

REGIMENTAL NOTES

OF

1st Battalion The Duke of Wellington's Regt.

Lieut.-Col. R. K. HEALING, Commanding.

GIBRALTAR, JULY, 1922.

DOINGS OF THE BATTALION.

July 1921 to July 1922.

At the time of the publication of the last issue of the Notes, the Battalion was nicely settled at Tidworth, and all were looking forward to the time when they would proceed to the Rhine.

On the 26th August, 1921, Letter "A" Company, under Captain R. H. W. Owen, proceeded on Detachment to Princetown in relief of the Detachment 2nd North Stafford Regt.

The Battalion was inspected at Tidworth on the 7th and 8th September, by the General Officer Commanding, Tidworth.

At the Signallers Classification Test held on the 14th September, 11 out of 12 Candidates of the Battalion classified as 1st Class Signallers. The General Officer Commanding, 3rd Division, expressed his pleasure at the results obtained and wished it to be brought to the notice of all concerned.

Major F. H. B. Wellesley proceeded to Woking on the 7th August, 1921, to attend the Senior Officer's Course held at that station.

2nd Lieuts. O. Westmacott and B. W. Webb Carter joined the Battalion on the 19th September, 1921.

On the 3rd October, 1921, the Battalion proceeded to Ireland, being accommodated in Keane Barracks, The Curragh. After a stay of 10 days in Keane Barracks, the Battalion proceeded to French Furze in relief of 1/ Suffolk Regiment, taking charge of Rath Camp which consisted of about 2000 Sinn Fein Prisoners. The duty at this time was very heavy and it was with a relief to all when the Prisoners were all released in December.

Upon arrival of the Battalion at Dublin en route for the Curragh, several of the 2nd Battalion from Collinstown were there to greet them and during the stay of the Battalion in Ireland, visits were made by Officers and Other Ranks of both Battalions. It was unfortunate that the two Battalions could not actually meet as it is many years since they were together, the nearest during the past 20 years being when the 1st Battalion was on its way to India and the 2nd Battalion on its way from India, when they passed each other off Colombo, Ceylon in November, 1905.

Christmas Day, under the conditions which the Battalion was serving at French Furze, was made the best of by the men, great pains being taken towards their enjoyment.

Lieut. L. E. Bishop, M.C., joined the Battalion on 3rd November, 1921.

A letter was received on the 15th August, 1921, from Gen. Sir Robert Baden Powell, R.C.B., K.C.V.C., expressing his greatest delight for Cheque for £9 15 8 from the Battalion in aid of the Prince of Wales Boy Scout Fund.

C.S.M. W. Shorthouse proceeded to Halifax on the 31st October, 1921, to take up appointment as C.S.M. Instructor, 4th Battalion.

The following letter was received from Head Quarters, 5th Division, Ireland:—

“I am directed by the General Officer Commanding, 5th Division, to express his pleasure at the appearance of the Troops on the Armistice Parade held on Friday, 11th November, 1921, especially with regard to their steadiness, turn out, and precision of movement.”

Lieut. J. A. Lennon, D.S.O., M.C., was posted to the Battalion on 29th July, 1921.

No. 4602168, Sergt. H. Wheatley was posted to 5th Battalion on the 8th August, 1921, as Sergeant Instructor.

The Detachment at Princetown joined the Battalion at Keane Barracks, The Curragh, on the 11th October, 1921.

Lieuts. O. G. Williams and L. E. Bishop, M.C., were posted to the Battalion on the 13th October.

Captain F. H. Fraser, D.S.O., M.C., attached to the Battalion 22nd October.

A Draft of 28 N.C.Os. and men joined the Battalion from the Depot on the 15th November, and another Draft of 27 N.C.Os. and men joining from the Depot on the 3rd December.

No. 4603389, Sergt. E. Hawley, passed course of Instruction in Field Works (Camp Services) and Workshops at Chatham and qualified to act as Pioneer Sergeant to a Battalion, 7th December.

A party of 148 N.C.Os. and men joined the Battalion from the 2nd Battalion on the 3rd January, 1922.

