the Casuals have not finished firing yet, and a very likely winner is amongst them.

The following are Company averages for the past two Weapon Training years:

	1936-37		1937-38	
	Rifle	L.M.G.	Rifle	L.M.G.
"H.Q." Company	... 70.7	—	70.17	—
"A" Company	... M.G.	M.G.	M.G.	M.G.
"B" Company	... 72.2	49.1	72.7	63.0
"C" Company	... —	—	—	—
"D" Company	... —	—	85.3	85.9

It can be seen that "D" Company is quite easily the best shooting Company this year.

The local A.F.I. meeting took place in February. The *Telegraph Cup* is divided into Individual and Team competitions: Cpl. Bradfield was second in the former and "A" Company second in the latter.

The personnel of the A.F.I. (Auxiliary Forces, India) have plenty of practice at shooting and have reached quite a high standard.

That is all of interest as far as shooting is concerned.

## A Unique Sporting Achievement.

At present, serving with the 1st Bn. The Queen's Royal Regiment, are the Harding Brothers: 6084235 Pte. H. Harding, 6085494 Pte. A. Harding, 6085638 Pte. A. Harding, and 6087107 Pte. S. Harding.

All the above have represented either the Depot, 1st and 2nd Battalion at some branch of sport, and it is probably a unique sporting achievement in the Regiment.

The following are their sporting achievements during the period of their service with the Colours:—

6084235 Pte. H. Harding, Administrative Platoon.—Football: Depot, 2nd Bn., "H.Q." Company (1st Bn.). Hockey: 1st Bn. Cricket: 2nd Bn., "H.Q." Company (1st Bn.).

6087107 Pte. S. Harding, "B" Company.—Football: Depot, 2nd Bn., "B" Company (1st Bn.). Cricket: Depot, 2nd Bn., "B" Company (1st Bn.).

6085494 Pte. A. Harding, Signal Platoon.—Football: 1st and 2nd Bns. Hockey: "H.Q." Company (1st Bn.). Cricket: Depot, 1st and 2nd Bns.

6085638 Pte. A. Harding, "D" Company.—Football: Depot, 1st and 2nd Bns. Hockey: "D" Company (1st Bn.), "A" Company (2nd Bn.). Cricket: Depot, 2nd Bn., "D" Company (1st Bn.).

## GWALIOR CHALLENGE SHIELD.

The Battalion entered a team from the Band to compete for the Gwalior Challenge Shield for Regular Units of the Army in India. The competitions were held at Delhi under the auspices of the St. John Ambulance Association. There were four entries and the Battalion team won the shield which is accompanied by a certificate for each member of the team. A photograph of the team will be found elsewhere in this number of the JOURNAL.

Team.—Cpls. Oliver (captain) and Whitewood; L./Cpls. Benson, Johnson and Watkinson (reserve).

## 1ST BATTALION.



"D" COMPANY BOXING TEAM, WINNERS INTER-COMPANY CUP, 1937-38.

Standing—Pte. H. Saggs. Pte. C. Arkle. Pte. H. Bailey.  
Sitting—Pte. D. O'Sullivan. Pte. R. Swain. Major E. F. Bolton. 2/Lieut. K. W. MacCutchan. Pte. R. McCaughey.  
Inset in circle—Pte. A. Pawson.



A UNIQUE SPORTING ACHIEVEMENT: THE FOUR BROTHERS HARDING.

## HISTORY OF THE FORT AT ALLAHABAD

By CAPT. S. M. ZAMIN ALI, OF ALLAHABAD UNIVERSITY.

THE massive structure of the Fort has a very interesting history behind it. Akbar, the greatest of all Moghul Emperors, after gaining a victory near Kara in 1567, in spite of the terrible heat of summer, marched in a single day to Prayag (now known as Allahabad) where he rested two days before advancing to Benares. It was on this occasion that he first conceived the idea of building a Fort at a very important strategic point. To the east of the city of Prayag, which was situated at the confluence of the Ganges and the Jumna, there was a large sandy plain. In the midst of this plain there stood a Brahmanical temple. Before the principal room of this temple there was a large Banian tree with wide spreading branches, which was said to be the abode of a man-eating demon. The tree was surrounded with human bones, the remains of those who had sacrificed their lives before the temple, a practice which had been observed from time immemorial. Badaoni, the famous historian, states: "In 1575 when Akbar came by boat from Agra to Prayag, he laid the foundations of an Imperial city which he called Ilahabas" (Allahabad). "The devotees," he writes, "consider this a holy place and with the object of obtaining the rewards which are promised in their creed, of which transmigration is one of the most prominent features, they submit themselves to all kinds of tortures. Some place their brainless heads under saws, others split their deceitful tongues in two, others cast themselves down into the deep river from the top of a high tree." On this plain the Fort was built which, according to General Cunningham's statement, was completed in the twenty-first year of Akbar's reign, i.e., near about A.D. 1575.

After the completion of the Fort, Allahabad became the capital of the province and formed the residence of a "Subadar" or governor, while the command of the Fort was entrusted to a "Faujdar" or commandant. In 1597 Akbar's son, Daniel, was deputed to the command of the province, but two years later his place was taken by another son, Salim (afterwards known as Jahangir) who remained in possession till his accession to the throne.

Allahabad continued under Moghul governors (and Faujdars) till about the beginning of the eighteenth century. Mirza Abdus Subhan, Kamal Khan, Saiyid Salabat Khan, Saiyid Qasim, Khan Dauran and Saiyid Abdulla Khan had been, one after the other, holding the post of Faujdar from 1605 to 1715, when one, Chhabila Ram, a Nagar Brahman, was appointed governor of Allahabad by Emperor Jahandar Shah. He put the Fort in charge of his nephew, Girdhar, who, after securing possession of Allahabad, raised the standard of revolt. By diplomacy and intrigue he made himself secure in his position for a time. Saiyid Husain Ali advanced from Agra with the result that a treaty was entered into between the parties by which the Fort was made over to the said Saiyid, who appointed Ahmad Khan as governor of Allahabad in 1720. In 1721 the governorship of Allahabad was entrusted to Muhammad Khan by Emperor Muhammad Shah. In 1736 he was succeeded by Surbuland Khan, who was succeeded by Amir Khan in 1739.

In 1736 the Mahrattas demanded the sacred cities of Muttra, Allahabad and Benares, and in 1739 Raghuji Bhonsla reached Allahabad, killed Shuja Khan, the deputy-governor, and carried off an immense amount of plunder from the city. In 1742 the Mahratta Chief again threatened Allahabad and it was agreed upon between the parties that the revenues of Allahabad should be made over to Balaji.

In 1743 the Province of Allahabad, after the death of Amir Khan, was assigned to Safdar Jang, the Nawab Wazir of Oudh who deputed, as his Governor, Diwan

Nawal Rai, a Kayesth who had been long in his service. He incurred the displeasure of the Nawab Wazir by perpetrating inhuman atrocities. In 1750 Safdar Jung gave Allahabad to his nephew, Muhammad Qui Khan, who remained in charge for several years. In 1758, Shuja-ud-daula, the Nawab Wazir of Oudh, seized the entire province of Allahabad. In 1760, Mir Qazim Ali Khan was appointed as Governor of Allahabad.

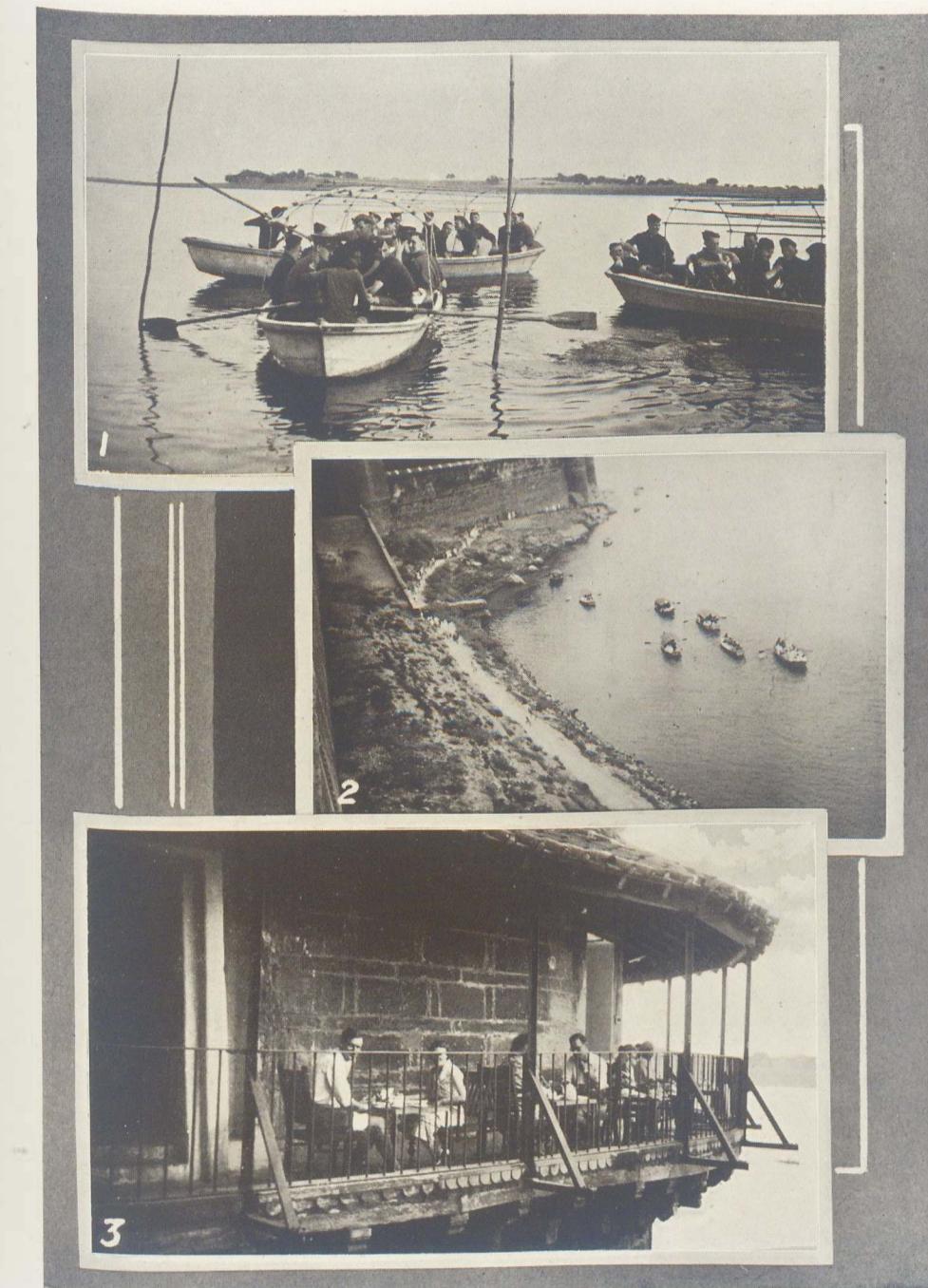
In 1764 the Nawab Wazir of Oudh came into collision with the East India Company and advanced to Benares to meet the English. After a battle which lasted for three days the Nawab Wazir fell back on Allahabad and collected an army there. In the meantime the English had entered into an alliance with the Emperor of Delhi, for whose cause the Nawab was fighting. A treaty was concluded between the Nawab Wazir of Oudh and the English Company, by which the Allahabad district, Kara and Kora were taken away from the kingdom of Oudh and made over to Emperor Shah Alam. In 1767 Shuja-ud-daula formally resigned the Allahabad Fort to the Company in exchange for Chunar. The English took possession of the Fort at Allahabad where they erected a factory. Shah Alam resided in Khusru Bagh, at Allahabad, till 1771. In 1773 he sold the district of Allahabad, Kara and Kora to Shuja-ud-daula for fifty lacs. Although the Fort of Allahabad was handed over the Nawab Wazir by virtue of the sale, yet the garrison still consisted of Company's troops under British officers. In 1775, on the death of Shuja-ud-daula, a treaty was concluded between his son, Asaf-ud-daula, and the East India Company by which the former was confirmed in the possession of the districts of Kara and Allahabad on condition of making certain annual payments to the English. These payments were never regularly made, and a treaty was entered into between Saadat Ali Khan and the Company in 1801, during the Governor Generalship of Marquess of Wellesley, by which the Allahabad district finally passed into the possession of the English Company in liquidation of the debt which had accrued on account of the troops maintained by the Company at the charge of the Nawab Wazir.

After this cession, Allahabad at once became an important military station and the headquarters of a civil district. It also formed the base of operations which added several cities of Upper India to the domains of the East India Company.

The great Fort of Allahabad which, in appearance, well rivalled that of Agra, was, on British occupation, converted into a modern stronghold after the school of Vauban, which took about thirty-eight years. It was, originally, an irregular triangle, in shape, surrounded by a lofty embattled wall of red sandstone, having three magnificent gateways with high flanking towers—one opening on the Ganges and the other on the Jumna, while the main gateway on the land side was protected by a deep ditch and a wide outer work. Inside there were four palaces with courts and orchards of beautiful flowers and fruit trees.

The towers were pruned down. An outer ditch was added. The upper storeys of the main gateway were pulled down, leaving the main dome, the interior of which still bears traces of its former beauty. Within the Fort, large barracks were erected and residential quarters were built. The old palace of the governors was converted into an arsenal. The central building—a fine specimen of Moghul architecture—was covered in with stucco, but was, recently, handed over to the archaeological Department of the Government of India.

The celebrated Patalpuri temple—the only relic of old Prayag—is none the less interesting. It is situated close to the northern wall of the arsenal and its peculiarity lies in the fact that it is now underground as the result of the building of the Fort which necessitated the raising of the interior level. The condition of the temple before the Fort was built has already been described. Till recently, the temple was completely dark and only a single skylight was provided in the narrow passage by which the shrine was approached. In January, 1906, some of the most influential Hindus of Allahabad presented a memorial to the Government with the



1. A RIVER-CROSSING ON THE JUMNA.  
2. VIEW FROM THE FORT SHOWING PILGRIMS GOING DOWN THE RIVER  
TO BATHE.  
3. OFFICERS' MESS IN THE FORT.

object of removing the unsatisfactory state of affairs. The priests vigorously protested, for there can be no doubt that the old conditions only tended to their gain; but the matter was taken up with energy, and before Kumbh Fair began the temple was provided with light and ventilation by openings in the roof and a new stairway. All round the walls of the temple are images of Mahadeo, Ganesh, Agni and other deities. The "undecaying banian tree" has decayed by the lapse of time and only two small trunks of it, partly covered with bronze plate, are being shown to the devotees who make their offerings to it. The fact that Akbar left the temple untouched while building the Fort is a striking example of his religious toleration.

The other object of interest in the Fort is the well-known Asoka's pillar. It is a single shaft of polished sandstone, 35 ft. in length with a diameter of about 3 ft. at the base and 2 ft. at the top. The capital was surmounted with the statue of a lion which had disappeared many years ago. It was erected by Asoka, at Kosambhi in 232 B.C. It contains the Edicts of Asoka and Samudra Gupta. There is an inscription in Persian character, also, which gives the date of accession of Jahangir and his lineage. There are also other minor inscriptions. It seems that some time after the reign of Asoka the pillar was thrown down, but it was erected again by Samudra Gupta. It was again pulled down and was re-erected in the time of Firoz Tughlaq, only for a short period. Jahangir placed it in the middle of the Fort, where it remained till it was pulled down by General Kyd in 1798, and it was finally set up in its present position in 1838.

Since the time the Fort came in possession of the Company nothing of importance occurred till the great Rebellion of 1857. When the news of the outbreak of mutiny at Meerut reached Allahabad on 12th May there were no European troops of any kind in the place. The Cantonment was occupied by the 6th Native Infantry, which also had a detachment in the Fort. The excitement, both among the troops and in the city, caused much anxiety to the civil as well as the military authorities. The need for defensive measure became more pressing as the news of the progress of the rising came in. On 19th May two troops of the 3rd Oudh Irregulars came from Partabgarh and were detailed for the protection of treasury and jail. A few days later sixty invalid European artillerymen came from Chunar, and were lodged in the Fort.

On 3rd June a telegraphic message was received from Sir Henry Lawrence advising him not to trust the Sikhs. On the 4th news came of the Benares mutiny and its repression by Colonel Neill with the alarming intelligence that the mutineers were marching on Allahabad. The 6th Native Infantry seemed to be affected by the prevalent religious scruples against the use of greased cartridges.

On 6th June the Infantry were paraded in the afternoon, and a letter from the Governor General thanking the Corps for its loyalty was read to the men, whose behaviour did not suggest any anxiety. But that very evening they broke into open mutiny. The company at Daraganj mutineed and dragged off the guns. Their officer, Lieut. Harward, galloped to obtain help from the Irregulars, but Lieut. Alexander had some difficulty in getting out his men, and when the troops came up with the mutineers, only three men followed their leader (Alexander), who was instantly shot. Harward escaped with his life but was unable to warn his comrades in the cantonment who were then at dinner in the mess-house. The number of officers had been recently increased by the arrival of a party of young cadets who were attached to the sixth regiment. Without any sense of ills to come, old and young took their places at the dinner-table in perfect serenity of mind. Hearing the peal of the gun and the shots, Col. Simpson, accompanied by Lieut. Currie, left the Mess and rode towards the treasury to save it, but was immediately fired on from all sides. Seeing that the case was hopeless he galloped towards the Fort. A musket-ball took effect on his horse, but the Colonel was still unhurt save by a blow on the arm from a spent shot. The last dying efforts of

his charger landed him safely within the walls of the Fort, covered with the blood of the noble animal that had borne him. Meanwhile, others had fallen a prey to the mutineers. Lieut. Currie escaped the fire. Capt. Gadon and Lieut. Hicks, with two cadets (Pearson and Woodgate) also escaped, but Plunkett, Adjutant Steward, Quartermaster Hames, Pringle and Munro, were shot down on parade. Fort Adjutant Birch and Lieut. Innes were also killed, and eight of the unposted boy-ensigns were murdered. The young cadets were coming out of the Mess when seven of them were slaughtered, but one, Mr. Cheek, a boy of sixteen, fled away with his wound and hid himself in a ravine. Having supported himself for some days by water from a brook, he was discovered and taken prisoner by the insurgents. He was afterwards rescued, but died on 16th June, 1857.

The city was in a state of confusion. The railway works and the telegraph wires were destroyed. The prisoners were liberated; Europeans as well as Indians were killed. There was no word but murder and loot throughout the city. Law and authority were prostrate in the dust. The treasure containing about thirty lakhs (3,000,000) of rupees was seized by the sepoys who, after a resolution to carry the whole to the King of Delhi soon changed their minds and divided it, many of them going off laden with silver to their native villages, only to be robbed and murdered on the way. The state of affairs at the Fort were far from being satisfactory. The Sikhs were going in and out revelling in the pillage. The stores and go-downs of the companies had been plundered and beer, wines and spirits were as plentiful as water in the Fort. The Sikhs brought in large supplies of liquor of all kinds, drank what they could and sold the rest to the Europeans. The finest champagnes were sold for sixpence a bottle. So a reign of intoxication had commenced which subverted all military authority. But this state of things was not to be suffered much longer. The man who had saved Benares was now pushing on to the rescue of Allahabad. On 11th June, Col. Neill arrived with a party of his Regiment. As he entered the gates of the Fort the sentry exclaimed, "Thank God, sir, you will save us yet!" He had obtained entrance into the Fort not without great personal risk after reaching Allahabad by horse-dawk under the burning heats of June, with a disregard for self which well-nigh cost him his life. A quotation from his letter, which he wrote to his wife, will not be out of place:—

"I was quite done up by my dash from Benares and getting into the Fort in that noonday heat. I was so exhausted for days that I was obliged to lie down constantly. I could only sit up for a few minutes at a time, and when our attacks were going on I was obliged to sit down in the batteries and give my orders and directions . . . For several days I drank champagne and water to keep me up."

Col. Neill took about four days in overcoming the difficulties which lay in his path and in improving the condition of the troops. On 15th June he addressed himself earnestly to the work before him—the dispersal of the rebels and the restoration of order. He directed the guns of the Fort to open upon the villages. Sent Lieut. Harward with a party of volunteer riflemen on board steamer to operate from the river, marched a detachment of Fusiliers, Sikhs and Irregular cavalry with orders to penetrate into the country beyond. The aspect of affairs now began rapidly to improve. The Insurgent leaders sought safety in flight, deserted the guns which they had taken, and the prisoners whom they had captured at the commencement of the outbreak. On the 17th Mr. Court, the Magistrate, entered the city, proceeded to the Kotwali, restored his own authority and installed his own affairs. On the 18th, Col. Neill, after recovering Daraganj, Jhusi, Kydganj, Daryabad and other places, entered the city with his troops. No resistance was offered and the whole place seemed deserted. The fighting was over. The English were again masters, not merely of the Fort but of the recovered city and the European station from which they had been driven about two weeks before.

## 2nd BATTALION

(*Parkhurst, Isle of Wight*).

OUR forecast of a strenuous winter's training has now become an accomplished fact. A new experiment was tried this individual training season, of collecting the Battalion for training purposes into two companies, a Training Company and nucleus company called "X" Company. Every man in the Battalion has been through a month's course in the Training Company, and with good results, which are reflected in the improved efficiency of the Battalion. This echo of war-time procedure may seem strange, but with new weapons, new establishments and new tactical technique, this scheme has helped to overcome the shortage of good instructors and shortage of men. We are now rapidly increasing in strength; over a hundred reservists have joined us under the new recruiting regulations, the Depot is filling up, and things are certainly improving—which is fortunate considering the warlike atmosphere we live in these days. Life in the Army, with its constant reforms and its repeated changes, is certainly strenuous and eventful.

Our grateful thanks are due to Colonel R. G. Clarke, C.M.G., D.S.O., for the most generous and magnificent gift of a silver mace to the Drums. This has been made for us by Messrs. Potters, and is a most beautiful piece of work.

The Boys' football team has achieved glory by reaching the semi-final of the Boys' Army Cup. So near and yet so far, as, unfortunately, we lost to the Camerons by 2 goals to nil. Those of us who watched the match on the Central Ground at Aldershot were reminded of the 1st Battalion's triumph in 1925 when they won the Army Cup for the first time in the history of the Regiment.

Boxing has taken on a new lease of life, and both in Regimental competitions and in outside competitions a much improved standard has been shown. The fencing team survived the first round of the Army Cup, but, unfortunately, were drawn against The Bays, last year's winners of the cup, in the second round, and again lost to their conquerors of last year.

Our hunting enthusiasts have continued to support the Isle of Wight Fox-hounds who have had a record season and shown good sport. Hounds met in barracks at the end of the season and many people enjoyed the hospitality of the Officers' Mess.

We welcome the following officers who have joined us from Sandhurst: 2/Lieuts. G. G. Reinholt, E. A. W. Lockyer, J. D. Sparkes, C. E. W. Hull, M. L. Mansel and D. L. Lloyd Owen. Capt. G. M. Elias Morgan returned to us from the Staff College for a few short months, but has, unfortunately, left to take up a Staff appointment. Capt. Burton has also come and gone, being about to leave us for the Depot. There is no doubt that our island fastness has its drawbacks and if one does get a chance to get back to the mainland there are few people who turn down the opportunity.

The real piece of Stop Press news is the proposed move of the Battalion next trooping season, for a short tour of duty in Palestine. This rather important piece of information, strange to relate, was preceded by no wild rumours or, for that matter, any official information. The Orderly Room Staff, on opening A.C.I.'s, discovered this important fact under A.C.I. No. 100, dated 6th April, since when we have all felt rather breathless. There it was in print and could hardly be denied. It will certainly be the making of the Battalion, but there is no doubt that it comes as somewhat of a shock to those in the last few years of their service. Our married families are not to accompany us, which makes it difficult for those who are married and those who are proposing to get married. There are no official details as to when or where we are going.

*Sergeants' Mess.*

We have had a pleasant winter, thanks mainly to the noble efforts of C.S.M. Chapman and his committee who got things going with a swing. We have had a function nearly every week. It has been mainly a record of progressive whist drives, and dances, with a little "tombola" to raise the prize money. We have also had some good "benefit" nights when we have entertained our friends from the club and the local R.E.s.

The Christmas draw went off excellently and nearly everybody had a prize. We were sorry to miss Armr./S./Sergt. Hunter's efforts, he having been drafted abroad, and when it came to his tickets for the draw being raffled we noticed that they had been won by our bold President; likewise a hamper of "goodies" presented to the Mess was also won by the same President when it was raffled in aid of the Children's Party. It is not a bad thing being President really; and he deserved it.

We had a games night with the Officers, some of whom can throw a nifty arrow, and one or two of our stars "had their boots took off." One thing about it, if you lost you did not pay for the beer! Another enjoyable evening was spent with the Corporals, to whom we owe a return match.

The "star" fixture of the football season was our match against the Officers. Clr./Sergt. McCoy broke his leg; Mr. Kealy tried to head his way through the stalwart goalie's ribs, which caused C.S.M. Chapman acute discomfort; but what really mattered was that we won.

Talking of football, we can congratulate "Sammy" Sharp on his consistent good form in the Battalion Team. As captain he has certainly held the team together and done a lot towards getting them the place which they now hold in the leagues. One or two of us fancy we saw young "Darky" Hill out there "doing his stuff" in the Company League. He was running around like a two-year-old.

