

1702

1952



# THE IRON DUKE

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

250th ANNIVERSARY NUMBER

# THE IRON DUKE

*The Regimental Magazine of*

## THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S REGIMENT

*Dettingen  
Mysore  
Seringapatam  
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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JULY, 1952

No. 85

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TEMPLE EWELL,  
DOVER.

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HALIFAX.

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Copy should be sent to Lt.-Col. O. Price, "Highfield," Temple Ewell, Dover, Kent

*A Message from*  
**HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN**

The following is the text of a message to the Army from Her Majesty The Queen :

I wish, on succeeding to the Throne, to address a message to all ranks of my Armies, thanking them for the notable services which they rendered to my beloved father during his reign and assuring them of my confidence in their loyalty and efficiency. My own service in the Auxiliary Territorial Service and my personal association with individual regiments of United Kingdom and other Commonwealth Forces gave me some experience of the varied and onerous tasks which they are called upon to discharge. Devotion to duty, a good-humoured acceptance of hardship when necessary, and an undefeatable endurance in adversity are characteristics of the military forces which have brought us victory in war and security in peace. I know that I can rely upon them to respond to any call upon their allegiance with the same competence and enthusiasm with which they served my father. I shall always take a close personal interest in all that concerns their welfare and efficiency.

*ELIZABETH R.*

BUCKINGHAM PALACE.

February 12, 1952.





*Photo. International News Photos*

**HER MAJESTY, QUEEN ELIZABETH THE SECOND**



## 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, B.A.O.R. 29.	.. .. .	Lt.-Col. F. R. St. P. Bunbury, D.S.O.
Regimental Depot, Wellesley Barracks, Halifax	.. .. .	Major J. H. Davis
382 Field Regiment R.A. (4th D.W.R.), The Drill Hall, Prescott Street, Halifax	.. .. .	Lt.-Col. J. F. Crossley, M.B.E., 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. D. Scott, T.D.
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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## 1702-1952

In the long history of the 33rd the present year is indeed a memorable one. Two hundred and fifty years ago, on March 14, 1702, H.M. Queen Anne, six days after ascending the throne, issued the following order to the Earl of Huntingdon:

“ ANNE R.

“ These are to authorise you by Beat of Drum or otherwise to raise Volunteers for a regiment of foot under you command, which is to consist of twelve Companies of Two Serjeants, Three Corporals, Two Drummers, and Fifty-nine private soldiers, with the addition of one Serjeant more to the Company of Grenadiers. And as you shall raise the said volunteers you are to give notice thereof to our Commissary General of the Musters, that they may be mustered according to our directions in that behalf. And when the whole number of non-commissioned officers and soldiers shall be fully or near completed, in each company, they are to march to our city of Gloucester, appointed for the rendezvous of the said regiment. And you are to order such person or persons as you think fit to receive arms for our said regiment out of the stores of our ordnance. And all Magistrates, Justices of the Peace, Constables and other, our Officers whom it may concern are to be assisting you in providing Quarters and otherwise as there shall be occasion.

“ Given at our Court of St. James this 14th day of March, 1702, in the first year of our Reign.  
 “ To our Trusty and Well-beloved  
 “ The Earl of Huntingdon,  
 “ Col. of one of our regiments of Foot.”

Such was the beginning of a long and honourable

career in the course of which the 33rd became linked with the 76th, a regiment of later birth but not inferior distinction, to form the Duke of Wellington's Regiment. Very soon after its formation it became associated with Halifax and the West Riding, though the exact date is unknown. Since then our four Territorial Battalions (or Regiments as some now are) and many Service Battalions have added to the long list of battle honours which adorn the record of the Regiment.

Two hundred and fifty years is a great age and with the passage of time there have been many changes. In 1702 what may be called scientific warfare was in its infancy. That famous old flint-lock, Brown Bess, was coming into use, but the socket bayonet had only recently been invented, and one infantryman in every five was armed with a pike to repel cavalry charges. He wore the same scarlet tunic, whether he was fighting in the heat of an Indian summer or among the North American snows. Today he must master a formidable array of complicated weapons, and his wardrobe has been extended to withstand the rigours of every conceivable climate.

The improvement in arms and equipment is striking, but not less striking is the change in the attitude of the nation towards its fighting forces. Today the soldier is an honoured member of a society, which recognises that at any time he may be called upon in its defence to make the greatest of all sacrifices. But in 1702 the memory of Cromwell's military despotism was still alive, and the citizen regarded a regular army with suspicion as the breeding ground of dictators. The soldier's welfare was scandalously neglected. He was ill-clothed, ill-shod, too often cheated out of his meagre pay and rations, and miserably housed; he had no permanent barracks, but was billeted in barns or quartered upon resentful innkeepers. When wounds or the cessation of hostilities brought his service to a close, he was thrown upon the streets without pension or reward to swell the ranks of the criminals and beggars. "Hungry half-pay officers in threadbare coats and the hat and feather of their profession" were a familiar sight in the London parks. Even their half-pay was in arrears. Yet these neglected and embittered men produced the finest infantry in the world. Their steadiness in battle was unmatched; their skill-at-arms, their discipline and their endurance were the admiration of their contemporaries. They established a tradition that has survived to this day. In Brussels on the eve of Waterloo the Duke was asked by Creevey whether he would be able to stop Napoleon's advance. Pointing to a private soldier of one of our infantry regiments, who happened to be standing near, he replied: "It all depends on that article whether we do the business or not. Give me enough of it and I am sure." A great compliment from the greatest captain of his age. Twice in our own generation the "article" has been called upon to take up arms in defence of the country; twice it has done the business in a way that Wellington would surely have approved.

In its 251st year the 33rd, as young and as

vigorous as ever, sets out on yet another campaign. We wish it Godspeed and a safe return.

\* \* \* \*

Owing to the imminence of its move the 1st Battalion was unable to hold any ceremonial parades, but it has celebrated its birthday by achieving the following magnificent success, news of which has just come to hand.

#### RHINE ARMY SMALL ARMS MEETING, 1952

The 1st Battalion shooting team have gained fresh honours for the Regiment and themselves at the above meeting, which has just been completed. A full report will be included in our next issue, but the following information is available concerning the more important events:

*Rhine Army Shield* (based on results of six matches).

1st	1st Battalion The Rifle Brigade ..	3,468
2nd	1st Battalion The Duke of Wellington's Regiment ..	3,374
3rd	1st Battalion The King's Royal Rifle Corps ..	3,359

*Wavell Cup* (to select the unit to represent the Rhine Army in a competition between the Armies of N.A.T.O.: Winners—1st Battalion The Duke of Wellington's Regiment.

In the Rhine Army Individual Rifle Championships the 1st Battalion all but swept the board.

*Champion Shot, Rhine Army:* 2238075 Cpl. J. S. Bailes, 1st D.W.R.

*Champion Officer:* 1st D.W.R. unplaced.

*Champion Warrant Officer and Sergeant:* 7582936 A.S.M. H. J. Stephens, R.E.M.E. (attached 1st D.W.R.).

*Champion Corporal and Private:* 14457528 Cpl. K. Davis, 1st D.W.R.

*Champion Young Soldier:* 2238075 Cpl. J. S. Bailes, 1st D.W.R.; runner-up, 22426989 Pte. A. Hemingway, 1st D.W.R.; 3rd, 22538359 Cpl. C. M. Wood, 1st D.W.R.

The performance of Cpl. Bailes, who is only 20 years old, was an outstanding achievement.

We offer our warmest congratulations to the team and particularly to Cpl. J. S. Bailes and wish them every success in their match against the Allied Armies.

\* \* \* \*

Lt.-Col. H. V. Le P. Trench who nursed THE IRON DUKE through its infancy and guided its footsteps till it reached the age of discretion has sent us the following message:

The Editor has asked me, as a former editor of THE IRON DUKE, to write a few words as introduction to this special number of the Regimental Magazine, which celebrates the 250th anniversary of the 33rd Regiment.

When one scans the history of the 33rd one cannot fail to notice how little is known of the early years of its life. No contemporary diaries or letters have come down to us until the time of the American War of Independence (1778-83), and even since then there have been few eye-witness accounts of the Regiment's exploits in the field or of its peace-time life until recent years. The

value of a magazine such as THE IRON DUKE is therefore great, as apart from keeping all members of the Regiment, past and present, informed of the current news of its various units, it also records events in peace and war that are of historical importance, and gives first-hand accounts by individuals which will be of great interest to future generations. What would we not give to have

personal experiences of any of those who took part in such actions as Dettingen and Fontenoy.

It is therefore to be hoped that THE IRON DUKE will continue to flourish, and that the future may bring a return to the size and standard of the Magazine, now unhappily curtailed by present-day costs of production, which obtained between the wars.  
M.V.W.T.

## HALIFAX

### *250th Anniversary, 1702-1952*

For the first time since Waterloo Day, 1945, when the freedom of the Borough of Halifax was conferred, the Duke of Wellington's Regiment exercised its privilege on a ceremonial occasion of marching through Halifax with bayonets fixed, Colours flying and bands playing.

On Saturday, May 24, in brilliant sunshine some 1,500 members of the Regiment, whose ages varied from the 82 years of Mr. G. Fricker to the 17 of the youngest Regular soldier, marched or drove through Halifax to commemorate the double event in their history, the 250th anniversary of the formation of the 33rd Regiment of Foot and the 100th anniversary of the death of the first Duke of Wellington.

The arrangements for Saturday afternoon in-

cluded a parade and march past, followed by a display in Manor Park. For the evening an all ranks' dance, preceded by Retreat beating in Wellesley Barracks by the Band and Drums of the 1st Battalion.

On Sunday a special service was conducted in the Parish Church, Halifax.

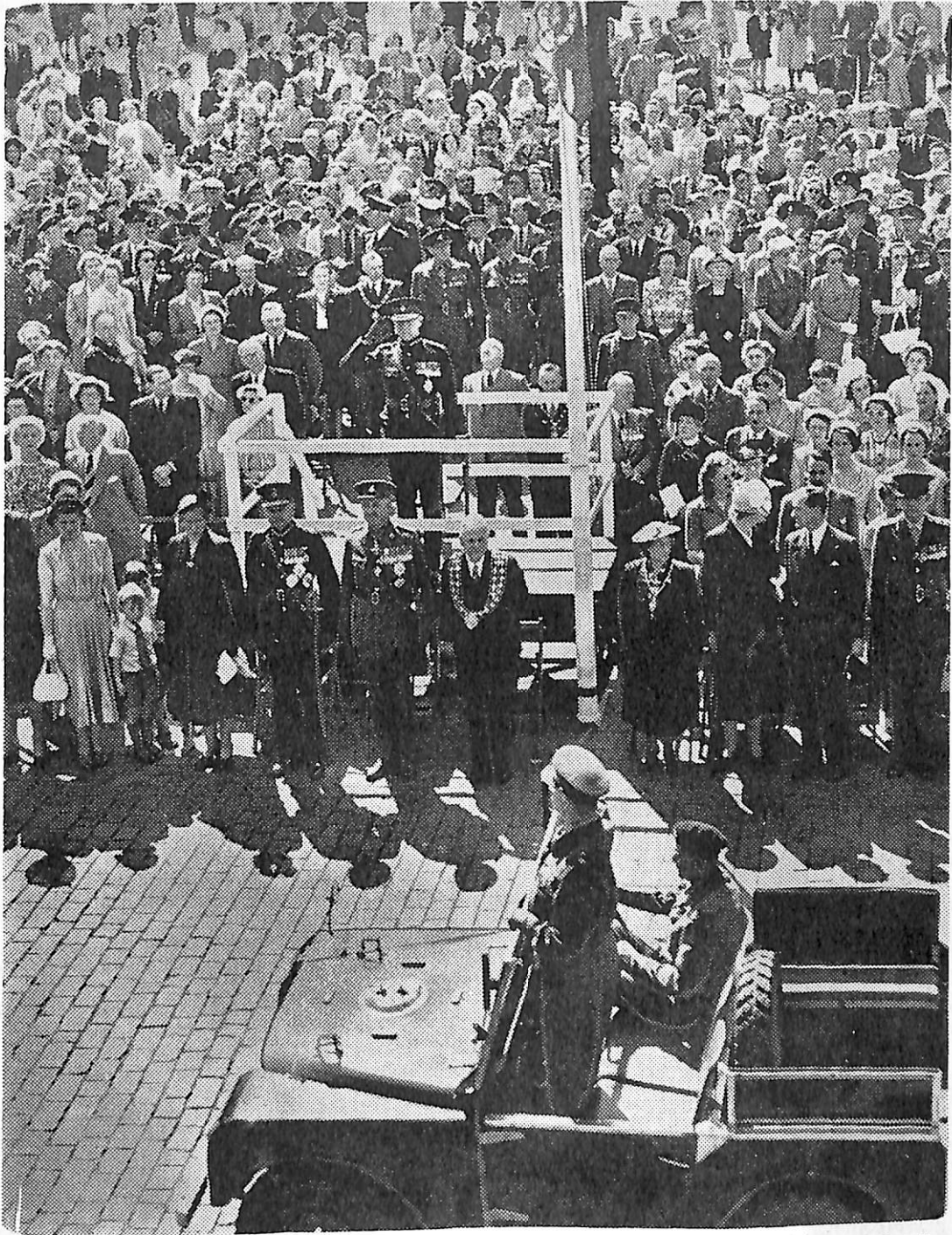
From noon on Saturday crowds began to gather to watch the parade; by 10 o'clock the town centre was crowded and with still an hour before the parade was due to begin the crowd, estimated at some 20,000, began to line the parade route along Waterhouse Street, Commercial Street, Skircoat Road and Heath Road to Manor Heath. Traffic from the main centre streets was switched and controlled by regular and special police, bus routes



*(Photo: By courtesy of the Halifax Daily Courier and Guardian.)*

**In the Officers' Mess before the parade. Left to right, the Mayor of Halifax (Ald. W. Regan), the Duke of Wellington, Gen. Sir Philip Christison and the Earl of Scarborough (Lord Lieutenant of Yorkshire)**





[Photo: By courtesy of the Halifax Daily Courier and Guardian.

