

No.80 April 1951



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

*Dettingen
Mysore
Seríngapatam
Ally Ghur
Delhi, 1803
Leswarree
Deig
Corunna
Nive
Peninsula
Waterloo
Alma
Inkerman
Sevastopol
Abyssinia*



*Relief of Kimberley
Paardeberg
South Africa 1900-02
Mons 1914
Marne 1914, '18
Ypres 1914, '15, '17
Hill 60
Somme 1916, '18
Arras 1917, '18
Cambrai 1917, '18
Lys
Piave 1918
Landing at
Suvla
Afghanistan 1919*

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No. 80

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**The Late Col. C. J. Pickering, C.M.G., D.S.O.
Colonel of the Regiment, 1938-47**

THE REGIMENT

COLONEL OF THE REGIMENT:

Gen. Sir Philip Christison, Bt., G.B.E., C.B., D.S.O., M.C.

COMMANDING OFFICERS:

1st Battalion, Strensall	Lt.-Col. J. H. Dalrymple
Regimental Depot, The Barracks, Halifax	Major W. Skelsey
382 Anti-Tank Regiment R.A. (4th D.W.R.), The Drill Hall, Prescott Street, Halifax	Lt.-Col. N. T. Bentley, T.D.
578 H.A.A. Regiment R.A. (5th D.W.R.), The Drill Hall, St. Paul's Street, Huddersfield	Lt.-Col. J. B. Sugden, T.D.
673 L.A.A. Regiment R.A. (6th D.W.R.), The Drill Hall, Arden Road, Halifax	Lt.-Col. W. E. Dale Shaw
7th Battalion, The Drill Hall, Milnsbridge, near Huddersfield.. .. .	Lt.-Col. Sir N. H. Everard, Bart.
2nd (Cadet) Battalion, The Drill Hall, St. Paul's Street, Huddersfield	Major F. W. Fielding, M.C.
3rd (Cadet) Battalion, The Hutments, Hunger Hill, Halifax	Major W. S. Jamieson
4th (Cadet) Battalion, The Drill Hall, Victoria Road, Guiseley	Lt.-Col. E. Tillotson
5th (Cadet) Battalion, The Drill Hall, Keighley	Major A. Dewhirst

REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION (including Old Comrades' Association):

Secretary and Hon. Treasurer: Mr. S. E. Code, M.B.E., Wellesley Barracks, Halifax.

Editorial

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Readers of THE IRON DUKE will be deeply grieved to learn of the loss the Regiment has suffered in the death of Col. C. J. Pickering and Major T. W. Milner. Both had long and distinguished service and both in their years of retirement maintained an enthusiastic practical interest in the welfare of all its members. On behalf of our readers THE IRON DUKE offers its sympathy to the surviving relatives. Mrs. Pickering has asked us to convey her gratitude to all those who sent flowers to her husband's funeral.

* * * *

We publish on page 57 photographs of the farm at Les Moeres, H.Q. of the 1st Battalion at Dunkirk in 1940. The British Legion took great pains to procure them. The views of the farm buildings were taken ten years ago, soon after the evacuation, and are of historical value. As Capt. Oliver explains in his letter, Driver T. Snelgrove should read Drummer T. Snelgrove.

* * * *

The 1st Battalion, as will be seen from their notes, is now in progress of "re-activation"—a new addition to the English vocabulary—which seems to imply a metamorphosis from a training to a fighting unit. We wish them prosperity in their new role, and hope that they will find in it increased interest and enjoyment. A training unit performs an indispensable function, but it is rather like a dog turning a spit, producing excellent roast meat for others to enjoy.

Their new address is:

Chisledon Camp, Chisledon, Wilts.

Tel. No. : Chisledon 214.

(Chisledon is three miles south of Swindon.)

THE LATE COL. C. J. PICKERING, C.M.G., D.S.O.

Colonel of the Regiment, 1938-47

The sudden death on February 15, 1951, of Col. C. J. Pickering, C.M.G., D.S.O., will come as a shock to all members of the Regiment he loved and served for close on half a century.

Born on April 26, 1880, he was educated at Mill Hill School and in Germany. He joined the Regiment from the Militia (3rd Battalion The King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry) in 1900, and after completing a course at Hythe, where he passed out first of 72 students, he joined the 2nd Battalion in Rangoon. While there he was appointed to the personal staff of the Lieutenant-Governor and served as A.D.C. to Sir Frederic Fryer and Sir Hugh Barnes. On the Battalion's return to England he took over the adjutancy from Capt. R. K. Healing and held it during the commands of Cols. K. E. Lean and F. A. Hayden.

After a course at the London School of Economics he was appointed Brigade Major of the 148th Infantry Brigade in Sheffield and went out with it to France early in 1915. In the autumn of that year he was given command of the 4th Battalion by Gen. Plumer, then commanding the 2nd Army. During a reconnaissance in No-man's Land he was very severely wounded and after six months in hospital was appointed A.A.Q.M.G. to the 67th Division, then mobilising at Canterbury for service overseas. In July, 1918, he was appointed A.A.G. Aldershot Command, and in 1920 graduated at the Staff College. After the "Black Sunday Murders" in Ireland he was sent to Ireland as A.A.G. on the staff of the Commander-in-Chief, Sir Nevill Macready.

In March, 1925, he assumed command of the 2nd Battalion in Cairo, and took it to Singapore and India. In 1929 he was appointed A.A.Q.M.G. to the 1st Division in Aldershot and held this appointment till March, 1933, when he retired. He was appointed Colonel of the Regiment in 1938.

After retiring he was employed by the Home Office in the Department of Air-Raid Precautions, and in 1938 was appointed Chief Inspector for Civil Defence. Two years later he became Deputy Regional Commissioner for No. 1 Northern Region with his headquarters in Newcastle-upon-Tyne. To the end of his life he remained an active and devoted public servant. Still maintaining undiminished his interest in Regimental affairs, he became a prominent member of the Gosport Borough Council, serving on many municipal committees, as well as on the Gosport Disablement Advisory Committee and the Gosport Local Employment Committee. He was intensely proud of the county of his origin, founding the Society of Yorkshiremen in Malaya, of which he became the first president, and was a vice-president of the

Society of Yorkshiremen in London for nearly 30 years.

For his services in the first World War he was mentioned in dispatches, promoted Brevet Lieut.-Colonel and awarded the C.M.G. and D.S.O. He married in 1904 Eileen Rosetta, younger daughter of Robert William Cary Reeves, J.P., of Besborough, County Clare, who together with two sons survives him.

His funeral took place at Alverstoke on February 20. A memorial service held in St. Mary's Church was attended by nearly 300 people, including the Mayor and Aldermen of Gosport, representatives of the Police and Auxiliary Fire Services, and many of his colleagues and friends from the civil and military services, the Freemasons' Lodge, the Old Comrades' Association and the Yorkshire Rugby Union.

After the service the coffin was conveyed to St. Anne's Hill Cemetery on a gun-carriage draped with the Union Jack and escorted by a bearer party of six N.C.O.s from the 1st Battalion under the command of Drum-Major Gill. A bugler and firing party from the 1st Battalion rendered the last honours.

Mrs. Pickering was accompanied by his son, Major C. H. Pickering, and his brothers, Brigadier H. W. Pickering and Mr. Arthur Pickering. The following members of the Regiment were present: Brigadier F. H. Fraser, D.S.O., M.C., representing Gen. Sir Philip Christison, Colonel of the Regiment; Major W. A. Waller, O.B.E., M.C., and R.S.M. Pearce, representing the 1st Battalion (Lt.-Col. J. H. Dalrymple was unavoidably prevented from attending); Capt. A. G. Smith, M.B.E., M.C., representing the 5th Battalion; Major W. Skelsey, representing the Regimental Depot; Lt.-Cols. F. H. B. Wellesley, D. H. Paton and C. R. T. Cumberlege, Majors C. R. Hetley, H. R. Kavanagh, T. St. G. Carroll and J. C. Lepper, and C.S.M. Holder.

J.C.B. writes:

"My association with Charles Pickering dates back to early 1901, when he and I served together as 2/Lieutenants in the 76th, then stationed in Rangoon. Through the 50 years that have lapsed since then, our lives were thrown together very closely, not only as brother-officers in the same Regiment, but also as colleagues in Civil Defence affairs in later years when we were both retired.

"C.J.P. was always impressive. All those characteristics which one associates with the true Yorkshireman were manifested in his nature: brusque rather than courteous, impervious to flattery, calling a spade a spade, impartially fair in

his dealings with those he commanded and imbued with a strong sense of shrewd humour, he possessed, in addition, a strong will, great determination and sound common sense. He was bound to make his mark, but in all the appointments he held, culminating in the distinction of being Colonel of the Regiment, perhaps he will be best remembered as an organiser, wherein his foresight and great administrative ability have been productive of so much of lasting benefit to the Regiment he loved.

"In the realm of sport and amusements his name will be mostly associated with horses, hounds and amateur theatricals. He was a good horseman and a shrewd judge of a horse and although incapacitated from playing polo in his later years, as a result of a war wound, he loved to train a raw pony and took the keenest interest in regimental polo. He was also master of the Aldershot Beagles for a time.

"A great Regimental figure who will be long remembered and spoken of with affection whenever members of 'The Dukes' foregather and recall old days."

F.R.A. writes:

"Having known Col. Pickering for 30 years and, for certain periods, worked in close association with him, I should like to add my short appreciation to others that you are likely to receive.

"My first recollection of Col. Pickering was at a 2nd Battalion guest night at Collinstown Camp, Co. Dublin, in, I suppose, 1921, when he came out one night to dine. We young subalterns were immediately impressed by his critical eye and obvious knowledge of Regimental traditions.

"It was not, however, until 1924, when he arrived in Cairo and assumed command of the 2nd Battalion, that I got to know him well. Col. Smith (the C.O.) was absent on sick leave and he assumed command, being confirmed in the appointment when Col. Smith retired in 1925. In the autumn

of that year I became his adjutant and served him as such for the full three years. Col. Pickering thus actually commanded for five years in Cairo, Singapore and Ahmednagar and, on finally leaving to become A.A. and Q.M.G. 1st Division at Aldershot in 1929, left behind him a profound influence which remained for many years. He was the first Commanding Officer that the 2nd Battalion had had since the war and the disturbances in Ireland who was in a position to imbue it with its old traditions and train it intensively. The many successes that the 2nd Battalion gained during that halcyon period may be attributed very largely to his strong character, wide experience and wise guidance. His pride in the Battalion was unbounded and he never left a stone unturned to further its interests.

"During his last year at Headquarters, 1st Division, I also served with him on the same headquarters as G.S.O.III and here again he was often useful to the 1st Battalion, which was also in the Division.

"I shall not attempt to appraise the amount of work put in by him as Colonel of the Regiment, covering, as it did, the whole of the difficult war years. Suffice it to say that, during my periods of command, we corresponded frequently and I received much assistance from him.

"During the last 18 months he had been a frequent visitor to my room at the War Office. In fact he last came to see me on the day preceding his death.

"His interest in Regimental affairs was keen right up to his death and his civil activities covered a wide field, which appeared to be ever increasing. He was frequently appealed to for assistance and genuine cases were always handled with sound advice and financial help, which often made heavy demands on his pocket, or by other acts of kindness.

"A grand old 'Duke,' who will be greatly missed by many of several generations of the Regiment of all ranks, has passed on but will not be forgotten."

Editorial—continued

Our warmest congratulations to Lts. Hardy and Shuttleworth on being selected to play for England against Scotland and also for their outstanding share in helping to win the Calcutta Cup for this country. Surely this is the first time that one battalion has provided both halves for an international side. Perhaps the Regiment might revive and arrogate to itself the title claimed by Edward I nearly seven hundred years ago: "The Hammer of the Scots."

* * * *

We hope to publish in the next number a most lively and picturesque account of a recruiting march through the West Riding in 1903. It has been compiled from contemporary newspaper cuttings by Col. R. G. Turner.

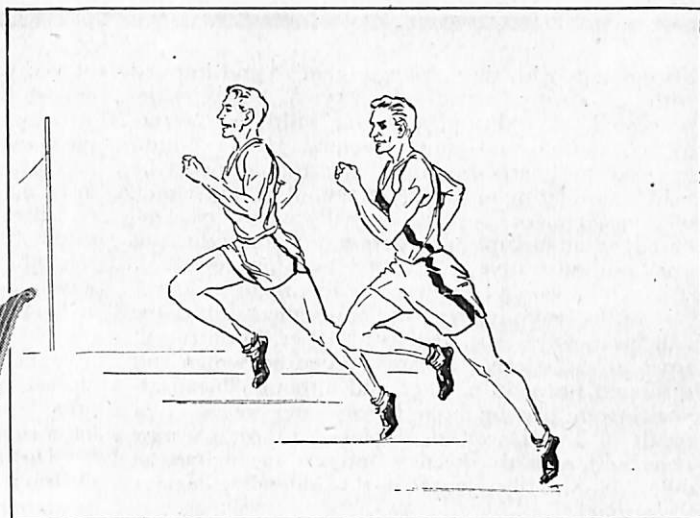
* * * *

The Editor has been compelled to return several interesting photographs that he would have liked

to include. The problem is one of finance: to-day half-tone blocks may cost anything up to £3 17s. od., exclusive of printing and paper, and we have to cut our coat according to our cloth. Line drawings are cheaper to reproduce and cartoons, which used to be a distinctive feature of THE IRON DUKE will be welcome. There were giants in the past—J. C. B., Newor, Swift (still happily adorning our pages from time to time), and others. Can we not call on the New World to replace the masters of the Old? Moreover, consider the opportunities afforded by modern artistic trends—a surrealist vision of an R.S.M.'s parade on a wet November morning; or a Picasso-esque impression of the P.M.C.

* * * *

Our next issue will be published on July 25. Contributions should be sent to: The Editor, "Highfield," Temple Ewell, Dover, Kent, and should reach him not later than June 1, 1951.



PRIZE CUPS at "112"

IN the selection of worthy awards it is often difficult indeed to find "just the right thing". The Goldsmiths & Silversmiths Company have long had the pleasure of supplying trophies for all sports and will be pleased to submit ideas for the consideration of Committees.

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1st BATTALION

SUB-EDITORIAL

The Company Quartermaster Sergeants have already eagerly divided up the packing cases; the advance party has gone South, and we hope to follow in the middle of March, Mr. Figgins and the Railway Executive permitting.

The Battalion is still growing, and some old faces are returning to give us the benefit of their experience. At the moment the principal appointments in the Battalion are held as follows (it may be noted that "C" and "D" Companies have not yet been born; at the present time they are a mere twinkle in the Commanding Officer's eye):

C.O.: Lt.-Col. J. M. Dalrymple.

2IC: Major F. R. St. P. Bunbury, D.S.O.

Adjutant: Major A. C. S. Savory.

Q.M.: Capt. (Q.M.) N. J. Jackson.

O.C. "H.Q." Company: Major D. M. Harris.

O.C. "S" Company: Major W. A. Waller, O.B.E., M.C.

O.C. "A" Company: Major P. P. de la H. Moran.

O.C. "B" Company: Capt. J. L. Baume, R.N.F.

At the time of writing these notes the Battalion is split into two, "B" and "S" Companies being at Fulford Barracks, York, leaving "A" and "H.Q." at Strensall. This split had to be undertaken owing to the shortage of accommodation, for our presence in strength at Strensall was giving the Y. & N. Brigade Training Centre very severe growing pains.

The Fulford Detachment will not be sorry to leave, York Minster or no York Minster; doubling up with other Corps and being seven miles away from H.Q. presents a lot of difficulties and annoying inconveniences, in training and administration.

There is also a faint suspicion at the back of our minds that the Depot of the West Yorks and 15 Company, R.A.S.C., will not lose any sleep over our departure either. We have slept on their beds, used their lecture rooms, eaten their food, infiltrated a 17-pounder into their garage, disturbed the peace and quietness of their barracks, pushed them on to the outer fringes of their parade square, and then, as if this wasn't enough, beaten them at football.

OFFICERS' MESS

By the time these notes go to press, we shall be packing up to leave Strensall and casting an inquisitive eye on Chisledon. We bid farewell to our present Mess with many regrets—not only has it provided the background for several good parties, but for sheer size, general comfort and all round convenience it would be hard to find a better Unit Mess in England. From all accounts, our future "home" is not so palatially constructed, but it has distinct possibilities, especially when viewed in the light of the approaching summer season. We are fortunate, however, in possessing so much in the way of silver, pictures and Regimental relics, and these in themselves are sufficient to make any Mess look presentable. Added to this, the "Baron" is departing early with the Advance Party, and if he,

as a member of the Mess Committee, cannot do justice to his reputation, and give the Mess a good start, we shall be sadly disappointed.

There is little to record during the last two months. The Mess was handed over to Y. & N. Group Training Centre on January 1 and since then we have become their lodgers, though by no means in spirit. The Y. & N. have been very tolerant, and have exercised no restraint whatsoever upon our activities.

