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THE DUKE OF WELLINGTONS REGIMENT

Regimental Notes

1919 - 21

The following Notes relating to the past year have been collected in the hope that they may be of interest to those who are not in the way of hearing much of the movements and doings of the different units of the Regiment.

THE RECIMENT

At the beginning of the year the Title of the Regiment was changed and it is now officially known as THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S REGIMENT (WEST RIDINGS).

A collection of the menus of the Annual Regimental Dinners since the smalgamation of the 33rd and 76th Regiments is being made by the Hon. Secretary of the Dinner Club. The following are missing: -

1891 - 1897, 1900, 1904, 1906, 1908 - 1912.

If any members of the Regiment could let the Hon. Secretary have any of these mentioned he would be much obliged.

In February last a Committee was formed to settle the form the Regimental (1st, 2nd and 3rd Batts) War Hemorial was to take. This will be definitely decided in the next few weeks, when a subscription list will be opened. The form the Memorial seems likely to take is that of a tablet or other memorial in stone, a Book inscribed with the names of the Fallen and the endowment of a bed or beds, according to funds available, in a hospital in the West Riding.

The Committee is as under:

General Sir Herbert Belfield - Colonel of the Regiment.

Major Tidmarsh and Brig. Gen.

Watson - 1st Battalion.

Lt Col. Bray and Brig. Gen

Turner - 2nd Battalion.

Major Hanson and Colonel

Wyllie - 3rd

Lt Col. Trench

- Depot.

It was intended to hold a General Meeting and dinner of the Old Commades Association at Bradford on 12th November 1920, this had to be postponed owing to Industrial troubles. and was later fixed for 13th April, the coal strike again interfered with it and it was again postponed (date will be fixed as soon as this present crisis is over).

On the 24th July, 1920, General Sir Herbert Belfield presented colours to the Service Battalions of the Regiment at the Depôt. These colours were afterwards installed in the Parish Church where General Belfield unveiled a memorial to the 9th Battalion.

1st Battalion

Commanding Officer ...

... Lt Colonel R.K. Healing.

Owing to the regrettable illness of Colonel Healing he has never been able to take over his command, the Battalion has been commanded during the last year by Majors Tidmarsh, Wellesley and Glenn.

The Battalion has been stationed practically all the year at Surafend, Palestine in an extremely sandy camp with the Judaean Hills away to the East and the sand dunes of the coast line to the westward.

The Battalion was to move to Abbassia, Cairo on the 21st

April, so it is presumably settled there by this time.

Two handsome silver cups have been presented to the Battalion by Mr Maples and Miss Buller in memory of Captain Maples.

NOTE - It is regretted that some notes that were to have come from the 1st Battalion have not arrived,

presumably on account of their move.

2nd Battalion

Commanding Officer ... It Colonel R.N. Bray, O.M.G., D.S.O.

At the end of June last the Battalion moved from Sneffield to Collinstown Camp, Co Dublin, they had not been in Ireland a month before they were moved to Belfast for the riots that had broken out there, they returned to Collinstown Camp after a somewhat strenuous ten days, later on two companies under Major Carlyon returned for another three weeks duty there. It was during this time that Major Burnett, D.S.O., was accidentally wounded by the discharge of a faulty automatic pistol.

The duties at Collinstown have largely been composed of heavy guard duties, raiding parties for wanted political persons and lorry road patrols, these duties have been a severe strain

on all ranks but have been carried out effectively.

On 20th September the daily ration lorry for the Battalion was ambushed in Dublin by armed vivilians, which resulted in the deaths of 3 men of the Unit and the wounding of 2 others. When

called upon to hand over their arms to the civilians, who threatened them with revolvers, the escort of the lorry refused and opened fire, and it subsequently appeared that one of the assailants was killed by their rifle fire. For their presence of mind and initiative the men were highly commended by the G.O.C. in Chief and 3 of the survivors were mentioned in General Routine Orders, Irish Command, "for an especial act of gallantry". A month after, the Battalion lost a promising officer, in the death of Lieut. H. St C. L'Amie, who was accidently killed by the discharge of a faulty Automatic pistol, whilst walking in the Camp.

On 6th April, 1921 the Battalion less "details" moved to Liverpool in connection with the Coal Strike, and were accommodated in Seaforth Barracks, the Depót of the King's Liverpool Regiment. On the Mobilization of the Army Reserve, 6 Officers and 267 Reservists joined the Battalion. On 27th April, 1921, the Battalion moved to Altear Rifle range, north of Liverpool for the purpose of completing the annual M.C. and is at present stationed there.

THE DEPOT

Commanding Officer

... Bt. Lt. Colonel M.V. Le P. Trench.

Electric light has been installed in the Squash Court built for the Officers and Non-Commissioned Officers at the Depôt just before the War.

The remaking of the football ground adjoining the Barracks was commenced in the Autumn of 1919 and during the winter many tons of earth were put on to it to improve the slope and irregularities, all ranks giving a hand. The ground is now ready for the and the expense incurred has been refunded by the Army Sports Control Board.

A Museum of objects of interest to the Regiment has been started at the Depot mainly with the idea of teaching recruits Regimental History and esprit de corps. It is hoped that Officers past and present will give it their support by presenting any articles of Regimental interest in their possession.

Mrs M.V. Le P. Trench has made a Regimental Flag for the Depôt, bearing the two crests flanked by a 33 and 76 in French Grey bordered with gold on a maroon ground. This Flag is flown on all Battle Honour days and other special occasions.

General Sir Ivor Maxse Commanding the Northern Command shewed his appreciation of the work carried out by all ranks at the Depôt in 1920, by placing the Depot among the 3 Depots selected by him out of all those in the Command (13) "as most nearly approaching his ideal."