



33

BATTALION NOTES

OF THE

1st Battalion

Duke of Wellington's Regiment.



NOVEMBER, 1924.

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COLONEL OF THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S REGIMENT.

BATTALION NOTES.

OF THE

1st Battn. The Duke of Wellington's Regiment.

Lieut.-Col. N. G. Burnand, D.S.O.,

Commanding.

GOSPORT.

NOVEMBER, 1924.

EDITORIAL.

The belated appearance of these Notes—they are more than a month behindhand—demands an explanation. The delay is due to the departure of their late editor, Captain O. G. Williams, who has been posted to the 2nd Battalion. He worked hard to make these Notes a success, and he takes with him our very best wishes for his future prosperity. He has left a gap, which has had to be filled at a moment's notice, and, if these Notes bear a somewhat scrappy appearance, if there are, as we fear, many important items of news omitted, we trust that our readers will excuse these defects as being due, not so much as to negligence, as to inexperience and haste. A delicate organisation, like this, with special and highly paid correspondents lurking in every corner of barracks, is easily put out of gear.

* * *

By the time these Notes appear our first draft will have left for Egypt. It is not easy to say how much we shall miss them. But we wish them, in all sincerity, the very best of luck.

* * *

It will be found that this issue contains very little except actual accounts of our various activities during the quarter. The primary function of the Notes is of course to broadcast information of our doings to all those, who wish to keep in touch with the Battalion. At the same time it is felt that a few articles of general interest—or even of humour—would add enormously to their interest

and utility. As an example of what we mean in the last issue appeared an excellent account of the origin of the name Thomas Atkins. (And even this was borrowed from Regimental Notes). But co-operation is essential. It has been said that every man has it in him to preach at least one sermon and write at least one novel. Surely this Battalion, which during the last few year, has served in seven different countries, can produce at least one article for a magazine.

* * *

Meanwhile an extra staff has been engaged to deal with the mass of contributions expected for the next issue.

* * *

The Editor wishes to thank all those who have assisted him in the production of this last issue.

* * *

BATTALION NEWS.

The Battalion proceeded to Butser Camp near Petersfield, for Company and Battalion training on June 23rd and returned to Gosport on August 6th. An account will be found on another page.

On August 23rd the Battalion proceeded to Bulford for 3rd Divisional concentration. In spite of being hampered by bad weather the month's training proved of great value, and afforded us an insight into the mechanical side of modern warfare. Tanks, Aeroplanes, and Armoured Cars co-operated with the Infantry throughout the operations; and demonstrations were specially given for our benefit by the R.A.F., the Royal Tanks Corps, and the 4th Pack Battery, R.A. Night operations were also a prominent feature. An account of the Inter-Brigade boxing tournament is given on another page. Among the distinguished visitors, who inspected the training, were the C.I.G.S. Lord Cavan, Field-Marshal Lord Methuen, Sir Sidney Freemantle, and General de Lisle. Operations concluded with a march past of the whole Division, Lord Methuen taking the salute. The Battalion returned to Gosport on September 21st.

The annual inspection of the Battalion by the Colonel Commandant took place on October 8th.

A party of fifty other ranks under the command of Lt. B. W. Webb-Carter were present at the unveiling of the Naval Memorial on Southsea Common on October 18th.

A list of the new Battle Honours awarded to the Regiment will be found on another page.

COMPANIES' NEWS.

" A " COMPANY.

The period covered by the present notes has been a strenuous one, most of our time has been devoted to training and there have been few opportunities for playing games.

Rugby. Only a few of last year's team are now available, it is hoped however to maintain the reputation gained by the Coy. a few years ago.

Boxing. A Regimental Boxing Tournament is now in progress. We hope in the next issue to record most of the Coy. entries as winners.

Shooting. A Regimental Meeting was held on November the 10th and 11th. Congratulations to L/Cpl. Brown and Pte. Rogers who shot well in their classes. It is hoped their example will be followed by others. Sergt. Stephenson joined us from the Depot on September 2nd.

A number have joined us from the Depot, but we will be sorry to lose some of our familiar faces who are leaving us to join the 2nd Battalion in Egypt.

L/Sergt. Park has proceeded to Shorncliffe for an educational course.