On January 25 we took over the reins of the Mess temporarily so as to hold our farewell Regimental Guest Night. Our principal guests were Gen. Sir Philip Balfour, G.O.C.-in-C. Northern Command, Maj.-Gen. C. M. F. White, our District Commander, Maj.-Gen. J. H. Whitfield, Chief of Staff, Northern Command, who has just retired, and Brigadier R. J. Springhall, the representative Colonel of our Group. Our other guests included: Capt. (S.) A. W. Laybourne of H.M.S. *Ceres*, Col. C. T. Edwards, Colonel A/Q Catterick District, Lt.-Col. J. R. H. Orr, G.S.O.I. Catterick District, Lt.-Col. C. R. T. Cumberlege, Major R. S. N. Clarke and Major R. E. B. Mortimer. Owing to illness, Mr. J. Dronfield, the Head Master of St. Peter's, York, and Terence Carrol were unable to come. We were also very sorry that Bill Brenchley had to decline our invitation as we hoped that he would give us the opportunity of dining him out in true Regimental tradition before he retires from the Army. We were delighted that Walter Skelsey, John Streatfield and Graham Tedd were able to join us for the evening and help entertain our friends. The whole occasion was a great success, in no small measure due to Mr. Thompson, our cook, who produced a first-class dinner. Our two bar waiters also added tone to the evening by wearing their new short jacket suits, and the Band surpassed themselves by playing the extras after dinner with great enthusiasm, much to the delight of everyone, especially our senior guests.

On February 9 we gave a combined farewell and house-warming drink party with members of the Y. & N. Group Training Centre. Over a hundred guests were invited, but unfortunately many of them were unable to accept, some due to illness, others because of the distance involved. Among those who attended were: Maj.-Gen. C. M. F. White from Catterick, Maj.-Gen. J. H. White, who has just taken over the appointment of Chief of Staff, Northern Command, and Mrs. White, Brigadier P. M. W. Bethell, the new B.G.S. Northern Command, Lt.-Col. and Mrs. W. A. Hinchcliffe, Col. W. T. C. Huffam, the uncle of Major "Jock" Huffam, V.C., Lt.-Col. and Mrs. N. T. Bentley, and Lt.-Col. and Mrs. Sam Hoyle. Needless to say the party went with a terrific swing and everyone appeared to enjoy it. Much of the credit for the success of the evening is due to Major Ralph Mortimer, the P.M.C. of the Group Training Centre, "Baron" Emett, who threw caution to the

winds in arranging the flowers, C.Q.M.S. Shearer and Sgt. Sugden.

There have been no departures from the Mess since the last issue, though there are rumours afoot that soon we shall be losing John Baume, who is returning to his Regiment in the Far East—Korea will be his goal! We shall be very sorry to see him go and wish him the very best of luck. We are still waiting patiently for the Group Training Centre to release Derek Roberts, David Cowell and Jimmy Brown. In the meantime we hear that Jim MacLaren will be on his way to join us shortly; we say no more until we see him safely accommodated in the Mess.

Our new arrivals have been few. Tony Savory has forsaken the Adjutancy of the Depot to become our Adjutant here. We need hardly say how glad we are to see him again, after an absence of several years on a variety of staff appointments in various parts of the world. We also congratulate him on his recent promotion to Major. Lt. J. R. L. Antrobus arrived about the same time and to him we extend a hearty welcome on first joining the Regiment. We cannot conclude these notes without saying how delighted we are to have Col. "Dick" Cumberlege with us again. Unfortunately he remains behind when we depart, but we wish him and all members of the Y. & N. Group Training Centre the best of luck and thank them for the kindness they have shown to us while we have lived in their Mess.

SERGEANTS' MESS

By the time these notes are published we shall be settled in our new Mess at Chiseldon. Whether we shall be as comfortable as we have been at Strensall remains to be seen, but it will be more of a home, being too far from home towns for most to take advantage of 36-hour passes.

It is with genuine regret that we leave Strensall, having had some good times during our stay and making many good friends here. We have had some cheerful parties and been fortunate enough to have been able to entertain the O.C.A. from time to time; distance will prevent us from doing so in the future.

The re-activation of the Battalion has brought some new faces to the Mess and we take this opportunity of welcoming C.S.M. Williams (Blondie), C.S.M. Killgallon, Sgts. Paytor, Postgate, Medd, Woodman and Brown, who have all joined us recently. We hope their stay with us is a long and happy one. We also congratulate R.S.M. R. Pearce on his promotion and at the moment of going to press the Seniors are as follows: R.S.M. Pearce, O.R.Q.M.S. Akrigg, R.Q.M.S. Dawson, C.S.M. Corke (Drill Sergeant); "A" Company: C.S.M. Callaby, M.M., C.Q.M.S. Turner; "B" Company: C.S.M. Killgallon, C.Q.M.S. Sowerby; "S" Company: C.S.M. Williams, C.O.M.S. Quest, M.M.; "H.Q." Company: C.S.M. Wilson, C.Q.M.S. Munro.

The removal of our property from the Y. & N. Brigade Sergeants' Mess left the building looking very bare, but R.S.M. Jackson and R.Q.M.S. Kenshington have rustled around and filled the gaps. We are sorry to leave behind such old

stagers as Sgts. Preston and Mitchell, but we were obliged to contribute our share of instructors to the Training Centre and they were selected. We hope to see them again soon.

Our next notes will no doubt record the Chiseldon activities and surroundings. We should have plenty of material by that time. In closing may we wish all the best to our many friends, notably Mr. Gray (Dolly) and Mr. Wilson (Tiny). We hope to see them from time to time in the future.

"H.Q." COMPANY

The Battalion continues to take shape gradually, and since the last issue "B" and "S" Companies have been formed, thus considerably lowering the strength of "H.Q." Company. Major Waller, O.B.E., M.C., has left us to command "S" Company and in his place we welcome Major Harris, who has recently been relieved from the Training Centre.

C.S.M. Wilson is to be our Sergeant-Major, and C/Sgt. Munro has now taken over the duties of C.Q.M.S. Apart from his other duties he is kept busy at home these days as he and his wife are shortly expecting an addition to their family. We hope that their wishes for a daughter are realised.

There have been many new arrivals, so it is impossible to detail all of them, but among others we welcome Sgt. Medd, who is taking over P.R.I. Sergeant, and Sgt. Brown, our new Intelligence Sergeant. Cpls. Sheridan, Howell and Ableson have arrived from the Green Howards in Malaya, and to them, and all other Green Howards, we extend a very hearty welcome and hope that they will enjoy their stay with us.

We congratulate Drum-Major Gill on his promotion to S/Sergeant, and Cpls. Jackson and Swindell on their promotion to Corporal. Congratulations also to the following on their recent promotions: L/Cpls. Gray, Power, Nicholls, Bailes, Curran, Miles, Lamb, Poole, Hough, Hale, Gallear, Haw, Harry and Johnson.

At the time of writing the advance party has already moved off and by the time these notes are published we shall be settled in our new station and training hard. That is not to say that we don't train hard here. And it is no uncommon sight to see one of our new signallers, earphones on head and intent on his R.T. procedure, having to make a last-minute leap for his life to escape the dangerous but well-meaning efforts of some of the new members of the M.T. Platoon.

And so we say goodbye to Strensall, and although our stay has been a happy one, we all feel we have been here long enough, and are eagerly looking forward to more active times in the near future.

SUPPORT COMPANY

The Company came into being early in the New Year and was part of a composite "H.Q." Company with small platoons of machine gunners, 3-in. mortarmen and anti-tank gunners.

By January 18 this composite Company which included M.T., Signals, Band, Drums and Regimental employed men, had become too large to remain a complete sub-unit. The Support Com-

pany therefore broke away and started to stand on its own feet.

We consist of a mixture of old and young soldiers, Regulars and National Service men. The former, whom we take this opportunity of welcoming, are mainly re-enlisted men or from the Green Howards, where they have been fighting bandits in the jungles of Malaya. Our young National Service men are keen and smart, and have already shown some of their older comrades that what they lack in experience they make up for in enthusiasm and determination.

The Company is at about 60 per cent. of the full war establishment with some dozen men attached for specialist training prior to being drafted to Korea.

Progress with our new weapons has been most satisfactory and we have some cause to congratulate ourselves on our professional knowledge of these weapons and their complicated drills. So far there has been no range facilities to test our prowess as marksmen, but it is hoped that this obstacle will be surmounted as soon as we arrive in Chiseldon.

All this has not been accomplished without considerable planning, wrangling or scrounging. Fortunately, our friends in the County have proved themselves, and in order to proceed with our training we have been able to borrow guns, equipment and stores from many of them. Mention must also be made of Sgt. Frier's most successful visit to Barnard Castle on February 17. He returned with some most welcome items which were much needed, and, unexpectedly, our first 17-pounder anti-tank gun.

In the field of games and sports, we can also claim some success. Owing to accommodation problems in Strensall we find ourselves on detachment in Fulford Barracks, York, and to emphasise our presence with our new neighbours we have already inflicted several crushing defeats on nearby units at soccer. The more notable ones include victories of 8—2 against No. 2 Mixed Signals Regiment and 4—2 against 15 M.T. Company, R.A.S.C.

L/Cpls. Cottle and Abbott and Pte. Kennedy are regular players for the Battalion's first XI at soccer; L/Cpl. Waterhouse and Pte. Barker have represented the Battalion in the Catterick District Boxing Championships; whilst Cpl. Arundel regularly plays for the first XV, in addition to Lt. Hardy, who we occasionally see between trips to Wales, Eire, London and the Continent.

Congratulations to Sgts. Bagshaw, Frier and France on their obtaining such excellent reports at the Small Arms School, Netheravon.

"A" COMPANY

The Company came into being on November 20, 1950, when the Company Commander, S.M., C/Sergeant and clerk met in an empty Nissen hut with a notebook, a pencil and great hopes of the future. Since then we have gone from strength to strength. We have already handled well over 250 men, giving each platoon six weeks' continuation training before they become specialists or go to "B" Company.

The Company Commander is Major P. P. de la H. Moran, the officers are 2/Lt. A. C. Popham and

2/Lt. D. B. Stronach, the S.M. is C.S.M. Callaby, M.M., and the C/Sergeant is C/Sgt. Turner. Sgts. Dooley, Sweeney, McCarthy, Slevin and Cox, Cpls. Holt, Medley, Fletcher, Davies, Simpson, Brown, Morrow, Taylor, Kirk and Downing and L/Cpls. Bassham, Taylor, D., Buchanan, Marshall, Best, Pounder, Thompson, Harkin, Aukett and Gray are the N.C.O.s of the Company. Apart from the normal drafts from the Group Training Centre we have received about 90 National Service men from the Royal Pioneer Corps. Under the careful guidance of Sgts. Slevin and Cox they have turned into really promising soldiers and we do not doubt that they will be a credit to the Regiment.

We heartily congratulate Cpl. Taylor and L/Cpl. Aukett on being chosen for Army and Command teams in their respective spheres of Rugby and boxing. We have had little chance to play the other Companies at any game yet as they are still in the process of settling down, but we hope to have a very good soccer team if we can button-hole all the bright players who come to us from the Training Centre. Inter-platoon games have been played with great enthusiasm and varying degrees of skill. We have already had our quota of departures: 2/Lt. J. F. F. le Poer Trench, who helped us over our first six weeks, returned to the Training Centre, and Cpl. Craven, our senior P.T. instructor, has gone to the 7th Battalion D.W.R. (T.A.) as a P.S.I. We thank them both for their valuable work while they were with us. We commiserate with L/Cpl. Bassham who unfortunately fractured his leg after two weeks with the Company. We wish him a speedy recovery.

"B" COMPANY

"B" Company was the second rifle company to be formed when the Battalion "re-activated." Capt. J. L. Baume was appointed Company Commander with C.S.M. Killgallon and C.Q.M.S. Sowerby. The Company's first task was to train a draft comprised of men from the Midland Brigade T.C. and the Y. and N. T.C. for Korea. We have subsequently had to train other drafts for the same destination and we should really be called the Korea Company, especially as Capt. Baume himself has been posted for service with the 1st Battalion Fifth Fusiliers and leaves the Company at the beginning of March.

After a short stay at Strensall, where we were joined by Lt. J. R. L. Antrobus, we moved to Fulford Barracks, York, to make way for the ever-increasing numbers in the Battalion. Our new home is in barrack blocks belonging to the Depot The West Yorkshire Regiment. The conditions for the men are excellent and we must thank the Depot for looking after us very well and giving us as much help as possible with our troubles.

We have been joined at Fulford by Lt. D. W. Shuttleworth, Sgts. Alton and Woodman and Cpls. Barritt, Dunkley, Finney, Cocking, Niven and Waters. All the corporals came from the 1st Battalion Green Howards Regiment.

We have been able to make use of the very excellent sports facilities attached to the barracks and there has been some very spirited inter-platoon

football matches. We must congratulate Capt. Baume for being selected to represent the Army against the Navy, and Lt. D. W. Shuttleworth not only on this honour but also on being selected for the Barbarian's Easter tour and having been reserve for England against Ireland and France. We hope that he will gain his rightful place in the England team for their final game against Scotland.

SPORT

Since the last edition when we reported our defeat in the Army Cup, rugby has been somewhat curtailed both by the weather and by calls of training. By far the most momentous event has been the winning of his international cap by Lt. E. M. P. Hardy, and we offer him our heartiest congratulations. He came into the England side against Ireland in place of Regan who withdrew owing to injury, and we are delighted to hear that as a result of this game he has now been selected for the next match against France. We look to see him make the stand-off half position his own for many seasons to come.

We must also congratulate Lt. D. W. Shuttleworth on playing in the final England trial and on being selected as travelling reservé against Ireland. We feel hopeful and confident that it will only be a matter of time before the selectors realise the value of playing a pair of halves instead of two individuals, and that we shall then see Hardy and Shuttleworth in the England team together.

We are glad to report that Capt. Baume has fully recovered from his injury and is playing as well as ever, although it was most unfortunate that he was out of the game at the vital time of the England trials.

The Battalion is well represented in the Army XV as in addition to these three players Cpl. Taylor is a regular member of the side and will, we hope, gain his Army cap this year.

We have played a number of friendly matches against local Service and civilian sides with varying success, and recently defeated the Officer Training Wing of the Royal Corps of Signals at Catterick in the semi-final of the Northern Command Tournament. We now play No. 1 Training Regiment, Royal Signals in the final. They are in the final

of the Army Cup this year but we have always felt that we could give them a very close game if ever we met. In fact, we feel we have a very good chance of defeating them provided we can arrange the match on a day when international or Army calls do not deplete our side.

(This wish was unfulfilled. When we met No. 1 Training Regiment in the final we were without the services of Lt. Hardy and Shuttleworth and also of Capt. D. E. Isles. We were beaten 8 pts. to nil, which, in the circumstances, was highly creditable.)

Owing to the great activity, and intensive training going on within the Battalion these days, we have not been at all ambitious with regard to boxing fixtures. Once we get down south and know exactly who is going to be with us, and who isn't, we shall start training a Battalion team and challenging all and sundry.

At the moment our future team would appear to be founded on a hard core of old faithfuls, including Lt. Robertson, 2/Lt. Hoppe, Cpl. Sherriden, L/Cpls. Aukett, Sylvester and Pidgeon, Ptes. Barker, Land and Burnley.

Unfortunately many of these are in the same weight, namely, welter, light-middle, and middle. There is a great dearth of good small men at the present, but our talent scouts are hovering around the P.T. parades and will no doubt soon fill up the gaps.

We entered five competitors for the Catterick District Individual Championships and were successful with L/Cpl. Aukett, who won his weight. Cpl. Sherriden is also still in the running, and fights again in a final eliminator for the middle-weight runner-up on March 5. Pte. Barker was unlucky in drawing a former A.B.A. lightweight champion of Scotland, and put up an extremely good fight, losing on points. L/Cpl. Waterhouse also met a champion and was knocked out, and so was Pte. Burnley.

Congratulations go to L/Cpl. Aukett on winning his fight for Northern Command v. Hull and District, and for being chosen to represent the Army v. Wales (although his opponent never turned up), and to Lt. Robertson for winning his weight in the Army Officers' Championships.

382 ANTI-TANK REGIMENT, R.A.

(Duke of Wellington's Regiment) T.A.

We must apologise for our non-appearance in the pages on the last issue of THE IRON DUKE, but during the period when copy should have been produced the sub-editor was unfortunately absent on compassionate leave.

Yet another milestone has been reached in the history of the Regiment, for on March 1 of this year we once again underwent a change of role, and will henceforth function as a Field Regiment, R.A. (S.P.). This change is due to the assumption by the R.A.C. of the anti-tank role, and the consequent re-organisation of all Anti-Tank Regiments, R.A. All the problems attendant upon a change over of

this nature are being experienced, not the least of which is the complete re-training of officers and men in their new duties, but, as usual, the tremendous enthusiasm with which all ranks tackle their responsibilities makes all things possible, and it is certain that a reasonably high standard of performance will have been achieved by the time the Regiment goes to camp in July.

The proposed garages at Halifax, Cleckheaton and Brighouse for the housing of our vehicles and self-propelled guns have now passed through the blue-print stage and it is hoped that construction will commence in the near future.

Negotiations for a Driving Ground on Beacon Hill, which have been proceeding for the past three years, have now reached the stage where only the requirements of the Ministry of Transport remain to be satisfied, before the site can be acquired and taken into use; with our new commitments the need for a training ground has now become more vital than ever.

OFFICERS' MESS

The Regimental Annual Prizegiving and Dance was held on the evening of November 24, 1950, the Mess entertained some 200 guests on this occasion, and we take this opportunity of publicly thanking our numerous friends, whose support contributed in no small measure to the success of this function.

The Saturday mid-day gatherings continue to be well supported, but we would, nevertheless, like to see a great deal more of our Honorary Members and wives on these informal occasions.

All members of the Mess extend a hearty welcome to Lt. J. C. Fairley, who has recently joined the Regiment.