A Draft of 54 N.C.Os. and men joined the Battalion from the Depot on the 31st December, 1921, and 29 N.C.Os. and men on the 9th January.

During December, the orders for the move of the Battalion to the Rhine were cancelled, fresh orders being received that the Battalion would proceed to Egypt. On the 20th January, 1922, the Battalion moved from French Furze, The Curragh, to Tidworth, arriving there on the 21st.

The following letter was received from the Chief Secretary to General Head Quarters, Ireland:—

“The Chief of Police has asked me to forward to you the attached, expressing on behalf of the Royal Irish Constabulary and other Police Forces in Ireland their high appreciation of the help given to them by the Army in Ireland throughout the recent disturbances. In doing so, I should like to take the opportunity of thanking you for the assistance which you have invariably given to me during my tenure of Office as Chief Secretary.

Now that the demobilization of the R.I.C. has began, I have the honour to request that you will express to the Commander-in-Chief on behalf of the Force, their high appreciation of the help given to the Police by the Army in Ireland throughout the recent disturbances. Besides the strong support of the Armed Forces of the Army, without the ready assistance always available all over Ireland in Arming, Equipping and training the Personnel, in putting Barracks in a state of defence and in supplying experienced Officers for Intelligence duties, &c., it would have been impossible for the R.I.C. to have reached its present high standard of efficiency. The R.I.C. fully realize the deep debt of gratitude they owe to Commander-in-Chief and the Army in Ireland, their Comrades rebus in arduis.”

Special Order of the Day by Lieut.-General H. S. Jeudwine, K.C.B., Commanding 5th Division, Curragh, dated, 22nd April, 1922, is published:—

“The 5th Division will soon temporarily cease to exist. Already the greater part of the Troops which have belonged to it have left my Command. To most of these I have been able personally to express my thanks, and to acknowledge the services they have rendered in Ireland during the last two and half years. In the case of some of those that remain it is probable that I may not have the opportunity of making the same personal acknowledgment. I wish therefore now to offer to them my sincere thanks, and at the same time to place on record my deep appreciation of the services rendered by all ranks and all branches of the Army who have served in or with the 5th Division during these troublous years. By their discipline, bearing and self control, they have well upheld the great reputation of the British Army. Their duties have been very difficult, often repugnant to the feelings, of soldiers, not without danger, and requiring qualities which I believe could only have been found in Commanders and Soldiers of our Army.

I am proud to have been privileged to command such troops during such a time.”

On the 15th March, 1922, the General Officer Commanding Southern Command presented Medals to men of the Battalion at Tidworth.

A series of Lectures, with Lantern Slides, on Palestine was given in the Wesleyan Soldiers' Home at the Curragh, at Tidworth and also at Gibraltar by R.-S.-M. T. W. Milner.

The Lectures were very well attended and highly appreciated.

On the 2nd January, 1922, a Draft of 238 N.-C.-Os. and men joined the Battalion from the 2nd Battalion.

Captain E. C. Boutflower, O.B.E., qualified at the Small Arms School, Hythe, 17th February.

Captain E. C. Boutflower, O.B.E., was attached to 2nd Battalion Tank Corps 17th March and Seconded to that Corps in June, 1922.

Lieut. C. Rowland qualified at Course at the School of Education, Shorncliffe, 10th March.

Lieut. W. G. Baker seconded for Service with Colonial Office, 23rd March.

2nd Lieut. B. W. Webb Carter qualified at Lewis Gun Course, Hythe, 31st March.

Captain F. H. Fraser, D.S.O., M.C., qualified at Machine Gun School, Seaford, 24th April.

Captain D. Paton qualified at Rifle Course, Hythe, 31st March.

Captain G. P. Sleight and Lieut. J. T. Rhodes posted to 2nd Battalion, 11th April.

A party of 128 N.-C.-Os. and men were posted to the 2nd Battalion, 7th April.

In March 1922, preparations were being made for the Battalion to proceed to Egypt, when orders were received that the Battalion would proceed to Constantinople, unaccompanied by the married families.