" B " COMPANY.

The Coy. arrived back from Butser on 6th August, after six weeks Coy. and Battn. training, everyone looked fit and well.

Sergt. Melville was transferred from Headquarter Wing on 18th August to take over the appointment of A/C.Q.M.S. from Sergt. Brook. Sergt. Brook was transferred to D. Coy. on 23rd August on promotion to C.S.M. The Coy. wish him the best of luck in the Warrant Rank.

No. 6 Platoon represented the Battalion at the Southern Command Platoon Competition held on Salisbury Ranges 16th to 22nd August. They were under the command of 2/Lt. C. K. T. Faithful and put up a very creditable performance.

The Coy. and Machine Gun Platoon under the command of Capt. M. N. Cox, m.c. were advance train party to the Battalion on 23rd August, proceeding to Bulford Field for Brigade and Divisional Manœuvres.

Boxing. In the Brigade Boxing Competition at Bulford Field, Ptes. Foy and Burke represented the Battalion in the heavy and bantam weight division.

Pte. Burke after two magnificent fights won his weight. Pte. Foy was beaten on points after three very hard rounds.

The Coy. returned from manœuvres on 22nd September and proceeded on annual furlough on 4th October, in the meantime we managed to squeeze in two Rugby matches in the Battalion Rugby League in which we beat A. Coy. 14 nil and D. Coy. 6 nil. Ptes. Burke, Spence, Foy and Whitehead played exceedingly well.

At the Battalion Rifle Meeting held at Browdown Ranges on 10th and 11th October the Coy. put up a very good performance the undermentioned winning prizes.

C.S.M. Spencer, Sergt. Melville, Sergt. Bourne, Ptes. Spence, Scott and Porter.

"C" COMPANY.

Since the last edition of these Notes the Coy. has lost the services of C.S.M. Foster whose vacancy has not yet been filled. However, although we had a hard time at Bulford we managed, to use C.S.M. Foster's own words, "To get on with it," even though we did, on one or two occasions, lose our L. G. Limber.

Nothing of any importance has been done so far by the Coy. in the Rugby this year. We have only played one match which we lost by 8-9 and in view of the fact that we were without the services of Lt. Haslock, 2/Lt. Brown and L/Cpl. Lightowler this result was considered a creditable performance.

In the Regimental Novices Boxing contest the Coy. managed to produce between 35 to 40 per cent. of the entries mainly owing to the efforts of Sergt. Coates. The result of the contest are not yet to hand.

Five of our last year's Association team, which won the Shield, are proceeding with the draft to join the 2nd Battalion so that we shall take the field this year with practically a new team. It is hoped they will do as well as the team for 1923-24.

"D" COMPANY.

Whilst at Butser the Coy. won 1st prize in the Battalion Limber Competition.

Sergt. Brook was promoted C.S.M. and took over duties with "D" Coy. on August 23rd.

C.S.M. Brown was transferred from "D" Coy. to H.Q. Coy.

August 23rd The Coy. proceeded to Bulford for manœuvres with a total strength of 101.

Boxing. In the Brigade Boxing Competition at Bulford Fields Camp some very good fights were put up by:—Ptes. H. Birch, MacGarvey and Crang.

On the return from Camp September 22nd, "D" Coy. were called upon to supply a proportion of the draft for Egypt, over 40 men volunteering for service abroad.

No. 14 Platoon's team composed of:—Cpl. Warrington, Ptes. Allaway, Lee, Bell, Dowson, Stoney and Hallagan, obtained 1st prize in the Sections' Shooting Competition. Ptes. Bell, Needham, Lee, also won prizes.

BAND AND DRUMS.

Since the June issue of Battalion Notes, things have been moving somewhat in this section of the Battalion, for now that all the drums have been re-emblazoned and the new Battle Honors added, new "Leopard Skins" and white gauntlets supplied for the Tenor Drummers, the whole makes a really fine show when on Church Parade, etc.