**The Duke of Wellington taking the salute in George Street**

were adjusted to keep Commercial Street and adjoining routes clear.

The Duke of Wellington had consented to take the salute; with him at the saluting base were the Earl of Scarborough, Lord Lieutenant of Yorkshire (West Riding), Alderman W. Regan, J.P., Mayor of Halifax, himself an old "Duke," ex-4th Battalion, and Gen. Sir Philip Christison, the Colonel of the Regiment.

Among the civic dignitaries present were the Mayors and Mayoresses of Huddersfield, Brighouse and Mossley. Also present were Councillor D. Brook, M.P., for Sowerby Bridge, Lord Savile, Col. R. H. Goldthorp, Honorary Colonel of the 382nd Field Regiment, the head of the Wellington College C.C.F., representing Wellington College, and a number of senior Regular and T.A. officers.

The parade formed up in the Odeon car park and marched off headed by the Band of 578th Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, R.A., dressed in their scarlet tunics. Behind them came the Old Comrades, over 500 of whom had come in from all over the West Riding and from over the border in Lancashire.

The second part of the column was the mechanised element. In front were the self-propelled guns of 382nd Field Regiment, R.A. (late 4th Battalion), led by the C.O., Lt.-Col. J. F. Crossley, in his Cromwell tank. Then followed the mounted troops of 578th Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, R.A. (late 5th Battalion), headed by the C.O., Lt.-Col. J. B. Sugden, with their radar and radio equipment.

Following were the Bofors guns of 673rd Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, R.A. (late 6th Battalion), under command of their C.O., Lt.-Col. D. Scott. Bringing up the rear were the mortar and machine gun carriers of the 7th Battalion.

After a short gap came the marching troops headed by the Band and Drums of the 1st Battalion, who had come from Germany to take part in the parade.

Lt.-Col. Sir Nugent Everard, Bt., the C.O., of the 7th Battalion, commanded the infantry column.

Leading was the Depot party, represented by the Training Company staff with their two platoons of National Servicemen and Regular recruits, then in the fifth week of training.

Next came a company of the 7th Battalion, then their Colour party with Colours flying, followed by a second company.

Bringing up the rear of the marching troops were some 250 cadets from the Regiment's four affiliated cadet units headed by a combined cadet force band.

A B.B.C. van opposite George Street recorded a commentary and the noise of the bands and marching troops and vehicles as they went past the saluting base.

Extracts from this were broadcast on the news from the North programme the same evening.

This recording was also to be used for a broadcast on the B.B.C. Portuguese Service. The Portuguese commentator spent much of the previous day at the Depot collecting material of historic interest for his broadcast.

At Manor Heath some 5,000 spectators had gathered to see the display.

The Old Comrades broke off on arrival and

moved off to their enclosure to watch the remainder of the parade. The mechanised element moved to their assembly positions at the lower end of the park for their display.

The spectators from George Street arrived at Manor Heath shortly before the arrival of the infantry column, who formed up in column in front of Manor House.

A general salute was given. Lt.-Col. Sir Nugent Everard then marched up and requested permission for the parade to march off. The Colours were marched off first, followed by the Depot party, 7th Battalion, Cadet Force and Band, and finally the Band and Drums of the 1st Battalion.

This was the signal for the display to begin. First, four self-propelled guns of the 382nd Field Regiment took up position; these were ringed by Bofors guns of 673rd L.A.A. Regiment. The field guns then ranged before giving two rounds of gunfire. Next the 7th Battalion gave a demonstration showing machine guns and mortars going into and out of action. The final item of the display was a demonstration of marching and counter-marching by the combined bands of the Cadet Force. Guests then returned to the Officers' Mess in the Depot for tea.

At 8 o'clock the Band and Drums of the 1st Battalion beat Retreat on the parade ground at Wellesley Barracks. A polished performance which delighted many old soldiers, who freely admitted that the Band and Drums of the 1st Battalion could still beat Retreat as well as they themselves used to. To some of them who had not heard the familiar old tunes since they left the Regiment this was probably the highlight and set the all ranks' dance off to a good start. The dance was heavily over-subscribed and numbers had to be limited to 450 by issuing tickets, which were divided between the Old Comrades, Depot and Territorial units.

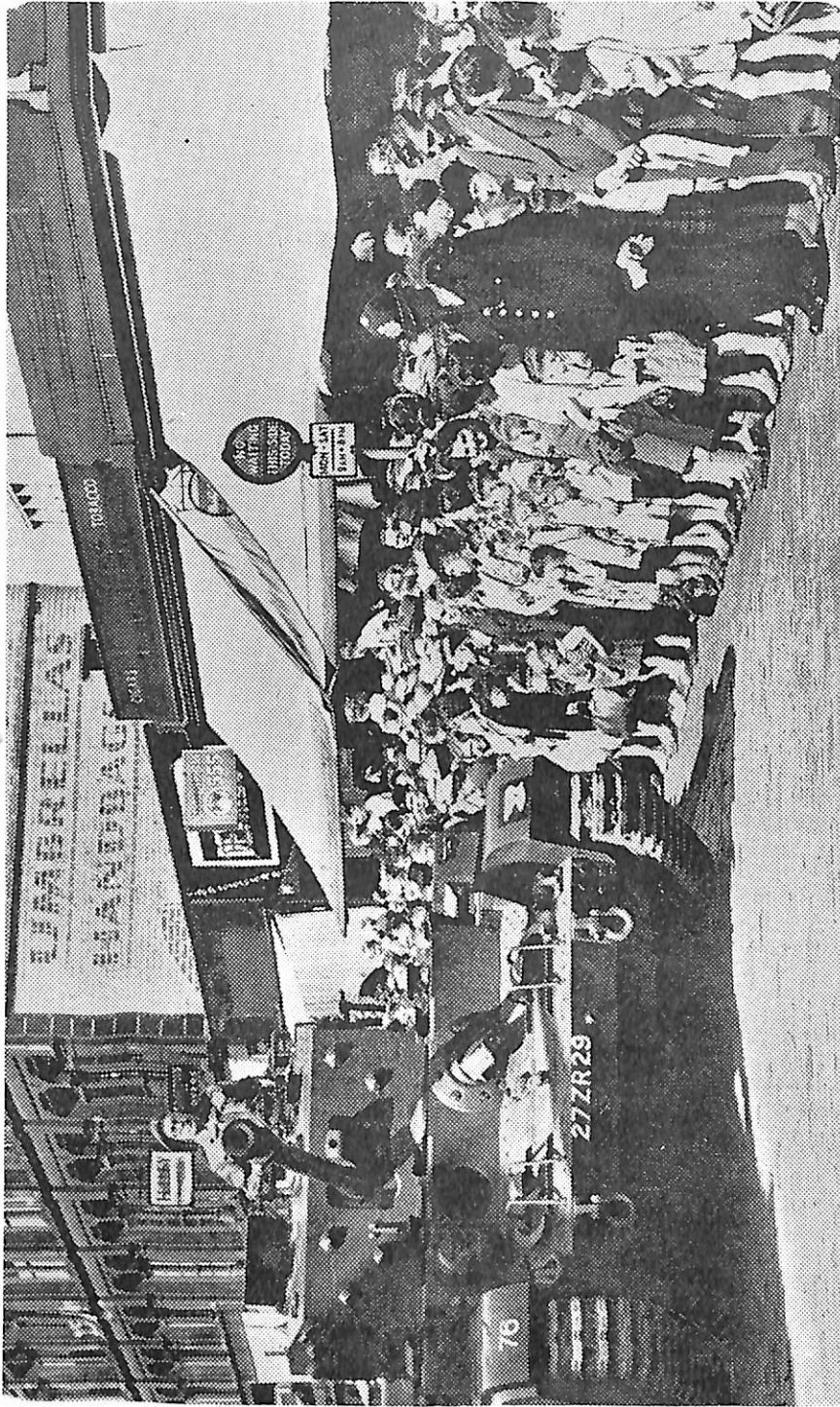
The service on Sunday in the Parish Church was conducted by the Archdeacon of Halifax, the Venerable E. Treacy, and the Rev. A. L. Minns, Chaplain to the Regiment.

It was designed to combine the normal worship of the parish congregation with the commemoration service of the Duke of Wellington's Regiment. The impressive address delivered by the Archdeacon will long be remembered by all those of the Regiment who were present.

So ended two days of celebration and commemoration, when old friendships were renewed and the past relived, and of military pageantry which had given pleasure to hundreds of those taking part either on parade or as spectators. Gratitude for the wholehearted co-operation of the town officials and police, who did so much to make the parade the success it was and the goodwill and interest in the Regiment shown by the people of Halifax were again a source of pride and pleasure.

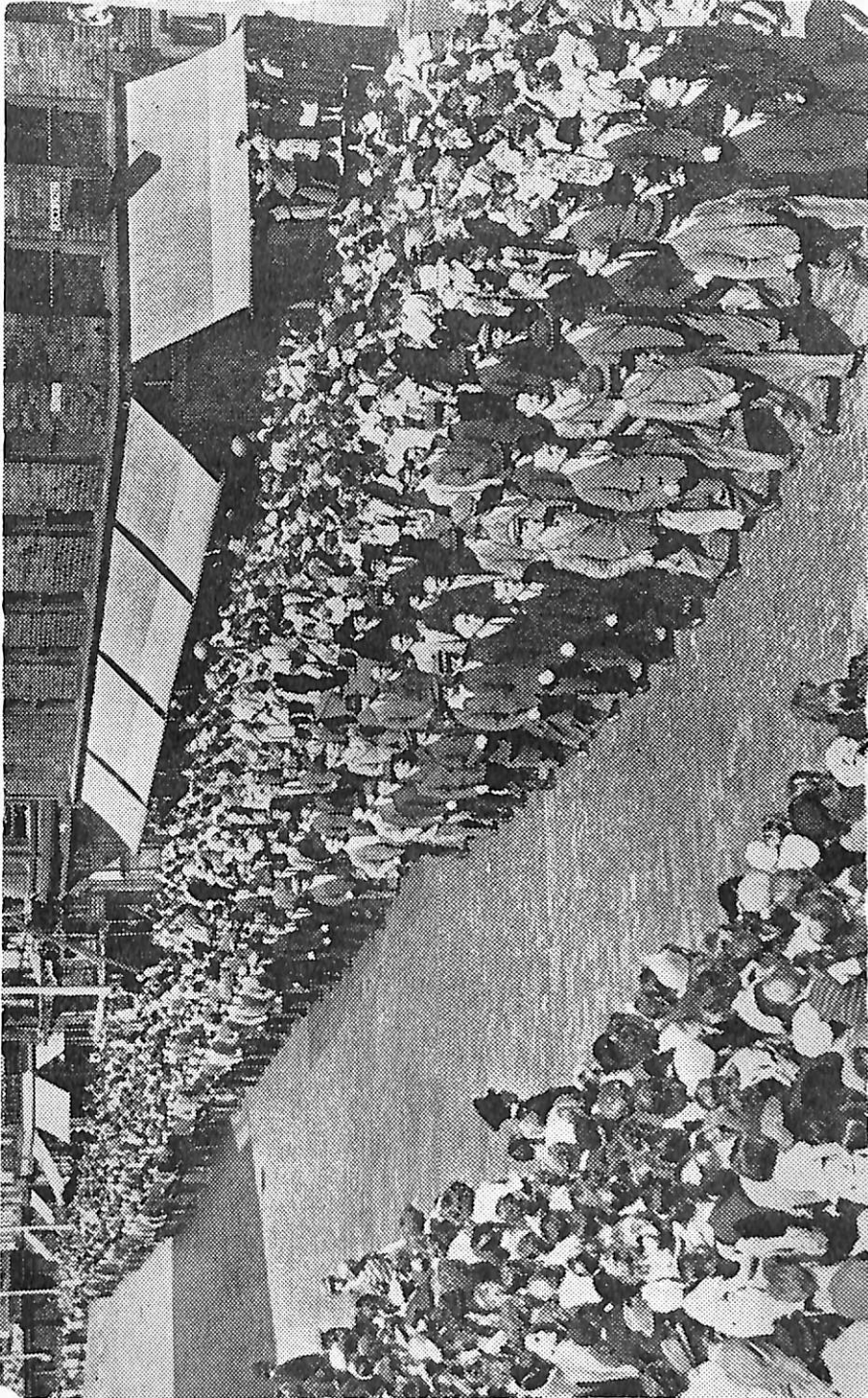
★ **MARK THIS DATE** ★  
*Annual General Meeting and Reunion Dinner*  
**SEPTEMBER THE THIRTEENTH**

(See page 94)



[Photo: By courtesy of the Halifax Daily Courier and Guardian.  
Lt.-Col. J. F. Crossley, M.B.E., T.D., in his tank, leading 382nd Field Regiment, R.A. (D.W.R.)