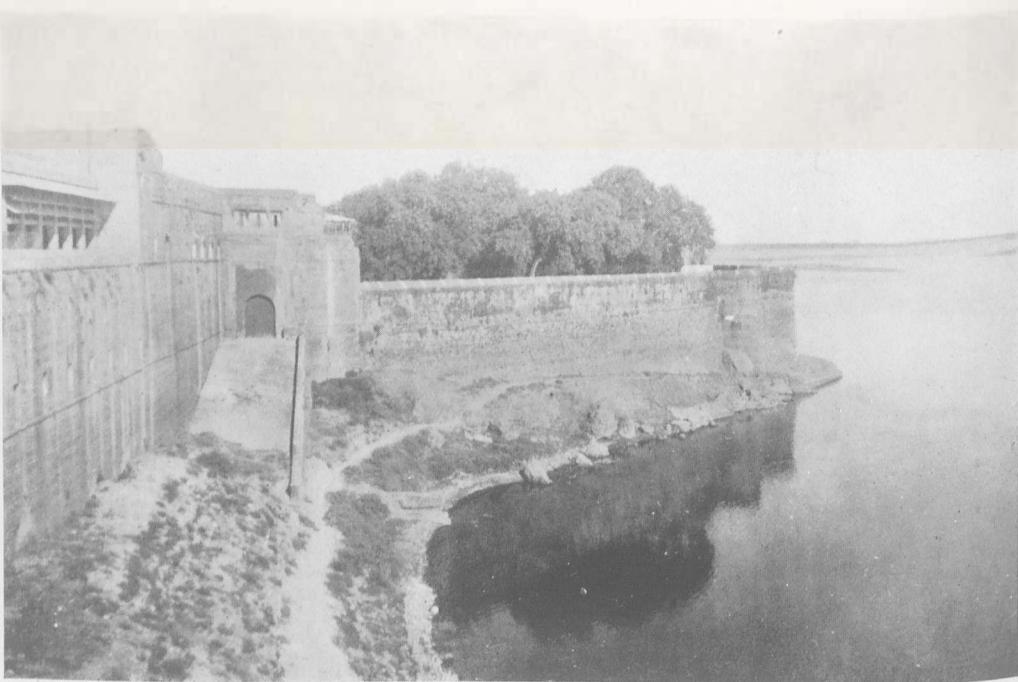
Since writing the last issue of notes there have been several changes in the Mess. C.S.M. Mercer went to civil life after nearly twenty years as a member of the Mess. C.S.M. Wallis went soon after. C.S.M. Bacon has gone to the 5th Battalion in relief of C.S.M. Huskinson, who has also retired. Clr./Sergt. Dennis went back to the 4th Battalion. Sergt. Hardwick has retired to a life in the country. Sergt. Read has gone to the 1st Battalion. Sergt. Elliott has left for civil life. Sergt. Whelan has gone to the 7th Battalion. L./Sergt. Blanks has gone on Vocational Training, and L./Sergt. Farrell went to the 1st Battalion. To all those who have left us we wish the best of luck and prosperity, and we hope they will always remember the happy times they spent with the 2nd Battalion Mess. New members comprise L./Sergts. Hind, Shorricks, Edwards and Snelling, to whom we give a hearty welcome. Congratulations are offered to the following members on their recent promotions: C.S.Ms. Picton, Webb and Kidson; Clr./Sergt. Sandys; and Sergts. Churcher, Brent, Large, Jones and Newman. We welcome Sergt. Bradley back to his old Mess, and also Sergt. Litton, from the 1st Battalion.

Early in June we hope to entertain some of H.M.S. *Excellent* over here, and would like to give an advance warning to those interested that it may not be possible to get strawberries and cream so early in the season.

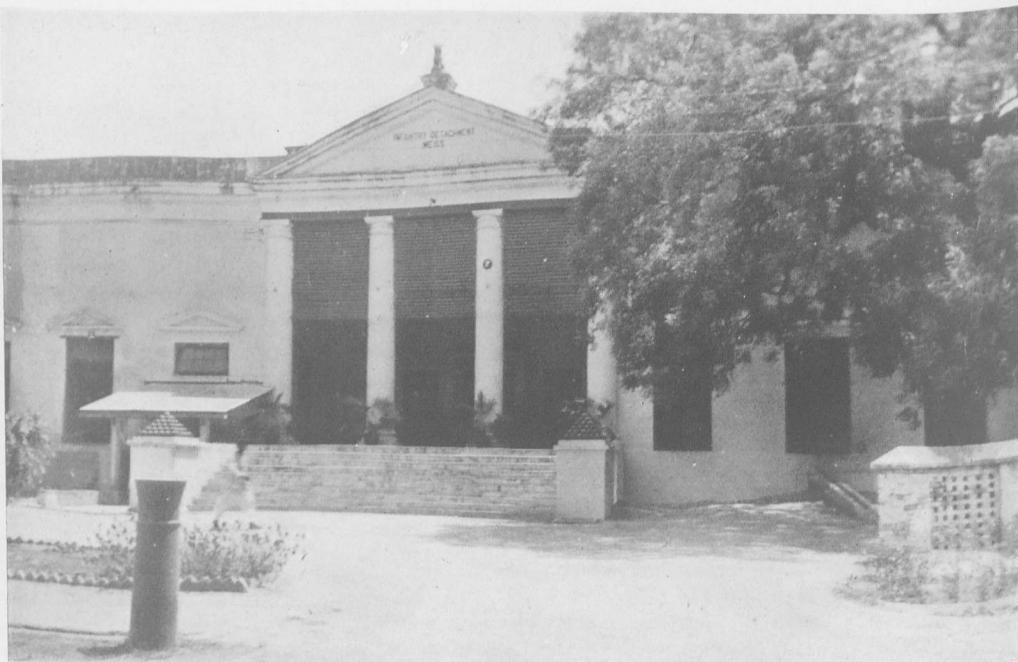
*Corporals' Mess.*

There is really very little to report since the last issue of the JOURNAL, as everybody seems to have been too busy soldiering. Though there has been less entertaining than during the last winter season, there are no grousing about the lack of entertainment. This, no doubt, is due to the many other attractions which are offered outside.

ALLAHABAD FORT.



A VIEW OF THE FORT.



ENTRANCE TO THE OFFICERS' MESS.

2ND BATTALION

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A very successful games evening was held on 18th November last, when the Sergeants were invited and challenged to darts, snooker, billiards and table-tennis. Of course, the main attraction need not be mentioned. Everybody seems vague as to who were the eventual winners of the various competitions, but we seem to think we won the majority as the Sergeants seem unduly long in re-challenging.

Unlike last season, we have only had one dance, but this proved to be one of the best since our arrival at the Island.

It is hoped to arrange an outing before we leave the Island to go to Bisley in July. This year the refreshment problem will need strict revising.

The very unexpected order for us to move to Palestine next Trooping Season seems to have quashed quite a number of matrimonial (and other) hopes! Quite a number of the younger generation are very eager, possibly through the hopes of even more rapid promotion, but generally, its effect has been just sufficient to raise the hopes of the single members and moans from some of the married members.

Promotions and Appointments are far too many to enumerate, but I think the members concerned will be just as pleased if we offer our congratulations collectively to those who have been appointed Lance-Sergeant, promoted Corporal, and, of course, to the many new members of the Mess.

Football.

Thanks to the splendid weather conditions, we are having the most successful season for years. We entered for the following leagues and competitions for 1937-38:—

The Army Cup, the Boys' Army Cup, the Isle of Wight Gold Cup, the Cowes and District Minor Cup, the Portsmouth and District United Services League, Division I, the Isle of Wight League, Division I, the Isle of Wight Mid-week League (2nd XI), and the Cowes and District Minor League (Junior XI).

We opened our season on 18th September with an away match against our Island rivals, Sandown F.C., which we lost, 3—2. This game was played with all the enthusiasm of a cup-tie, as both teams are contenders for the league championship as soon as the season opens. The ground, "Sandown Park," was recently a clover field. Our team are not used to such rough going and could not adapt their play to the conditions.

The 1st XI took some time to get into their stride this season and we had very bad luck with injured forwards. Pte. Fox, outside-left, broke his leg at Bembridge on 9th October. He has been in hospital for over six months and we all hope that he will soon be on his feet again. Pte. Jamieson, late of The Cheshire Regiment, who is a clever player, sprained his knee on 13th November, also at Bembridge, and has not been able to play any more this season, but hopes to get fit in time for next year. Since Christmas the players have worked well together, and we stand well up in all our leagues.

*The Army Cup.*

In the first round we were at home to the Depot The Royal Tank Corps, on 28th October. Our team gave their best display since the beginning of the season. The attack was pressed from the very start, and never relaxed. Cpl. Beatty soon opened the scoring, and we quickly got another after the Tanks cleared a penalty. The visitors broke away near half-time and their inside-right scored with a long-range drive. In the second half our attack seemed inspired. Four more goals were added without reply, and the final score was 6—1.

In the second round we were drawn away against our old friends, the 2nd Bn. The Middlesex Regiment, at Portsmouth. They have a very good team, including Delaney, Vanner and Phipps, who play for the Army XI. Our defence was severely tested from the start, but held out. Pte. Norris, in goal, made some brilliant saves, and the backs were very sound. We put in some attacks towards

the end of this half, but no goals resulted. Shortly after half-time, L./Cpl. Vanner got the first goal for the opposition, from a corner, and very soon after, Clr./Sergt. Dean made us two down with a fine ground shot. Play was not so keen after twenty-five minutes of this half, and the Middlesex seemed to think that everything was safe, when our attack got going, and Cpl. Horsfield, on the right wing, brought the ball in to score a picture goal. Just before full-time Sergt. Sharp headed in the equalizer. In extra time our attack was still good, and the Middlesex defenders showed signs of nerves. Pte. Lawrence had bad luck with a free-kick which went over the bar. Cpl. Horsfield was beating Pte. Phipps, but got hurt and had to leave the field. Our attack was finished with this mishap, and Pte. Crossthwaite netted the deciding goal for The Middlesex Regiment, to put them in the next round. (They lost in the fourth round to the Depot, R.A.O.C.) This game was a splendidly fought contest, and the players deserve the fullest credit for the show which they put up.

*Boys' Army Cup.*

The Boys' XI have made full use of the opportunities for practice which we have at Parkhurst, and they went through to the semi-final of the competition this season.

*1st Round.* Played away against the 2nd Bn. The Lincolnshire Regiment, at Portland. Our team of big boys secured an easy victory by 4-0.

*2nd Round.* Played at Parkhurst against the 1st Bn. The Rifle Brigade. Though the Rifle Brigade's players were younger and smaller on the average than our Boys, they showed that they could play good football, and made some pretty moves. Our defence was very solid and Hollands cleared the ball very well to the forwards, who were not too good near goal. There was no score at half-time. After the change-over we put in some strong attacks. Casey sent in a thirty-yard drive and scored the goal of the season. The Rifle Brigade could not penetrate our defence. Whitbread received a good pass and scored our second goal ten minutes before the end.

*3rd Round.* Played at Parkhurst against 2nd Bn. The Royal Sussex Regiment. In this match the visitors had not a very good defence and Whitbread scored four goals in the first half. He had to retire with a sprained ankle in the second half, but the Royal Sussex could not reduce their arrears and we were comfortable winners by 4-1.

*4th Round.* The luck of the draw gave us another home game, this time against the 2nd Bn. The King's Own Royal Regiment from Aldershot. Heavy rain fell a few minutes before the start, and the whole game was played in a downpour. The King's Own are quite a good side, trained by Cpl. Eastham, the well-known Army player. They disliked the conditions, which did not help good football at all. Our Boys kept the ball moving and pressed hard all the time. Whitbread had the ball in front of an open goal when a defender handled. The goalkeeper hesitated, waiting for the whistle, but the referee allowed us to keep our advantage and Whitbread had no difficulty in netting the ball. The clever attack of the King's Own was broken by our defence. Smith, the new goalkeeper, Hollands and Manton were always very safe. Our Boys seemed stronger in the second half, though no more goals were scored and good work by Elkins and Casey in the half line deserved to be rewarded. Snashall, at outside-right, put in some useful work.

*5th Round.* In this round we were drawn away against the 1st Bn. The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders at Aldershot. Our opponents have a very good forward line and can play a nice game if they are allowed to. Our policy was to keep the play their end of the field and to prevent an attack from developing. This meant that very hard work was required, and our Boys did it for the first fifteen minutes, though poor finishing by the forwards robbed us of goals. On a break-away the Argylls very cleverly scattered our defence. Smith came out to smother

2nd BATTALION.



"C" COMPANY FOOTBALL TEAM, WINNERS INTER-COMPANY LEAGUE, 1937-38.

Back Row—Pte. Grierson, L/Cpl. Jones, Pte. Stenning, C/Sergt. Hill, Pte. Masters.  
Middle Row—Pte. Thomas, C.S.M. Webb, Capt. H. P. Combe, Cpl. July, Pte. Wildish.  
Front Row—Pte. Weppe near, Pte. May, Pte. Ambrose.



BOYS FOOTBALL TEAM, SEMI-FINALISTS, BOYS ARMY CUP, 1937-38.

Standing—Boy F. Marshall, Boy A. Manton, Dmr. D. Elkins, Boy R. Smith, Boy D. Hollands, Boy J. Grundy.  
Pte. W. Irving (Trainer).  
Sitting—Boy R. Brown, Dmr. G. Friar, Boy W. Casey (capt.), Pte. J. Whitbread, Boy A. Underwood.

2ND BATTALION

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the ball, hesitated, and was neatly eluded. Half-time saw us one goal down. In the second half Elkins played a brilliant game, making several good openings. One of our attacks resulted in a scramble in front of goal, during which Brown put the ball over the line to give us the equalizer. The Argylls kicked off and made for our goal at once. Underwood was caught napping and they netted a good goal. Many a team would have lost heart at this disaster, but our Boys tore into the fray once more, and one minute from full time Whitbread lobbed the ball up over the heads of the defenders and netted the second equalizer. In extra time we kicked the same way. Everything went into the attack. Brown and Whitbread had the ball between them close to goal, the defence was confused, and Brown netted from close range. The Argylls tried desperately to restore the position, but our defence held, leaving us winners by 3-2.

*Semi-Final.* This was played on 30th March, 1938, against the 2nd Bn. The Cameron Highlanders on the Command Ground, Aldershot. It is a big ground and the spectators are a long way from the touchline, so that personal encouragement of individual players was almost impossible. That was certainly a disadvantage from our point of view. The Boys kicked off with wind and sun in their favour, and though the play was nearly all in the enemy's half, their good defence and lack of finish on the part of our forwards robbed us of goals. At half-time there was no score, which was a distinct advantage to the Camerons. Soon after the resumption, when the Camerons had sun and wind behind them, a shot struck the top left corner of our goal and the ball went straight up into the air. Smith was wearing a cap because of the sun, and he did not see where the ball went. It fell at the feet of a forward, who tapped it over the line to score the Camerons first goal. The Camerons had most of the play, and half way through this half their inside-left scored the second goal with a well-placed shot. In the last ten minutes we put in several attacks when the Camerons pressure had relaxed a bit, and Elkins had bad luck when he shot over the bar with only the goalkeeper to beat. There was no further score and the Camerons went into the final, in which they lost to the holders, the Depot R.A.O.C., by 2-1.

This season is the first in which the Regiment have gone so far in the Boys' Army Cup. Sergt. Jones, the trainer, Boy Casey, the captain, and all the team receive our congratulations for a magnificent effort. Only five goals were conceded in six matches, which shows that our superiority lies in the defence.

*Isle of Wight Gold Cup. 1st Round.*

We played away against East Cowes on 6th November, 1937, losing by 2-1. This was an ugly match and our clever forwards were knocked off their game. The Gold Cup has a demoralizing effect on players and it is just as well that we went out of it then, as later rounds played between Island clubs did not produce very high-class football. The flexible goalposts at East Cowes deserve a mention. A goalkeeper who is in the know can stop a high shot by pulling down the crossbar to intercept the ball.

*Cowes and District Minor Cup. 1st Round.*

Our Junior XI was entered for this. The match should have been played against Cowes St. Mary's Guild, at Cowes, on 9th October, 1937, but the official referee did not turn up. The teams agreed to play off their League fixture, which resulted in a win for us by 3-2. On 5th February, 1938, the proper cup match was played at Cowes. The Guild put out a very strong side, which they are always capable of doing, as they can easily find eleven junior players in the whole of the Cowes area, and on this date they had no league games for their other teams. Our lads could make no headway against a team of this strength, whose forwards combined beautifully. We had plenty of play in mid-field, but could get no results from the forwards. The Guild won by 5-0.

*Portsmouth and District United Services League.*

This league produces almost the best Service football in the world. This year it includes the Navy Cup winners, Army Cup semi-finalists and fourth round contestants. It is run in no less than six divisions comprising about sixty teams and, at the time of writing these notes we are in the happy position of being second from the top of the First Division. An account of all the games would take up too much space. We are very pleased to report having beaten the R.A.O.C. Depot, 2-1, and drawn with them, 2-2. They were in the Army Cup semi-final, which they lost, 1-0, to the Royal Welch Fusiliers. H.M.S. *Excellent* have the strongest side in this league, and they beat us twice, 6-1 at Whale Island and 5-0 at Parkhurst. In spite of these adverse scores they were very good games, and the referees had almost nothing to do. Undoubtedly we get the best games against Service sides, who can give and take with no complaints.

Results to date are:—

30th Sept.—v. 2nd Middlesex Regiment, at Newport. Drew, 3-3.  
 6th Oct.—v. 1st Rifle Brigade, at Gosport. Lost, 2-1.  
 14th Oct.—v. H.M. Yacht, at Newport. Won, 5-2.  
 16th Oct.—v. H.M.S. *Excellent*, at Whale Island. Lost, 6-1.  
 30th Oct.—v. Royal Marines, at Eastney. Lost, 4-0.  
 3rd Nov.—v. Depot, R.A.O.C., at Hilsea. Won, 2-1.  
 15th Nov.—v. H.M. Yacht, at Portsmouth. Won, 4-2.  
 25th Nov.—v. H.M.S. *Victory*, at Newport. Lost, 4-1.  
 8th Jan.—v. H.M.S. *Excellent*, at Parkhurst. Lost, 5-0.  
 19th Jan.—v. 2nd K.O.S.B., at Parkhurst. Won, 3-1.  
 26th Jan.—v. R.A.F. Base, at Newport. Won, 5-0.  
 3rd Feb.—v. H.M.S. *Vernon*, at Newport. Won, 3-0.  
 23rd Feb.—v. 2nd Middlesex Regiment, at Portsmouth. Lost, 2-0.  
 2nd Mar.—v. H.M.S. *Vernon*, at Portsmouth. Won, 2-1.  
 17th Mar.—v. Royal Marines, at Newport. Won, 3-1.  
 23rd Mar.—v. R.A.F. Base, at Gosport. Won, 3-1.  
 6th Apr.—v. Depot, R.A.O.C., at Newport. Drew, 2-2.

*Isle of Wight League. Division I.*

We made a disastrous start in this League, only getting three points with our first four matches. It must be admitted that our players often think that they are on an easy thing when meeting a local side. However, we think that the lesson has been well learnt, and with our rivals meeting some recent reverses we now find we can win this league if we keep on going as we are doing. Eleven of our last twelve matches in this league have been won by us.

Results to date are:—

18th Sept.—v. Sandown F.C., at Sandown Park. Lost, 2-3.  
 25th Sept.—v. Saro Athletic F.C., at Parkhurst. Drew, 0-0.  
 2nd Oct.—v. Ryde Rovers, at Parkhurst. Lost, 3-4.  
 23rd Oct.—v. Newport Reserves, at Parkhurst. Won, 5-0.  
 13th Nov.—v. Bembridge F.C., at Bembridge. Won, 4-2.  
 4th Dec.—v. Ryde Rovers, at Ryde. Won, 4-0.  
 22nd Jan.—v. Saro Athletic F.C., at Osborne. Won, 8-3.  
 5th Feb.—v. St. Helen's F.C., at Parkhurst. Lost, 2-3.  
 12th Feb.—v. Cowes St. Mary's Guild, at Parkhurst. Won, 6-0.  
 19th Feb.—v. Sagru Sports F.C., at Parkhurst. Won, 8-0.  
 5th Mar.—v. Sagru Sports F.C., at Osborne. Won, 11-0.  
 12th Mar.—v. Cowes Reserves, at Parkhurst. Won, 6-2.  
 19th Mar.—v. Cowes St. Mary's Guild, at Cowes. Won, 3-1.  
 2nd Apr.—v. Ventnor F.C., at Ventnor. Won, 3-0.  
 9th Apr.—v. East Cowes, at Parkhurst. Won, 1-0.

*Isle of Wight Mid-Week League.*

This League plays on Wednesdays and our 2nd XI have won it. There are only a few clubs in it this season, so we play two home and two away games against each other. It provides valuable practice for reserve players. In the early part of the season, before players began to get transferred to Division I, our team playing in this league had one of the smartest forward lines we have seen for years.

Results to date are:—

29th Sept.—v. Southern Vectis F.C., at Newport. Won, 4-2.  
 6th Oct.—v. Cowes Wednesday, at Parkhurst. Won, 8-5.  
 13th Oct.—v. Yaverland Fort R.A., at Yaverland Fort. Won, 6-0.  
 3rd Nov.—v. Yaverland Fort R.A., at Parkhurst. Won, 8-1.  
 10th Nov.—v. Shanklin Blue Star F.C., at Shanklin. Won, 7-3.  
 24th Nov.—v. Cowes Wednesday, at Cowes. Won, 5-2.  
 12th Jan.—v. Cowes Wednesday, at Parkhurst. Drew, 3-3.  
 2nd Feb.—v. Shanklin Blue Star F.C., at Shanklin. Won, 5-3.  
 9th Feb.—v. Yaverland Fort R.A., at Parkhurst. Won, 4-2.  
 16th Feb.—v. Southern Vectis F.C., at Parkhurst. Won, 8-1.  
 2nd Mar.—v. Southern Vectis F.C., at Newport. Won, 5-2.  
 11th Mar.—v. Yaverland Fort R.A., at Yaverland Fort. Won, 3-1.  
 17th Mar.—v. Cowes Wednesday, at Cowes. Lost, 1-3.  
 23rd Mar.—v. Shanklin Blue Star F.C., at Parkhurst. Won, 7-3.  
 6th Apr.—v. Southern Vectis F.C., at Parkhurst. Won, 1-0.

*Cowes and District Minor League.*

This League caters for junior players who were under nineteen on 1st September, 1937. We have sixteen registered, including seven of the Boys' XI. It has been very useful to have this League, in order to give our young players experience of competitive football. We have only dropped 3 points this season, and are expecting to win this League.

Results to date are:—

2nd Oct.—v. Cowes St. Mary's Guild, at Parkhurst. Lost, 2-3.  
 9th Oct.—v. Cowes St. Mary's Guild, at Cowes. Won, 3-2.  
 30th Oct.—v. White's Sports F.C., at Somerton. Won, 5-3.  
 13th Nov.—v. Cowes Denmark Road O.B., at Parkhurst. Won, 7-0.  
 29th Jan.—v. Cowes Denmark Road O.B., at Cowes. Drew, 2-2.  
 26th Feb.—v. East Cowes Naval Cadets, at Parkhurst. Won, 9-0.  
 5th Mar.—v. White's Sports F.C., at Parkhurst. Won, 5-3.  
 12th Mar.—v. Cowes United Juniors, at Parkhurst. Won, 13-0.  
 26th Mar.—v. East Cowes Naval Cadets, at Osborne. Won, 6-2.

The undermentioned players have been awarded their Colours for the season 1937-38:—

1st XI.—Pte. Ambrose, Cpl. Beatty, Pte. Bennett, Cpl. Brown, Cpl. Horsfield, Pte. Lawrence, Dmr. Morgan, Pte. Norris, Sergt. Sharp (captain), L./Cpl. Shippam, Bdsn. Thomas, and Pte. L. Tye.

2nd XI.—L./Cpl. Bowman, Pte. Cassidy, Cpl. Cousins, Pte. Grierson, Dmr. Harris, Cpl. Hooper (captain), Cpl. July, Pte. Jones, Dmr. Linehan, Dmr. Santer, Bdsn. Northey, L./Cpl. A. E. Smith, and L./Cpl. Toolan.

Boys' XI.—Boy Brown, Boy Casey (captain), Dmr. Elkins, Dmr. Friar, Boy Grundy, Boy Hollands, Boy Manton, Boy Smith, Boy Snashall, Boy Underwood, and Pte. Whitbread.

*Inter-Company League and Shield.*

The final League table is given below. The Administrative Platoon of "H.Q." Company could not complete their fixtures in time, so points gained in their games have had to be omitted from the table.

Company.	Played.	Won.	Lost.	Drawn.	Points.
"C" Company	...	6	5	0	1 11
Band	...	6	3	1	2 8
Signals	...	6	3	2	1 7
"A" Company	...	6	3	3	0 6
Drums	...	6	3	3	0 6
"B" Company	...	6	2	4	0 4
"D" Company	...	6	0	6	0 0

The knock-out competition for the Inter-Company Shield is now in progress.

#### Hockey.

*Regimental Hockey.*—The weather has been unkind for much of the winter and has had the effect of rendering our ground unplayable for weeks on end, with the result that practice games were difficult to arrange.

In the Army Cup we were beaten in the third round. Before the first and third round games we concentrated at the Depot for a week of practice. This was a great success for since our team was composed about half and half of Depot and 2nd Battalion personnel, it was otherwise impossible to get together. The average age of the regimental team was over thirty years. This should not be so. We want younger men, particularly young officers, to play the game and spread enthusiasm in their platoons and companies.

*Army Cup—1st Round, v. 2nd Bn. The Middlesex Regiment.*—This game was played on the Newport ground. Though we won the game by 8—3, the game was a close one. Capt. Grimston led the forwards, who played extremely well. 2/Lieut. Wyatt, at back, was a tower of strength.

*2nd Round, v. R.A.O.C., Hilsea.*—This match was played at Parkhurst in the pouring rain. Capt. Burton was now qualified to play for us and took his usual place at centre-forward. The team played good hockey, and won easily by 9—1.

*3rd Round, v. Armoured Fighting Vehicle School, R.T.C.*—This game was played at Bovington. Owing to the wet state of the ground a pitch was marked out on the Rugby football ground, which, in spite of rolling, was very bumpy. The Tanks scored two goals early in the first half, but though we did most of the attacking, we were held up by the more robust methods of our opponents.