After the Battalion Sports Day, the first job of importance to be performed by the Band was Speech Day at Wellington College, on June 22nd. The Band was posted in the main drive of the College, and on the left of the Guard of Honor drawn up to greet The Duke of Connaught, and, after the usual compliments had been paid, the Band repaired to the Sports Ground where a programme of music was rendered. After the sports, etc., the Band then changed their ground, and gave another programme opposite the main front of the College, finishing up with the College song "Carmen Heroidum" and "The King."

The next day, Sunday 22nd, saw the Band at Clarence Pier, where they rendered a good programme to a most appreciative audience.

Two days County Cricket next demanded the services of the Band on the United Services ground at Portsmouth, on 25th and 26th of June, the contesting teams being Hants and Middlesex.

The branch of "Toc H" at Basset near Southampton requested and obtained their services on July 12th, and on the 15th of that month they were engaged to play at a Garden Party organised to provide funds for the restoration of part of St. Saviours

Church at Shanklin I. of W. This is the first time the Band has been engaged on the Isle of Wight, but by the splendid report in the local paper they are assured of more engagements on the Island next year.

Next, two days of cricket at Portsmouth on 18th and 19th of the month required the services of the Band, the opposing teams being United Services and Household Brigade, and on the next morning they went off to Littlehampton for a week.

On returning from Littlehampton, they were next required to play at the Battalion Sports of the 1st Battn. South Lancashire Regiment (Prince of Wales Volunteers) who are stationed at Portsmouth, and on the next day the Band went out to Butser where the Battalion went out on Battalion Manœuvres.

After the camp, the Band was once again required to give a programme on the Clarence Pier on Sunday evening 10th of Aug. and, as usual were accorded a hearty welcome.

The next day, the annual outing took place, and the venue was Bournemouth, the Band, together with the families of the married members, proceeded thence by way of two char-a-bancs and one car and spent a very enjoyable day indeed. Refreshments were catered for by a noted firm of caterers in Bournemouth and between meals the excursionists broke up in small parties and enjoyed themselves to their own satisfaction. The only fly in the ointment was that whilst the char-a-banc arrived safely, the occupants of the car arrived home about 1.30 a.m. the following morning owing to the delay occasioned by a burst tyre.

Friday the 15th of August saw the first of what is to be the Annual Bugle Competition. There are two Silver Bugles in the Battalion, one presented by Mr. Geoffrey Hawkes, who was in the 9th Battalion, the other presented by Major Thorald. The competition was conducted by the Adjutant, Captain Fraser, supported by the Bandmaster, and this year the 1st place was awarded to Dmr. Gale and 2nd place to Dmr. Gough.

The following day the Band travelled to Lowestoft, where their services were booked for a week, and so successful were they that their services were asked for, for the next season. They had to leave Lowestoft very early the next Sunday morning so as to perform again on Clarence Pier the same evening.

The next morning they left Gosport to join the Battalion at Bulford, where they took part in the Divisional Manœuvres.

Returning from thence, there was little for them to do as regards engagements until 26th October, when they were again called for by the management of Clarence Pier.

The series of concerts recently commenced by the Band in the gymnasium on Thursday evenings are being well attended, and it is hoped that these will be continued throughout the winter months, and as each member of the Battalion is allowed to bring a friend to these functions a bigger attendance should result. The idea is to provide an evening's entertainment for the families and troops, so if anyone would like to hear their favourite piece of music rendered by their own Band they have only to ask the Bandmaster if he will put it on and I am sure he would be only too pleased to oblige them.

MUSICUS.

PERSONAL.

From the "London Gazette."

The undermentioned Lieutenants to be Captains.

21st February, 1924. H. Q. Keet, D.S.O., M.C.

1st March, 1924. O. G. Williams.

24th May, 1924. A. E. H. Sayers.

31st August, 1924. 2nd Lieut. A. H. G. Wathen to be Lieut.

29th August, 1924. The undermentioned Gentleman Cadet from The Royal Military College to be 2nd Lieut. D. of W. R. Terence St. George Carroll.

Lieut. C. Rowland, attended a L.A. course at Hythe 7th July to 1st August, 1924 and passed as Q.1. Also qualified as an instructor in revolver.

C.S.M. Foster was posted to the 4th D. of W's. Regt. (T.A.) on September 15th.

C.S.M.I.M. Matthews, D.C.M., was posted to the 7th D. of W's. Regt. as Acting Regimental Sergeant Major on August 18th, 1924.