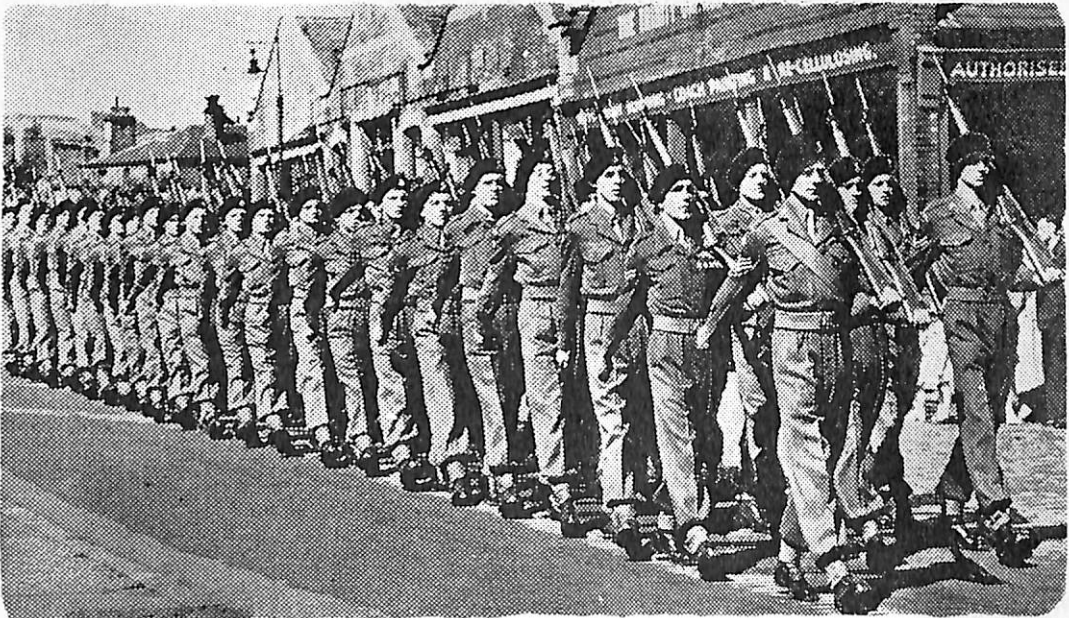


[Photo: By courtesy of the Haiti Daily Courier and Guardian.

Members of the Old Comrades' Associations



[Photo: By courtesy of the Halifax Daily Courier and Guardian.  
**7th Battalion, D.W.R., Colour party marching off parade**



[Photo: By courtesy of the Halifax Daily Courier and Guardian.  
**Regimental H.Q. and Depot, D.W.R., Training Company**

## 1st BATTALION

### SUB-EDITORIAL

Our last notes were penned a few days before our Annual Administrative Inspection. This, we are glad to record, went off without any hitch, though the Platoon Commander who was ordered to drill his Platoon and then managed to get the two halves of it marching in opposite directions would probably rather forget the day.

Eighteen months ago our lives were daily overshadowed by the unattractive word "reactivation." That phase has passed (a long time ago, it seems), and we are now dominated by "re-sorting." Briefly this entails trying to find out who will proceed with us to Korea, who are available for posting to Middle East, who are to remain in B.A.O.R., and who are to return with us to U.K. and then leave us. This theoretically simple task is unfortunately not as easy as it appears in print. Notwithstanding "re-sorting," we are at the moment very little changed from when we wrote our last notes; but there will be a different story to record next time.

In April the Rifle Companies spent ten days on the magnificent ranges at Sennelager. This was a very pleasant interlude, besides being good training, for the weather was excellent and the camp most efficiently organised by the staff of the All-Arms Training School. Some of the specialist Platoons also visited Sennelager, whilst the M.M.G. Platoon disappeared for a fortnight to the Baltic Coast, there to take part in the Rhine Army M.M.G. concentration.

Whilst the Battalion was at Sennelager our barrack square was taken over by G.H.Q. B.A.O.R. for a farewell parade for Gen. Eisenhower. Detachments from all three Services and from the Canadian Army took part, and the parade was most impressive. It was commanded by Brigadier F. C. C. Graham, D.S.O., our Brigade Commander, and an informal photograph of him with Gen. Eisenhower is included elsewhere in this issue.

One of our more gratifying experiences during the quarter was to watch and listen to our Band and Drums beat Retreat. For a number of reasons we were never able to do this at Chiseldon; but the performance on May 15, by a Band and Drums over 50 strong and all in No. 1 dress, was in every respect the equal of the best pre-war performances. This is of particular credit to the Corps of Drums, many of whose drummers are National Servicemen with comparatively little service.

Despite the many difficulties with which we had to compete we had high hopes of success in the Army Rugby Cup. However, the Welch Guards defeated us by 6 points to 3 in the Rhine Army semi-final. Our three-quarter line was potentially far more dangerous than theirs, but the Welch Guards forwards denied us the ball, and these tactics, which they also followed in the final, eventually gained them the Army Rugby Cup.

Although Rugby, even in the "Dukes," is an

incongruous subject to write about in high summer, we cannot omit to offer our congratulations to 2/Lt. D. S. Gilbert-Smith for his award of a Scottish Cap. We hope he will be able to add to his laurels next year, if he does not accompany us to Korea.

Individually the most outstanding feat that has occurred since our last notes were written has been 2/Lt. Peter Hoppe's string of boxing successes, which culminated in his winning the light heavy-weight championship of the I.S.B.A.

Our life, however, is not all play, and in these days of serious soldiering we are proud to record that in the recent passing in tests at the School of Infantry (Signal Wing) our representatives, 2/Lt. J. N. H. Naughton, Sgt. Robins and Cpl. Cannon, between them achieved two firsts and a second. We congratulate them and also the Signal Officer and his instructors for this very creditable achievement.

It is with regret that we have to report that we have been unable to celebrate our 250th birthday suitably, and by the way things are going at present it appears most unlikely that we will be able to do anything, for the time we have available for training for Korea is very much less than we would like.

We do not yet know when we return to England, but it will probably be in early August. We know, however, that we will be stationed at Pontefract for a while, and we hope very much that all "Dukes" living in that area will come and visit us before we embark for the very Far East and its very cold climate.

### OFFICERS' MESS

Recently the Mess have been enjoying the German spring sunshine, fulfilling one or two social obligations, and slowly changing its mental outlook towards the Korean horizon. New arrivals include Denis Simonds, who is now ardently carrying out the exacting role of Adjutant, and David Borwell, an old Strensall associate, who has joined us for the trip to the Far East. John Antrobus and Ken Brown did not join the Leicesters in Korea. John Antrobus is now back with us, but we have again had to say goodbye to Ken Brown, who has gone to join the Carbiniers.

One of our bigger events in the last few months was the beating of Retreat on the barrack square, which was very ably performed by the Band and Drums. This was followed by a most successful cocktail party at which wives and relations of the members of the Mess were present. Amongst the guests were Air Vice-Marshal Whitley and the British Resident in Minden, Brigadier Reeve.

In April we entertained the Sergeants' Mess to an evening of darts, "shove-halfpenny," and the like. This went down well and a few weeks later we were invited round by the Sergeants to their Mess where we played numerous games, participated in an excellent buffet, and then listened to recitals of songs and limericks by members of both Messes.

We have had two Regimental guests nights



during the quarter. The guests on the first occasion were Brigadier J. W. C. Timmis, Commander of the 20th Armoured Brigade; Major J. M. Medlicott, his Brigade Major; Flight Lt. Parker of H.Q. 2nd Tactical Air Force, who has been of great assistance in providing us with shooting and fishing facilities; and Major R. W. Greenfield, the Commander of the Divisional Troop-Carrying Company, R.A.S.C.

At our second guest night we were pleased to entertain Brigadier A. J. Reeve, the British Resident, Brigadier "Bobby" Bray, Brigadier Graham, and Lt.-Col. A. D. Taylor, the G.S.O.1 of the 6th Armoured Division.

Visitors who have stayed in the Mess have included two newspaper correspondents, namely, Mr. Gerald Paule of Kemsley newspapers, and Mr. Joe Illingworth of the *Yorkshire Post*.

Another visitor was Lt.-Col. Muttakamaru, the Chief of Staff of the Ceylon Army, who made himself most popular during his short stay.

We have not seen many "Dukes," although there are quite a few stationed in B.A.O.R. We were, however, pleased to see Major "Pat" Woods recently.

Our next notes will be written in England just before we embark, as we understand we are due to return to England early in August. We shall be sorry to leave Minden and in particular our friends in H.Q. 61st Lorried Infantry Brigade, the 1st King's Own and the 1st D.C.L.I.

#### SERGEANTS' MESS

Shortly after the funeral of His late Majesty, we were able to resume our domestic social life on a limited basis. Our first engagement was an invitation from the Officers to a games evening in the Officers' Mess. We enjoyed a most pleasant evening. Results of the games were at no time very clear, and as the evening went on they were lost completely in the confusion of battle. We can only hope that we did not beat the Officers by too tactless a margin. On March 21 we were able to stage our Annual Ball. It was held in a hotel close to the barracks, which lent itself admirably to the purpose. The stage manager was C.S.M. Callaby, who may lay claim to being something of an expert in these matters. He and his helpers worked extremely hard, and the undoubted success of the Ball was mainly due to him. An excellent buffet materialised, under the guidance of Sgt. Coull. We were delighted to welcome our Brigade Commander, Brigadier Graham; also Brigadier Bray from H.Q. B.A.O.R. Brigadier Bray spent a very busy evening tracking down those W.O.s and Sergeants who served with him in India, and he was heard to say that if they wore the "I.G.S." medal he would be sure to know them. Officers and Sergeants of other units came in very large numbers and we were most pleased to see them all, as it was the first social function we had been able to give since our arrival in B.A.O.R. Indeed, one late member of the Mess came all the way from Trieste. This was C/Sgt. "Drummie" Gill, who left us last November. He spent a week or so with us, and also attended our Monthly Dinner



General Eisenhower and Brigadier F. R. R. Graham, D.S.O., Commander 61st Lorried Infantry Brigade.  
Parade at Minden, April 29, 1952

in March. We have had a weekend visit from Sgts. Lancaster, Brint and Coates of the Y. & L. Regiment, all of whom served with us in the past. A very old friend, "Charlie" Vast, was also able to pay us a fleeting visit. C.S.M.I. Staniforth (A.P.T.C.), who left the Battalion in 1940, came for a weekend. We have heard from C.S.M. A. Western, C/Sgt. Cutler and Sgt. Dawes, who are in various parts of Germany, but as yet they have not been to see us. We hope that, before we leave Germany, they will be able to do so.

Guests at our Monthly Dinners were:—March: W.O.1 Winston and Sgts. Silver and Raynbird, all of the R.A.E.C. They had been responsible for guiding the steps of many of our senior members over the hurdle of the 1st class certificate of education. April: S.S.M.s Brown, Giles and Maber of the Royal Engineers, who are frequent visitors to the Mess at weekends as they live close to the barracks. May: Major C. F. Grieve and Capt. A. B. M. Kavanagh, M.C., E. J. P. Emmett and R. V. Cartwright. The Dinners have on each occasion been followed by a social evening. They have been very successful and the prophesy made in our last notes was not confounded.

On Thursday, April 10, we entertained the Officers to a social and games evening. Again the sorry tale—the scorekeeper lost his piece of chalk. Notwithstanding that, we had a very convivial evening, in which our guests acquitted themselves as well in a choral role as with dart and domino. The R.S.M. assiduously practised shovehalfpenny

for days beforehand, and we are sure that Capt. Kavanagh had been reading up the domino rules. If Oxford University had won their boat race with the ease our Officers displayed in winning our own sort of boat race, the Olympic team would be assured of victory. The Commanding Officer expressed his gratification at the wealth of talent which the subalterns showed in the field of musical entertainment. If we are to repeat such a party, the Sergeants' teams must go into serious training.

As we are faced with reorganisation for our next task, changes in the Mess become more frequent. At the beginning of the period under review Sgt. Senior joined us from the All Arms Training Centre, where he has been on the staff since he left the 7th Battalion in 1946. He is now Provost Sergeant, or more often inside the Mess "Sheriff." Mrs. "Sheriff" is also with him. Sgt. Mills joined us from the Depot on May 14. Sgts. Kirk and Barrett have gone home, to the Group Training Centre at York. We shall miss them both and offer them our best wishes. Sgts. Perrin and Scotford have been promoted in their place. Sgt. Robins has gone to Hythe on a long signals course and will rejoin us in August. We hear he passed in top.

We were very sorry to see C.S.M. Wilson go into hospital, where he has been for quite a long time. We are hoping that he will soon be better and able to preside over the destiny of "H.Q." Company before long.

Leave to U.K. and local leave take heavy toll of those available for duty. We shall say goodbye to Sgt. Fletcher in a few days, when he leaves on posting home.

Congratulations to Sgt. and Mrs. Browne on the birth of a son. May he grow as quickly and as far as his father, last heard of around the 6ft. 4 in. mark.

Lately we have debated the advisability of widening the Mess doors to let pass the huge girth of our Caterer. The only alternative is that he should take a lot of violent physical exercise.