Sergt. Collins and Sergt. Knight were both injured but pluckily carried on. In the second half the Queen's scored one goal, and with a little luck, might have equalized. Result: The Queen's, 1; R.T.C., 2.

#### Inter-Company Knock-out Competition.

Much to everybody's surprise, including the winners themselves, "D" Company won the Inter-Company competition. The standard of hockey throughout was not very high, strength being rather more to the fore than science. "D" Company won on their merits after a very close game with the Band, extra time having to be played.

Results of previous rounds:—

*1st Round.*—Band 4, "B" Company 0; Administrative Platoon 3, "A" Company 1; "C" Company 4, Signals 0; "D" Company 2, Drums 0.

*Semi-finals.*—Band 1, Administrative Platoon 0; "D" Company 2, "C" Company 0.

*Final.*—"D" Company 3, Band 2.

*The Future.*—The Queen's have always had a very good Regimental side, but for some years now more and more reliance has been placed on the "old men." We must have some young blood coming on. Hockey is an easy game to learn.

All that is required is an eye for a ball and a good pair of lungs and the ability to run really fast for twenty yards. "Come on, you youngsters, let us see what you can do to help!"

Unfortunately, 2/Lieut. Wyatt has left us for civil life. We missed him badly in our game against the Tank Corps, and shall miss him during the cricket season. He has always played consistently and well and has been a great asset to our Regimental sides.

#### Cross-Country Running.

In spite of many changes and the loss of some of our old runners, the standard of running has improved, though this has not been a very successful season. Unlike other military stations on the mainland, our activities against other Service teams are governed by finance, and travelling expenses prevent us from participating in many inter-unit runs. This is unfortunate from a competitive point of view.

The team has been lucky in the return of Pte. Reeves. It will be remembered that Reeves ran for the Army in Aldershot and his running this year, in spite of his being out of the sport for some time, has been consistently good. Richardson can also be relied upon to give a good performance. Cousins, Newbold, Atkins, Long and Critcher have all done good work. The team has been captained by 2/Lieut. G. O. Savage, who has been responsible for its training.

The following runs have taken place:—

*The Queen's Royal Regiment v. R.A.F., Gosport. Distance 4 Miles.*—The Queen's Royal Regiment, 49 points; R.A.F., Gosport, 55 points. First home, Pte. Richardson; second, Pte. Reeves.

*Junior Isle of Wight Individual Championship. Run at Ryde. Distance 4 Miles.* (Open to competitors under the age of 21 years).—Seventh home, Pte. Game; eighth, Pte. Cousins.

*Southern Command Cross-Country Championship. Run at Tidworth. Distance 7 Miles.*—Nine Regimental teams entered. The event was won by the 2nd Bn. The Sherwood Foresters. The Queen's Royal Regiment gained seventh place. Eleventh home, Pte. Reeves; twenty-third, Pte. Richardson.

*Team Race open to Hampshire and Isle of Wight. Run at Ryde. Distance 7 Miles.*—The Queen's Royal Regiment, eighth place (eighty runners). Fourteenth home, Pte. Reeves.

#### Boxing.

Boxing has been going strong in the Battalion during the past winter, and we have been helped by the arrival of some first-class boxers amongst the reservists who have rejoined. Everyone has been keen, and a considerably higher standard than usual has been shown in all competitions.

*Boys' Competition.*—The finals of this took place in October and November. Weight winners were:—

*Gnat-weight.*—Boy Newark.

*Fly-weight.*—Boy Trimmer.

*Light-weight.*—Boy Casey.

*Welter-weight.*—Boy Smith.

*Middle-weight.*—Boy Elkins.

Boy Newark obtained a good loser's prize for his plucky performance in a challenge bout with Boy Trimmer. Both Casey and Elkins showed promise and will give a good account of themselves in the future.

*Novices' Competition.*—The finals of this competition were held in October.

*Bantam-weight.*—Winner, Pte. Smith, "B" Company; runner-up, Pte. Curry, "B" Company.

*Feather-weight*.—Winner, Pte. Birch, "B" Company; runner-up, Pte. Kibble, "C" Company.

*Light-weight*.—Winner, Pte. Warden, "B" Company; runner-up, Pte. Johnson, "B" Company.

*Welter-weight*.—Winner, Pte. Joyce, Transport; runner-up, Pte. Wright, "A" Company.

*Middle-weight*.—Winner, Pte. Waldron, "C" Company; runner-up Pte. Kitchenmaster, "D" Company.

Ptes. Waldron, Joyce and Warden were the outstanding performers in this competition. It was a pity that there were no entries for the Light-heavy and Heavy-weights.

*Battalion Championships*.—This competition was fought on 5th November. The gymnasium was well filled with civilian spectators, and the fights were close and well matched. Winners and runners-up were:—

*Bantam-weight*.—Winner, Dmr. Peck, Drums; runner-up, Pte. Smith, "B" Company.

*Feather-weight*.—Winner, Pte. O'Rourke, "A" Company; runner-up, L./Cpl. Toolan, "B" Company.

*Light-weight*.—Winner, Pte. Dawes, Band; runner-up, Pte. Seddon, "A" Company.

*Welter-weight*.—Winner, Pte. Joyce, Transport; runner-up, Pte. Hooper, Administrative Platoon.

*Middle-weight*.—Winner, L./Cpl. Elliott, Transport; runner-up, Pte. Looney, "A" Company.

*Heavy-weight*.—Winner, Cpl. Edwards, Transport; runner-up, Cpl. Stannard, "D" Company.

Dawes and O'Rourke fought extremely well, the fight between Dawes and Seddon being the best bout of the evening. L./Cpl. Toolan was awarded the good loser's trophy.

"B" Company won the Inter-Company Boxing Cup with 27 points, followed by "A" Company and Transport with 20 points each.

*Army Inter-Unit Team Competition*.—In this competition we were drawn against the 2nd Bn. The Middlesex Regiment, who have a very good boxing team. All the fights were well contested.

*Bantam-weight*.—Pte. Hope, The Middlesex Regiment, beat Dmr. Peck, The Queen's Royal Regiment, on points. A well-matched pair, with Hope having the advantage in weight. With a little more straight punching and an occasional blow to the body, Peck might have been a clear winner.

*Feather-weight*.—1st String: Pte. O'Rourke, The Queen's Royal Regiment, beat Pte. Grogan, The Middlesex Regiment, on a knock-out. It was obvious that two good boxers were in the ring, but the bout soon ended; O'Rourke landed three right hooks in quick succession, Grogan taking the count in the first round. 2nd String: L./Cpl. Toolan, The Queen's Royal Regiment, beat Pte. Smith, The Middlesex Regiment, on points. A good hard bout. Both tired towards the end of the third round, but Toolan kept going with great spirit to earn a popular verdict.

*Light-weight*.—1st String: Pte. Markham, The Middlesex Regiment, beat Pte. Dawes, The Queen's Royal Regiment, on points. A close bout between two well-matched opponents. Dawes was unable to force Markham to open up until it was too late. The fight went to Markham after three rounds of hard hitting. 2nd String: Cpl. Wray, The Middlesex Regiment, beat Pte. Seddon, The Queen's Royal Regiment, on points. Another close contest. Both men fought with speed and skill. 3rd String: Pte. Christian, The Middlesex Regiment, beat Pte. Garrity, The Queen's Royal Regiment, on a knock-out. Garrity did most of the attacking

2nd BATTALION.



"B" COMPANY BOXING TEAM, WINNERS INTER-COMPANY CUP, 1937-38.

Standing—Pte. R. Curry, Pte. C. Lindfield, Pte. J. Johnson, Pte. L. Sherrin, Pte. P. Kensley, Pte. H. Dillon.  
Sitting—Pte. R. Wade, Pte. K. Locker, Major H. G. Veasey, Major W. G. R. Beeton, Lieut. P. R. Terry, L./Cpl. L. Toolan.



"D" COMPANY HOCKEY TEAM, WINNERS INTER-COMPANY CUP, 1937-38.

Standing—2/Lieut. J. D. Sparkes, Lieut. J. Sykes Wright, Cpl. J. Stannard, Capt. B. E. I. Burton, Cpl. J. Potter.  
Sitting—Cpl. J. Bunn, Cpl. V. Brown, Pte. S. Hammond, Cpl. A. Domoney, L./Cpl. R. Potts, L./Cpl. T. Fairs.

2ND BATTALION

but in the second round Christian landed a hard right which put Garrity down for the count. We have not yet seen the best of Garrity, as he was only half trained.

**Heavy-weight.**—L./Cpl. Sumner, The Queen's Royal Regiment, beat Pte. Moran, The Middlesex Regiment, disqualified. Moran was the better boxer, but was unfortunate in hitting Sumner when on his knees, and paid the penalty.

**Welter-weight.**—1st String: L./Cpl. Willard, The Queen's Royal Regiment, beat Pte. Rountree, The Middlesex Regiment, on points. A very close contest and one of the best of the evening. Willard's timing and judgment were excellent. A hard-earned and popular decision. 2nd String: Pte. Joyce, The Queen's Royal Regiment, beat Pte. Shaw, The Middlesex Regiment, on a knock-out. A fast opening attack by Shaw put Joyce on his mettle, who fought back well and landed some heavy punches which brought the bout to a speedy end. 3rd String: Pte. Tyler, The Middlesex Regiment, beat Pte. Yemm, The Queen's Royal Regiment. There was little to choose between the two until Yemm was handicapped by a sprained thumb in the second round. The fight was stopped in favour of Tyler. 4th String: Pte. Hooper, The Queen's Royal Regiment, beat Pte. Piggott, The Middlesex Regiment, the fight being stopped in the second round, Hooper having clearly outboxed his opponent.

**Middle-weight.**—1st String: L./Cpl. Chapman, The Middlesex Regiment, beat L./Cpl. Elliott, The Queen's Royal Regiment, on points. A clean, hard fight. 2nd String: Pte. McDouall, The Middlesex Regiment, beat Pte. Madden, The Queen's Royal Regiment, on points. A close fight between two well-matched opponents, which Madden was unlucky to lose. 3rd String: Bdsn. McDonald, The Middlesex Regiment, beat Pte. Breen, The Queen's Royal Regiment, on points. A fast and furious bout, with Breen leading in the early stages. McDonald staged a come-back in the third round, and was awarded the decision.

**Light Heavy-weight.**—Pte. Betts, The Middlesex Regiment, beat Cpl. Stannard, The Queen's Royal Regiment, on points. Betts did most of the leading but did not always connect. Stannard scored with a number of heavy blows which Betts courageously absorbed and was always ready for more.

The Middlesex Regiment won the match by 23 points to 21.

**Girdwood Cup, Inter-Unit Brigade Competition.**—This competition took place at Portsmouth on 14th and 15th February. The final placings were:—

Winners.—2nd Bn. The Lincolnshire Regiment, 37 points.

2nd.—2nd Bn. The Queen's Royal Regiment, 32 points.

3rd.—2nd Bn. The Middlesex Regiment, 30 points.

4th.—1st Bn. The King's Own Scottish Borderers, 21 points.

The Lincolnshire Regimental team were well taught and well trained, and we did well to be runners-up to them. Unfortunately, three of our Battalion championship weight winners were not available to box. Had they been, we would have made a closer thing of it. Congratulations to Dawes on being chosen to fight in the local Inter-Services Tournament. He won his fight and boxed extremely well, and assisted the Army to win the Triangular Contest.

It is to be hoped that the good start we have made this year will be kept up. We have the talent and the right spirit; it only requires keenness and training to improve our standard.

**Fencing.**

Our team, with the help of C.S.M.I. Grafton, A.P.T.S. Instructor, from Portsmouth, has improved since the beginning of the season.

Our fixture list showed three matches before Christmas, but we only fought one, against the R.A.O.C. Depot, Hilsea, which we lost. Fixtures with the Depot, at Guildford, and The Royal Tank Corps Depot, Bovington, had to be cancelled.

In the latter half of the season we had eight fixtures. We lost against the R.A.O.C. Depot, Hilsea, and The Queen's Bays, but won our matches with the Depot, Guildford, R.A.F. Station, Gosport (twice), The Royal Tank Corps Depot,

## 2ND BATTALION

Bovington, and Royal Marines; Eastney. Our match with the Isle of Wight Fencing Club, at Cowes, had, unfortunately, to be cancelled.

We beat The Royal Tank Corps Depot, Bovington, in the semi-final of the Command Inter-Unit Competition, and now meet The Queen's Bays, at Tidworth, in the final, and hope to avenge our defeat of last year.

The following have entered for the Command Bronze Medal Tournament, also taking place at Tidworth:—

- Capt. D. L. A. Gibbs (Epée and Sabre).
- 2/Lieut. J. D. Sparkes (Foil, Epée and Sabre).
- C.S.M. W. Webb (Epée).
- Cpl. G. Head (Foil and Sabre).
- Cpl. A. July (Foil, Epée and Sabre).
- Pte. D. Wright (Foil, Epée and Sabre).

L./Cpl. Bishop has just finished a Fencing Course at Aldershot and should be useful as an instructor.

*Boys' Club.*

*Football.*—A great deal of interest has been shown in our team this year, which has been very successful in the Boys' Army Cup. We reached the final of the Infantry Regiments and the semi-final of the Army, but were beaten, after a keen struggle, by The Cameron Highlanders.

We must congratulate the team on their good performance. It was largely due to L./Sergt. Jones for his excellent coaching, assisted by L./Cpls. Smith and Tracey, but the main credit must go to the Boys themselves, who trained hard and showed great keenness.

The under-nineteen eleven, which consist mainly of Boys, are doing well in the Cowes and District League (Minor), and Boys Elkins and Smith were chosen to play for a representative eleven picked from this League.

*Boys' Club.*—During the winter evenings, darts and table-tennis tournaments have been arranged, and we should like to thank the Rev. H. G. Kelsey for his interest in us, and for the whist drives which he so successfully arranged.

Model-making was introduced by 2/Lieut. C. B. Gray; himself, a master of this subject, and many of the Boys became very model-minded under his instruction.

*Education.*—Our general standard of education has improved. Two Boys have got their First-Class Certificate, and ten more are studying for them. The younger Boys are working hard for their Intermediate Certificates, and we wish them success in their next examinations.

*Valete.*—The following have left us since the last edition of the JOURNAL:— Ptes. Compton, Stringer, Brooker, Friar, Casey, and Hollands. We are sorry to lose them and wish them every success in the future.

*Salvete.*—We welcome Boys Godden, Bates, Turvey and Harman into the Regiment. We hope they will be happy with us and have a successful military career.

*Shooting.*—The Boys have distinguished themselves in the monthly spoon shoots on the miniature range. Boys Friar, Grundy and Elkins have won silver spoons.

*Modernization of Barracks.*

We have now had, under a new scheme, a barrack-room fitted up with modern steel cupboards. Unlike those at the Depot, it will be seen that a wooden partition has been built down the centre of the room, against which all the heads of the beds stand and on which the steel locker and pegs are fastened.

This idea has been found satisfactory and increases the floor space and general lighting of the room.

## 2nd BATTALION.



FENCING TEAM, 1937-38.

Standing—Cpl. A. July, Cpl. G. Head, Pte. D. Wright.  
Sitting—2/Lieut. J. D. Sparkes, Capt. D. L. A. Gibbs, C.S.M. W. Webb.



A MODERNIZED BARRACK-ROOM AT PARKHURST.

## THE WRECK OF THE "BIRKENHEAD"

ON 26th February, this year, at Danger Point, about 115 miles from Cape Town, South Africa, a plaque was unveiled to commemorate the wreck of the *Birkenhead*, which occurred on that date in 1852.

The following account of the wreck is taken from Col. John Davis's "History of the Regiment":—

The *Birkenhead* left Simon's Bay on 25th February, at 6 o'clock in the evening. The troops on board were as follows:—

		<i>Sergeants.</i>	<i>Corporals.</i>	<i>Privates.</i>
12th Lancers—Cornets Rolt and Bond	...	I	—	4
The Queen's—Ensign Boylan	...	—	I	50
6th Regiment—Ensign Medford	...	I	—	58
12th Regiment	...	—	—	68
43rd Regiment—Lieut. Girardot	...	I	2	36
45th Regiment	...	—	—	4
60th Rifles	...	I	I	38
73rd Regiment—Lieuts. G. N. Robinson and A. H. Booth, and Ensign Lucas	...	I	—	66
74th Regiment—Major Seaton and Ensign Russell	...	I	2	61
91st Regiment—Capt. Wright	...	I	—	58
Total: 11 Officers	...	7	6	443

There were, in addition to these, the officers, sailors and marines of the ship, 7 women, 13 children, and one passenger.

The first indication of this terrible catastrophe was brought to Commodore Wyvill, of H.M.S. *Castor*, by Mr. Culham, Assistant-Surgeon of the *Birkenhead*, at 2.30 p.m., on the 27th. He had landed in the gig, and had come overland to Simon's Bay to report the loss of the ship.

The Commodore at once despatched the *Rhadamanthus* to the scene of the wreck, and that evening she fell in with the schooner *Lioness*, which had on board the persons who were in two boats, and 40 others whom they had succeeded in taking off the main topsail-yard of the ship, which was the only piece of the wreck visible above water; altogether, 116 in number. It being calm, the *Rhadamanthus* towed her in, and proceeded back to the position of the wreck. An examination of the coast having been made for upwards of 20 miles, both by land and sea, and no other persons being found except those who had previously landed, the *Rhadamanthus* received them on board and returned to Simon's Bay. The persons thus saved were 68 in number, having reached the shore by swimming, and on pieces of wreck, etc. These, with the 9 in the gig, and those rescued by the schooner, made the total saved, 193.

The night of the wreck was fine, starlit, and calm, but a long swell was setting on shore. The land was in sight all the time, look-out men and leadsmen were placed. The ship was going about 8 knots, and at about ten minutes before two, the leadsmen struck soundings in 12 fathoms; before he could get another cast, or the ship's way could be stopped, she struck, having 2 fathoms under the bows, and 11 under the stern.

The Commander of the ship, Mr. Salmond, who was roused by the shock, went on deck and took all necessary measures, ordering the horses to be passed overboard, and the boats to be lowered and got out. He then applied to Major Seaton

(74th), and Capt. Wright (91st), for men to help in working the chain pumps, and in getting the paddle-box boats out. Major Seaton had previously called all the Military Officers to him, and had impressed on them the necessity of preserving order and silence among the men. He also ordered Capt. Wright to obey all orders he might receive from the Commander of the ship.

As soon as the horses were cleared out, the women and children were passed into the cutter which, at once, in charge of Mr. Richards, Master's Assistant, pulled off 150 yards from the ship and waited. The troops who were not employed were moved aft to the poop; 60 men had been sent to work the pumps, and 60 to help in getting the boats out.

"In two minutes after the first concussion, and while the engines were still working astern, the ship struck again under the engine-room, bilging the side in several feet, and tearing open the bottom. The water rushed in and drowned the fire. . . ."

Shortly after, the ship broke in two and sank, leaving the main-topmast and the topsail-yard only visible above water.

"The sea was now alive for a time with struggling survivors; some who could swim well making for the nearest part of the shore, distant some two miles, others remained clinging to the topsail-yard or to floating pieces of wreckage. The three boats (two cutters and a gig) being laden as deeply as was safe pulled for the shore, but were unable to land on account of the surf, except the gig, which reached Port D'Urban, fifteen miles from Danger Point. A number of men must have been drowned by the inrush of water forward when the ship first struck, others were killed by the fall of the funnel, and some were taken by sharks. The officers and men who were working below at the pumps were not, it was believed, able to get on deck when the ship broke in two, and went down with her."

The fall of the funnel also stove the big boom boat and one of the paddle-box boats.

What now added to the horror of the scene was the fact, which was soon made evident, that the place abounded in sharks, and many poor fellows, who would otherwise have escaped, lost their lives in this terrible manner.

Capt. Wright, who was the senior officer, after Major Seaton was drowned, had, with others, got on to a large piece of driftwood from the wreck, which was carried towards the shore in the direction of Danger Point. On nearing the shore a mass of weeds was found, through which it was almost impossible to penetrate, and this, with the breakers, made the sort of raft Capt. Wright and the others were on insufficient to hold the whole of them. Capt. Wright therefore gallantly left it, and finding at last an opening in the weeds, he swam safely ashore. On landing, the time being about twelve noon, ten hours after the ship struck the rocks, many of the men quite naked and almost all without shoes, they at once proceeded inland to look for shelter and for help. After walking about three hours through thick thorny bushes, which terribly lacerated the poor fellows' bare feet, they found a wagon, the driver of which directed them to a small bay called Stanford's Cove, where they arrived about sunset, and were able happily, by Capt. Wright going on at once, to get some food from a farmhouse about eight or nine miles away.

The next day the men were removed to a farm occupied by a Capt. Smale, about twelve or fourteen miles up the country. Lieut. Girardot, of the 43rd Regiment, and Cornet Bond, of the 12th Lancers, accompanied the party, which consisted of 68 men, including 18 sailors.

The next three days (Friday, Saturday and Sunday) were occupied by the survivors in examining the coast for over twenty miles to see if any other survivors could be found. Fortunately the searchers found a whale boat employed sealing on Dyer's Island, which, by going outside the seaweed, was able to pick



THE "BIRKENHEAD" MEMORIAL.



VICE-ADMIRAL SIR FRANCIS TOTTENHAM, COMMANDER IN-CHIEF, AFRICA STATION, SPEAKING AFTER UN-VEILING THE MEMORIAL.

OUNDING THE "LAST POST."

up two men who had been in the water thirty-eight hours without food. They were terribly exhausted, as were also two men who were found on shore.

On Saturday, the 28th, Mr. Mackay, the Civil Commissioner of Caledon, and Field Cornet Villiers met Capt. Wright and informed him that the men at Capt. Smale's Farm had been clothed from a store there. This day, Capt. Wright, with the Commissioner, and the Field Cornet and a party of men patrolled the coast as far as the point that runs out to Dyer's Island, and all the bodies that were found were interred. There were not many, however, which unhappily could be well accounted for, as already noted. Five horses were found, which had swum ashore—three of Major Seaton's, one of Capt. Wright's and one of Cornet Bond's.

Capt. Wright, in sending his report of the disaster, bore testimony in the following words to the splendid heroism of the soldiers, which exemplifies in the grandest manner the qualities of our race, and is also an example of the value of the discipline and order which is rarely absent in our troops. He writes: "The order and regularity that prevailed on board, from the time the ship struck till she totally disappeared, far exceeded anything that I thought could be effected by the best discipline; and it is the more to be wondered at, seeing that most of the soldiers were but a short time in the Service. Everyone did as he was directed, and there was not a murmur nor a cry amongst them until the ship made her final plunge. I could not name any individual officer who did more than another. All received their orders and had them carried out as if the men were embarking instead of going to the bottom; there was only this difference, that I never saw any embarkation conducted with so little noise or confusion."

The above words are a proud record, and ought to be so cherished by every regiment whose drafts were present on board the ship; it may be taken, indeed, as a proud tribute to the whole British Army. It was considered by King Frederick William of Prussia to be so notable an example of the power of discipline that he caused Capt. Wright's account of it to be read out at the head of every regiment in his service.

Pte. James Boyden (who was afterwards Colour-Sergeant to Major Mackie, of The Queen's), one of the party on board who escaped, has written an interesting letter relating his recollections of the catastrophe, and of the perils of his escape in swimming to shore. He bears eloquent testimony to the cool heroism of the troops and of the officers of the ship. "During the time," he writes, "that Colonel Seaton's orders were being carried out, one could have heard a pin drop. Colonel Seaton walked about the deck giving his orders with as much coolness and presence of mind as if he were on parade, entirely forgetful of self."

When Boyden was swimming to the shore he rested for a time on a bundle of pressed hay, and while on it a little cabin boy passed him on a door, which he was using as a boat, and paddling it like a canoe. As he passed Boyden he shouted to him, "Come on, Jack Straw"—the name sticking to Boyden ever after.

The account of the unveiling ceremony which follows is taken from the *Cape Argus*, of 26th February, and we are indebted to the Editor for permission to republish it:—

"The lonely and historic headland of Danger Point, 115 miles from Cape Town, was the scene to-day of a service as impressive as any could have been in the days when the early Portuguese navigators planted their 'padraos' on the promontories of a barbaric South Africa with all the ritual of the Roman Catholic Church.

"At 11.30 this morning Vice-Admiral Sir Francis L. Tottenham, Commander-in-Chief of the Africa Station, in the presence of the biggest crowd that has ever gathered on the lonely headland, unveiled a bronze plaque to the *Birkenhead* epic.

"The plaque, which has been formally taken over by the Historic Monuments Commission as a national monument, is the culmination of a movement which began

## THE "BIRKENHEAD" MEMORIAL

in 1886 for a proper memorial to those men who, by their behaviour when their troopship, the *Birkenhead*, broke her back and sank within sight of Danger Point on 2nd February, 1852, gave to the English-speaking world one of the finest of British military and maritime traditions.

"From early morning cars passed through Hermanus on their way to Danger Point. The great numbers of people they carried were supplemented by the occupants of a charabanc from Cape Town, two railway buses from Hermanus and numerous private lorries with capacity loads.

"Long before the service was due to begin, a crowd of approximately 700 people had gathered on the small eminence of Danger Point. Enterprising farmers from the neighbourhood arrived with lorry loads of grapes and fruit, and did a brisk business.

"At 11.30 the crowd gathered round the lighthouse, into the wall of which the plaque has been fixed.

"The Ven. H. A. Earp Jones, Archdeacon of Caledon and R.N.V.R. Chaplain, opened the memorial service with the Lord's Prayer, and a moving feature of the service was the reverence with which the Afrikaan-speaking farmers of the neighbourhood, their children and even the servants they had brought with them, joined in the Anglican service, singing hymns whose melodies they had probably learned from their children and using words that, in some cases came hardly, but always sincerely.

