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THE IRON DUKE

*THE MAGAZINE OF
THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S REGT
(WEST RIDING)*

THE IRON DUKE



The
REGIMENTAL MAGAZINE
of
THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S
REGIMENT
(WEST RIDING)

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THE IRON DUKE

THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S
REGIMENTAL MAGAZINE

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(a) Articles and stories, especially those of a light nature.
(b) Personal notes.
All contributions to be in **B**  15th Dec.
Punctuality in this respect helps publication to time.

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THE IRON DUKE.

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PLATE XXII.

THIRTY-THIRD REGIMENT.

THIS Regiment was raised during the American war in the neighbourhood of Halifax, from which circumstance, and that of their recruiting serjeants always preceding the party with an oat cake upon their swords, the men have always been denominated the Haver-cake Lads. Till very lately the gallant Lord Wellington was the colonel of this regiment. To his portrait the eloquent serjeant in the Plate is appealing, which, with the strong additional aid of Sir John Barleycorn, will no doubt produce a powerful reinforcement to the Haver-cake Lads. The regiment has been lately given to Sir John Sherbrooke.



THE HAVERCAKE.
(See back)

THE IRON DUKE

EDITORIAL.

Official information of the future of the 1st and 2nd Battalions is not very clear, but as far as we can gather at the moment of writing (4th September), the following is the situation. The 1st Battalion, now in Khartoum, is to return to England in November, Lt.-Col. B. W. Webb-Carter, who was home on a course in August, flew back to Khartoum on 2nd September.

The 2nd Battalion left Delhi on 22nd August for Kalyan Transit Camp, and is due to embark for England on the troopship *Strathnaver* on 15th September. As will be seen from Major Tedd's article "First in Last Out" on page (147) the Battalion have the distinction of being the first British Infantry Regiment to have entered Delhi, and the last to leave it, having, as the 76th Foot, taken part in the capture of Delhi in 1803. Col. F. R. Armitage, whose portrait appears opposite page (133), relinquished command last February, when he came home on leave, and has since taken up a staff appointment at G.H.Q. Singapore. He has been succeeded by Lt.-Col. C. R. T. Cumberlege, who arrived in Delhi just in time to entrain with the Battalion on their departure.

Col. C. J. Pickering has announced his decision to retire from the Colonelcy of the Regiment next November. As he stated in his speech at the Regimental Dinner on 6th June last, he feels that a younger man, who has had fighting experience in the recent war, should take his place. Col. Pickering has held the appointment since October, 1938, when he succeeded the late Brig-Gen. P. A. Turner. It would be difficult to overestimate all that he has done for the Regiment in the past nine years. During the war, when he was already engaged in important war work in Civil Defence, he made frequent visits to units of the Regiment, entailing long and tiring journeys in the uncomfortable travelling conditions of those days. His correspondence grew to enormous proportions, which without any sort of a secretary meant great inroads into his time—leisure one cannot call it, there can have been practically none. Col. Pickering had a distinguished career in the Regiment and on the Staff, a brief account of which appeared on page 5 of No. 42 (February, 1939) of THE IRON DUKE. He is to be succeeded by General Sir Philip Christison, to whom we offer our sincere congratulations on his promotion to full general.

By the death of Lt.-Col. E. G. Harrison, C.B., D.S.O., the Regiment has lost one of its oldest members, who was not only a distinguished soldier, but also a noted all-round sportsman. Indeed to some of us who joined when he had already earned such distinction he was almost a legendary figure. He took a great interest in the IRON DUKE from the beginning, and he gave great support to the Editor, not only by contributing, but by his encouragement and appreciation. We tried on several occasions to get him to write up some of his experiences in war and sport, but he was always most diffident of his powers of writing, although his literary ability was shown in the one article he contributed, namely "A day's Lion Hunting," which appeared on page 170 of No. 8, (October, 1927) of THE IRON DUKE. Col. Harrison made a number of generous bequests to the Regiment which are detailed on page (146).

We very much regret the retirement of Miss Turner as Treasurer and Business Manager, notice of which is given below ; an appreciation of her services appears on page 147.

We have received a copy of the brochure of the Regimental War Memorial Fund, which is being distributed to all members of the Regiment. This brochure is most

admirably got up and compiled. It contains a colour frontispiece showing an artist's impression of the Side Chapel at Halifax Parish Church as it will appear when converted into a war memorial; a brief account of the war services of all units of the Regiment; and an appeal for subscriptions to the War Memorial, with a deed of covenant form at the end.

That fine regimental journal, *The St. George's Gazette*, a Regimental paper for "The Old and Bold," (otherwise the 5th Royal Northumberland Fusiliers), has been issued monthly without interruption for sixty-four years. The Editor, Major B. T. St. John, has recently retired after 31 years in that post. This must be a unique record both for the magazine and for Major St. John, to whom we offer our sincere congratulations.

Owing to the financial position of THE IRON DUKE we have regretfully had to make an innovation by inserting advertisements in the body of the magazine. Subscribers wishing to have their copies bound can have these advertisements omitted. The Treasurer reports that over 100 officers have raised their annual subscription to 10/-, and it is hoped that all others who can see their way to doing so will send new bankers' orders to Brig. V. C. Green.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

TREASURER AND BUSINESS MANAGER.

Miss Turner is retiring from the post of Treasurer and Business Manager of "The Iron Duke" early in October, and is to be succeeded by Brigadier V. C. Green. After receipt of their copies of this number will subscribers please write on all business matters, including subscriptions, to:—

**Brigadier V. C. Green, C.B.E.,
Coed Mor,
Groes Lwyd,
Abergele,
North Wales.**

FRONTISPIECE

Having heard that several of the younger generation were ignorant of the reason for the regimental nickname of "The Havercake Lads," we thought it would be as well to reproduce the old print of the recruiting sergeant and the havercake, well known to older officers. To get hold of a copy of this print was another matter, but by a piece of good luck, C. H. Williams, Esq., of Shelvingstone, Sonning, Berks. wrote to Major Baker at this time that he had a copy of a book entitled "Costumes of Yorkshire in 1814," edited by Hailstone, F.S.A., with drawings by George Walker. This book contains among a number of old coloured prints of Yorkshire subjects and personalities this very print of the Havercake. Mr. Williams very kindly offered it to the Regiment, and it is to be framed and placed in the Officers' Mess at the Depot, Halifax. Meanwhile we have had it reproduced as our frontispiece, with a description of it printed on the back.

By a coincidence, a little later, Major T. K. Wright, late of the 6th Battalion, sent us another book, which contains the same print, and which he has presented to the Depot.

This book is entitled "British Military Prints," by Ralph Nevill, published in 1909 by the Connoisseur Publishing Company. It contains many pictures, some coloured, of battles, uniforms, portraits of celebrities, including The Duke of Wellington, and curious old cartoons. In his letter, Major Wright tells the following amusing anecdote:—"I remember giving an old Militia member of the Lancashire Fusiliers a few days C.B., and hearing him afterwards saying to his sergeant "Anyway, I did not join the Army for a b—— loaf of bread!" He had noticed my badges."

We offer our sincere thanks to both Mr. Williams, (not a "Duke," but served in the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire L.I. in the 1914 war), and to Major Wright, for their gifts.

Major Baker has asked us to say that the Depot will be very pleased to receive any pictures of Regimental interest which their owners would care to present (except photographs of regimental groups). These are needed for the amenity rooms at the Depot.

REGIMENTAL NEWS

1st Battalion

The period covered by these notes takes us from the end of April until mid-August. Owing to the heat in Khartoum very little activity of a sporting or training nature has taken place, as from 0830 to 1600 hours daily, the sun was a definitely hostile influence.

We celebrated the King's Birthday on June 12th with a small "family" parade of the two companies resident in Khartoum. This parade took place at 0630 hours and the rest of the day was observed as a holiday.

The heat (everything is blamed on to it) also prevented any active celebration of Waterloo Day. It would have been impossible to have much outdoor gaiety with the temperature at 115 degrees in the shade. However H.Q. Troops, Sudan were informed that we always had a holiday on 18th June, and we had one. Except for a football match between "H.Q." and "D" Companies the day was a quiet one.

On 7th July, we showed the Flag by an early morning march through Khartoum with the Colours and Drums on parade. We left barracks at 0610 hours and did a 7½ mile march returning shortly after 0815 hours. As is normal in the East, an unusual spectacle attracts crowds, and there were large numbers of spectators to cheer us on our way.

We now have a Corps of Drums in full working order. This achievement, for they are very good indeed, is due to the enthusiasm of the Colonel and the keenness of Drum Major Kaye as instructor, and of all the drummers who have thrown themselves wholeheartedly into their work with excellent results. The Battalion is now woken every Saturday morning to the massed beating of Reveille, through which even the most tired are unable to sleep. In addition, Retreat is beaten every Wednesday evening.

Very shortly the massed Drums and Bugles of both ourselves and the 1/K.S.L.I. are putting on a combined beating of Retreat on two occasions.

The Officers' Mess Silver is now all out here, the second instalment having been brought out by Capt. Roberts. It is a real pleasure to see all the lovely pieces displayed on Tuesday guest nights, and the sight brings expressions of delight and envy from all who come and dine.

At the moment of writing, the Sergeants' Mess Silver has arrived at Port Sudan and is being unloaded from the freighter. Members of the Sergeants' Mess are all agog waiting for its arrival in Khartoum, so that they can show it off suitably to their many friends, both military and civilian, in the town.

In early May, "C" Company left the airfield where they had been stationed since November, and went off to join "D" Company at Gebeit. There was no real sorrow at the departure, as the airfield—one vast flat open expanse of shadeless sand—was just

about the hottest and dustiest spot in Khartoum. In early June "D" Company came back to Khartoum after their three months in the comparative cool of the Red Sea Hills, and "A" Company has taken their place. Early this month the carrier and 3in. Mortar Platoons of "H.Q." Company went up to Gebeit where the training facilities are so much greater, and two platoons of "C" Company have come back to Khartoum to take their place.

The Battalion has not done too badly in the Khartoum cricket league and is at present lying in fourth place with five matches to be played. Unfortunately Major Grieve (with one century and four scores of over 50 to his credit) has gone to England on posting to the R.M.A. as an instructor, and has left an unfillable void at a crucial time in the League matches. At water-polo we are holding our own well, but the swop over of companies, Release L.I.A.P. and Python continue to drain us of good players, and new arrivals take time to get bedded down into the teams.

OFFICERS' MESS.

So little has happened since we last wrote (the Khartoum season, both sporting and social, begins in November and ends in March) that it is hard to tear ourselves away from describing our old stand-by—The Nile; but we hope our readers will bear with us if we describe the weather—that other so useful stand-by for writers who have nothing to say. Though most of the Mess members have quite a lot to say about the weather, it is mostly unprintable, as it plays quite a big part in our lives at this time of the year.

Take, for example, the Haboob—a sudden fierce sand and dust-laden rush of wind, which breaks hearts and windows. The Haboob "season" is supposed to last from mid-May to the end of June, but this year (the worst for thirty years say the locals) we have even had one in August! We sit quietly reading in the Mess in the "cool" of the early evening, and with a rush the Haboob is on us and turns day into night—a night with a strange orange glow, and made hideous by the sand, so insidious that it finds its way into anything however closely shut. The Haboob may last half an hour; it may go on for three and a half hours. One of these Haboobs gave rise to a classic remark by Col. Webb-Carter's temporary batman, who, when told by the Colonel to close all doors and windows in his room and only open them when the Haboob had blown itself out, asked "And what time will the Haboob be over, Sir?"

We are a comparatively small Mess in Khartoum, as two companies are permanently away at Gebeit in the Red Sea Hills. At the moment of writing, "A" and "C" Companies are at Gebeit, commanded respectively by Majors Hatch and Blake. As is so monotonously regular these days, we spend our time bidding good-bye to old faces and welcoming new ones, as a result of Release and Python.

Our new arrivals in strict order of rotation are Lts. Haigh, Findlay, Baxter, Captains Davies and Vaughan, Major Sugden and Captains Nicholson and Miller, to all of whom we extend a hearty welcome. The latter has not yet been seen in Khartoum as he got off the train at Gebeit to join that Detachment, and is now starting a rest camp at Erkowit, which is the summer station for Sudan Government Officials who cannot take their three months U.K. leave. Major Carroll and Capt. Roberts have both recently rejoined us from courses plus leave in England. To the former we offer our hearty congratulations on the birth of his daughter, and to the latter on successfully bringing out the second and last instalment of the Mess Silver. This is now complete and provides a magnificent spectacle for those who come and dine with us, on our Tuesday guest nights.

Our departures have also been heavy. We have lost Capt. Isles, our Adjutant, who has gone home on Python and is now installed at the P.T.C. as O.C. "H.Q." Company, we hear; Capt. Bentley our M.T.O. who has gone on Release and to Cambridge to read History; Lt. Turner also on Release and to study architecture; and lastly—a few days ago—Major Grieve, who has gone to the R.M.A. Sandhurst as an instructor. To them all we extend our sincerest good wishes for their continued success. The Colonel is also

in England on a short course, while Capt. Jones-Stamp and Lt. Johnson are in U.K. on L.I.A.P.

On Waterloo Day the members of the Sergeants' Mess came in, and we had a quiet evening with a standing buffet, and a cinema show on the lawn. It was a most enjoyable evening, comparatively cool and quite free from Haboobs.

To close, we must tell a very pretty little story that is going the rounds. Shortly after we had our long Flag March through Khartoum, on which the C.O. and Capt. Jones-Stamp were both mounted, a certain Company decided to have a Quiz on Regimental History. One young soldier was asked who made the famous remark "Bring me my boots and the 76th Regiment of Foot and I am ready to do anything and go anywhere." To which he promptly replied, "Capt. Jones-Stamp, Sir."

SERGEANTS' MESS

During the last few months many changes have taken place in the Mess. Several members have left us to brave the "outer world" to work for a living for a change. To mention these daring members we have; Sgts. Burton, Lewis, Rimmer, Antcliffe, Hancock, Carberry, Falconer, James, Wilden, Kingscott and C.Q.M.S. Curtis and James, and last but not least Sgt. Adams who got himself a home-posting.

We offer our congratulations to our new members, may their stay be a long and happy one; Sgts. Hunter, Clarke, Galley, Russell, French, Glover, Haywood and Blewitt, and to our Educational Staff, W.O. I. Price, Sgts. Cherry and Whitfield. We also extend a hearty greeting to three old soldiers, namely R.S.M. Jackson, O.R.Q.M.S. Akrigg, C.S.M. Brighton. We all congratulate Sgt. Kay on his appointment to the exalted rank of drum major. He has recently left us to attend a gas course in the U.K., and we hope that he will return with the coveted "D."

C.S.M. Smith and C.S.M. Callaby have left us to go on L.I.A.P. and the latter is expected back any time now. C.Q.M.S. Bamforth, Sgts. Cartwright, Jones and Lawrence have rejoined us from L.I.A.P. C.Q.M.S. Bamforth and Sgt. Bantoff left us to go on local leave at Asmara. I wonder what the attraction is there? Social life is very humdrum at present, but we did make a special effort on our last dance of the season. The Commanding Officer kindly gave us permission to show off the Regimental and King's Colours, also some of the Officers' Mess Silver; these were on view to all and sundry. A guard from the Regimental Police guarded the Colours and the silver, and the changing of sentries was of the highest standard. Our civilian friends voted the dance a great success, owing to the splendid efforts of all the Mess Members concerned.

Waterloo day was spent very quietly indeed, and we accepted the Commanding Officer's invitation to a social in the Officers' Mess. A good time was had by all.

The Billiards table at present is in great demand, and already we have a "shark" or two to show us just how this noble game should be played. We have been challenged by the S.D.F. Mess to an indoors sports tournament, and in our next issue we hope to give a full account of our champions.

We are at present waiting for the Mess Silver to arrive. When it does we shall certainly invite our friendly rivals over the water, the 1/K.S.L.I., to view it, as they did us when they got their silver. We hope to give them a good impression, and send them away with their tails between their legs.

Tennis is rapidly becoming our favourite sport, and it is surprising where certain members get their energy from, after a hard day's work. To see them dashing around the court, slashing and driving makes one think. Sport except for cricket is practically at a standstill. We have in the Battalion however plenty of good talent, and when the hockey and football season starts, we hope to give a good account of ourselves.

Finally we offer our congratulations to R.Q.M.S. Wall on receiving a Certificate of Merit for his good work whilst with the Battalion. Well done, "Tommy."

COMPANY NOTES.

"H.Q." COMPANY.—While Rifle companies in turn go off to Gebeit to escape the heat of Khartoum, the great mass of "H.Q." Company remains behind carrying out its multitudinous duties whatever the weather, and it has been hot here. During May and early June the temperature used to touch 115 degrees in the shade almost daily and rarely dropped below 98 degrees at night. In early May, Major Blake left us and took over command of "C" Company and Major Austin came to us. Other new comers in order of arrival at the Company are Lt. Midgley as P.R.L. and now "Q" officer; Capt. Davies as signal officer vice Capt. Gibbard who has gone on L.I.A.P.; Capt. Nicholson as P.R.I. and Lt. Findley as O.C. 3in. Mortar Platoon.

The carrier and Mortar Platoons went to Gebeit to hot up their training in early August, and two Platoons of "C" Company have joined "H.Q." Company during the three months absence of the Carriers and Mortars.

During the hot weather there has not been much doing in the realm of sport, but the Company has found the greater part of the Battalion cricket team, which is now lying fourth in the Garrison league. Apart from that there have only been odd inter-platoon games of football to keep players in trim for when the football league starts in October.

"A" COMPANY.—These notes are written from Gebeit where we joined "C" Company at the beginning of June. By far the bulk of what we have to write for this issue concerns personalities, amongst whom there have, as usual, been many changes. Release and Python have claimed fewer victims (?) than previously, but L.I.A.P. continues to levy its heavy toll. It is consoling, however, to think that most of our full ranks have now had L.I.A.P. and even those amongst them who are not Regulars should be with us at least until the end of the year.

In May, C.S.M. Kaye found himself surplus to establishment and left us to be provost sergeant. However this proved shortlived and he very soon transferred his affection to the Drums. We have heard glowing reports of his work there—although our own experience of his success is confined to once hearing him beat Reveille. In his place we welcome C.S.M. Pearce, whose stay with the Company we hope will be both long and happy.

Another whose arrival we must record is Lt. Baxter who joined us from India just in time to take over second-in-command from Capt. Cobb, about to depart on L.I.A.P. C.Q.M.S. Kitson has returned from L.I.A.P. and thereby releases for duty Sgt. "Nobby" Clark, and we hear the latter is not sorry. We are also pleased to have Sgt. Bates back from "C" Company and L.I.A.P. On Release and Python we have lost Sgts. Chapman and Longdon; Cpl. Holliday and Donald; L/Cpls. Bowman, Northcott and Young; and Ptes. Banks, Bishop, Blackburn, Brand, Hendley, Kelly 89 and Taylor 90. To all we wish the very best of good luck. Another very unfortunate loss has been L/Cpl. Driver who was badly injured in a jeep accident at the end of March. After several months in hospital at Khartoum he was evacuated to Fayid a few days after the Company left for Gebeit. When he last wrote he was expecting to go home by sea about the middle of August for an operation. We hope the operation will be entirely successful and wish him a speedy and complete recovery.

We combined with "C" Company to celebrate Waterloo Day in a conventional manner; with a comic football match between the two companies to start the morning. After the soccer we had camel and donkey races, when C.S.M. Smith showed himself an expert jockey in the first race, but disappointed the backers later in the morning. C.S.M. Pearce ran a most efficient "Tote," ably supported by Sgt. Clark. Sgt. Hunter auctioned the mounts so successfully that some animals fetched nearly as much for one race as their owners would have accepted for a cash sale. The morning finished with officers v. sergeants Donkey polo—unfortunately an undecided game, as some donkeys decided it was tiffin

time and made for home, leaving their riders to bale out or tag along and take pot luck as they wished.

In the afternoon there was a short pull bull competition, during which only one bull was scored, and that by a most surprised competitor. The Sergeants' Mess went to the Officers' Mess for supper and most of the detachment went to the pictures later in the evening.

Gazelle shooting has proved popular despite the fact that it means an early reveille on days which would otherwise allow a "long lie," and if the benefit to the pot has sometimes passed unnoticed, there should be quite a few homes boasting a "head" to say nothing of delighted recipients of gazelle skin handbags, as a result of these expeditions.

Week-end leave to Port Sudan has also attracted a number of people, though to what extent this is accounted for by the amenities there, it is difficult to know. We would hazard a guess that the real attraction is the delightful uncertainty of rail travel in the Sudan, which not infrequently results in the week-end pass becoming a week away from Camp. For the rest, cinema shows (when films arrive) three times a week, tombola and various games, but mostly cricket, soccer and tennis, all help to make the time pass not unpleasantly.

In conclusion we would like to congratulate the following on their promotions:—Sgts. Lund and Erswell; Cpls. Cowell, Brayshaw and Staton, L/Cpls. Bage, Carr, Clarke 32, Hale, Flaven, Willis, Wallis 96 and Cresswell.

"C" COMPANY.—After a strenuous series of sporting events mentioned in the last issue of THE IRON DUKE, life at Khartoum became comparatively quiet, but in May the Company left the luxury of the R.A.F. aerodrome to join "D" Company in the wilderness of Gebeit. We were to do three months of more advanced training and were glibly informed that it was much cooler than Khartoum. So it proved at first, until an exceptionally dry summer confounded even the local native experts and many a case of prickly heat was the result of careering through the countryside on a platoon or company attack. 2nd Lt. Cox set an energetic example during the early days, while conducting a junior N.C.O's cadre.

Tombola, inter platoon games, a little gazelle shooting and a camp cinema, which functioned erratically owing to the difficulty in obtaining films, provided our major entertainments. L/Cpl. Scott and his staff are to be congratulated on their efficiency in operating the cinema. Occasional week-end trips to Port Sudan, more than 70 miles away, proved a welcome change, though the problem of getting there and back caused plenty of headaches. Many will remember the road through the pass with strong feelings. As there was little to tempt the purse, the Company pay clerk had good cause for rejoicing as he watched the credit balances steadily rising.

Waterloo Day was celebrated in fine style, with side shows and a number of hilarious donkey and camel races. The morning closed with an officers v. Sergeants' donkey polo match which ended in a scoreless draw after a violent tussle. In the evening the sergeants were invited into the Officers' Mess and a cinema show rounded off a pleasant day.

There have been a number of changes among the officers. Major Austin left us to command "H.Q." Company and in his place we welcome Major Blake, who joined us before our departure for Gebeit. Lt. Bonnell departed to become a platoon commander in England, while Lt. Limb disappeared in early June in search of a bowler hat. For a short while Lt. Findlay (ex-Indian Army) was with us until claimed by the Mortar Platoon, and for an even shorter while Captain Sugden, until he went to command "D" Company.