Lieut. E. W. Rogers, P.A.C., has been appointed Assistant Inspector of Small Arms at Enfield Lock.

Lieut. C. R. O'Connor has been posted to the 4th K.A.R. at Uganda.

C.S.M. Brown has been promoted to C.S.M.I.M.

C.Q.M.S. Earnshaw " C.S.M.

Sergt. McMahon " C.Q.M.S.

A wedding took place at Hereford in July between Captain W. G. Baker, D. of W's. Regt. and 6th King's African Rifles, and Lillian Rodin of Hereford.

SPECIAL BATTALION ORDER,

BY LIEUT.-COL. N. G. BURNAND, D.S.O.

Commanding 1st Battalion The Duke of Wellington's Regiment.

BUTSER CAMP. (Part 1). Tuesday, 15th July, 1924.

Battle Honours awarded for the Great War.

His Majesty the King has been graciously pleased to approve of the award of the following Battle Honours.

THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S REGT. (WEST RIDING)
(21 Battalions).

"Mons," "Le Cateau," "Retreat from Mons," "Marne 1914-18," "Aisne 1914," "La Bassee 1914," "Ypres 1914-15-17," "Nonne Bosschen," "Hill 60," "St. Julien," "Aubers," "Somme 1916-18," "Albert 1916," "Bazentin," "Delville Wood," "Poizieres," "Flers-Courcelette," "Le Transloy," "Ancre Heights." "Arras 1917-18," "Scarpe 1917-18," "Bullecourt," "Messines 1917-18," "Langemark 1917." "Menin Road," "Polygon Wood," "Broodseinde," "Poelcappelle," "Passchendaele," "Cambrai, 1917-18," "St. Quentin," "Ancre 1918." "Lys," "Estaires," "Bailleul," "Kemmel," "Bethune," "Scherpenberg," "Tardenois," "Bapaume 1918," "Drocourt-Queant," "Hindenburg Line," "Havrincourt," "Canal du Nord," "Selle," "Valenciennes," "Sambre," "France and Flanders 1914-18," "Piave," "Vittoria Veneto," "Italy 1917-18," "Suvla," "Landing at Suvla," "Scimitar Hill," "Gallipoli 1915," "Egypt 1916."

BUTSER CAMP.

On June 28th the Battalion left Gosport for six months training at Butser Camp. We started at 8 a.m. and our first bound—all the best people bound nowadays—was to Fareham by tram. From Fareham we bounded or bund—to Hambleton, a pretty old village and the birthplace of cricket, where the umpires, they say, still wear tall hats. We had the privilege of playing them later on their historic pitch, where, to put it bluntly, we whacked them.

But the umpires were not wearing their toppers that day. From Hambleton our last bound—a very hot and exhausting bound this—landed us in East Meon, where for the first time we set eyes upon the stricken fields of Butser. At least not actually on the stricken fields themselves. The fire-swept slopes of Windmill Hill, Hog's Lodge, the scene of more conferences than Geneva itself, the Coach and Horses that ancient hostelry, which we were ever assaulting so obstinately, and, considering that it is no longer licensed so unprofitably—all these scenes of future conflict were hidden from us by a steep range of hills. For the camp itself lies in a hollow, and all the encircling downs pour their water into its lap so to speak. Consequently in the severest drought it remains always pleasantly moist—and in the average English summer “most demnably damp.” Rumour has it that in byegone days a farmer grazed his cattle there, and they all promptly died of pneumonia. Then arose in wrath the R.S.P.C.A. and the Dumb Friends League and demanded in the name of humanity that the field should be put to other uses. In consequence it was leased to the War Department as a suitable camping ground for troops. However the surroundings were pleasant enough. A mile away on the banks of the river Meon stood the village of East Meon, picturesque and most hospitable to us all. We played it at cricket and beat it by one run, we competed in its annual sports, we attended on Sundays at its beautiful Church and we monopolized its vicar's tennis lawn. Incidentally except for empty tins, there are no traces of salmon in the Meon, but, as it rose beneath and occasionally above the officers' mess tent, it bubbled on happily enough. Close by are the towns of Horndean and Petersfield. Horndean I imagine, benefited considerably from our stay. For whenever a platoon commander wished to display his ability, he would arrange for a division to advance northwards through Horndean. Now divisions must eat and drink, and out of these thousands of troops passing daily—Saturdays, Sundays, and Bank Holidays excepted—the Horndean victuallers must have done pretty well. Petersfield however was not so well off. I am very sorry for Petersfield; for whereas Horndean was always the scene of triumphant victorious entries, Petersfield was perpetually embarrassed by retreating armies, who always managed to get their transport hopelessly messed up in the main streets. Furthermore the gallant platoon detailed to delay the enemy on War Down till the traffic was cleared, sometimes failed to hold out, and then the unfortunate Petersfield got shelled as well. Besides, though even retreating armies must feed, they are generally in too much of a hurry to pay their bills. I think next time we must try to do something for Petersfield. It is awkward that all the best rear-guard positions face south.