"After a passage from Ecclesiasticus, read by Mr. Earp Jones, Vice-Admiral Sir Francis Tottenham drew back the Union Jack and White Ensign which covered the plaque.

"'We are here to-day,' he said, 'to pay tribute to the memory of the *Birkenhead* men and to their conduct on that sad occasion. These men, many of them untried recruits from the countryside and city, found themselves put early to the supreme test. As posterity knows, they acquitted themselves well. As an example of the effect their conduct had in far-distant Europe, it is related that the King of Prussia ordered the account of the occurrence to be read to each of his regiments as an example of true military discipline and virtue.

"'Whether we work on the land, in a city, on the railways, in the navy, army or air force; whether we be Dutch, French, English, Scots, Irish or Welsh, we stand in this life members of our different professions and nationalities, pledged to do our best for our fellow men, as stood those young soldiers belonging to many different regiments united by discipline in the face of death.'

"'Let us learn from their example to remain as steadfast to our duty as did they to theirs.'

"The unveiling of the plaque was followed by the laying of wreaths by members of many patriotic and other societies, after which the Last Post and Reveille were sounded by Bugle-Major Webb and Cpl. Swanepoel, of 'The Dukes.'

"Before the service closed Lieut.-Col. C. Graham Botha, Union Archivist, and member of the Historic Monuments Commission, formally accepted custody of the memorial on behalf of the Commission. It was handed over by Capt. C. Struben, Chairman of the Navy League of South Africa."

For the Form of Service used at the Unveiling and Dedication Ceremony, and for the accompanying photographs, we are indebted to "Press Photos" (Smiths), 88, Loop Street, Cape Town.

## THE "BIRKENHEAD" MEMORIAL

The Order of Service was as follows:—

NAVY LEAGUE OF SOUTH AFRICA.

ORDER OF SERVICE

for the unveiling and dedication of the  
"BIRKENHEAD" MEMORIAL TABLET  
AT DANGER POINT.

11.30 a.m., 26th February, 1938.

IN MEMORY OF

the unflinching courage and moral grandeur of self-sacrificing devotedness displayed by the Troops under the command of Lieut.-Col. Alexander Seaton, of the 74th Highlanders (Highland Light Infantry), when H.M.S. *Birkenhead* was wrecked off Danger Point at 2 a.m., on 26th February, 1852.

In this ocean calamity nine officers, three hundred and forty-nine of other ranks and eighty-seven of the ship's company sacrificed their lives while the women and children and the sick were being rescued.

The story of the magnificent heroism displayed near this, to us, hallowed spot, in which the coolest courage and most intrepid daring were combined with the purest humanity and disinterestedness, stirred the admiration of the world and has been the animating impulse of similar achievements in the annals of the History of the Empire.

"Their name liveth for evermore."  
"Greater Love hath no man than this that a man lay down his life for his friend."

ORDER OF SERVICE.

THE LORD'S PRAYER.

HYMN No. 370 A. & M. 1st and last verses.

Eternal Father, strong to save,  
Whose arm doth bind the restless wave,  
Who bidd'st the angry foaming deep,  
It's own appointed limits keep,  
Oh! hear us when we cry to Thee  
For those in peril on the sea.

O Trinity of love and power;  
Our brethren shield in danger's hour,  
From rock and tempest, fire and foe,  
Protect them wheresoe'er they go;  
Thus evermore shall rise to Thee,  
Glad hymns of praise from land and sea.

READING OF SCRIPTURE—Ecclesiasticus 44, Verses 1—15, and the Sentences.

"Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord, even so saith the Spirit, for they rest from their labours."

"The souls of the righteous are in the hands of God, and there shall no torment touch them."

"In the sight of the unwise they seem to die, but they are in peace."

"Grant, O Lord, to all the departed, Eternal Rest, and let Light perpetual shine upon them."

## THE "BIRKENHEAD" MEMORIAL

UNVEILING OF THE MEMORIAL TABLET  
 by the Commander-in-Chief, Africa Station,  
 Vice-Admiral SIR FRANCIS L. TOTTENHAM, K.C.B., C.B.E.

## THE DEDICATION

By The Archdeacon of Caledon, The Venerable  
 H. A. EARP JONES, R.N.V.R.

In the Faith of Jesus Christ we dedicate this Memorial Tablet to the Glory of God (and in memory of the *Birkenhead* Heroes who faithfully served and nobly died to save others) in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

## Let us Pray.

Almighty God, whose grace was manifested in the lives of Thy true and faithful servants, we thank Thee for the heroic character and faithful witness of Thy servants, who we commemorate on this Anniversary. Imbued with the sense of duty they unflinchingly self-sacrificed their lives in order that others might be saved.

Accept, O Lord, we beseech Thee, this Memorial Tablet now offered to Thy Glory and to their memory—and grant that all who shall look upon it, remembering the words of Thy Blessed Son, "Greater Love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friend," may be inspired to live the life of which the Lord Jesus would approve. Grant this, O Father, for the sake of Him Who is Our Saviour and Redeemer. Amen.

## LAYING OF WREATHS

by representatives of the League throughout the Union; and of kindred organizations; and by members of Service and ex-Service bodies and others.

## THE LAST POST.

*Pause.*

Remember, O Lord, all those, the brave and the true, who have died the death of honour and are departed in the hope of Resurrection to Eternal Life. In that place of Light, whence sorrow and mourning are far banished, give them rest, O Lord! Thou lover of souls. And to us who remain on earth, give the spirit of happiness and the peace which comes from living close to our dear ones and being one in Thee; until the time comes that we meet together in Thy Kingdom and death is swallowed up in victory.

## REVEILLE.

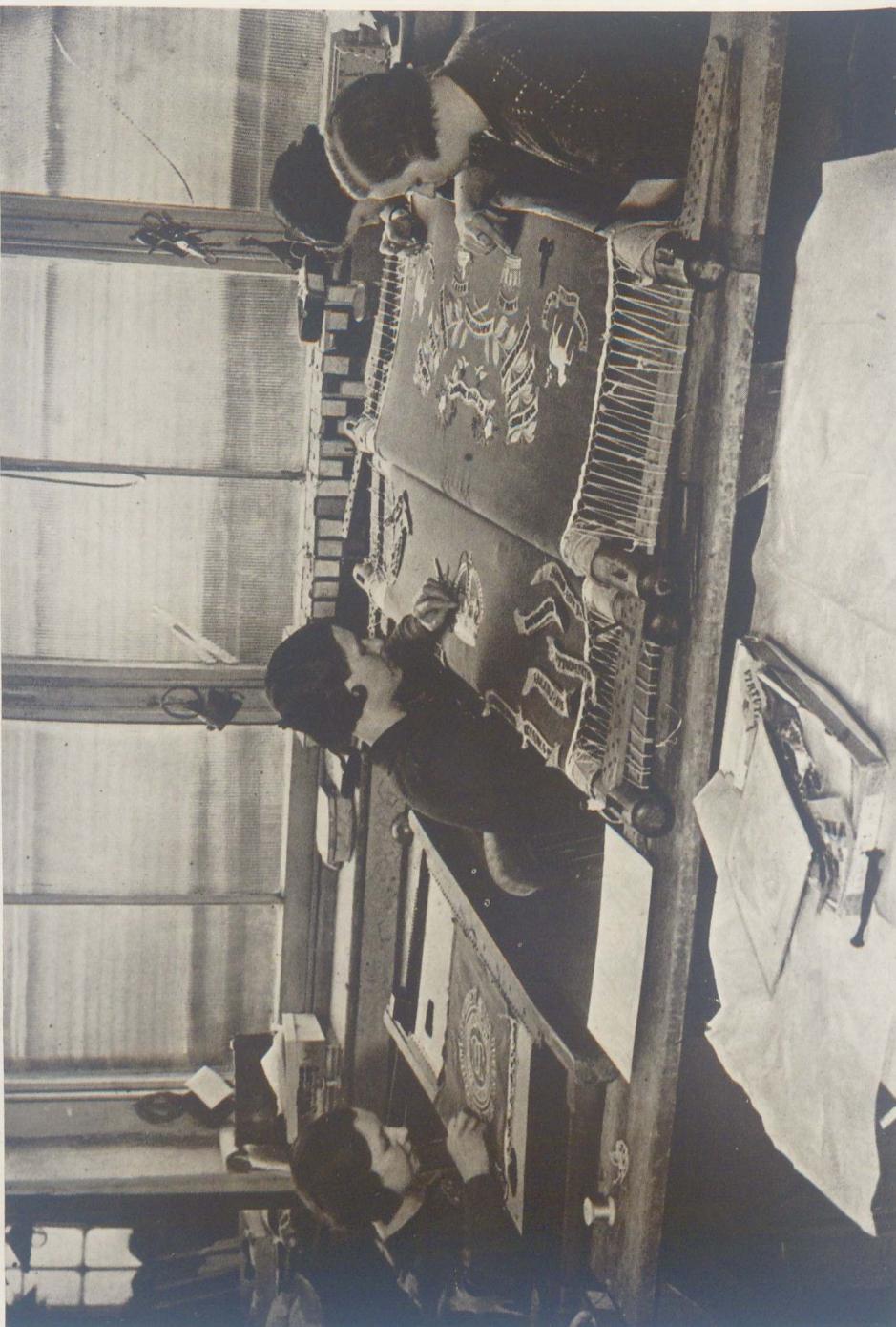
## CUSTODY.

Handing over the Tablet to The Historical Monuments Commission by The Chairman (Capt. C. Struben, O.B.E.), and the acceptance thereof by Lieut.-Col. C. Graham Botha.

## THE BLESSING.

## THE NATIONAL ANTHEM.

## 4th BATTALION.



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AT WORK ON THE NEW COLOURS.

## 4th BATTALION

*Headquarters:* The Barracks, Mitcham Road, Croydon.

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

*Commanding Officer:* Lieut.-Col. I. T. P. Hughes, M.C.

*Adjutant:* Capt. H. E. Wilson.

**A**SPECIAL Physical Training Class, including gymnastics, boxing and jujitsu, has been held regularly during the winter months under the able direction of 2/Lieut. Hayler and Sergt. Dennis, and a successful Boxing Tournament took place in the Drill Hall on 6th December.

Our Annual Prizegiving was held at the Greyhound Hotel on 15th December, and was well attended by members of the Battalion. In addition we were pleased to welcome a large representative gathering of supporters and friends. The prizes were presented by the Mayor of Croydon (Councillor E. C. Stuart Baker, C.I.E., O.B.E.). We are fortunate in the very close liaison which exists between the Borough Authorities and the Battalion. During the evening we were entertained by Bennett and Williams, well known to wireless listeners.

A Tea Party and Entertainment to the wives and families of the Battalion took place in the Drill Hall on 12th January. A Punch and Judy show and innumerable balloons (for the inflation of which we are indebted to Mrs. Beecham) enlivened the proceedings. We are grateful to the Officers' wives for the supply of most of the eatables, and to the Sergeants' Mess for their services before and during tea.

On the same evening the Officers gave a farewell dinner to Capt. J. W. M. Denton. We wish him the best of luck and, at the same time, extend to our new Adjutant, Capt. H. E. Wilson, a very hearty welcome.

Sergt. Hudson left us at the end of 1937, on completion of his tour of duty. We extend to him our best thanks and best wishes for the future.

The Roosters' Concert Party entertained the Battalion on the evening of 25th February, and we took this opportunity of inviting the Officers and Senior N.C.O.s. of the 315th Anti-Aircraft Company. New quarters for this Company have just been completed in our barracks.

Our thoughts and activities are chiefly concentrated at the moment on 7th May, when we are being honoured by a visit from Her Majesty Queen Mary to present us with new Colours. The ceremony is taking place in the grounds of Whitgift School, and Croydon is preparing to do full justice to such an important occasion. We are most grateful to Lieut.-Col. R. K. Ross, D.S.O., M.C., and the Officers of the 2nd Battalion for offering the services of their Band to play before and after the ceremony, and to Major G. A. Pilleau, M.C., for supplying us with the necessary personnel to take charge of the enclosures, etc.

Our thanks are due to the Staff of the Depot for their hospitality to the Battalion at Easter, when we stayed two days at Stoughton. Their help and instruction was invaluable and their kindness in fixing up the loud-speaker equipment for the relay of the Service of Consecration during the second rehearsal of the Presentation of the Colours was only equalled by the efficiency with which R.S.M. Osborne manfully "conducted the service."

We congratulate Major A. R. C. Stiby on his well-deserved Brevet Majority received in the New Year Honours, and we welcome the following who have joined us since the last issue of the JOURNAL: 2/Lieuts. J. H. Farmer, S. Bowes, J. R. Stedman and R. E. Tull and Sergt. Dennis. The latter is an old friend of the Battalion, and we are delighted to have him back with us again.

*"A" (S.) Company.*

Since the last issue of the JOURNAL there has been a steady influx of recruits which has heartened and encouraged everyone in the Company, and we are now within striking distance of being up to strength. There will be much hard work to be done before camp this year and a Cadre Course for N.C.O.s. has done much to assist in this direction.

The training during the winter has been interesting, and we have had a fair share of success on the miniature range. We were first in the Inter-Company Miniature Range League, second in the Whinney Cup, and second in the *Surrey Advertiser Cup* (Section "B").

During the autumn last year we again entered a team for the T.A.R.A. Decentralized Competition (Vickers Gun) which is open to the whole Territorial Army. This time we were fourteenth, which is an improvement on last year's place of eighteenth.

We welcome Mr. S. Bowes, who has just been posted to us, and who will, no doubt, be a great asset to the Company. He hails from the Whitgift School O.T.C.

*"B" Company.*

There seems little to set down of things that have occurred during the winter months. Parades were well kept up and constant practice on the miniature range was obtained in spite of certain difficulties and other heads peering round the door at 8.30 p.m. We are pleased to state that the voice production of the instructors has greatly benefited by competing with a cadre class and another company in a confined space.

Although at present the weakest in numbers, we are proud of having gained the position of Champion Company, and congratulate everyone concerned. We look forward to a useful summer season, a fine camp and the continued beneficent smiles of the Recruiting Staff.

*"C" Company.*

The Company has spent a very busy winter and has maintained a very satisfactory standard throughout. Recruiting has been steady and numbers have been kept up, despite a somewhat drastic purge of ineffectives in the New Year.

We are very glad to welcome 2/Lieut. R. Tull, from the 4th Bn. The Royal Sussex Regiment; he now commands the Lingfield Platoon.

Christmas Shoots were held at Lingfield and Caterham and were amply provided with prizes, thanks to the generosity of various friends. Since Christmas, steady progress has been made with the Empire Test and a beginning of practice on the open range. On 11th April the Caterham Detachment inflicted a severe defeat on the Coulsdon Post Office Staff on the miniature range; the defeat was, however, avenged on the dartboard. Earlier in the year we also scored a victory over "H.Q." Wing, but were beaten by "D" Company, in the Inter-Company Competition.

On 18th February we held a Company Dinner at the Caterham Drill Hall, and we were glad to welcome the Commanding Officer, representatives from other Companies and a large number of honorary members. We were especially glad to have with us R.S.M. Reynolds, R.S.M. Beecham and C.S.M. Brown, all of whom have worked very hard for the Company in the past.

We are still hopeful of acquiring a Drill Hall at Oxted which would really enable us to recruit up to strength. It is, and has been, a long wait, but we are determined not to despair.



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ANNUAL DINNER OF THE BATTALION AND PRESENTATION OF PRIZES BY THE MAYOR OF CROYDON

(Councillor E. C. Stuart-Baker).

*"D" Company.*

It is difficult to remember a time when standing as still as a statue at the "present" for seven minutes and longer was not a normal part of our routine Winter Training. Parades (or rehearsals), in preparation for the Presentation of New Colours, in May, have more or less monopolized our time this winter, and it may not be out of place to express an earnest hope that normal Spring and Summer Training will not be too much dislocated as a result.

Queen's House seems to have been adopted permanently as the Company's Headquarters, with the provision of a clothing store and a Company office; parade nights have been changed to Wednesdays.

The Coulsdon Detachment has at last outgrown its original headquarters at the Labour Hall and, at the time of writing, is in the process of moving to a slightly larger and more central hall. To the regret of all, Lieut. J. C. Pearson left the Company just before Christmas to take over the command of "B" Company. 2/Lieut. J. H. Farmer, assisted by 2/Lieut. J. R. Stedman, is now commanding at Coulsdon.

Three major social events have been held. The Company Dinner, before Christmas, was well attended, and was considered to be a great success. The Coulsdon Detachment gave a dance in March which was a very jolly affair and, in spite of this, showed a small profit! At the end of March an innovation in the way of a film show was tried out with apparent success. The film shown was "Orders is Orders" (and full supporting programme), and about 150 men of the Company and their friends were present.

The strength of the Company continues to increase and at the time of writing is 86.

Ten N.C.Os. and Senior Privates attended the Cadre Course in February, and many good results were obtained. Cpl. S. W. Kitt and L./Cpl. L. A. Fuller are to be congratulated on their high position in the Passing-out Test.

The Company was placed second to "A" Company, in the Inter-Company Miniature Range League. Sergt. Waterman, who has been responsible for training the side, has had a consistently good season.

*The Late Sergt. A. J. C. Salter.*

It was with deep regret that all ranks learnt of the death of Sergt. A. J. C. Salter, in a road accident on 18th February. Sergt. Salter had been for many years Sergeant-Cook of the Battalion, and the efficient running and cleanliness of his cookhouse has always been highly commended by all who visited it during annual training. Major H. W. Bolton, D.S.O., represented the Commanding Officer at the funeral, and members of the Sergeants' Mess, under R.S.M. Beecham, acted as bearers. The "Last Post" was sounded at the graveside by the Battalion Buglers. Wreaths were sent by Lieut.-Col. I. T. P. Hughes, the Sergeants' Mess, "H.Q." Wing, all ranks of the Battalion, and by many others.

*Golf.*

The Annual Meeting was held in the autumn at Ranelagh when the traditional Founder's Putter and President's Prize were competed for. The absence of any fruit-machines was amply compensated by the excellence of the lunch. Major Guillan and Capt. Duncan won the Founder's Putter, being 1 up on bogey. Lieut. V. Brown and Capt. J. W. M. Denton tied for the President's Prize with 68 net, and after a colossal drive off into the gathering gloom, Lieut. Brown was awarded the trophy. We are looking forward to recapturing the Colonel's Cup from the 5th Battalion this year, and there are even rumours of a Brigade Meeting.

## PRESENTATION TO H.M. QUEEN MARY

### COLONEL-IN-CHIEF OF THE REGIMENT.

WHEN it was known that Her Majesty Queen Mary, Colonel-in-Chief of the Regiment, had consented to present new Colours to the 4th Battalion on 7th May, it was decided to ask Her Majesty if she would be graciously pleased to accept from the Officers of the Regiment, present and past, as a memento of the occasion, a brooch in the form of a Regimental Badge. In response to this request the Private Secretary to Her Majesty sent the following message to the Colonel of the Regiment:—

“Queen Mary is much touched with this kind thought and will accept this memento with very real pleasure.”

The brooch was handed to the Private Secretary to Her Majesty by the Colonel of the Regiment on 12th April, and on 14th April the Private Secretary communicated the following message:—

“I have now received Queen Mary's commands to convey to you, and through you to the Officers of the Regiment, an expression of Her Majesty's very grateful thanks for this really beautiful brooch.

“Queen Mary is deeply touched to receive so charming a present from the Officers, to celebrate the occasion of the Presentation of New Colours by Her Majesty to the 4th Battalion on May 7th. Queen Mary, I need hardly assure you, will always treasure this gift, and will naturally wear it on any occasion when she may be visiting the Regiment.

“I am to add that Her Majesty greatly appreciates this thought of the Officers, present and past, of the Regiment for their Colonel-in-Chief.”

## A TYPHOON IN SOUTH CHINA

LYEMUN! The name brings back memories of wonderful half-tints, glassy seas with dream islands rising, surprisingly green, straight out of the water, of hot sun and warm sand and glorious bathing. But the name also recalls my only experience on land, of that dread monster of the China Seas—the Typhoon.

Lyemun is a small gunner barracks and settlement overlooking the gap which forms the eastern entrance to the harbour of Hong Kong. So narrow is this gap that two ships cannot pass each other and the passage has to be controlled by signals from the shore. The barracks themselves are perched up on a headland and are exposed to the full force of any gale blowing in from the sea.

At the time I speak of there was a company of the 1st Battalion sharing these barracks with the battery who are the normal garrison and who had closed up to make room for them. The men of the company were occupying two two-storeyed bungalows on the highest part of the promontory, overlooking the Chinese town of Shaokiwan, one hundred feet below at the foot of a steep khud. The Officers' Mess stood farther back, on the landward side of the football ground, and partly sheltered by the big hills which are the main features of the island of Hong Kong.

One of the duties which devolved on the Lyemun company was the charge of the typhoon station. Reports of any typhoon are always circulated by all ships and observatories in the Pacific and China Seas, and at Hong Kong there are three of these stations where typhoon signals are hoisted indicating the proximity and probable direction of the disturbance. By day the signals consist of a series of wicker-work cones, crosses, T's, circles, etc., painted black, with the exception of the “Red T,” signifying that a typhoon is imminent. By night the signals consist of various combinations of coloured lights, red, green, and white, burning paraffin and terribly prone to blow out on the smallest provocation. The signals are hoisted on a thirty-foot flagstaff erected on the highest point of the headland above Lyemun Gap.



THE DRUM-MAJOR WITH THE NEW SILVER MACE PRESENTED TO THE 2nd BATTALION BY COLONEL R. G. CLARKE.



BROOCH PRESENTED TO H.M. QUEEN MARY, COLONEL-IN-CHIEF, BY THE OFFICERS, PRESENT AND PAST.

There is usually considerable warning of the approach of a typhoon for, apart from the wireless messages from ships and stations, the weather gives various indications. It gets hot and airless, with fitful gusts of wind. The sky gets covered with long sweeps of torn cloud and surf begins to come in from the sea. The "Typhoon Bug" also makes his appearance. He is rather like a small dragon-fly and on these occasions he swarms all over the island.

In the evenings the sun sets in a blaze of crimson and gold which, reflected on the wind-torn clouds, makes a grand and awe-inspiring spectacle.

During the summer, the season when typhoons are most prevalent (although in Hong Kong they have been known in eleven out of the twelve months of the year) the early signals indicating the presence of a typhoon are continually hoisted, only to be lowered again when the typhoon has collapsed or turned away in some other direction. The result is that one is inclined to get casual and not to put too much faith in these "aids to mariners."

On the particular Sunday of which I am writing the indications were all there, and all the morning streams of sampans (Chinese boats in which whole families spend their entire lives) were to be seen hurrying to the typhoon anchorages—large basins surrounded by big walls where small craft can ride out any gale in safety.

The warships and liners were all taken to the typhoon buoys and doubly or trebly moored whilst keeping up a full head of steam to enable them to steam into the wind and thus relieve the strain on the mooring cables. The *Rawalpindi*, pride of the P. & O. fleet, and on her maiden voyage, was one of the largest ships in the harbour at the time.

At noon the force of the wind was terrific and we then got orders to hoist the Red T. This was easier said than done. The black signal meaning "gale expected from the S.W." was already flying out horizontally from the staff and was almost impossible to lower; however, it was at last hooked down by the aid of a long bamboo pole. Then the Red T, standing about five foot high, was made fast to the halyards and an attempt made to hoist it. More and more men were put on the lines without being able to get it to the mast-head, and at last the toggles gave way and the Red T floated away towards the harbour at a tremendous pace and was lost to sight in the mist and rain. The flagstaff stood fully one hundred feet above the water, but the spray was cutting our faces and arms as we worked. All ranks were now ordered indoors and the buildings were shut and barricaded.

All buildings in Hong Kong are provided with heavy wooden shutters and these, in turn, are secured with a transverse bar which fits into sockets in the wall, thus preventing the shutters from being forced in. These were now secured and we settled down to wait for the storm to break. This happened almost at once, with a wind of 115 miles per hour and a noise like the roaring of the dreaded Chinese Dragon himself, and rain lashing horizontally and tearing great gashes in the hillsides.

In the Mess we were early in trouble. B— had been in bed for several days and was in no state to get up and do battle with the elements, so I went up to see how he was getting on. I found that the window fastenings had given way and that water was pouring in across the floor and soaking through the roof. We packed his kit and stood the boxes on bricks to try and keep them dry, and then transferred him to another room.

The Chinese "boys" muttering "typhoon he come" had departed early to seek shelter down in Shaokiwan, so what lunch we managed to collect was of a damp and tinny nature.

At 2 o'clock a message arrived to say that the roof of No. 2 Bungalow was beginning to go. I, therefore, arrayed myself in a bathing suit, gumboots, a rain-coat and a steel helmet, and prepared to sally forth with the unfortunate messenger who showed no desire to make the return journey.

On leaving the building one realized for the first time the tremendous power of the wind. In order to stand, one had to bend almost double or lean against

something solid. The air was full of flying tiles, and an occasional sheet of corrugated iron whirled past for all the world like a piece of paper in a March wind in an English street. Under these conditions I found the prospect of our journey anything but attractive and I thoroughly understood the feelings of the messenger; however, there was nothing else to be done, so forth we fared.

The goalpost on the football ground had been snapped right off and was lying up over the half-way line. Going over this open stretch it was impossible to keep on one's feet and we were reduced to crawling on all fours through the miniature lakes which covered the whole surface and which were being whipped off in spray the moment they were formed.

It seemed to take years to reach that bungalow and by the time that we did, the roof had already gone and the men from the top floor had managed to get down in safety.