C.S.M. Smith is now on L.I.A.P. and in his place we welcome C.S.M. Walton, as we also welcome Captain Fixter, who found civvy street too hard and rejoined the "Dukes." Release has claimed a number of familiar faces and will continue to do so. As someone

ruefully remarked, "When 71 group goes there just won't be any "C" Company." We have said goodbye to C.Q.M.S. James and Smithson, Sgt. Bull, Cpl. Bailey, L/Cpls. Walstow and Smith, Pte. Lawrence and several others. L.I.A.P. however, is to be blamed for taking a larger toll of our number during the summer, as a large proportion of the Company became due at approximately the same time. By now many are back or on their way and the Company is returning to strength.

The following are to be congratulated on their promotion to Sergeant : Sgts. White, Green and French ; the last came to us recently as a corporal from the Glider Pilot Regiment. Cpl. Findlay and those who have earned their first stripe are also to be congratulated.

At the time of writing the Company is split in two. Company "H.Q." remain at Gebeit, while two platoons under Lt. Tattersfield and 2nd Lt. Cox have just returned to Khartoum to do their share of guards. Spit and polish is now the order of the day, and plenty of it.

"D COMPANY.—At the beginning of June the Company left Gebeit and returned to civilisation. During the last three months there have been several arrivals and departures. In early August, Major Grieve left us to become an instructor at Sandhurst ; we wish him luck and hope to see him again soon. The Company is now in the hands of Major Sugden who we hope will continue to reign for many months. Lt. Dooks has returned from L.I.A.P. and Lt. Johnson departed three days later.

C.S.M. Walton, on return from L.I.A.P. and L.I.L.O.P. has gone to "C" Company at Gebeit. In his place the Company welcome C.S.M. Brighton, that renowned W.T. instructor. A few of the "Old Soldiers" have left us on release, and there have been some useful reinforcements. At the time of writing it seems as if half the Company are away from us. Some are on L.I.A.P., others on courses or just attached to other units, for example L/Cpl. Scott as projectionist at Gebeit or L/Cpl. Cross who is a warder at the Detention Barracks. Cpls. Tate, Edwards and Benjamin are on courses, the latter pair preparing for civil life.

There has been a little football played down here by the fanatics, these include such notable players as Sgt. Hatton, L/Cpl. Brogan, and Pte. Jenson (01) and Kelly (now on L.I.A.P.) Cricket only had a few players but they were notorious. Major Grieve, who knocks up hundreds and takes wickets too, Sgt Clark, that whirlwind behind the stumps, and also Sgt. Hatton and L/Cpl. Brogan who played for the Battalion. Water polo has also been quite popular to those who do not become water logged after half an hour in the water. There has been very little tennis played here mainly because there are too few courts available, but also because our prickly heat does not permit much violent exercise.

The last few weeks at Gebeit were spent in doing schemes ranging from section attacks to a company show, but now in Khartoum we lead a more sober life. The range has taken up quite a lot of time and no one has strained a muscle in the last eight weeks.

Waterloo Day was quiet, we had a parade at six-fifteen, and the rest of the day then became a holiday. There was no organised sport as it was too hot to do much. We have had two other parades, the King's Birthday, and a Flag March through Khartoum. The latter provided much enjoyment for the Sudanese, who ran alongside the Drums for the greater part of the route.

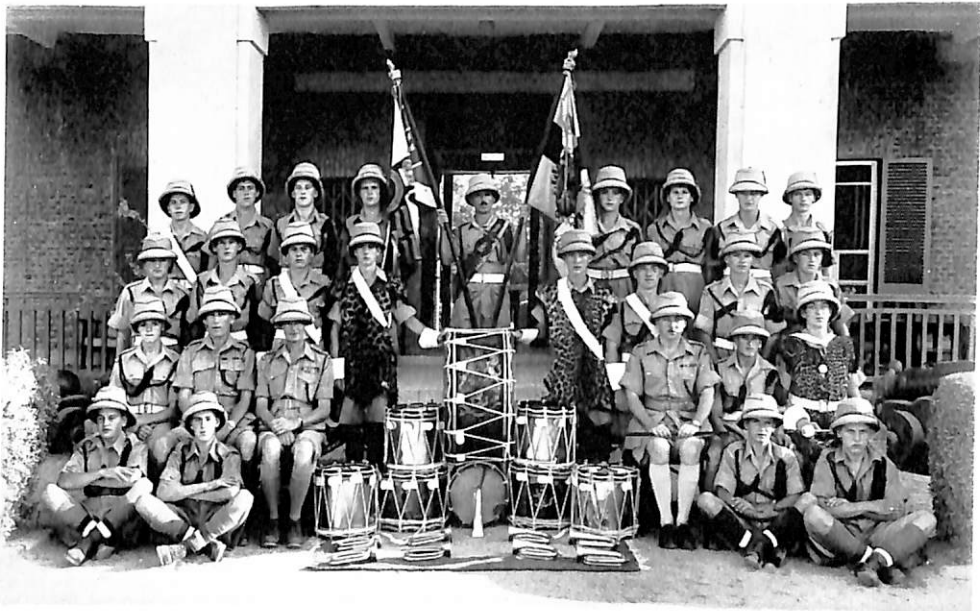
CRICKET

The cricket season got off to a fine start during the last week of May when our first opponents in the Garrison League were the Khartoum Cricket Club, a close game in which the Battalion was defeated by 18 runs. K.C.C.—60 ; D.W.R.—42. On June 4th and 5th we again suffered defeat at the hands of H.Q. Troops, the score being : H.Q. Troops—51 ; D.W.R.—27. At this stage, Major Grieve arrived from Gebeit and celebrated his return

1st BATTALION, KHARTOUM.



Officers' Mess Dining Room.



The Drums.

With R.S.M. Jackson, Lt.-Col. B. W. Webb-Carter, D.S.O., O.B.E., Capt. Jones-Stamp (A Adjt.) and Drum-Major Kaye (holding Colours).

Regimental Police of 1st Battalion, Khartoum.



Left to right back row. Pte. J. FOSTER, Pte. R. SHAW, Pte. B. LOCKHART, L/Cpl. B. BENNETT, Pte. R. BOOTH.
Left to right front row. Cpl. J. WAPPETT, C.S.M. J. PEARCE (Acting R.S.M.), Capt. D. E. ISLES (Adjutant),
Sgt. E. G. CARTER (Pro. Sgt.), L/Cpl. J. DODDS.



London and Home Counties Social Club Dinner, held at the Elephant & Castle Hotel, London,
on 3rd May, 1937 (see page 89 of our last issue).

by scoring 44 not out against the K.S.L.I., this was indeed a "needle match," Sgt. Hancock proving what a fine bowler he is by taking eight wickets for 28 runs. The game ended:—D.W.R.—107; K.S.L.I.—99. Again on June 19th and 20th we suffered another reverse, this time at the hands of the R.A.F. who piled on 70 for one wicket to our score of 69.

June 26th and 27th saw our highest score and win to date, when the Battalion met British Military Hospital; we batted first and produced 202 for seven at the end of the first day's play, Major Grieve knocking up a heroic 141 which included 14 fours and five sixes. Again Sgt. Hancock proved his worth by taking three wickets for 34, and the match ended: D.W.R.—202 for 7; B.M.H.—108.

The team appeared to have settled down by this time, and in our next match we recorded another win versus Sudan Defence Force (Sigs.) who were tying with us in the league table. Major Grieve opened the innings and carried his bat for 61—Major Austin making 12 and Sgt. Hancock producing the fireworks again with four wickets for 13 runs: D.W.R.—106; S.D.F. (Sigs.) 46.

On July 17th and 18th our much looked-forward to return match against the Khartoum Club was a very bitter pill. After recent successes we felt sure of our revenge, however K.C.C. showed us how, scoring 195 for five on the first days play; the second day saw the Battalion dismissed for 20. Undeterred by the heavy defeat of the previous week, we again struck winning form in an excellent game against "H.Q." Troops, Major Grieve again being the star batsman, this time with a total of 72 not out. Sgt. Clarke came into his own during this game, knocking up a merry 16, three fours off three successive balls. D.W.R.—120; H.Q. Troops—76.

The next game versus S.E.M.E. produced another win for the Battalion: D.W.R.—126 for five; S.E.M.E.—49. Major Grieve 65, Lt. Midgley, 25, Sgt. Hancock 16, Sgt Hancock taking six wickets for 13 runs. The last two games have resulted in defeat:—D.W.R.—66 versus K.S.L.I.—68 for six. D.W.R.—45 versus R.A.F.—46 for five. This is mainly due to the fact that four of the team's leading players have departed for the U.K.; namely Major Grieve, Capt. Bentley, Sgts. Hancock and Carberry (Release).

The position of the Battalion at the moment of writing is: Played 11, Won five, Lost six, Drawn 0.

WATER POLO

The Battalion is feeling the loss of many of its old stalwarts, although we wish them all the best on their departure to civilian life, we also wish they were still with us when our opponents are pressing.

At a meeting in June, it was decided to hold a water-polo league; the strength of units was taken into account with the following results:—K.S.L.I. four teams, D.W.R. two teams, R.A.F. two teams, and one team from the H.Q. Troops Combined Units. The league is not yet completed but our two teams are showing the old "Dukes" spirit, and should be well placed in the final efforts.

"H.Q." team owes much to the fine example of Capt. Hamilton who has had as his team-mates, Ptes. Moore, Randall, Throp, Roberts, Capt. Davies, and Lieut. Findley; when the situation was endangered by absence of team members we were well supported by the noble efforts of Pte. Innes.

"D" Company are ably led by Capt. Simpson who has with him, Sgt. Lawrence, Cpl. Simpson, Cpl. Knudson, Ptes. Jensen, Marshall, L/Cpl. Brogan and reserves Ptes. Croker and Kennedy. Capt. Hamilton has now departed for the wilds of Gebeit, with him went Lieut. Findley, Pte. Randall, and Pte. Roberts; we wish them luck and hope to find replacements from the "C" Company detachment who are returning to Khartoum.

Several friendly games have taken place against the Khartoum civilians. The honours are even, and we look forward to the next water-polo league or knock-out competition when these hearties will be included.

On the departure of Capt. Hamilton for Gebeit, the frogmen were left in charge of Capt. Davies, who assumed the duties of Battalion swimming officer. He is now searching for new talent and we hope to hold an inter-platoon water-polo competition in the near future.

2nd Battalion

Some people seem to take a fiendish delight in moving our Battalion about as on a chess board. In our last notes we made mention of having left Agra and ended up at Meerut again after journeying through Aligarh and Bullandshar. This time we are in Delhi, having been through Meerut, Ambala and Ludhiana and back again, all in a period of two and a half months.

Shortly after writing our last notes, the Battalion received orders one afternoon to move the next afternoon, complete, to Ambala. Up there in the Punjab, a miniature war had been raging and we were sent to give aid to the civil power if required. Having had some considerable practice at these moves the Battalion departed on schedule. Ambala wasn't pleasant. The heat, the hot air, the flies, the dust and the unsatisfactory surroundings didn't help. Companies did enjoy themselves however in the active operational roles; consisting of columns, patrols, village searchings. Capt. Driver, who collected weapons, and Capt. Bennett who was presented with a pitchfork through the arm by an angry Indian, and Pte. Varley who believed that all Sikhs' beards were false, epitomised this enjoyment.

We were relieved by 1st Beds. and Herts. on 29th May, and returned to Meerut. There we hurriedly completed our packing and departed for Delhi Cantt. relieving our old friends, 1st Royal Scots Fusiliers. We came under Delhi District for I.D. ops, and local Administration, but we are still part of 16th Brigade in Meerut.

It is very good to be back in Nicholson lines, the lines we occupied at the beginning of the war. Some of our old hands—C.S.M. Lythe, C.Q.M.S. Shearer, C.S.M. Quirke, Q.M.S. Hall (who has returned from Jhansi) are permanently smiling.

We were very much relieved during the middle of the month to see the monsoon arrive—the heat before was just about unbearable, and prickly heat was causing trouble. With the rains, the temperature has dropped 10 or 12 degrees. No companies have gone to the hills this year unfortunately, except when we were in Ambala. There we had companies up for a fortnight at a time at Dagshai where Bill Harvey our Padre reigned supreme.

Training at the moment is concentrated on re-classification for Star Pay which is the bane of the Baron's life. It really is most diverting to see Adm. Company and H.Q. Company on the range, and regimental cooks earnestly stalking a sentry, or endeavouring in vain to light a twig cooking fire in the field with only two matches!

The C.O. has become O.C. British Army Childrens' School in the Cantt., so, having taken two Q.A. School mistresses under command, our education has improved a great deal.

There is plenty of sport in the Battalion, but very few outside games. These will be reported on elsewhere.

The Corps of Drums is in full swing again, and performing exceptionally well. Some of the uniforms, I am glad to say, are good, and shortly, when the weather cools, the Drums will appear in their full scarlet again.

Likewise the dance band, under the able direction of Sgt. Worster, fills many engagements both inside and outside the unit.

On Waterloo Day—June, 18th—a holiday was granted. In the morning a Battalion parade was staged with a march past afterwards and presentation of various trophies. The parade was commanded by Major Tedd and the salute taken by Col. Chadwick, supported by Major Emmett. We had hoped that Col. Bishop would be there but he was unavoidably detained. In the afternoon, swimming sports were held, and honours went

to "A" Company with Adm. Company second. As usual the officers beat the sergeants. The officers gave a small cocktail party in the evening at which we were glad to see Colonel and Mrs. Bishop, and afterwards foregathered at the Sergeants' Mess dance.

On June 23rd, the C.I.G.S. Field Marshal Lord Montgomery, landed in Delhi, and we provided part of a Guard of Honour together with the R.A.F. and R.N. (who didn't turn up). Capt. Lee commanded the Dukes' Guard, Lt. Widdas (Regimental Colour), Lt. Wade (Honorary Regimental Colour) and Lt. Shaw—Subaltern. Major G. C. Tedd commanded the combined Guard. The C.I.G.S. inspected the Guards and commented very favourably indeed on the turnout and bearing of the Dukes' division. After the last General Salute the C.I.G.S. came forward and questioned Major Tedd on the Battalion and the men and its history during the war. He then asked if he could be allowed to inspect the Honorary Colour as he said he had never seen anything like it before. This he did together with the C-in-C., Field-Marshal Sir Claude Auchinleck, and asked numerous questions on its origin, history and battle honours. Photographs of the Guard and the Inspection appear opposite pages 132-3.

And now there only remains to report on the speculation which is rife as to when we shall leave India and where we shall go. One or two of us want it to be Malaya or Japan, but the vast majority plump for U.K. I strongly suspect that when these notes are read we shall be at our destination, wherever it may be.

OFFICERS' MESS.

We always seem to be on the move these days, they say that a rolling stone gathers no moss, but it is good to be able to rest a little!

In March we moved on I.D. Duties to Ambala, that "Jewel of the North," as one rather senior officer was heard to remark. The jewel certainly wasn't beautiful, nor did the accommodation lend itself to establishing more than a very temporary Mess. After three months of energetic activity we were off once again, at very short notice, to Delhi, where we trust we will remain until we are moved for the last time in India.

Delhi has at least given us a long-sought-after opportunity of establishing a peacetime Mess, and this has been done to no mean effect. The luxury is impressive—the funds—Well! :—

"I often wonder what the Vintners buy
One half so precious as the Stuff they sell."

Needless to say "The Baron Emmet" has once again taken over the arduous duties of P.M.C. on his return from a much elongated Lilop, but regardless of that, the Mess is still prospering. To some at home, I am afraid, our table on a Dinner Night would be a nightmare—but a pleasant one—ably conducted by that gourmet Crowther.

It has been generally accepted that our last few remaining months in this country should be lived completely and well. So far we have kept up to this standard as life seems to be one succession of parties, resulting in Phipson's Wine Cellar being moved practically *en bloc* to the Cantonment!

It was with regret that we learned that Lt.-Col. Armitage would not be returning to us after his L.I.A.P., as he has risen once again to the vagaries of staff life, and sailed not for India but for Singapore where he will take up a "Q" appointment in S.E.A.L.F. Upjohn, too, has "passed" on into the arms of the Staff, but not quite so far away. He is now with his wife in moderate Bangalore, where we understand they are very comfortable.

Lt.-Col. Chadwick remains in command, until we have the privilege of welcoming Lt.-Col. Cumberlege back once again to the Battalion. We are afraid, however, by the time he does arrive we shall be in the process of completing our last move in India. It is interesting to note here that when we do, we shall have completed a "*fait accompli*"—Delhi 1803 to 1947.

Since Major Rivett-Carnec joined us in May, from Deolali, the subalterns have found a new pastime in analysing from our ancient Mess Records, his athletic prowess. "The Baron," as Battalion Training Officer, is fiendishly devising bigger and better battle inoculations, much to the terror of those hopeful of attaining their third Star. We congratulate our Adjutant, Major G. C. Tedd, on attaining his majority, and although he still remains the early morning bogey of every orderly officer we cannot help wondering why he still remains our adjutant, or can we?

Many and varied are the changes of personnel which have taken place during the last four months. Here we must congratulate Captains Milligan and Marron on rising to the exalted rank of Major, and again Widdas, White and Ellis on their Captaincies. Many have left us, and fewer have joined the fold. To all we wish the best of luck. May your gardens be ever green.

SERGEANTS' MESS

By the middle of March we should have moved back to the newly decorated permanent Mess. Unfortunately this move was cancelled. We were ordered to Ambala, 120 miles away, and had to set up shop in tents once more. The R.A.F's Sergeants' Mess was open for us to come and go as we pleased, and some very enjoyable nights followed.

The A.S.P.T. Sergeants' Mess members invited us to a "smoker" during the first week of our visit, and it proved a great success. We returned the compliment. With the departure of the School to the Hills, we moved into their Mess where it was more cool and comfortable.

Tombola and dances were held at the Bristol Lodge at regular intervals, and generally the stay in Ambala was enjoyed by all. Individual stalks were a prominent feature. C.Q.M.S. Cardus was awarded the Burma Star for services rendered—to a lady; and several other members deserve a mention in dispatches. A temporary Mess was opened in Dagshai as companies went there for a fortnight at a time for a breather. Move Orders came in rapid succession. We were soon back in Meerut, and hastily packing for the move to Delhi where at last our caravan has rested.

Preparations for Waterloo Day dance were soon under weigh. The dance was a great success and had a huge attendance. For the first time in living memory the females outnumbered the males. We were pleased to entertain Colonel and Mrs. Bishop—this was their first appearance in the Mess since 1938.

Since Waterloo Day, dances and socials have followed in rapid succession. Both have been very popular, and no small amount of credit is due to numerous presidents and committees for the hard work they have done to make them so. The cook sergeant is also very popular and certain elements among our guests arrive complete with paper bags, thereby causing concern amongst the catering staff. The Battalion dance band is still comprised mainly of Sergeants' mess members. R.Q.M.S. Pittick, Sgts. Worster and Haley are the leading lights. C.Q.M.S. Templeman and Sgt. Rogerson (R.E.M.E.) we understand are picking up coppers playing in civilian bands at home.

At sport we can more than hold our own; C.S.M. Dawson, Sgts. Balson, Whitley, Archer and C.Q.M.S. Cardus have all represented the Battalion at football. We have a large proportion also in the Battalion hockey and cricket teams. Officers and sergeants games are very popular, commanding a large audience which often gives doubtful advice. The officers have tried vainly to beat us at football. The last game was abandoned after 20 minutes with sergeants leading 2—0. Realising the position was hopeless, the officers called on Higher Authority for succour—it came in the form of a terrific dust storm.

To all those who do not live here any more we wish good luck, and congratulations to all who have graduated from the Corporals' Room. Space will not permit mention of each by name but we promise to remember you all with mixed feelings. On that theme we bid farewell until our next contribution.

CORPORALS' ROOM

After a long period of dashing around, we are finally settled in our new quarters at Delhi Cantt. Our room is small but comfortable and sports a billiards table. We had for a few days a baby grand piano, but it disappeared via the Sergeants Mess to C.O.D.

We hadn't been settled in very long before propositions started flying right and left. Waterloo Day was celebrated in the usual manner, a ceremonial parade in the morning and a smoker (wet) in the evening. A good time was had by all, even though the beer did run short. Cpl. Kaberry was, as usual, the bright spark of the evening, with a few good songs from other members.

Class "A" release is slowly taking toll of our ranks, Cpl. Brecknock our late president being one of them. Good luck to them on reaching "civvy street," they'll need it with "fags" at 3/4d. for twenty. We congratulate Cpls. Harper, Nasskau, Rogan, Whitley, Dawson and Norton, on attaining even greater glory and entering the Sergeants' Mess.

It is strongly rumoured that we will soon be losing R.S.M. Parr as his tour is up. His loss, I'm sure, will be felt by all.

COMPANY NOTES.

"A" COMPANY.—During the recent I.D. move through the Punjab the Company played quite an important part. We were always well to the fore on curfew patrols and village searches for illegal arms. On one memorable mobile patrol Capt. Bennett collected an interesting souvenir in the shape of a wound in his shoulder made by a native pitchfork. Fortunately however, the wound was not serious. Pte. Pickering also succeeded in acquiring a Sikh sword which, we have no doubt, will be the subject of many "lines" when he goes home.

A welcome break from I.D. duties came when we moved up to the hill station at Dagshai. We were just settling in there and beginning to enjoy life when our stay was cut short by a recall to Meerut. However I think most of us made the best of the time that we did have there.

While we were at Ambala we welcomed to the Company a draft from the Yorks and Lancs Regiment. They very soon made themselves at home with us and I now think they are hardly distinguishable from the old hands.

Class "A" Release and other excuses for a return to the U.K. have been taking the usual heavy toll in the Company, and faces have been changing as rapidly as our stations. Major J. T. Rivett-Carnac, an old Duke, is now commanding us, and we offer him a hearty welcome to the Company. While he is away on leave Capt. P. C. White, whom we congratulate on his recent promotion, is steering the Company on a steady course. Capt. Bennett and Lt. Ross left us in high spirits with their respective groups and, though sorry to see them go, we wish them all the best in their new life. Lt. Miller recently dashed away on L.I.A.P. and we don't suppose that he will return. Following him soon with 57 group is Lt. Charles who, at the moment, plagues us with his talk of gang-planks.

C.S.M. Outen returned recently from U.K. and was unfortunately transferred to "D" Company soon after his return. We wish him luck with his new company. During his absence his place has been taken by an old friend, C.S.M. Rowley, who unfortunately, is in hospital at the moment although we hope his stay there will be a short one. We would like to congratulate Sgt. Rogan on his promotion. We hear that he is talking of deferring now that he has been promoted! In spite of all the changes which have taken place many old familiar faces are still seen in Lt. Wetherill, Cpl. Patterson, Cpl. Murphy, Ptes. Pickering, Sweet, Steel and others.