But this article is getting prodigiously long, and we still have to get home to Gosport twenty miles away. I have not touched upon our many skirmishes, our marches and countermarches, and our fierce nocturnal conflicts. But I am no war correspondent. Let it suffice that on Aug. 6th we struck camp and marched back into Gosport, sound in body and mind, and able to climb like goats. Our only casualty was one M.G. Mule, who died literally in harness a victim to duty, and was buried in a lonely grave on the summit of Oxenbourne Down. We were lucky in the weather, and on the whole I think we justified our slogan, "Brighter Butser."

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 And if you can preserve correct relations
 Between two armies thirsting for the fray.
 If you can act like Wilkie Bard or Kemble
 Or paint fine pictures, like Augustus John's,
 If you enjoy making your C.O. tremble
 With horrid tales of hidden Lewis guns.
 If a white brassard suits your style of beauty,
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SPORTS.

RUGBY FOOTBALL 1924—1925

The season should be a successful one, but as happened last year our chief difficulty is lack of ground near barracks. The regimental recreation ground is still under repair and no other ground near barracks is available. However we have been able, by kind permission of Gosport Athletic, to obtain Bury Park for Wednesday matches. For Saturday games we have to rely on being able to obtain the U.S. Men's ground at Portsmouth.

Thus as last year we have the same trouble in getting off the Inter-Company League, as companies often cannot collect a team before 3 p.m. by which time it is too late to get to a ground half-an-hour's walk away.

However we hope to find companies keener than they were last season and also more enthusiasm throughout the Battalion for rugger. After the leaves are over we should have treble the number of men to select from and there should be some keen competition for places in both xv's.

Of last season's team all are again available, but with the number of new players coming on, we shall probably have several new faces in the team. Thus several of the team will have to fight hard to retain their places, this does not only apply to the backs, who were our weakness last year, but to some of the forwards.

A fixture list has been arranged for both xv's. The first xv. play every Wednesday and Saturday throughout the season starting on October 2nd and ending on April 4th with a month's break from December 10th to January 10th for Xmas leave. The fixtures shew a great improvement on last year's, notable additions being Wellington College, No. 1, 2 and 3 Coys., R.M.C. and Bournemouth Club.

The second xv. have four fixtures a month with a break in January and February to allow for the Company 2nd xv. league being played off.

Games played to-date. Inter-Company League.

A beat B 14—0 B beat D 6—0

A beat C 9—8 F beat D 19—5

Battalion 1st xv. have played eight, won seven and drawn one as follows :—

Battn. 21 points Well Coll:	3	Bn. 21 points No. 3 Co. R.M.C.	6
„ 11 „ H.M.S. Fisgard ii.	7	„ 33 „ Trogans “ A ”	0
„ 6 „ „ Vernon	5	„ 14 „ R.A.F. Gosport	6
„ 6 „ No. 1 Co. R.M.C.	6	„ 18 „ H.M.S. Fisgard i.	8

Battalion 2nd xv. Played five, won three, lost two.

Battalion 6 points Aircraftsmen Apprentices, Flowerdown	Nil.
„ 8 „ University College, Southampton	Nil.
„ Nil „ United Services v.	- - 25
„ Nil „ Royal Naval Barracks	- - 7
„ 16 „ H.M.S. Fisgard iii.	- - 8

ATHLETICS.