Now the other bungalow was showing signs of giving way, and while I was there the staples of one of the typhoon bars gave way and the shutters blew in with a crash. This let in the full force of the wind and the roof, lifted from below, began to heave and disintegrate, so we hastily cleared that room too and moved everyone down to the lower floors. Here they appeared to be reasonably safe, and as no more could be done I made my way back to the Mess, which I was extremely grateful to reach with a whole skin. Here, too, the roof had given way and water was pouring through everywhere; it was about four or five in the afternoon and, owing to the heavy clouds and rain, was getting dark. The electric wires were all down, so there was no chance of getting any lights; we, therefore, sought out the only dry place left in the whole Mess, which was under the billiard table, and there we settled down to wait and see what would happen. There were three Gunner subalterns and our own four company officers. One of the Gunners was starting a really good go of malaria and B— was a very sick man. The cover of the table was waterproof and was now a large pond, so we had to be careful that we did not spill it.

In this state, we, in company with one bottle of whisky and one of ginger wine, spent the rest of the time until the typhoon blew itself out at about midnight, and the roars and crashes of the last twelve hours were succeeded by a most extraordinary silence.

This was by no means one of the worst typhoons known, although it lasted much longer than usual, and it could not compare with that which wrecked the harbour in 1921, and which, owing to its unexpectedness (it had not been reported from anywhere) created havoc amongst the junks and sampans, and beached a submarine three miles down the harbour, where she was lying, a few twisted ribs of steel, in 1927, the year of which I am writing.

We discovered afterwards that the *Rawalpindi* had had a very narrow escape as she had dragged her anchors, causing wide destruction among the cables in the harbour, and only being brought to within a few feet of the Bund outside the Hong Kong Club.

Only a year or two ago a very bad typhoon formed in Hong Kong and swept up the West River causing widespread death and destruction, both among the shipping and on land, until it reached Canton where it broke up. I was told by an officer who was serving in one of the West River gunboats that, during this typhoon, they had an upright piano lashed on deck. The force of the wind parted the lashings and the piano disappeared over the side!

Any upheaval of nature is a very interesting experience once it is over, but an extremely alarming one while it lasts. One can usually put a limit to what man can achieve but one has no idea of how far nature will go and it is very trying while one is waiting to find out.

The contrast between Lyemun on a still, warm, sunny evening and the raging inferno of that Sunday is one that I shall find it hard to forget.

B. C. H.

## 5th BATTALION

*Headquarters:* The Drill Hall, Guildford.

*Honorary Colonel:* Col. Sir R. H. Dorman-Smith, Kt., M.P.

*Commanding Officer:* Lieut.-Col. G. V. Palmer.

*Adjutant:* Capt. L. C. East.

**S**INCE the last issue of the JOURNAL various changes have taken place among the Officers. Col. W. Sturmy Cave, D.S.O., T.D., has given up the command of the Battalion, which has been taken over by Major G. V. Palmer, who is promoted Lieutenant-Colonel. Capt. J. B. P. Phillips has been succeeded as Adjutant by Capt. L. C. East, and has sailed for India to join the 1st Battalion. Major J. H. R. Dickson, M.C., has retired, and has been appointed to the Reserve of Officers. Capt. A. J. E. Pakenham has been promoted Major; Lieut. N. B. Riches and Lieut. T. Fetherstonhaugh have been promoted Captain; and 2/Lieut. A. G. Neale has been promoted Lieutenant. 2/Lieutenant J. R. Handscomb has transferred to the 30th (Surrey) Anti-Aircraft Battalion, R.E.; while R. A. F. Johnston, J. F. Mawe and J. F. Carroll have joined the Battalion as Second-Lieutenants.

We should like to take this opportunity of wishing all good fortune to those Officers who have left, and a happy and successful time with the Battalion to those who have joined.

In the Sergeants' Mess, the chief changes have been occasioned by the retirement of C.S.M. Reeves, C.S.M. Russell and Clr./Sergt. Cobbett, from "B" Company, "C" (S.) Company, and "D" Company, respectively. They have all served the Battalion long and well, and their departure will be a great loss. Clr./Sergt. Hogsflesh and Sergt. Pullan have been promoted Company Sergeant-Major; while Sergt. Delaney has joined from the 2nd Battalion. Sergt. Brewer has been promoted Colour-Sergeant, of "B" Company, and Sergt. Munday, Colour-Sergeant of "D" Company. Cpl. Couttie, of "D" Company, has been promoted Sergeant.

In January, the Battalion Boxing Championships were held at Guildford, the results being as follows: 1st, "C" (S.) Company; 2nd, "A" Company; 3rd, "D" Company; 4th, "B" Company. At the conclusion, the prizes were presented by the Honorary Colonel of the Battalion, Sir R. H. Dorman-Smith, Kt., M.P. The Battalion took second place to the 6th Battalion, in the 131st Infantry Brigade Boxing Championships, held at Bermondsey. The following were the results:—

*Heavy-weight.*—Runner-up, L./Cpl. Rush, "B" Company.

*Welter-weight.* Winner, Pte. Shackleton, "C" (S.) Company.

*Light-weight.*—Winner, Pte. Hood, "B" Company.

*Bantam-weight.*—Winner, Pte. Bailey, "C" (S.) Company.

In the 44th (H.C.) Division Territorial Army Championships, at St. John's Hill, London, the Battalion tied for first place. Pte. Shackleton and Pte. Bailey won their weights, while Pte. Hood was runner-up.

Pte. Bailey was defeated in the semi-final of the Territorial Army Championship, but Pte. Shackleton defeated the holder for the past three years in the final, and became the Territorial Army Welter-weight Champion for 1938. Since then he has become the I.S.B.A. Champion, and in the Amateur Championship was defeated in the semi-final by the eventual winner.

In March, an Embodiment Scheme was carried out at Company Drill Halls, followed the next day by a Concentration at Guildford. The "turn-out," both in numbers and appearance, was very good. Companies arrived by bus at Guildford, and marched to Blackheath, a distance of about seven miles, where dinners were

eaten. An attack scheme took place during the afternoon, followed by teas and then dispersal, again by bus.

The Scheme had been done previously by the Officers in the form of a T.E.W.T.

The following is the result of the Inter-Detachment Miniature Range Competition, which was fired during the winter months:—

		Stage 1.	Stage 2.	Stage 3.	Total.
1.	" C " Company, Haslemere	...	481	489	485 1,455
2.	" D " Company, Farncombe	...	461	487	465 1,413
3.	" A " Company, Reigate ...	...	446	456	442 1,344
4.	" B " Company, Farnham	...	436	429	467 1,342
5.	" D " Company, Woking ...	...	414	372	419 1,205
6.	" A " Company, Dorking ...	...	264	324	341 929

*Pte. E. D. Shackleton.*—Pte. Shackleton is to be congratulated on his boxing efforts during his first year in the Territorial Army. He joined the Battalion as a recruit in July, 1937, and has gained success after success. He has been a real boxing enthusiast since his early days and has taken part in a number of contests. He is a member of the Guildford Amateur Boxing Club, and of the Battersea Amateur Boxing Club. Nevertheless, to win an I.S.B.A. Championship and to get into the semi-final of the Amateur Championship at his first attempt, in each case, are no mean achievements. It is hoped that next year he will succeed in winning the Amateur Championship.

*" A " Company (Reigate and Dorking).*

The most important event, probably, since last these notes were written, was the revival of the Company's Prize-giving. This took place on 7th January, the prizes being presented by Lieut.-Col. Dudley Lewis, D.S.O., M.C., Deputy-Mayor of Reigate, who expressed his pleasure at being among local soldiers, and he only wished there were more of them. He was glad to hear that they had improved in keenness, for it was not only numbers that counted, but keenness and efficiency. The men of the Company were performing a national duty by belonging to the Territorial Army.

The prize-winners were as follows:—

*Jubilee Cup (Best Rifle Shot).*—Sergt. Ellis.

*Lambert Cup (Best Lewis Gun Shot).*—Sergt. Chapman.

*Cubitt Cup (Best Recruit Shot).*—Pte. Tizard.

*Searle Cup (Most number of Drills).*—Sergt. Ellis and L./Cpl. Hopkins.

*Neale Cup (best turned-out man).*—L./Cpl. G. Hopkins.

*Tent Competition.*—Cpl. Sears; Ptes. Worsfold, Hill, Wayland, Taylor and Remington; and Boy Reeves.

In Boxing this year we took a further step up the ladder, and were second to "C" Company, whom we heartily congratulate on winning. Cpl. Sears, and Ptes. Bundle and Jones were reserves for the Battalion in the Brigade Boxing, and at the last minute Pte. Jones was called upon to fight. He put up a most plucky fight against a heavier man from the 6th Battalion, and just lost.

Strong as possible parades are now taking place once a month at Reigate and Dorking, alternatively, and at these parades the Company Commander is endeavouring to arrange lectures of interest as a change from the usual drills. Lectures, so far, have been given by the Company Commander on "Air Defence"; by Lieut. R. Bright, The Royal Tank Corps, on "Tanks"; and by Capt. Fetherstonhaugh on "The Fighting in Spain." Lecturers are becoming rather scarce, and anyone who reads these notes and would like to come and lecture will be very welcome.

In the meantime we have been asked to take part in a local Tattoo at the end of June, supported by a Detachment of the Irish Guards and the Drums of the 7th Battalion. About forty to fifty men are required for three nights and two rehearsals beforehand, and we hope these volunteers will be forthcoming.



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PRESENTATION OF PRIZES BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF THE TERRITORIAL ARMY,

GENERAL SIR WALTER M. ST. G. KIRKE, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.

*"B" Company (Camberley and Farnham).*

Since the last issue of the JOURNAL we have seen several changes in the Company. We regret the loss of Major J. H. R. Dickson, M.C., who retired, and was appointed to the Reserve of Officers; and of C.S.M. Reeves, on reaching the age limit. Lieut. N. B. Riches has been promoted Captain and taken over command of the Company.

Sergt. M. J. Delaney has joined us from the 2nd Battalion as part-time Instructor, and we wish him a pleasant stay with us.

*Promotions.*—Our congratulations go to Clr./Sergt. Hogsflesh on his promotion to Warrant Officer, Class II.

*Shooting.*—Shooting in the Company has reached a very high standard. We were placed second in the High Sheriff's Challenge Shield, the team being as follows: C.S.M. Hogsflesh; Sergt. Bannister; L./Sergt. Goodchild; L./Cpls. Ellis and Sergison; and Ptes. Willans and Davey.

*Company Prize-giving.*—The distribution of prizes took place at the Farnham Drill Hall on Wednesday, 22nd December. The cups and prizes were presented by Major J. H. R. Dickson, M.C. The prize-giving was followed by a very enjoyable evening's entertainment in the form of a dance, at which the Excelsior Dance Band performed.

*Minature Range Championship.*—The Company tied for first place with the 6th Bn. The East Surrey Regiment, and on the shoot-off lost the championship, the scores being as follows:—

6th Bn. The East Surrey Regiment, 552 points; "B" Company, 5th Bn. The Queen's Royal Regiment, 527 points.

*St. Patrick's Ball.*—The 12th Annual Ball was held at the Camberley Drill Hall on Friday, 18th March, about 250 people attending. This was a most successful evening. The Band of the Royal Military College, Sandhurst, played for the dancing. The hall was effectively decorated with evergreens, enlarged shamrock leaves and ribbons of Regimental colour, lighted from behind. The decorations were carried out by Mrs. Lomas Smith, whom we should like to thank for her hard work.

*"C" Company (Guildford and Haslemere).*

Our first and foremost note for this issue is our congratulations to our Company Commander, Capt. A. J. E. Pakenham, on his promotion to Major. At the same time, we extend a hearty welcome to 2/Lieut. F. J. Carroll, who has been posted to the Company.

We congratulate the Haslemere Detachment on bringing the Inter-Company Small-bore Shield to the Company. By leading in each stage, they ran out easy winners.

This year we managed to win the Inter-Company Boxing Championship by the large margin of 7 points—a very creditable performance for those taking part. The final placings for the Company were:—

*Heavy-weight.*—Runner-up, L./Cpl. Burt.

*Light Heavy-weight.*—Winner, L./Cpl. Hathaway; runner-up, Pte. Pearson.

*Middle-weight.*—Winner, Cpl. Homersham.

*Welter-weight.*—Winner, Pte. Shackleton.

*Light-weight.*—Winner, Pte. McTravers.

*Feather-weight.*—Winner, Pte. Newman; runner-up, Pte. Eastwood.

*Fly-weight.*—Runner-up, Boy Cheeseman.

In the Brigade Boxing Championships, Pte. Shackleton won the Welter-weight and Pte. Bailey the Bantam-weight Competitions. L./Cpl. Hathaway and Cpl. Homersham lost on points in their respective weights. Ptes. Shackleton and Bailey went on to win their weights in the Divisional Championships, and this is the second year in succession that Pte. Bailey has won this competition.

## LEFT AND RIGHT.

The semi-final of the Territorial Army Championships proved the end for Pte. Bailey this season. He lost on points to the eventual Territorial Army Champion, after a very close fight. Pte. Shackleton, however, fared much better. He won his weight to become Territorial Army Champion, and going still further, became Imperial Services Champion—a great performance. He has our wholehearted congratulations and wishes for further success next year.

February saw us bidding farewell to C.S.M. Russell, after a good many years with the Battalion. In presenting him with a silver inscribed watch from all ranks of the Company, Major Pakenham regretted the loss of his services and wished him every success in future life. A very enjoyable evening was spent in the club to mark the occasion. At the same time, we welcomed C.S.M. Pullan back to the Company after his short tour of duty in "H.Q." Wing, as Pioneer Sergeant, and wish him all the best for the future. He should be still up to scratch in drill, after the way he put it across the fly army and buckets in camp last year.

During the winter, we held another short course in Machine Gun and Anti-Gas, which was well attended throughout, and proved very useful to the younger officers and N.C.O.s. We thank Sergt. Delaney for his services in the Anti-Gas side of it. As he has now joined the Battalion we shall see more of him, and wish him all the best in his new position.

## LEFT AND RIGHT?

At breakfast time on the third day of our stay in Kumandih Forest Rest House, the Range Officer came up to me at the double with the exciting news that there had been a tiger kill in one of our two possible tiger beats. He had already collected 150 beaters and wanted us to start out as soon as possible, so that the woodcutters, when they started work in the neighbouring forest, should not disturb the tiger's siesta.

On arriving at the rendezvous, which was a quarter of a mile from the line of machans (they were twelve in number), the four of us and the Range Officer drew lots for our places in the line. The spare machans were occupied by coolies, whose job it was to turn the tiger, if possible, to one of the guns' machans. The walk to the machans was carried out in complete silence. When everyone was safely ensconced in his respective machan, the Range Officer sent a coolie to give word to the beaters to start.

Before going any further I should like to try and describe briefly the lay of the land. The beat was across a valley covered by thickly-growing sal trees with tall jungle grass beneath them. Six or seven shallow nullahs, sparsely covered with dried-up shrubs and leaves, wound their way past the machans and up into the dense foliage of the hills beyond.

Sometime after hearing the sounds of the beat starting in the distance I was brought excitedly to the alert by hearing the unmistakable sound of a tiger's growl about two hundred yards to my left. I strained my eyes in that direction, but neither saw nor heard anything further. Some minutes later a barking deer called, and could be seen running through the trees in front. After a further lapse of time, when my attention was perhaps beginning to relax, my notice was brought to the ground on my right by a sign from my companion.

There, two hundred yards away, advancing slowly towards me from the thick jungle and through the grass, was a large tigress, followed by her even larger mate.

Keeping absolutely still I waited for the chance of a reasonably certain shot. However, they passed out of sight into the thick bushes in front of the stop. By this time I was standing upright in the machan on the offchance of getting another



LEFT AND RIGHT ?—THE VICTIM.



1st BATTALION—CHRISTMAS DUCK SHOOT ON ELEPHANTS.

glimpse of them. Then to my delight and surprise, the tiger having retraced his steps, appeared in full view and stood eighty yards from me looking in the direction whence he had come. I took as accurate an aim as possible under the circumstances at a spot just behind the shoulder, and fired. The tiger spun round with a roar and vanished with a crash into the jungle on my right. Almost simultaneously its mate appeared from a spot thirty yards to my right front accompanied by yet another full-grown tigress, and trotted across an open glade towards me. Choosing the leader I shot the other barrel at her and knocked her over. She turned a complete somersault and, apparently, at her last gasp, crawled into a bamboo clump, as I feverishly loaded with two more rounds.

No sounds came from the bush, but I thought I saw something move so I fired a third shot. After this no more movement could be heard. I waited a few minutes before blowing my whistle to stop the beat, so as to let the third tiger have a chance of coming to the gun on my right, but nothing further occurred. I later heard that the tiger's crash had been heard and about five minutes afterwards the second tigress, which had not been shot at, had been seen going up the hill.

The elephant was called up and the other guns taken to a place of safety. Then "X" and I went to look for the dead tiger on the back of the elephant. After a somewhat cautious search we came to the conclusion that there was one, if not two, wounded tigers lying up in the neighbouring jungle.

Walking up on foot being absolutely out of the question, anyhow for twenty-four hours, and also sheer madness in that dense cover, we decided to let them lie for some hours and then walk up on the elephant behind a herd of buffaloes.

After some beer and lunch three of us went off on the elephant to the rendezvous arranged with the buffalo men. While proceeding from there to the area where the tigers lay, our mahout casually informed us that his elephant was in the habit of bolting at the sight of a tiger and did not keep to the maidan, but went through the jungle knocking down trees! This statement did not cheer us much, and was a trifle unexpected; however, there was nothing else for it but to go on and hope for the best.

Soon after starting the walk up there were cries of "Blood here!" from the extremely brave buffalo men. It was impossible to stop one of them from walking in front and bringing back samples of fresh drops of blood. This went on for some time until the buffaloes in the van suddenly bunched together and halted, and the tracker also got behind. Our elephant, being a little headstrong, did not manage to stop so quickly and almost trod on the tiger. The latter jumped out of the grass with a snarl and tore off through the high grass. At the same time the elephant shied, and turning round, bolted trumpeting through the trees. "Y," who was sitting on the side nearest the tiger, fired a shot and nearly fell off in doing so. So with thumbs fumbling somewhat inaccurately for safety catches we continued our headlong career through the jungle through trees whose low-hanging branches whipped our faces, down steep nullahs and up the other sides, until we finally came to rest, somewhat scratched and shaken, but none the worse for the hair-raising ride. After this we continued homeward, though at a less hectic pace, except when "X's" topee fell off and caused the elephant to bolt again, only this time on the maidan.

The following day a hundred buffaloes were put through from the side that the beat had come from on the previous day, the machans opposite being occupied by guns. The tiger first shot at was found about fifty yards from where it had been hit, with a bullet through its heart. It measured 9 ft. 6 in.

The other tiger was never found. The Forest Officer and I found its fresh tracks in a nullah about a mile away, and we saw, in three places, the marks of where it had laid down.

Much as we disliked leaving such a dangerous animal as a wounded tiger at large, the search had now to be abandoned as the jungle at this point had become impenetrable.

## 6th BATTALION.

### 6th (BERMONDSEY) BATTALION

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

*Honorary Colonel: Col. C. F. H. Greenwood, C.B., D.S.O., O.B.E., T.D., D.L.*

*Commanding Officer: Lieut.-Col. W. R. Darnell.*

*Adjutant: Capt. R. M. Burton.*

**C**ONSIDERABLE activity has been experienced in recent months, in common with other units of the Territorial Army, due to the general tendency to "hot things up," regardless of expense. The response, as regards officers, has been more than satisfactory, and we now have a full establishment, and have been in the rather unusual and unpleasant position of having to turn down the applications of two very suitable candidates. The response, as far as the rank and file are concerned, whilst not so spectacular, has shown a gradually increasing tendency, and the type of young man who is coming forward is very satisfactory.

The official opening of the new Company's Headquarters, at New Cross, took place on 31st March, the ceremony being performed by the Deputy Director-General of the Territorial Army, Major-General Sir John Brown. Major Bevington organized a very successful demonstration which held the interest of many local employers who had been invited, as well as considerable numbers of potential recruits. As he had been able to procure for the occasion a Trench Mortar and also the elusive Bren Gun, the interest was not solely confined to those outside the Battalion. The enthusiasm of the young men of about eight years of age, who were allowed to fire a few rounds with a machine-gun fitted with a blank-firing attachment, augurs well for recruiting in the years to come. We wish this Company every success and hope that Jamaica Road will, in the near future, be re-built in such style as to offer the same amenities for the parent headquarters.

Our Annual Armistice Sunday Church Parade was held on 7th November, and His Worship The Mayor attended the service and visited the Mess afterwards. There is always a very good attendance of Old Comrades at this service, and we welcome this annual opportunity of renewing acquaintance with old friends. On Armistice Day, a short ceremony was held at our own War Memorial, and a wreath was laid by Capt. Patterson, whilst one officer and four other ranks, with Colours and escort, attended the ceremony at the Royal Exchange.

At the instigation of our Honorary Colonel, Col. C. F. H. Greenwood, a 22nd London Regiment (The Queen's) Officers' Dinner Club was founded and had its first dinner on 22nd November, at the Hotel Splendide. This proved a very enjoyable evening and, thanks to the hard work of Capt. Hayford, M.C., the dinner was very well attended. Everyone was determined that this function should be supported in strength annually so that the 22nd London Regiment (The Queen's) should always be associated with the newly-named 6th Battalion of the Regiment.

The Inter-Company Boxing Competition was held on 26th November, and was won by "B" Company. Detailed results were as follows:—

*Fly-weight (8 st.).—Winner, Pte. G. E. Potter, "A" Company; runner-up, Pte. W. A. Saunders, "A" Company.*

*Bantam-weight (8 st. 6 lb.).—No competition.*

*Feather-weight (9 st.).—Winner, Pte. A. Williams, "B" Company; runner-up, Pte. H. Williams, "B" Company.*

*Light-weight (9 st. 9 lb.).—Winner, Pte. S. Dacey, "D" (S.) Company; runner-up, Pte. A. Garrard, "B" Company.*

*Welter-weight (10 st. 7 lb.).—Winner, Sergt. F. J. Dimsdale, "C" Company; runner-up, Pte. G. C. Wightman, "C" Company.*

*Middle-weight (11 st. 6 lb.).—Winner, Pte. J. Clements, "A" Company; runner-up, Pte. A. Stocking, "A" Company.*



THE D.D.G. OF THE TERRITORIAL ARMY, MAJOR-GENERAL SIR JOHN BROWN, OPENING THE NEW COMPANY H.Q. AT NEW CROSS.



SWEARING-IN NEW RECRUITS AT NEW CROSS.

*Light Heavy-weight (12 st. 7 lb.).—No competition.*  
*Heavy-weight.—No competition.*

*Result.—1, "B" Company, 16 points; 2, "A" Company, 15 points.*

General Sir Walter Kirke, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., Director-General of the Territorial Army, gave away the prizes at the Annual Prize-giving and Regimental Ball, held on 16th December. General and Lady Kirke stayed on for some time and joined in the dancing. The evening was a great success, and the festivities were kept up until a late hour. This week in the year is always an exhausting one, as there is only just time to recover from the Ball when the Children's Party takes place. A very cheerful and noisy party was thoroughly enjoyed by the 150 children who attended. His Worship The Mayor, and the Mayoress, were present, and joined in the fun.

We were very glad that the hard work put in by 2/Lieuts. A. R. and P. E. French and A. J. S. Cox and the boxers was crowned with success by the winning of the 131st Brigade Boxing Championship on 29th January, this being the first occasion on which we had competed in this meeting. We were fortunate to have four winners and three runners-up out of the eight weights (11 points out of a possible 16). Details are:—

*Heavy-weight.—Winner, Pte. J. Croly.*  
*Light Heavy-weight.—Winner, Pte. W. J. Hodder.*  
*Middle-weight.—Winner, Pte. S. Clements.*  
*Feather-weight.—Winner, L./Cpl. J. Wainwright.*  
*Light-weight.—Runner-up, Pte. H. W. Boyce.*  
*Bantam-weight.—Runner-up, Pte. W. Saunders.*  
*Fly-weight.—Runner-up Pte. C. W. A. Simpson.*

Whilst on the subject of boxing, we wish to congratulate Pte. Shackleton, of the 5th Battalion, on winning the Territorial Army and I.S.B.A. Welter-weight Championships.

On 19th March a Ladies' Tea Party was held for the wives and relatives of members of the Battalion. About 150 attended, and after doing full justice to the fare, enjoyed an entertainment.

We regret exceedingly to have to announce the death of Sergt. Pusey, after so many years' association with the Battalion. The funeral took place on 8th March, and wreaths were sent by Brigade Headquarters, Officers' Mess, Sergeants' Mess, All Ranks of the Battalion, and "Friends of 'D' (S.) Company."

2/Lieut. Topping set about organizing football in the Battalion this winter, and has been successful in arousing considerable enthusiasm. Matches were played every Saturday, and an Inter-Company competition was held. Next season we hope to field two teams every Saturday in order to give all those who want to play a chance of doing so. This year the personnel of the team has been changed constantly in order to give practice to the greatest possible number of serving members.

Camp, this year, is to be held at Wannock, and we trust that the weather will be kinder to us than it was on the occasion of our former visit to this camp with our old brigade. When the weather is really bad there is no wetter or more dismal camp in the country. At the time of writing, a party of about 70, composed of young officers, senior N.C.Os., and junior leaders, is preparing to depart to the Speen area of Buckinghamshire, under Major Pope and Capt. Boyd, in order to carry out four days' training at Easter under bivouac conditions.

Congratulations to 2/Lieut. A. J. S. Cox and 2/Lieut. P. G. Bird, on being commissioned; also to Capt. R. H. Pontifex on becoming the proud father of a daughter.

It is with regret that we say "good-bye" to Capt. Denny-Brown, our Medical Officer, who has been forced by pressure of work to transfer to the Reserve.