Waterloo Day Sports were confined this year to a swimming gala which we succeeded in winning. Credit for this goes to Capt. Moses, Pte. Sweet and the other members of a very enthusiastic team. Owing to so many of our stars being away on leave and on courses, our standard of football has dropped recently. However when all our wandering sheep

return we have no doubt of our ability to regain our former prestige in the Battalion. We were sorry to lose Ptes. Cocker and Whittles from our team through release. There has been a welcome improvement in our hockey team recently. We hope that this will continue and that we shall more than hold our own against other companies.

"B" COMPANY.—The Company having been saved from S.A. by the arrival of new blood, Danish and English, has gone, so to speak, from strength to strength. Since our latest members from the Yorks and Lancs Regiment joined us in Ambala, our parade state has become less worry for the orderly Sergeant, and more for the R.S.M. who is faced with the task of sharing us between the two wolves, Adjutant and Q.M.

According to our char wallah, who is as reliable a source as any, these should be our last notes written in India, and who would gainsay a char wallah? Be that as it may, we do at least know that after August our days of I.D. are officially over. That being so it will not be out of place to recount what we hope is our last episode.

We were quite at peace with the world in general, enjoying Meerut while it was still bearable, when in March we left for Ambala. Here we were billeted in "Kachcha Bashas," just one stage better than tents. After a fortnight in Ambala, "C" Company and ourselves went to Ludhiana to relieve "A" and "D" Companies. Curfew patrols and searching villages for arms occupied us for the next ten days, and we got closer to India's village life than we really care. We know now why respirators A/G are carried on I.D. duties. On the whole our stay in Ludhiana was peaceful enough, despite which we were glad to return to Ambala when our ten days were up. When we heard of a hill station opening up a fortnight later we all hoped that "B" Company would be the first to go there.

For once our hopes were realised and it was up to us to open the hill station at Dagshai. C.Q.M.S. Cardus, since gone home, wangled us a week's ration of bacon which was eaten at one breakfast, a good start to a good fortnight. Transport to Kasauli, the nearest place with a cinema, was almost unlimited, but Cpl. Clayton, our pay clerk, was unable to keep credits going indefinitely. A concert party came across one Sunday and gave us a show that few will forget when they think of Dagshai. Alas our fortnight ended all too soon, and regretfully but refreshed we returned to Ambala, soon to leave for Meerut and finally Delhi.

Throughout our travels we have kept up sports. Our football and hockey have reached a new standard, and there are more players in the Company than heretofore. Many of our star players have left us but we still carry on the good work and example started by them.

Despite the fact that Major Emmett has returned to the Battalion as training officer, "Jock" has not forsaken the Company and continues to supervise Capt. Richmond as O.C. Company and Lt. Shaw as second-in-command. The Platoon commanders have left us to go on L.I.A.P. so that 2nd Lt. Bender from the Yorks and Lancs is a doubly welcome addition. C.S.M. Dawson after unsuccessfully demonstrating a backward roll from a moving truck, has now returned from hospital. C.Q.M.S. Bettison has taken over from C.Q.M.S. Cardus, but has not made the grade as left-winger; otherwise he follows his predecessor's footsteps admirably. Now that demob. has speeded up, space does not allow us to mention by name all those who have left us, or those who have taken their places. We do, however, wish them all luck.

"C" COMPANY.—Much water has passed under the bridge since writing our last IRON DUKE notes. Changes have been swift and numerous and the Company have spent much of their time in the back of Army vehicles.

We were very sorry to say goodbye to our company commander, Captain Stallibrass, last April, but if ever we forget his name we shall not forget his group number. His place was taken by Capt. Buckley whose name will be remembered by many old Dukes. In April, however, Major Milligan joined the Company and took the reins. He is now

suffering from his first taste of prickly heat and is often heard to say " I wish I was back in Iceland " or words to that effect. We are pleased to welcome Lt. Hirst to the Company after his return from L.I.A.P., Lt. Rusby from the N. Staffs., and 2nd Lt. Hirst from O.T.S. We bade farewell to our C.S.M. (Sgt. Archer) a short while ago. He left us bound for civvy street. We were pleased to welcome C.S.M. Corke who it will be remembered helped to train the Company on its arrival in the Battalion, way back in the Dehra Dun days. C.Q.M.S. Reithofer after much advice, took the plunge, and got married while on L.I.A.P., and may we take this opportunity to wish him and his wife the very best for the future.

The Companies activities have taken many strange forms since March. Called out on I.S. duties, we went to Ambala where we temporarily joined 50th Parachute Brigade. It was a great disappointment to the Company when they found out that they could not wear the maroon beret. Our first active role on I.S. proved rather a disappointment. Flag marches and the surroundings of odd villages while the Police searches for firearms failed to have the interest for which we had hoped. A certain amount of envy was shown however when Pte. Bennett, with his L.M.G. held a crowd amounting to about two hundred for two hours.

Summer was creeping up on us, when we were fortunate in being allotted Dagshai in the Simla Hills, for a hill station. The Company went up for three weeks, and a good time was had by all. Kasauli, nine miles away, was the place for entertainment, and much I.S. petrol was used to this end. It came as a great surprise when we received orders to move back to our old station Meerut, and the M.E.S. had hardly time to check stores before we were away. No sooner had we arrived at Meerut than we were packing our bags and moving on to our new station, Delhi, where we are now at rest (not literally).

In the realm of sports the Company still maintain its well-earned reputation. In Dagshai a combined team with " D " Company managed to beat a very fit A.P.T. School team. Hockey is beginning to come into its own now, and the Company have formed a very formidable team. On Waterloo day a swimming gala was held and we managed to take third place, thanks to a very keen and enthusiastic team.

There is little more to be said, but everyone feels that these will be the last " C " Company notes from India. Needless to say we all hope so.

" D " COMPANY.—Since the last IRON DUKE notes went to press, the Company has done a considerable number of M.T. moves around the U.P. and the Punjab. The main places visited were Ambala, Ludhiana and Dagshai. The small villages seen are too numerous to mention by name. The most pleasant of these spots was Dagshai, which, being a hill station, afforded a welcome break from the heat of the plains. At the conclusion of our " Cook's Tour " we found ourselves permanently posted to Delhi. This came as a pleasant surprise and has proved to be our luckiest break for a long time. We soon settled into our new barracks which are by far the best we have occupied for years. Shortly after arriving here in Delhi a Company social was held. Apart from the struggle to get the piano upstairs and down again this was a great success, and ended in the usual manner in a singing competition between the Danes and Britons. A large proportion of the Company have been on leave and the coming of the monsoon has alleviated the prickly heat of those who could not get away. We are now waiting for " Der Tag " and wondering where we are bound for, when the Battalion quits India.

Major Marron is still major-domo supported by Capt. Widdas, Lt. Thornton, Lt. Scott and 2nd Lt. Kenyon. Lt. (now Capt.) White took over " A " Company and although we were sorry to lose him, we congratulate him on his promotion and wish him luck in his new company. After being with the Company since its inception, C.S.M. Corke left us to join " C " Company and is soon to be repatriated ; needless to say the best wishes of the Company go with him. C.S.M. Outen is now our C.S.M., C.Q.M.S. Shearer still holds the fort in the " Q " Department. Lt. Haws who proceeded on L.I.A.P. in March is expected back soon.

"H.Q." COMPANY.—Our present story starts in April, when we were holding the fort (R.A.F. billets anyway), at Ambala. The rifle companies there had a nasty habit of going out on "jollies," and we began to realise what Battalion duties really are. However the phase passed, and we all looked forward to our fortnight in the hills at Dagshai.

The Mortar Platoon was the lucky department and managed a whole fortnight, much to the disgust of the remainder of the Company. The idea of Signals or Pioneers having a rest was rather too much to expect, and they got up the hill only to be recalled three days later. The cause was a good one however, and no-one could complain, except perhaps for the distinguished few who had already established very cordial relations with the personnel at the nearby hill station of Kasauli.

After three hectic days, the Company, which had been completely split up, came together again at Meerut, where we hastily packed up and painted "Delhi Cantt." on all our belongings. Praise must here be given to the Signals who reeled in lines in record time, and also to the Pioneers who acted as "stool pigeons" to the Education Section. They were left with the task of getting a 7ft. 6 in. wide motor chassis through a 4ft. doorway. You can work it out for yourselves, but barrack damages did run into some thousands of rupees. We are now safely ensconced in Delhi and the question is "What next?"

Sport has not been a strong feature during the period, owing to the unsettled conditions and continuous moves. Hockey has had a new lease of life, but the soccer team is still our mainstay, and has the best following.

Finally a word must be written about Release. We have lost with regret Capt. Tom Driver whose enlightened ideas on M.M.L. were the joy of all concerned except perhaps our old warrior C.S.M. Lythe. Capt. Lee has taken over for what he hopes will be a short period before he too passes on. Other lost stalwarts are Provost Sgt. Meek, Sgt. Clarke, Cpl. Jones (Mortars), L/Cpl. Wales (Provost), Ptes. Donnell, Bilby, Taylor, Young, Franklin, Durey and a host of others.

"ADMIN." COMPANY.—For the past three months we toiled in the sweltering heat of Ambala with rifle, Bren and Sten. We did route marches twice weekly, crawling from under our mosquito nets while it was still dark, and on one occasion it was noticed that the Q.M., R.Q.M.S., M.O. and the P.R.I. Sergeant were there, shouldering a rifle. We left Ambala for Delhi at the beginning of June, and after a week of cleaning and repairing vehicles, checking stores (and completing Loss Statements) we were back at training again.

In the sport world we have had some notable successes. In order of precedence we record our victory over "C" Company in winning the cricket shield at Meerut. In Delhi we were second in the Battalion swimming competition, winning the four lengths breast stroke relay outright. Ptes. Sabin, Dunkerley, Swales and Woolsey were each presented by the Commanding Officer with a medal. Other swimmers were Capt. Marshall, the M.O., Capt Daff, L/Cpl. Bottomley and Pte. Fisher. Our hockey team has shown great improvement; up to the time of writing there has been no Battalion competition, but we regard ourselves as the unofficial champions. Personalities of the team are the Q.M., Lt. (Q.M.) Scott; who has earned a reputation for "whoofing them in" first time from the edge of the "D"; the R.Q.M.S. "Q" Pittick, who despite years and years of service seems fitter than most and is always in the thick of it. Our Company Sports (Working) Committee have had big ideas, and arranged a company dance on the 19th July. The Regimental dance band provided the music, everyone joined in and we had a very good evening, both socially and financially.

Quite a number of our L.I.A.P., L.I.L.O.P. and Whatnot people have returned, including Sgt. Horton who still keeps the Unit financially sound, and C.S.M. (A.C.G.) Western, who is now completely reorganising the Company Office. We welcomed Capt. Daff, who joined us at Ambala as Unit M.O. Another newcomer is Lt. Crowther who is now occupying the Company second-in-command's chair(s), and as he is also Battalion Messing Officer we now know where the rations go. After quoting various I.A.O's,

2nd BATTALION.

Inspection by the C.I.G.S. F.M. Lord Montgomery, 23rd June, 1947.



The C.I.G.S. saluting the Colours, carried by Lts. Widdas and Wade. Lt. Shaw is the Subaltern and R.M.S. Parr can be seen as right marker of front rank.



The C.I.G.S. inspecting the rear rank of the Guard of Honour. Capt. Dalee, the Guard Commander, is with him. C.S.M. Corke is left guide, front rank.



Colonel F. R. Armitage, O.B.E., who relinquished command of the 2nd Battalion in February, 1947.
(See page 117)



The C.I.G.S. F.M. Lord Montgomery inspecting the Honorary Regimental Colour of the 2nd Battalion with the C.-in-C. F.M. Sir Claude Auchinleck and Major Tedd (Adj.).

A.C.I's, in support of his own L.I.A.P., Lt. (Q.M.) Scott departed for Blighty. We had hopes of getting a little buchshee kit when he left, but Lt. Schofield is proving a true Yorkshireman, and gossip has it that he can say "Sorry, I haven't any" in all the Indian and Pakistan dialects.

We hear that Lt. Johnson is now at the Depot and will not be returning. We take this opportunity of congratulating him on being runner-up in the Whittingham Medal rifle competition. Lt. Wade is now at the wheel in the M.T. and is steering a steady course. Other losses to our Company includes C.Q.M.S. Sharples, Sgt. Rogerson, Cpl. Farrar and many more old friends of ours whom we wish Godspeed and success in civilian life.

It is with regret that we have to say that this will be the last chapter in the life of "Admin." Company. We are to become the new H.Q. Company, and although a lot of us will stay together, quite a number will have to leave and join other Companies. Significant too, that as "Admin." Company splits up so does this sub-continent, India; that as we return some of our comrades to rifle companies, so does India return the Regiment to England (we hope).

SPORT

CRICKET.—Since the last number of THE IRON DUKE, the Battalion has played but one cricket match, against a schoolboy's team from Sanwar. The combined "C" and "D" Company team was decisively defeated by this "blooming pack of kids"—they certainly did bloom—so an urgent signal was sent to Ambala, and the Battalion team eventually turned up to avenge this defeat. The ground was cut out of a hill, and no less than eight long hops outside the leg stump were hit out of the ground, and went rolling down the "Khudside."

We declared at 201/9 and dismissed them for 70, the combined craft of R.S.M. Parr and Corporals Jackson and Yuill being too much for the opposition. The bowling and fielding were first-class, in spite of the fact that none of the team had played for three months. This will probably be the last match the Dukes play in India; it is therefore fitting that it should end in victory.

HOCKEY.—In contrast to last season we have a large number of people who are interested in this sport, and there is no department which cannot field a team. Owing to the Battalion moves, however, outside matches have been scarce, and a Battalion team has not been tested as it might have been. Early in the season we had a few games against the B.M.H. and the R.A.P.C. in Meerut. It was not until we arrived in Ambala that hockey came into its own. The weather was a little too hot to play football in comfort, but quite reasonable for hockey. The officers produced a team which soon became unbeatable. The companies took up the challenge and inter-company matches became the order of the day. For three months hardly a night passed without a game, and teams were well matched.

Despite all the players from companies, there is still a shortage of good forwards, especially centres. Now that Lt (Q.M.) Scott has left the Battalion on L.I.A.P. we lack that extra finish to our attacking movements. The backs are very steady and the halves are learning to pass the ball forwards without delay. There is still plenty of room for improvement and individual players must be welded into a team. Now that the Battalion is aware of the possibilities and attractions of hockey we hope for increasing numbers of enthusiasts, so that the Battalion may be assured of a good team in the future.

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL.—The period April—July was naturally a rather poor one for soccer, owing to the heat and constant moves of the Battalion. April saw us at Ambala using grounds belonging to the R.A.F. and beating any team they could produce with a company side. Stiffer opposition loomed up however in the form of an Indian team known as "The Ambala Heroes." We played them twice and although we did most of the attacking, they played better football and beat us 3—2, 5—3.

The Battalion then became rather split up for a time, and it wasn't until we settled down here in Delhi that we were able to play another Battalion game. We have played G.H.Q. Signal Regiment twice and both were extremely good games, although the second one was marred by poor refereeing. The scores were 2—2 and 6—3. We are now hoping for a third game in order to put things straight again.

Demobs. and Repat. are constantly changing the team and we are sorry to lose C/Sgt Cardus, and Pte. Howells and Cocker. New talent always appears however, and a few of the later Dehra Dun side—Ptes. Stafford, Blakelock and Sgt. Balsom—are still doing sterling work. Other regular players are Sgt. Whitley, and Ptes. Steel (backs), Ptes. Taylor and Harrison (half-backs) and Ptes. Preece, Pickering and Topham (forwards).

7th Battalion.

The 7th Battalion was officially re-formed on 2nd April, 1947. Before this, members of the Permanent Staff had been busy preparing the drill halls and stores in readiness for the opening date for recruiting—1st May. The halls were in a deplorable state, all the walls needed re-painting, and with the snowy weather some of the floors were under two inches of water. The permanent Staff consisted of the adjutant, Capt. Le Messurier, the Q.M., Capt. Firth, R.S.M. R. W. Wood, C.S.M. A. S. Hardisty and Sgt. W. A. Charlesworth. Besides, we had two storemen, Ptes. Shields and Hancock and a driver, Pte. Mason, all from the 2nd Battalion. Since then the following have arrived and we hope to absorb them in the W.E. in due course :—C/Sgts Cutler, Killien and Staniforth, Sgt Lake and Pte. Cockcroft. The Battalion was incorporated, after some delay, in 149th Brigade of 50th Division, together with our old friends the 4th K.O.Y.L.I. and the Hallamshires from 49th Division. The Brigade Commander is Brigadier P. St. Clair Ford, D.S.O., late K.O.Y.L.I., who commanded 3rd Brigade, in which the 1st Battalion served before flying to Khartoum.

In due course our commanding officer was appointed, and we were all delighted to have Lt.-Col. S. R. Hoyle, M.C., Colonel Hoyle won his M.C. with the 2/7th in France in 1940, from where he went to the 2nd Battalion and commanded 33rd Column in the 1944 Chindit operations. We are extremely lucky in our civilian staff. Many old 7th Battalion men will know the O.R.S. Sgt. A. Wood, who served with the Battalion in Iceland. He is now working flat out organising his show. On the "Q" side we have Mr. H. Jackson, late O.R.S. of the 2/7th, and Mr. Sturmy who was 19 years in the Royal Marines and was a bandmaster in that corps. He is reforming the Band when the instruments are complete. By the 1st May we had already recruited a good number of officers and N.C.O's. We welcome them to the Battalion; some are old friends and some new. The "Order of Battle" at the moment is :—

Second-in-Command : Major G. Parfitt, who is also P.R.I. and P.M.C. Major Parfitt served with the 2/7th and then the R.A.C. and was a G.S.O.I. in S.E.A.C. Capt. Driver is signals officer and so carries on in his old job which he did with the 7th in war-time. Capt. Woodcock, another old 7th officer also in his old groove, is intelligence officer. R.Q.M.S. Smith has once again taken on his old mantle.

"H.Q." COMPANY. Major Coop, for many years a member of the 7th, is holding the fort at Mossley. His officers are Capt. Bradbury and Lt. Mayson (both welcome newcomers).

"A" COMPANY. Here Major A. A. H. Hopkinson commands. He is a former Beds. and Herts. and an ex-Chindit. With him are Capt. Whitehead and Lt. Cole (late Royal Welch Fusiliers). Ex 7th N.C.O's include Sgts Lees, Maltby, Allman and Hallas.

"B" COMPANY is commanded by Major A. A. Chandler (well known to 6th and 7th Battalion men). Capt. Siddall after service in several battalions has finally come to rest as second-in-command of the Company. The subalterns are Lts. Cook and Townsend

(both former "Dukes") and Owen (late Gurkha Rifles). The sergeant major is Bye, late 2nd and 10th Battalions and now Officers' Mess Caterer at the Depot. The old 7th N.C.O's include Sgts. Hopson and Radcliffe.

OFFICERS' MESS. A very successful cocktail party was held on 16th July at Mossley, and we entertained many old friends and past and present members of the Regiment.

SERGEANTS' MESS. Up to now no functions have been held, but we hope to have a long paragraph in the next issue.

Training started on 1st July with an N.C.O's Cadre; the attendance has been good and it is well under way. Two week-end shooting camps have been held, one at Hornsea and one at Diggle; on both occasions the weather was good and there was a good turn-up. The cups for shooting were awarded at Hornsea, the W.O's/Sgts cup was won by R.Q.M.S. Smith who has lost little of his old skill even on a No. 4 rifle, the O.R's cup was won by Cpl. Howard "A" Company. The P.S. shot extremely well and Pte. Cockcroft recorded the highest score, for which a special cup is being given. Most of the officers and several N.C.O's took part in a brigade T.E.W.T. near Selby at which we met officers and N.C.O's of the units brigaded with us. In the winter individual training on a company basis will commence; we are being very well equipped and look forward to the building of a happy and efficient Battalion; the start made augurs well for this.

Vacancies are being left in the W.E. for officers and men in the regular forces, and we hope to see many men from the regular battalions when they are demobbed.

The new role of the T.A. is an important one and we are now "first-line." A high standard has been set and we hope to have many more ex-Dukes to carry on the good work and keep the proud record of the Seventh, made by both Line Battalions during the War.

578 (Mob.) H.A.A. Regiment R.A. (5th Duke of Wellington's) T.A.

The 5th Battalion—whatever and however many the vicissitudes and changes of role through which we pass, we always think of ourselves as the 5th Battalion—emerged from the suspended animation in which it was placed on June 1st, 1946, on May 1st, 1947, with the title which appears at the head of these notes.

Between the return of the cadre, an account of which appeared in *THE IRON DUKE* of October, 1946, and the official reconstitution of the Battalion as a mobile heavy anti-aircraft regiment of the new Territorial Army, our activities were necessarily confined to preparatory measures for the future. In December of last year the Honorary Colonel was informed that we were to be reformed and he accordingly invited Lt.-Col. R. C. Laurence to take command and accept the responsibility of building up the Battalion again. Col. Laurence's service with the 5th Dukes goes back 27 years, with only one break of three years during the war, when he commanded another searchlight regiment in A.A. Command.

On Sunday, 13th April, 1947, Col. G. P. Norton invited all officers who had been embodied with the Regiment in 1939 and all past commanding officers, to a meeting at the Drill Hall, Huddersfield, to discuss proposals for the future. There was a magnificent response to the invitation; 35 officers being present. Col. Laurence explained the position and asked all those who were prepared to continue to serve with the new unit to inform him of their decision at an early date.

The result was most encouraging, and the following have already rejoined:—Major D. H. Hurst, as second-in-command; Major J. B. Sugden, as "P" Battery Commander; Major C. Liversidge, as "Q" Battery Commander; and Major E. E. R. Kilner, as "R" Battery Commander; and Captains G. P. Norton, J. W. Bell, S. E. J. Huxley, P. Hinchcliffe, P. Goodall, C. Barraclough, A. W. R. Brook and J. A. Bearder.

The Regiment therefore starts its new life with a C.O. and eleven officers who were embodied with it on August 24th, 1939. It is worth noting that three of these officers (Captains Norton, Brook and Goodall) are the sons of ex-officers of the 5th Dukes, and Capt. Bell is a nephew of the late Major A. W. Wheatley. Surely this must be a record for the T.A.

It was originally intended that our role should be the same as that which we had prior to and for most of the war, that of a searchlight regiment; but as the result of representations this has now been changed to mobile heavy anti-aircraft—a change which has been greeted with great satisfaction by all.