The results of the Regimental Sports appeared in the last issue of these Notes. It is therefore unnecessary to refer to them again. We entered a team for the “Southern Command and Salisbury Plain Area Athletic Meeting” which was held at Tidworth on 27th and 30th of August. We did not meet with any success. This was not expected as we had no ground on which to train, and the majority of our team had never run on a cinder track before. However we feel certain that the little training the team did, and experience we all gain by competing against and watching good runners perform, did us a bit of good. We have no really first class sprinters or long distance runners in the Regiment, but there is no reason why we should not be able to raise a fairly good running team. Perhaps it may be possible to do this next summer. This short article would not be complete without a reference to the doings of Bandsman Lane and L/Cpl. Brown. The former won the 3 miles flat open to the Southern Command at the R.A.S.C. Sports at Bulford, the one mile open to Southern Command at the P.W.V. Sports, and came second in the open mile at the H.M.S. Dolphin Sports. He is a runner of moods and never seems quite at home unless he is leading. He is not fast enough for a mile, and perhaps his best race is 3 miles or over. L/Cpl. Brown though not as good a runner as Lane is a splendid trier, and a fine sportsman. He enters for everything, and it matters not to him who wins or loses as long as he has a good race. This is the proper spirit and one was very pleased to see him finish 4th in the 3 miles at Tidworth. We hope to see a lot more competing in these open events next year.

CRICKET.

When asked for an Article on this game by the editor we thought it impossible. Now when we commence to write it appears more impossible than ever. Truth to tell we must have experienced the worst cricket season on record. This was not our fault—we had no ground of our own, and all attempts to hire one failed miserably. Then the weather was so bad at the beginning of the season that the few games we had arranged fell through. The only two we played we won. We beat the Gosport District Association and Swanwick Sports Club. Then we moved to Butser Camp for training. Here we played the local Clubs, but we were much too strong for them. The best game we had was when an A xi. beat the East Meon Cricket Club by one run. It was a most thrilling game and proved, if proof is necessary, that cricket can be as exciting as any football match. For their victory the A xi. have to thank Pte. Smith for some excellent bowling and Col.-Sergt. Norman and Sergt. Banks for very steady batting, under difficult conditions. Cpl. Wright coming in last man with the score East Meon all out 70. D. of W's. R. 70, made the winning hit amid much enthusiasm. True to a smiter's tradition he was cleaned bowled next ball. There are some promising cricketers in the Regiment and we hope to get a fair side together next year. We are informed our ground will be ready by then. Pte. Salmon has done splendid work for some of the local teams. He has made three or four centuries, and taken a lot of wickets. He is an aggressive batsman and goes for the bowling. Sergt. Greenwood—despite an awkward style—is capable of making a lot of runs. Pte. Smith as a bowler shows promise. The Company Tournament fell through owing to the above-mentioned difficulties, which was a great pity.

BOXING.

It is very gratifying that we should be able to write in high terms of this excellent sport which is so good for young soldiers. It is stale news now that we succeeded in tying with the Buffs and P.W.V's. for the Girdwood Boxing Cup, which was given by Col. Girdwood for annual competition among the units in the 9th Infantry Brigade at the Annual Concentration. It was a unique result, but we feel confident that if the other units were asked they would all agree that our team was very unlucky not to win. It was indeed an unfortunate moment for us when Pte. Crang—one of the best sportsmen in the Regiment—was disqualified for attempting to hit low. He never meant it, but he always gets so excited when he enters a ring that he loses his head. He did not get a point when disqualified, but had he been beaten, which was highly improbable,

he would have got one point, which was sufficient to get us home. However, the whole competition was an excellent one, and perhaps the idea of each unit holding the Cup for 4 months each is a nicer way than awarding the Cup to the winners of the most finals, which was incidentally ourselves. The Meeting was run by Capt. R. H. W. Owen, and we look to him for a few tips when we have our Open Competition. In this Competition all our men fought splendidly, and deserve great praise for the way they trained under difficult circumstances. It was unfortunate that Pte. McGarvey got damaged in the last few days of training, and while Pte. Farr put up a splendid show in his place he was not fit for the task in hand. Pte. Hawes was three pounds over weight on the morning of the boxing, and the hard work he had to do in order to make the weight weakened him considerably.