This news was naturally received with disappointment, but within a fortnight from this, fresh orders were received that the Battalion would proceed to Gibraltar to the entire satisfaction of the whole Battalion, for everyone realised that the Battalion might at last have a chance of setting down for at least two years.

The Battalion left Tidworth for Southampton in two parties on the 10th and 11th April, embarking on H.T. *Huntsgreen*, sailing from Southampton on the 11th April. Lieut.-Colonel R. K. Healing was appointed O. C. Troops, Captain G. T. Fleming, Ships Adjutant, and Captain D. Looney, M.B.E., Ships Quarter Master.

Mrs. Healing, Mrs. Tidmarsh, Mrs. Glenn, Mrs. Williams, Mrs. Sampson and Mrs. Philpott accompanied their husbands.

The H.T. *Huntsgreen* is of about 9,000 tonnage, and was one of the German ships handed over in agreement with the conditions at the Armistice. The voyage was anything but pleasant for on the 12th April the sea was very rough and continued so until almost within sight of Gibraltar which was reached on the 16th April. On account of the 4th Battn. the Rifle Brigade, whom the Battalion relieved, not being due to leave Gibraltar until the 17th May, the Battalion was accommodated in Casemate Barracks, except Letter "D" Company who proceeded to Europa.

After the departure of the Rifle Brigade on the 17th May, Headquarters, "C" and "D" Companies proceeded to South Barracks, "A" and "B" Companies remaining at Casemates.

SPORTS.

The Battalion took part in the Tidworth Sports held on the 13th August, 1921.

The members of the Sergeants' Mess held a picnic on the 5th September, 1921, proceeding to Bournemouth. The whole of the married families of the Battalion were invited.

The party proceeded in two large charabans starting at 7 a.m., and after passing through the New Forest with its beautiful scenery, arrived at Bournemouth at 11 o'clock. The party then split up and spent the day on the sands, on pleasure boats, etc., commencing the return journey at 7.30 p.m., arriving at Tidworth at 11 p.m.

The following matches were played by teams of the Battalion :—

ASSOCIATION.

<i>Where played.</i>	<i>Teams.</i>	<i>Results.</i>
The Curragh.	2nd K.S.L.I.	Lost 6 Nil
	12th Lancers.	Lost 3 1
	10th Hussars.	Lost 4 1
	2nd K.S.L.I. (Boys' Team).	Won 9 1
	2nd K.S.L.I. (Boys' Team).	Won 6 1
	12th Lancers (Boys' Team).	Won 3 0
	The Carboniers (Boys' Team).	Lost 4 2
	R.E. (Army Cup Match).	Lost 1 0
	2nd Gordon Highs.	Won 6 0
	12th Lancers.	Lost 2 1
	R.C. of Signallers.	Won 6 2
	Depôt, R.D. Fus.	Draw 1 1
	R.A.S.C. (Cup Match).	Draw 3 3
R.A.S.C. replay.	Lost 1 0	
Cool Mooney.	2nd R.A.M.C.	Draw 3 3
The Curragh.	2nd K.S.L.I.	Draw 4 4
	R.E.	Won 5 1
	10th Hussars.	Lost 5 2
	2nd Suffolks.	Lost 3 1
	30th Bdge. R.F.A.	Lost 7 2

The result of the above matches were :—

Played	20
Won	6
Lost	10
Drawn	4

TIDWORTH.

Company Competition.—Letter “C” Company were the winners of the 1st Team, H.Q.B. being the winners of the 2nd Team.

The Boys’ Team won the Cup for Salisbury Plain Area on the 16th March, 1922, beating the 17th Lancers in the Final by 4 to 0.

In the Final of the Salisbury Plain Area Cup Competition the Battalion Team was beaten by 3 to 0 by 15th Brigade R.F.A.

Letter “C” Company won the Salisbury Plain Area Cup for best Company, beating the S.M.A. Chiseldon by 5 to 0.

RUGBY.

The following matches were played at the Curragh :—

“A” Company beat the 12th Lancers by 12 to 0.