Recruiting opened in May, and although the quality of recruits so far accepted has been excellent, the policy being to give priority to key appointments, the quantity is at present somewhat disappointing. It is a pity that after such a good start the intake of recruits should be slow, but now that the War Office have announced certain concessions, and since our new equipment has recently been "showing the flag" in the district, it is hoped that our numbers will reach three figures by the end of the year. Drill Halls have been taken back (with the exception of that at Leeds Road, Huddersfield, which has been handed to a light A.A. regiment) and are being renovated and redecorated; drills have started again, and regimental and battery clubs and institutes are getting under way. There is to be no annual training this year, but a variety of short courses and attachments is available for those who can attend them. It is hoped however, that the Higher Authority will appreciate that the man power situation in civil employment makes it difficult for the Territorial soldier to take time off for this purpose, and that in consequence training should be brought to the soldier instead of the reverse.

Capt. F. McCormick, R.A. has been appointed adjutant, and Capt. S. W. Higgins, R.A. is Quartermaster. We are very glad to welcome these two officers and we sincerely hope that the time they spend with us will be happy and useful. We also welcome R.S.M. J. Fitzgibbon, who is already settling down as one of us, and it is good to see the familiar figure of Mr. T. W. Burrell back once more in the orderly room at Huddersfield.

Our Old Comrades Association continues to flourish, and we are very grateful to them for all they have done for the Regiment during the war years and for their encouragement and assistance during our re-formation. The 5th Dukes Officers' Dinner Club are holding a dinner at the Huddersfield Drill Hall on Monday, October 10th, 1947, and we are looking forward to meeting again many of our old friends of the two wars. It is hoped that there will be a record attendance.

It is with great pride that we see the 5th Dukes rising again in the shape of its former self, and taking its place once more as part of The Duke of Wellington's Regiment. It will no doubt be of interest to readers of THE IRON DUKE that the old ties and association will not be broken. Not only is "5 D.W.R." retained in our title, but we have received permission to wear the Dukes cap badges, buttons and the red lanyard. We are very proud to feel that we are still one of the same family, and we hope that the Regiment will feel the same about us.

In the *Times* of 15th April, 1947, appeared the following:—"5th Battalion, the Duke of Wellington's Regiment. In proud and honoured memory of the Officers, N.C.O's and Men of this Battalion and of all ranks Czechoslovak Motor Battalion who lost their lives at Dunkirk on April 15th, 1945. F.A.C."

No. 33 P.T.C., D.W.R. OFFICERS' MESS.

Our dance on the eve of Waterloo was a great success, and we were glad to welcome a representative gathering of the clan including General Christison, Brigadier and Mrs. Exham, Lt.-Col. and Mrs. Howcroft, Lt.-Col. and Mrs. Hinchcliffe, Lt.-Col. and Mrs. Orr, Lt.-Col. and Mrs. Tissington, Lt.-Col. and Mrs. G. Taylor, Lt.-Col. and Mrs. S. R. Hoyle;

unfortunately Col. and Mrs. Pickering could not attend. Lt.-Col. Owen Price selected the day to come to Halifax for demobilization and we think he enjoyed himself; he departed in good order, to draw his civvy suit the following morning. We beat the W.O's and Sergeants quite easily at cricket—we hope they will agree with this bald statement—and a number of officers have regularly assisted the cricket team.

Capt. Breare, our Adjutant, was married at Netherthong to Miss Diana K. G. Floyd during July; a number of officers attended the ceremony and had a most enjoyable time.

Major Davis is being married in September to Froken N. A. M. Eistrup of Copenhagen. Any evening he can be seen feverishly studying a Danish primer, and we understand is already able to say "I will" in the language.

Capt. Isles, late adjutant of the 1st Battalion, has taken over Headquarters Company; otherwise our posted personnel has changed very little during the past four months. Big Bill Brenchley and Mrs., still provide open house and hospitality at the Quartermaster's Chalet. His shadow does not grow less, which we feel is a great tribute to our well-balanced civilian rations.

Col. Pickering visited us at the end of July, and gave a dinner in the Mess, to the Commanding Officers of our Territorial and Cadet Battalions.

Halifax has quite surpassed itself in giving us some wonderful weather this summer; we are duly grateful.

SERGEANTS' MESS

During the past few months we have seen many Dukes passing through the Depot, in the main to civilian life. We are, however, visited from time to time by L.I.A.P. personnel, and W.O's and Sergeants of the 1st Battalion who are in the U.K. for courses etc. Of these we mention C.S.M's Callaby and Walton. R.Q.M.S. Fitter left us after taking advantage of a very strenuous course in Halifax. We wish him every success in civilian life. Amongst other "old stagers" we have said au revoir to R.S.M. Boon who is now with a Travelling Wing, and Sgt. Williams who is now an instructor at Sandhurst.

We have provided a certain number of sergeants for various Cadet camps. Amongst these was Sgt. Stutley who went to Towyn, Wales. The town suffered an invasion of frogs at the time he arrived; a terrific imposition!

We entertained Fairweather Green W.M. Club, Bradford, during May; we had a very social evening, though our beer quota suffered somewhat!

On Waterloo Day we entertained literally scores of ex-Dukes and families to tea; most of these stayed to attend the all-ranks dance in the evening. We also held a dance and social evening on Friday, 11th July, which was most enjoyable.

In July we played a cricket match against Upton Colliery. We lost the match, but this, for the members who went on the trip, was a magnificent outing. Everyone had a grand time.

In conclusion we should like to offer our congratulations to R.S.M. Birch, C.Q.M.S. Samme and Sergeant Wond on the recent additions to their families.

COMPANY NOTES.

DEPOT COMPANY.—Our last notes left us in the middle of a very severe winter. But we are now enjoying a very pleasant summer with lovely warm sunshine, shirt sleeves being the order of the day. This we feel sure must be rather a phenomenon for Halifax.

Waterloo Day celebrations were carried out in fine style with splendidly organized sports. "H.Q." Company and ourselves were very keen rivals for highest honours and "H.Q." managed to put it over on us. Needless to say, we gained second place which, in view of our very small numbers was a good effort.

Cpl. Taylor, who arrived from the 1st Battalion for "demob," was with us long enough to give us sterling support in the track events. We wish him the very best of luck in civvy life.

A very good dance rounded off the Waterloo Day activities and everyone appeared to have a jolly time.

We end our notes with very good wishes to the old faces who have passed through us on their way to civvy street and hope that we shall meet again on some future social reunion.

"H.Q." COMPANY.—The most noticeable changes in the Company since our last notes have been the departure of Capt. Goodwin and Lt. Bailey to civvy street, and the host of men sent to form the Permanent Staff of the Army Cadet camps. C.S.M. O'Shea seems to spend most of his time explaining why no men are available for various parades. The Company is awaiting with bated breath the firing of the new annual range courses, and its attached personnel are learning the mysteries of P.I.A.T. and mortar, much to their surprise. "H.Q." Company carried away the glory at the Waterloo Day sports, winning the inter-company championship by a clear margin.

TRAINING COMPANY.—Training has been carried out on normal routine lines, turning a batch of recruits out every six weeks.

Major General G. W. Richards, G.O.C., North Midland District, has on two occasions during the past months taken our passing out parades, and I am pleased to say was duly impressed by the smart turnout and march past.

We now invite the recruits' parents to attend the passing out parade; this novel idea has proved very popular both with the recruits and their parents.

We are pleased to welcome Lts. Gregory, Cape, Debeix, Johnson, N. M. and Johnson K. to our Company, and hope they will enjoy their stay with us.

RUGBY FOOTBALL.

To the delight of everyone here at the 33rd P.T.C., we managed to win the Northern Command seven-a-side rigger competition, played at Catterick on the 21st May, 1947. The two finalists from North Midland District and the two finalists from Catterick District competed. We beat our old rivals the 51st P.T.C. (K.O.Y.L.I.) by five points to nil. In the final we played the Royal Signals, winners of the Catterick District. We were very fortunate in having in our side Pte. N. M. Hall, (the England International fly half), who joined our P.T.C. a week before the game.

The final was a very good, fast open game, the score being 17 points to 14 points in our favour. The signals scored first with a fine try by the left wing three-quarter, they successfully converted. After some very even play, we were awarded a free kick just inside their 25, near the touch line. Major Davis took the kick which dropped short, our forwards who were following up got the ball and Lockwood went over to score near the post. Hall converted.

Our forwards were gaining possession of the ball, both from the set scrums and the line out. The score at half time was 5—5. After a series of good movements by both sides, from a set scrum 20 yards inside their half, a good three-quarter movement resulted in Hall scoring 10 yards from the corner flag. The same player was unlucky with the kick, it was just wide. A few seconds later Glyn Davis (the Welsh International fly half) scored for the Signals; the kick (which was in front of the posts) was charged down by Banks. The Signals continued to press strongly and were awarded a free kick, which when taken was just wide. After a strong forward movement we got the ball out to Hall who went over to score a fine try near the posts, same player converted. But the Signals were not finished by a long chalk, for in the next few minutes a fine individual movement by their scrum half resulted in his scoring under the posts. The kick fortunately for us was again charged down, this time by Birch. The Signals got going from the kick-off and Glyn Davis scored a further try, this time out by the corner flag. They failed to convert. Just before the final whistle came the climax of the game, a brilliant drop goal by Hall from just outside the 25 line.

The forwards, Bailey, Birch (Hookey) and Lockwood, played a very good hard game ; they got possession of the ball from set scrums and line outs eight out of ten times, also their backing up was very good.

The team was :—Major J. H. Davis, Capt. W. D. Breare, Lt. J. S. Bailey, Cpl. W. Banks, Ptes. W. Birch, N. M. Hall and J. Lockwood. Reserve :—Capt. F. Walton.

CRICKET

Cricket at the 33rd P.T.C. got under way with a good start. We have had a full fixture list, sometimes playing three matches a week. So far we have played 18 matches, won 13 and lost five.

We have had several outstanding performances worthy of note. Lt. Wrinch made 104 not out, Major S. E. Baker 50 not out. L/Cpl. Crossley 101, Pte Morgan 65 not out, C.S.M. Wilson 64 not out, Lt. Bailey 46 not out, C.S.M. O'Shea 44, Capt. Isles 33. On the bowling side C.S.M. Wilson has so far taken 61 wickets for 457 runs, an average of 7·49 runs per wicket. C.S.M. O'Shea 39 wickets for 317 runs, an average of 8·01 runs.

In the North Midland District competition we beat 14th P.T.C. (West Yorks) by 70 runs, but in the next round we lost to 51st. P.T.C., (K.O.Y.L.I.) by 27 runs.

The wicket in front of the Officers' Mess has worn well under the attentive care of L/Cpl. Birch, our groundsman.

RELAY TEAM.

The inter unit medley relay event in the North Midland District Athletics Championships held on the garrison sports ground at Chilwell on June 11th appealed to the unit's well-founded pot-hunting instincts.

The team consisting of Capt. Breare, Sgt. Hughes, Cpl. Taylor and Pte Hall, turned up for the event in a Rolls Royce taxi, causing a suitable stir among our more austere transported opponents. After a keenly contested race, we finished second to 45th P.T.C. whose chief star S.I. Madden, A.P.T.C. is at present the fastest sprinter in the Army. The second position however guaranteed our inclusion in the Northern Command Championships to be run at Catterick on June 25th.

The team duly arrived on the day in its familiar Rolls Royce, and this time defeated 45th P.T.C. to secure second place to 57 Training Regiment, R.A.C. The only change in the team was L/Cpl. Ford, Victor Ludorum of our Waterloo Day sports, who replaced Sgt Hughes.

SHOOTING.

About a fortnight before the Northern Command rifle meeting, an idea struck the commanding officer that the 33rd P.T.C. might just as well win the Command shooting as the rugger etc., and from that moment the idea became law and we were ordered to go and win, with dire penalties etc. for failing. But the team had no thought of failing and so with a concentrated effort for a fortnight, in very indifferent weather, we trained ; and so keen was everyone, that it was not until the day before proceeding to Catterick we were able to select the team.

This consisted of :—Rifle Team : Major J. H. Davis, Major (Q.M.) W. E. Brenchley, Lt. Wilkinson, Sgts, Walker and Sutcliffe, Cpl. Norman, L/Cpl. Archer and Pte. Bailey. L.A. team : Cpl. Norman and L/Cpl. Andrews ; Lt. Johnson, non-firing Captain.

At Catterick we were billeted in a camp on the ranges, so were able to breathe fire and empty cases. The weather was good but a rather tricky wind prevailed throughout the meeting. This consisted of three matches for rifle and one for light automatic.

Match I. Rifle. We were placed third, two points behind the winners.

Match II. Rifle. We won by a clear seventeen points (Clear winners of the aggregate of Match I and II.)

Match III. Falling Plate. We were knocked out by the ultimate winners.

Match IV. Light Automatic. "B" Team (L/Cpls Archer and Andrews) tied for second place, one point behind the winners.

Major J. H. Davis tied with the highest score in Match II.

BOXING.

Keen interest is still maintained in the P.T.C., and in addition to our military support we have had a considerable civilian following. During the past few months we have had our usual inter-platoon boxing competitions, in which we saw some hard fought contests, and both our military and civilian supporters agreed that what the recruits lacked in experience they made up for in grit and determination.

As a change from the usual inter-platoon competitions we accepted a challenge from 65th P.T.C. (Y. and L. Regiment) Pontefract, which took place at Halifax. Thanks must go to Q.M.S.I. Slater and his P.T. staff for the excellent team they provided from Nos. 3, 4, 5 and 6 platoons; and after intensive training we were ready for the contest which commenced at 7.45 p.m. on the 15th May, 1947. Mr. A. Bilborough was kind enough to referee, assisted by a judge from each of the two P.T.C.'s involved.

The first fight of the evening was between Pte. Spence (65th P.T.C.), and Pte. Broadbent (33rd P.T.C.), who in spite of a very plucky fight was outclassed all the way; but although he took a terrific hiding he remained on his feet until the final bell, as a result of which he was awarded the best losers medal. In spite of this set-back we forged ahead, winning the next five successive fights, to be followed by a further defeat by a very narrow margin. However, after the interval we once more pushed forward and ended winners by nine fights to three (21 points—15 points).

A return match was arranged and this took place on the 26th June at Pontefract. For this challenge the contestants were entirely new, the members of the previous team having left for their new units. The team for this contest was chosen from the intake which arrived on 22nd May and 5th June. Very little time was left to train, but again Slater produced a good team and in spite of keen opposition from Pontefract we came away the victors by seven fights to five. Added interest to the contest was provided by the presence of the Mayors of Pontefract and Halifax, who heartily voiced their praise of the quality of the boxing.

THE REGIMENTAL BAND.

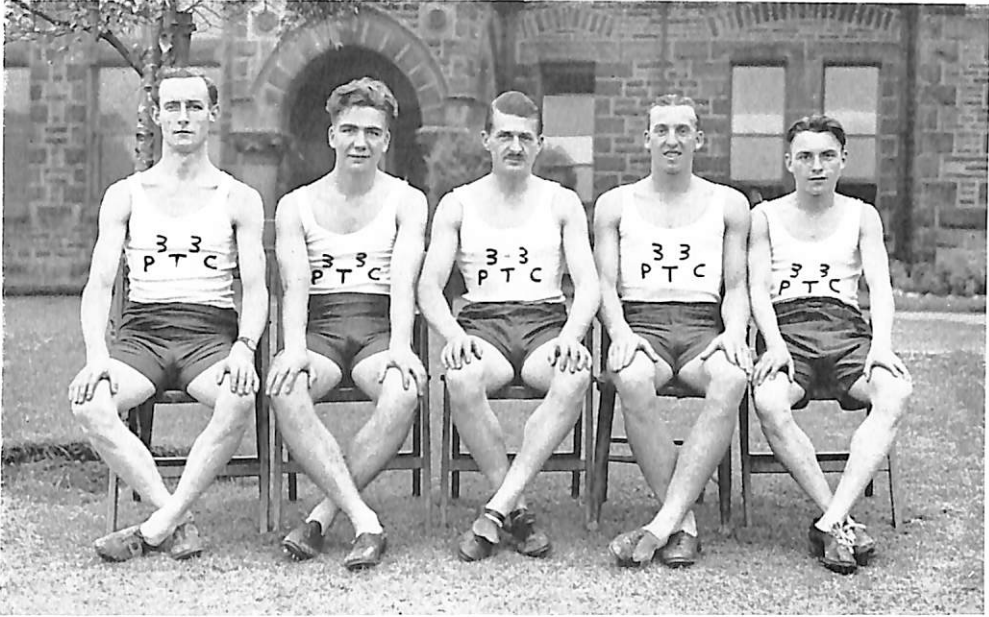
It will interest some of the older members of the Regiment to know that the Band is once again functioning as such, and, resplendent in service dress and white belts, is fulfilling numerous engagements, both military and civilian, mainly in the West Riding area.

We are at present a very young band, but under the able direction of Bandmaster D. Seed, L.R.A.M., A.R.C.M., we are successfully building up a reputation to equal that of the pre-war bands of the Regiment.

Although we are at present stationed in the Barracks at Halifax, we hope in the near future to join one of the Battalions for a tour of duty.

As we have a number of vacancies in the Band and also have a few "group happy" members, we shall be very pleased to hear from any ex-Bandsmen who are at present serving with the Regiment and would consider rejoining the happy throng. We would also welcome anyone who is serving a regular engagement, and has a knowledge of music and wishes to improve this knowledge by making the Band his career whilst in the Army.

33rd P.T.C. Relay Team.

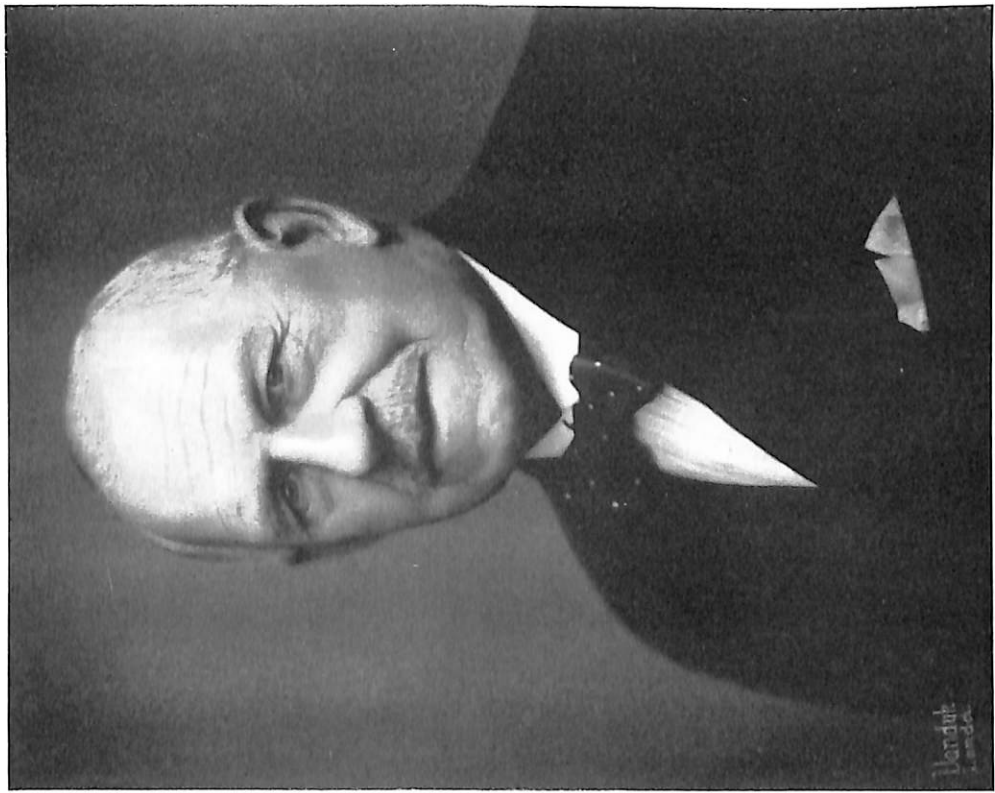


Pte. N. M. HALL, Sjt. G. HUGHES, Capt. W. D. BREARE, Cpl. J. TAYLOR, L Cpl. D. FORD.
(220) (440) (220) (440) (440)

Seven-a-Side Rugby Football Team.



Lt. J. S. BAILEY, Cpl. B. T. BANKS, Pte. J. LOCKWOOD, Capt. W. D. BREARE, Pte. N. M. HALL (St. Mary's and England), Major J. H. DAVIS, Capt. F. WALTON, M.C., L Cpl. W. BIRCH (Yorkshire).



The late Lt.-Colonel E. G. Harrison, C.B., D.S.O.
(See page 165.)



Miss K. Turner.
The retiring Treasurer and Business Manager of
"The Iron Duke."
(See page 147.)

Yorkshire and Northumbrian Brigade T.C.

OFFICERS' MESS

There are two or three new faces in "A" Mess: Lts. Wood, Holloway, Tree and 2nd Lt. Gee. 2nd Lts. Selby, Waterhouse and Johnson are eagerly awaiting the boat that is to take them to warmer climates.

We are now called the Yorkshire and Northumbrian Brigade Training Centre, the third title in a very short period, and we are expecting more changes in the near future as the six Regimental Companies are to be reduced to three training companies.

The Mess put on a very good show at the Northern Command rifle shoot, being well represented in the I.T.C. team, which obtained second place. We have also gained a very good name in cricket circles in the district.

In "B" Mess a number of the old faces have gone; Captain Lyons left us for civvy street, also Lt. Kingdom. One and all wish them success. Lt. Butler and 2nd Lt. Nock have somehow got on to boats bound for distant shores. Captain G. Turnbull has handed over his duties as adjutant and is expecting an early release. Major Davies and Major Wellesley are still in command of the Holding Companies, the former looking very tanned after a life under canvas in a J.T.C. camp. Major Kershaw still commands the Regimental Company. In the very near future we are holding an at home to the surrounding units in the form of a cocktail party, the first large social event since we came into existence.

SERGEANTS' MESS.

We have now two Messes in Y. and N. Brigade T.C., one in Gaza Lines and the old one in Aisne Lines. R.S.M. Raynor, "The Green Howards," has taken over R.S.M. of the Centre from R.S.M. Edwards, "The West Yorkshire Regiment," who is shortly going to pension. We wish him the best of luck in his new sphere. R.S.M. Robson, "The Green Howards," officiates in Gaza Lines. Members who have departed include "Shep." who went to a transit Camp, C/Sgts. Killien and Cutler who went to the T.A., C/Sgt. Short who went to the Regimental Depot, C.S.M. Brighton to the 1st Battalion, and Sgts. Barwell and Lockwood to the R.M.A. Sandhurst. We wish them all the best of luck in their new employment.