Pte. Foy was defeated by a better boxer, but he was not really fit. With only four men left in the finals, it was thought that we would not do well. However, these four saw to it that our Regt. would create a surprise. They all boxed like champions, and won their weights after splendid fights. Pte. Burke, for one so young, put up a splendid show and should do well. He is very fond of the game, and won his fight after an extra round. Cpl. Wright has come on a lot, and now that he has learned that attack is the best defence, is proving himself a clever boxer. Birch created a sensation by knocking his man out in the second round. He improved, and it is a pity he is going abroad. Pte. Miles and Cpl. McGuirk (P.W.V's.) provided the finest fight of the afternoon. It was well worth going three miles to see. Miles boxed with good judgment and hit hard, but his defence is weak, and he must learn not to leave his jaw so open. McGuirk put up a wonderfully plucky fight, and his courage was undaunted to the end. It was an example to the large crowd how one can carry-on under difficult conditions! It is interesting to note that the four men who turned up practically every night, and trained conscientiously all through, were rewarded by winning their weights. It proves how essential it is to train regularly if success is to be attained. We should like to thank Sergt. Jowett for the great help he gave during the training and his advice, as chief second was invaluable. This success has given boxing a much needed fillip in the Battalion and it was a pleasure to see our men train.

NOVICES BOXING COMPETITION.

This took place in our Gym on October 20th, 21st and 24th commencing each night at 8 p.m. We had over 60 entries, which was not too bad, considering we have a large number of men

away on draft leave, and "B" Coy. away on leave also. The three nights were full of excellent boxing, and the whole Meeting was a success.

The following winners and runners up of each weight :—

Fly weight,	Winner,	Bandsman Lane H.Q.			
Bantam	" "	Pte. Blakely, H.Q.	Runner up,	Pte. Beverly, B. Co.	
Feather	" "	" Topps C. Co.	" "	" Pearse C. Co.	
Light	" "	" Wilkinson	" "	" Lumb	"
Welter	" "	" Griffiths H.Q.	" "	" Berwick H.Q.	
Middle	" "	" Huntington A Co.	" "	" Graves C. Co.	
Light Heavy	" "	" Hancy H.Q.	" "	" Williams A Co.	

Winners of the Boys Weights—Boy Hemblys, Boy Spooner and Boy Sherrocks.

The best loser's prize went to Pte. Bray, H.Q. who put up a wonderfully plucky fight. In addition it was found necessary to give good losers prizes to Pte. Hughes B. Coy., Pte. Rumbold, D. Coy., Pte. Wallis, C. Coy., and last but not least Boy Britton, of whom showed splendid fighting spirit.

On the last night Cpl. Wright and Pte. Crang fought a six-round contest. They asked to be allowed to do this so as to give the winners of the semi-finals a rest before the finals were fought off. It was a splendid fight and thoroughly enjoyed by all. Both have improved a great deal, and they have done a lot, especially the former, to help Boxing in the Regiment. Cpl. Wright won on points, but it was as nice a fight as one could wish to see. Major Wellesley, in the unavoidable absence of the Commanding Officer, kindly consented to present the prizes. In his speech he referred to Boxing as a Sport which should appeal to all British Soldiers, and it should be the aim of every man to represent his Regiment at some particular game or sport. He comments on the small audience, and we hope his appeal for greater support, at all the various games played by the Regiment, did not fall on deaf ears. He referred to the number of good losers, which was, in his opinion, an excellent sign.

In conclusion we should like to note that several promising boxers were revealed, and we hope to commence serious training next week in view of our Meeting the P.W.Vs. in the Inter-Unit Competition on November 20th. We hope all will train hard, and we want some heavy weights badly! We thank all those who assisted in running the show. The Referees, Judges, Seconds, M.C., Recorder and the Chief Whip Sergt. Hemsworth. The

latter had a difficult job, but did it well and showed that he is as much at home doing Chief Whip at a Boxing Competition as instructing N.C.O's. in the various and complicated stoppages of the Light Automatic. We hope to buy a Raised Ring soon, and hold contests fairly regularly in our own Gym. The Boys Fights were very keenly contested and provided good sport.