SERGEANTS' MESS

Some 150 guests were entertained at the Regimental Annual Prize-giving and Dance, and during the evening visits to the Mess were made by the Rt. Hon. Lord Savile and the C.R.A., Brigadier Ed. Howard-Vyse, M.C.

A dance to provide funds in aid of the Children's Party was run on Friday, December 1, 1950. This was well supported and 350 tickets were sold, realising a profit of £28.

We should like to express our appreciation for the generosity of S. Websters & Sons, Ltd., in contributing £40 towards the cost of new pumps which have been installed in the bar of our Mess.

SOCIAL EVENTS

The Regimental Annual Prizegiving and Dance on November 24 was attended by approximately 500 people. The responsibility for entertaining was allocated as follows: Officers' Mess, 200; Sergeants' Mess, 150; O.R.s' Mess, 150. The Rt. Hon. Lord Savile, who was a member of the Regiment when it bore the title of 58th Anti-Tank Regiment, R.A., kindly consented to give away the prizes. On the platform with him were Councillor J. Burdock (Deputy Mayor of Halifax), Col. R. H. Goldthorp, D.S.O., T.D., J.P., D.L., Honorary Colonel, Lt.-Col. N. T. Bentley, T.D., Commanding Officer, Major J. F. Crossley, M.B.E., Battery Commander, and Capt. F. Stilling, R.A., Adjutant.

It is regretted that the C.R.A., 49 (W.R. and M.) Armoured Division, Brigadier E. D. Howard-Vyse, M.C., was unable to arrive until after the prize distribution, as he was engaged in an exercise at Nottingham, which did not finish until the early hours of the evening.

After the reading of the Regimental Report by the Adjutant, the Commanding Officer gave his address, in which, after reviewing the events of the previous training year, he made an appeal to the town officials and employers of Halifax to support their local T.A. units during these anxious times

rather more vigorously than they had done in the past.

After the prize distribution a vote of thanks was proposed by the Honorary Colonel, and in his reply Lord Savile made great play on his previous service with the unit relating many amusing anecdotes concerning it.

Councillor J. Burdock wound up the more formal part of the evening's proceedings by seconding the vote of thanks.

The annual Officers' and Sergeants' Mess night was held on Wednesday, December 20, 1950. The evening ran its time-honoured course with pudding pool competitions, darts, etc., and an occasional break from our labours to partake of refreshments. Needless to say a good time was had by all.

The Children's Christmas Party, organised by the W.O.s and Sergeants, was held this year on Saturday, January 13, as the Drill Hall was occupied by the G.P.O. throughout the Christmas period. An excellent tea was provided, followed by a cinema show. The appearance of our Padre, the Rev. A. L. Minns, who, in the guise of Father Christmas, distributed toys and balloons, concluded the festivities. The obvious enjoyment of the 200 or so small guests more than repaid the numerous people who had worked so hard during the preceding weeks to make the party possible. We wish to thank the firm of Mackintosh & Sons, Ltd., for generously providing sweets for distribution amongst the children.

TRAINING

Owing to our change of role resulting in a temporary shortage of equipment and suitable instructors with field experience, all training has now been centralised at R.H.Q., and our main prop in this emergency, R.S.M. Ive, who, happily, is an ex-assistant instructor of gunnery, is—to express it mildly—fully occupied; the signal training is ably taken care of by B.Q.M.S. Shaw and Sgt. Fordham. Officers are attending lectures given by the Instructor of Gunnery every Wednesday and assiduously reading pamphlets on Field Gunnery between lectures.

Several officers and men have obtained leave from their civilian employment and are attending courses at the School of Artillery, Larkhill.

It will be appreciated that with all this training concentrated in one drill hall, Prescott Street will be a hive of activity on most evenings from now until camp.

We hope to hold a week-end Camp at Farnley Park during the first week in June, and to run one or two deployment schemes locally on other week-ends.

RECRUITING

Recruiting continues to be slow and far from sure, but it is hoped that our change of role—which has been well publicised in the local press—will provide a fresh impetus to recruiting.

National Service men will once again commence joining T.A. units in March, and as more than 50 per cent. of our previous intakes have already become volunteers in the T.A., this augurs well for the future.

PROMOTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

We congratulate the following members of the Regiment on their promotions and appointments: B.Q.M.S. Martindale to W.O.2 (R.Q.M.S.); Gnr. D. Smith to Bombardier; Gnr. Baker to L/Bombardier; Cfn. Hodgetts to L/Corporal.

DEATHS

It is with regret that we announce the death of Mr. Arnold (Bumper) Wood at his home, 37 Furness Gardens, Illingworth, Halifax, on Friday, February 2, 1951. "Bumper" was an ex-member of the Regiment and his association with it—despite

his age—remained unbroken right up to the time of his death. He played an active part in all our activities, such as serving in the O.R.s' canteen, and coming to camp with us each year, where he was always willing to serve in any capacity required of him. His passing will leave a very real gap in our ranks. We wish to express the sympathy of all ranks with "Bumper's" family in their bereavement.

Ex-B.Q.M.S. J. Musgrove suffered a fatal accident at Barkisland on Sunday, January 7, 1951. All ranks extend their heartfelt sympathy to Mrs. Musgrove and her family in the tragic bereavement, which has come upon them.

578 (Mob.) H.A.A. REGT., R.A. (5 D.W.R.), T.A.

A few weeks before Christmas, when our last notes closed, we did not expect such changes as it is now our duty to record. After 30 years' service with the Regiment, Lt.-Col. D. H. Hirst, M.B.E., T.D., decided to retire in February. His service commenced in the Infantry days, since when he has constantly supported the Regiment in its various roles, in a manner long to be remembered. After the late war, serving as 2IC to Lt.-Col. R. C. Laurence, O.B.E., T.D., he strove with marked success to re-found the basic peace-time structure of the Regiment, and to inculcate it, by every means in his power, with the usages and traditions of the 5th Dukes.

Moving from Committee to Committee, re-forming the Band, running the Mess, making War Memorial arrangements, catering at Camp, he moved through these and countless other duties during the post-war years. It therefore gave great pleasure to all when he succeeded to the command of the Regiment and it gives us now many regrets to see him go.

In February, Lt.-Col. J. B. Sugden, T.D., assumed command. We wish him every success. Major J. W. Bell, T.D., was appointed 2IC, his position as Battery Commander at Mirfield being filled by Capt. S. J. E. Huxley, T.D. At the same time we welcomed Capt. A. H. Watson, R.A., as Adjutant in place of Capt. A. Thompson, R.A., who has departed on the long Gunnery Course.

The Annual Prize Distribution was held in early December. This year, for the first time, the seating faced the new War Memorial on the eastern galley. There was a good attendance and a pleasant evening ensued. The prizes were presented by Brigadier Ramsden, C.B., O.B.E., T.D., A.D.C., who very kindly deputised for Maj.-Gen. C. H. Norton, C.B.E., D.S.O., G.O.C., who was unable to attend at the last moment owing to a conference. The preponderance of prizes went this year to "P" Battery, Huddersfield, who are to be congratulated, also, for winning the Mellor Shield. The tug-of-war was won by a very stout-hearted effort by "Q" Battery, Holmfirth, who gave as good a display of tenacity as one could wish to see. At the Annual Prize Shoot, "R" Battery, Mirfield, won the Bentley & Shaw Challenge Cup. Major

Higgins was successful in the Officers' Cup Competition.

In late January, Lt.-Col. and Mrs. Hirst entertained in the Mess. A very pleasant and amusing evening was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Another successful party was held in December for the children of the unit, who attended in large numbers. The excellent selection of prizes by Sgt. and Mrs. Brennan and the dashing arrival of Father Christmas in a suitably decked Land Rover added to the growing repute of this party amongst the younger generation.

"P" Battery have run dances at Holmfirth, which have been well attended. They also held a Pic Supper at Huddersfield. Other social evenings have been enjoyed by the Band and the Sergeants' Mess.

The Band is planning a number of public performances during the coming season and is at the moment practising for a concert to be given at Mirfield Drill Hall on April 22.

We congratulate the following: 2/Lt. C. V. Rycroft on his recently-granted commission, R.S.M. L. F. McDermott and B.S.M. E. J. Warren for obtaining two first-class certificates of education recently.

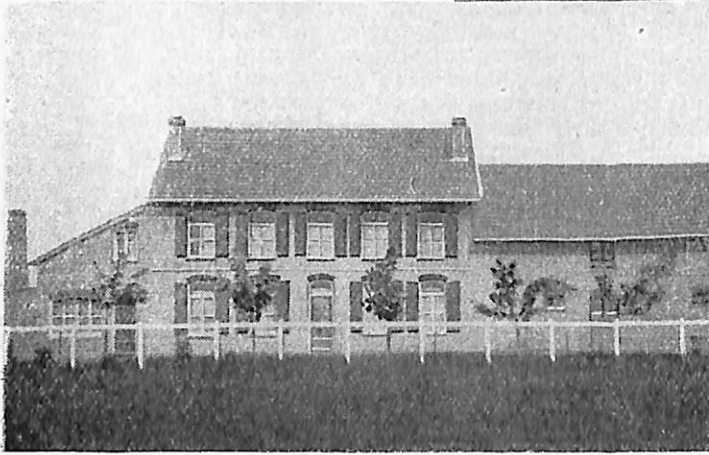
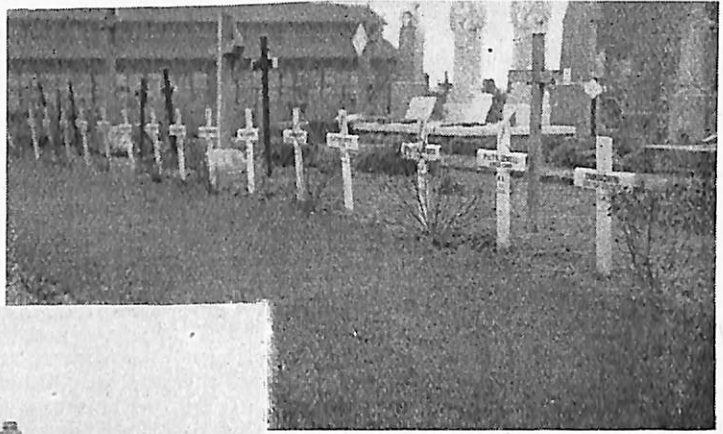
It was with deep regret that we received news of Col. Pickering's death. Capt. A. G. Smith, who was a member of the Officers' Dinner Club, represented the Hon. Colonel and Unit at the funeral.

More than 70 per cent. of our incoming National Servicemen have volunteered for service with the Unit. By camp the National Service element will increase the strength by approximately 15 per cent.

As these notes close, we are training for Annual Camp at Weybourne, Norfolk, May 13 to 27. In addition to Drill Hall instruction and also to gain experience in manning conditions, we visit a permanently laid out site one week-end per month. Though the weather has not been kind, some useful work has been covered and attendances have been good.

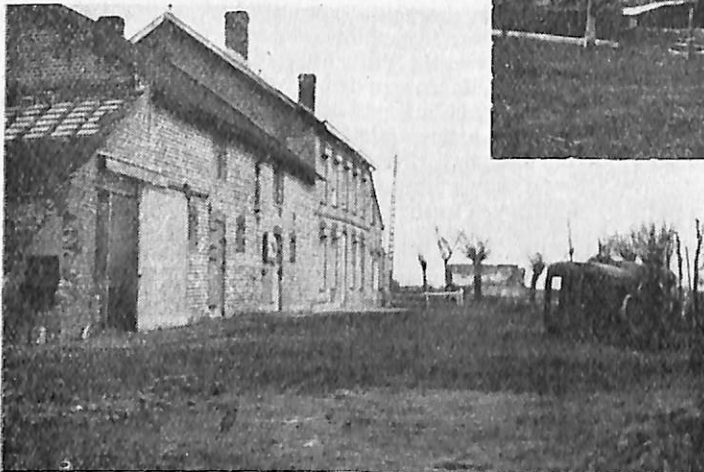
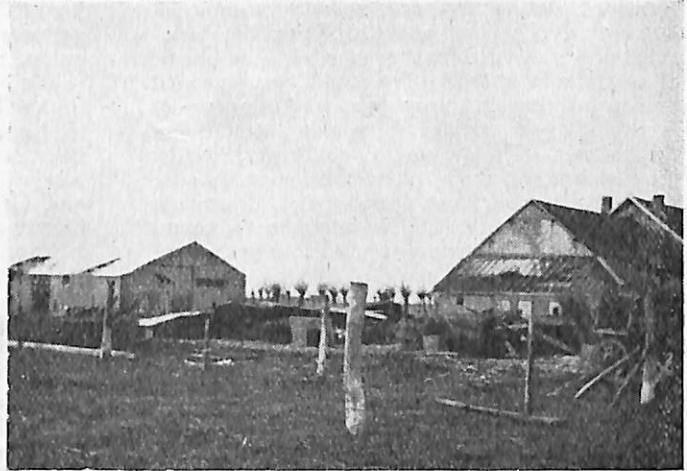
There is now another test to be applied to the T.A. We are keenly awaiting the coming of the Reservists; we trust we shall make them welcome and that they may derive some benefit from their attachments and come to feel that they are part of the Regiment.

Graves in Les Moeres cemetery.
 From right: Unknown British
 Soldier, Pte. T. K. Sewell,
 Lt. T. B. Turner,
 Dvr. F. Snelgrove,
 Unknown British Soldier
 (remainder of names
 cannot be deciphered
 on photograph).



Madame Veuve M. Vermersch's
 farm, situated on the road from
 Les Moeres to Hondschoote
 near the windmill "Le Keirselaer."
 Taken prior to the action in which
 ten members of the Duke of
 Wellington's Regiment were killed
 in the farmhouse and grounds
 during the retreat on Dunkirk

Farm after the action



Another view of the
 farm after action

5th DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S Officers' Dinner Club and Old Comrades' Association

Our 24th Annual Dinner was held at the Drill Hall, Huddersfield, on Friday, October 6, 1950, when Col. G. P. Norton, C.B.E., D.S.O., T.D., presided over an attendance of 80. The Mayor of Huddersfield (Alderman J. L. Dawson, J.P.) proposed the toast of the Regiment, to which the Commanding Officer (Lt.-Col. D. H. Hirst, M.B.E., T.D.) replied. The Hon. Colonel of the Regiment (Col. K. Sykes, O.B.E., M.C., T.D.) proposed the toast of The Guests, and the Colonel of the Duke of Wellington's Regiment (Gen. Sir Philip Christison, Bt., G.B.E., C.B., D.S.O., M.C.) replied in a splendid speech of reminiscences and compliments. In addition to the Mayor and Gen. Christison, the Dinner Club was honoured by the presence of the following guests: Maj.-Gen. L. K. Lockhart, C.B., C.B.E., M.C., Brigadier A. J. E. Cleeve, Lt.-Col. J. H. Dalrymple, Lt.-Col. S. R. Hoyle, M.C., and Mr. Donald Wade, M.P. A very happy evening was spent by all.

On Saturday, November 11, 1950, about 120 members of our Old Comrades' Association sat down to an excellent Dinner at the Drill Hall, Huddersfield. This was followed by the Annual General Meeting and Smoker with a crowded attendance. The President (Col. Keith Sykes) presided and was supported by four Vice-Presidents. It was the most enthusiastic and best attended annual meeting for many years and it was very gratifying to see more of the younger comrades of the last war. The accounts showed a very healthy state of affairs, credit balances being as follows: General Account, £175 17s. 6d.; Benevolent Account, £230 4s. 1d.; and Entertainment Account, £27 15s. 10d. The invested funds of the Benevolent Account amount to £3,450.

The Annual Prize Distribution and Dance took place at Huddersfield Drill Hall on Friday, December 8, 1950, and was largely attended. Brigadier A. M. Ramsden, C.B., O.B.E., T.D., A.D.C., kindly presented the prizes and gave an address. The Commanding Officer, Lt.-Col. D. H. Hirst, presided and to everyone's regret announced that he had decided to retire from command of the Regiment on February 1, 1951. Col. K. Sykes (Hon. Colonel) proposed the vote of thanks to

Brigadier Ramsden and paid tribute to the great services of Lt.-Col. D. H. Hirst and Lt.-Col. R. C. Laurence in re-forming the Regiment after the war.

Brigadier A. J. E. Cleeve seconded the vote of thanks.

The Regiment will go to Annual Training in camp at Weybourne in Norfolk from Saturday, May 12, to Saturday, May 26, 1951. Members of the Dinner Club will be very welcome if they are able to visit the Regiment during this period.

We regret to report the death of Capt. H. D. Wraith, which occurred suddenly at Haslemere on October 26, 1950. Capt. Wraith was well known to 1/5th and 5th Battalion officers in the first World War and was a regular attender at our annual dinners. We also regret to say that Lt. A. Cawthra died on August 10, 1950. He served with 2/5th and 5th Battalions in 1917-18.

On Saturday, December 8, 1950, over 40 members of old "B" Company, 1/5th Duke of Wellington's Regiment—all of whom went to France together on April 15, 1915—held their Annual Dinner and Social Evening at Huddersfield under the chairmanship of Col. K. Sykes. It is remarkable how this old Company has stuck together now for 35 years. It was a grand gathering and much enjoyed.

We heartily congratulate the following members of the Dinner Club: Lt. J. K. Turner on promotion to Captain and award of the Efficiency Medal. 2/Lt. R. H. Hurst on his promotion to Lieutenant. Major E. C. Barraclough, Capt. A. W. R. Brook and Capt. S. J. E. Huxley on the award of the Territorial Efficiency Decoration.