Both Messes held a social evening in the Gaza Mess on the 19th June, the commanding officer and the adjutant being our guests during the evening. Lt.-Col. C. W. B. Orr, said he was only staying an hour or so, but he was still there at the finish. The games results were even with the Aisne Mess scoring a big success in the boat race. This was owing to C.S.M. Reed over-estimating the drinking capabilities of a certain attached member. As usual R.Q.M.S. Kenchington put over his operation "Farce," ably assisted by Kennedy and Sgt. Thornton. The inevitable boxing match followed and a very enjoyable evening was had by all.

Another social evening was held at which the R.A.S.C. were our guests. Although beaten at darts the Mess managed a comfortable win by 15 games to eight. Once again a dazzling success was obtained by the boat race team. Certain members have been overheard complaining about the non-presentation of Blues for the boat race—obviously envious of Oxford and Cambridge.

Congratulations to Sgt. Eastwood on winning first prize in matches 1 and 2 in the Northern Command rifle competitions, and to Sgt. Garforth for winning a prize in the pistol competition, in spite of being matched by two high ranking officers. 33 P.T.C. was well represented and it was good to see old faces again. Major Brenchley surprised everyone with his speed and accuracy of aim in the fire and movement competition match.

D.W.R. REGIMENTAL COMPANY.

There has been a big change in the weather here in Catterick since our last notes ; from snow and ice we go to hot summer weather, in consequence of which the swimming bath at " Sande's Home " has been well patronised. Pte. Howard won the District and Northern Command 100 yards back stroke championship. Ptes. Howard and Dixon represented the I.T.C. in swimming and water polo against local units.

Major Kershaw still holds the rein with C.S.M. Reed (recently re-enlisted after 22 years), and C.Q.M.S. Benner as C.S.M. and C.Q.M.S. Captain Berryman still performs as 2nd-in-command when not on entertainment meetings at District or O.T.C. camps. The other officers with us are :—Lts. Wood and Holloway, with Lt. Tree and 2nd Lt. Gee assisting in training until they are posted.

Sgt. Cox sprung a surprise on everyone by getting married. I understand that his best man (Sgt. Swann) thought they were going for an afternoon out. We wish Sgt. and Mrs. Cox all the best in their new adventure. Sgt. Barwell, late 2nd Battalion, rejoined on a short service engagement, and after being with us for a short period was selected to go to the R.M.A., Sandhurst and is now on the P.S. as a staff sgt. We hope that he and Sgt. Lockwood, who is also on the staff there, are happy in their new employment.

We are shortly to be amalgamated with the York and Lancaster Regimental Company to conform with the new organisation of the Y. and N. Brigade T.C. The names of the Officers, W.O's and Sgts. who are on the P.S. of the new Company are not known at the time of going to press. We should be settled down with our new companions by the time our next notes are due.

Sgt. Adams, late 1st and 2nd Battalions, joined us recently and we are looking forward to some good games of rugger from him in the coming season.

H.M.S. Cleopatra

18th JULY, 1947.

Cleopatra has covered a good deal of ground since our last letter. We sailed from Portsmouth on 10th April for Gibraltar, where ten days were spent in painting and preparing for our second escort duty with *H.M.S. Vanguard*. During this period we were ordered to intercept the battleship *Richelieu*, conveying the President of the French Republic from Toulon to Dakar, and fire a salute. This was done and courtesy signals were exchanged.

From Gibraltar we went to Freetown, where two days were spent fuelling and making final preparations, and *Vanguard* was met on May 4th. The homeward passage was made in perfect weather and we finally parted company with the *Vanguard* at Spithead on Sunday 11th May.

Nearly three weeks were spent at Portland with the Home Fleet before sailing for fleet exercises and for our summer cruise proper.

In company with the destroyers *Solebay* and *Gabbard* we arrived at Malmo, our first port of call and the beginning of the first post-war cruise to assume pre-war proportions. From the first day all went perfectly. It is hard to put on paper one's thoughts especially when the welcome is as over-whelming as it was at Malmo.

The three ships were open to visitors on one day, and that day is always the worst of any visit. During the four hours that the ships were open, over ten thousand persons, both young and old, visited the ships. Clearing up afterwards was a tremendous task.

During our stay we were invited to attend a celebration on Gustav Day. It amazed us to see the amount of respect that the average person has for his National Flag. Every house flies one when the inmates are in residence. But we digress—this celebration centres about the Flag. Representatives from all types of organisations were on parade

from the Fighting Services down to tiny tots from the Kindergarten round the corner. All except the Armed Forces carried the National Flag, some more than one. After a few spirited words, apparently of a patriotic nature, had been delivered by the leading civic dignitaries, the whole parade marched past the saluting base. We rather pitied the P.T. squad standing all this time, because it was hardly a warm day and they were clad only in light gym smocks.

After staying for six days we left for Göteborg, which is a much larger town. Here the reception was just the same as at Malmo and again we were almost overwhelmed with hospitality. Here, owing to a mistake somewhere, the time of our "At Home" for the local authorities was wrongly given as 20.00. A party at this time in Sweden generally means that there will be a dance to follow. We have no dance band and our quarter-deck is not exactly large, but with the very able help of the Swedish Navy, who provided a band from the cruiser *Göttiland*, all went off very well.

It was a distinct change to go to Aarhus; Denmark has, as you know, suffered under the Nazis and is now slowly recovering from that ordeal. We met several members of the Underground movement and they told us one amusing yarn. Apparently they had learnt that the Gestapo were starting one of their purges and therefore it was vitally necessary to deal with their H.Q. which was in one of the buildings of the University. Our informant, who was one of the leaders of the Resistance, went to his H.Q. to send out a message to the authorities in Britain asking that something might be done, when he heard the Raid Alarm go off. Almost immediately they heard bombs exploding nearby. When the all-clear went some time later they came up to find the building in question razed to the ground. About 80 of the hated Gestapo perished in this raid. At the same time a lucky (?) hit completely wiped out the house of the German Commander who was at the time holding a party for his more senior officers. They were also killed. Auto-suggestion? We wonder.

30th July, 1947.

We left Aarhus on 26th June and arrived at Rosyth on 27th June, where we spent a week cleaning up the ship in preparation for our visit to Newcastle-upon-Tyne. This visit was very apt, as *Cleopatra* was built on the Tyne early in the war.

We arrived at Newcastle on 4th July and spent a most enjoyable week there. There was much hospitality both to officers and men, and there were a large number of official functions to attend. In fact it was not until we arrived at Loch Ewe on 11th July to prepare for the Clyde visit that we were able to rest from the interminable round of parties, dances and dinners which had been our lot for the past five weeks. There were few amusements ashore at Loch Ewe, which is 35 miles from the nearest railway station and boasts only two hotels and a few scattered houses. Most people, however, were content to stay on board, but for those with simple tastes there was plenty of fishing, walking and climbing to be had. For the very keen, who were prepared to travel some fourteen miles, there was even golf. Our time was well occupied practising drills for the Clyde week, painting the ship, and getting fit for the considerable sporting commitments we were shortly to fulfil.

The arrival of the fleet at the Clyde was somewhat marred by mist and rain, followed that evening by a heavy thunderstorm; but on the whole the weather was kind to us during the visit. Our programme was a full one, with dinners, lunches, dances, "at homes," sports, sailing races, swimming and other events of every description. Full advantage was taken of these and there is little doubt that the visit was most successful. It was in its way a tribute to Scotland and her people for all they have done for the Royal Navy throughout the war. A number of the ships were open to the public each day and there were a great many visitors, indeed the shore boats were unable to cope with the traffic, and naval boats were used to supplement them during the latter stages of the visit.

Of course the high light of the week, both ashore and afloat, was the visit to the Fleet on 22nd and 23rd July, of their Majesties, The King and Queen and Their Royal Highnesses, the Princesses. They were certainly made to work hard for their living! On both days they boarded a number of ships and inspected a large representative number of the officers and men of the fleet by walking round divisions or, in the larger ships, by a march past of the ship's company. They witnessed a number of demonstrations, which included a submarine diving and surfacing to open fire with its gun armament, and a destroyer repelling an air attack.

We are now on passage to Portsmouth, "fighting" our way against air and submarine attacks, and expect to arrive at our home port on 1st August where we shall remain until the middle of September. Should any "Dukes" be in the vicinity at the time we shall be very pleased to welcome them.

Regimental Dinner and Ladies' Tea

The Ladies' Tea, the twentieth to be held, and the first since 1939, took place at the United Service Club on Thursday, 5th June. The number attending, 73, was well up to the standard of previous years, and there was general satisfaction at the revival of this well-established Regimental function. The following were present:—

Lt.-Colonel and Mrs. Armitage, Major-General and Mrs. Beard, Captain and Mrs. Bolton, Lt.-Colonel, Mrs. and Miss Boutflower, Brigadier Burnett, Major Carroll, Lt.-Colonel and Mrs. Chatterton, Mrs. Cartwright, Lt.-General Sir Philip Christison, Bart., Lt.-Colonel, Mrs. and Miss Cox, Miss Down, Brigadier and Mrs. Exham, Lt.-Colonel and Mrs. Faithfull, Brigadier Fraser, Brigadier and Mrs. Green, Brigadier and Mrs. Grimley, Mr. Hands, Lt.-Colonel Harvey, Major and Mrs. Huffam, Mrs. Iles, Lt.-Colonel and Mrs. Ince, Mrs. Lane, Major and Mrs. Lepper, Mrs. Maffett, Colonel, Mrs. and Miss Naylor, Lt.-Colonel, Mrs. and Miss Officer, Lt.-Colonel and Mrs. Orr, Major-General Ozanne, Miss Ozanne, Colonel and Mrs. Pickering, Lt.-Colonel and Mrs. Price, Major and Mrs. Reynolds, Mrs. Roberts, Colonel Rusbridger, Lt.-Colonel and Mrs. Sayers, Major and Mrs. Scott, Miss Ava Simner, Lt.-Colonel Trench, Mrs. Turner, Miss Turner, Colonel Turner, Mr. Wakefield, Mrs. Wathen, Lt.-Colonel, Mrs. and Miss Wellesley, Major and Mrs. Woods.

The Dinner was held the same evening at the United Service Club. The attendance was 58, which included the guests, The Duke of Wellington and Brigadier J. H. Wilsey, a former commander of the 7th Battalion. The following were present:—

Colonel C. J. Pickering (Colonel of the Regiment), Lt.-Gen. Sir Philip Christison, Bart., Major-Gens. E. C. Beard and W. M. Ozanne, Brigadiers K. G. Exham, F. H. Fraser, V. C. Green, C. W. G. Grimley and E. W. Rogers, Colonels F. S. Exham, H. G. P. Miles, S. Naylor, G. S. W. Rusbridger, D. I. Strangeways, R. G. Turner and W. A. Waller, Lt.-Cols. F. R. Armitage, E. A. Bald, E. C. Boutflower, J. Chatterton, M. N. Cox, J. H. Dalrymple, C. K. T. Faithfull, C. D. Hamilton, H. Harvey, W. Hodgson, W. A. Hinchcliffe, C. W. G. Ince, W. G. Officer, C. W. B. Orr, D. Paton, O. Price, A. E. Sayers, M. V. le P. Trench and F. H. B. Wellesley, Majors T. S. G. Carroll, R. O. D. Carey, M. M. Davie, C. R. Hetley, J. P. Huffam, H. R. Kavanagh, L. F. Kershaw, J. H. S. Lane, J. G. Lepper, J. D. Lunt, F. J. Reynolds, R. A. Scott, W. Skelsey and F. P. A. Woods, Captains G. Beyfus, R. H. Bolton, H. S. Le Messurier, C. A. O'Connor and J. W. Scott, Lt. H. M. Hands, Wing Commander H. A. Crommelin.

Colonel Pickering in his opening remarks said how delighted he was to welcome our guests—our Titular Chief, His Grace the Duke of Wellington, and Brigadier J. H. O. Wilsey of the Worcestershire Regiment. Brigadier Wilsey, amongst others, was largely responsible for completing the training of one of our Battalions, which resulted in the attainment of a very high standard of efficiency culminating in a brilliant war record. Wilsey will ever be remembered as a great leader and well beloved by all who had the honour to serve under him in war.

The 1st Battalion were now stationed in Khartoum, commanded by Lt.-Col. B. W. Webb-Carter. The Battalion had a large number of post-war recruits serving in it. They were settling down well—being thoroughly inoculated with the regimental spirit.

The 2nd Battalion in India were employed on internal security duties, under the command of Lt.-Col. F. R. Armitage, whose tenure of appointment expired in February last. His successor had not yet been appointed.

Lt.-Col. Stuart Tetlow has taken over the 4th Battalion which will continue in the role of an Anti-Tank Unit. Lt.-Col. R. C. Lawrence and Lt.-Col. W. E. D. Shaw have been promoted substantive Lt.-Cols. to command the 5th and 6th Battalions respectively. Both of these Battalions will assume Heavy Anti-Aircraft duties. The 7th Battalion will continue as an Infantry Battalion under the command of Lt.-Col. S. R. Hoyle, M.C. He was very sorry that none of these C.O.'s had been able to come to the Dinner this year, but hoped we should see them next year.

The Depot and the I.T.C. are now grouped in what is known as the Yorkshire and Northumberland Brigade. The Depot has returned to its old home at Halifax and functions as the 33rd P.T.C. (Primary Training Centre).

Committees had been set up to deal with the Battle Honours question and the War Memorial.

The Society of Yorkshiremen in London had extended honorary membership to officers of the Regiment, which will permit of officers attending their social functions should they desire to do so. Usually these amount to about half-a-dozen every year. The address of the Society is:—Midland Bank Chambers, 92 Notting Hill Gate, W.11—just opposite to the entrance of the Tube Station.

Their thanks were due to Col. Rusbridger, and the Secretary and Staff of the United Service Club, for the excellent arrangements they had made.

5th Duke of Wellington's Officers' Dinner Club

[We have received Leaflet No. 43 of the above Club issued in June, 1947, from which we reprint the following extracts.—ED.]

The Dinner Club Committee met again on April 20th, 1947, to explore the possibility of holding a Dinner towards the end of May, but it was decided that with the present catering difficulties and lack of hotel accommodation in Huddersfield it would be wiser to postpone it to Friday, October 10th, 1947, at the Drill Hall, St. Paul's Street, Huddersfield. By then the new 5th Battalion will be re-established, and it should be possible to put up a better show.

On Sunday, April, 13th, 1947, Col. G. P. Norton, Hon. Colonel of the Battalion, invited the Mobilised Officers of the Battalion in 1939, and past Commanding Officers, to a Meeting (plus Liquid Refreshment) at the Drill Hall, Huddersfield, to discuss the re-forming of the Battalion. There was a magnificent response with 35 Officers present. The future of the Battalion was explained by Colonel Norton and Lt.-Col. R. C. Laurence, and those who were prepared to join the new unit were asked to notify their decision within a week. It is understood that there was a satisfactory response.

Colonel K. Sykes, Lt.-Col. R. C. Laurence and Major E. E. R. Kilner have been elected as representatives of the Battalion, and R.S.M. N. Hobson as representative of the Borough of Huddersfield, on the newly constituted West Riding of York Territorial and Auxiliary Services Association.

Our Old Comrades' Association continues to prosper and keep up its activities. Social Evenings and Dinners have recently been held at Holmfirth, Mirfield and Kirkburton with good attendances. The newly-formed branch at Penistone and Barnsley has got on to its feet and meets regularly at Barnsley. On February 17th, 1947, the Headquarters Committee at Huddersfield gave a Dinner in honour of Mr. R. Ellinthorpe, Assistant Hon. Secretary, and presented him with a Pipe and Tobacco Pouch in recognition of his splendid work for the Association during the late War. The Benevolent Committee meets regularly and many from both Wars have been assisted.

The following Officers have joined the Dinner Club since the last Leaflet was issued :— Major S. J. E. Huxley, Major M. I. H. Sproule, Capt. A. H. Wilby, Capt. E. F. Brooks, Lt. J. P. Bannister, F./Lt. R. V. Garton, Capt. C. P. Robinson, M.C., Major J. A. Bearder, Major E. C. Barraclough, Major J. A. Baldwin, Capt. L. J. Radcliffe, Capt. J. F. Meikle, Lt.-Col. F. A. Carline, O.B.E., T.D., Lt. J. G. Davis, Capt. A. G. Mitchell, Capt. J. M. Hollinshead, and Capt. M. N. Jackson. (Apologies for any wrong ranks).

Old Comrades and Regimental Associations.

The following is a summary of the cases assisted during the period Mid-April to Mid-August, 1947.

Fund.	Number of Cases.	Amount Disbursed.
Old Comrades' Association, 1st and 2nd Battalions	24	£ s. d. 138 10 0
2nd Battalion Charitable Fund	1	2 10 0
Regimental Association Fund	28	179 7 0
The Mitchell Trust Fund	1	4 0 0

10th BATTALION.

Arrangements are being made by the O.C.A. of the 10th (Service) Battalion, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment to hold their 1947 annual meeting and re-union at the Co-operative Emporium Café, Bradford, on Saturday, October 25th. Applications for tickets should be made to Mr. George R. Goodchild (the Honorary Secretary), 10 Willowfield Crescent, Highfield Road, Bradford, Yorks.

The Rev. Herbert Sparling, M.C., Vicar of Dent and Cowgill (Yorks.), who, with the rank of captain, commanded "C" Company of the 10th (Service) Battalion, until he was wounded, is to leave Yorkshire and the ministry and live on the Launde Abbey Estate, Leicestershire, which he bought in June last. He intends to devote his time to politics and expects to stand as a Conservative candidate for the county council. Graduating at Leeds University in 1919, Mr. Sparling was ordained in 1921 and held curacies at Rotherhampton and Dulwich before becoming Vicar of Buckminster-with-Sewstern in 1927, and then going on to Dent in 1930. He took over the Cowgill vicariate in 1932.

Bequests of the late Lt.-Col. E. G. Harrison, C.B., D.S.O.

Colonel E. G. Harrison whose death in June is recorded on page 165, made the following bequests to the Regiment.

To the 1st Battalion :—Silver Cup presented by the Cavalry Depot, Canterbury for the point-to-point "Strangers" race on the 4th April, 1895, won by Captain E. G. Harrison on "Czarina."

To the 2nd Battalion :—Silver Cup presented by the King's Royal Rifles on the 20th April, 1895, won by Captain E. G. Harrison on "Czarina."

To the Depot :—The Bombay Cup presented by the Aga Khan to the East African Turf Club in 1906, won by Captain E. G. Harrison's "Sheikh."

To the Regimental Retired Officers' Fund :—One hundred pounds.

To the Regimental Association Fund :—One hundred and fifty pounds.

Miss Turner

As announced on another page of this issue, Miss Turner is relinquishing her work as Treasurer and Business Manager of THE IRON DUKE, after seven years of devoted service to THE IRON DUKE and THE REGIMENT.

In September, 1940, on the death of her father, the late Brig-General P. A. Turner, who had held this post for 15 years ever since the inception of THE IRON DUKE, Miss Turner agreed to carry on his work. She had had much experience of its intricacies, as she had helped her father in it for many years. It was fortunate for the Regiment that, at a time when no officer was available to take on extra work owing to the exigencies of the war, she undertook to add this work to her war-time activities in Cambridge. How well and faithfully she has carried it out every reader of THE IRON DUKE must realise. But many may not know of the difficulties the war added to her work, both in the keeping up of the address book, with its many hundred names, and in the keeping of the accounts. This latter, onerous in itself, was complicated by the continued rise in the cost of production. With all these difficulties to contend with, Miss Turner has shewn unflinching tact and kindness.

The personal loss to me, as Editor, is a great one, and I should like to record my gratitude for her help, and my great regret at the ending of so pleasant an association.

A portrait of Miss Turner appears opposite page 141.

The following appreciation has been received from the Colonel of the Regiment :—

Readers of THE IRON DUKE will be sorry to hear that Miss Turner has found it necessary to hand over her duties as Business Manager of our Regimental Magazine. This arduous duty has been magnificently carried out by Miss Turner for many years with credit to herself and great benefit to the Regiment. We are all very grateful for all she has done on our behalf. Her task has been a very difficult one, more especially during the last few years, but these difficulties have been surmounted in a manner worthy of her business ability. We all wish her every success in any future career on which she may embark. A worthy successor to Miss Turner has been found in Brig. V. C. Green, C.B.E., whose address is :—Coed Mor, Groes Lwyd, Abergele, N.Wales.

C. J. PICKERING,
Colonel of the Regiment.

1st September, 1947.

“First In—Last Out”

76TH REGIMENT—DELHI.

Now that the British Army is leaving the country in which it has served so long and so gloriously, and the 2nd Battalion has moved into the capital, Delhi—a query arose in my mind. In view of the fact that all British troops were leaving India this year, we would probably be the last British infantry regiment to be stationed in Delhi; who were the first?

I have read the history of Delhi at the period when the East India Company was fighting its battles in India, and I have also consulted the Deputy Director of Archaeology in India, and our own “Historical Records of the 76th Hindoostan Regiment” by Colonel F. A. Hayden, D.S.O. In this last, on page 30, it states that, “on the 14th (September, 1803) the Army commenced to cross the Jumna, and entered Delhi, where a halt of ten days was made.” The composition of this Army, which was commanded by General Lake and which had just marched from Ally Ghur, and commenced the battle of Delhi on 11th September, 1803, is given on page 28 of the notes, as follows :—“Seven battalions native infantry, two regiments native cavalry, the Company’s artillery, the 27th Light Dragoons and the 76th Regiment of Foot.”

It was after this action that the 76th and the 27th Dragoons had the honour of being presented with Honorary Colours, together with the rest of the Army.

The 76th was therefore the only British infantry regiment in that Army. That Army was the first to occupy Delhi, and it was quartered there for ten days.

This has been borne out by an assistant in the Archæological Department in Delhi who was questioned on the subject by Capt. Ellis. He states that as far as he can check from his records, no British troops ever occupied Delhi before the date in question, and this Army, containing the 76th Regiment of Foot, was the first.

I would be most interested if any reader could produce more concrete evidence, or if I am wrong, the correct answer. Otherwise the answer to my query is that the 76th Regiment was the first British Infantry Regiment to be stationed in Delhi, and it is, as the 2nd Duke of Wellington's likely to be the last.

G.C.T.

The 33rd Foot in the Antwerp Campaign and assault on Bergen-op-Zoom, 1813-1814

(Continued from page 98, No. 67, June, 1947)

On the morning of January the 14th we arrived back at Calmpthaut, and the rumour ran round that the withdrawal was due to the fact that the French Marshal McDonald with eighty thousand men was on our track. It was a report completely without foundation.

Rations were served out on this day, and, though late, everyone had a reasonable supply of food, but some officers who were fond of what is generally termed good living, grumbled furiously at the coarse fare and fervently sighed for the flesh-pots of their own country.

Some croaking individuals (there are croakers in every army) were now seized with the most gloomy apprehensions, and gave vent to their despondency by raking up accounts of disasters which had befallen every British army that had served in Holland, and evidence horrid stories of the campaigns of 1793-4, 1799 and 1809.