We cannot close these notes without reference to the brief stay in Sennelager, where we used the Mess of the A.A.T.C. C.S.M. "Speedy" Page found two of his old friends of Pakistan days in residence there, and after each day's work disappeared to lead a life of revelry. He is expected to visit them again soon on his own. All members who went to Sennelager thoroughly enjoyed themselves, and created quite a stir in the Mess, infusing an unwonted spirit of gaiety.

#### "H.Q." COMPANY

Since the last notes were written the various Platoons of the Company have been busy carrying out their training. The Signal Platoon have managed to train a new cadre and have classified them; the Drums have been increased considerably and have all been trained in stretcher-bearer duties as well as being trained as a Defence Platoon; whilst the M.T. have been kept busy training new drivers. But no doubt they will give more detailed news in their own notes.

We have been well represented in the inter-

Platoon flag competition, the M.T. being our star performers. Unfortunately they had so many away on leave and duty at the time of the cross-country run that they were not able to enter a team. As it was, the Band were the first home for the Company, finally taking fourth place in the competition.

Swimming has now started and the swimming pool in barracks is turned into a Lido each weekend with each Company being responsible in turn to supply the amenities. We have not had our turn yet, but the idea is popular.

We have been lucky in finding such a capable man in Sgt. Cox to take over the duties of C.S.M. Wilson while the latter has been away in hospital and convalescent leave for the past two months. We all hope that C.S.M. Wilson will soon be fit and about again.

When the Battalion was at Sennelager we remained behind in Minden and spent our time on the open ranges during which we managed to get the majority of the Company through their classification.

Lately we have been trying hard to get men to take on in the Army for longer periods. We have managed to get a few in the Company to extend their service slightly, but whether our technique in recruiting is not good enough or the attractions of the Army are not sufficient we are not in a position to say.

We congratulate Lt. (Q.M.) and Mrs. Parr on the birth of a daughter early in May; also L/Cpl. and Mrs. Teasdale on the birth of a daughter. We also congratulate Cpl. Scotford on his promotion to Sergeant and L/Cpl. Cannon to Corporal in the Signal Platoon. Cpl. Cannon is at present in U.K. with Lt. Naughton and Sgt. Robins doing a signal course at Hythe, preparing for plenty of hard work training new signallers for the Battalion before they leave for distant places.

Major Atkinson is leaving the Battalion to join the new 2nd Battalion The Green Howards and has handed over the Company to Capt. R. V. Cartwright, who has come over from "C" Company.

#### "S" COMPANY

The past few months have been very unsettling. Everybody has been anxiously awaiting some definite news. Now most people know the worst. Nobody likes leaving their Battalion, but for those who must we wish every happiness in their new surroundings. But for all, Korea means a great upheaval. For us the saddest part is the small number remaining with the Company, although we are heartened by the numbers signing on to accompany us.

In "S" Company we are used to having new faces every year. This year our individual training has been completed and we were again beginning to feel the team spirit, so essential a part of "S" Company life, building up. However, we are confident that the spirit will soon permeate into our new drafts and that, with a new incentive for training, "S" Company will go on to greater achievements.

On the sporting side, the Platoon flag competition has kept interest alive in spite of many con-

flicting calls on our time. Congratulations to the M.M.G. Platoon, which was the best in "S" Company, finishing fifth, followed by the Assault Pioneers, which in spite of being one of the smallest Platoons in the competition, finished sixth. The Mortar Platoon, after reaching the final of the football, tailed off.

In athletics especial congratulations are due to Ptes. White and Tood for representing the 6th Armoured Division in the hop, step and jump in the B.A.O.R. Individual Sports, and to Lt. Blakey, Sgt. Houghton and L/Cpl. Shaw for representing the Brigade in the 6th Armoured Divisional Sports. Also congratulations to L/Cpl. Barnes for gaining his place in the Battalion Rugby XV. It is with regret that we say farewell to him on his demobilisation.

Congratulations to Sgt. Arundel, Cpls. Fifield and Fenn, and L/Cpls. Matthews and Higginbottom who are at present training for Bisley. We hope they will win their places in the team, and wish them the best of luck.

In the annual range classification course we have obtained the best results to date, which augurs well for our marksmanship with our supporting weapons in Korea.

In conclusion, we wish the very best of luck to all members of the Company, both past and present, wherever they may be.

#### "A" COMPANY

Training has been hard and interesting during recent weeks, and we have hiked many miles through the Minden district, always keeping a sharp eye on the countryside for a likely area to dig or train in.

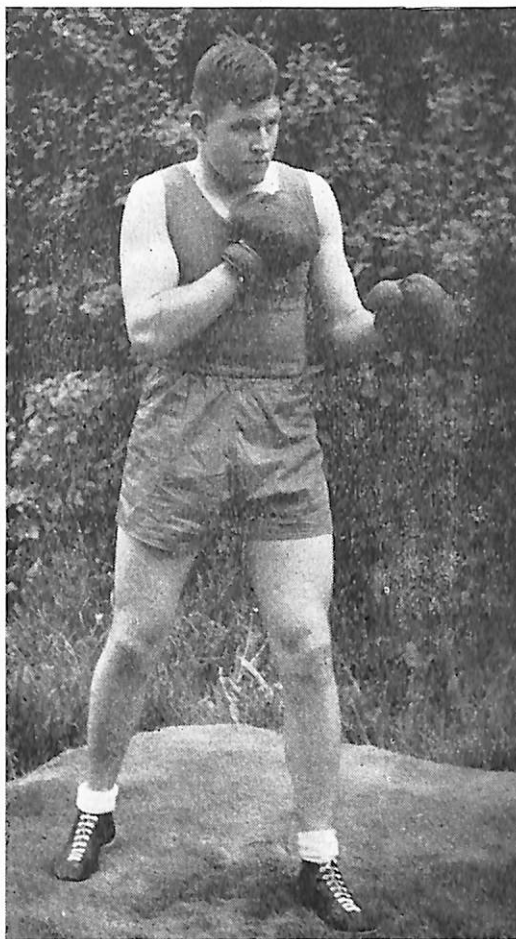
The weather has been very kind to us on our nights out, and we have at the worst only been slightly damp. Everyone is now becoming sunburnt and shirt sleeves are the "order of the day."

We record with pride that No. 3 Platoon, under the guidance of Sgt. McCarthy and in the latter stages 2/Lt. Vessey, won the inter-Platoon flag competition, with No. 1 Platoon second; a truly great achievement. Competition was high and our greatest rivals were, as so often before, "C" Company, whose No. 7 Platoon were third.

The inter-Platoon rugger was an all "Able" final, No. 3 Platoon beating No. 1 Platoon easily by 24—3 despite Major Grieve's pep talks and efforts at fullback.

Of course the Major, being an old international, was well marked and in one of the preliminary rounds was crocked, someone stamping on his leg, which left him hobbling around until well after the final.

The last event of the inter-Platoon flag competition was the cross-country, which No. 3 Platoon again won, with No. 1 Platoon third. L Cpl. Charlesworth came in first and Cpl. Cleverley third. Both were in No. 1 Platoon and it was unfortunate that the tail did so badly for they had a very good chance of winning. 2 Lt. Hoppe ran for No. 1 Platoon and entered the finishing funnel like a bulldozer, competitors being tossed in all directions from his broad shoulders. He had



**2/Lt. P. B. L. Hoppe**  
**1st Battalion The Duke of Wellington's Regiment**  
*6th Armoured Division, Rhine Army, Army and Inter-Service,*  
*Light Heavyweight Champion, 1952*

returned from the U.K. only two days previously after winning the Army and I.S.B.A. light-heavyweight boxing championships.

In the Battalion athletic trials L/Cpl. Charlesworth won both the one mile and three miles, and 2 Lt. Stacpoole the high jump.

We spent a very enjoyable ten days at Sennelager and fired thousands of rounds there. All the ranges were interesting, but "Thury Harcourt" was the favourite with its dummy and moving targets. It is debated who enjoyed it most, Capt. Emmett who was giving the legend and organising, or the men who had never seen anything like it before or fired so many rounds.

Pte. Wolff's memorable hit with the Piat must be recorded as he was very nervous, it being his first shot with the weapon.

During the period since the April issue we have had two Company parties, which took the form of a supper followed by a sing-song. Needless to say, a good time was had by all and quite a lot of



talent was discovered. Pte. Padgett played his trumpet and Ptes. Wilde, Parker and Kirk sang, Cpl. Taylor did a striptease, C.S.M. Callaby his monologue, and Capt. Emmett his famous "The Cow Kicked Nellie" song.

In the next few weeks we are to have a spate of postings in and out, and most of our N.S. men will be leaving us. As yet no dates have been fixed, but to all who leave us we wish good luck and hope they give us a thought sometime whilst with their new units.

To Sgt. Mills and all who have joined, or are about to join us, we extend a hearty welcome and hope their stay with us will be a long and happy one.

#### "B" COMPANY

Since we last wrote, the Company has settled down to life in post-war Germany. We have been out on several two- and three-day schemes, and have also spent a very pleasant ten days on the ranges of the All Arms Training Centre at Sennelager. Whilst there the popularity of C.Q.M.S. Sowerby reached a peak hitherto unknown, the arrival of his truck being greeted with lusty cheers and shouts of "conner."

Since our return from Sennelager the greater part of the time has been spent in reorganising the Company into "Korea-bounds" and "Others." This has necessitated much work by C.S.M. Page and other members of the Company Office. The Company Clerk is at present enjoying a well-deserved leave, and Pte. Uttley, who is doing his own job as Pay Clerk when he can snatch time off from being Company Clerk, has been heard to mutter about his receding hair-line.

Whilst at Sennelager "demob" started and we are now losing the older members of the Company. We wish them the best of luck in "Civvy Street." The greater part of the present Company will soon be leaving us on postings to various parts of Europe and the Middle East; to them also go our best wishes for the future.

Recent additions to the Company have been Lt. Borwell (from the Depot) and 2/Lt. Gilbert-Smith. The latter has not been in evidence, much due to his prowess on the rucker field. We congratulate him on gaining his Scottish Cap. We cannot claim, even with this welcome addition to our ranks, that this Company is likely to win everlasting fame on the rucker field. However, we are glad to say that we have started off the cricket season in good style by an easy victory over "A" Company.

Our congratulations are offered to 2/Lts. Perkis and Gilbert-Smith and Cpls. Clark, Frisby and Nicholls upon being selected for training for the Battalion Rugby team.

Our best wishes go to Capt. Glen (now 2/Lt. of the Company), Cpls. Frisby and Nicholls, and L/Cpls. Hewitt and Swallow upon their promotions; also to L/Cpl. Bates and Ptes. Butler and Riley upon their impending marriages.

In closing may we take this opportunity in wishing ex-members of the Company, wherever they may be, good luck and good health.

#### "C" COMPANY

Individual training having been completed, we

find our work much more interesting. Due to reorganisation we have lost a lot of old friends. First of all we have lost our old Company Commander, Capt. R. V. Cartwright, to whom we owe so much for our present efficiency and spirit. In his place we welcome Capt. A. B. M. Kavanagh, M.C., who has returned to the fold after 12 years "elsewhere."

Sgt. Kirk, the No. 8 Platoon commander, has also left—a sad loss, but we hope to see him on the troopship to Korea.

Many others are on their way to other units, and we are very sorry to lose them. We can only hope they will keep up the same spirit in their new units as they have shown here.

No. 7 Platoon, under 2/Lt. Duckney's leadership, nearly won the Platoon flag competition, but lost owing to an early defeat in the rucker. We drew with "A" Company in the inter-Company guard mounting competition, mainly due to the hard work put in by C.S.M. Randall. We have since produced "above praise" guards for H.R.H. The Duke of Gloucester and the Divisional Commander.

Congratulations to Sgt. Perrin, Cpl. Crosbie, and L/Cpls. Aston and Sargeant on their promotions.

When the next notes are published we shall be a completely reorganised Company with many new faces. In advance we welcome them, and say farewell and good luck to all our old friends now posted.

#### "D" COMPANY

May finds us about to start a vast change-over of population. Many of those ineligible for Korea will be shortly drafted out and their places taken by incoming drafts from other Regiments in the group. Our hail and farewell references, however, are better left for the moment until the great changes are completed.

Those who have already gone since the last notes are Cpl. O'Keefe and Ptes. Strickland, Marshall, Vose, Gibson, Houchin, Milburn and Smith. We wish them luck in civilian life.

The new arrivals over the same period are Lt. Tree and Sgt. Preston, whom we cordially welcome.

Our time during the last three months has been chiefly taken up by normal training with our period spent at the All Arms Training Centre, Sennelager, and our annual range classification in the snow, standing out as highlights.

In games we have been well to the fore. An inter-Company soccer competition was held during the Easter break, which we won decisively. Our strong nucleus of Battalion players, namely, Ptes. Shaw, Morley and Milburn, proving effective.

The cricket season has started auspiciously for us as we have won our first two matches in the Inter-Company League. Although Pte. Hirst is our only Battalion player at the moment, our overall quality appears formidable—or so we hope.

Cpl. Robinson must be mentioned as the Battalion and Brigade quarter-mile champion. In the Divisional Championship in April he was just unplaced, but as we were at Sennelager at the time he did not have the training we would have liked.