Capt. G. Burns, R.A.M.C., has been appointed Regimental Medical Officer with effect from July 24, 1950. L/Bdr. Rycroft, C. V., of "Q" Battery, has been granted a commission in the Regiment with effect from November 26, 1950.

Rev. Harold Tuff, M.A., C.F., who was Chaplain of the Regiment from 1939 to 1942, has been appointed Vicar of Lindley, Huddersfield, and takes up his duties after Easter.

The 25th Annual Dinner of the Dinner Club will take place at the Drill Hall, Huddersfield, on Friday, October 5, 1951.

once a 'DUKE'

—always a 'DUKE'

So keep in touch by joining
The Regimental Association
when you leave the Regiment

If you have changed your
address recently write in to
the Secretary, Regimental
Association and let him
know.

7th BATTALION

The Duke of Wellington's Regiment

SUB-EDITORIAL

The unveiling of the Battalion 1939-45 War Memorial, which was referred to in our last notes, duly took place at Milnsbridge on December 2, 1950. It was an impressive ceremony and was attended by a large number of next-of-kin, Old Comrades and guests. The parade of the Battalion and Old Comrades, which was to have taken place outside the Drill Hall before the ceremony, had to be cancelled owing to the weather.

The service began at 3.30 p.m. and was conducted by the Rev. Canon F. Woods, Vicar of Huddersfield, to whom we are very much indebted for coming at short notice owing to the fact that neither our own Chaplain nor the war-time Chaplain of the Battalion were able to be present. The actual unveiling was carried out by the Colonel of the Regiment, who gave a very moving address on the duties we owe to those whose names are recorded on the Memorial. We should like to take this opportunity of thanking General Christison for carrying out the unveiling, particularly as it caused him considerable personal inconvenience.

The Roll of Honour consists of 228 names of both the 1/7th and 2/7th Battalions. The inscription, which was chosen by Lt.-Col. Hoyle, is as follows:—

“Nothing has ever been safe until the soldier has made safe the field where the building shall be built, and the soldier is the scaffolding until it has been built and the soldier gets no reward but honour.”

A number of wreaths and bunches of flowers were brought by next-of-kin and were placed at the foot of the memorial after the ceremony.

A photograph has been taken of the Memorial and it is hoped to send a copy to all next-of-kin. Tea was provided after the ceremony as many of those who attended had come from a long distance.

We thought that the Battalion had heard the last of Exercise Waterloo when the last notes were written, but the end of January saw us taking part in a Brigade skeleton exercise entitled “Waterloo II.” The Battalion was part of a covering force south of the River Wharfe, and the exercise ended after a successful withdrawal at Poole Bridge. The weather was cold, and the arrangements for other ranks accommodation at Farnley Park were not what they might have been, with the result that C.S.M. Stringer was incapacitated by a chill for some days. However, representations have been made to higher authority and it is to be hoped that the conditions will be better next time. Officers of the Permanent Staff were involved in Exercise Waterloo III for 151st Brigade and will be required as umpires for Waterloo IV in which 150th Brigade are to be exercised. This takes place the day after the Officers' Ball at Mossley, which is most unfortunate, but the exercise date was fixed without consulting the Battalion and could not be changed.

Another such clash was experienced over Waterloo II which took place on January 27/28, 1951, although the Officers' Reunion Dinner had been booked a long time beforehand to take place at the White Swan Hotel, Halifax, on January 27. About 30 attended the dinner, several fewer than last year, and it was disappointing to note how few serving Officers of the Battalion were present. The toast to the Regiment was proposed by Lt.-Col. Howcroft, and was replied to by Lt.-Col. Everard. Major Skelsey was welcomed as the guest of the evening. Numerous apologies for absence were received, among whom were Maj.-Gen. Haugh, Cols. Chambley and Hinchcliffe, and Lt.-Cols. Tissington, Bishop and Hamilton.

Our football activities were soon curtailed this season when we were beaten 6—1 by 271. Field Regiment, R.A., at Halifax on December 3. It was unfortunate that a number of the players did not turn up—some owing to a breakdown—with the result that the team which entered the field was not the same as had been hoped. The weather was appalling. It snowed for most of the game and the linesmen had to guess where the touch-line was underneath inches of snow. A hot meal was laid on after the game through the good offices of Q.M.S. Wood and his brother, and was much enjoyed by the teams.

We are glad to welcome Patrick Haws into the Battalion as an Officer although he has not yet been gazetted. R.S.M. Parr has now left us and gone to the Depot and we wish him good luck; his place has been taken by R.S.M. Cook, who has the advantage of having been R.S.M. to the Battalion before in Germany. The 1st Battalion has claimed Sgt. Norman and Sgt. Owens has been posted to Catterick; they have been replaced by C.S.M. Stringer and Sgt. Craven, whom we hope will enjoy their tour with the Battalion. Congratulations to Q.M.S. Wood on the assumption of his present rank last November.

It is with regret that we say goodbye to Lt. Hirst, who has recently left us to take up permanent residence in Canada; he only joined the Battalion last June, so his stay has been very short. We offer him all good wishes in his new venture.

Very few details are yet known concerning Z Reservists, but it is abundantly clear that they, together with the National Service men who start to join us on March 29, will combine to make the summer training season an extremely busy one.

OFFICERS' MESS

Social activity has been at a low ebb of late, but much hard work is being done by a sub-committee, under Major Frank Whitehead, in preparation for the Annual Ball, which is to take place at Mossley on March 30. This is the event of the year and we hope that it will be a first-class affair.

Since January 1 we have rather broken away from tradition by changing the venue of the

monthly suppers from Mossley to Milnsbridge. Though Milnsbridge is by no means as comfortable as Mossley it is more convenient as the majority of our members live on this side of the hill. Attendances are better in consequence, which is all to the good, as the suppers are preceded by an hour's training conducted by the C.O. As time goes by we hope to make the Mess really comfortable. A good dining table has been acquired and we hope for some badly needed structural alterations in the not-too-distant future.

We are glad to hear that Lt.-Col. "Sam" Hoyle is in circulation again and a joint dinner for him and Lt.-Col. Everard has been arranged for March 1. We are looking forward to a jolly good evening and a representative gathering.

Our heartiest congratulations go to Lt. J. M. Hirst, who was married during January. Unfortunately he has now left us as he has taken up a business appointment in Canada. We wish him and Mrs. Hirst much happiness and every success in the land of their adoption.

SERGEANTS' MESS

Due to the long distances between Drill Halls many of the Sergeants' Mess members have had very few opportunities to get together in between camps. Now, however, we are holding a Sergeants' Mess "Meeting" on the second Friday of each month and got off to a good start at Milnsbridge on the first of these "meetings." Quite a few old acquaintances were renewed, and with "Drummy" Noon at the piano, Sgt. Dawson with his "King's Horses," etc., we were royally entertained.

A rather belated farewell-welcome social evening was held at Milnsbridge on December 16, bidding goodbye and good luck to R.S.M. Parr, who has now joined the Depot Staff, and offering a warm welcome to R.S.M. Cook on his re-appointment as R.S.M. of the Battalion. There was a good attendance, including our friends from the A.T.S., and a jolly evening was had by all. We welcome R.S.M. Cook to his old Battalion, with which he served in Germany during the war, and wish him every success; we hope, too, that he will have a speedy recovery from his recent car crash.

We take this opportunity of extending a hearty welcome to two new P.S.I.s—C.S.M. Stringer and Sgt. Craven—and hope that they will soon settle down amongst us; also to our new T.A. member—Sgt. Hawksworth.

"H.Q." COMPANY

"H.Q." Company has now established its H.Q. at Milnsbridge Drill Hall under the command of Capt. W. E. Townsend. An opening social evening was held on December 17, but only a skeleton "crew" of this far-flung Company were able to be present; however, from small beginnings we hope to build.

The M.T. class, run by Sgts. Dawson and Hawksworth, is proving very popular, and with the help of an old engine and chassis a lot of the "inner works" are being shown and explained to the class, which includes National Service men volunteers keen to learn, and now, with the days lengthen-

ing, all the "L" men will be "a-raring" to "have-a-go."

The Signal Section is handicapped at the moment through lack of equipment, but it is hoped that when this equipment is received some very interesting and useful training will take place.

C.S.M. Stringer, it is learned, will be taking over this Company and we are hoping that from his wealth of experience we shall form a really interesting and happy band. With its variety of trades and occupations, this Company has a lot to offer.

SUPPORT COMPANY

We are happy to be able to say that the T.A. Centre at Sowerby Bridge is now open. We would welcome all old "Dukes" at this well-known pre-war T.A. Centre. At Elland, winter training has been progressing, though the posting of Sgt. Norman to the 1st Battalion has been a great loss. We welcome Sgt. Craven as our new P.S.I., whilst our thanks must be extended to C.S.M. Stringer who "straightened us up" for a few days.

The vexed question of Z Reservists is at present a general topic in all our minds. We should have a good strong Company at camp this year with them, the National Service men, Volunteers and Regulars all together! It will certainly be a test of our administration. We believe in the T.A. as a volunteer body, and it is up to us to instil the volunteer spirit in the men who join us. We would therefore urge the Company to welcome them and by their example help to build up a strong united team.

"B" COMPANY

Since our last notes the Battalion, unfortunately, has been knocked out of the Divisional Soccer Cup in the second round. Our opponents were 271 Field Regiment, R.A., from Sheffield. The game was keenly played, in very wintry conditions, at the Depot, Halifax, and all were glad of the hot meal which was provided for the two teams after the game. Many thanks to all concerned and here's hoping "B" Company soccer enthusiasts better luck next season.

The winter months have been very quiet, as they always are. Attention has now moved from Slaithwaite to Milnsbridge, where Pte. O'Grady and his pals have been indulging in a spot of M.T. training under the able guidance of Sgt. Dawson. We wish to thank Capt. Norman Robinson of the 2nd Cadet Battalion, D.W.R., for his kindness in loaning various mechanical contraptions (which all work!) for our use.

The unveiling of the Battalion War Memorial was very well attended, and many members of the Company were able to be present at the ceremony.

The programme which lies ahead includes two or three week-end training camps at Farnley Park and Deer Hill, so let's hope that, for once, the weather will be kind to us.

Our P.S.I. is very busy preparing the Company Stores in readiness for the Brigade Commander's annual inspection, so on this rather sober note we will close for this edition.



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4th CADET BATTALION

The Duke of Wellington's Regiment

The longer evenings are rapidly approaching and our thoughts turn to out-of-doors training after a long winter.

In retrospect, however, our winter programme has been fraught with activity and interest. We have much to thank our "elder brothers" for, both Regulars and Territorials.

Major W. Skelsey, C.O., Halifax Depot, has recently conducted a course for Junior Officers embracing three week-ends, the subjects covered being: Methods of Instruction, Weapon Training Revision, Range Discipline, Laying on of Simple Demonstrations, Preparation of Training Programmes, Map Reading, Administration, etc. The officers who attended the course felt greatly benefited by it, and the Battalion will no doubt show increased efficiency in due course. We thank Major Skelsey for his courtesy and his contribution to the cadets in giving of his time and knowledge for their benefit. Col. G. B. Faulder, D.S.O. (Deputy County Commandant), visited the Depot, whilst the course was in progress, and expressed his satisfaction with the keenness shown.

Close liaison and co-operation with the T.A. was evidenced by a full day's exercise held recently by 593 Company, R.A.S.C. (T.A.), 49th Armoured Divisional Transport, in which cadets, under Capt. B. A. Hogan, were invited to join. Cadet Signallers, assisted with the W.T. procedure during the exercise. The day was much enjoyed by the Cadets (as were the meals provided by the T.A.) and they hope for another invitation in the near future.

The outstanding social event of the quarter was, of course, the Regimental Dinner for the four Cadet Battalions, held on January 15 last at Prescott Street Drill Hall. The chief guest was Brigadier E. D. Howard-Vyse, M.C., who spoke very encouragingly of the high standard of new entrants to the Army, who joined after preliminary Cadet training. Col. T. Chadwick, M.C., T.D., D.L., J.P. (County Commandant), Col. G. B. Faulder, D.S.O. (Deputy Commandant), Major White, M.B.E. (London), Major W. Skelsey (Depot), and our own C.O., Lt.-Col. E. Tillotson, also spoke in appropriate manner in proposing or responding to toasts.

Altogether a successful and delightful evening. May we have many more such events.

THE LETTERS OF CAPTAIN WILLIAM DANSEY

33rd Regiment

Written during the American War of Independence (1775-1783)

PART I—1776

William Dansey was commissioned into the 33rd Regiment in 1760. The 33rd were then in Germany taking part in the Seven Years' War, which ended in 1763. The Regiment then spent six years in Minorca from where they proceeded to Ireland in 1770. The opening shots of the American War of Independence were fired at Lexington in April, 1775, and on February 12, 1776, the 33rd left Cork for America as part of a large force of reinforcements, of which Lord Cornwallis, newly appointed Colonel of the 33rd, was in command. These reinforcements were directed to Cape Fear in North Carolina, where they arrived five months too late for the operation for which they were intended. In June, 1776, the force, now under command of General Clinton, sailed for Charleston in South Carolina. "On the 28 June the squadron engaged the American batteries at long range, the intention being that the troops should wade ashore and carry the fort (Fort Moultrie, which dominated the harbour of Charleston) by storm. The result was a serious reverse. The shoals were found to be unfordable and the squadron after ten hours' firing withdrew, heavily punished by the great guns of the fort, with the loss of one ship and over two hundred men killed and wounded. The loss of the Americans was trifling and they might justly plume themselves with their success." (Fortescue.)

This was the 33rd's first engagement in the war, and Capt. Dansey's first letter, to his mother, refers to this occasion.

Camp on Long Island, near Charleston, South Carolina, July 6, 1776.

"Our Failure of Success on the 28th of last month, makes us all very silent in the Account of the Expedition. It suffices each of us to say to our Friends we are well, our Army in good Health and rare Spirits, full of anxiety to get away to the Northward in the hopes of better Success as we find this Latitude too warm for us in every Respect at this time of the Year.

"The Campaigns in Germany were Campaigns of Pleasure to what we have undergone here our Fatigues too various to be made the Subject of a letter. I shall defer recounting them till the first Christmas we meet then I shall with Pleasure but at present we must pray to be out of them. . . .

"As the utmost I have to say is that I am well. My Letter of course will be short and entirely void of News which I hope will save you a good deal of Teazeing. The Newspapers will have food enough for Lies on this Occasion and I suppose the good Folks at Home disappointed that there was not more Bloodshed; but thank God and the Prudence of our Generals our little Army's safe and well after encountering such Dangers and Difficulties Germany never afforded.

"All my Herefordshire Recruits are well and

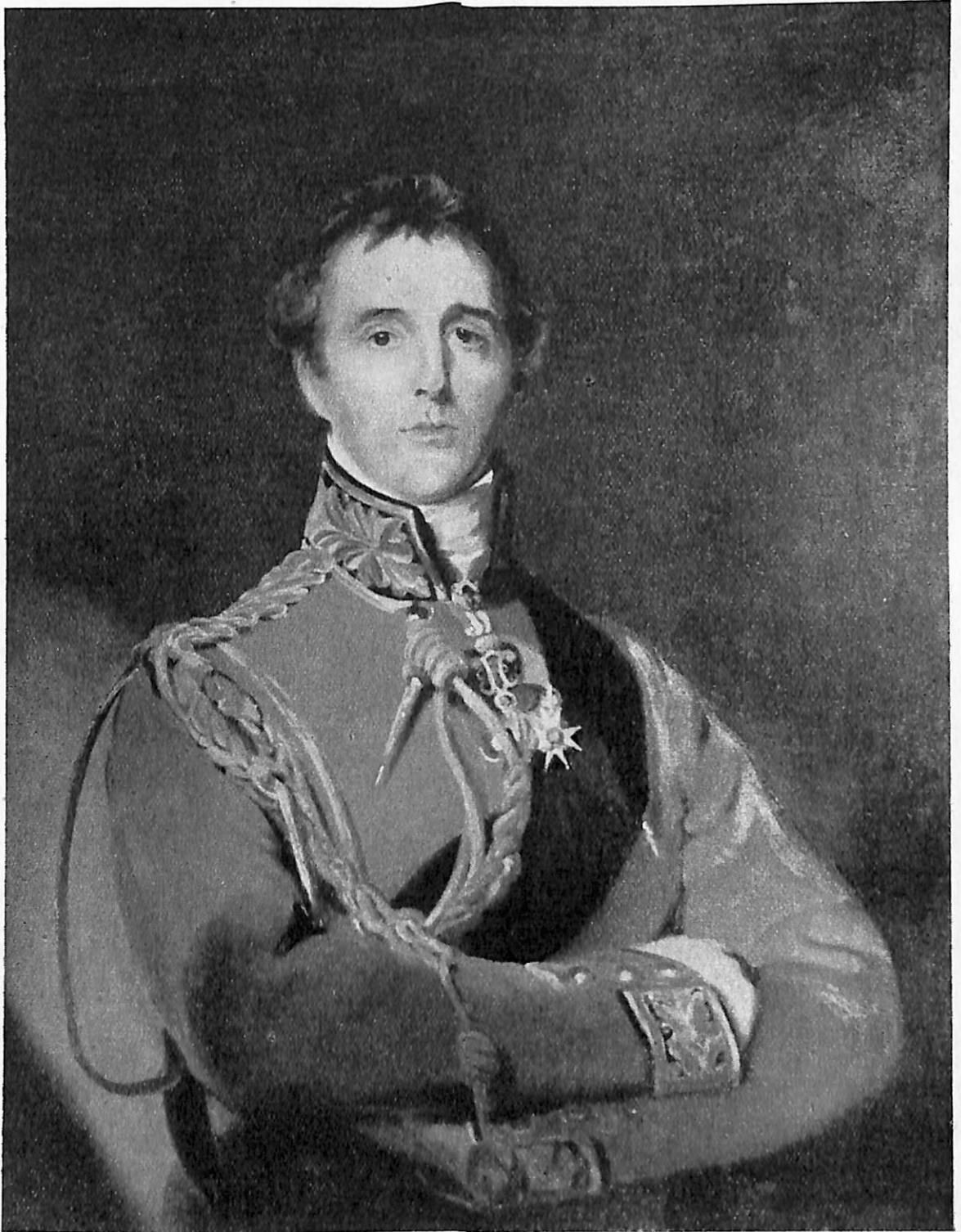
behave very well. One of them was attacked at Cape Fear when Sentry at 11 o'clock at Night by three Rebels who came upon their Hands and Knees to get a Shot at him as one would at a Duck, such cowardly Scoundrils have we to deal with. He fired at them but they were got so near that before he could load again they came almost close to him and shot him thro' the Wrist and ran away. His name is Wilcox I believe. His Father lives near you. At first we were afraid he would lose his hand but I hope he is now near well and will be able to do his Duty again and have his Revenge. He is a fine spirited lad and vows it. I went on board the Hospital Ship several times to see him till he was out of Danger, he is the first man wounded in our Regiment, and in my Company." (The Light Company.)