“A” Company beat the R.E. by 15 to 0.

The Battalion Team beat the 36th Brigade R.F.A. (Army Cup Match), by 5 to 3.

The Battalion Team lost by 12 to 0 against the K.O.R. Regt. (Army Cup Match).

The Battalion Team beat 1st Cameronians (Semi-Final 5th Divl. Cup) by 11 to 0.

At Collinstown the 1st Battalion played the 2nd Battalion Team, 1st Battalion winning by 6 to 0.

Letter “A” Company were the winners of the Regimental Rugby Shield, beating H.Q.A. in the Final by 14 to 0.

Immediately the Battalion arrived at Gibraltar all ranks took the keenest interest in Sports, and considering the lack of opportunities the Battalion had towards training, the most excellent results were obtained.

WATERLOO DAY.

Waterloo Day was upheld from the 15th June to the 18th June. On the 15th June the Battalion held Sports on the Garrison Sports Ground in weather which would have been more agreeable without the strong wind characteristic of the North Front.

His Excellency the Governor and Commander-in-Chief was among the spectators and he acted as Judge in the Final of the Tug-of-War, the victory falling to “D” Company, who beat “C” Company by two pulls to nil. The Band of the

1st Bn. The North Stafford Regiment played selections of music during the afternoon.

The following were the results of the races:—

Three Miles—Sergt. Anderson, Bdm. Lane, Cpl. Holder.

Putting the Shot—Bdm. Stewart, C.-Q.-M.S. Wootton, Sergt. Jowett.

Throwing the Cricket Ball—L.-C. Ward, C.-Q.-M.-S. Wootton, Pte. Lightowler.

100 Yards—Sergt. Simpson, L.-C. Mellor, L.-C. Breedon.

Long Jump—L.-Sergt. Myatt, Pte. Spence, Sergt. Coates.

440 Yards—Lieut. Keet, Sergt. Anderson, L.-C. Breedon.

Enlisted Boys—Boy Burt, Boy Unit, Boy Smith.

High Jump—L.-C. Mellor, Sergt. Anderson, Pte. Barker.

220 Yards—Sergt. Simpson, L.-C. Mellor, L.-C. Sisseams.

Girls' Race—Ena Hemblys, Joan Glenn, Winnie Bloxwick.

One Mile—Sergt. Anderson, Pte. Lane, L.-C. Breedon.

Boys' Race—Reggie Trim, Gordon Steele, Tom Hemblys.

Hurdles—L.-C. Mellor, Bdm. Breedon, Bdm. Lacy.

Ladies' Whistling—Mrs. Ozanne.

Veterans—C.-S.-M. Hemblys.

Half Mile—L.-C. Breedon, Bdm. Lane, Pte. Carney.

Garrison Open Relay—1st N. Staffs, 3rd (M) Bdge. R.G.A. (The Battalion did not enter a team for this race).

Tug-of-War—Letter "D" Company.

Regt. Relay—"B" Company, "C" Company, Band and Drums.

Consolation Race—L.-C. Wright, Pte. Peel, Pte. Sutton.

On conclusion of the Sports, the prizes were presented by Mrs. Healing, as well as the Sports Shields and Cups. The Cup for the best sportsman (*i.e.* who won the most points for his company towards the Sports Shield) was won by Sergt. Anderson, "B" Company. The Cup for the best sportsman (under two years service) was won by Bdm. Breedon.

The Regimental Sports Shield was won by Letter "B" Company, the points for the Shield being as follows:—

"B" Company	36 Points.
Band and Drums.....	20 "
"D" Company	19 "
"C" Company	14 "
"A" Company	5 "

On the 17th June, an Open Air Regimental Boxing Tournament took place at South Barracks. Details will be seen under "Boxing."

On the 18th June, the whole of the Battalions Sports Cups and Shields, together with the Colours, were exhibited on the Battalion Parade Ground, South Barracks, the Band playing selections at the same time.

CRICKET.

The following were the results at Cricket:—

Battalion Team beat N. Staff. Regt. by 9 wickets.