## 7th (SOUTHWARK) BATTALION

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

*Hon. Colonel: Col. W. G. Simpson, C.M.G., D.S.O., T.D.*

*Commanding Officer: Lieut.-Col. P. Adams.*

*Adjutant: Capt. D. C. G. Dickinson.*

**M**OST important of the many recent occurrences of note is the "adoption" of the Battalion by the Worshipful Company of Fishmongers. We are proud to be associated with such a famous City Company. It received its first Charter during the reign of Edward I, about 1272, and has its Hall just within the boundary of the City of London, across London Bridge. It is interesting to note that the Fishmongers Company is one of the few Guilds which still retain an active interest in the craft for which they were formed.

The Director-General of the Territorial Army honoured us by coming to present our prizes. General Sir Walter Kirke was accompanied by Lady Kirke, and his visit marked the last occasion upon which Col. D. G. Adams was with us as Commanding Officer, and Capt. A. P. Block as Adjutant. Little remains to be added to the eulogies paid to these two in the last number of the JOURNAL, but mention may, perhaps, be made of the magnificent new Officers' Attendance Book presented by Col. Adams, and of Capt. Block's efforts to form a military library for officers and his working of the Commission Agents' business, for the benefit of Commanding Officer's Fund, upon the occasion of the Savage Cup Competition. His efforts for the Battalion were appropriately, and spontaneously, rewarded by the gift of a barometer from the members of the canteen.

The Right Reverend The Lord Bishop of Southwark has graciously accepted the appointment of Chaplain to the Battalion.

The usual routine has been carried on, but there have been a few variations from past practice. The Commanding Officer's ordered parades now take the form of a march, in uniform, under each Company Commander in turn.

The Rifle Club has been better supported than in the past, and we hope that this will lead to better shooting in the Annual Course. Unfortunately, we have to go to Purfleet in future, and some of us can remember having been bitten by horseflies there in the past.

There is evidence that the new Headquarters are more popular than the old in the success of canteen concerts, in the frequent demands for Inter-Company matches at canteen games, and in the general increase of members of the Regiment attending. "H.Q." Wing appear to be the most proficient Company at canteen games. The new vehicle sheds have increased the interest in the Battalion Transport.

Three short plays were produced by Mrs. D. G. Adams, in aid of the Commanding Officer's Fund, early in December. We are very grateful to all who participated in an evening which was enjoyed by all and resulted in a good profit for a deserving cause.

The drill competition for the Savage Cup caused much interest and the result was closer than for many years. "C" Company won again, but "H.Q." Wing surprised everyone present by ending a close second. Rumour has it that only one person ventured to include them in the "forecast pool," which resulted in a clean sweep, to the benefit of the Commanding Officer's Fund. "C" Company were also the most successful Company in the Annual Weapon Training Course.

There have been several T.E.W.T.s., and most of us have some recollections of Farningham, Valenciennes and/or Paris and Wannock. A Communication Exercise and several Signal Schemes have been held in Richmond Park.

The Officers gave a dinner to the outgoing Mayor of Southwark (Councillor C. J. Mills), and welcomed his successor, Councillor Mrs. P. Tidy. We were pleased to see her, accompanied by the Mayoress, at the Christmas Party.

There were the usual good attendances at the Old Comrades', Sergeants' and London Territorial Dinners. Company Dinners and Dances at Headquarters have been well supported.

There have been many changes in personnel. "A" Company has lost its Company Commander, Major R. H. Senior, upon his becoming Second-in-Command and P.R.I. He has been succeeded by Capt. H. L. Adams, and 2/Lieut. D. C. Snowdon has been posted to that Company.

In "B" Company, Capt. J. R. Priestley had to transfer to the Reserve when business took him to Scotland. Lieut. E. W. D. Stillwell was promoted Captain and appointed to command, and 2/Lieut. E. H. Ibbetson was posted to the Company.

"C" Company have been deprived of C.S.M. G. A. Copps, upon his promotion to Regimental Quartermaster Sergeant. He had been Company Sergeant-Major for so many years that it will be hard for C.S.M. J. Fullick to follow his record of success. Sergt. Sullivan has succeeded Clr./Sergt. H. J. Prockter, as Company Quartermaster Sergeant.

The only notable changes in "D" (S.) Company are the transfer of Lieut. F. J. Snowdon, from the Signals, and the arrival of 2/Lieut. J. S. Wyatt.

"H.Q." Wing has lost R.Q.M.S. Collins and C.S.M. H. C. Fluke. Both had rendered such yeoman service to the Regiment and Territorial Army for very many years that their places will not be easy to fill. It is interesting to note that R.Q.M.S. Collins, as a Corporal, was one of the first half-dozen men to transfer from the 4th Volunteer Battalion of The Queen's Royal Regiment to the 24th Battalion The County of London Regiment, as this Battalion became known upon the formation of the Territorial Army. C.S.M. Copps and Clr./Sergt. Prockter have been appointed to fill the vacancies; and Sergt. Bremer, from "A" Company, has been appointed Company Quartermaster Sergeant, *vice* Clr./Sergt. F. Trodd, upon his reversion to Sergeant. 2/Lieut. J. H. Gill has succeeded Lieut. Snowdon as Signal Officer.

We accord our best wishes to Lieut.-Col. P. Adams, upon assuming command, and welcome Capt. D. C. G. Dickinson to succeed Capt. Block as Adjutant. We have known him for so long that we have little fear that he will fall short of his predecessor's excellent record with us. Sergt. H. Palmer has received his Long Service and Good Conduct Medal, and Sergt. W. Whelan has succeeded Sergt. R. W. Wyles.

We congratulate Major J. H. Senior and Capt. H. E. T. Ross upon their promotions, and accord our best wishes to 2/Lieut. P. A. B. Ashton upon his marriage. In addition to the new officers already mentioned, we also welcome Lieut. A. B. G. Dickinson.

Easter Training was carried out at Pirbright Camp in excellent weather, in spite of a bitterly cold wind. Much hard work was done, and the coldest day was spent on the range, from 9 a.m. till 6.30 p.m.

### REGIMENTAL DINNER (OFFICERS).

The Regimental Dinner will take place on Monday, 6th June (Whit Monday), at the United Service Club, Pall Mall, S.W.1, at 7.45 p.m. Notice of dining to be sent to the Hon. Secretary, Col. R. G. Clarke, C.M.G., D.S.O., Barham House, Barham, Canterbury, not later than 1st June.

## CHAUBATTIA TO THE PINDARI GLACIER

THIS trek, best done in May or October, is well worth repeating by officers who visit Ranikhet this hill season. The total distance is eighty-five miles from Ranikhet, but by taking a lorry to Someswar the trekking distance is reduced to sixty-two miles out and sixty-two back.

Starting from Chaubattia on the afternoon of 12th October, and sleeping that night at Someswar, we reached the Glacier on the 19th and were back in Chaubattia on the evening of the 24th. The journey was done in the following stages:—

- 12th. Chaubattia to Someswar (by lorry).
- 13th. Someswar to Bageswar, 15 miles.
- 14th. Bageswar to Kapkote, 14 miles.
- 15th. Kapkote to Loharkhet, 8½ miles.
- 16th. Loharkhet to Dhakuri, 5½ miles.
- 17th. Dhakuri to Dwali, 12 miles.
- 18th. Dwali to Phurkia, 3 miles.
- 19th. Phurkia to the Glacier, 4½ miles and return to Phurkia.
- 20th. Phurkia to Khatia, 10 miles.
- 21st. Khatia to Loharkhet, 10½ miles.
- 22nd, 23rd and 24th. Same as outward journey.

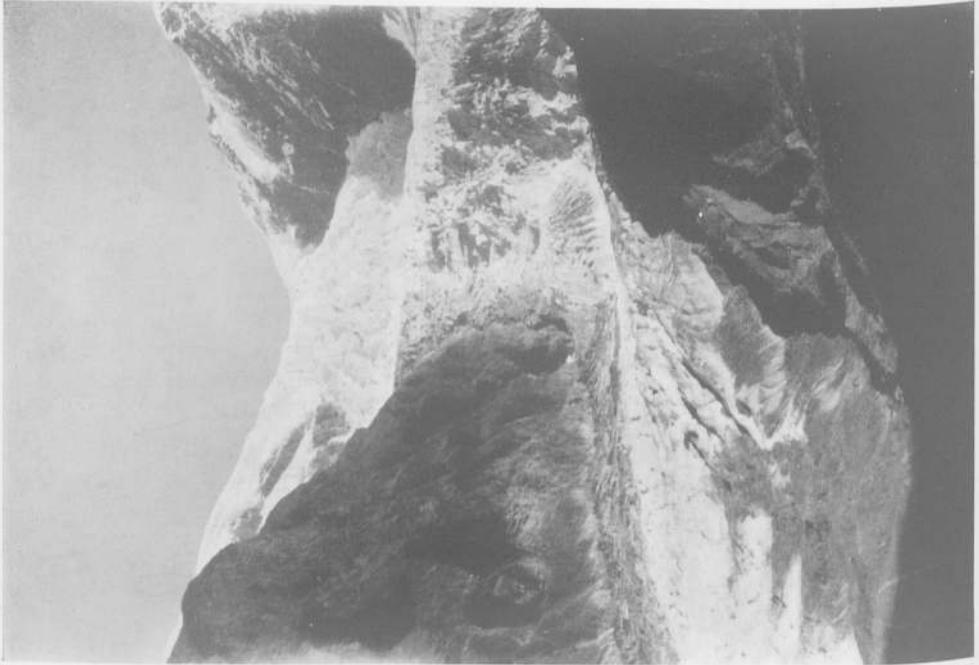
At each of the above halting places there are good Dak Bungalows, but some having only two rooms, it is advisable to take a small tent in case other travellers are in occupation.

As no markets exist beyond Bageswar it is necessary to take all supplies for the journey from Bageswar to the Glacier and back. These should include lanterns, candles, matches, eggs, bread, flour, cooking utensils, and, of course, bedding, but not beds, chairs, or tables, as the latter are to be found in the Dak Bungalows. Transport consists of coolies, each of which can carry a 50 lb. load up the steepest of hills and move at an average rate of two miles an hour. For two persons taking a cook, bearer, and two ponies, we found ten coolies sufficient.

Starting from Someswar at dawn we left the Kosi River and immediately took to the mountain path which was to rise and fall through endless valleys for the next sixty-two miles. After seven miles of gradual climbing we reached a high ridge where a wonderful view of the snows and our final destination was obtained. There followed a steep descent of six miles with a mountain stream on our left till Bageswar was reached at 12 noon. This is a quaint old town lying between the Gomti and Sarju rivers, and once a flourishing market for the produce from Tibet and Bhut-Bhutias. The Dak Bungalow lies only fifty yards from the river, where there is excellent trout and "mahseer" fishing. Next morning our loads were off by 5.30 a.m., and for fourteen miles we followed the River Sarju—a roaring torrent between huge rocks a hundred feet below us. Every mile was a fisherman's dream and one could have picked out many spots for an ideal fishing camp surrounded by beautiful Scotch scenery. The Dak Bungalow at Kapkote was no less ideal than that at Bageswar, and here was a Canadian scene of men pushing large pine logs into the river to send them trading downstream. From Kapkote to Loharkhet the scenery is constantly changing, and this stage is considered by many to be the most beautiful of all. For the first four miles we followed the River Gomti piled up with floating timber, and then met the River Rapti at a spot known as Kharbagar, the taking-off place of the trade route to the Untadhur Pass and Tibet. Later, the



THE LAST REST HOUSE ON THE WAY TO THE GLACIER.



THE GLACIER.

## CHAUBATTIA TO THE PINDARI GLACIER

River Sarju was again encountered, until finally a very steep climb of two miles brought us breathless to the Dak Bungalow at Loharkhet, situated in a small clump of trees on the bare hillside next a mountain torrent at a height of 5,650 ft.

The following day our route took us over the Dhakuri Ridge at a height of 9,650 ft., where a magnificent view of the Himalayas and also of the Glacier twenty-one miles away is obtained. Although this day's march was only five and a half miles, it took four hours to do and necessitated an ascent of 4,000 ft. in the first five miles. The path led through thick jungle, full of quaintly-shaped oaks draped in moss and fern, till at the summit, it opened into pasture-land covered with sheep and their newly-born lambs. Half a mile down the northern side of the ridge we found the Dhakuri Bungalow at an altitude of 8,900 ft., with the Pindari Valley running off to the right foreground. From Dhakuri onwards the country underwent a radical change, the valleys becoming more shut in, the jungle much thicker and the mountain-sides more steep. No cultivation existed and the scenery became wild and superb. Passing Khati the Pindar river rushed in its boulder-strewn bed between towering mountains densely clothed in forests, with the snow peaks ever in the background. Between Dhakuri and Dwali, panthers roam the country and bears are common, though not often seen. Karkar, gurrall, pig, scrow and sambhur are also to be met with on the Dhakuri Ridge. Musk deer, though rare, may be found, while tahr can be obtained on the higher slopes. The Dak Bungalow at Dwali is perched on a spur between the River Pindar and its tributary the Kapini, at a height of 9,000 ft. Our final march to Phurkia was for 3½ miles to a height of 10,700 ft.—short, but very tiring, owing to the height at which one was walking. The path was exceedingly narrow and surrounded by large rocks, undoubtedly the home of many bear, whose marks could be seen on the trees. Throughout this climb a large snow-peak was ever before us, blocking the head of the valley, with the Pindar Glacier just four miles beyond our final rest house. A feature of the last two stages was the complete wildness of the country—no cultivation, food supplies, or habitation of any kind, only the towering mountains, the roaring stream and ourselves.

Clothed in winter garments and frozen with the cold we started at 5.30 a.m. the following morning up the last four miles of road to the foot of the Glacier (12,035 ft.). After two miles along a mule track only a yard wide all vegetation suddenly ceased and one was surrounded with nothing but bare rock and snow-capped peaks, with the sun just striking their summit. The rushing Pindar river of many miles back was now just a rippling brook as we turned a corner and saw the Glacier from which it emanates. Our road now ended and in front of us were snow-clad peaks higher than any in the world outside the Himalayan Range. This Glacier, whose length compares as a mere fraction to other Glaciers, is, however, perfect in its exhibition of all the characteristic features that one looks for in these regions.

Compacted in its two to three miles from source to snout lie crevasses, seracs, ice caves, and streams of different coloured moraine. (Each Glacier brings down a different coloured stone which runs in clearly defined streams that only mingle at the snout.).

Visitors to the Pindari have the immense facilities of seeing a Glacier without encountering the rigours and hardships that one usually has to contend with on a trek to the Higher Himalayas.

On our return journey we met the undermentioned party of "D" Company, also on their way to the Glacier. They had been bivouacking out *en route*, done double marches, and had only twelve coolies, so can be proud of their adventure:—

Cpls. Griffen, Dakin, Morley and Taylor; L./Cpls. Porter, A. Brown, Murphy and Law; Ptes. Whitley, Saunders, Vines, Gowman, Arklie, Swain, and D. Smith.

## THE QUEEN'S YORK RANGERS (1st AMERICAN REGIMENT) (M.G.)

*Headquarters:* Fort York Armoury, Toronto.

*Commanding Officer:* Lieut.-Col. R. C. Merrick, M.C., E.D.

**I**N this issue it is first necessary to introduce our new Commanding Officer. Lieut.-Col. Keslick, through pressure of private business, has found it necessary to relinquish his duties in the Active Militia, and Lieut.-Col. R. C. Merrick, M.C., E.D., has succeeded him in command.

Col. Keslick had the arduous task of seeing the Unit through the stress of reorganization, a duty which he fulfilled in a capable manner. His services to the Regiment have been extremely useful, and we have his promise that we shall have the benefit of his assistance whenever possible.

Col. Merrick, of United Empire Loyalist stock, has been engaged in military activities since boyhood. As a cadet he showed a flair for shooting, and as a member of the Cadet Corps of Harbord Collegiate Institute, Toronto, he went to Bisley with their team in 1912. When the Great War broke out, he was a student at the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph. He terminated his course to leave the O.T.C. to take a commission with the 30th Wellington Rifles. Qualifying for the rank of Captain at London, Ontario, he was appointed Adjutant, with the rank of Captain of the 201st Toronto Light Infantry, in June, 1916, a unit commanded by Lieut.-Col. E. W. Hagarty, principal of his old school, Harbord Collegiate.

In September, 1916, Capt. Merrick left with a draft of officers for England, where he took a course with the Canadian Military School. From the school, he joined the Canadian Machine Gun Corps Depot, proceeding to France with the 4th Canadian Machine Gun Corps Company. At Hill 70, on 18th August, 1917, he was awarded the M.C., and wounded in the action, invalided to England. He returned to Canada in January, 1918.

In 1921 he joined the 2nd Bn. York Rangers, serving until the formation of the Queen's Rangers in 1925, and then until 1927 as Adjutant, when he was appointed Brigade Major of the 14th Infantry Brigade. In 1930 he returned to regimental duty as Officer Commanding "H.Q." Wing and later as Officer Commanding "C" Company, until May, 1936, when he became Second-in-Command. Upon the reorganization of the Unit, he became Officer Commanding "H.Q." Company.

Simultaneous celebration of the Battles of Brandywine and Queenston Heights by the Regiment took place over the week-end of 23rd-24th October last. The celebration began with the Annual Dinner on Saturday evening, 23rd October, at Fort York Armoury. On Sunday afternoon the Regiment attended divine service at St. John's Garrison Church, the Padre conducting the service.

Details of the part played by the Queen's Rangers at Brandywine have appeared previously in these pages.

At Queenston Heights, on 13th October, 1812, a handful of the York Volunteers, predecessors of the York Rangers, faced American troops, who had crossed the Niagara River in boats that morning and made good a position on the Heights. Major-General Isaac Brock, at their head, the men of York attempted to carry the position. Brock fell, mortally wounded, and other officers and men, and the York Militiamen retired down the hill. In the afternoon, Major-General Sheaffe, with reinforcements, carried the Heights by a flank attack.

Descendants of the Queen's Rangers of Revolutionary War days, who settled in and around Toronto, were represented at the dinner. Some of the members of these old York County families later served in the York Rangers. The celebration thus recalled the fact that the Queen's Rangers of former times laid the foundations

### THE QUEEN'S YORK RANGERS.



*Photo by*

[Sheriff Studio, Toronto]

THE NEW COMMANDING OFFICER,  
Lieut.-Colonel R. C. Merrick, M.C., E.D.

of the present capital of Ontario and of the county in which it is situated. York Militia and the York Rangers, through the years after the turn of the nineteenth century, carried on the same traditions of defence and security.

In addition to the District Commanding Officer, officers from District Headquarters and a number of friends from the Permanent Force, many former members of both the earlier units, attended the dinner. Among them appeared: Col. A. T. Hunter, V.D., Lieut.-Cols. F. H. Dunham, M.C., V.D., W. T. Rogers, M.C., V.D., G. B. Little, J. Murray Muir and J. Hyde Bennett, V.D., and Major W. J. Baird, M.C. A number of members of York County Council and other county organizations were also present.

The weekly parade on 29th September was marked by an inspection by the Brigade Commander, Col. W. W. Soden-Irwin, V.D., who afterwards presented Coronation Medals to the following: Lieut.-Col. W. H. Keslick, M.C., V.D., Major R. C. Merrick, M.C., E.D., Major J. D. H. W. Barnett, Capt. H. M. Jackson, Capt. J. N. Medhurst, Capt. H. J. Craddock, R.Q.M.S. J. Marsh, M.M., Bandmaster P. C. Cox, C.S.M. A. F. Bickford, C.S.M. W. James and Sergt. E. Turner. R.S.M. L. Jowett received his medal a few days previously at Christie Street Hospital, while convalescing from a broken hip. We are glad to have him back with the Unit.

A guard of honour, under command of Major R. H. L. Dinsmore, M.C., M.M., with Capt. Medhurst and Lieut. R. A. Sharpe, attended at the premiere of the British picture, "Victoria the Great," at Shea's Theatre on the evening of 18th October, to receive His Honour Lieutenant-Governor H. A. Bruce.

Last autumn a committee was appointed to select ten of the inherited Great War honours to be carried on Colours and appointments: Col. F. F. Clarke, D.S.O. (representing the 127th Battalion, C.E.F.), Lieut.-Col. H. W. A. Foster, D.S.O., M.C. (the 20th), Lieut.-Col. F. H. Dunham, M.C., V.D. (the 35th), Lieut.-Col. G. B. Little, V.D., Lieut.-Col. J. Murray Muir and Major H. A. C. Breuls (the York Rangers), Lieut.-Col. J. H. Bennett, V.D., Lieut.-Col. W. H. Keslick, M.C., V.D. and Major R. C. Merrick, M.C., E.D. (the Queen's Rangers).

The combined number of battle honours totals thirty, with "North West Canada, 1885" in addition, and from them the committee chose the following: "North West Canada, 1885," "Ypres, 1915, '17," "Somme, 1916, '18," "Arras, 1917, '18," "Vimy, 1917," "Hill 70," "Passchendaele," "St. Quentin," "Amiens," "Cambrai, 1918," "Pursuit to Mons."

The Annual Meeting of the Officers took place on the evening of 12th January, and although some disappointment was expressed at the lack of verbal pyrotechnics, it is a pleasure to be able to report that it ended about midnight with all business completed, including the appointment of committees for the year. Capt. McNeill and his committee were congratulated on the manner in which they had looked after our creature comforts during the preceding year.

Beginning early in January and running until early in March, two officers and twenty-five other ranks attended a combined Provisional School at the Armoury, which, in addition to giving instruction in infantry and machine guns, qualified personnel of cavalry and engineer units. Permanent Force instructors were in charge.

Unit Training during the winter also included a course of lectures to all Officers, Warrant Officers and senior N.C.O.s. on anti-gas measures, by Capt. Medhurst. A course of lectures in range-finding was also held.

A number of Officers took part in March in a series of Sand-table Exercises held by District Headquarters, based on the conduct of the defence, as a preliminary to the Tactical Exercises to be undertaken at camp next June. The first exercise was for Battalion Commanders and Seconds-in-Command and Officers holding *m.s.c.* qualification, the second for Company Commanders and Seconds-in-Command, and the third for subaltern officers.

Capt. McNeill and McManus, who are taking the Militia Staff Course, gave lectures prior to the opening of Spring Training on the subjects, "Organization of a Machine-Gun Battalion" and "Mechanical Vehicles" respectively, and Capt. Findlay, who is engaged in the advanced course, a lecture on "The Tactical Handling of a Machine-Gun Battalion."

Spring Training this year saw the inauguration of a new system. Companies now train independently on training nights, with the exception of one night a month, when there is a Battalion Parade. On 27th April the latter is to be augmented by a demonstration on defence against gas, and on 18th May by a Vickers machine-gun demonstration by personnel of the Royal Canadian Regiment. On 1st June the Annual Classification tests will be fired at Long Branch Rifle Ranges.

The Regiment took second place in Military District No. 2 in the Canadian Infantry Association General Efficiency Competition, standing just 5.26 points behind first place. In the Association's Special V.M.G. Competition we obtained first place.

2/Lieuts. Ward, Marshall, Stewart and Young and Cpl. Charbonneau and James have been awarded certificates of qualification in subject "K." Capt. J. N. Medhurst qualified as a Major at the Royal School of Machine Guns during the autumn at Stanley Barracks, and Major C. M. Howarth and Lieuts. J. M. Sharp and B. H. Garfunkel have qualified in machine guns. Sergts. E. E. Elsbury and Cpl. A. L. Paterson qualified as Quartermaster-Sergeants at the R.C.A.S.C. School, at London, Ontario, during the winter.

Major C. H. Reeve, of the Depot, has been made President of the Downtown Club (Toronto) of the Canadian Legion.

Major W. H. Hulme having gone to the Depot, Major A. F. Spencer is now Quartermaster of the Unit. Major J. K. Crang, Capt. E. B. Dodgson and Lieuts. R. J. MacDonald, W. A. G. W. Campbell and D. J. MacLean have been transferred to the Corps Reserve, while Major D. L. Keith, M.C., V.D., Major and Lieut.-Col. F. W. Utton, O.B.E., and Lieut. W. L. Rayfield, V.C., have retired.

Capt. H. W. McManus and Lieuts. McCartney, Young, Flanagan and Stewart are congratulated on their promotions.

#### *Band.*

Training last autumn got away to a good start with the presentation to Bandmaster Cox of a baton. Col. Keslick, in making the presentation on behalf of the Band, spoke of the results attained since Mr. Cox took charge ten years previously. Mr. Cox is also congratulated on receiving the Coronation Medal. Just before Christmas he was asked to adjudicate at the London Musical Festival. He was recently appointed band and brass adjudicator at the Lambton County Musical Festival to be held at Sarnia, Ontario, in May. He is also congratulated on his appointment by the Toronto Board of Education as Bandmaster for the Toronto East End Schools.

The year 1938 began with a number of band activities. A concert for the men of Wellington House was followed by the Annual Stag Party. On 3rd March the Band took part in a concert at Centennial United Church.