On July 21 Clinton sailed north for New York, where he arrived on August 1. All the British Forces now came under command of Lord Howe who organised them into seven brigades, the Grenadier and Light Companies being formed into distinct Battalions as was then customary. The 33rd was with the Reserve together with four Battalions of Grenadiers and the 42nd. Dansey's Company, however, was probably with the Light Troops which consisted of three Battalions of Light Infantry and the 16th and 17th Light Dragoons.

On August 22, 1776, Lord Howe commenced the attack against New York by landing troops on Long Island. The approach to New York was guarded by a strong American force entrenched on Brooklyn Heights and the British attack was directed against these positions. The main attack was launched on August 27 and was successful, and on August 29 Washington was obliged to retire with his army to New York. Fortescue records that the Americans were much dispirited by the reverse at Brooklyn. Capt. Dansey certainly thought they were and had high hopes of an early end of the campaign.

Bedford on Long Island, near New York. August 30, 1776 (to his fiancee).

"The Glorious Victory obtain'd over the Rebels on the 27th has made them abandon all their Strong Works on this Island and has struck such a damp among them that we hope we have now nothing to do but pursue them—I was far from following your Advice for, I led my Company into the very thick of them and had a most miraculous Escape. In about three minutes I had three men kill'd & six wounded out of thirty. Mr. Cotton, My Lieut. got a graze upon the Shoulder. We were well supported by three Companies or there would not have remain'd a man to tell the Story. I have to thank God for my safety under the heaviest Musquetry ever people escaped from. As the



ARTHUR WELLESLEY, Duke of Wellington

Presented to the School of Infantry by The Duke of Wellington's Regiment

The Portrait of The First Duke of Wellington

The picture on the opposite page is a reproduction of a copy by Commander Denis Fildes of the famous portrait painted by Sir Thomas Lawrence in 1814. It was commissioned by the Duke as a present to Mrs. Patterson, an American widow, to whom he was devoted. She eventually married the Duke's elder brother and became Marchioness Wellesley. On her death in 1853 she left the picture to the second Duke.

The copy is an exact replica of the original, measuring 36 in. by 28 in., and shows him in the scarlet uniform of a general officer of the period. It now hangs in the Dining Room of "A" Mess at the School of Infantry, Warminster.

Lawrence, the son of a West Country publican, was born in 1769, the year which also saw the birth of the Duke and Napoleon Buonaparte, so that these three great men were almost exact contemporaries. He showed his artistic ability at an early age, when he used to entertain his father's customers by reciting to them and drawing their portraits. At the age of eighteen he came to London, where he attracted the notice and friendship of Sir Joshua Reynolds, then almost at the end of his career. His genius was soon widely recognised and he established a European reputation. In 1814 he was recalled from Paris, where he was paying his first visit to the Continent, by command of the Prince Regent to paint the portraits of the allied sovereigns, their statesmen and generals, which formed the commencement of the Waterloo Gallery in Windsor Castle. He was later appointed President of the Royal Academy, and died in 1830, being buried in St. Paul's Cathedral, where he rests by the side of Sir Joshua Reynolds.

This portrait, together with several others by the same artist, was until 1947 in the possession of the present Duke of Wellington. Under the Wellington Museum Act, passed in the summer of that year, the Duke presented Apsley House with all its contents, including the Lawrence portraits, to the nation. The portrait has been exhibited in recent years at the Victoria and Albert Museum, and in 1949 was lent for exhibition to the Arts Council of Great Britain. At present it is in the Victoria and Albert Museum, awaiting the opening of the Wellington Museum at Apsley House, where it will find a permanent home.

Commander Denis Fildes, R.N. (Retd.), who was commissioned by the Regiment to make this copy for presentation to the School of Infantry, is a well-known portrait painter. His picture of H.M. The King was exhibited at the Royal Academy and now hangs in the Staff College.

whole affair will be publish in the Gazette to it I must refer you, nor have I the time to say more if I could as we every moment expect to move."

Hills on Lond Island, near New York, September 3, 1776 (to his mother).

"I wrote to Mifs M. on the 30th last upon the first and only bit of paper I could get and now I have got another I write to you and may say very near a I did in Germany [*sic*]. We have had a Battle and thank God I am well and if you two are well all is well with me—I was lucky in my Escape for I had my right hand Man wounded and left hand Man kill'd and Six wounded in my Company in about three moments having fallen in with about 400 Rifle men unawares. They are not so dreadful as I expected* or they must have destroyed me and my whole Company before we were supported by anybody else. Afterwards they were all either killed or taken, by Company tho' obliged to Retreat (not having 20 Yards the Start and being only thirty men), killed two Officers and two men before we gave way; we had got in among them. Mr. Cotton had a slight Graze on the Shoulder. By the News papers you must see a better account than I am able to give in our detach'd Situation."

On September 15 New York was taken by Howe and a number of engagements followed whilst he proceeded to clear Washington's dispirited forces from the hinterland. In this he was highly successful so that by the time winter arrived and he had to settle into cantonments he had made himself a secure base for the next year's operations. Both the 33rd and the Light Companies were fully engaged in these operations, but Dansey's next letter is dated January 11, 1777.

* The battle of Bunker's Hill in the previous year had inspired our troops with a wholesome respect for American marksmanship.

NOTICE

(Reprinted from "THE LONDON GAZETTE" dated December 29, 1950)

BALANCES DUE TO ESTATES OF DECEASED OFFICERS AND SOLDIERS

In pursuance of "The Regimental Debts Act, 1893," notice is hereby given that there is available for distribution amongst the next-of-kin or others entitled the sum of money set opposite to the name of each of the deceased officers and soldiers named in the lists which are published with this notice in the London Gazette.

Applications from persons supposing themselves entitled as next-of-kin should be addressed by letter to "The Under-Secretary of State, War Office, Whitehall, London, S.W.1," and marked outside "Effects."

G. W. TURNER.

War Office,

December 29, 1950.

Effects, 1944

Ballard, P., Private, Duke of Wellington's Regiment	£	s.	d.
.. .. .	72	9	10

Effects, 1943

Tasker, L., Private, Duke of Wellington's Regiment	£	s.	d.
.. .. .	44	3	6

REGIMENTAL MUSEUM

The Museum Committee have much pleasure in acknowledging receipt of the following articles, kindly given or lent to the Museum during the period August, 1950, to February, 1951, and wish to express their thanks to the donors for their generous assistance.

Mr. J. C. Crisp.

An illustrated brochure—2nd Battalion The Duke of Wellington's Regiment—published December, 1913.

Mrs. Florence M. Hicks.

A wooden picture frame plaque, hand-painted, with heading "2nd Battalion West Riding Regiment," Royal Arms, Regimental battle honours, badges of 33rd and 76th Regiments, and arms of H.A.I.C.

Mr. H. S. Rogers.

"A rough sketch of the Field of Waterloo." A page of *The Times*, No. 9554, dated June 22, 1815, containing the Waterloo Dispatch.

Lt.-Col. M. V. le P. Trench.

An envelope addressed by the first Duke of Wellington. A pamphlet describing the circumstances in which certain pictures of the Duke of Wellington and Lord Nelson were painted.

Mr. E. J. Martin (on long loan).

Russian firearms—Crimean period. A Brunswick rifle. A percussion lock carbine. Two percussion lock muskets.

Managing Trustees, Regimental Charities, D.W.R. (loaned for display).

Replicas of Rugby football trophies won by the Regiment: Army Rugby Cup, 1930-31 (1st Battalion); Aldershot Command Rugby Cup, 1932-33 (1st Battalion); Southern Command Rugby Cup, 1927-30 (1st Battalion); Egyptian Command Rugby Cup, 1924 (2nd Battalion); Egyptian Command Rugby Challenge Cup, 1923-24 (2nd Battalion).

Major R. E. Austin, D.W.R.

An amulet or charm worn by Russian soldiers, and an ornament from a Russian officer's cap, collected on the battlefield of the Alma by Lt. Alfred John Austin, 30th Regiment. A service dress jacket (current pattern) with badges, buttons and lanyard, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment.

Lt.-Col. Owen Price.

An Indian General Service medal with bar "Afghanistan N.W.F. 1919," awarded to No. 10412 Pte. S. Kilburn, 1st D.W.R.

Mr. W. S. Brooksbank.

The *London Gazette* publishing the Waterloo Dispatch, reprinted from *The Times*, June 22, 1815.

Mrs. M. C. Moore.

A belt buckle (1881). A cap badge (1881-1902). A pair of collar badges and large and small buttons (current pattern). A Whittingham medal A Royal Military Tournament medal, Rangoon, 1901,

Bayonet v. Bayonet. A Royal Military Tournament medal, Rangoon, 1901, Best Man at Arms.

(These articles were the property of the late Capt. J. H. Moore, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment. Died August, 1940. Obituary notice, THE IRON DUKE of October, 1940.)

Mr. G. R. Stansfeld.

A photograph of the Rifle Team, Depot, West Riding Regiment, 1883. (Note.—The medals of Sgt. Allen, "spotter" for the team, are in the Regimental Museum.)

Mr. F. Greenwood.

A helmet, officers' pattern, 1881-1914, with D.W.R. badge, chinstrap, and case.

Mrs. A. E. Carroll.

Medals of No. 8428 C.S.M. Clement Carroll (deceased), late The Duke of Wellington's Regiment: The 1914-15 Star; the General Service Medal; the Victory Medal; the Delhi Durbar, 1911, Medal; the Medal for Long Service and Good Conduct; Medal for best man-at-arms (dismounted combat), Military Tournament, Delhi, 1911.

Mr. G. E. Lacy Day.

A cross-belt buckle, LXXVI Foot (the property of his great-uncle, Capt. H. H. Lacy, born 1815, died (Red Sea) on his way home from India, 1869).

Sir Charles Fawcett.

A letter from the Emperor Theodore to Queen Yatomagnoo, acquired by the donor's father, Capt. R. H. Fawcett at the capture of Magdala, April 13, 1868.

Major R. B. Scott.

A seal; the impression of a signet ring which is now in the possession of Capt. W. B. St. J. Montagu and which was given to his great-great-grandmother, Lady Olivia Bernard Sparrow, by the Wellesley family on the death of the first Duke of Wellington.

Lt.-Col. R. L. Agnew.

A pair of Divisional signs, 44th Indian Armoured Division, in which 146th Regiment, R.A.C. (9th D.W.R.), served in 1944-45. An officer's beret with embroidered badge of The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, as worn by the 146th Regiment, R.A.C. (D.W.R.).

C.S.M. F. H. Stringer.

A pair of 21st Army Group signs, now worn by H.Q., B.A.O.R.

Capt. A. C. S. Savory, D.W.R.

A scarlet mess jacket as worn up to September, 1939. Two officer's pattern service dress caps, pre-1914 and current.

Brigadier B. W. Webb-Carter, D.S.O., O.B.E.

A Field Officer's Regimental forage cap, 33rd Regiment, which belonged to Henry, Earl of Mornington, subsequently 6th Duke of Wellington and Captain in the Regiment. Given by him to Capt. B. W. Webb-Carter in 1936, who, on promotion, had the field officer's peak added to it.

Col. R. G. Turner.

Articles which belonged to the late Brigadier-General P. A. Turner, C.M.G., Colonel, The Duke

of Wellington's Regiment, 1934-38: Cock's feathers, full dress head-dress, buttons and badges, shako plates and belt buckles, "Historical Record of the 76th 'Hindoostan' Regiment, 1787-1881 (Hayden), and "History of the 76th Regiment" (printed regimentally at Secunderabad, 1875).

Mr. J. S. Stagg (Caterer, Sergeants' Mess, R.H.Q. and Depot, D.W.R.).

The set of medals which belong to his father, No. 4741 Sergt. J. S. Stagg, 1st Volunteer Battalion, The West Riding Regiment: The 1914-15 Star, the General Service Medal, the Vicgory Medal, the Medal for Long Service in the Volunteer Force (King Edward VII), and the Territorial Efficiency Medal (King George V).

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

Duke of Wellington Relic Case containing:
1. One dress sword—engraved with Eagle crest over coronet. 2. One dress sword—engraved with "M" under coronet. 3. One policeman's truncheon. 4. One pair pistols—lassence—Rouge a Liege. 5. One cane—gold headed, inscribed "W", top hinged. 6. One cane—blue stone topped with gold coronet. 7. Rope-bound weighted life preserver. 8. One ivory-handled steel-based seal—Duke of Wellington's coat of arms. 9. One ivory-handled brass-based seal—"Wellesley Family" (?). 10. One gold sign ring—inscribed "W" under coronet. 11. One gold signet ring, inset with garnet, engraved with the Duke of Wellington's crest under coronet. 12. Watch chain double seal and watch key—seals engraved with the Duke of Wellington's crest on jade and bird crest engraved on garnet. 13. Gold watch box inscribed with "W" under coronet. 14. Picture Medal (Edward Orme, Bond St.), 1815, containing 13 battle pictures—in read leather case inscribed "Record of British Valour." 15. Autographed letter by the Duke of Wellington declining honour of 33rd Regiment being named after him during his lifetime, printed transcript (both in frames). 16. One glass-topped display case.

Lt.-Col. W. Hodgson, O.B.E.

Three mess dress waistcoat buttons, one (livery?) button (all 76th Regiment), two elephant collar badges, mess dress.

Continued from adjoining column)

LIEUTENANTS

D. E. Isles	Military College of Science, Shrivensham.
D. H. Wood	1st Bn. Green Howards, Malaya.
W. F. C. Robertson ..	1st Bn.
J. A. D. Miller	1st Bn.
E. M. P. Hardy	1st Bn.
A. M. Dillon	1st Bn. Royal Northumberland Fusiliers, Korea.
M. J. Reddington	1st Bn.
D. W. Shuttleworth ..	1st Bn.

2ND LIEUTENANTS

J. D. P. Cowell	1st Bn.
R. M. Harms	1st Bn.
P. B. L. Hoppe	1st Bn.
<i>Note.—The 1st Bn. moved from Strensall to Chisledon in March.</i>	

QUARTERMASTERS

W. E. Brenchley, M.B.E. ..	Major, Regt. H.Q. and Depot, Wellesley Barracks, Halifax.
F. Allsop	Major, 7th D.W.R. (T.A.), Huddersfield.
N. Jackson	Lt., 1st Bn.

Location of Officers

BRIGADIERS

K. G. Exham, D.S.O., D.D.M.T., The War Office, London. A.D.C.

COLONELS

B. W. Webb-Carter, D.S.O., O.B.E. T/Brig., Comd. School of Combined Operations, Fremington, Barnstaple, North Devon.

LIEUTENANT-COLONELS

F. R. Armitage, O.B.E. .. T/Col., A.A.G., The War Office, London.
C. R. T. Cumberlege .. Comd. Yorkshire and Northumberland Gp. Trg. Centre, Strensall.
J. H. Dalrymple .. Comd. 1st Bn.