The French still held Antwerp, Bergen op Zoom and other places of strength, and notwithstanding Napoleon's recent defeats, he could in a moment still despatch a sufficient force to make an inroad into Holland and drive us back to our ships, as our small force never amounted to more than 14,000 men. Such was the idea among the desponding, but the well-informed and high-spirited portion of the troops knew that the advancing Allied army could not be far distant, and that any force sent against the British would soon be opposed by a still more numerous body of the Allied Armies of Europe, so that we only had to make a stand in some favourable position till the Russians and Prussians arrived. Some of the latter under the command of Bülow had already joined up on our left flank of operations and done good service.

We left Calmpthaut at daybreak on the morning of the coldest day we had ever experienced, the 15th of January under the command of Major-General Gibbs, who marched on foot at the head of the column. This general officer from his gentlemanly bearing had become a great favourite with all ranks. His frank and conciliating manner appeared in favourable contrast with some morose and uncouth commanders, who in their ignorance of what was due to those under them, seemed to consider that supercilious behaviour and repulsive mien were essential to ensure respect. Never do men in command labour under a greater mistake than when they suppose that hauteur and harshness are requisite to enable them to maintain their position with proper dignity.

On the 16th of January we left Escher in a storm of snow which obscured every object around. Indeed the snow flakes, mixed with spiculæ of ice, fell so fast and thick that it was impossible to see our men at a few yard's distance. During the morning it

became known that we were marching on Rozendaal to resume our former positions there, and we learnt that the cause of our hasty and unexpected retreat from before Antwerp was the simple fact that Sir Thomas Graham had calculated on the Prussians under Bülow co-operating with the British, but that after we had won a good position for investing the place, the Prussian general seemed unwilling to act in concert with us. However we looked forward to comfortable quarters in Rozendaal where we had previously been billeted, but on entering the town found that General Gibbs and his Staff had taken over our comfortable house and we had to make do in a much smaller one.

The army was now distributed in the different towns and villages around Rozendaal, but in such a manner as would ensure their junction in a few hours. They could therefore be concentrated on any given point at the least emergency. Whilst thus stationary the commissariat arrangements were not such as to give universal satisfaction, although, except on detached duties, the rations were generally served out to the troops, yet the bread continued to be of the worst possible quality, being made of rye flour, though flour it could not with propriety be called, for it was as coarse as sawdust, and as black as soot. In fact it was so unpalatable that nothing but excessive hunger could induce us to eat the nauseous compound. Yet this trash continued to be served out to the troops during the whole campaign, and this in a country abounding in wheat. I dwell on this subject because good bread is truly the staff of life, and tends greatly to preserve men in health and vigour. Those who have been deprived of good nutritious bread for several days in succession will quite understand the truth of this observation.

On the 24th and 25th of January, convoys of stores, with some siege guns arrived so that our artillery began to assume a more respectable appearance, but throughout the campaign we were defective in this very necessary arm. Notwithstanding this, everything betokened preparation for a vigorous prosecution of the Siege of Antwerp. Up to this period our baggage had been conveyed by the native teams and country waggons through arrangement between the military officials and local civic authorities. We were now suddenly and unexpectedly ordered to provide means of transport for our own baggage, and be prepared to take the field at a moment's notice. This order almost produced a panic in the army, for the officers of the line who had not received their pay for two months, were many of them short of cash. Greater still was their dismay when it was discovered that the ancient traditions of favouritism in our service had not been violated in this instance, for it became known that the Staff and the Guards had been made aware of this arrangement some days previously to the promulgation of the order to the rest of the army. Of course, being made wise by this information, they had quietly bought up all the horses, warm clothing and furs in or near the town, so that the less fortunate Linesmen had to shift as best they could. Not unnaturally we felt annoyed that consideration for some and disregard for others, who are, after all, the mainstay of the British Army, should prevail in a quarter where a full sense of justice, and an equal regard for all, should be the ruling principle. Love of truth impels me to make these observations, even at the risk of being considered a grumbler, and writing in the style of "a man with a grievance."

About eight o'clock a.m. on 30th of January, the Army set off on its march back to Calmpthaut. Having the advantage of dim daylight, we strode along in a snowstorm, and eventually arrived at the scattered village, wet, cold, and partially frozen, and a more painful day's march men never went through.

On the 31st of January we were all under arms a full hour before daybreak, and out on the bleak heath, and extended along the front of the position, among sand-pits. About lunchtime we were called back into the village as no enemy had appeared. We had just got billets all fixed up for the men, when, as though I had not already experienced enough of Braeschaet Heath, between three and four o'clock in the afternoon I had to march with a picket of thirty men to the front in the direction of the main road from Antwerp to Bergen op Zoom. On this night the cold was intense, and as only a scanty

supply of fuel could be obtained from a boer's cottage on the verge of the heath, the men could scarcely escape being frozen. In the morning I rejoined my regiment when it was about to start for the small town of Braeschaet. We reached this latter place about noon. Nearly two hundred officers and men were there billeted in the house of the Burgomaster. What would the chief magistrate of an English town think of having to receive such a large number of uninvited guests in his house? It shows, practically, that war is a most intolerable burthen that citizens can have to bear!!

As the co-operation of Bülow and his Prussians had now been secured, it was understood that the Siege of Antwerp would be prosecuted with vigour by the combined forces, so that our thoughts were principally directed to that undertaking. At this time I was so ambitious of acquiring military glory by getting riddled with bullets, that I quietly gave in my name as being desirous of leading the forlorn hope when the expected breach was made in the walls of the place. I did this as secretly as possible, and thus early as giving me the claim of priority of application, lest some other candidate equally thirsting for distinction, or extinction as the event might prove, should wrest the anticipated honour from me.

When the morning of Tuesday the 1st of February had fully opened, the Army was directed to move closer to the enemy. Accordingly we moved forward until we were within one hundred yards of the enemy positions. At one or two points double sentries were posted, for although most of our men were good and steady soldiers, yet if anything can make men nervous, especially young campaigners, it is when they are placed in close proximity to the enemy, on a sentry beat of one or two hours, feeling all the while that on their vigilance alone depends the lives and safety of hundreds of their comrades.

On this night several additional regiments moved up from the rear to support those in the advanced position, and our principal force became concentrated on and near the main road to Antwerp. Braeschaet, Calmpthaut, Brecht, and Westwessel were the chief stations, occupied with one brigade at Donk.

It was generally believed through the Army that Sir Thomas Graham had received secret information that the inhabitants of Antwerp, (many of whom were favourably disposed to the British) would open the gates and aid us in subduing the French garrison. But they never reflected that possession of the city could not be maintained while the Citadel was in hostile hands, and Carnot, who it was believed held the command, had taken every precaution to keep the inhabitants in subjection.

The Citadel of Antwerp which was constructed by the Spanish General Alva, when the Netherlands was a possession of Spain, was contrived as much to overawe the city as for defence against external foes. It stands on the eastern bank of the Scheldt and commands the river, the city, and adjacent country. It was pentagonal as originally designed, but more recent additional works have somewhat modified its form, and contributed to its strength. At this time it was amply furnished with arms, ammunition and all kinds of warlike stores, and had barrack accommodation for four thousand men.

Before daybreak on Wednesday the 2nd of February, the whole army assembled and took up its allotted positions, and prepared for the coming struggle. Flints were examined and ammunition inspected to see if it had suffered damage from the falling snow. We knew from the observations which General Taylor had made to us on the previous evening that an action of great moment was to be fought, for on parting from us he said—"Good night, gentlemen, you will have work to do tomorrow"—We also knew that our Prussian Allies and a body of Cossacks on the left, were to act simultaneously with the British.

The instant the order to move forward was issued the buglers of each regiment sounded the advance, each corps taking up the inspiring notes from those on its flank.

The regiments taking part in this day's operations were the 25th, 33rd, 2nd Battn. 35th, 52nd, 73rd, 78th, 91st and 95th Rifles and a brigade of Guards.

We had not proceeded far before the brigade of Guards which had occupied comfortable quarters in the rear, came up as if to wrest the laurels from some of the advanced battalions. This caused much dissatisfaction in those regiments of the line which had gone through all the hardships of outpost duty, and who now looked as though they were about to be deprived of their share in leading the advance.

As we approached the enemy's position everyone felt that a day of exertion was before him; reserve ammunition was conveyed at a convenient distance in the rear of each regiment; the band and drummers with canvas bearers or litters to carry off the wounded, marched in close attendance to their respective battalions.

The lines of skirmishers extended in front of and along the whole British line. After driving in the opposing skirmishers immediately in front, the enemy were found strongly entrenched behind earthworks further strengthened by some trees which had been cut down and placed across the road as an abbattis. The wind continued to blow the snow flakes into our faces, so that we could scarcely see ten yards in front, but as the enemy's fire kept thinning our ranks, and as many of the men's muskets had become wet and the damp powder in the pans would not explode, it was determined to force the position at the point of the bayonet. The officers, therefore, placed themselves in front of the men, and a simultaneous rush was made. In a few minutes the abbattis and breastwork were in the possession of the British, and the enemy retired slowly on to a strong body of their troops who held the suburban village of Merxem.

Advancing over a field or two without opposition we inclined a little to our left, when we suddenly came on a party of the enemy in the road, who were retreating before a very inferior force composed of officers and men of different regiments commanded by a captain of the 33rd. These in the eagerness of the pursuit did not seem to consider the disparity in numbers. But if the British did not reflect on this fact, the French officers did, for seeing how few there were, they rallied their men, and just as we gained the road they turned on their pursuers and held them at bay. The gallant man who led the British advance at this point, seeing our seasonable reinforcement at hand, cheered and rushed forward, and our party joined in and threw ourselves at the enemy, and in a few seconds a regular *mêlée* took place. During these few most exciting moments I was so closely wedged in the throng, and my arms were so hampered, that it was impossible to use either the edge or point of my sabre to cut and thrust with. The only use I could make of my weapon, which was carved like a reaping hook, and therefore never very efficient, was to jab away with the hilt at the heads and faces in front of me, and I strongly suspect that some of those who on that occasion kissed my sword-hilt, required the aid of a dentist after the fray was over. At length a passage was forced through the French ranks and the discomfited foe broke away and fled in dismay leaving some prisoners in our hands and a large percentage of their numbers on the road.

On continuing to advance it was found that the French had made extensive preparations to repel any attack on Merxem. Some field pieces had been brought up and placed in position, and when our columns which advanced by the main road arrived within range a galling fire was opened, on which the troops opened right and left under the partial shelter of the trees which bordered the road. After a few rounds of grape-shot had swept down the spacious highway, the officers, sword in hand bounded into the middle of the road and calling on the men to follow, rushed forward and in a moment the guns were abandoned and had changed owners, and the French were in full retreat on their main body.

Nothing daunted by their failure to impede our advance, as we approached Merxem, the enemy, in open column of grand divisions advanced with great spirit, the drums beating and eagles displayed and when just within musket range the column began to deploy into line. The British, nothing loth to meet their opponents, moved forward a few paces to a more open position, and just as the French line was formed poured into their ranks a withering fire which was instantly returned with great animation. The firing now became

incessant and was maintained with unflinching bravery by both sides, but the British showing impatience at the prolonged and distant fighting and being eager to decide the conflict were ordered to prepare to close with the enemy. The order "Quick March" was given and when the line was well in motion, the order "Forward" was given for the purpose of accelerating the pace. Then burst forth from the British ranks a cheer that inspired every soldier's heart with confidence of success, and as the line neared the enemy the word "Charge" was responded to by a rush that carried all before it and Merxem, amid the thunder of artillery and the rattle of musketry was a second time in our possession.

As soon as Merxem was completely in our hands, General Taylor's brigade again moved to the right. As the French fleet again came in view every soldier's heart swelled with exultation and delight for it now seemed within our grasp. The Army moved on towards a line of dykes which were part of the advanced defences of Antwerp, and which were occupied in some strength by the French. The road by which the dykes could be assailed was barricaded by high and strong palissades, and enfiladed by a high windmill which had been well loopholed by the French.

When we got to within two hundred yards of the dykes we were ordered to halt and cover ourselves whilst our artillery opened on the enemy over our heads. We ensconced ourselves on the ice of a willow-fringed ditch which afforded tolerable shelter. After the cannonading had been kept up with great spirit for some time, seeing that the men were becoming impatient at being inactive and under cover, I started forth to silence the guns, but so intent were our gunners in serving them that all my shouting and waving my sword failed to draw their attention, nor did they cease firing until I was almost before the muzzles of their guns. We then went in to attack the French troops occupying the dykes and the windmill. As we approached their positions, their batteries on the works opened a well-directed fire on our extended line, while a ship of war moored in the Scheldt poured her broadsides into our right flank. We suffered less loss than might have been expected, doubtless owing to our moving in extended order with three paces between the files.

There was no great difficulty in driving the enemy from the top of the dyke, but the windmill was still tenaciously held, and a galling fire kept up from its loopholes. We therefore decided to force the barrier of palissades which had been erected in front of the wind-mill and there was a call for hatchets and bill-hooks to cut away the paling, but as the pioneers were with the battalions in the rear we had to use our hands. Unfortunately they were too firmly bound together to yield to our efforts, so I tried to swing round the ends of the palissades which spread like a fan over the wide and deep ditch on each side of the road. At the moment I was about to swing round the palissade, a perfect storm of shot and shell came booming fast and thick among our ranks, and a man stood beside me was struck in the arm near the shoulder, so that the limb was almost severed from the body . . . and I was sprinkled all over with the poor fellow's blood. The next instant a cannon ball swept off my left leg below the knee-joint, and although felled to the earth by the irresistible force of the blow, I experienced no sensation of faintness, but felt excessively hot, thirsty and savage.

Soon after receiving this wound I received a musket-ball through my right side and there came on a burning sensation in the injured parts which gradually spread over my whole frame and I experienced a parching thirst, but there was no water at hand to allay the burning heat which seemed as though it would consume me. My men pressed round me to offer their unsophisticated sympathy and vowed to take a signal vengeance on the enemy. They also proffered their universal panacea for wounds and all other ills to which "the flesh is heir"—namely ardent spirits, a remedy they alleged would assuage my thirst, but which I declined to take, knowing that it would increase the drought which they ignorantly, though kindly, supposed it would remove.

After lying exposed to the enemy's fire for a considerable time during which I was once again wounded by a cannon ball which grazed my arm and severely contused it, two of the band of the 52nd Regiment came up with a field bearer, and my own men raised

me up and placed me on it, and I was carried across the field towards Merxem. By this time the whole of the exposed surface of my wounded limb was sprinkled over with hoar frost. I had to pass along the front of my own regiment on the way back and many were the anxious enquiries and the sympathy and condolences that I received at my disaster.

(To be concluded).

Lieut. H. U. Burke, 33rd Regiment

Lough Crickland,
Co. Down,
N. Ireland.

August 18th, 1947.

Dear Mr. Editor.

I enclose a copy of a public address presented to Lieut. H. U. Burke, who was a cousin of mine on my mother's side of the family. The address bears the date, September 20th, 1845. I think it might be of interest to readers of THE IRON DUKE.

I know little of the subsequent history of Lieut. Burke, but understand that he took part in the Campaign in the Crimea. I think some of his letters written during this campaign are still at home, and I will endeavour to find them*.

En passant I wonder if any other officer can claim connections with the Regiment on both sides of the family? On my father's side the late Colonel J. A. C. Gibbs married my aunt.

Yours sincerely,
D. N. SIMMONDS,
Captain.

* Burke was a Captain in 1854, and was in command of No. 6 or "H" Company, 33rd Regiment at Shumla Gate, Varna, in September of that Year—Ed.

(From the *Woodstock Telegraph & New Brunswick Register*, 10th September, 1845.)

PUBLIC ADDRESS

We have much pleasure in giving insertion to the following Address presented to LIEUTENANT BURKE of the 33rd Regiment, (for more than a year in the command of the Detachment of that Regiment, stationed at Woodstock) by a number of Magistrates and other Inhabitants of this vicinity. The uniformly gentlemanlike deportment of Mr. BURKE, as well as the willingness manifested by him on all necessary occasions, to aid the civil authority, had secured to him the unqualified respect of all classes of the community and we can but acknowledge our gratification of the well-merited tribute of esteem contained in the following sentiments:—

To H. U. BURKE, Esq., Commandant of the Detachment of H.M. 33rd Regiment of Foot, stationed at Woodstock.

We the Magistrates and other Inhabitants of Woodstock, in the County of Carleton, having learned that you are shortly to be relieved from your duty in this place, and about to join the Head Quarters of your Regiment, cannot suffer you to depart without the sincere expression of our regret at your leaving us.

The aid, from time to time, so readily afforded by you, in support of the Civil Authority, and at a time, too, when a recent calamity had deprived us of our common Goal, demand our warmest thanks.

"Your uniform gentlemanly bearing and deportment have rendered you most acceptable to every one, whilst your hospitality, courtesy and kindness, could not fail securing for you the esteem and regard of all who had the happiness of being within their influence.

To the invariably steady, orderly, and exemplary conduct of the men under your command, we feel much pride and satisfaction in bearing testimony—conduct which reflects not only the highest

credit upon themselves, and yourself as their Officer, but a like credit upon the gallant Regiment to which they have the distinguished honor to belong.

With our sincere wishes for your continued health and happiness,

We are, Sir,

Your's very sincerely,

(Signed by a number of Magistrates and other individuals.)

REPLY.

To the Magistrates and other Inhabitants of Woodstock, in the County of Carleton, &c.

GENTLEMEN,

For the flattering manner in which you are pleased to allude to my conduct while in charge of the Detachment at this place, I feel sincerely grateful.

When it has been my lot to be called on to aid the Civil Power, I have rendered every service at my disposal with great willingness.

I cannot however refrain from congratulating you, that occasions requiring military interference have been of rare occurrence.

I feel much satisfaction in returning you thanks for your expressions concerning the conduct of the non-commissioned officers and men of the Detachment. I shall not fail to acquaint them with your approbation of their conduct.

For your kindness to me during my stay among you, accept my most heartfelt thanks. The hospitality and friendship I have met with during the last year, can never be effaced from my mind.

With my most fervent wishes for your happiness, for the welfare of the County, and the prosperity of Woodstock, permit me, gentlemen, to say Farewell, and believe me always,

Your most obedient servant,

H. U. BURKE,

Lieut. 33rd Regiment.

In Some Foreign Field

It seemed strange picking up the threads of a war which was fought nearly 50 years ago and so out of date by modern standards. Our first contact was on the 1,000 mile car journey from Cape Town to Pretoria when, remembering the advice of a friend that the hotel was better than average, we turned in for "elevenses" at Matjesfontein. The Milner Hotel was indeed unusual. One was struck immediately with the feeling that it must have a story. It belonged to another age. The white-painted cast-iron ornamentations on the pillars and gutterings savoured of the old colonial style of architecture and were instantly remarkable. The ground floor boarded verandah was laid on the dusty red earth. One could picture the horses tethered to a hitching rail before it. On entering the high front door, we were faced by a steep centre staircase branching to left and right and a high-ceilinged narrow passage beyond. One got the impression of an extensive building with many connecting passages and numerous rooms branching off along them.

We made enquiries from the proprietor who said that it had been the British Headquarters in the Boer War. He drew attention to the photographs on the walls, groups of soldiers, equipment and sketches of Boer War battlefields. He knew nothing more but suggested, if we were interested, we should see Mr.—— who lived almost next door.

Our interest had definitely been caught, so we went to see him. We were welcomed with no surprise but with great friendliness. It was a strange household of three old deaf people. Even the dog on the mat was old and blind; the cat was old and crippled. Col. Buiste had been Staff Surgeon to General French during the Boer War. His decorations included the C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., Croix de Guerre, Légion d'Honneur and a Serbian Order, all these gained during service in India, South Africa and the Great War. His wife showed us a signed photograph of Edmund Ironside, then a Lieutenant in the R.H.A., whom they had known well. They also produced a signed photograph of General Wauchope, who commanded the Highland Brigade at Magersfontein where 900 of the total force of 3,000 were killed in trying to storm the Boer positions, the greatest single defeat during the whole war. General Wauchope himself lost his life here, but instead of being buried with his men at the scene of the action, owing to the similarity of names, his body

was removed by mistake hundreds of miles to Matjesfontein, where an impressive marble monument is erected over his grave.

I was particularly anxious to discover what I could of the actions of the Regiment during the Boer War, but our friends could tell us little. We decided therefore to take the Kimberley road instead of the alternative one via Bloemfontein in order to visit Modder River and Paardeberg.

As we travelled North all day, hour after hour, the country became increasingly desolate. We spent that night at Hopetown where the famous Blue Hope diamond was found in the alluvial beds of the Vaal River in 1867. At dawn next morning we took the road following the line of advance of the Kimberley Relief Force through Belmont to Modder River. It was along this route that we saw our first sight of the isolated graves scattered throughout this part of the country. Surrounded by a barbed wire fence, there were five graves marked with rough wooden or iron crosses with the surmounting inscription "Pro Patria et Rege." There were buried here two of the Royal Munster Fusiliers, one King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantryman, a soldier of the Royal Canadian Regiment and a 2nd Queensland Mounted Infantryman. A single pepper tree stood sentinel.

This was typical of the majority of these burials. Standing in isolation in a vast rainless dusty flat waste stretching as far as the eye could see, broken here and there by stony Kopjies covered with scrub bush. It was frightful country in which to fight, with blinding glare and infernal heat and the only cover offered by an occasional anthill. One had been told of the high percentage of casualties to our troops pinned down by Boer snipers, lying motionless all day in the scorching sun, their bodies burnt as if a kettle of boiling water had been poured over them.

And so we arrived at the road and Modder River Crossing where the action was fought on 28th November, 1899. The river was flowing sluggishly past mud banks and between high bush-covered banks. Two hundred yards downstream the Modder River joined the Riet River, so named after the reeds which cover thickly the banks and water's edge. The stone blockhouse still guarded the river crossing. My driver, whose father had fought in the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry during the Boer War, and I, scrambled up inside on to a bare wooden floor with a central trap door; the surrounding gun and rifle positions were protected by armour plating of about 15mm. in thickness.

Close by was Mr. Rostoll's farm, in which he has lived since 1883. In the Modder River action it was almost wholly destroyed when each side in turn occupied the buildings. In fact the only part left standing was a wooden outhouse still bearing the scars of bullet and shell holes on the woodwork and walls. There was a room in the outhouse which was used by Lord Methuen, the British Force Commander, and to-day left exactly as it was then, at his request. In the little graveyard on the farm lay buried his personal staff officer, Lt.-Col. Northcote.

From Modder River one could see the high Kopjies of Magersfontein and silhouetted against the sky, the tall monument to those who fell there on 11th December, 1899. In the brief time we spent in this area we could find no trace of any regimental graves.