#### *Stretcher Bearers.*

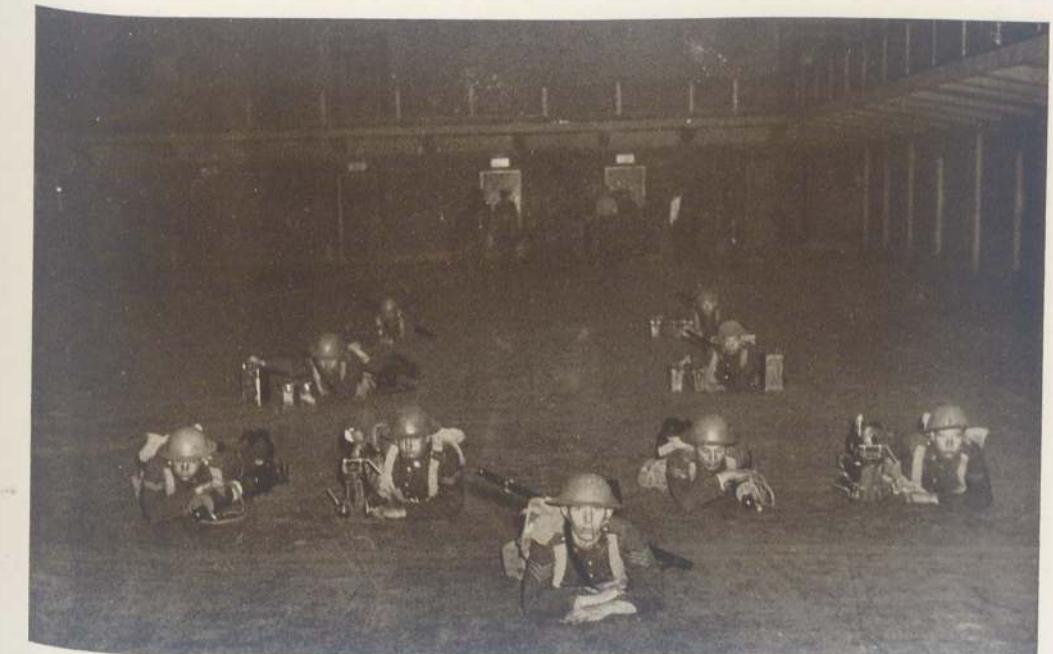
In the competition for the District Shield of the St. John Ambulance Association, the Regimental team came second with a total of 512 points. Capt. Heaton and the team are congratulated.

#### *"A" Company.*

Under command of Lieut. R. H. Dayton, No. 4 Platoon trained intensively for weeks prior to the opening of the Spring Training season, with the object of



No. 4 PLATOON, "A" COMPANY.



No. 2 SECTION IN "TAKE POST" POSITION.

making every man proficient in all machine-gun duties. Steel helmets were obtained for all ranks, and the various practices culminated in a demonstration of the Platoon coming into action from a truck. The latter was obtained, "without expense to the public," through the good offices of friends of the Unit.

After "Fall In" on the evening of 23rd March, the Platoon on the truck, which also carried guns and equipment, entered the Armoury by the main door. The guns were unlimbered and the Platoon came into action strictly in accordance with the book. Observers were able to detect few errors during the entire performance, the value of which in stimulating interest was revealed by the turn-out on the first Battalion parade of Spring Training. Mr. Dayton is congratulated upon the success of his experiment.

## THE REGIMENTAL MUSEUM

The following additions have been made since last publication:—

1. Letter dated, Haslar Barracks, 5th November, 1814, from David Day, 2nd or Queen's Royal Regiment of Foot, describing engagements in Spain, Portugal and France during 1809: Presented by Mr. G. Warren, ex-Drum-Major, The Queen's Royal Regiment.
2. Full Dress Tunic, Dress Belt and Sword, Cocked Hat, Frock Coat of the late General Sir C. C. Monro: Presented by Lady Monro.
3. Six Group Photographs in which the late General Sir C. C. Monro appears: Presented by Miss Monro.
4. Framed Sketch of the landing at Aboukir Bay, 1801, and a list of the units engaged: Presented by Bandmaster W. Parsons, R.A.F. (late, The Queen's Royal Regiment).
5. An old Regimental Button found at Aboukir: Presented by Bandmaster W. Parsons, R.A.F. (late, The Queen's Royal Regiment).
6. Automatic Pistol, No. 1968 (relic of the War): Presented by Mr. A. V. Pollock, ex-Sergeant, The Queen's Royal Regiment.
7. Collection of old Volunteer Badges: Presented by "D" Company, 5th Bn. The Queen's Royal Regiment.
8. Regimental History, Vols. 1—3: Purchased from Museum Funds.

### MUSEUM ACCOUNTS FOR 1937.

RECEIPTS.	EXPENDITURE.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Balance as at 1st January ... 31 8 10	Biddles, Ltd. (Framing) ... 2 15 6
By subscriptions ... 36 0 0	A. W. Gamage (2 Tailor's Dummies) 1 13 0
	Miscellaneous ... 1 3 6
	Lord Roberts' Workshops (Showcase) 14 10 0
	Gale & Polden (Binding) ... 1 9 6
	E. C. Cheshire (Regimental History, Vol. I, 3) ... 18 6
	Balance on hand, 31st December, 1937 ... 44 18 4
£67 8 10	£67 8 10

GUILDFORD,  
7th April, 1938.

G. A. PILLEAU, Major,  
Comdg. Depot The Queen's Royal Regt.

## AN INNOCENT ABROAD TAKES UP RESIDENCE IN JAPAN

AS DESCRIBED IN A LETTER FROM TOKYO.

MY DEAR —,

My first week in the East is now over, and a busy one it has been; very little have I to show for my activities, but at least I am now the tenant of a house.

To my inexperienced eye, it looks pretty good or, at any rate, it can be made good in time. I have spent several hours in local furniture shops, with adequate results, and to the interest of the infants who abound here; they could not decide what language, if any, I was talking; I must admit I was not too clear on the subject myself!

However, I am now quite comfortably installed.

My mansion has four rooms—bed, dining, and drawing rooms, and a study—plus what are, I think, described as the usual offices. The three rooms I use are most nearly complete now, but the drawing room I am leaving half-baked for a while, for I have no very bright ideas about it yet, and I hope for outside assistance later. The only real catch about the house is the position of the bathroom, but as I loathe a Japanese bath anyway, one more discomfort there is hardly noticed.

But I go too fast; some of you know not the local procedure at bath-time. I must describe it.

The scene is laid in a small concrete-floored box, measuring some 6 ft. by 5 ft. by 5 ft., which is reached by descending two steps from the passage without. In this chamber are various shelves, duck-boards and bowls, all made of wood, and all of which have their proper function. Also, in the corner, is what appears to be a cylindrical wooden cauldron, measuring about 3 ft. in any direction, and surrounded by a lid and a chimney which disappears through the roof.

That completes the stage property; now comes the action. Here I am less confident, for while some people clearly must be good bath-men, in Japan I feel my handicap is unduly high at the moment. However, I try hard, and I will describe my methods—not in any way claiming that they should be adopted throughout the East, but in order that you who may so soon be here, may start even now perfecting a superior method.

Well, I usually bathe at about 7 p.m., as this allows the water to be heated to a temperature considered suitable by my cook, who, incidentally, has a passion for giving me boiled lobsters. Therefore, at 6 p.m., I have a gin, followed at 6.30 p.m. by a gin. These two moves, I consider, need no improvement, and they are important as they raise the morale of the troops when they would otherwise be sinking. At 6.55 p.m. I retire to my room and, disrobed, proceed with a firm tread to my bath, with head held high and my person clothed in a dressing-gown and a pair of slippers. At the entrance I find my entire staff drawn up in line (this is easy, as there are only two of them) in order to greet me, and to see that I do not turn back. They also say a few jolly things about the heat of the cauldron, which I try not to hear. Then I pass in, leaving my slippers outside in the passage, which is important, as then they, at least, are dry afterwards. The door is shut behind me, and I am alone—and the cauldron bubbles gleefully.

I first remove the dressing-gown and hang it on a high hook, and then the lid of the cauldron. Instantly the room is filled with steam and I can see nothing, but I know now where the cold, and only, tap is, and shortly I have the situation under at any rate partial control. Descending to the basement of the room, I

cautiously extract a wooden basinful of water from the cauldron, and proceed, as yet unskillfully, to wash myself by easy stages. Thus, when the left ear is well soaped, the basin of water is emptied into it. And so on, covering as many portions of my person as I can reach until I finally arrive at my right little toe. There is a portion of my back which I find is a bit troublesome—but I am only here for three years, so it does not really matter. I believe the natives get their under-cook to deal with this area for them, but my shy and retiring nature at present prevents me from following a doubtless admirable example.

Those of you who have read thus far will, if interested, now be visualizing a pool of soapy water on the floor, but this is not the case, for it all disappears through a plug-hole which is invisible but effective. I think it is behind the cauldron, but I burnt my elbow looking for it last night, and I have now lost interest rather.

A Peeping Tom would see me standing clean and soapless, and eyeing the cauldron with misgiving. The next move is to test its temperature, and it is a move that it is best not to omit. The first time I did it, I placed the forefinger of the right hand in the water; the method was adjudged incorrect, although I can still use the finger, and although the Staff learnt four of the rarer Anglo-Saxon swear words. My new method is to employ an instrument like an enormous soup-ladle, and therewith mix the boiling water at the top with the (surprisingly) cold water below. A little skill and patience soon has this matter satisfactorily adjusted, and then I get in, folding my legs behind my ears as in the manner employed on entering a Baby Austin. As one gradually submerges till only one's head is out of water, a cascade falls out over the edge; but this has been known to happen in England, so it is hardly worth mentioning. It merely means more work for the invisible plug-hole.

Here it is that I find the cardinal effect in the Japanese bath system. In an English bath I, and many others, like to think great thoughts, and perchance give voice to them in song. And the horizontal position is ideally suited to it; but I cannot think well when viewing my knees at three inches range, and I cannot sing at all. So what is the use of having a bath?

Dejectedly, therefore, I emerge and reach for the towel. To my surprise the one I brought with me, specially selected for its dryness, is now a sodden mass, owing to the steam which has once again filled the room. But I do my best, and amid difficulties which would stop a lesser man. The step I thought I had left dry I find now supports my sponge and a lot of water; so there is nowhere to put the foot which I have just got practically dry. Furthermore the duck-boards are soapy and slippery, the soap is trying to get under my feet, and the cauldron is once more making threatening noises. So, clad in a towel and bearing a damp dressing gown in my hand, I leave the bathroom, step hastily into my slippers (dry, you will remember), and hurry to my bedroom. There I find another towel, and use it. By then I am exhausted and ready to eat my evening meal, which appears by a miracle of timing just as I finish dressing. My morale is thus raised to where it was at 6 p.m. An interesting experience once, like having a motor accident, but apt to get monotonous.

Once again I have written too much, but this time retribution has overtaken me, and I am now suffering from a headache—due no doubt to the strain unexpectedly placed on the grey matter. But waste no sympathy for by the time you get this I shall have recovered some three weeks at least.

Fare thee well; I hope to write sooner and more briefly next time.

Yours aye,

## AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

### 2nd/35th BATTALION ("The Newcastle Regiment")

*Honorary Colonels*: Brigadier-General H. A. Goddard, C.M.G., D.S.O., V.D.  
Brigadier-General Iven G. Mackay, C.M.G., D.S.O., V.D.

*Commanding Officer*: Lieut.-Colonel W. D. Jeater.

*Headquarters*: Newcastle, N.S.W., Australia.

ONCE again we, the youngest of the family of the Regiment, send our half-yearly report of our doings. As usual, we are running late, and hope that our worthy Editor will, in his goodness, give us a few days' grace in arriving.

Likewise, as usual, the most important phase of our activities since forwarding news for the November issue has been the Annual Camp. On this last occasion camp was held in a very new and untouched site, at Raymond Terrace, some ten miles up the Hunter River from Newcastle. For many years our Brigade has camped at Rutherford, on the outskirts of Maitland. The change to Raymond Terrace was a considerable one in many ways. Rutherford, after so many camps, tactical exercises, etc., was like an open book to most. Raymond Terrace, in comparison, seemed like foreign territory.

The 1st Infantry Brigade, of which we are one of the battalions, moved into camp on 3rd October, together with Field Ambulance, A.A.S.C., Engineers, etc. The site chosen was an ideal one, but a great change from the old-established camp at Rutherford. No mess huts, kitchens, offices, etc. were in existence, so these had to be prepared for the camp, but to the credit of the people concerned everything was well provided for.

The Tactical Training was also something new, as the Brigade was engaged in Coast Defence. This involved movement by bus of over thirty miles, occupation of a costal defence position (so different from the usual defence shows), the holding of it by day and by night, and a retirement at dawn.

In conjunction, a field firing exercise was carried out, and the Battalion carried off the prizes. In fact, the machine gunners got on the job so well that the hits could not be counted.

The withdrawal, which took place at dawn, was a rather trying affair, involving movement in the dark by small bodies of men, over a distance of three to four miles, through dense coastal bush. However, everything went off without a hitch.

The Battalion, to a man, were without rest or sleep for over twenty-four hours, and they did the job wonderfully. After moving back to camp by bus, another thirty miles by road, and a spell of a whole morning off parade, the unit paraded again at 2 p.m. and was back on the job.

On the last afternoon before marching out of camp the Brigade Competitions were held. The weather was rotten, heavy rain falling all day. However, the events went off very well, and we more than held our own. First places were won in Mortar, Lewis Gun and Signalling events. Second placings were achieved in the remainder—Machine Gun, Platoon, Drill and Band events. In the athletic section we won every item, and also got many second placings.

The Tactical Training Cup, for the best field work in camp, was also won by our Battalion.

As is probably known, Australia, and principally New South Wales, recently celebrated its 150th Anniversary. Our part in Newcastle has not been a very great one, but we did take part in a very good parade of all units, when a march through the city took place. The Division Commander, Brigadier J. L. Hardie, D.S.O., O.B.E., took the salute at the Town Hall. Our traditional right, as the City Regiment, was exercised on that date, when the city flag was dipped to the Battalion as we passed the Town Hall. We also enjoy the privilege of being able to march through the city at any time with bayonets fixed.

Many schemes have been thought out to make training more interesting for all ranks. The Battalion, in its wisdom, has purchased a motion-picture camera, projection machine, etc. Many training films are available, and the troops have been able to get some most valuable instruction in the least fatiguing manner. We have also taken some good films of our own work, and great interest is evinced in seeing ourselves on the silver screen.

Quite a lot of cobwebs were brushed out in January, when a refresher course of two weeks was held for the junior officers and N.C.O.s. The two weeks were devoted to solid training, and the results have been very beneficial.

Arrangements are at present in hand for a week-end bivouac, which will include practically all ranks of the Battalion. It is anticipated that this will take place at Smelter's Beach, some miles south of Newcastle.

The Battalion will again send a large contingent to compete at the Annual Gymkhana, at Sydney, on Anzac Day. For some years we have always given a good account of ourselves, and hopes are again entertained this year. We will be represented by Lewis gun, signalling, cadet P.T. and miniature rifle teams. In addition, a number of the troops will take part in the athletic events, in the hope of retaining the Athletic Shield. The Regimental Band will have a hard task to keep the Band Shield.

An old friend visited the Battalion in January, in the person of our former Adjutant, Capt. L. de L. Barham, who has just completed his two years' course at the Staff College, Quetta. Capt. Barham was able to tell us many incidents of his visits and work with The Queen's in India, and evidenced the close alliance which exists between the Regiments. He has been appointed to Army Headquarters, at Melbourne, on special duty.

Capt. C. H. G. Spencer, of "H.Q." Wing, was the recipient of many congratulations on the occasion of his recent wedding. The Officers formed the traditional arch of steel at the Warriors' Chapel, Newcastle Cathedral. Another of our officers, Lieut. J. Bowers, will be married before this issue of the JOURNAL is printed.

The whole of the Newcastle and Suburban Municipal Councils have been recently amalgamated as City of Greater Newcastle Council. As the City Regiment we have a custom that the Commanding Officer and Officers call on the Mayor of Newcastle shortly after election. On Saturday, 30th April, this will be again carried out, and will later be followed by a return call by His Worship the Mayor to the Officers' Mess.

Capt. Spencer won the regimental elimination for the King's Medal Shoot, and will represent the Battalion in Sydney in the finals. Two of our N.C.O.s attended a large military shoot in Sydney in connection with the 150th Anniversary Celebrations. They were Cpl. Richardson and Moore, of "D" Company, and both were successful in landing some of the prizes.

All ranks were very sorry to learn of the sad death of Band/Cpl. James, who died a few days after returning home from camp. The sympathy of all members was conveyed to his wife and family.

## FRIMLEY AND CAMBERLEY CADET CORPS

### *Annual Inspection.*

The Corps had the great honour of having the Annual Inspection carried out by one of its Vice-Presidents, Lieut.-General B. D. Fisher, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., Commandant of the Royal Military College, Sandhurst, who expressed his high approval of the smartness, drill and handling of arms, paying a special tribute to the Drums and Bugles. The General concluded his inspection with a spirited address, congratulating the Cadets on their high sense of duty and patriotism. Of all the Commandants of the Royal Military College, General Fisher has always shown his especial sympathy and interest in all the doings of the Corps.

### *Armistice Day.*

The Corps paraded at full strength for the annual ceremony at the War Memorial on 11th November last, afterwards attending the service at the Parish Church, Yorktown, where they were privileged to hear a wonderful sermon by the Archdeacon of Guildford, whose moving address was made even more impressive by the fact that, on his breast, he wore the Queen's South African Medal with six clasps, and the King's South African Medal with two clasps, as well as the Great War medals, including the 1914 Star.

### *Old Comrades Dinner.*

A most successful Annual Dinner of the Old Comrades Association was held at the Caird Hall on Monday, 15th November, with Mr. Pollard in the chair. One hundred and six Old Comrades sat down to dinner.

### *Annual Prizegiving.*

Owing to the large increase in our strength, and in order to accommodate the increased number of parents, the Annual Prize Distribution on 24th November took place in the Drill Hall of "B" Company, 5th Bn. The Queen's Royal Regiment, kindly lent for the occasion by the Company Commander, Major J. Dickson, M.C.

We were privileged to welcome for the first time Major-General Sir Wilkinson D. Bird, K.B.E., C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., Colonel of the Regiment, and Lady Bird, who kindly presented the prizes.

General Bird gave a most inspiring address to the Cadets, giving the history of his famous Regiment—and what a wonderful record that history contains. We feel more proud than ever to be so closely allied to a regiment of such outstanding merit, and with such glorious traditions behind it. We were delighted to see so many of our supporters and visitors on the platform. Their presence gives us great encouragement.

### *Annual Bazaar.*

The Annual Bazaar was held at the Caird Hall on 1st December, and our wonderful team of stallholders and helpers, as usual, gave us of their very best, and after many weeks of preparation and hard work their labours were amply rewarded by record takings at the various stalls.

## MECHANIZATION

**I**N spite of the shortage of men, the essential feature of the manoeuvres this year has been practice in the use of mechanization. To understand the importance of this it is necessary first to appreciate the superiority which the modern rifle and machine gun have given to the defence over the attack. In these days, the tank is an attempt to solve this problem for the attackers, but it has only partly succeeded. The anti-tank gun, the anti-tank rifle and the anti-tank mine have all limited the possibilities of using the tank with success.

To attack when the enemy cannot see you gives the greatest chance of success, but both night and mist present the attack with problems as well as the defence, and artificial smoke depends, to a great extent, on suitable weather.

In these circumstances almost the only chance for the attack to succeed is for it to be made at a point where the enemy does not expect it and is not prepared for it. Speed of movement makes anticipation and information difficult and helps the attack, but the art of moving troops quickly and secretly to a given spot is not easy. One enemy armoured car which comes upon a mechanical column can create havoc, and involve long delays. In practice, lorries cannot move until the ground is made good and reported safe. Nor can they move with safety if observed from the air, so that any mechanical column should be safeguarded from both directions, which is no easy matter.

The problem of movement now dominates all battles. Traffic congestion, slow movement when quick movement is essential, long delays; each situation requires a solution which has to be quickly dealt with.

Two more lessons are obvious. The first is the need for tanks and armoured cars to clear the ground before the mechanized columns are brought up. The second is the need for moving in small bodies along varied routes and reducing the danger of congestion, observation and attack from the air. To benefit from the second lesson it is essential that every driver of a motor vehicle should be highly trained in driving and maintenance and should have a thorough knowledge of map reading. Delays caused by bad driving, or a vehicle breaking down, must be avoided at all costs, and with the traffic congestion that is behind the modern battlefield, no mechanical column can afford to miss the route. Once set forward there can be no going back, and this rule applies even to the single vehicle.

As each year goes by, more and more motors are being used in the Army, and the recruit with previous mechanical knowledge and experience now has a chance to exercise his talent in every infantry regiment. Whether it be as a motor-cyclist Despatch Rider, Regimental Policeman with traffic control duties, or as the driver of a truck or lorry, a real job needing common sense, skill and care awaits him. Once he has been trained, his vehicle is handed over to him to take care of, keep clean and keep in running order—a responsible and interesting job.

The peace strength of the M.T. Section of an Infantry Rifle Battalion is approximately ten cars, seventeen trucks and eleven motor bicycles. There is also one dual control Morris truck to teach learner drivers, and a motor bicycle for the same purpose. These numbers are augmented on Field Training and manoeuvres by the addition of extra trucks and lorries, and are much increased in time of war.

To train drivers in their various duties, a concentrated period of instruction is necessary. Each driver has a minimum of fifty hours' driving instruction, starting with the Morris control truck and going on to trucks on progressively difficult circuits. The course finishes up with an all-day drive around the island, through all the narrowest streets and dense traffic. Night driving is also included; with

lights, with dimmed lights, and without lights. After the course, the driver is passed out by the M.T.O. and is given a driving licence, and is fit to take his place with safety on the public highway. Directly a vehicle comes in from work, a maintenance task is set for each driver. There are sixteen standard tasks, each lasting one and a half hours, and this ensures that the vehicle is systematically maintained and that the driver has a thorough knowledge of the working parts of his vehicle. Each vehicle is washed down and cleaned, so that it is ready for the road on the following day.

This Course, besides being essential from a Service point of view, is of value to the man himself. He takes pride in his vehicle, his soldiering is made more interesting, and he is equipped with useful experience and knowledge that will be of lasting value to him in after life.

## THE DEPOT

THE most important piece of news from the Depot is the increased number of recruits, which has totalled over 150 since last November and has, on occasions, risen to over 170. The numbers are likely to remain steady in view of the new rates of proficiency pay and other advantages introduced.

A most successful hockey season has just been concluded, in which we only drew and lost one match respectively out of our twenty-two fixtures.

We have acquired several cricketers recently, and the forthcoming season should establish our former prestige which was sadly eclipsed last year.

Capt. L. C. East and Lieuts. P. H. Richardson and D. G. Loch have arrived from the 1st Battalion, and Capt. B. E. L. Burton is taking the place of Capt. T. H. Dyke whose tour expires in May.

The modernization of barracks is unfortunately proceeding more slowly than the construction of an atrocity in the shape of a block of large A.R.P. store sheds which have, in the interests of national emergency, deprived us of our view of waving corn in the summer months. The Officers' Mess is being renovated and improved, and a new Sergeants' Mess is to be built, in which single members will be accommodated.

The Regiment owes a debt of gratitude to Mrs. Cook, of Bramley, who has very generously presented the Officers' Mess with a beautiful mahogany dining-table and sideboard which everyone will have an opportunity of seeing at the Regimental Reunion in June.

One other innovation has been installed, which has aroused a certain amount of interest in the Press. A radio-gramophone with loud-speakers fitted to the exterior and interior of the Gymnasium now provides music for Physical Training and drill parades, and wireless sets have also been installed in all barrack rooms by a local firm at a very moderate cost, which have proved universally popular.

### Sergeants' Mess.

We have been accorded such a wealth of publicity of late that we feel that a little advertisement of amenities to come, problematical admittedly, would be in order.

There is to be a new Mess, not paved with gold, nor even with marble, we fear, but laid with hot water. Sciatical Sergeants will sleep on the top floor, the bath only a few halting steps away. We hope, with the aid of television and the sound reproduction of Mr. Tannoy, to conduct parades from the ante-room. Can we, with this enchanting picture, hope to lure some "volunteers" from the Battalions, or do they see the demon "Work" in the background?

There are other signs of the times which the observant may have noticed. We

## THE DEPOT.



[Republishe by permission of Fox Photos Ltd., 6 Tudor Street, E.C.4]

RECRUITS ON THE 30 YARDS RANGE.



[Republishe by permission of Fox Photos Ltd., 6 Tudor Street, E.C.4]

"PHYSICAL TRAINING."

have solo, but no euchre; darts, but no sawdust; and donkeys without tails. Our entertainment has taken a new turn this winter. We have had games tournaments, not with hoary publicans and cheery policemen, but with ladies from Marks and Spencer. Very enjoyable, too. The married members like the change, and the single ones get suspicious and tread warily.

One very pleasant evening was spent entertaining our own ladies. We played table-tennis (not ping-pong, please), darts, tried to affix the aforementioned tail to the unfortunate donkey, and blew eggs all over the billiards table. There was a spot of education thrown in, in the shape of general knowledge competitions, and the bachelors ate cream cakes, which we suppose is another sign of the times.

Because of, or despite, all these energetic proceedings the evening was apparently quite a success.

Throughout the winter we have had fortnightly whist drives, followed by an hour or so of dancing. These whist drives were well attended by those ladies of Stoughton who have known the Regiment for so many years. The dances were attended by a different set of young persons, who are determined to know the Regiment for as long as they can, if they can. We are indebted to Mrs. Cribbes and Mrs. Salsbury for their work at the piano, without which we could not have had these impromptu dances.

The Mess held a dance in December, but no marriages have yet resulted from it, which is extraordinary, and has certainly shown people in a very intelligent light. The bar profits were substantial—we are not at all sure what sort of light this reflects.

On the day prior to Christmas leave we held the Christmas draw. This was a most enjoyable evening, and all sorts of peculiar games were indulged in, our bachelors having one or two very narrow escapes.

In January we said good-bye to Sergt. Batt, A.E.C., who was the guest of the evening at dinner and all that follows and pertains to these occasions. His loss to the Depot and Mess will be greatly felt, both in his particular sphere and on the sports field. As was said by one speaker, he had become truly one of the Regiment, and this "hit the nail hard on the head." Sergt. Batt tried to reply, but found the occasion too much for him—and so good-bye to one who for five years had made himself very much a part of the Depot.

Others who have left us are Sergt. Gilbert, who has become an A.R.P. expert, and Sergt. Delaney, who has taken a job with the 5th Battalion. We wish them the best of luck. Perhaps the latter will explain at some future date Camberley's connection with the Emerald Isle. Sergt. Bryant left us for a job and a golf course, walking around which will, we hope, reduce his waistline somewhat.