C.Q.M.S. and Mrs. Jobbling, we congratulate



1st BATTALION RUGBY TEAM

Back Row: Bandsman Jones, Cpl. Hildred, 2/Lt. P. G. Fleming, Cpl. Davis, Cpl. Locke, Pte. Marshall, Sgt. Arundel, L/Cpl. Barnes  
 Sitting: Lt. R. M. Harms, 2/Lt. P. B. L. Hoppe, Lt. E. M. P. Hardy, Lt. J. D. P. Cowell, Lt. D. W. Shuttleworth, Lt. W. F. C. Robertson, 2/Lt. D. S. Gilbert

on the birth of their daughter, Janet Ann, on February 24, 1952.

Although these notes must close with the depressing thought that about half the Company will shortly be leaving us, we at least have the other half left upon which to base the "D" Company for Korea, which in these days of constant changes is remarkable.

### RUGBY

In our last issue we left our readers awaiting the news of our impending struggle against the Welsh Guards, who won the B.A.O.R. Rugby Cup last year. After a great deal of difficulty, owing to the fact that the Welsh Guards were in the process of moving from one end of Germany to the other, the date was finally chosen as March 6.

The weather at Hindenburg Stadium, Hannover, was bright and cold with a keen wind. There were still patches of snow on some parts of the ground which made the surface of the pitch wet and slippery. The Guards won the toss and played with the wind. The first score came after about 20 minutes' play in the middle of the field when a pass between Shuttleworth and Hardy was cleverly intercepted by Dando, the Welsh Guards stand-off, who passed the ball to one of his centres who scored near our right corner flag. The kick failed.

The game continued with renewed vigour, and it was not until the referee awarded a penalty to the Guards after an infringement following a tackle that they scored again. The score was now 6—0 to the Guards and remained so till half-time.

A few minutes after half-time we scored. The ball was heeled quickly out from a tight scrum in the middle of the field and was passed out to Pte. Jessop on the wing, who touched down near the corner flag. This try was not converted. From this point the Guards did all they could to keep the ball from reaching our backs, which they managed to do, due to their superior weight in the scrums and their domination of the "Dukes" pack in the lineouts.

We were, however, unfortunate not to score again when after a brilliant breakthrough by Shuttleworth his pass to the wing was fumbled and a scrum was given a few yards from the line. Until the final whistle the result of the game was by no means certain, but in the end we narrowly lost what had been the toughest game the Welsh Guards had in their grand season, which culminated in winning the Army Rugby Cup.

Our team was as follows: Capt. D. N. Simonds, Cpl. Oakes, Bdsm. Jones, Pte. Jessop, Lt. E. M. P. Hardy, Lt. D. W. Shuttleworth, 2/Lt. P. B. L. Hoppe, Lt. J. D. P. Cowell, L/Cpl. Horsnell Cpl. Locke, Cpl. Davis, Lt. R. M. Harms, 2/Lt. P. G. Fleming, and 2/Lt. D. S. Gilbert-Smith.

Since the Army Cup matches Rugby in the Battalion has been concentrated on the competition for the Platoon Flag. In the semi-finals No. 1 and No. 3 Platoons, both of "A" Company, were drawn against the M.M.G. Platoon and the Anti-tank Platoon respectively. After two exciting and hard-fought games the two rifle Platoons met in the final, which was played on May 10. The

standard of rugger was good, but it was soon evident that No. 3 Platoon were the superior side. The final score was 24—3. Several members of our team have also represented other teams outside the Battalion. Most notable was 2/Lt. D. S. Gilbert-Smith, who gained the distinction of playing for Scotland against England this year as well as playing in all the inter-Services matches for the Army.

Four members of the Battalion team played for a B.A.O.R. touring team against German teams at Frankfurt and Heidleberg. They were: Lts. Cowell and Harms, Cpl. Hildred and L/Cpl. Barnes. Since then Lt. Cowell and Cpl. Hildred have played for B.A.O.R. against the 2nd Tactical Air Force, Bomber Command, and the Oxford Greyhounds and have been awarded B.A.O.R. Rugby colours.

### SHOOTING

Our shooting during the winter months has naturally been confined to small bore.

#### *Rhine Army Championship*

This was run in three stages: the Brigade eliminator, the Divisional Championship, followed by the Rhine Army Finals.

Short of practice, we were nearly surprised in the first stage by the D.C.L.I. whom we eventually defeated by the small margin of 9 points after a very close struggle. The King's Own were a further 37 points behind, third.

In the Divisional Championships we defeated our nearest rivals, the 6th Armoured Division Signals Regiment, by 67 points, and so qualified for the B.A.O.R. finals, shot off by the 14 theatre finalists at the All Arms Training Centre at Sennelager.

In the first round we defeated the holders, Hamburg R.E.M.E., following up with a win over the D.L.I. from Berlin. In the semi-final against H.Q. B.A.O.R., however, luck deserted us. With the match as good as won, Cpl. Wood had the cruel misfortune to load with a dud round which struck several inches below his point of aim. As it was, we only lost by 2 points.

Our team in the Rhine Army final was Lt.-Col. Bunbury, A.Q.M.S. Stephens, Sgts. Norman and Nowell, and Cpls. Bailes and Wood. The last named, a young soldier, shot brilliantly throughout, averaging 98.5 per card, although the star of the team was Sgt. Norman who rarely dropped more than 1 point.

#### *Inter-Platoon Championship*

In February, as part of the Platoon flag competition, an inter-Platoon championship was run. The standard of shooting was remarkably high, particularly in the case of the young soldiers. The winners were No. 3 Platoon with a score of 497 out of 540. No. 1 Platoon were second and M.M.G. Platoon third with scores of 479 and 467 respectively.

#### *Brigade Inter-Platoon Match*

This match was instituted by the Brigadier not

so much to discover the best shooting Platoon in the Brigade, but to gauge the overall standard of shooting within Battalions. Immediately prior to the match the number of the Platoon to represent each Battalion was drawn out of a hat. Conditions were the same as for our own Platoon competition.

The Battalion were represented by six Platoons, who beat the D.C.L.I. by 43 points and the King's Own by 124 points.

#### *Classification*

We have so far classified about 600 men in the rifle and L.M.G. Results, whilst disappointing, are, it is believed, considerably better than the Army average and this is undoubtedly due to the fact that all coaching has been done by the members of last year's Bisley team.

#### *The Future*

In spite of Korea and all the disorganisation it entails, the Battalion will send teams to the Rhine Army Championships and to Bisley. Although three of our Army 100-shots will no longer be with us, there is new talent coming along and we hope to show that our success of last year was no flash in the pan.

### REGIMENTAL BAND

We received with mixed feelings the news that we shall be returning to the Depot at Halifax when the Battalion goes to the Far East. Our stay with the 1st Battalion has been a very happy one and most of us will feel very sorry to be separated from them again. We sincerely wish all ranks the very best of luck and hope to renew their acquaintance as soon as possible.

We have given two very successful concerts for the German population recently. One in the local theatre and one in a park by the side of the River Weser. They were very well attended and enthusiastically received. We perform regularly for the Officers' Mess and have aroused exceptional interest among the officers. For anyone who is interested we are broadcasting from the British Forces Network on June 23, 24 and 25.

In the realms of sport we have improved greatly, finishing fourth in the Platoon flag competition. We had hopes of winning the rugger tournament, but unfortunately Sgt. Arundel and his anti-tank Platoon team beat us by 10 points to 6 in the quarter finals after a very gruelling game. We warn all comers that we intend to win all our Rugby games next season.

Our congratulations are extended to Cpl. and Mrs. Roberts on the birth of their second son. We understand that they wished for a daughter so we wish them better luck next time.

### LATE NEWS

The 1st Battalion is due to arrive in Pontefract early in August and to leave for the Far East on September 19.



*In Memory of*  
**THE FIRST DUKE OF WELLINGTON**  
 1769—1852  
**COLONEL OF THE REGIMENT**  
 1806—1813

“THE LEADER, THE PROTECTOR, AND FRIEND OF EVERY MEMBER OF HIS CORPS”



**WALMER CASTLE**

**The Official Residence of the Wardens of the Cinque Ports**

In this sixteenth century castle, built by Henry VIII for the defence of the channel coasts, the Duke spent the last years of his life. His room is still preserved almost as he left it. The furniture is simple to the point of austerity; on the walls a framed copy of his Waterloo dispatch, a print of Mrs. Siddons as the Tragic Muse, and a few bookshelves—empty now for his books have been removed; the camp-bed on which he slept, the desk at which he wrote his enormous correspondence, the armchair in which he died, a chest of drawers and a few other utilitarian pieces; that is all. The nations of Europe ransacked their treasures to honour this their liberator. Few men have been rewarded with princelier gifts, few can have valued them less.

“To the unbroken splendours of his military career, to his honourable and conscientious labours as a parliamentary statesman, life unusually prolonged added an evening of impressive beauty and calm. . . Venerated and beloved by the greatest and the lowliest, the old hero entered as it were into the immortality of his fame while still among his countrymen. Death came to him at last in its gentlest form. He passed away on the 14th day of September, 1852, and was buried under the dome of St. Paul’s in a manner worthy both of the nation and the man.”—(From an anonymous article in the *Encyclopaedia Britannica*, 1911.)

## REGIMENTAL H.Q. and DEPOT

The period under review has been one of intense activity for all on the staff at the Depot. Our last notes in *THE IRON DUKE* reported that the second intake had left the Depot. Since then we have had two more intakes, the second of them arriving the day the first departed on leave. This last intake, incidentally was almost a double one and approximately a third of it consisted of regular recruits.

For the passing-out parade of the third intake we were very delighted to welcome again to the Depot Lt.-Col. Jack Dalrymple. Brigadier McMeaken, of the S.M.E., Ripon, took the salute of the fourth intake. Both these intakes will reach the 1st Battalion, providing the recruits themselves are old enough for service in Korea.

We are endeavouring to emulate the 1st Battalion's shooting record with our recruits in the inter-Depot shooting competitions, and so far our results have been encouraging, although there is considerable room for improvement. With our first intakes we came second. Our second intake won the competition very decisively, and our third intake came second again. The results of the fourth intake are not yet known.

Readers may not be aware that each intake is divided into two Platoons, and to carry our Regimental history instruction further, the Platoons in each intake are numbered 33 and 76 and their barrack rooms are suitably adorned with the respective badges. In the Platoon competition honours so far are even, with the following winners: First intake, No. 33 Platoon (Sgt. Mills); second intake, No. 76 Platoon (Sgt. Nichols); third intake, No. 76 Platoon (Sgt. Erswell); fourth intake, No. 33 Platoon (Sgt. Nichols).

Preparations for the anniversary celebrations have fully occupied the time of the C.O., the Adjutant, and the Administrative Officer, especially as May 24 drew closer. As a mere sub-editor of these notes, we would like to offer our congratulations on behalf of the unit, to these three officers for their efforts which made the anniversary weekend the huge success it was.

Training Company also did its shares by bringing the young recruits up to the standard of drill required and expected of them in the Regiment. This was doubly important as the Depot contingent led the marching troops and was the front Company at Manor Heath. It was very gratifying to see that these young recruits carried themselves like veterans and maintained their steadiness and bearing throughout the whole day.

We shall say no more of the anniversary celebrations here, as they are reported at length elsewhere in this issue, but we in Halifax would like to record here our own pleasure and satisfaction in seeing so many old "Dukes" come along to Halifax and the Depot for that weekend. And we think they enjoyed it as much as we did.

There have been very few changes in staff during the period under review. Our first big change, of course, was that of Commanding Officer. Major

Skelsey has departed this life for a miasmatic world where only "Roger so far," "Over to you" and "Wilco" and such like phrases are spoken. We were very sorry to see him go, and wish him success with his course at Warminster, and also when he joins the 1st Battalion. In his place we extend a welcome to Major Davis and his wife. He is returning to the fold as it were—he served at the Depot before as 2i/c to Col. Dalrymple in 1947.

We also said goodbye to Lt. Borwell and Cpl. Throp to the 1st Battalion, and L/Cpl. Atkins to civilian life, and wish them good fortune. We extend a hearty welcome to Lt. Metcalfe, our new training subaltern. Passing through have been Lt. Huxtable from the R.M.A. on his way to the 1st Battalion and Lt. Ralfe from Australia via Eaton Hall the 1st Battalion, Korea and Malaya, back to Australia! We think this is a long way round—still we never can understand these colonials!

The world of sport has seen us active again. Basketball has died down at the moment—we fell in the Area semi-finals to the eventual winners—an R.E. team from Ripon. Cricket and tennis go on apace. Apart from ordinary Depot games, a number of us play for local teams—Lt. Shuttleworth for a Leeds team in the Leeds League, Lt. Metcalfe for Leeds in the Yorkshire League, Capt. Tedd, C/Sgt. Hallsworth, Ptes. Halligan, Campbell and Lunn for King Cross in the Halifax League. We hope we will manage to obtain a fixture with the 1st Battalion when they arrive at Pontefract.

Mayor's Sunday in Halifax unfortunately coincided with our Anniversary Church Parade on May 25. The majority of the Depot attended the Church Parade, but the Training Officer, Capt. Tedd, and the Adjutant, Lt. Shuttleworth, accompanied the Mayor in Procession and R.S.M. Kenchington commanded a small representative body of permanent staff members.

On Tuesday, May 20, we received the sad news that Lt.-Col. ("Sam") Hoyle, late 2/7th Battalion, 2nd Battalion and 7th Battalion, died after a long illness. His funeral was on Friday, May 23, and the Depot was requested to provide a Bearer Party and Firing Party. C.S.M. Stringer (7th D.W.R.), Sgts. Wond, Nichols, Erswell and Sugden, and Cpls. Peach and O'Hara comprised the former, whilst Cpl. Galley commanded the latter.