Battalion Team beat N. Staff. Regt. by 7 wickets.

Battalion Team lost to R. Navy in the Garrison Tournament.

Battalion Team beat 3rd Med. Brigade, R.G.A., in the Nicholson Cup Competition by 6 wickets.

Great interest has been taken in Cricket this season, and the Battalion have played well especially during the Inter-Company Regimental Matches.

BILLIARDS.

The following were the results of a Sergeants' Mess Billiard Tournament:—

C.Q.M.S. Wootton beat Sergt. Ferrari in the final in a game of 250 by the close margin of 9.

Sergt. Coats obtained the highest break during the Tournament of 27.

We are looking forward to the Battalion winning the Garrison Billiard Trophy as we have entered a good team who, so far, have managed to beat the 3rd Medium Brigade, R.G.A., in the first round.

BOXING.

At the 5th Divisional Open Boxing Tournament held at The Curragh on the 4th and 5th November, 1921, there were five entries from the Battalion, the following being the results:—

4th November.—Feather Weights.—Sergt. Hopkinson lost on points to Pte. Carter, Leinsters.

5th November.—Feather Weight.—Pte. Harvey lost on points to Pte. Crooke, E. Yorks.

Bantam Weights.—Sergt. Anderson beat Pte. Fenn, 12th Lancers, in the Semi Final, he beat Pte. Dobbs, E. Yorks, on points, and in the final Anderson beat Sergt. Telford, E. Yorks, on points after an excellent fight.

Welters.—Pte. Twaites beat L.-C. Mabbott, 12th Lancers, by a knock-out in the first round, Pte. Connolly, R.F.A., scratched to Twaites and in the final Twaites lost on points to Sapper Barrett, R.E.

On the night of the 17th June, 1922, a Regimental Open Air Boxing Tournament was held at South Barracks. The Regimental Boxing Belt was competed for in the Light Weights. The Belt had not been competed for since 1918. The following were the results:—

Middle Weights.—Pte. Mills beat Sergt. Jowett on points.

Welter Weight.—Pte. Watts beat L.C. Fowler.

L.C. Caselton beat Pte. Delaney.

Pte. Watts beat Pte. Shoulder.

L.C. Caselton beat Pte. Walsh.

Pte. Watts beat L.C. Caselton in the final by a knock-out.

Light Weights.—Pte. Linford beat Pte. Wright.

L.C. Breedon beat L.C. Wright.

Pte. McCarney beat Pte. Wood.

Sergt. Anderson beat Pte. Carney.

L.C. Breenon beat Pte. Linford.

Sergt. Anderson beat Pte. McCarney and in the final beat L.C. Breedon, thus Anderson became the holder of the Belt.

Feather Weights.—Pte. Hinds beat Pte. Holmes.
Pte. Hobbs beat Pte. Sutton and in the final beat
Pte. Headford.

Enlisted Boys Competition.—Boy Clarke beat Boy Seiver and in the
final beat Boy Etches on points.

MUSKETRY.

The following were the results for year 1921-22 :—

Best Shooting Company	Letter " B " Company.
Best Shot, Sergeants	Sergt. W. Francis.
Best Shot, Corpls. and Privates	Pte. G. Adams.

The Battalion entered a team for the Ferrary Cup Rifle Competition which was competed for on the 8th July, 1922. The competition comprised three practices, the first, Snapshooting, at 100 yards, with an exposure of 3 seconds, the 2nd, Rapid at 300 yards, 10 rounds in 40 seconds, the third being Slow at 500 yards. After keen competition, the Cup was won by the Battalion Team with a score of 225, the 2nd team being the 1st N. Staffs. Regt. with 211 points. The Battalion Team shot exceptionally well in the rapid practice in which they obtained a lead of 19 points over all other teams.

The following representing the Battalion :—

R.-S.-M. T. W. Milner,	C.-S.-M. W. Burrell,	Cr.-Sergt. T. Norman,
Sergt. E. Cullen,	Sergt. H. James,	Sergt. W. Francis.