MAJORS

F. P. A. Woods .. W.S/Lt.-Col., Comd. 23 Gp., R.P.C.
A. H. G. Wathen .. S.O.II (P.T.), H.Q. Aldershot District, Aldershot.
C. K. T. Faithfull .. H.Q., B.A.O.R.
J. E. Frankis .. T/Lt.-Col. B.M.E.O., c/o G.H.Q., M.E.L.F.
C. W. B. Orr, O.B.E. .. T/Brig., Comd. 3rd Inf. Bde., B.A.O.R.
R. K. Exham, C.B.E., M.C. T/Lt.-Col., Comd. 7th D.W.R. (T.A.), Huddersfield.
Sir N. H. Everard, Bt. .. T/Brig., B.G.S., H.Q., B.A.O.R.
R. N. H. C. Bray, D.S.O. .. W. V. Wellesley .. Comd. 2nd Nigeria Regt., R.W.A.F.F., Accra, Gold Coast.
F. R. St. P. Bunbury, D.S.O. 21C 1st Bn.
W. A. Waller, O.B.E., M.C. 1st Bn.
F. J. Lauder .. 432 B.S.E., B.A.O.R. 4.
A. Mallinson ..
G. Laing, M.B.E. .. 1st Bn. York. and Lancaster Regt., B.A.O.R. 3.
J. B. Fallon .. D.A.Q.M.G., 16th Airborne Div.
R. G. Collins, M.B.E. .. Local/Col., Fort Monroe, Virginia, U.S.A.
R. de la H. Moran .. T/Lt.-Col., B.M.M., Greece.
D. I. Strangeways, D.S.O., O.B.E. T/Lt.-Col., Camel Corps, S.D.F.
P. G. L. Cousens .. 1st Bn. Green Howards, Malaya.
L. B. B. Beuttler, M.B.E. .. Y. and N. Gp. Trg. Centre, Strensall.
R. R. F. Marett .. Comd. Regt. H.Q. and Depot, Wellesley Barracks, Halifax.
W. Skelsey .. B.M.M., Greece.
R. E. Austin .. D.A.A. and Q.M.G., H.Q. 41 Grn., Hook of Holland (joining 1st Bn.).
C. J. Maclaren .. G.S.O.II, The War Office (M.O.), London.
G. F. Upjohn .. D.A.Q.M.G., H.Q. West Africa Command, Accra, Gold Coast.
J. Davidson .. S.O.II (P.T.), H.Q. North Midland District, Nottingham.
C. F. Grieve .. H.Q. Land Forces, Western Union, Fontainebleau.
J. H. Davis .. 1st Bn.
P. P. de la H. Moran .. Somaliland Scouts.
R. E. Sugden .. 1st Nigeria Regt., Ikoyi, Lagos, Nigeria.
L. F. Kershaw .. 1st Bn.
D. M. Harris .. S.C., H.Q. 5th Inf. Bde., B.A.O.R.
D. S. D. Jones-Stamp .. Adjnt., 1st Bn.
A. C. S. Savory ..

CAPTAINS

P. B. Hall .. S.C. (A.), The War Office, London.
A. D. Firth, M.B.E. .. T/Major, B.M., 162 Bde., Colchester.
R. H. Ince .. T/Major, D.A.M.S., H.Q. B.T.E.
D. N. Simmonds .. G.S.O.III, H.Q. B.E.T.F.O.R.
A. B. M. Kavanagh, M.C. Mons O.C.S., Aldershot.
J. E. V. Butterfield 1st Bn. Royal Northumberland Fusiliers, Korea.
D. C. Roberts .. Adjnt., Y. and N. Gp. Trg. Centre (joining 1st Bn.).
R. V. Cartwright .. G.S.O.III, The War Office (M.T.), London (joining 1st Bn.).
H. S. Le Messurier .. S.C. (A/Q.), Bermuda.
R. W. Hatch, M.B.E. .. W.S./Major, B.M. 28th Inf. Bde., Hong Kong.
J. S. Milligan .. A.L. Group, B.A.O.R.
R. W. Nicholson .. Ministry of Supply, Pendine.
E. J. P. Emmett .. 1st Bn.
B. M. Kilner .. Mons O.C.S., Aldershot.
G. C. Tedd .. Adjnt., Regt. H.Q. and Depot, Wellesley Barracks, Halifax.
R. Scott-Evans, M.C. 1st Bn. West Yorks, B.A.O.R.
S. G. Dunn .. A.L. Group, R.A.F. Station, Butterworth, Malaya.
J. L. Streatfeild, M.C. Adjnt., 7th D.W.R. (T.A.), Huddersfield.
K. W. Brown .. R.A.F., Abingdon.

O B I T U A R Y

We deeply regret to announce the following deaths:

MAJOR T. W. MILNER

The death occurred recently at his home at Bolmere, Pellon New Road, Halifax, of Major Thomas William Milner, M.B.E.

Major Milner joined the ranks of the Duke of Wellington's Regiment in 1903, when he was 20, and served mostly abroad. From 1905 to 1919 he was with the Regiment on the Indian frontier, and later served in Egypt, Palestine, Gibraltar, Turkey, and also in Ireland. He served during the 1914-18 war as a warrant officer, Class II, and was appointed R.S.M. in Palestine in 1920. In 1928 he was commissioned as Quartermaster and was promoted Captain in 1936. His M.B.E. was awarded in the Birthday Honours in 1928, and he was mentioned in despatches during the North-West Frontier campaign in 1935.

He retired on pension from the appointment of Quartermaster at the Halifax Depot of the Regiment in 1938. In 1942, however, he returned to service with the Army, was promoted to Major and served in Wales and Northern Ireland as a senior barrack officer.

He leaves a widow, son and daughter.

The funeral took place at Christchurch, Mount Pellon, with full military honours. The bearers who were in charge of R.S.M. J. Parr, were C.S.M. C. Corke, C.S.M. R. Callaby, S/Sgt. K. A. Waterman, Drum-Major G. Gill, C/Sgt. Watters and Sgt. A. Wond. Among the mourners the Regiment was represented by Lt.-Col. J. H. Dalrymple (commanding 1st Battalion), Lt.-Col. Sir Nugent Everard (commanding 7th Battalion), Major W. Skelsey (commanding Regimental H.Q.), Major W. Brenchley and R.S.M. Pearce. Representatives of the Old Comrades' Association and of the many branches of civilian life in which Major Milner took such an active interest were present to pay their last respects to one who was universally respected and admired.

Brigadier J. C. Burnett, D.S.O., writes:

"There must be several more fitted to write of Tom Milner and what he did for the Regiment than I who was only privileged to know him intimately in the latter end of his career. There are those who have risen to distinction in the last war and are still serving, who when young and green must have felt the force of R.S.M. Milner and maybe owe in some degree their present position to his precept and example.

"Yet because Tom Milner served with me as Quartermaster in the latter period of my command of the 2nd Battalion and because since those days

he had remained a close friend until his death I welcome the opportunity to put on record for THE IRON DUKE my appreciation of him, knowing that I am expressing, even if inadequately, an opinion which all who knew him will share.

"Milner was one of those outstanding personalities who through long and devoted service from private soldier to commissioned rank do so much to create and maintain the standards of high example and loyalty to duty upon which the best traditions of the British Army are so largely founded. All through his career of some 40 years' service, 35 of which were spent in the Regiment, a period including two world wars as well as active service on the Indian Frontier, a period which includes much in the way of achievement in the world of sport, the name of Tom Milner figures large as one who never failed to make 'The honour and credit of "The Dukes"' his watchword.

"His death will be felt with keen regret by all who knew him and served with him; as a soldier, a true sportsman, a loyal friend and a very genuine personality he will be long remembered."

The death occurred on January 29, 1951, at her home, The Base, Atbara Road, Crookham, of Mrs. Annie Ovington, aged 74 years, the wife of Mr. Edwin Ovington, who was Bandmaster of the 1st Battalion The Duke of Wellington's Regiment from 1920 to 1934. Mrs. Ovington had lived at Crookham for nearly 20 years.

The death has occurred at Compton Abbas, near Shaftesbury, of Mr. John Montague, a very old member of the Regiment. He joined at Dover in 1893 and served in South Africa and Rhodesia. He was at Bangalore with the 2nd Battalion and from there joined the 1st Battalion at Warenbaths in the Transvaal. After being in York under Lt.-Col. Rivett Carnae and in India under Lt.-Col. Thorold, he retired in 1907 but rejoined at the outbreak of war in 1914 and went out to France to join the 2nd Battalion in time for the Battle of Hill 60, where he was gassed and invalided home. To the end of his life he was keenly interested in the Regiment and a regular reader of THE IRON DUKE. His widow and a daughter survive him.

OFFICER.—On March 9, 1951, peacefully, after some months of illness, Winifred Margaret Mylne, wife of Lt.-Col. W. G. Officer, late The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, only daughter of the late Sir Alfred Kensington, I.C.S., and Lady Kensington.

Marriages

MACNAIR—TRENCH.—On January 26, 1951, at Pennal Parish Church, Merioneth, Capt. Richard Hugh Derek Macnair, R.A., son of Brigadier and the Hon. Mrs. Macnair, of Ruckinge, Kent, to Elizabeth Le Poer Trench, daughter of Lt.-Col. and Mrs. M. V. Le P. Trench, of Llwyncelyn, Pennal.

HETLEY—WYNTER BEE.—On January 27, 1951, quietly, at Bisley, Major Claude Raymond Hetley, late The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, to Eve Wynter Bee, of "Heather Hills," Chobham, Surrey.

Major J. C. Lepper (best man) and Major R. H. Owen were present at the wedding.

Major and Mrs. Hetley are now living at Heather Hills, Chobham, Surrey. Tel. No.: Chobham 91.

PERSONALIA

Major J. P. Huffam, V.C., writes to say how sorry he was not to have been present at Col. Pickering's funeral. He had particularly wished to be there, not only on his own account but also to represent his uncle, Col. W. J. G. Huffam, a devoted friend of the Colonel, who had stayed with him at York only a few days before his death. Major Huffam was laid low with 'flu at the last moment.

* * * *

We offer our congratulations to C.S.M. Walton, who has been mentioned while serving with the Green Howards in Malaya.

* * * *

Lt.-Col. W. G. Officer writes:

It was a pleasure to find that the man working away at the redecoration of the room next to mine at the Moore Place Hotel, Esher, was an ex-Duke's man. This was No. 35405 Cpl. G. Baker, who served in the 2/4th Battalion from August, 1918, to February 10, 1919.

Born in Odiham, Surrey, his adventurous spirit took him north and, when the first world war began, he was engaged in baking and delivering bread in the Newcastle area. He joined a Field Bakery, R.A.S.C., in 1915, and served with it in France till May, 1918, when he was transferred to the Durham Light Infantry, and then, three months later, to the 2/4th Battalion of the Duke of Wellington's Regiment, joining them at Achiet-le-Grand.

Not content with this service experience, he enlisted in the Royal Air Force on February 21, 1932, serving with them for seven years and five on the Reserve. No doubt not a few readers of THE IRON DUKE will remember him. He now lives at 17 Pemberton Road, East Molesey.

* * * *

Mr. O'Connor writes from 66 Kenford Road, South Melbourne, Victoria, Western Australia, sending New Year's greetings to the Regiment and expressing the pleasure with which he looks back



The late Col. A. E. R. Curran, who as reported in the last issue of 'The Iron Duke,' died at the age of 97. In his will he left a legacy of £600 to the regiment.

on the days he spent with the "Dukes." Demobilised in 1945, he served in the 1st, 2nd, 7th and 10th Battalions and hopes if there ever is another war to be back with them again.

* * * *

Having left the Army last year after 22 years' service, many of them as a Company Sergeant-Major in The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, Mr. George Shires, of Leyburn Street, Holbeck, Leeds, has signed on again in a new role. He is among the Yorkshire recruits who have been accepted for the Australian Regular Army and sailed from Tilbury with about 500 other volunteers on March 8. They have all signed on for six years. Ex-Sgt.-Major Shires, who is 38, spent 15 years of his British Army service abroad. For a time he was in the East African Rifles.

* * * *

Presentations to Sgt. W. Norman, who has been permanent staff instructor of the 7th Battalion, Duke of Wellington's Regiment, Support Company, at Elland, were made at Elland Drill Hall recently by Capt. D. R. Siddall, the Company Commander. Capt. Siddall handed over the Elland Home Guard Rifle Club's Sayer Trophy which Sgt. Norman won last year, and a metronome from members of the T.A. unit and the Rifle Club. Other speakers were Mr. A. Brook (chairman) and Mr. G. Evans of the Rifle Club.

Sgt. Norman has left Elland to join the 1st Battalion of The Duke of Wellington's Regiment as Intelligence Sergeant.

* * * *

Brigadier E. W. Rogers, C.I.E., is now living at Kingswood Beech, Alton, Hants.

IN MALAYA WITH THE GREEN HOWARDS

The Editor of the "Green Howards Gazette" has very kindly sent the following notes, which were supplied by Lt.-Col. D'A. Mander, D.S.O., Commanding 1st Battalion The Green Howards in Malaya. Unfortunately these notes arrived too late for inclusion in the last number and are therefore somewhat out of date.—Ed.

It is always of interest to know the location of your former comrades, so here is a short list of old "Dukes" that come readily to mind who are now with the 1st Battalion The Green Howards in Malaya:

Major L. B. B. Beuttler, M.B.E.; Capt. F. Walton, M.C.; O.R.Q.M.S. A. H. Sedgwick; C.S.M. J. H. Walton; C.Q.M.S. "China" Gill; G. Short, H. J. Samme and J. J. French; Sgts. G. Rodgers, S. Kirk, A. Moore, L. Garforth, "Bomber" Burke and B. Williams; Cpl. J. Bryan; Ptes. "Sailor" Hill and F. McCann.

In all there are 2 officers, 2 W.O.s, 4 C/Sergeants and 56 Privates of the Regiment serving in this Battalion. Way back in the "dark days" of the group system, just as 1st D.W.R. were forming what was to be the group A.B.T.U., Capt. Walton, M.C., and O.R.Q.M.S. Sedgwick, both from the Depot, arrived in this Battalion, then, of course, the 2nd Battalion The Green Howards. Both were fortunate, if that could describe the situation, in having friends in the Green Howards, Capt. Walton, meeting another local of Halifax in Capt. Milligan, and O.R.Q.M.S. Sedgwick was on his home pitch, as at that time about 40 per cent. of the Battalion, came from the Boro! Of course, as many from the 1st Battalion will remember, something like 100 soldiers had been left in Khartoum and transferred to the 2nd Battalion The Green Howards, but at the time of writing, very few are now serving, with the exception of Pte. Teal, ex-2nd Battalion "Dukes"; most of the others disappeared within twelve months or so.

The "few" served with the 2nd and 1st Battalions, Green Howards, for almost sixteen months before further members of the Regiment joined in July, 1949, but we can announce now that C.S.M. "Michey" Read almost joined the Battalion at Khartoum in November, 1948.

As a point of interest to the Sergeants' Mess, and to prove that the "Dukes" are in Malaya, three of the eight W.O.s, four of the five C/Sergeants and six Sergeants are of the Regiment.

In the field of sport we have been well to the fore. Capt. Walton is the Rugger Officer and has been selected numerous times for the State team. O.R.Q.M.S. Sedgwick has been the Battalion football, hockey and basket ball representative since joining. C.Q.M.S. "Jerry" Short is captain of the Battalion soccer team. C.Q.M.S. "China" Gill and C.Q.M.S. French both Company footballers. Last, but not least, C.S.M. "Joss" Walton and Sgt. "Buddy" Rodgers are the "sniff and resin" boys organising the Battalion boxing team.

Congratulations are extended to C.S.M. Walton on his mention in despatches, awarded for an arduous and long jungle operation, one of the longest during the emergency in Malaya.

"Matelot" Hill of 2nd Battalion fame has been installed as the Big Chief of the "wet canteen" and can be seen every night holding court in the same place and chair, with crowds of the younger generation listening to the usual old soldiers' tales. He has also been heard to give some first-hand accounts of the Burma Campaign to the same lads. This, of course, is authentic, no tales here, he having been through the full campaign. He has just applied to extend his tour for another six months, having left the Depot in November, 1947, for duty with the Burma Mission. He seems to think his old bones could not stand an English winter.

Old "Dukes" will remember C.S.M. Bill Seaton the footballer; his son is serving with us in the M.T. Section.

With four out of five C.Q.M.S.s coming from the "Dukes" it would not surprise us if the fifth one was named Wellington.

At present in Selerang Barracks, if it was not for the difference in climate, you would almost think you were in Halifax at the Depot, with the number of "Dukes" families that are there. Mrs. Sedgwick was the first to arrive, having left the Depot in March of this year, followed by Mrs. Samme and Mrs. French in August and then Mrs. Walton, once again from the Depot, leaving in September. The Bacons are in private accommodation in Singapore, but no doubt we will be seeing them over the Christmas holidays while the Battalion is down there on retraining. In January, 1951, the family of Sgt. Moore is expected and a little later Mrs. Beuttler, wife of Major Beuttler, M.B.E.

In the New Year C.Q.M.S. Gill's eldest son will be joining the "Duke's" Band at Strensall. "China," although a Devonian, is developing quite a family interest in the "Dukes." He has two brothers-in-law who served with the 1st Battalion: Drms. D. P. Brown and Beverly. As he has twins 4½ years old, it looks as if the strength will increase by two in 1960.

Stationed in Singapore are two more "Dukes": C.Q.M.S.s Bacon and Staniford at the T. and T.C. See Soon, Singapore.

C.Q.M.S. Benner came to us in February, but was posted to 48 Gurkha Brigade H.Q.

Reading these notes it looks as if old C.Q.M.S.s never die, they simply go Far East.

The "Duke" who made his presence felt more than any other appears to be Major D. I. Strangeways, 2IC in Khartoum. His name is still mentioned with awe and admiration.

Our greetings to "Dukes" everywhere, past and present, may be a trifle late, but lose nothing of their sincerity, in wishing you and yours a Happy Christmas and the very best for the New Year.

A.H.S.

EXTRACTS

from the Diary of Lt. William Thain, 33rd Foot

(Adjutant, 33rd Foot, May 11, 1815—July 13, 1826)

Transcribed from the original by Lt.-Col. C. W. G. INCE, O.B.E., M.C.

Continued from page 17, THE IRON DUKE, No. 79

At Sea, Thursday, July 15, 1813

We had heavy rain at noon with fresh breeze at SE. by E.

At Sea, Friday, July 16, 1813

Wind ESE. Still in tow by the *Harrison*.

At Sea, Saturday, July 17, 1813

At 10 a.m. the *Harrison* cast us off for fear we should run foul of each other in the calm. Towards noon we had some variable winds.