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL.

There are a number of changes in the Battalion Soccer Team this season, several N.C.Os. and men having transferred to the Army Reserve, etc. We have however still a good team most of whom are young players—of those playing last season L/Cpl. Jackson, Ptes. Earle and Nunn have been transferred to A Reserve. Sergt. Coates is unable to play again owing to injuries. Pte. Mellor has given up Soccer in favour of Rugby.

The following are the results to date.

U.S. League Division i.	R.A. Portsmouth 2.	Battalion 2.
"	Battalion 0.	R.A. Gosport 0.
U.S. Charity Cup 1st Round.	Battalion 0.	R.A. Gosport 0.
U.S. Challenge Cup 1st Round	Battalion 4.	H.M.S. Vernon 1.

The 1st Round Army Cup will be played this month. Battalion v. Workshop Training Battalion, Royal Tank Corps.

The Battalion 2nd xi. commence their season on 19th Nov.

The following have represented the Battalion in Association Football this season :—

L/Cpl. Mountain, L/Cpl. Mason, Cpl. Ward, L/Cpl. Wyatt, Pte. Wadson, Sergt. Lees, Cpl. Thorpe, Pte. McGarvey, L/Cpl. Dodds, Pte. Wild, L/Cpl. Basford, Pte. Kirkby, L/Cpl. Seaton, Pte. Salmon, Pte. Wagstaffe.

1st Battalion The Duke of Wellington's Regiment.

RESULT OF REGIMENTAL RIFLE SHOOTING.

		CLASS "A."		Score
200 yards	1st	C.S.M. Burrell	...	34
	2nd	Pte. Lee	...	32
		" Murrell	...	32
				} Tied
300 yards	1st	C.S.M. Burrell	...	57
	2nd	" Spencer	...	57
		Co.Sgt. Norman	...	56
				} Tied

500 yards	1st	Pte. Rogers	...	18	
		Co.Sgt. Norman	...	17	
		Pte. Beedham	...	16	
CLASS " B."					
200 yards	1st	Sgt. Bourne	...	32	
	2nd	L/Cpl. Welling	...	31	
	3rd	Pte. Elstone	...	28	} Tied
	" Birch	...	28		
300 yards	1st	Sgt. Bourne	...	53	
	2nd	L/Sgt. Hunt	...	42	
	3rd	Pte. Rimmer	...	38	
500 yards	1st	Pte. Ward	...	15	
	2nd	L/Cpl. Yates	...	14	} Tied
		Pte. Dodds	...	14	

CLASS " C."

200 yards	1st	L/Cpl. Brown	...	33	
	2nd	Pte. Spence	...	21	
	3rd	Sgt.Dr. Jones	...	19	} Tied
	Pte. Porter	...	19		
300 yards	1st	L.Cpl. Brown	...	46	
	2nd	Sgt.Dr. Jones	...	32	
	3rd	Pte. Spence	...	28	} Tied
	" Rhodes	...	28		
	" Sackville	...	28		
500 yards	1st	Pte. Spence	...	14	
	2nd	Sgt.Dr. Jones	...	13	} Tied
		L/Cpl. Brown	...	13	

GRAND AGGREGATES.

Class " A "	1st	C.S.M. Burrell	...	104
	2nd	L/Sgt. Pearson	...	96
Class " B "	1st	Sgt. Bourne	...	97
	2nd	Sgt. Melville	...	77
Class " A "	1st	L/Cpl. Brown	...	92
	2nd	Sgt.Dr. Jones	...	64

PAIR SHOOTING.

1st	C.S.M. Spencer	...	32
	Pte. Scott	...	
2nd	Cpl. Warrington	...	17
	Pte. Hartwell	...	

PLATOON COMPETITION.

1st Number 14 Platoon.

POOL BULL SHOOTING.

200 yards	Bd. Md. Clarke	...	2
	2/Lieut. Oldham	...	1
	Cr. Sgt. Norman	...	1
	C.S.M. Burrell	...	1
	L/Cpl. Basford	...	1
300 yards	2/Lieut. Faithful	...	1



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