The Cup was presented to the Team by His Excellency the Governor, who heartily congratulated the team and said the Cup was given by Mr. Ferrary to encourage shooting, not only amongst the soldiers at Gibraltar, but among civilian clubs as well. He was particularly pleased that the Infantry had won the Competition.

The Sergeants' Mess have made arrangements for four tents to be pitched at Catalan Bay for the use of the Married families of the Battalion, in addition to which, on Saturdays, Ambulance Tongas are available for the conveyance of the families from Barracks to Catalan Bay in the morning and for their return journey in the evening.

POLO.

On arrival at Gibraltar the Battalion commenced to raise a Polo Team. Ponies were very difficult to obtain, but eventually some 10 ponies were got together. They are nearly all Barbs and were quite raw when bought. The Battalion entered a team for the Inter-Regimental Tournament and met the 1st N. Staffords in the first round and were unlucky to be beaten by 3 goals to 2 after extra time. The team consisted of :—

Major F. H. B. Wellesley	Back.
Capt. G. T. Fleming	3
Capt. F. S. Fraser, D.S.O., M.C.	2
Capt. D. Paton	1

In the 1st round of the Subaltern Tournament the Battalion team beat the 1st N. Stafford by 1 to 0, the team being:—

2nd Lieut. Webb Carter	Back.
2nd Lieut. Haslock	2
2nd Lieut. Owen	1
Lieut. Sayers.....	3

They met the R.A. Subaltern Team in the Final and were beaten by 7 to 0.

This is the first time for a considerable number of years that the Battalion has had a Subaltern Polo Team, and is a very creditable performance. The team for the Final was slightly altered, being:—

2nd Lieut. Westmacott	Back.
2nd Lieut. Webb Carter.....	3
2nd Lieut. Haslock	2
2nd Lieut. Owen.....	1

SPECIAL.

The following were awarded the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal:—

No. 4601904.....	R.-Q.-M.-S. A. Steele.
„ 4601907.....	R.-S.-M. T. W. Milner.
„ 4601909.....	Sergt. G. Henderson.
„ 4601919.....	Sergt. F. Turner.
„ 4601916.....	B.D. Sergt. H. Crowther.

- No. 4605490—Sub.-Condr. H. Brookman, transferred to Supply and Transport Corps (I.U.L.) on promotion, 3rd May, 1921.
 „ 4601928—C.-Q.-M.-S. T. W. Burrell, promoted W.-O. Class II, on the 3rd November, 1921.
 „ 4601906—Sergt. W. Wootton, promoted Cr.-Sergt. (C.-Q.M.S.) on the 3rd November, 1921.

The “Regimental History” has at last been published, the demand for same has far exceeded expectations, the result being that only a few of the £2 2 0 copies are available for any of our readers who require a copy.

The “Old Comrades Association” is now on an excellent footing, and any of our readers requiring a copy of the Book of Rules may obtain same upon application to the Honorary Secretary, The Depot, Halifax.

MARRIAGES.

No. 4603353—C.-S.-M. E. Smith, D.C.M., married (Grace Elizabeth Stewart) 16th July, 1921.

BIRTHS.

No. 4601906—Sergt. W. Wootton,	Daughter, 18/8/21.
„ 4602005—Sergt. F. Cullen,	Daughter, 16/9/21.
„ 4601916—Bd. Sergt. H. Crowther,	Daughter, 8/4/22.
„ 4603301—Sergt. F. Hemsworth,	Son, 5/4/22.
„ 4603333—C.-S.-M. E. Smith,	Son, 15/4/22.
„ 4603338—Sergt. J. Ogden,	Son, 22/4/22.
„ 4601886—C.-S.-M. A. Hemblys,	Son, 22/6/22.
„ 4602107—Sergt. J. Slane,	Son, 10/5/22.

DEATHS.

No. 4601942—Bandsman E. C. Bartram died at the King's George V. Hospital, Dublin, 9th December, 1921.

Mrs. James, wife of No. 5577637 Sergt. Master Shoemaker James, died at Gibraltar on the 26th May, 1922.