At Sea, Sunday, July 18, 1813

We had all between decks thoroughly washed and fumigated. The day very fine, but very little wind. At 8 a.m. several ships in sight all around.

At Sea, Monday, July 19, 1813

Variable winds but pleasant weather. Several ships in sight. We had all possible sail set to best advantage. . . . At 8 we made the coast of Jutland, bearing south, the distance from it about 5 leagues.

At Sea, Tuesday, July 20, 1813

. . . I had the middle watch. Two strange sails in sight.

At Sea, Wednesday, July 20, 1813

Fine weather, winds variable, but in general contrary, so that we were tacking very frequently all day; we went at 6 a.m. two knots an hour, from that to 11 we went only 1 knot.

At Sea, Friday, July 23, 1813

A fine day. — of Capt. Colclough's company was to-day tried by a drumhead court martial for striking a Corporal, found guilty and received 275 lashes; he was sentenced to 300.

[Flogging was the prerogative neither of the Services nor the sterner sex. In the past this punishment was awarded for an astonishing variety of offences, including petty larceny, lunacy, and the small-pox. Though in the course of time it became restricted to graver offences, in the Army it was not abolished till 1881.—ED.]

At Sea, Saturday, July 24, 1813

At 3 o'clock we made the coast of Sweden on the lee bow.

At Sea, Sunday, July 25, 1813

Light winds, so that we made very little way. . . . At 10 we got a pilot on board. At 3 p.m. we ran for the island of Oroust. At 6 we came to anchor in the Bay of Gullholmen; depth of the water, 5 fathoms. This is a very large bay, entirely surrounded by barren rocks, through which there are two passages to the sea, that on the west at which

we entered was very narrow. Gullholmen is a miserable village, containing about fifty wooden houses placed on a small island and inhabited by poor fishermen. . . . Col. Gore, Major Parkinson, etc., went on shore; before their return they found out a Scotsman, who acts as a sort of agent to the British Consul; he has lived in this place for nineteen years. His name is Coote; he has a wife and family. I being on watch could not leave the ship this evening.

Gullholmen, Monday, July 26, 1813

This morning I got leave to go on shore and went with Capt. Haigh and Fitzpatrick to a kind of public-house, which was the largest in the village, and stood in the middle of it. We were shown upstairs into a very clean, well-furnished room. Here we partook of some of the liquor of the country, which rather resembled bad Scotch whiskey. . . .

I met Archibald afterwards and returned with him to dine on board, where we met Mr. Coote; the Colonel asked him "in" to drink wine. . . .

All the men that could swim were ordered to bathe by the side of the ship this evening. We filled in the morning all our empty casks with water.

Gullholmen, Tuesday, July 27, 1813

This morning Ralph Gore, Hewitt and I landed on the east side of the bay opposite to where we came in. Here the rocks are very high, shelving one above another and nearly perpendicular by the sea. By walking about half a mile you get behind these rocks and there the country becomes more varied, for there are here very pretty vallies with some shrubs and a few fir trees and here and there a snug farmhouse. We walked about 2½ miles (English) when we came to a very good church. We had not walked above half a mile further when a gentleman came running out of a very good-looking house (but built of wood) with his pipe in his hand and made signs for us to go in. He asked us if we could talk German and I told him I could. We went in and were introduced to his family, who made us very welcome; they gave us some very bad small beer and offered us pipes of tobacco, one of which I accepted. After we had sat about a quarter of an hour we were taken into another room, where we found a very nice collation laid out with everyone a napkin. On the chair bottoms in this room was a picture of Sunderland Bridge. The repast consisted of cold sliced ham, a kind of cabbage done up with butter which was warm and extremely good, cheese, butter and bread of a coarse quality with curds and milk, and Swedish brandy. After this they took us to their gardens

and when we came in we were presented with some excellent coffee and our pipes. Soon after this we took our leave and one of the gentlemen went with us to show us the church, in which there was a large organ and a good clock; in every respect it was much better than any country church in England.

After this we returned direct to the ship, where we found several young girls from the country, with their parents, had been dining with our officers. The Colonel, Paymaster, etc., happened to walk the same way that we had done and were asked in the same friendly manner to this gentleman's house, whom we afterwards knew to be Baron Beldt. They were entertained in a manner becoming Col. Gore's rank and he asked them to come and spend the day with us to-morrow on board the ship. They found at the Baron's all our names, which I forgot to mention he asked us to leave; this seems to be customary among them with strangers.

[Few parish churches in England could boast of an organ, and the harmonium was a much later invention. Music was supplied by village instrumentalists seated in the gallery, or by a kind of barrel organ turned by a handle and provided with interchangeable cylinders giving a limited choice of tunes. A few of these still survive.—Ed.]

Gullholmen, Wednesday, July 28, 1813

As the wind was very variable all day we were not allowed to go on shore, but from 12 to 3 we had boats full of strangers coming to see us, whom we entertained at dinner, then with dancing country dances in the English manner, and after that tea and coffee,

at which the ladies sat some time while the male part smoked their pipes and listened with great pleasure to the Band. Several of them were educated and talk French, German, etc.; the dress of the men resembled that of respectable English farmers, but that of the ladies, though very fine, was very unbecoming. They had heard of the Marquis Wellington's victory at Vittoria and seemed to rejoice at it, though they seldom talk politics and are very reserved on this head; but they are a very fine people, possessing many excellent qualities for which we liked them much and we every morning found that when the peasants came with their things to sell their dealings were altogether honest and fair. The old Baron did not come till late in the evening. We received him on board with the Band playing "God save the King," etc. They did not go away till sometime after he came and the Colonel, with some of the officers, went all the way home with the Baron's family. . . .

Gullholmen, Thursday, July 29, 1813

This morning, at about 10 o'clock, we left the Bay of Gullholmen with a fair wind. We came out by a passage on the south side of the bay, which at some places was scarce twice the breadth of the ship. At the mouth of it a brig was lying to repair her rudder, who had got orders to leave the place immediately as she might expect to be cut out by some Danish gunboats. We sailed with a fair breeze all along the coast, but avoided the courses through the islands which are here so numerous.

At about 6 o'clock p.m. we were off Bingo (?) Sound. We took on a pilot and came to anchor at about 7. Here we learnt that General Gibbs and the expedition had received orders, off this place, to proceed direct to the island of Anholt. Mr. Gore had arrived as had Major and Capt. Harty and Capt. Pagan, who all came together in the horse transports but were now on board the transport brig *Roberts*, where the transport agent had his flag. I delivered my letters to Major Harty, who gave me one from my father whom he had seen at Kilkenny. He also brought several letters from England which had arrived by post at Harwich; one of them was from Walter, telling me that he placed £15 to the credit of Mr. Studdart with Greenwood, Cox & Co.

Wingo Sound, Friday, July 30, 1813

On board all day, reading, etc. A large fleet is now waiting for a fair wind under convoy of the *Ulyses* [sic] 44 and several brigs of war with which we must proceed through the great Belt either to Stralsund or Rostock.

Wingo Sound, Saturday, July 31, 1813

Quite busy all day, for the arms were all taken out and cleaned and all between decks were thoroughly cleaned and fumigated with vinegar. I, in the evening, inspected the necessaries of the 8th Company. Weather remarkably hot with a little wind, which was contrary.

Wingo Sound, Sunday, August 1, 1813

A very hot day, wind against us. We got our heavy baggage from the hold, by which means I got several necessaries which I was in want of.

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LETTERS TO THE REGIMENT

The two following letters have been received by the Colonel of the Regiment. The first is from the Very Reverend Eric Milner-White, D.S.O., Dean of York Minster, acknowledging a gift of £20 to the fund for saving the Minster. The second is from General Mark Clark of the United States Army and explains itself.

December 28, 1950.

My dear Sir Philip,

This is marvellously generous of you, and what a great Christmas present for the Minster! You have always been so good to it and to me.

Though they cannot attain the size of the gifts of industrial and commercial concerns, we do value those which carry the *affection* of individuals most of all, even when they are far smaller than your noble cheque.

When you next visit the Minster you will find it growing more lovely as the windows get back. Within two or three months we hope that the scaffolding in the North Transept will be removed, and the world will have an unbroken view of the Five Sisters from the south entrance.

Your own Regimental Chapel continues to be a great delight, whether for beauty or for use. It is wonderful what a difference the new Screen makes to the east end of the Minster, no less than to the Chapel itself.

All good speed and God speed to you and yours during 1951.

Most gratefully and sincerely yours,
ERIC MILNER-WHITE.

The Deanery, York.

December 20, 1950.

Dear General Christison,

Col. Robert de la H. Moran presented me yesterday with the insignia of the 1st Battalion of the Duke of Wellington's Regiment. I don't know of anything that has pleased me more than receiving the insignia of such a magnificent fighting organisation.

During the war an old Italian carved these plaques for me, so I have the Regimental and Divisional emblems of all units who served with me in the Italian campaign. The one of the Duke of Wellington's Regiment will be a fine addition to the collection. I never will forget the splendid record it made for itself and the Allied cause on the fields of battle in Italy.

Please convey to its members my deep appreciation of their thoughtfulness.

Sincerely,

MARK W. CLARK,
General, U.S.A. Forces.

Fort Munroe, Virginia.

YPRES, 1914

We have obtained permission from Lt.-Col. H. K. Umfreville, D.S.O., to print the following letter written to him shortly after the First Battle of Ypres by General Sir Horace Smith-Dorrien, then commanding the 2nd Corps in the British Expeditionary Force. For many the memory of those days has been dimmed by the impact of more recent events, but, for all that has happened since, Ypres remains an outstanding monument to the courage, resource and endurance of the British soldier. The Germans launched their first attack on October 19, 1914, with such confidence of success that they were already making detailed preparations for a triumphal march into Paris and even allotting seats to distinguished spectators. For thirty-two days they continued to throw all the forces they could muster against the seven British divisions who, outnumbered, out-gunned, and at times desperately short of ammunition, held their ground with astonishing tenacity. It was probably the most crucial battle in the war. There was no reserve to counter a break-through and a withdrawal would have given the enemy possession of the Channel ports, opened the road to Paris and—in the words of the official history—imperilled the fate of the British Empire. The fighting was bitter and the cost heavy. By November 16 the Battalion was reduced to three officers and three hundred other ranks. This tribute to a great and distinguished commander on such a historic occasion cannot but be a source of pride not only to those who took part in the fighting but to all members of the Regiment.—ED.

December 19, 1914.

My dear Umfreville,

B— has shown me yours of 14th, and very pleased to read it I am, for it is most difficult to get at the truth even when a Battalion is fighting in my Corps, and almost impossible when away supporting another Corps in a most desperate fight lasting several days as the D. of W.s were from the 4th to the 18th November. The reports I have indicate that day after day the D. of W.s were engaged, holding trenches under conditions of ground and weather impossible to describe, constantly attacked, invariably successful whether in defence or counter-attack and covering themselves with glory, and that the chief credit is given for these splendid results to one "Capt. H. K. Umfreville," who took over command of the Battalion when it wanted a guiding hand, and further that this same Capt. Umfreville was one of the foremost leaders during those days of heavy fighting round Ypres, who led the D. of W.s to victory in spite of losing almost all their officers and the greater number of their men. Truly it is a record of which any regiment may be proud, and I congratulate you and thank you for being mainly instrumental in working up the reinforcements, of which the Battalion chiefly consisted, to such a splendid fighting spirit as to have made their deeds referred to possible.

Your letter is most useful to me in making up my record of the performances of the Battalion.

I earnestly hope you are on the way to recovery, for from the point of view of "our Cause" we want you back with us, as it is with men of your calibre that we are going to win this war. I am in hopes that we have reached a stage when such desperate fighting as you have taken part in may not occur again.

If you come out again I shall be in much sympathy with Mrs. Umfreville, for I know what it will mean to her.

Yours sincerely,
H. S. SMITH-DORRIEN.

CORRESPONDENCE

February 12, 1951.

The Editor.

Dear Sir,

I wonder if any of our boys would recollect the incident that happened on Battalion training in 1911 at Tidworth. We had been out all night and continued the next day, finishing about 3 p.m. at Hurstbourne Tarrant, about seven miles from our barracks. After a rest, Cpl. Lucas of "A" Company, a signaller and I went out to have a look round. Our camp had been pitched on a slope and over the side was a churchyard. We were in the village pub when one of the villagers remarked: "You will get no sleep till after twelve o'clock where your tents are." When we asked why, he said, "Old Ben's snore will let you know." We had a pleasant evening and returned to camp, getting down to it about 9.30 p.m. Exactly at 10 p.m. a loud snoring began to come from a grave in the cemetery. We thought that a practical joke was being played on us, so a party, Cpl. Labrum, Lucas, myself, Gibbons and Postlewaite, jumped the fence and searched among the graves till we located the place. There was a snore all right and it kept on till 12 midnight; then stopped as suddenly as it had started. There was no possibility of anyone getting under the grave to play a joke and it left us guessing for a long, long time.

I managed to collar one of the inhabitants next morning and he said that whenever the ground was occupied by strangers this happened. A week or two later I again visited the pub and the story was confirmed by the landlord.

Yours faithfully,
CLO—EY.

11 Fairfield Drive,
London, S.W.18.

January 25, 1951.

The Editor.

Dear Sir,

I have pleasure in enclosing P.O. for 6s., subscription to THE IRON DUKE for 1951.

In doing so, I extend hearty greetings to all members of the Duke of Wellington's Regiment.

I am glad to note the names of a few officers that I had pleasure in serving under still among the living. I have very vivid recollections of Lt.-Col. M. V. Le P. French and Lt.-Col. "Freddy" Wellesley, and forward them my salaams.

I wonder if these officers remember me as the Schoolmaster-in-Charge, the Duke of Wellington's, from October, 1897, to March, 1908.

At Christmas I exchanged greetings with Mr. Paling and Mr. George Fricker and am pleased that both these old members of the Regiment were hale and hearty.

Alas! Time rolls on. I am in my 80th year, but am very happy to say I feel quite O.K., although just a bit "tottery."

With best wishes to you, Sir, and to THE IRON DUKE and all members of the Duke of Wellington's Regiment.

I am, Sir,
Yours sincerely,
W. MACKAY.

3 Fordbank Road,
Manchester, 20.

February 27, 1951.

The Editor.

Dear Sir,

Re the article in the last issue of THE IRON DUKE by Major H. J. T. Sills.

In June, 1940, I was with the Battalion on the Franco-Belgian border forward of Les Moeres. I remember all the chaps mentioned by Major Sills as "Dukes" with the exception of Lt. T. B. Turner.

The date of Pte. Whatton's death I can confirm as 1.6.40. I was at "The Piggery" when he was killed whilst driving the wounded from the forward Companies. He was, I believe, one of "C" Company's 15-cwt. drivers.

Driver Shelgrove should read Drummer Snelgrove and he was in L/Sgt. Killien's section forward of the canal when he was killed.

At the time of the above happenings I was Intelligence Sergeant and I assisted the Pioneer Sergeant (Sgt. Leggart) with the burial of the majority of our chaps who were killed there.

Yours faithfully,
E. OLIVER, Captain.

60 Wellington Street,
Lemington-on-Tyne.

Late News

From "The Times," April 9, 1951

The King has appointed Lieutenant Colonel The Most Noble Gerald, Duke of Wellington to be a Knight of the Most Noble Order of the Garter.

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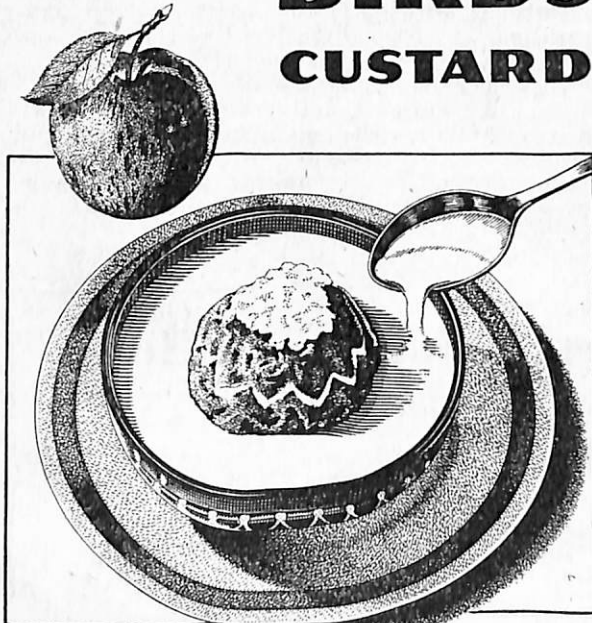
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The Royal Northumberland Fusiliers
The Royal Warwickshire Regiment
The King's Regiment
The Devonshire Regiment
The Suffolk Regiment
The Somerset Light Infantry
The East Yorkshire Regiment
The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment
The Royal Leicestershire Regiment

The Gloucestershire Regiment
The Worcestershire Regiment
The East Surrey Regiment
The Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry
The Duke of Wellington's Regiment
The Border Regiment
The Royal Sussex Regiment
The Royal Hampshire Regiment
The South Staffordshire Regiment
The Dorsetshire Regiment
The Welch Regiment
The Essex Regiment
The Sherwood Foresters
The Loyal Regiment
The Northamptonshire Regiment
The Royal Berkshire Regiment
The Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment

The King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry
The King's Shropshire Light Infantry
The Middlesex Regiment
The Wiltshire Regiment
The Manchester Regiment
The North Staffordshire Regiment
The York & Lancaster Regiment
The Durham Light Infantry
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LONDON TO HONG KONG BY AIR

The Editor received the following from the late Col. Pickering only a few weeks before his death:

Here is an extract from a letter received from Capt. Cary Pickering, Royal Marines, who left London Airport at 7 p.m. on the night of our Regimental Dinner, June 2, 1950, to join his ship, H.M.S. *Jamaica*. Capt. Pickering is the younger son of the late Col. C. J. Pickering:

"We left London Airport at 1915 and arrived at Rome at 2300, having crossed France at 21,500 ft. cruising at 280 m.p.h. We went up to that height to avoid a storm that was going on beneath us. The plane was fully pressurised so the altitude caused no worry. While passing high over Paris we were given a most excellent five-course dinner by a delightful air hostess. Coming into Rome was really a most lovely sight. The city was a most glorious blaze of light. At Rome airport restaurant we were given light eats and emplaned again at 0100. At 0630 we arrived at Cairo and had a breakfast of bacon and eggs at the airport restaurant.