Knowing the particular association of the Regiment with Paardeberg, 25 miles to the East, we set off in that direction. We searched a wide area for what I always believed would be an extensive cemetery for those who had fallen in the battle and in which I would be sure to find some graves of the Regiment.

The local inhabitants of whom we made enquiries spoke only in Afrikaans and in some instances seemed to display antipathy at our questionings and at the fact that we spoke English.

In following their directions we found no such cemetery and it appeared as if they had deliberately misled us. Again we found isolated graves surrounded by silver painted iron palings—such regiments as the Lincolns, the Norfolks, the Welch and the Coldstream

Guards were shown but no trace of the Duke of Wellington's or the 1st West Riding Regiment as they were then known.

I was very disappointed at having failed to find anywhere along the course of these various battles a single sign of where a Duke had fallen. I wondered if anyone else of the Regiment had passed this way since those days. F.J.R.

[The author, Capt. F. J. Reynolds, could not expect to have found graves of the Regiment at Modder River, as the 1st Battalion did not arrive in South Africa until January 1900. It is strange however that he should find no trace of the graves of Lt. Siordet and the 23 other ranks who were killed at Paardeburg and buried there—Ed.]

Personalia.

We were very sorry to hear that Colonel A. Curran had to undergo an operation for cataract at the end of July. We are glad to hear that he is getting on well, and it is hoped that his sight will improve with the treatment he is having. Colonel Curran is in his 95th year.

We offer our congratulations to Lt.-Colonel H. W. Becher, D.S.O., on reaching his 81st birthday on 27th July, 1947. Also to Mr. W. Maskell who will be 80 in September. Mr. Maskell joined the Regiment on 24th November, 1885, and rose to the rank of sergeant, completing 17 years service with the Colours.

Colonel C. J. Pickering paid a visit to *H.M.S. Cleopatra* at Portsmouth on 6th August, and had a drink with Captain O. L. Gordon, R.N. He tells us that the Ship has a dual connexion with Yorkshire, having been adopted by Harrogate, and given the freedom of the town. In addition the town presented the Ship with drums, a drum-major's staff, and large silver cigarette and cigar boxes.

The following births have been announced :—

WALLER.—On May 18th, 1947, at St. Edward's Nursing Home, Herne Bay, to Ruth, wife of Colonel W. A. Waller, M.C., The Duke of Wellington's Regiment.—a third daughter (Gillian Elizabeth).

CARROLL.—On May 14th, 1947, at The Maternity Home, Woking, to Ivy (*nee* Porter) wife of Major T. St. G. Carroll, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment.—a daughter.

WELLESLEY.—On July 14th, 1947 to Nancy, wife of Major F. H. V. Wellesley, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment—a daughter.

LAING.—On 8th August, 1947, at Athens, to Kirsten (*née* Crocker), wife of Major G. Laing, M.B.E., The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, attached B.M.M. (G.), a sister for Anthony (Susan Andrea).

The following marriages have been announced :—

FRANKIS : OWEN.—On June 6th, 1947, at Walmer, Major John E. Frankis, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, only son of the late Lieutenant-Colonel Frankis, Royal Marines, and Mrs. Frankis, 29 Balfour Road, Walmer, Kent, to Audrey Enid, only daughter of Colonel Percival Owen, Royal Marines (retd.), and Mrs. Owen, 11 Archery Square, Walmer. Lieut.-Colonel J. H. Dalrymple acted as best man. Major Frankis has now gone to take up an appointment in West Africa.

BREARE : FLOYD.—On July 12th, 1947, at Netherthong, Huddersfield, Captain W. D. Breare, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, to Miss Diana K. G. Floyd. Captain Breare is Adjutant at the Depot, Halifax.

HORSFALL : LONGDEN SMITH.—On 11th August, 1947, at the Parish Church, Skipton, Mr. Donald Fawcett Horsfall, late The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, second son of Sir J. Donald Horsfall, Bart., of "Currergate," Steeton, and of the late Lady Horsfall, and Miss Jeanne Elizabeth Longden Smith, elder daughter of Colonel and Mrs. F. Longden Smith, of "Woodlands," Skipton. Mr. Horsfall joined the 6th Battalion in October, 1938, and went out with them to Normandy soon after "D" day. When the Battalion was broken up owing to their very heavy casualties, Mr. Horsfall was transferred to a battalion of The Royal Warwickshire Regiment, and saw further service in France, Belgium, Holland and Germany. He attained the rank of Captain and was demobilized in January, 1946. This was a double Regimental wedding, for both the bridegroom's and the bride's father served in the Regiment. Sir Donald Horsfall served with the 6th Battalion before and during the 1914-18 War. His brother, Cedric was killed in that war while serving with the 1/6th Battalion. One of Sir Donald's four sons was reported missing at Arnhem. Colonel F. Longden Smith joined the 1/6th Battalion on the outbreak of the 1914-18 War and commanded it from 1929 to 1933.

With reference to the mention of Major General W. M. Ozanne's successes in the Army Golf Society Meeting last April, which appeared on page 107 of our last issue, General Ozanne informs us that another ex-Duke, Major H. C. M. Stone, also achieved successes in the Meeting, gaining 5th place in the A.G.S. Competition. As he is retired from the Army he could not compete in the Army Championship, but he won the Grenadier Guards' Challenge Cup, given for the best scratch score over 36 holes, open to retired officers only. Major Stone served in the 1st Battalion from 1926 to 1936, and is now we understand in M.I.5 at the War Office, where he has been for many years.

Brigadier J. C. Burnett has sold his house at Four Marks, Alton, and has taken a house in Dorset. His new address (from 29th September) is "Tuckswood," Ferndown, near Wimborne, Dorset. He is sharing the house with his daughter Joan and her husband, Lieut.-Colonel E. E. A. Lane, who has been appointed 2nd in-command to the Combined Records Office at Kingston Lacy, Wimborne.

Colonel F. R. Armitage, who, as mentioned in Editorial, recently went out to Singapore to take up an appointment in Q. Branch of G.H.Q. FARELF, wrote on 9th August last that on his way out by air at the end of June, he was delayed for 24 hours at Malta and got into touch with Major Henniker there. He found him in very good form and except for an addition to his weight, much the same as when he last saw him there with the 1st Battalion in 1937. Anyone calling at Malta would get a welcome from Major Henniker, who would be certain to be found at the Union Club. He continues:—"This country is making a remarkably rapid recovery from the Jap and life is much more comfortable than what England seems likely to be next winter. Some of the apparent prosperity may possibly be somewhat artificial. I am hoping to get my family out here in the autumn if accommodation can be provided in time I have just returned from a short tour by air, road and rail of Northern Malaya with the C.-in-C. (General Sir Neil Ritchie), and spent two nights up in the Cameron Highlands—the only place in this part of the world where one ever sees a log-fire in the evenings and a blanket on one's bed at night."

Captain S. G. Dunn, Carrier Borne Air Liaison Staff, writing to Major Baker on 4th July last, says:—

"I am ashore just now at Hal Far, Malta—the Naval Air Station, but on the 14th will re-embark in *Triumph* for the 1st Summer Cruise, which should prove rather interest-

ing. Our last trip was very memorable—the escorting of *Vanguard* part of the way home. Whilst in harbour, at Freetown, awaiting *Vanguard*, *Cleopatra* also arrived, and several of her officers came over to *Triumph* for drinks. Unfortunately, I didn't realise at the time her new-formed connection with the Regiment, or I would certainly have made a point of calling on her Captain. *Triumph* was with the Royal Escort for five days, and before we parted company were honoured by a visit from the Queen and Princesses, the King unfortunately was confined to *Vanguard* with a chill. Being unique as the only "Brown type" amidst a galaxy of "Dark Blue," Dunn with scarlet lanyard was well to the fore in the presentations. (My Sam Browne and chin strap have never seen such hard polishing—I worked on 'em for days!).

"Here in Malta I see Tony Firth quite often—he is G.2 with Army H.Q. A few weeks ago we managed to get on board the *Cameronia* to see Colonel Cumberlege, who was passing through to U.K. for leave prior to joining the 2nd Battalion.

" Colonel Rusbridger's son Charles is a Lieutenant in *Triumph*, so between us we let the remainder of the Ship know all about the DUKES"

Mr. Geoffrey Handley-Taylor of Heworth, York, has sent us a brochure in connection with his latest book, a ballet classic, entitled "Mona Inglesby, Ballerina and Choreographer" the first biography of her and "the only complete book about the International Ballet." He dedicated the book to H.M. The Queen, in memory of the artists and writers of The Duke of Wellington's Regiment who gave their lives in the war. Her Majesty has graciously accepted a presentation copy, jacketed in maroon and silver silk, with a silk Regimental book mark. Mr. Handley-Taylor served with the 8th Battalion during 1940 and 1941, when he was discharged on medical grounds.

Mr. Columbine was presented with the Meritorious Service Medal at Maidstone on 25th August, 1947, by Lt.-Col. H. E. Scott, commanding No. 50, P.T.C., and we offer him our sincere congratulations. Mr. Columbine enlisted in the Regiment, at the age of 14, in 1888. He served with the 1st Battalion through the South African War, and in India, and was discharged with 25 years' service in 1914, with the rank of R.S.M. He rejoined again on the outbreak of war in 1914 and was given a commission, and awarded the M.C. at the Battle of the Somme, 1916. He now resides at Teapot Lane, Alresford.

Col. Scott, who kindly sent us the above information writes:—"There was quite a big parade, about 240 recruits plus N.C.O's and officers, and about 100 relatives and friends of recruits came to watch. Mr. Columbine at the age of 73 would still be one of the smartest soldiers on any parade. We were all delighted to meet such a fine old soldier, and were so sorry his wife was not strong enough to see the parade."

In an interesting letter from Lt.-Commander R. C. Oliver, D.S.O., R.N., written last June, after a visit on duty in Germany, the following yarn is given:—

"We use German pilots when going up the rivers and, once, we had a pilot who said "Captain, please to make vun long, two short and vun long vis ze vistle." The last bit was said very fast and sounded like nothing on earth.

"I looked a bit puzzled and he repeated it, especially the bit about visavistle. Anyway, we blew the siren in the required manner. It was the signal for the next pilot station to send out another pilot.

"The pilot was changed and the new chap wondered why we were all laughing so I told him. He roared with glee and, between gusts, said "The trouble with that fellow is that he can't say visavistle." Then he wondered why we shrieked. He couldn't say 'with the whistle' himself, and he didn't know it. This doesn't look so funny when written."

Mr. T. Wood of 41 Newland Road, Coventry, in a letter to Miss Turner enclosing his subscription, writes :—" I was recently on a parade with the British Legion, where we did the guard of honour on the occasion of the visit of F.M. Lord Montgomery for the freedom of Coventry. I met Sergt. Tandy, V.C. who was on the parade. He was a former member of the 1st Battalion and wished to be remembered to the old " DUKES ". Mr. Wood was formerly C.S.M. in the 1st Battalion.

Mr. J. Yaxley of 20 Sutcliffe Street, Pellon, Halifax, wishes to inform readers that he has numbers 1 to 50 of THE IRON DUKE which he wishes to sell ; price 1/- per copy.

Letters from Brig. C. E. H. Lowther, Captain J. Jacques, Mr. G. W. Whitefoot and Mr. W. A. Francis appear under Correspondence on pages 161 and 162.

Two Convoys

1.—MALTA, AUGUST, 1942.

It is late in the day now. The news hawks and official spokesmen have had their say. The medals have been distributed. The destroyers and corvettes are scattered in other areas. The surviving merchantmen plug grimly along other routes.

We didn't know where we were going. Some said this was another Dakar attempt, while others declared it to be just stores for Gibraltar. The battleships? Oh, they just happened to be going the same way on an entirely different mission.

Altered course to port and, at dead of night, through the Straits of Gibraltar. Dawn found the escort considerably strengthened. So it was a Malta run.

The lines of merchantmen, headed by the battleships, looked very solid in the daylight. They seemed to have a set purpose. Their zig-zag was amazingly well done. We thought that here were two bull-dogs plugging grimly along followed by silent men. An air of purpose over all. They looked, and were, a rescue party.

The illusion was shattered when we looked at the cruisers gyrating inside the destroyer screen. They looked cheerful and happy, not in any way connected with grim ideas, but just accidentally on the spot. Astern, the carriers, like ocean-going haystacks, did manœuvres of their own and we, perforce, followed them closely, scuttling out of the way when they turned towards and racing madly after them when they turned away. At this stage of the proceedings we were their bodyguard. Around all, other destroyers and corvettes. Fussing, flashing, sprinting, crawling. Above all, Fulmars and Martlets, with Swordfish and Hudsons searching ahead.

She was well astern of us when she was hit. " God," said the skipper, " Look at that." A towering column of dirty water topped with smoke. Soon came the thuds of the quadruple explosion. In seven minutes she'd gone. Ship, aircraft and men. First blood to the enemy.

An hour later the opposing planes arrived. They had been met by the Fleet Air Arm ; a very annoyed Air Arm. Consequently, they were not in good formation, and their attack wilted under gunfire that was a sustained roar. They went away. In fact, they went away almost before they had cleared the destroyer screen, and their eggs made splashes in the sea. Bigger splashes arose where some remained.

Well, they kept coming and going, day and night, in ever increasing numbers as we neared their bases. Stukas began to appear. They almost built a reef of bombs along our path. Here and there planes burned in a patch of oil on the surface of the sea.

And U-boats ! They lay along the route and let go torpedoes as we passed. One U-boat was raised and destroyed near us to our intense pleasure. Another, further off, came up and was rammed.

Dusk, on the third day. A feeling of things to come. Count the ammunition remaining, clean the breeches, joke with exhausted crews, keep the lookouts at it. Above all, keep the lookouts at it.

They came. They came in waves, in squadrons. They dive-bombed, they torpedoed, they hurled things from heights. They fell to the guns and to the Air Arm. They scored hits once in fifty. We shot and shot.

Dark brought a pause and the fleet turned back. The convoy and the special escort headed for E.-boat Alley off Cape Bon. Special escort? That was us. Ahead, as we hastened to take station on the convoy, the night was lurid with flame. Great patches of flame on the sea. Streams of tracer rose and flares hung in the sky. The belching flame of gunfire stabbed the night. Another attack had developed. We arrived and joined in. A shadow shape roared past, flying low. A wailing purr as its bombs passed over us. We were silhouetted against a lake of flame. Spouts of water leapt about us. Silence. The convoy plunged on. The darkness seemed intense.

Far ahead, guns spat and spat again. There was a vivid, upstanding flame as a ship was hit. Torpedeod. She was still shooting.

They were there! The E-boats were there! Night action. Guns swung from port to starboard and back again. Clouds of smoke with E-boats popping in and out. Aircraft back again and roaring overhead. Flares in long rows and in bunches. Plumes and stacks of water. Streams of tracer. Captain's legs swollen like bolsters. Blue bolsters. Funny. It was night and we could see the Captain's legs. Flames. The sea on fire. Bang, crack-crack, crunch.

Hard-a-starboard, ease her, 'midships, port you fool, port hard. Full speed, stop. The escort wheeled and dashed up and down. The merchantmen went grimly on. Purposeful men without their dogs. Here and there a colossal upheaval of fire and water. A lake of fire—and another. Poor beggars.

Dawn, An hour of free air and sea and then the battle joined again. The first attack was beaten off and the second also. The third—a choked yell from a lookout. "Beauffers! Beauffers!" The Skipper leaned on the cease-fire bell push.

They tried again, of course, and again. But why go on? The merchantmen—some of them—got there all right.

2.—RUSSIA, SEPTEMBER, 1942.

We just dragged along, North, North and North. East and more East. Then South. Three weeks there and back, and most of the way at six knots.

Romantic, too. Iceland, Spitzbergen, Bear Island, Hope Island. It was midsummer, so we steamed over spots marked on the chart with the names of explorers who went by there with dog teams. There were icebergs with sharp edges. Not good for three-eighths plate. The darkness got less and less at night. We ended with only a two-hour dusk between sunset and sunrise. The sun just dipped.

The enemy was present. He came along with us in his U-boats and he stooged along the skyline in his aircraft. The U-boats sniped with their torpedoes, but they paid for it. It was cold.

Sunday morning. The red sun tinting the ice cliffs to port. A few Junkers 88's appeared. They came in low and fast to about four miles from the merchantmen. That is, about two miles from the destroyer screen. The destroyers started to shoot. The Junkers dropped their torpedoes and turned away.

This was the pipe-opener. Attacks continued until what must have been the main body arrived. A mass of aircraft to port swung in and cleared the screen and screamed along at bridge height into the convoy. They were joined by an equally large number from starboard. Heinkels and Junkers. Torpedo planes. A *melée*, free for all. Torpedo and cannon versus ships and guns. A mad whirl of wings and guns. Air full of flying steel. Two tremendous explosions. Others smaller. Some ships hit. Several planes

down. A Heinkel's wing-tip touched the water and an impressive cartwheel resulted. Big splash. Aircraft burned.

We crept on. Rescue craft moved over to bunches of survivors on rafts. Few could swim in that ice cold sea. Far astern, enemy float planes touched down to rescue their friends.

Day and night merged and we lost count. U-boats continuously. Aircraft in waves. An aeroplane, torpedoes and all, crashed into a ship. Crash! Ship vanished. Went off like a bomb. Then the scale of attacks lessened. The first team was beaten. How many days had gone?

A U-boat sunk. Wreckage rising from that dull green icy deep. A cabbage and a cap.

Enemy tactics changed. The torpedo gave way to the bomb. The bomb scored even less than the torpedo. The planes flew high, too high. We stood and waited and watched. We were faintly disgusted at their inaccuracy. We went and had tea, and supper and breakfast. They flew too high to shoot.

The convoy got there. We turned back with another.

R. C. O.

Correspondence

From :—Brigadier C. H. E. Lowther, C.B.E., M.C., Deputy Director of Ordnance Services,
Headquarters, British Troops in Palestine and Transjordan, M.E.L.F.
The Editor, THE IRON DUKE, 18th July, 1947.
Llwyn-Celyn, Pennal, Machynlleth, North Wales.

Dear Sir,

In forwarding my new bankers' order to your treasurer for my increased subscription, I have felt an urge to send you a few notes about myself for your Personalia! I joined the Regiment, 3/6th Battalion, in November, 1915 (my father commanded the 3/5th Battalion), and served with 1/6th Battalion in B.E.F. for two years. After World War One, I joined the 1st Battalion in Quetta, was released in India to join the Indian Forest Service, and after a couple of years' good big game shooting, was given a Regular commission and returned to join the 2nd Battalion at Aldershot in June, 1922, and sailed with them to Egypt in November.

I left the Regiment in 1924 to join the R.A.O.C. and was finally transferred in 1927. Since then I have met both Regular Battalions at home and abroad and even had the honour of inspecting the 2nd Battalion Ammunition in Ahmednagar and attending a Regimental guest night in 1929. I have also kept in close touch with my old 6th T.A. Battalion at Skipton and Keighley and it was sad to hear that they have now become heavy A.A. gunners.

I was "chairborne" in the War Office A.G. Branch for four years in this last war, but met many Dukes, including Boy Armitage, Jock Huffam and Bray, and had a lot to do with Ince in M.S. Incidentally I met his son at H.Q. 6th Airborne Division, Haifa, recently and we dined out in the restaurant which was "Shot up," luckily one week before that incident! I just missed the 1st Battalion, as I arrived out here after they had left for the Sudan. Savory is on A Staff here and Miller was on P.T. Staff. One Nobby Clarke who was armourer to the 2nd Battalion in India in 1937 is now on R.E.M.E. Staff here and wants to be remembered to all who knew him. I have a new S/Capt. who is also an ex-Duke—one Heenan, in the ranks of 1st Battalion in 1939.

Sorry to have been so long winded, but I think this is the first time I have ever written to THE IRON DUKE—so the increase in subscription has at least achieved something!

May I here say what an excellent magazine is THE IRON DUKE?

Yours sincerely,

C. H. E. LOWTHER.

From :—Capt. J. Jacques, 2nd Battalion Gold Coast Regiment, Royal West African Frontier Force.
Tamar, N.T.S., Gold Coast Colony, British West Africa.

Mr Dear Treasurer,

5th July, 1947.

Many thanks for the June issue of THE IRON DUKE which arrived here to-day. I cannot explain how grand it is to read our magazine, and here in the bush, I read it from cover to cover and derive a great deal of pleasure in reading about old friends of my Battalion, the 2nd. I have just written to Brigadier Fraser who was my C.O. when I left the 2nd, but since then I have been in lots of places and mostly with African troops. During this time I have only met two Dukes, the first being Major Grieve, incidentally this seems to be the usual meeting place of Dukes. We met in the Bar of the Kisuma Hotel, in Kenya. No need to go further for we had a really good Dukes' night out. The other one I met was Major Jackson, now R.A.O.C., Lagos. He would be better known as 4612603 Pte. C. A. Jackson, employed in the Officers' Mess. Our meeting was rather funny for I was in mufti on board

the *Empire Ken* and I was sitting with friends when Jacko came up to me and said, "Why are you wearing the Regimental tie of the Dukes?" and I replied by saying I thought I was entitled to it; of course the remainder of the story need not be repeated, everyone who knows the Dukes will know the answer to that.

Whilst I was on embarkation I met Ted Ashmore, well known to 2nd Battalion chaps, and he seemed to be doing quite well working as a traveller for one of the Halifax engineering firms.

After reading your appeal for more funds, I gladly enclose a cheque for 10s. for THE IRON DUKE must be kept going at all costs. I cannot explain how I look forward to each issue, it is like receiving a hundred letters in one mail, and I hope it will always continue to be such a great success.

I remain, yours,

J. JACQUES,

Hamilton House, 83 Fife Avenue,

Salisbury, S. Rhodesia.

To the Editor, THE IRON DUKE.

19th May, 1947.

Dear Sir,

A few days ago I posted to you a book of the early days of this country,* and some cuttings of the Royal tour, as I thought they might be of some interest to the Regiment (76th), seeing that they were represented up here in 1893 and 1896. Myself I was up here in 1896 with the M.I. from Pietermaritzburg, so I saw the country when there was nothing here whatsoever, just a few tin shanties, so now look at it to-day.

Salisbury is a lovely town nicely laid out, very wide streets and lovely buildings, new suburbs springing up all round the town, and you cannot build any old shack; £4,000 is the average house you can build; land within a radius of ten miles from the post office is £200 an acre.

Of course there is nothing in the book of what we went through when we came through the country, as there were few cameras in those days. To see us pulling wagons through river beds, and lowering them down one side and pulling them up the other, and having to get out of the so-called train and push and then jump on again in P.E.A.; and camp in the forest whilst the train took half of the contingent and came back the next morning to fetch the balance, and fires all round us to keep the lions away. But still it is a grand country, and so the King said. I was on parade with seven medals and was introduced to the King and have photos of the same. Now if you would like the contingent's travels from the time we left Pietermaritzburg until we got back again I will do my best to let you have same.