From the 1st Battalion we welcome R.Q.M.S. Swanwick and Sergts. Hooper and Jayes.

From the 2nd Battalion we have acquired L./Sergt. Karn. We hope he will like it here.

Our congratulations to L./Sergts. Dade and Tyler on their appointments, and we take this opportunity of wishing the latter the best of luck on his Advanced Physical Training Course.

L./Sergt. Golding has obtained his First Class Certificate of Education, which has not improved someone's sciatic nerve.

L./Sergt. Wilshaw has doubly earned our congratulations. He obtained "Q.I." at Hythe, and a son at the same time—extremely meritorious work.

We have to congratulate R.Q.M.S. Swanwick and Sergt. Halliday on their respective marriages. We were tempted to become facetious, but it may be our turn next.

In conclusion, we are looking forward to a pleasant summer, varied with the season's sports and entertainment. As usual, we think we have a good cricket team, but our police friends will probably disillusion us.

## Corporals' Room.

Depleted membership has curtailed our social activities during the winter season, but now that table-tennis and the billiards room have been allotted to us as a means of recreation we can get together more.

Congratulations are extended to L./Sergts. Dade and Tyler on their promotion to the Senior Mess, to Cpl. Coote and Hand on gaining the second rung, and to L./Cpl. Cooling on his appointment.

We record with regret the departure of L./Cpl. Farnsworth to civilian life. During his short stay in the Depot he had made for himself a unique place in our sporting world by his outstanding organizing and refereeing ability. He will be a great loss to us during the forthcoming cricket and football seasons.

We also record the departure of L./Cpls. Bush and Bennett, who have also launched out into civilian life.

Welcome to L./Cpl. Cole-Biroth on his arrival. He should be a useful asset to the Depot cricket eleven.

## SPORT.

## Football.

The brightest side of Depot football this season was most appropriately provided by the recruits' team. They played the recruits, and, on occasions, representative sides of four other Depots, and only lost one game.

These games proved very popular and afforded the recruits an opportunity of visiting other regiments. Moreover, the competition to represent the Depot in the recruits' football team aroused a healthy and robust standard of play, which is all to the good, and should benefit Battalion teams later.

## Hockey.

The Depot hockey team has had a most successful season, winning twenty out of twenty-two fixtures, and scoring 110 goals to our opponents' 26.

For the Army Cup competition we joined forces with the 2nd Battalion, and all was going well until we were knocked out rather disappointingly in the third round after a very nondescript game.

Our success has been chiefly due to the strong leavening of the ex-1st Battalion representatives who learnt the game from the 2nd/11th Sikhs, one of the finest Indian Army hockey regiments. Our star player is generally acknowledged to be Sergeant Lynwood whose consistent high level of play frequently aroused the envious admiration of our opponents.

We were fortunate also in being able to call on several good umpires, and the maintainance of a high standard of clean hockey was largely due to Q.M.S. Cribbes's unfailing support in this direction.

## Fencing.

At the beginning of the season we had great difficulty in finding a team, as three regular fencers of last season's team had left us. As was to be expected, we had to find others to take their places. L./Sergt. Tyler and L./Cpl. Thornton worked hard and were very soon fencing for the team, but we did not have much success in the early part of the season. After Christmas we had the help of Capt. L. C. East, a veteran in the fencing world, and since then we have done a little better.

Our most notable match was against the "Masks," whose team consisted almost entirely of ex-representatives of the Regiment who started their fencing careers at the Depot.

The Depot team has been represented by Capt. L. C. East, C.S.M.I. Salsbury, L./Sergt. Tyler, Cpl. Groves, Cpl. Coote, L./Cpl. Thornton and L./Cpl. Hall.

Result of matches.—Won 3, lost 7.

## OLD COMRADES ASSOCIATION

PROCEEDINGS of the Annual Meeting of the General Committee held at Stoughton Barracks, Guildford, on Saturday, 29th January, 1938.

The following were present:—

Major-General Sir W. D. Bird, K.B.E., C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O. (Chairman); Lieut.-Colonel R. K. Ross, D.S.O., M.C.; Major G. A. Pilleau, M.C.; Capt. H. G. M. Evans; R.S.M. G. F. Osborne, M.M.; R.S.M. E. D'Albertanson; R.Q.M.S. S. Swanwick; Major C. J. M. Elliott, D.C.M. (Secretary).

1. Minutes of Meeting held on 30th January, 1937, were read and confirmed, and Statement of Accounts, duly audited, for 1937 was adopted.

2. After discussion it was decided that £150 should again be the subscription to the National Association for Employment of ex-Soldiers towards maintenance of Surrey Branch and cost of providing Job-Finders throughout the country.

3. It was decided that the Annual Subscriptions to the following organizations should be renewed for 1938:—

	£ s. d.
Soldiers' and Sailors' Help Society ...	10 10 0
(Surrey Branch) ...	1 1 0
Royal Surrey County Hospital ...	10 10 0
(Samaritan Fund Ladies' " Association) ...	1 1 0
Royal Cambridge Home for Soldiers' Widows ...	10 10 0
Royal Soldiers' Daughters' Home ...	8 8 0
Corps of Commissionaires ...	7 7 0
United Services Corps ...	5 5 0
Netley Charitable Fund ...	4 4 0
Army Gymnastic and P.T. Staff Benevolent Fund ...	2 2 0
Surrey Convalescent Home for Men ...	1 1 0
British Legion (Affiliation Fee) ...	1 1 0
Royal Victoria Patriotic School ...	2 2 0
Total ...	£65 2 0

4. It was agreed to subscribe £2 2s. to Sir Beachcroft Towse ex-Service Fund (for the Blind).

5. It was decided to hold the All Ranks' Dinner for 1938, on Saturday, 4th June, at Thames House Restaurant, Millbank, 7 for 7.30 p.m.

A suggestion to consider changing the Dinner to later in the year was discussed. This suggestion, if adopted, would avoid the Garden Party and Dinner taking place in the same month each year, and would no doubt enable many more serving members to attend, if the Dinner was held during the furlough period. It was decided to circularize non-serving members and obtain their opinion regarding the suggested change.

6. It was decided to hold the Garden Party on Sunday, 26th June, 1938, preceded by a short Memorial Service in the Cathedral Church, on lines similar to 1937.

7. The action of the Finance Committee in investing £700 in Leeds Corporation Stock was confirmed.

8. Authority was given to the Finance Committee to review all Loans before the Accounts for 1938 are closed, and write off any that have been outstanding for six years or more, deemed to be irrecoverable.

9. It was unanimously agreed to extend the appointment of the Secretary for a further period of two years from the termination of his present agreement which expires on 31st December, 1938.

There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 11.50 a.m.

## OLD COMRADES ASSOCIATION

## SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT, 1937.

The General Committee have the honour to present their Annual Report and Abstract of Accounts, duly audited, for the year 1937.

## MEMBERSHIP.

Membership continues to be satisfactory.

## LIFE-MEMBERSHIP.

The figures now stand at 175 serving and 688 non-serving, against 177 and 656, respectively, at the close of 1936.

Those who have served in any Battalion of the Regiment and have not yet joined the Association are earnestly invited to do so.

Members are requested to forward to the Secretary the names of any Comrades who have served in the Regiment who are not members, in order that particulars may be sent to them.

Posters setting forth the Objects of The Queen's Royal Regiment Old Comrades Association are available and may be had on application to the Secretary by anyone for publicity purposes.

The Link connecting the Individual to his Old Regiment is the Old Comrades Association therefore "Keep in Touch."

## EMPLOYMENT.

The work of the Surrey Branch of the National Association for the Employment of Ex-Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen continues to show satisfactory results.

Capt. Thomas, Secretary Job-Finder, has continued to work in close touch with our Association.

Your Committee voted £150 towards the expenses of this Branch and the cost of employing Job-Finders throughout the country for the year 1937-38.

The total number of applications dealt with by the Surrey Branch during 1937 were:—

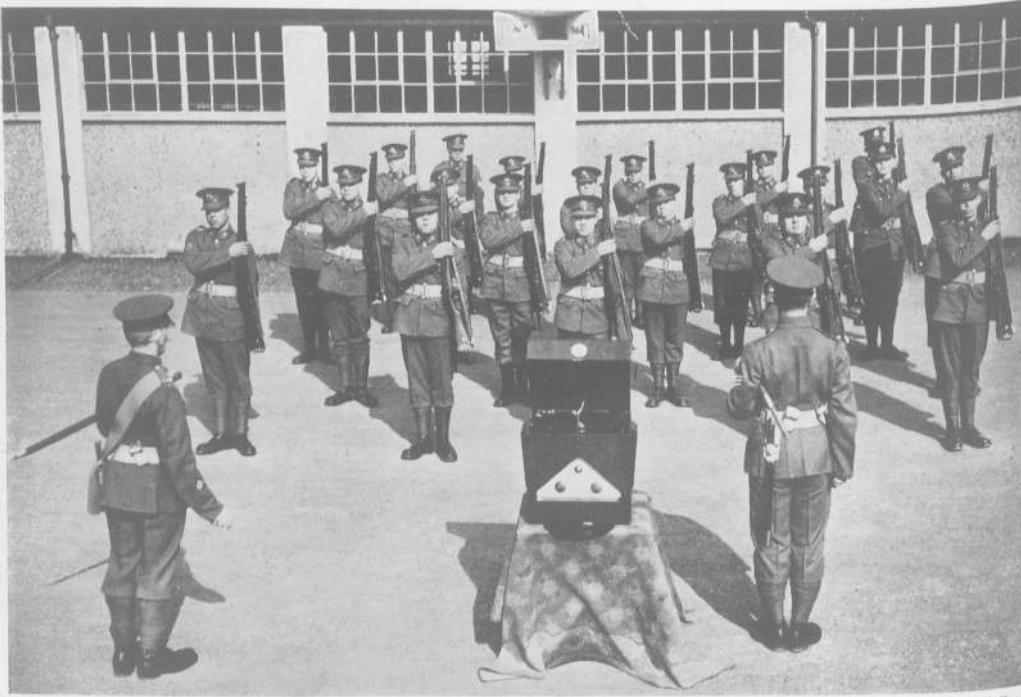
		Queen's	Other. Units.
Number of men on register, 1st January, 1937	...	1	96
Number of new registrations	...	71	768
		—	—
		72	864
Number placed in employment	...	60	587
Number remaining on register, 31st December, 1937	...	12	108
		—	—
		72	695

In addition to the above, 162 placings of Queen's men were notified by other Branches of the National Association for Employment throughout the country.

A number of situations for indoor servants and married couples could not be filled because no suitable candidates were available.

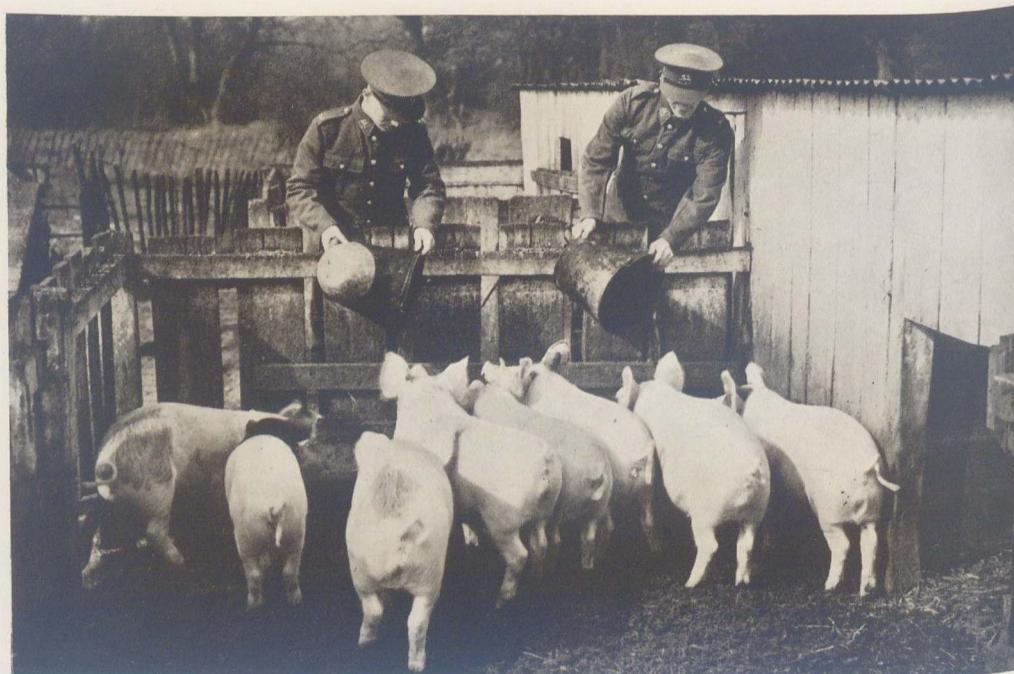
The Committee appeal to all those interested in the Regiment for any information regarding employment. It may not have occurred to members that they can probably be of assistance in placing some of their less fortunate comrades who are workless. They should, therefore, send information to the Secretary should they hear of any vacancies likely to occur in any Firm, Business or Company, where good men are required.

## THE DEPOT.



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### A RECRUIT PLATOON AT DRILL.



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### THE PIG FARM.

## OLD COMRADES ASSOCIATION

75

### ASSISTANCE GIVEN.

During the year the Association has dealt with the following applications:—

(a) Cash Grants, 140. Total amount distributed, £213 3s 3d.

(b) Loans, 26. Total amount loaned, £161 16s. 5d.

(c) £217 4s. od. was subscribed to other organizations working in the interest of our members.

(d) Thanks to the donors of a number of consignments, the Committee have been able to dispatch nine useful parcels of clothing, where this was the outstanding need.

The Committee appeal for cast-off clothing and boots. They may be dispatched to the Association.

It is possible that this appeal, which has always appeared in the Report, has been overlooked by a large number of members, or those interested in the Regiment, in which case the Committee hope that by drawing attention to this need, a greater supply will be forthcoming during the present year.

### ACCOUNTS.

Abstract of accounts will be found on page 78.

### APPEAL FOR LEGACIES.

Incalculable good can be done to the Association by Benefactors remembering it in their Wills. The Committee think it is possible that it has never occurred to the many interested in the Old Regiment that they can help the Association, and those for whom it was instituted, by means of this form of assistance, which also perpetuates the donor's association with the Regiment and his or her help to old soldiers.

### ANNUAL DINNER (ALL RANKS).

The 29th Annual Dinner was held at Thames House Restaurant on Saturday, 5th June, 1937, and, judging from comment, was thoroughly enjoyed by all. The meal, service, and accommodation were all that could be desired.

About 350 serving and non-serving members sat down. Unfortunately, serving members of the 2nd Battalion found it difficult to attend owing to training and distance.

A full report of the Dinner will be found in the JOURNAL published in November, 1937.

The 30th Annual Dinner will be held at Thames House Restaurant, Millbank, on Saturday, 4th June, 1938.

Will members intending to be present please inform the Secretary as soon as possible?

### THE ANNUAL GARDEN PARTY.

In response to a request, the 11th Annual Garden Party was held on Sunday, 27th June, 1937, and was preceded by a Memorial Service at the Cathedral Church.

From the opinion of those attending, there is no doubt the Party was a success, and hopes were expressed that in future the Garden Party would be held on a Sunday in order to have the Memorial Service, which was much appreciated.

Those who attended the Service are very grateful to the Provost and those who kindly arranged the ceremony; also to the Mayor of Guildford for attending and taking the Salute on the homeward march.

Lunch was provided at the Depot for those holding tickets, and refreshments for others. The afternoon was devoted to the Garden Party.

The musical programme by the Band of the 2nd Battalion, under the direction of Bandmaster R. Barsotti, was greatly enjoyed, and after tea the much-admired beating of "Retreat" by combined Band and Drums was, as always, a popular feature of the day.

## OBITUARY

The physical drill display by members of the Depot Staff and Recruits, under C.S.M.I. Salisbury, was much appreciated, and the usual games and competitions were well patronized.

Many climbed the Keep steps and were rewarded, the weather being very clear, by a glorious view of the surrounding country.

The Museum, Institutes, etc., came in for their full share of visitors, and the cricket match, Ladies v. Gents., caused lots of amusement. Gents. were forbidden to run, and had to field one-handed.

"Tattoo," by the Drums, under Drum-Major L. Loveland, brought the day to a close, a day by all accounts, enjoyed by everyone.

The Garden Party will be held this year, preceded by the Memorial Service, in the Cathedral Church, on Sunday, 26th June, 1938. Particulars regarding times, etc., will be circulated, and the return as early as possible of the information requested on the circulars will be much appreciated.

## CONCLUSION.

In conclusion, the Committee desire, on behalf of All Ranks, past and present, to express their gratitude to those who have shown a kindly interest in the Regiment by becoming Honorary Members, thus supporting the Association by their subscriptions.

The help given by various Branches of the Soldiers' and Sailors, Help Society, and the British Legion, etc., in investigating and reporting upon cases referred to them has again proved very valuable.

The Committee trust that during 1938 the solution of employment problems will show a general marked improvement and that a further increase in membership will take place.

It is hoped that all unemployed men of the Regiment who have not yet made use of the Association will send along their names for registration. It is also requested that those who, whilst on the Register secure employment through other sources, should notify the fact to the Secretary so that he can remove them from the Register. By neglecting to do this another man is possibly prevented from getting a job.

W. D. BIRD, Major-General, Chairman of the Committee.

G. A. PILLEAU, Major, Hon. Treasurer.

C. J. M. ELLIOTT, Major, Secretary.

## Obituary

List of those known and reported to have died since last publication of the REGIMENTAL JOURNAL, in November, 1937.

NO.	RANK AND NAME.	BATTALIONS.	SERVICE.	DATE.
6084398	L./Cpl. W. Thorpe	1st Bn....	24-9-1929	1/11/37
337	C.Q.M.S. F. H. L. Euden	7th Bn....	1914-1919	3/12/37
3539	Sergt. S. E. Anderson	1st & 2nd Bns.	1891-1903	6/12/37
1544	Sergt. E. West	1st & 2nd Bns.	1885-1902	17/12/37
3384	Sergt. P. J. Dallow	1st & 2nd Bns.	1889-1910	5/8/37
8944	Pte. C. H. Farindon	1st & 2nd Bns.	1906-1917	4/1/38
373	Pte. A. Knight	1st & 2nd Bns.	1882-1894	15/1/38
3718	R.S.M. J. Alford	1st & Depot	1891-1919	7/3/38

## O.C.A. NOTICES

## ANNUAL DINNER

TAKES PLACE AT THE

THAMES HOUSE RESTAURANT, MILLBANK, S.W.1,

ON

SATURDAY, 4TH JUNE, 1938,

7 P.M. FOR 7.30 P.M.

Will members intending to be present please inform the Secretary as early as possible, remitting subscriptions at the same time: O.C.A. 2s., Dinner Club 3s. (unless Life Member), when "Card to Admit" will be forwarded.  
Note.—Please do not leave your subscription until the night of the Dinner, as the practice of paying at the door causes confusion.

A suggestion has been put forward to hold the Dinner later in the year, so that both functions, Dinner and Garden Party, do not take place in the same month each year.

On the reverse side of the "Card to Admit" for 1937 Dinner you will find a space to record your opinion regarding the suggestion. Please make sure you affix your reply before handing your ticket in at the door.

ALL RANKS  
MEMORIAL SERVICE AND REUNION

WILL TAKE PLACE AT

THE DEPOT, STOUGHTON BARRACKS, GUILDFORD,

ON

SUNDAY, 26TH JUNE, 1938.

BAND AND DRUMS OF THE 2ND BN. THE QUEEN'S ROYAL REGIMENT.

Old Comrades will parade in the Market, Woodbridge Road, Guildford, at 12 noon, where they will be joined by the Band and Drums of the 2nd Battalion and serving members from the Depot, and march to Holy Trinity Church for a short Memorial Service at 12.30 p.m. Medals will be worn.

After the service, headed by the Band and Drums, serving and non-serving members will march to the Depot, where lunch will be available for ticket holders. These luncheon tickets, which must be purchased before 12th June, may be obtained from the Secretary, price 2s., or 1s. 3d.

There will be a buffet tent, where refreshments will be available for those who do not take luncheon tickets.

Teas will be available during the afternoon at moderate prices.

The Regimental Museum will be open and opportunity afforded of inspecting Institutes, Dining Hall, etc. Those who wish may climb the stairs and obtain a wonderful view from the Keep Top (weather permitting).

Selections will be given by the Band, and beating "Retreat" by the combined Band and Drums will be carried out.

All members of the Regiment, serving and non-serving, are cordially invited.

## O.C.A. ACCOUNTS

### INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1937.

EXPENDITURE.		INCOME.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
To Salaries and National Insurance	330 18 2	By Subscriptions and Donations	432 16 11
,, Printing, Stationery, Postages & Telephone	55 0 0	,, Life Members' Subscriptions (proportion)	22 0 0
,, Garden Party Account	10 9 9	,, Interest on Loans	1 13 5
,, Miscellaneous Expenses	16 3 10	,, Bank Interest	8 1 0
,, Balance being Surplus Income over Expenditure for the year ended 31st December, 1937, carried to Balance Sheet	53 0 7	,, Sale of Membership Cards and Badges	1 1 0
	<b>£465 12 4</b>		<b>£465 12 4</b>

### DINNER CLUB. ALL RANKS.

EXPENDITURE.		INCOME.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
To Cost of Dinner	106 12 6	By Subscriptions...	209 10 5
,, Salaries (proportion)	20 0 0	,, Life Members' Subscriptions (proportion)	6 0 0
,, Printing, Postages, etc.	8 11 8	,, Interest on Bank Deposit Account	7 8 7
,, Balance being Surplus Income over Expenditure carried to Balance Sheet	87 14 10		
	<b>£222 19 0</b>		<b>£222 19 0</b>

### CHARITABLE FUND.

EXPENDITURE.		INCOME.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
To Grants in Aid	213 3 3	By Dividends on Investments	425 11 10
,, Subscriptions to Charity Organizations, etc.	217 4 0	,, Donations	75 8 8
,, Cheque Books	1 10 0	,, Legacy—Lt.-Col. Watson (Exors.)	100 0 0
,, Balance being Surplus Income over Expenditure carried to Balance Sheet	233 6 7	,, Grants Refunded	23 10 7
	<b>£665 3 10</b>	,, Income Tax recovered	30 7 7
		,, Interest on Bank Deposit Account	3 16 9

### GENERAL BALANCE SHEET MADE UP TO 31ST DECEMBER, 1937.

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
To Life Members, Association as per last Balance Sheet	221 0 0	By Lloyds Bank, Limited:	£ s. d. £ s. d.
,, Add Subscriptions received during year 1937	6 0 0	General Account	516 2 5
	<b>227 0 0</b>	Charitable Fund Accounts	359 4 0
		Dinner Club Account (All Ranks)	541 9 8
		„ Cash in hands of Secretary	0 5 4
			<b>1417 1 5</b>
		Investments at cost as at 1st January, 1937	10121 0 3
		„ Add Cost of £692 10s. 6d. Leeds Corporation 3½% 1957/1960 @ 100 ½ %	700 0 0
		(Market Value £12,513 10s. 9d. at 31st December, 1937.)	<b>10821 0 3</b>
		„ Advances:	
		Balance as at 1st January, 1937	779 4 10
		Advances made during 1936	161 16 5
			<b>941 1 3</b>
		„ Less Amounts repaid during 1936 (subject to any loss on realisation)	454 14 5
			<b>486 6 10</b>
		„ Charitable Fund Income and Expenditure Account:—Balance as at 1st January, 1937	10295 16 4
		„ Add Transferred from General Account for Investment	500 0 0
			<b>10795 16 4</b>
		„ Add Net Surplus of Income over Expenditure for the year 1936	233 6 7
			<b>11029 2 11</b>
		„ Dinner Club Income and Expenditure Account:—Balance as at 1st January, 1937	393 17 10
		„ Add Net Surplus of Income over Expenditure for the year 1937	87 14 10
			<b>481 12 8</b>
		„ Investments Reserve as at 1st January, 1936	151 1 4
			<b>£12,724 8 6</b>

(Signed) G. A. PILLEAU, Major,  
Hon. Treasurer.

#### AUDITOR'S CERTIFICATE.

The foregoing Statements of Accounts relating to the Queen's Royal Regiment Old Comrades Association have been examined by me together with the Books and Vouchers relating thereto, and I certify them to be correct.

Dated this 14th day of January, 1938.  
GUILDFORD.

(Signed) W. KELLER SNOW, F.S.A.A.,  
Incorporated Accountant.

## EDITORIAL NOTES

*Editor:* Colonel G. N. Dyer, C.B.E., D.S.O.

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### *Hon. Treasurer:*

Colonel G. N. Dyer.

### *Offices:*

Corner House, Worplesdon, Guildford.

The following are suggestions which may be of help to Battalion Assistant Editors and contributors in sending in material:—

1. Assistant Editors should frame their material on the following lines:—
  - (a) A general survey of things in which the whole Battalion has taken part, *i.e.*, Battalion General News.
  - (b) Training, Musketry, etc., of the Battalion.
  - (c) Battalion Games and Sports. In this connection it is suggested that short reports of important Battalion matches should be given, mentioning names of goal-scorers, good scores or good bowling performances at cricket, together with the names of teams in each match. Concerts, dances, etc., should be included under this sub-head.
  - (d) Sergeants' Mess News.
  - (e) Corporals' Mess News.
  - (f) Company and Platoon Games and Sports.
2. Contributions should be written on one side of the paper only, and should, if possible, be typewritten, but this is not essential.
3. Photographs should be marked on the back with the title, and, in the case of groups, names should invariably be given. In this connection, readers are invited to send all photographs likely to be of interest.

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