"We passed low over the Delta, but I was disappointed that we missed both Cairo and the Pyramids. We left Cairo at 0900 and arrived at Basra at 1430. The trip to Basra was very interesting, but it is certainly a desolate part of the world. Lunch was served in the plane. Basra was distinctly warm—106. When we did a quiet bleat they said it was just as well it wasn't July when we would have found it—116. We left Basra at about 1600, had tea and dinner in the plane and arrived at Karachi at 2300. The daylight part of this stage was down the Persian Gulf and therefore pretty dull. The exception was crossing the spit of land, the name of which I have forgotten, which sticks out from Arabia at the southern end of the Gulf. That was a truly incredible sight; it must be one of the wildest bits of country in the world. It is one mass of bare razor-edged peaks without a sign of vegetation anywhere. They rise to over 5,000 feet and the pilot told us that although it seemed hard to believe, the area is inhabited. BOAC run their own restaurant at Karachi and a late supper was laid on there for us. A fellow-passenger was more than a little shattered, having ordered two bottles of

beer, when he was presented with a bill for 17s. That is the effect of Pakistan failing to devalue their rupee. No wonder India does not like them!

"We left Karachi at 0130 on Sunday and arrived at Calcutta at 0830 and had breakfast at the airport. Calcutta was strikingly hot as the monsoon was on the point of breaking and we were very glad when 1030 arrived and we climbed back to the cool of 10,000 to 15,000 feet. We crossed the jungles of Burma, had lunch in the plane and arrived at Rangoon airport at 1500. Then we had a very pleasant ten-mile drive into the city, where we stayed the night at 'The Strand Hotel.' The 'Strand' is English-owned and run, and I should say very probably the only going concern in the country. Rangoon was all together rather a heart-breaking sight. Except for the fact that the electric power had been restored, I could see little change since my last visit in 1945. The hotel though was excellent. I had a large double room with private bathroom and the dinner was excellent. Much refreshed we left at eight next morning for Bangkok. We arrived over Bangkok at 1000, but were left in the air for half an hour waiting for the King of Siam to take off with his bride on their honeymoon. He finally left with an escort of 18 fighters. The delay gave us plenty of time to have a look at the city from the air; my regret is that I could not have a closer look. They provided 'elevenses' at the airport and we left about noon on the last stage.

"The last stage was an interesting one across the wilds of Thailand and Indo-China. We arrived at Hong Kong at about 1800, five flying hours later. Landing at Hong Kong is truly terrifying! The airfield is on the foreshore of the mainland a little east of Kowloon and is closely surrounded by mountains on three sides of it over a thousand feet high. The aircraft has to do a 45-degree bank to get down, at the same time passing between a mountain and a hill, both of which it has to clear with less than 100 feet to spare! My seat companion, Mr. Nichol, the First Secretary, said not to worry, only one had hit so far! The complete air crew, including stewards and stewardess, changed after each 24 hours, so that we had three different crews for the whole trip. The crew consisted of pilot, co-pilot, navigator, wireless operator, two stewards and an air hostess. They certainly all looked after us exceedingly well, particularly the air hostesses, who were all most sweet."

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O.C.A. NEWS

8TH BATTALION
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145 REGIMENT, R.A.C.

We trust that all are well, despite the difficulties and controversies surrounding us. There has not been much to report since the last letter. Perhaps the weather has been responsible for any depression.

The fourth Annual Reunion was again successfully held at the Guildford Hotel, Leeds, on April 22, 1950. Lt.-Col. A. C. Jackson, D.S.O., was in the chair, supported by Col. F. R. Armitage, O.B.E., and Lt.-Col. Sir Nugent Everard. Many came long distances for the reunion, notably F. Buchan (H.Q.) from North of the Tweed and the several stalwarts from London. It is requested that all will make a special effort to attend the fifth reunion, which will be held in April, 1951. Full details will be sent out nearer the date.

Several calls have been made on the Duke of Wellington's Fund and the Royal Armoured Corps Benevolent Fund. Full employment does preclude much real hardship amongst our generation, but with the high cost of living, which seems to be ever increasing, impecuniosity soon rears its ugly head if things go wrong. No one, therefore, should be hesitant in writing to the Hon. Secretary for advice or to the Secretaries of the two funds named above if in need.

Bill Burgess is somewhere in China, we hope. Sgt. Read (Officers' Mess) is still with the St. Austell Brewery, Cornwall. He will be found in the sales department in the centre of the town of St. Austell.

Sid Priestman is still in good fettle in Chadderton, Staffs, and would like to hear from the H.Q., M.T. Section.

Sgt. Collins is as debonair as ever in the cocktail bar of the Strand Palace. We wonder if he ever performs "Frankie and Johnnie."

Major J. F. Webb, M.C., after a longish sojourn at several London hospitals picking up the odd clue on medicine, is preparing for the Far East. This is certain to perpetuate this trouble spot, but we wish him well.

Frank Ellis has recently been on holiday in the Veryan area, Cornwall, which he says is as lovely as ever with our weapon pits still intact.

Major H. M. C. Tobin has a staff appointment at Istanbul. His wife and family are with him, we are happy to record.

Brigadier David Dawnay, D.S.O., has been appointed Commandant, R.M.C., Camberley, with the rank of Major-General.

R.S.M. Henry Cundall has recently retired from the Army. We send our best wishes and look forward to seeing our ex-"Tara" at the next reunion. He is now at Solihull School, Birmingham, shaping the young idea. His release from the Army was nearly marred by the arithmetic of O.i/c Records.

However, a combined operation of sympathetic "Dukes" in high places solved the problem.

The following extract from the *Yorkshire Post* will be of interest to all who served with the Regiment in Italy. The story refers to the formation of a Far Eastern Brigade of the Canadian Army. It is good to learn that Col. Stone is so unchanged!

"For this force the Canadian Army has revived a legend. From one end of Canada to the other, red patch veterans of the Canadian 1st Division are whispering to one another: 'Big Jim Stone's back in the Army.' Lt.-Col. James Stone, who will command the Princess Patricia's Battalion of the brigade, holds the D.S.O. and bar and the M.C. In 1939 he trekked out of his homestead in Alberta's Peace River country to join the Loyal Edmonton Regiment.

"For a long time—so the legend goes—the authorities would not let him be an officer 'because he didn't look like one.' Finally he was sent to an N.C.O. School, where his leadership was spotted and he began his upward climb. Big Jim was Company Sergeant Major when the Canadians landed in Spitsbergen. He ruled the inhabitants there with a hand of iron and a heart of gold. At Ortona, Italy, he became known as the epitome of fighting fury, and when a Canadian force was picked to march into Berlin, Big Jim was selected to lead it.

"After the war he returned to his homestead, but when he heard about the combined Canadian-U.S. Arctic manoeuvres last year he pricked up his ears and asked if he could help. He was assigned to escort senior officers around the vast and desolate terrain.

"During the manoeuvres Maj.-Gen. Cris. Vokes of the Canadian Army, who was Stone's old 1st Division Commander, flew in to watch the exercises. When he was informed he would be shown round by Jim Stone he is reported to have quailed and then groaned 'Who's going to protect me?'"

The Fifth Annual Reunion will be held at the Guildford Hotel, Leeds, on Saturday, April 14, at 6.30 p.m. Invitations have been set out and all ex-members of the Battalion are invited to attend whether an invitation is received or not. Those not on the address list should write to Major F. B. Murgatroyd, 12 St. Ives Road, Skircoat Green, Halifax.

We are pleased to announce the engagement of Major C. L. Newton Thompson, M.C., who is now domiciled in Birmingham, much to the relief of all employees of the Marylebone Borough Council. Major J. F. Webb, M.C., has returned to the U.K. on compassionate grounds, owing to the illness of his mother.

We look forward to a large representation from the Battalion in September, when the Regimental Chapel in Halifax Parish Church will be dedicated. Approximately 60 names from the Battalion are in the book of remembrance.

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Manchester.—Major W. L. James, 7 Burnham Avenue, Kingsway, Manchester 19, is forming a club in the area. All interested should contact him.

Ossett.—An O.C.A. club is also being formed in Ossett. The proposed meeting place is conveniently located on the main bus routes from Wakefield and Dewsbury. Old comrades in the area should contact Mr. H. F. Hallaghan, 79 Healey Road, Ossett.

London.—Sgt. Romano is a substantial part of the photograph of the London Branch Annual Dinner, 1950, held recently at the Raglan Hotel, St. Martin's-le-Grand. The Hon. Secretary is Mr. H. Butterworth, 9 Kinfauns Avenue, Romford Essex, with Headquarters at the Victory Club, Hand Court, Holborn, W.C. Anyone in the London area would be welcomed and should write to Mr. Butterworth.

Association Committee.—This remains the same, namely, Capt. F. O. Till, Messrs. B. Boon, B. Wadd, W. Read, D. Broadbent and W. Mounsey, with the Hon. Secretary, Major F. B. Murgatroyd, 12 St. Ives Road, Skircoat Green, Halifax, Yorks (Telephone Halifax 60469).

Anyone hearing of old members of the Regiment who are not getting newsletter, etc., or who have changed address, are asked to get into touch with the Hon. Secretary; also anyone who hears of old members, or near relatives, in need of assistance in any form.

Doncaster and District.—In the last issue of THE IRON DUKE our Editor said he would welcome notes from this Branch as a regular feature in the Journal. Without committing myself to the regularity of the feature, I am compiling a few more notes in the hope that they will be of interest, not merely to those of us who live in the Doncaster district, but to many other friends who may now be serving, or who have ever served, in the Regiment.

Some of you may recall that it was only last autumn that this Branch was born. We have not yet lost our cradle marks, but we are growing, and with careful nursing may yet develop into a lusty child. Most of the work so far has been of a nature essential for the early administration and organisation of the Branch and has not therefore left much time for play.

Nevertheless, that some progress has been made can be seen from the following:

The Branch has been fortunate in finding suitable Headquarters and now meets regularly at The Horse and Jockey, St. Sepulchre Gate, Doncaster, on the first Tuesday in every month, at 7.30 p.m.

Mr. G. Curzan has been elected Chairman, vice Mr. "Ted" Green, who resigned from that office to enable him to devote more time to the entertainments side of the Branch. The Secretary still hopes to form a Social Sub-Committee to take over the organisation of this part of our activities and by the time this is in print it is hoped that we shall have played our first inter-Branch darts match, against Sheffield, whom we are looking forward to entertaining at home shortly.

Thanks to an initial grant from the General Secretary of the Regimental Association, we have been able to open a banking account with the local branch of the National Provincial Bank, and our funds are being carefully watched by our capable Treasurer, "Blimey" Goodwin—once of Provost fame.

The Branch membership is steadily growing and as we get to know each other better it is hoped that we shall be able to include in our periodic reports anecdotes about various of our members which will, we trust, be of general interest to readers. At the moment, though, we have not settled down sufficiently to sort out more than a mere handful or so. Recently one of our officials sent out 79 postcards to old "Dukes" in this district—quite an operation in itself—and although so far they have not all turned up at the same meeting, we hope that it will not be long before each one has managed to come to at least one of our meetings or functions.

Of course, it is possible that some of the addresses we have are no longer correct and no doubt there are several more "Dukes" round about Doncaster we have not yet contacted. One we are anxious to locate is a Mr. Eddie Walker, who, it is believed, was a P.O.W. for about 4½ years. If any reader happens to know this man's present address will he please let our Secretary know?

Remember, any ex-"Duke," member or not, is welcome at our monthly meetings held at The Horse and Jockey, St. Sepulchre Gate, Doncaster, on the first Tuesday of every month. Anyone who has received a communication from us, but whose name, initials or address was not correctly stated, is asked to let the Branch Secretary know the correct details; and any reader in the Doncaster district who has not previously been in touch with us and who is unable to attend our next meeting for any reason is invited to contact the Branch Secretary: Capt. John Satterthwaite, 160 Zetland Road, Doncaster. (Telephone: Doncaster 61801.)

Inter-Branch Darts Competition. Doncaster and District Branch entertained Sheffield Branch on Saturday, March 10, for a darts match and social evening. The visitors won with an aggregate score of 2,991 to 2,757. About 40 to 50 members, wives and friends were present and many old acquaintances were renewed.

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Dewsbury, Ossett, Wakefield.—We can look back on our first half-year's existence of branch life with some satisfaction. Much has been achieved in the way of social gatherings and all praise is due to the members and their wives for their very generous efforts towards this end.

On December 6 we held our official opening night, long delayed, until we could see which way the "wind blew," which was attended by well over 100 persons, mostly "Dukes." Amongst those who attended were representatives of our Leeds and Doncaster branches, members of the 1st Battalion W.O.s and Sergeants' Mess, led by R.S.M. Jackson, Major W. Skelsey (O.C. Depot), Mr. P. E. Code, M.B.E., Secretary Regimental Association, and Councillor S. Bickle of Ossett. Guest artistes were: Mr. T. Firth (baritone), Mr. Billy Smales (comedian) and Mr. B. Jones (tenor). We were very fortunate in securing the services of Mr. Arnold Wallace, a first-class pianist of Ossett. Our sincere thanks are due to these artistes for putting on a first-class show.

January 6 saw us with yet another effort. This time it was the members' children's turn, in the way of a Christmas party. About 60 children attended, sitting down to a first-class tea consisting of all those delicacies dear to children. Each child was also given a box containing carnival novelties, which they soon put to good use. After tea, organised games followed, under the leadership of Miss Baker, whilst the parents sat down for their tea. Later, Santa Claus popped out from behind the large Christmas tree, and was given a very noisy reception. Each child's name was called out, who came forward to receive a handsome present from Santa's large sack. As the press photographer and reporter arrived during the proceedings, Santa kindly sat with the children for group photographs. The children left for home about 7.30 p.m. Later in the evening the parents adjourned to Branch H.Q. to toast this successful event, with the determination to put on another show for the kiddies again next year.

Membership.—At the moment the membership stands at 38, with one or two enquiries pending. We still have plenty of room for new members, who will receive a hearty welcome. This applies to the youngsters, who, having done their National Service in the "Dukes" are maybe a little shy at coming amongst us. Our youngest member, Mr. C. Wilson, who is a very loyal worker, wants to know where his old pals of the 1st Battalion are. He is quite settled amongst the "old uns" and is a very keen participant in Branch functions.

Our Social Committee, consisting of F. Westerman, T. Brearey and L. W. (Chalkey) White, are hard at work devising schemes and ideas to raise funds for a children's outing in the summer.

Also on the cards are a farewell visit for a social evening to the 1st Battalion W.O.s and Sergeants before they leave the area. Our members sincerely

hope this gets past the talking stage—but we shall see.

Finally, it is with very deep regret that we learn of the death of that "grand old man" of the 2nd Battalion—Col. J. C. Pickering. To many of us in the Branch who served with him from Cairo to Ahmednagar, the loss is personal. All who served with him knew his qualities and held him in high regard as a soldier, and he will be missed by the Regiment, which has suffered a real loss.

H.F.H.

Visits to War Graves Overseas

DETAILS OF BRITISH LEGION SCHEME FOR NEXT-OF-KIN

Our readers should know that if their circumstances warrant it the next-of-kin of men who gave their lives in the late war and lie in graves overseas can be financially assisted to pay visits to the war cemeteries. The scheme is run by the British Legion, backed by the Government.

The countries which it covers are France, Holland, Belgium, Germany (excluding Berlin and the Russian Zone), Denmark, Luxemburg, Norway and Italy.

Since it came into force, 13,519 relatives of the Fallen have taken advantage of the facilities offered. Last year 3,569 went to North-Western Europe, and 3,600—chiefly by air—to Italy.

The British Legion supplies travel and boarding coupons, and makes itself responsible for the welfare and comfort of the bereaved visitors from the moment of leaving their homes to the time of their return. It has a Continental office in Brussels which works closely with the War Graves Commission, and has enlisted the help and hospitality of French, Belgian, Dutch and other residents to give people from Britain a welcome.

They have a fellow-feeling for us, and cannot do too much to put their guests at ease and solve any little problems which may arise through language or other difficulties.

Altogether 600 war cemeteries in ten countries have been visited under Legion auspices. Next-of-kin have been taken to remote graves in the Pyrenees, in the islands off the coasts of France and Holland, deep into Germany and isolated villages in Denmark, and not one visitor has failed to reach the graveside of their loved one.

The Legion has also a scheme under which relatives who cannot make a journey overseas can have a wreath of poppies placed on a grave, and photographs can be supplied at a nominal fee of the grave bearing the wreath.

Applications should be addressed direct to the British Legion, Pall Mall, London, S.W.1, stating full particulars.