As we draw to the end of these notes we would like to record that our Regimental Chapel has now been used by members of the Regiment for special services as the Regiment's own Chapel. Communion services are held on certain Regimental occasions such as St. George's Day, Alma Day, Waterloo Day and the like. The week ending May 25, however, was unique in the history of the Regiment: in that week the Chapel was used for the first time on three separate and different occasions by members of the Regiment. On Sunday, May 18, the infant daughter of Capt. and Mrs. Tedd

was baptised there by the Archdeacon of Halifax. On Friday, May 23, the body of Lt.-Col. S. R. Hoyle rested in the Chapel during his funeral service, and on Sunday, May 25, an Anniversary Church Parade and service was held there. We sincerely hope that all "Dukes" past and present, will remember that this Chapel is their

chapel and to be used as such, and we also hope that the precedents now established will see the Chapel so used in future.

Our next notes will be written when the 1st Battalion is home again. We hope we shall have some meetings with them before they sail for Korea.

## 382 FIELD REGIMENT, R.A. (4 D.W.R.), T.A.

We are in time with our notes this time, and although there may be not much to write about we have certainly been doing a lot. Our S.P. guns have at last arrived and we have driven them through the main streets of Halifax to places where we never thought we would be allowed to go, and we have taken them in transporters to a weekend camp at Ripon, some 40 miles north. The weekend camp was a great success. We had an excellent attendance from T.A. and National Servicemen, and we were able to deploy an 8-gun battery for the first time since our formation.

Meanwhile our L.A.D. enjoyed themselves with one of our Cromwell tank ops., which they took on to the training area with the front half of its tank transporter following dutifully behind. Whenever the transporter wouldn't start the tank towed it, and between them they made an excellent road block.

As soon as we got back from weekend camp we went into an orgy of painting and spraying for the parade in commemoration of the raising of the 33rd of Foot and the centenary of the first Duke of Wellington's death. Our Regiment took pride of place in the March Past, and our C.O., Lt.-Col. J. F. Crossley, M.B.E., T.D., R.A., led the mounted parade in a Cromwell tank. Behind him was "P" Battery Commander, Capt. J. D. Green-

wood, in another Cromwell, followed by four S.P. 25-pounder guns, four Landrovers and a L.A.D. 15-cwt. This composite troop from Halifax, Brighthouse and Cleckheaton was very impressive, as Halifax is not used to having tanks and S.P. guns roaring through the middle of the town.

After the March Past we went on to Manor Heath Park, and a troop of S.P. 25-pounders carried out a quick action and fired some very noisy blank ammunition with good effect.

Now we look forward to our next weekend camp on June 14, and then our annual camp from July 19 to August 2. This last will be at Sennybridge in Wales, where our C.O., Adjutant and Q.M. have already carried out a swift recce. With our own strength nearly doubled in a year and the addition of "Z" Reservist officers and other ranks we are going to have an excellent Regimental strength at camp.

We cannot end these notes without a word of congratulations to our "Z" Reservists. Most of them have visited us one drill night, and many have since done some training with us. At the last weekend camp six officers were able to join us for the two days' training. We are getting to know them, and they are getting to know us. That is just what we want.

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

We open these notes in the middle of our more concentrated pre-camp training. The attendance at drills has been good and it is pleasant to record that the National Servicemen are keeping their end up well. There have been three weekend camps during the period at Knostrop Training Camp, Leeds—the first of which was the end of the Brigade courses run for potential key numbers. The last two camps were compulsory for certain National Servicemen and there is no doubt that they enjoyed themselves. In March the officers singled themselves out for special training and spent a Sunday together drilling and lecturing each other. One gave a unique demonstration of stick drill, while another successfully put an end to gun drill by his slick performance.

Undoubtedly the highlight of the period of these notes were the celebrations marking the 250th anniversary of the foundation of the Regiment

which were held in Halifax on May 24. The mobile column, being the main contribution to the parade by the Regiment, rightly deserved the praise it received. The Old Comrades had a record turn up and got a marked reception from the crowds. The Duke of Wellington himself took the salute, which more than married the past with the present. A superb summer day crowned the celebrations with splendour. (Comment aside: "It would be nice if officers knew how to start motor bikes, if ever we rode them.")

The next day the Regiment held its Regimental Church Parade in Huddersfield. The Padre, Rev. H. Tuff, B.A., C.F., gave us a noble sermon, and afterwards the Honorary Colonel, Col. K. Sykes, O.B.E., M.C., T.D., J.P., took the salute on the March Past of the Regiment. We welcome our new Brigade Commander, Brigadier G. Marnham, O.B.E., M.C., who was also at the saluting base for



the March Past. Again there was an excellent attendance of Old Comrades, under the command of Lt.-Col. D. H. Hirst, M.B.E., T.D. In the afternoon the Regiment and the Old Comrades took part in the Fallen Heroes Parade at Greenhead Park, Huddersfield. Again it was a glorious day and most certainly a befitting weekend for so much Regimental ceremony.

An L.A.D. has now been approved and was officially formed on May 23, 1952. This should prove a useful innovation for the Regiment.

Social activity has been maintained. On April 25 the Honorary Colonel gave a dinner to serving and post-war officers of the Regiment, in honour of the 250th anniversary of the Regiment and the centenary of the passing of the Iron Duke; at the same time Major G. P. Norton, T.D., and Capt. P. Goodall, T.D., were dined out. Happily the third officer to be dined out at the last moment suffered a change of outlook and decided to rejoin us. Well done, Capt. A. W. R. Brook. The excellence of the evening was distinctly marked by the presence of physical disabilities on the part of some the next morning.

A Regimental Social was held on May 24 in the Drill Hall for all ranks, as part of the 250th celebrations. The Sergeants and "P" Battery have also held dances.

## Officers' Dinner Club

The next Annual Dinner is on Friday, October 10, 1952. The Hon. Secretary writes that the Dinner Club has now among its members a Bishop, four Vicars, a Curate and an Organising Secretary for the Free Church, which is surely a record for a Combatant Dinner Club. The late Padre, the Rev. Canon Woods, has been appointed Suffragan Bishop of Middleton; the Commanding Officer and the Hon. Secretary attended the Consecration Service by the Archbishop of York.

A silver-mounted Bâton has been presented for use by the Regimental Bandmaster by Tom Stafford, Esq., M.M.

## 7th BATTALION

### SUB-EDITORIAL

With the long dark winter days behind us we felt we could look forward to a successful year's training and without exaggerating we have enjoyed our exercises and schemes with one possible exception, in weather which would do credit to our English summer leave alone spring.

We thought we would start the ball rolling with a preliminary "get-together" and so renew old acquaintances. This was done in the form of a Battalion T.E.W.T. for officers and N.C.O.s, which was carried out in the Wharfedale area. It was a very instructive day's training which was enjoyed by all who attended. The great point about it was that no one was afraid to air their views, and we had some very interesting discussions with senior and junior N.C.O.s alike taking part. The day was no doubt a valuable start for the summer training season.

The following weekend being Easter there was, of course, no training although most people I feel sure took advantage of the gorgeous weather and went out into the country. Easter over, the next weekend saw our first weekend camp. This was held at Farnley Park, near Otley. Saturday afternoon was devoted to forming the Battalion into its new Companies, including the Halifax and Huddersfield Companies. We are looking forward to the day which we hope will not be too distant when the drill halls will be ready to house these Companies. At the moment both these Companies have to be attached to other Company drill halls, which is unsatisfactory. The latter part of the afternoon was spent in a practice rehearsal (and, alas, our only rehearsal!) for the 250th anniversary parade. Considering this was the first parade we

had done of this nature, it was carried out exceedingly well and much better than any of us had dared to think! Saturday night most of the unit visited Otley, and I believe the "locals" made quite a good profit.

Sunday was off to a rather disappointing start with a coldish wind and slight drizzle. In spite of this the Battalion was away on to adjacent training areas by 0830 hours practising minor tactics and field formations under the careful guidance of Major Banks. Sunday evening came all too quickly and we soon found ourselves back in the industrial heart of the West Riding.

At the latter end of April the C.O., Adjutant, and Capt. Townsend took part in a Divisional exercise, and the main attraction, or should I say discussion, was a long weary night on the wireless set which would not allow you to snatch even 20 winks.

The early part of May saw us practising for the Divisional rifle meeting. A weekend camp was arranged for Deer Hill, near Huddersfield, and this we considered was the exception to our period of fair-weather training. To those of you who know Deer Hill I am not going to offer any explanation, but to those who know not of Deer Hill I would describe it by merely saying it is one of those places which has its own local weather conditions, and those conditions are usually bad especially for the would-be marksman. We are not going to offer any excuses for our indifferent performance at the Divisional rifle meeting, but nevertheless we feel Deer Hill was largely responsible.

Much has been said elsewhere about the 250th Anniversary parade, but we would like to say how much we all enjoyed taking part in it, even if it

was a bit warm for marching, and our thick battle-dress was in sharp contrast to the thousands of spectators who were wearing gaily coloured summer clothes.

Our next event will, of course, be the annual camp which is being held at Stanford, Norfolk, from July 26 to August 9. The work of fitting our "Z" Reservists in the Battalion has already started and we should get a good team together for our strenuous 15 days' training. It is hoped as last year to produce some photographs which will be included in the next IRON DUKE notes, together with a report on the camp.

### OFFICERS' MESS

With summer virtually upon us and our attention directed to outside training the activity of the Officers' Mess room at Milnsbridge has died down noticeably of late. We usually take out a detachment of refreshment from the Mess when we do our out-of-doors training, which is very welcome.

Probably the biggest change which has taken place since our last issue is the departure of Alec Banks, our former P.M.C. administrative and training officer. This has indeed come as a heavy blow to us and we shall miss his cheery face and his skill and cunning in the art of balancing our Regimental balance sheets. We understand that he will be posted to the Middle East and we would like to wish both him and "Billy," his wife, the best of luck in the future, and at the same time to thank him for all the hard work he has put in for the Battalion.

St. George's Day, Wednesday, April 23, was the occasion of our Annual Ball, which was held at the barracks at Halifax, the Depot very kindly agreeing to lend us the gymnasium for the event. Amongst other distinguished guests we were very pleased to welcome the Mayor of Halifax, Alderman A. Pickles, O.B.E., J.P. A very enjoyable evening was had by all and we hope next year we will be able to increase our numbers.

Our next function will again be a family affair which we are holding at Milnsbridge on June 12. This will take the form of a farewell dinner to Alec Banks. After the dinner he will be presented with a silver salver which is being bought by the officers of the 7th in recognition of his work for the unit.

Apart from this the Mess has been quiet, but it is really only the lull before the storm, for we hope to have a full Mess for our annual camp which is taking place at Stanford at the end of July.

### SUPPORT COMPANY

The culmination of our spring training could not have been more fittingly displayed than the 250th Anniversary Birthday Celebrations Parade on May 24. "Sp" Company were well represented, the O.C. "Sp" Company (Capt. D. R. Siddall) leading the 7th Battalion D.W.R. (T.A.) contingent in carriers with Capt. C. C. Barnes and Lt. Woodhouse (whom we take pleasure in welcoming as O.C. Mortar Platoon) also present. Sgt. "Torso" Craven, our P.S.I., had worked night and day with other willing volunteers, both Territorial and N.S.,

to get our motley collection of battered vehicles clean and tidy. All who assisted in this labour deserve full credit for the splendid result. C.S.M. Ackroyd had the honour to be selected as Senior Warrant Officer in charge of the Colour Party, and several of our Company strode manfully through the town "just to show the Rifle Companies how to do it." C.Q.M.S. Rodgers actually volunteered to act as left guide in one of the composite marching Companies. The demonstrations which followed the March Past were ably commented on in best B.B.C. style by Major Stan Heaton (now permanently banished from us to command the embryo "B" Company, where we know he will have every success; all he seems to lack is some men!) The Machine Gunners came into action first just as the crowds were recovering from the 4th Dukes big bangs, and your reporter snooping through the ranks of the O.C.A. heard many an expert criticism from old warriors, but as one be-medalled Mons veteran said: "We will need the Vickers to stop 'em!"—a fact borne out in recent experiences in Korea. After Capt. Barnes' men had withdrawn leaving a carrier less track for the children's weekend delight, Lt. Woodhouse's warriors gave us a faultless display of 3-in. mortar drill and the work of the day was over.

All thanks must go to the Company for their hard preparatory work, their smart turn out, their bearing and vigour on such a hot day—even the Company cook, Pte. Bullock, A.C.C., was not to be outdone, he volunteered to take part and became the M.M.G. range-taker. A good show indeed.

After the essential pay parade the Company dispersed to pastures new, some to shake a nifty leg at the splendid birthday ball, some to talk amongst old comrades of past days and those to come. We did hear a rumour of a game of Rugby, "Sp" Company versus the "Rest," on the hallowed square at the barracks at 2 a.m. on Sunday morning; but perhaps we can draw a convenient "Iron Curtain" over that.

Of the rest of this periods training little can be said. N.S. men continue to be turned into "Dukes" with the addition of suitable shoulder titles, cap badges and the appropriate shade of blanco. The "Old Guard" turn up at the Drill Hall, new soldiers we believe, call it the T.A. Centre—and other things.