I came up here from the Union seven years ago, as I had two sons and one daughter here, so I went in with one of the sons farming tobacco and cattle. The wife and I thought it was time we got out of it so we sold out and are now living in town with one of the daughters, and the son is still farming. The price of tobacco is very high, so I thought I would get out while the going was good, and I got a good price. So I think this is all.

From your faithfully,

G. WHITEFOOT,

Late Sergeant, 76th D. of W. W.R.R.

* Sent to the Depot.—ED.

[With reference to the article on the retirement of Mr. W. A. Francis on page 50 of No. 66 (February, 1947) of THE IRON DUKE, the Colonel of the Regiment has received the following letter.—ED.]

Edensor, 115 Milton Road, Weston-super-Mare.

May 15th, 1947.

Dear Colonel Pickering,

I received to-day the handsome silver salver which the Regiment has so kindly presented to me, and wish to thank you very much indeed for the trouble you have taken.

It will be a permanent reminder to me in years to come of the happy association, extending over so many years, which has prevailed between the Regiment and my firm. I have always looked upon THE IRON DUKE magazine as a journal of a famous Regiment, as one which should be produced in the best possible way, and from the first issue entrusted to my firm for production, I have given each issue my own special personal attention.

It has been a source of much gratification to me to know that my efforts have been so much appreciated, and it has also been a pleasure to me to co-operate with Colonel Trench, to whom I owe many thanks for the courtesy he has always extended to me throughout the 20 years of our association together.

Please accept my very grateful thanks to all concerned.

Believe me, yours very sincerely,

W. A. FRANCIS.

Reviews.

OPERATION VICTORY, by Major-General Sir Francis de Guingand, K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O., Chief of Staff, Eighth Army, 1942-43, Chief of Staff, 21st Army Group, 1944-45 (Hodder & Stoughton, Ltd., London). The author in his foreword emphasises the fact that in this historical account he has kept almost entirely to his own personal experiences of the great events of the 1939-45 war. General de Guingand was a young major when the war started, too young to have served in the 1914-18 war; but the position he rose to and held until the end of the war as Montgomery's chief of staff was a good indication of his ability and it gave him a very close view of the campaigns he took part in.

When war broke out he was Military Assistant to Mr. Hore-Belisha, the Secretary of State for War. On the latter's retirement he went to Palestine, and later joined the Joint Planning Staff at Cairo. His account of the "Greek Adventure" contains more inside information than we have seen anywhere else, and he is severely critical of its ever having been embarked on. We are left with the question in our minds whether the responsibility rests with the politicians alone or with their military advisers. Perhaps Mr. Churchill's war experiences when published may clear up this point.

The author's appointment as Chief of Staff to General Auchinleck came as a complete surprise to him; and when Field-Marshal Montgomery came out to take over the 8th Army, de Guingand expected to be relieved of his appointment, in fact Montgomery warned him that he might be, but he never left his leader until victory was won. So we go through the long story of successes from El Alemein to the final surrender of the German Army. General de Guingand's enthusiasm for his commander is great, and the chapter devoted to him is not the least interesting of an intensely absorbing book, for he is sufficiently unbiased to record the weaknesses, as he saw them, in that great man. It is self-evident that tact is one of de Guingand's strong points, and his contacts with General Eisenhower, the Supreme Commander, and Bedell Smith, his Chief of Staff, were invariably cordial.

There are several light touches, for instance the story of the Duce's preparations for a triumphal entry into Cairo, and the episode of the carrier pigeon in the Italian campaign. One anecdote we cannot resist repeating. Speaking of Bedell Smith, with whom he had formed a firm friendship while in London before D Day, he says:—"He has a ready wit. One morning at Norfolk House, after there had been a heavy raid on London, and my daughter had been born during the night, he sent the following signal to my wife, 'Many congratulations. But why all the gunfire; it was only a girl.'" This is a very short and inadequate review of a notable book, but space will not admit of greater justice being done to its merits.

Other books recommended, but on which there is no room to comment are:—**THE WILD GREEN EARTH**, by Brigadier Bernard Fergusson, D.S.O.; a continuation of his book "Beyond the Chindwin," which we reviewed on page 102 of No. 64 (June, 1946) of **THE IRON DUKE**. **AND DRAGONS ARE EXTRA** (Penguin Books), a biography by Major Lewis Hastings, that well-known broadcaster, to our mind the best military commentator the B.B.C. produced, whose book is as racily written as his commentaries were spoken.

EDITOR.

The Society of Yorkshiremen in London and the Yorkshire Society.

Midland Bank Chambers,
92 Notting Hill Gate, W.11.

Lt.-Colonel M. V. le P. Trench,
Llwyn-Celyn, Pennal, Machynlleth, Mont.

28th May, 1947.

THE IRON DUKE.

Dear Sir,

My Council was glad to hear from Colonel Charles J. Pickering that The Duke of Wellington's Regiment had accepted the suggestion to become life members of the Society of Yorkshiremen in London.

Colonel Pickering suggests that I send you particulars of the events for publication, which I am pleased to do, and also a brochure about the Society. There are a number of functions unfortunately which are limited to a few hundred (scarcely sufficient for the members) for catering reasons. These events I shall not notify the Regiment about.

Yours faithfully,

THELMA E. VERNON, Secretary.

In connection with the above Colonel C. J. Pickering writes:—"The members of the Society worked very hard on behalf of our soldiers during the World War years. Every Yorkshire Regiment received gifts in kind, in addition to money grants. We owe them a deep debt of gratitude for their kindness, which has been greatly appreciated. Now that the war is over the Society have been so kind as to give our officers the privilege of honorary membership. In effect this means any officer who happens to be in London may attend the various functions which the Society get up from time to time if numbers permit.

"Here are some of the near future events:—On Thursday, the 23rd of October, a buffet lunch at Over-Seas House, with speaker; numbers limited to about 100. The annual dinner will be held at the Dorchester Hotel on Tuesday, the 18th of November. Anyone who may be interested can obtain further particulars from the Secretary."

Notices

THE HISTORY OF THE FIRST INFANTRY DIVISION.

This has now been published.

There are two volumes:—(a) Anzio Campaign, (b) Florence to Monte Grande.

Both volumes are extremely well supplied with both large and small scale maps and there is a number of photographs in each.

The price of each volume is 4s. Copies may be obtained from "G" Branch, H.Q. 1 Inf. Div. MELF. Payment may be made by either postal order, money order or cheque, but it should be noted that the sum of 1s. 3d. should be included in all cheques to cover banking charges in the Middle East. Copies will be despatched immediately on receipt of remittance.

Obituary.

We regret to record the following deaths:—

CODE.—On 24th July, 1947, at Halifax, Mrs. Code, wife of Mr. S. E. Code, Honorary Secretary of the Old Comrades Association and The Regimental Association. Mr. and Mrs. Code were married in September, 1932, and have two daughters, Barbara Mary, aged 12 years and Janet aged 8 years.

GILLAM.—On May 26th, 1947, at North Grimston House, Malton, as the result of an accident, Major Thomas Henry James Gillam, late the Duke of Wellington's Regiment, aged 61 years. Major Gillam was born on 22nd August, 1885, and was educated at Charterhouse and Hertford College, Oxford. His father was a doctor and he was studying for a medical degree at Oxford when he changed his mind and took the Army entrance exams, and was commissioned in the Duke of Wellington's Regiment on 9th October, 1907. He served with the 2nd Battalion in England and then at the Depot, being appointed Adjutant of the 3rd Reserve Battalion in March, 1914 and serving with them until August, 1916. He then commanded an officer cadet company until April, 1918, when he went to France and saw service as brigade major to the 172nd Infantry Brigade and was wounded. He retired with the rank of major on 8th November, 1919. In September, 1939 he rejoined the army and was for a time second-in-command of a young soldiers' battalion.

Major Gillam was married on 28th October, 1913 to Doris, eldest daughter of Henry J. Homfray, Esquire, carpet manufacturer, of Halifax, and had three children, two boys and a girl. On his retirement he became managing director of his father-in-law's business. He retired from active management, though remaining chairman, in 1936, and settled at North Grimston near Malton, where he farmed about 25 acres. He was a keen rider to hounds and had recently become M.F.H. of the Middleton East Hunt. Of his two sons, Jim the elder, served for 4½ years as a Territorial officer in the 4th Battalion, later 58th A.T. Regiment, R.A., and went out to Normandy as second-in-command of the second line Regiment, where he was wounded in September, 1944. He later served in Norway in command of an A.T. Regiment with the acting rank of lieutenant-colonel. He was

married in 1940 and has a daughter and a son. The second son, Denys, joined the R.A.F. in 1935 and had a most distinguished career in the recent war, gaining the D.S.O. and two bars, D.F.C. and bar and the A.F.C. He retired in 1945 as a group captain; an account of his career appeared on page 56 of No. 55, June, 1943 of the IRON DUKE. He was married in June, 1945, and has a daughter. The daughter of Major and Mrs. Gillam, Cynthia, served with the W.A.A.F. from 1941—1946 as a Section officer. She has now succeeded her father as M.F.H. of the Middleton East Hunt.

HARRISON.—On June 22nd, 1947, at a nursing home in Kendal, Lt.-Col. Edgar Garston Harrison, C.B., D.S.O., late The Duke of Wellington's Regiment and King's African Rifles, aged 84 years.

Colonel Harrison was born on May 11th, 1863 and was educated at Haileybury College. He joined the Dorset Militia in 1881, but on failing to pass the final examination into the Regular Army, he went to America with his brother, the late Mr. F. O. Harrison, where he spent two years ranching in Wyoming, and had his first taste of big game shooting. His experience of ranching earned him the nickname of "Puncher" when he joined the Regiment. In 1885 he was given a commission in The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, and after serving with the 2nd Battalion in Ireland, he went out to the 1st Battalion in India, where his fine horsemanship gained him a place in the Regimental polo team which won the Infantry Polo Cup in 1887. (See page 40 of No. 30, February, 1935, THE IRON DUKE).

In 1895 he was appointed 2nd in command of the Sultan of Zanzibar's troops under General Sir Lloyd Mathews, and commanded those sent to the mainland for operations against the Mazrui Rebels, for which he received the 1895-6 medal and clasp and the Brilliant Star of Zanzibar. In 1896 he was sent with Captain Godfrey, also of The Duke of Wellington's Regiment to Khartoum to recruit Sudanese, and in 1897 was appointed second-in-command of the newly formed East African Rifles, (afterwards the 3rd King's African Rifles), into which the Soudanese were incorporated. During the Mutiny in Uganda of 1897-98 he again saw active service with the King's African Rifles, when he was in command at the capture of Kabagambi; and after taking part in other engagements, led the final counter-attack at Kijembo, and conducted various other operations in Unyoro, for which he was mentioned in despatches, received the campaign medal with two clasps, and in 1899 was promoted brevet-major and awarded the D.S.O. His next active service was in the Somaliland operation of 1902, and in 1905 he commanded the Nandi field force in the Nandi Expedition with the local rank of Lieutenant-colonel. For this service he was mentioned in despatches and received the medal and clasp, and in 1907 was created C.B. He had retired from The Duke of Wellington's Regiment in 1905, and was on the reserve of officers during the last years of his service in command of the K.A.R. He retired in 1910 and interested himself in coffee planting in Kenya.

On the outbreak of war in 1914 he rejoined The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, and in October went out to France and took over command of the 2nd Battalion from Major (now Lieutenant-Colonel) H. K. Umfreville at Rue D'Ouvert. On pages 114 to 128 of Brig.-Gen. Bruce's History of The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, 1881-1923, extracts are given from Col. Harrison's diary covering the heavy fighting round Festubert, Givenchy and during the first battle of Ypres, from October to December 1914. On 17th December, 1914, the late Lt.-Col. W. M. Tyndall, D.S.O., arrived and took over command, and Colonel Harrison returned to England, where he was given command of one of the new Kitchener's Army battalions, the 12th Battalion, The Manchester Regiment. He took this Battalion out to France in 1915, and was wounded in action in the Ypres salient. When he had recovered from his wound he returned to his Battalion again in time for the Battle of the Somme, and was again wounded at Contalmaison, where the Battalion lost 16 officers and 600 men. For the remainder of the war he was in command of a training battalion in England. For his services he was twice mentioned in despatches, promoted

brevet-lieutenant-colonel and received the 1914 star with clasp and the British War and Victory Medals.

Colonel Harrison was a great traveller as well as a noted horseman and a big game shot and after settling at his home Hundhow, Kendal, in his native county of Westmorland, he continued to travel, visiting Scandinavia and Mexico, often by air.

Colonel Harrison was a bachelor, and is survived by his sister, Miss H. E. Harrison. She writes of her brother :—" He was alert and cheery to the last . . . The last time he drove his car (on the eve of his collapse two days before his 84th birthday) was to see the very rare musk-ox and a polar bear which he had long coveted from Lord Lonsdale, which had just arrived at the annexe he had had built on to the Kendal Museum to house trophies of his own and of his friends. It was a curiously fitting close to the life of one who loved sport and animals so dearly . . . I was so very pleased that the Regiment sent officers and a bugler and lovely flowers. He would have so appreciated it for though he never served with it since 1895, his love for it never wavered or waned."

Colonel Harrison made a number of bequests to the Regiment, which are recorded on page (146). The funeral took place at Staveley Church, near Kendal on 4th July, the Regiment being represented by Major S. E. Baker, R.S.M. Birch (late 1st Battalion) and a bugler, who sounded the last post, all from the Depot, Halifax.

A portrait of Colonel Harrison appears opposite page 141.

We should like to record our thanks to the Manager of the *Westmorland Gazette* for permission to make use of the obituary notice which appeared in the issue of 28th June, 1947.

Below we print appreciations by two of Colonel Harrison's contemporaries in the Regiment, and by Colonel R. Meinertzhagen, D.S.O., who served with him in East Africa.

Colonel A. Curran writes :—" Jack Harrison was one of my oldest regimental friends, and I heard from him last Christmas, when he seemed to be well and able to walk. He was a born horseman and never so happy as when on a horse, few men rode straighter to hounds. He was in every way a credit to the old Regiment."

Colonel B. St.J. Le Marchant writes :—" Edgar Harrison was a man of sterling character and gifted with more common sense than very many people. He was most popular with everyone, men and women alike, and I know of no one who had more friends than he had. He loved comfort and getting the best out of life, and I think he attained it ; but on the other hand he could rough it as well as anyone, and more cheerfully than most. He never shirked danger or responsibility, and whatever he undertook to do he did it well. He was a great sportsman, a good polo-player, and he played in the winning team for the Regiment in the Infantry Polo Tournament in India. A very good cricketer ; very fond of hunting, shooting and fishing, at all of which he excelled. His many trophies of big game shooting in East Africa made a splendid and rare collection, and he told me he was leaving them to Kendal and was building a room on to the museum there to hold them and was endowing them (leaving money to have them well looked after).

He was a very old and great friend, as well as brother officer of mine. I had the greatest admiration for him, and I feel that all who knew him will feel the poorer for his loss. He was a man in every sense of the word, and a charming personality."

Colonel Meinertzhagen writes :—" The passing of Edgar Garston Harrison at the age of 84 deprives many of the older generation of a steadfast friend, a gallant soldier and a man whose mind was clean and whose heart was great. I first met him in 1900 when he was second-in-command of the 3rd Battalion King's African Rifles in Nairobi. I was then one of several junior subalterns and we all regarded him as a hero. He was as hard as nails, a keen sportsman and a man who would accept unlimited responsibility. We were all devoted to him and it was a great source of pleasure to me that the friendship which started nearly fifty years ago, remained unbroken until the day of his death. He received his D.S.O. for a most remarkable feat in 1897. The Soudanese Mutiny broke out in Uganda. British officers were being murdered and the situation got out of hand.

Harrison with his company at Machakos was ordered to Uganda to re-inforce the slender British force then in Uganda. He was given a week in which to prepare for the march of 400 miles through partly hostile territory and with no prospect of local food. He started off within 24 hours and completed the march in 22 days, probably a record for the world. I was again on active service with him in 1905 when he commanded the Nandi Field Force. His complete disregard for danger inspired many of us with the utmost confidence and I, for one, learned responsibility and quick decision from him. On one occasion when our column was passing through thick forest where an ambush might be expected from an enemy armed with spears and arrows, we traversed a winding route with many loops. In one of these loops the enemy laid an ambush and commenced an attack with poisoned arrows. The column opened fire on the tribesmen but the loop in which we found ourselves, compelled the head of the column to fire through forest into the rear of the column. I was leading and Harrison was in rear. Bullets and arrows were falling fast when I heard Harrison's loud voice "Stop firing and let's have the arrows; column charge inwards" and inwards we went with a roar, using our bayonets with great effect.

In those days when there was but a single settler in Kenya and no game laws, Kenya was a paradise. Edgar Harrison was a first-class game shot and had collected every species known to Kenya including the rare Hunter's Antelope of the Tana River. He was equally proficient on a horse and owned a white Arab called Aladdin with which he won a local trophy known as the Machakos Cup three years running; that cup was one of his most cherished possessions at his home near Kendal. On the last occasion when he won the Cup on the old Nairobi race course a wandering rhinoceros sauntered on to the course, got rattled and charged right and left among spectators and horses. It was Harrison who "shooed" him off by throwing a saddle at him.

The Kendal Museum has benefited greatly from his generosity and it is there that one can find his East African trophies, as good a collection of big game as ever came out of Africa."

HART. On July 23rd, 1947, at his home in Goosey, Faringdon, Berks, following a seizure three days previously, Mr. J. J. Hart, late The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, aged 74.

Mr. Hart joined the Regiment in June 1890, and was posted to "B" Company, 1st Battalion in the following October. In June, 1894 he was posted, as a sergeant, to the 2nd Battalion at Wynburg, South Africa, and served with the Mounted Infantry in Zululand until September. He took part in the Rhodesian Campaign from April to December, 1896, receiving the medal. On the move of the 2nd Battalion to India in 1897 he remained behind awaiting transfer to the Army Reserve, and arrived in England in February, 1898. The following May saw him back with the Colours, when he rejoined the 1st Battalion, and subsequently took part in the S. African War, seeing much service with the Mounted Infantry. He continued to serve with the 1st Battalion until 1906, when he left them in India and rejoined the 2nd Battalion at Lichfield, later being posted as Colour-Sergeant instructor on the Permanent Staff of the 5th Battalion. He took his discharge in 1910, but in 1914 was again back in harness, being posted to the 8th (Service) Battalion with whom he went out to Gallipoli. He was wounded shortly after the landing at Suvla Bay, in which he took part. After his final discharge he had many years with the Civil Service at Didcot, before retiring to his little country "pub," at Goosey, to be the ever cheerful host at the "One and Only" in the Village.

Mr. George Finding, to whom we are indebted for the above, writes:—

"I first knew Hart when he joined us at Lichfield from the 1st Battalion, and I have enjoyed his cheerful company on many occasions during the past years as a very efficient Host at "The Pound" Inn, Goosey, near Faringdon, Berks. The particulars of his service previous to 1906, have been supplied by my, or I should say our, Old Comrade, Mr. J. W. Paling, who still retains his most remarkable memory. He was a life member

of the O.C.A., a regular subscriber to THE IRON DUKE, the latest copy of which could always be seen on the sideboard in the "Best Room," and for many years regularly attended the London dinners."

MEARS.—On May 9th, 1945, at his home, 71 Leamington Street, Manningham, Bradford, Mr. William Mears, late The Duke of Wellington's Regiment. Mr. Mears joined the 2nd Battalion in 1885, and served with it in Nova Scotia, the West Indies and South Africa, and with the 3rd Battalion in the South African War, receiving the King's and Queen's Medals with three clasps. He also received Queen Alexandra's pipe for meritorious service. In the 1914-18 war he again served, and was successively Colour-sergeant, C.S.M., acting R.Q.M.S. and R.S.M. in the Military Provost Staff Corps. His total service in the Regiment was 27 years. A music lover all his life, he was for four years drum-major in the Regiment, and after his retirement, band master of the Bradford Transport Department's band for many years. As recorded in a previous number of THE IRON DUKE, Mr. and Mrs. Mears celebrated their golden wedding on 1st March, 1943. Mrs. Mears, who survives him, is a sister of the late Mrs. G. Fricker, wife of Mr. G. Fricker, late of the Regiment. Of their eight children, four sons and two daughters are married. Mr. Mears was a keen supporter of the O.C.A. and of THE IRON DUKE, and has on several occasions given help to the Secretary of the former and to the Editor.

THOMAS.—In June, 1945, at his home, 3, Golf Crescent, High Road Well, Halifax, Mr. Frederick William Thomas, late The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, aged 78 years. Mr. Thomas joined the Regiment as a boy in 1883, and served with the 1st Battalion in India, Aden and Malta. He was appointed band-sergeant of the 1st Battalion in 1895, and in 1899 was posted to the 3rd Battalion at Halifax as sergeant drummer, serving with them in the South African War. He was discharged on pension in 1908 after 25 years' service. In 1914 he rejoined the Regiment, and saw active service with the 1/4th Battalion in France, later serving as divisional quarter-master-sergeant in the 49th Division, until he was invalided home in 1918. In 1941 he was awarded the meritorious Service Medal for long and distinguished service in the Army. He was a fine athlete and a good cricketer, keeping wicket for the 1st Battalion team, and played in the team which won the Governor's Cup in Malta in 1898.

Captain Charles Oliver writes :—" I had known Thomas for about 57 years. When I joined the 1st Battalion he was a lance corporal in the Band, with two G.C. badges and a marksman's badge. He was a very good N.C.O., a strict disciplinarian, but always of a cheery disposition, and a very good friend. I used to see a lot of him after I went to the Depot as Quarter-master in 1919." Mr. Thomas was employed as a clerk by Messrs. Thomas Ramsden and Son, Ltd., Brewers, Halifax for over 18 years.

Our Contemporaries.

We have to acknowledge with thanks the following Regimental Magazines :—*The Dragon* (May, June, July, August), *The Snapper* (May, June, July, August), *The St. George's Gazette* (April, May, June, July), *The Suffolk Regimental Gazette* (June, August), *The Lion & the Rose* (Spring, Summer), *The Journal of the South Wales' Borderers* (May), *The K.S.L.I. & Herefordshire Gazette* (July), *The Borderer's Chronicle* (June), *The Wish Stream* (July), *The Tank* (May, June, July, August), *The Sapper* (May, June, July, August), *The Royal Army Ordnance Gazette* (May, June, July, August), *Our Empire* (May, June, July, August), *The H.L.I. Chronicle* (July).

STOP PRESS.

We congratulate Major S. E. Baker ("Sammy" to his friends) on his promotion to local Lieut.-Colonel.

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