Cpl. Haldenby is going to show "Support" Weapons Wing how we do it in the 7th Dukes. Pte. Bullock learned how to make "chocolate Mousse" and *pâté de foie gras* on his cook's course. He has also been offered a fabulous sum to cater for the Sergeants' Mess at camp. "Q" Rodgers still fiddles the accounts and the O.C. still pays up uncomplainingly, whilst mine host Mr. Mitchell looks forward to his free weekend at camp (its all right, Mrs. Mitchell, we'll look after him!).

### "H.Q." COMPANY

Many new faces are now appearing at Milnsbridge, and if not with the consistency which we would like, the attendances have improved of late.

Fred Dews has been elevated to the dizzy heights

of C.S.M. "D" Company and we wish him all the best and hope that he will not have long to wait for a new T.A. centre. Our congratulations go to Sgt. Hawksworth who has been appointed C.Q.M.S. of "H.Q." Company. We hope he will soon settle down to book-keeping, as well as he handled engines and spanners, etc.

The Battalion is now in the middle of a very active summer training programme at which attendances have been good. A very pleasant day was spent by the N.C.O.s on a T.E.W.T. in the Harrogate area, which was followed on April 19/20 by our first weekend camp at Farnley Park. On May 3/4 a practice shoot was held at Deer Hill at which the Company did very well. Cpl. Wyke finished equal 2nd, and Sgt. Haigh (R.A.P.C.) and Cpl. Archer and Pte. Oram equal 3rd in the rifle. Cpls. Roebuck and Archer were 1st and 2nd on the L.M.G. We hope that next year we will be able to infuse some of this new blood into the Battalion team.

On May 24 we took part in the 250th Anniversary Parade of the Regiment and marched through Halifax with colours flying, at which the Company was well represented. This parade is described in more detail in other parts of this issue.

A social evening was held on May 15 which was well attended by members of the Company with their wives and friends. After partaking of supper all adjourned to the lounge where in the course of the evening much talent (hidden) was discovered, which augurs well for any other function.

At the moment we are thinking ahead to annual camp, the Battalion rifle meeting and field firing, but more of that later.

In closing we would like to welcome our new R.S.M., R.S.M. Smythe, D.C.M., and hope his stay will be a pleasant one, and finally thank you and *au revoir* to Major Banks, our Training Officer, who leaves us in the near future for warmer climes.

#### "A" COMPANY

Since the last issue of THE IRON DUKE we have had our noses to the grindstone, training, shooting on the miniature range, and then the smartening up for the parade at Halifax for the 250th Anniversary of the Regiment. We also spent a weekend at Deer Hill in preparation for the classification shoot which will be held in June.

It was with regret that the Company received the news of the passing away of Col. Hoyle. To those who have served under him the news caused a feeling of deep loss and sincere regret at the passing of a popular and well-loved officer and gentleman.

On the social club side we have been very busy organising various types of social events. The main one being a shoot on the miniature range with the 41st Battalion The Royal Tank Corps (Oldham Territorials). This took place on Thursday evening, May 22, and we are pleased to announce that we beat them by 35 points. After the shoot we played them at darts and lost three games to two. But that did not worry us because afterwards we adjourned to the club room and finished up in the usual manner around the piano

and behind pint glasses. We hope to hold another shoot with the Home Guard very shortly, and we hope to be able to maintain the good standard of shooting in "A" Company.

We welcome back from hospital C.S.M. Maltby (George), and we hope that this time he has finished visiting these places of knives and needles.

#### "B" COMPANY

It is pleasing to report that better attendances have been noticed on drill nights recently and, while realising that the winter months are usually the slackest, it may well be that the social evening held in March—hot supper, free drinks, etc.—for T.A. personnel, N.S. men, and their wives and sweethearts, helped to show them that we make our drill nights entertaining as well as instructional.

Unfortunately our numbers have been somewhat depleted as a result of the formation of the two new Companies. Although we see the same faces on drill nights we lose them to their respective Companies at weekend camps and annual camp.

Having had new lighting and rewiring, the miniature range is again in use after being in disuse throughout the winter months—when most needed. We are now having more practice than was possible previously.

After several years of T.A. service the Company has now lost C/Sgt. Hopson, who finds his civilian demands too heavy to allow for T.A. work. We are sorry to lose him and wish him the best for the future. Being now without C.Q.M.S. we shall have to "scratch our heads" to find a suitable replacement.

To further still more the social aspect of our work we are installing a Badminton court for post-parade periods and feel this should be of added interest for those who have sufficient energy left after drills.

Finally, our P.S.I., C.S.M. Lamb, was married in March, but appears to be no worse for that—up to press, anyway. Once again we wish him and Mrs. Lamb all happiness for the future.

## **Christmas Cards, 1952 Diaries, 1953**

The Regimental Christmas Card this year will be larger than that for 1951. It will contain a reproduction of the print "Christmas in Barracks" which appeared in THE IRON DUKE, No. 11, October, 1928, and which referred to the 76th Regiment.

Cards are 12s. a dozen and Diaries are 5s. each. orders should be sent as soon as possible to: P.R.I., Regimental Depot, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, Wellesley Barracks, Halifax, Yorks, enclosing cheques or postal orders to cover the cost of cards and diaries. No addition need be made for postage.



## 4th CADET BATTALION

We record with pride that a party of Cadets of this Battalion led by Capt. B. A. Hogan took part in the Regimental Anniversary Parade at Halifax on May 24.

These "soldiers of tomorrow," as the B.B.C. commentator so aptly called them, will long remember the thrill of the March Past and the Duke of Wellington taking the salute.

The fine display by the combined Cadet Corps of Drums in Manor Heath Park under the critical eyes of the Old Comrades and the professional soldiers present spoke volumes for the work put in by Lt. G. Miller (4th Battalion) and Capt. Knowles (382 (Cadet) Field Regiment, R.A., D.W.R.). These officers are to be congratulated on the results of their labours.

The same party, again led by Capt. Hogan, represented the Battalion at the 270 Field Regiment, R.A. (T.A.), "Freedom of the City" of Bradford Anniversary Parade on May 26.

Our next important event will be our annual inspection on June 25 by Brigadier A. C. E. Devereux (49th Armoured Division (T.A.)). We

await this occasion without trepidation as, on his last visit, we found the Brigadier most helpful and understanding, and keenly interested in Cadets.

Our last two certificate "A" examinations were not too successful from the point of view of passes, but the opportunity of some concentrated training during annual camp may brighten our prospects in this direction.

We are happy to record, however, that the number of Cadets qualifying as marksmen under the Empire Test has already passed the 50 per cent. mark and more Cadets are in the course of training for the test.

By the time these notes are published preparations for annual camp at Skegness will have reached fever pitch. We have not visited this camp before, but we have no doubt that arrangements for our comfort will be as efficient as they are elsewhere, and that facilities for the disposal of pocket money in leisure hours will not be lacking.

Let us hope, then, for fine warm weather, so that the Cadets may derive the fullest benefit from their holiday.

## BRIGADE NOTES

The Yorkshire and Northumberland Training Centre at Strensall ran down to nothing as recruits completed training. It finally finished on December 14, 1951, by which date all Regimental Depots had started their training role.

The Training Centre had been in Strensall since March, 1948, when 1st Battalion The Duke of Wellington's Regiment took over the role from the Yorkshire and Northumberland I.T.C. which used to be at Catterick. The "Dukes" started their active role again at the end of 1951. During these three and three-quarter years approximately 7,400 National Service recruits have been through the Centre.

In order to commemorate the presence of the Training Centre at Strensall a window with the Brigade Sign was put up in the Garrison Church.

It is hoped that these notes will appear once a quarter and will give Regiments news of the happenings and achievements of the other Regiments in the Brigade. It is very much regretted that these first notes are not complete. The 5th Fusiliers and the Green Howards' notes have not been received from the Far East.

### WEST YORKSHIRE NOTES

#### 1st Battalion—Austria

By the time these notes appear in print the Battalion will be staging in Yorkshire on its way to the Middle East. The Regiment's stay in Austria has been a long one of seven years, during which time the White Horse has been shown in all parts of the British Zone and in Vienna.

During our stay we have been fortunate enough to win the majority of the B.T.A. sport competitions

at one time or another, but it is in ski-ing that we have had our greatest success.

The Battalion has won the B.T.A. Ski Championship every year for the last five years and the Army Ski Championship four times in the same period.

Our exact destination in the Middle East is still shrouded in mystery; we are due to join the 1st Guards Brigade in 1st Division. Their permanent station is in Tripoli, but at present they are deployed in the Canal Zone.

By the time our next contribution is due we hope to be able to give a great deal more information about our permanent (?) station.

The following regular officers and O.R.s of the other Regiments within the group are serving with the Battalion at the present moment:

*R.N.F.*—Sgt. D. Lowe, Pte. Thompson (73), Pte. Aekley (34).

*E.Y.R.*—Major A. R. A. Wilson, M.C., Cpls. D. Cox and B. Bassham, L/Cpl. H. Pinder, Ptes. F. Mason and S. Hall.

*Green Howards.*—Capt. G. R. Louis, M.C., C.S.M. G. Calvert, D.C.M., Sgt. C. Robinson, Cpl. S. Worrall, L Cpls. P. McManus, Reeden, J. Brook and Akein, Pte. A. McGinn.

*D.W.R.*—C.S.M. H. Killien, C/Sgt. D. Jeffreys, Sgt. H. Poole, Cpls. D. Kaye and R. Rolls.

*York and Lancs.*—Major P. A. Belton, Major J. V. Hawkins, C Sgt. Beverly, Sgt. A. P. Parkin, Ptes. N. Wilson, Ashurst and Booth.

### EAST YORKSHIRE NOTES

#### 1st Battalion—B.A.O.R.

The Battalion has been stationed in Berlin since October, 1951, and has settled down to a routine of

training, guards and I.S. duties. It is rather a long way (12 miles) from our barracks to the centre of Berlin, but near headquarters are a large NAAFI club and shop, two A.K.C. cinemas, a Y.M.C.A. and a Y.M.C.A. bookshop.

In addition, there is the immense Olympic Stadium built by the Germans for the 1936 Olympic Games. Besides the stadium itself there are numerous pitches for rigger, soccer, etc., several swimming pools and a well-equipped sports centre for any games from table tennis to indoor ski-ing.

We have won the British Troops Berlin Association Football League Cup, and five members of the Battalion fought in the B.A.O.R. Boxing Championships at Dortmund. One of these, Pte. Davies, has become flyweight champion of B.A.O.R. and is boxing in the Army Finals in England on March 26 and 27.

### THE "DUKES" NOTES 1st Battalion—B.A.O.R.

We have a large number of W.O.s, N.C.O.s and men of other Regiments in the Group serving with us. It is not possible for us to list everybody, but the names of the more senior may be of interest:

*R.N.F.*—C.Q.M.S. Frier, Sgt. Clarke.

*Green Howards.*—C.S.M. Page, C.Q.M.S.s' Munroe and Jobling, Sgts. Davie, Webb, Browne, Kirk, Houghton, Breeze, Morrow, Berrett, Howell and Richardson. The latter is due to leave us any day to take an appointment with the new Infantry Boys' Training Battalion which is being raised at Nottingham.

*West Yorkshire Regiment.*—C/Sgt. Pickering, Sgt. Arundel, who has played regularly for us in our first XV Rugby team, Sgts. Powell, Waite and Cunningham.

*East Yorkshire Regiment.*—There are only three senior ranks of the East Yorkshire Regiment, viz., C/Sgt. Sowerby, who finishes his service early next year, Sgts. Batty and Simpson.

*York and Lancs.*—Sgts. Webster, McCarthy and Nowde, Drum-Major Slattery.

### YORK AND LANCASTER NOTES 1st Battalion—B.A.O.R.

At the time of writing, late March, the Battalion is engaged on Company training on the excellent training areas at Sennelager. The anti-tank platoon is at Putlos (on the Baltic Coast). Later in the year we shall, as usual, take part in Brigade and Divisional operations.

Our proximity to the Russian Zone border entails the carrying out of border patrols, which are always eagerly anticipated by everyone, but which seldom prove very exciting.

We doubt very much whether any other Regiment in the Y. and N. Brigade can equal our success on the field of sport. Last season we were in B.A.O.R. Finals for Rugby, swimming and cross-country, while we also won the Divisional water polo. So far this season our best achievement has been in Rugby football, where we reached the Army semi-finals (B.A.O.R. finals). We were beaten by the Welsh Guards, who had narrowly defeated the Duke of Wellington's in the previous round. We also got to the B.A.O.R. semi-final in hockey.

We expect to move from B.A.O.R. towards the end of the year.

### 5th FUSILIERS' NOTES 1st Battalion—Hong Kong

It is a little difficult to know what should be included in Battalion notes written from a station such as Hong Kong. Everything here seems so parochial that it can be of no possible interest to our friends at home or in other parts of the Commonwealth. Our camp is some twenty-six miles from the city lights of Kowloon (and it may be said in parenthesis that the only lights which the writer has seen to equal Kowloon since the war have been those of Brussels) and thither a proportion of those not engaged on camp duties make their way most week-ends.

A word must be said about our main task on which we are employed at the present time. We receive drafts from the Welch Regimental Depot at a rate of about two drafts of 47 a month, and these National Service men we train and harden before we send them on to Korea. At one time in mid-March we had as many as 280 Welshmen amongst us; the first three drafts for Korea have now, however, left us and we wait for the April arrivals. One most noticeable thing about these Welsh National Service men has been their terrific enthusiasm, and it is a most encouraging sign that young men of that generation can be sent 8,000 miles from their homes and can put such tremendous spirit into their work knowing full well that they are not following the vocation or trade to which they hope to settle eventually.

Our Sergeants' Mess losses include C.S.M. Blower (East Yorkshire Regiment), who has left on retirement, and C.S.M. Hardisty (Duke of Wellington's), who had just left us on compassionate leave and is returning to a Base appointment in Singapore. Among our own ranks, R.S.M. Richardson has gone on a drill course to Caterham and C.S.M. Ambury has left us to take over a T.A. R.S.M.'s appointment.

## Annual General Meeting and Reunion Dinner

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 1952

The Annual General Meeting and Re-union Dinner will be held this year in the Queen's Hall, Queen's Road, Halifax. The time of the A.G.M. is 5.30 p.m. sharp and is being held in an upstairs room. The dinner is at 7.15 p.m. Tickets are 7s. 6d. each and members are allowed to bring wives and one lady friend (in fact they are cordially invited to do so). Old Comrades wishing me to reserve accommodation in the barracks are asked to let me know by Saturday, September 6, 1952. I can arrange breakfast on the Sunday morning for those sleeping in barracks (price 2s. 6d.).

Applications from members for tickets should be made to the Secretary, O.C.A., Wellesley Barracks, Halifax.

S. E. DODE.

## REGIMENTAL WAR MEMORIAL FUND

Now that we have realised our ambitions and objects I feel bound to pen a few words, first, in tribute to those who have subscribed so generously and so often to the Fund, and secondly, to record a phase of the Committee's efforts.

To all those friends who supported our sweep-stake enterprise for so long, units and individuals who gave or donated sums of money directly or by covenant we say a big "Thank you." It may surprise our friends to know that by sweepstakes and one season's dances alone we raised over £3,500. A final balance sheet will possibly be published in *THE IRON DUKE* later on, but all those who helped my Committee in their efforts may rest assured that the Regiment are not unmindful of this unstinted support.

At a meeting of the Committee held on December 22 last it became apparent that we should have to raise more money very quickly. Following further discussion it emerged that our target should be £1,800: £600 was required to pay off Halifax Memorial Chapel debts, £500 would be needed for future commitments in the field of education for our orphans, and £700 as a safe reserve. All this set a problem. The Secretary pointed out that he had explored every channel and it probably meant going to the same people again for money; sweepstakes were flagging and he was afraid our "fans" were getting used to his particular way of phrasing appeals. Mr. Code recalled his earlier idea of circularising well-known West Riding firms, etc., whereby they would be asked to support the Fund with a direct money gift as a tribute to the memory of West Riding men who fell with the "Dukes." The Committee approved this scheme and the Secretary was authorised to go forward with this project. At this juncture Col. Sugden, who commands the 578 (5th D.W.R.) H.A.A. Regiment, R.A. (T.A.), said he knew of an organisation who had a scheme whereby local firms, etc., were invited to contribute to the funds by taking up advertising space in their journal.

My Committee thought this an admirable idea and it was decided to go ahead with a similar scheme that would offer West Riding firms advertising space of 3 in. by 1 in. in *THE IRON DUKE* for a fee of £10. Col. Stewart, business manager of *THE IRON DUKE*, present at the meeting, was asked his opinion from the point of view of space available in the July Anniversary issue.

Col. Stewart said he saw no difficulties at all, providing we got on with it straight away and also let Col. Price have some details as early as possible. The Secretary undertook to get out an appeal on those lines immediately.

Many firms responded to this novel method of contributing to the Fund. Some decided to avail themselves of advertising space and some did not but made a contribution just the same. Those who took advantage of the scheme have their adverts elsewhere in this issue; those who made us a money gift I record by appending their names hereunder:

Joseph King (Keighley) Ltd.

Hill Benson & Bailey Ltd.  
Smith, Haywood & Co. Ltd.  
J. & A. Binns Ltd.  
Walter Gledhill & Sons Ltd.  
Versil Ltd., Liversedge.  
Driver, Hartley & Co. Ltd.  
Charles Hirst & Sons Ltd.  
Henry Wheatley & Sons Ltd.  
Conways Ltd.  
The English Card Clothing Co. Ltd.  
Butterfield & Fraser, Bingley.

The sum of £400 was obtained by this method. We thank all these firms for their generosity and support.

At this same meeting it was decided to ask all our Service and Territorial Battalion O.C.A.s, etc., to contribute; this they did right royally and as a result we were another £280 better off. Incidentally one member of the Committee present that evening made us a gift of £43 immediately, with the proviso that we kept his name anonymous. With a further £240 profit from the Derby sweep-stake a total of £920 has been raised since last December. We have now paid off all debts on the Halifax Parish Church Memorial and have enough in hand and invested to ensure that we will be able to fulfil our obligations for the further education, etc., of orphaned children of the Regiment.

Some idea of the magnitude of the task can be gained by the following figures. When the reconstituted Committee took over on March 19, 1949, the Fund possessed £945 cash. Since then a total of £4,477 5s. 4d. has been paid out on the objects of the Fund, viz.:

	£	s.	d.
Halifax Memorial Chapel .. .. .	3,035	16	0
Renovation and restoration of			
Colours .. .. .	495	12	10
York Minister:			
Memorial Window (Gen. Turner)	245	16	6
Memorial Book .. .. .	280	0	0
School fees and clothing for orphans	420	0	0

In addition we have £1,316 invested for future educational needs and a cash balance of £271 4s. 9d. at the bank.

Nearly all the money has been obtained in the West Riding of Yorkshire. Yorkshire folk are reputed to be "tight with their brass," but they are open-handed when it comes to giving to a worthy cause and more especially to the "Dukes." I cannot close without placing on record my appreciation of the hard work and loyal support afforded to me by our Treasurer, Mr. Tom McMahon, and the unfailing help, advice and co-operation received by me from the Chairman, Lt.-Col. Sydney Smith, T.D., J.P., and the Committee. I should also like to express our appreciation of the help we have received, in the journalistic field, from the *Halifax Courier and Guardian*. To their chief reporter, Mr. George Beddoe—himself an old "Duke" and a member of the Regimental Association—I personally tender my thanks for his many kindnesses.

S. E. CODE, *Hon. Secretary,*  
*Regimental War Memorial Fund.*

**THE ADVERTISEMENTS**

on this and the following page are the  
result of the appeal issued by the  
**WAR MEMORIAL FUND**  
referred to in the preceding article

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Enticing, Attractive and Teasing,  
Her Outfit's Complete  
With Textiles so Neat,  
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**Retired Officers Fund****The Duke of Wellington's Regiment**

## BALANCE SHEET, 1951

<i>Income</i>		£	s.	d.
Credit Balance brought forward ..		172	13	1
Officers' Subscriptions ..		35	2	6
Legacy from Col. C. J. Pickering ..		25	0	0
		<hr/>		
		£232	15	7
<i>Expenditure.</i>		£	s.	d.
Regimental Association—Cols. Curran and Healing .. .. .		5	0	0
Wreaths—Col. Pickering and Major Milner .. .. .		4	2	6
Spink (Medals) .. .. .		50	0	0
Contra Credit, per Balance Sheet ..			10	0
C.O.'s Central Fund, Depot .. .. .		20	0	0
Balance, Credit .. .. .		153	3	1
		<hr/>		
		£232	15	7

F. H. FRASER, Brigadier.

February 2, 1952.

**Commemoration  
Service**

By kind permission of the Dean and Chapter, a Commemoration Service will be held as part of Evensong at St. Paul's Cathedral on Sunday, September 14, next, at 3.15 p.m., on the occasion of the centenary of the death of the first Duke of Wellington.

A limited number of seats will be reserved. Past and present members of The Duke of Wellington's Regiment should apply to Col. F. R. Armitage, Sheridan Lodge, Sycamore Road, Farnborough, Hants. O.W.s should apply to T. M. Sowerby, Esq., 6 New Square, Lincoln's Inn, London, W.C.2, and any Associations or others who were connected with the first Duke and would like to be represented should apply to Floyd Ewin, Esq., the Registrar, St. Paul's Cathedral, London, E.C.4. Applicants may also reserve seats for wives and families.

Early application is earnestly requested and in any case not later than September 1.

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That the English have the reputation of being the best-dressed men of any nation is due to those who wear the clothes as much as to those who make them. For Englishmen have always been "particular," and indeed often fastidious, about their dress.

Despite difficult times, this standard can still be maintained. In Hawkes' Ready-to-wear Department, costs are kept down by modern methods of production, but the cut, workmanship and finish embody the skill of bespoke tailoring. To be tailored by Hawkes is to be in the tradition of well-dressed Englishmen.

Lounge Suits £16/1/8 to £27/1/10

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## OBITUARY

We deeply regret to announce the following deaths:

### COL. S. NAYLOR, M.C.

At High Haden, Old Hill, Staffordshire, after a long illness, Col. S. Naylor, M.C., aged 61.

Col. Naylor was commissioned to the Manchester Regiment (T.A.) in 1914 and served with them in Gallipoli, where he was severely wounded and lost an eye, and later in Palestine with the Egyptian Expeditionary Force. He was awarded the Military Cross for gallantry. In 1918 he was granted a Regular commission in The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, and in 1919 appointed Staff Captain to the 8th Infantry Brigade. He became Adjutant of the Depot in 1923 and Adjutant of the 6th Battalion in 1927. He joined the 1st Battalion at Aldershot in 1931, and in 1932 he was seconded for service on the staff as Embarkation Staff Officer, Southampton. He was appointed Brevet Major in 1934, and retired in 1936, when he was appointed Welfare Officer to a large firm in the Midlands.

On the outbreak of the late war he became A.Q.M.G. Movement Control, South Wales, and later A.Q.M.G. Bristol Channel Ports. He was released in 1946 and granted the honorary rank of Colonel. He is survived by his widow and his daughter.

\* \* \*

"Pip," as he was affectionately known to a host of friends all over England, was one of those delightful individuals who never seem to grow old. He had a great zest for life; he was always cheerful and the best companion imaginable. His wit was something entirely his own, spontaneous, unforced and never malicious. Many of his sayings have become legends, and as he was a quite exceptionally good raconteur and a gifted pianist, he was the life and soul of any party. To his social gifts he added a quick and retentive brain. He was the ideal embarkation officer and many of us who passed through his hands on our comings and goings will remember his tact, his imperturbable humour, and his constant helpfulness. During the late war he carried heavy responsibilities and won golden opinion from our American allies. His memory will long remain green among those who knew him.

### MR. JOSEPH KERWIN

On February 19, at Halifax General Hospital, Joseph Kerwin (aged 79). He came of a family notable in the records of the Regiment. Three generations served in its ranks, their total service being 121 years (from 1854 to 1933). He himself enlisted in 1884, was wounded at Paardeborg, and served continuously with the Regiment throughout the South African campaign. Discharged as medically unfit in 1905, he rejoined on the outbreak of the First World War and served with the 10th Battalion. He was finally discharged in 1917, having completed 21 years' service. Details of the family record may be found in THE IRON DUKE of October, 1934 (No. 29).

### LT.-COL. S. R. HOYLE, M.C., T.D.

On May 20, Lt.-Col. Sam R. Hoyle, M.C., T.D. (Duke of Wellington's Regiment), aged 34 years.

Col. W. R. Hinchcliffe writes:

"The Regiment and the 7th Battalion in particular have suffered a very grievous loss by reason of the death of Sam Hoyle, at the early age of 34.

"During the last war he brought credit to the Regiment, during his service in Normandy in 1940 with the 2/7th Battalion and later during his service in Burma with the 2nd Battalion.

"In 1947, on the reorganisation of the Territorial Army, he was appointed to the command of his old Battalion and no better choice could have been made. At that time the Battalion was non-existent and had to be raised afresh, no easy task under the conditions then prevailing. This did not deter Sam and in a short time he had a thoroughly live unit under his command, small in numbers possibly, but of excellent quality. His efforts during those formative years were undoubtedly responsible for laying the foundation of the present 7th Battalion.

"It was no easy task, particularly with two prosperous businesses to run at the same time, but Sam tackled it with his usual vigour. I think I can safely say that although he occupied a responsible position in the business community of the West Riding his love for the Regiment came first and no task was too great for him to tackle on its behalf.

"He was never very robust or of strong physique, and his physical condition was not improved by a serious illness which he contracted whilst serving in the Far East, but what he lacked in physical strength he made up for in spirit.

"His passing leaves a gap which will be very hard to fill and we shall have to look back with happy memories on the time when he was with us."

### MR. CHARLES W. CROSSLEY, J.P.

Mr. Charles Wheatley Crossley, J.P., died at Longfield Triangle on March 27, 1952, aged 81. He was a director of John Crossley & Sons, Ltd., Deanclough Mills, Halifax. Always keenly interested in the Regiment, he was a most generous benefactor and among other gifts presented carpets to both the Regimental Chapels. Many generations of officers who enjoyed his friendship and hospitality will be grieved to hear of his death.

### MR. FRANK CRAVEN

Mr. Frank Craven died in April in Bradford at the age of 69. He had many years' service in the Regiment and played Rugby for the 1st Battalion in India in 1906. During the 1914-18 war he was posted as R.S.M. to an Officers' Cadet Training School for the Australian Forces in Europe. In the late war he was one of the first volunteers for the local L.D.V. (later the Home Guard), where his talents were utilised to the full. He was so greatly esteemed by his comrades in the 3rd West Riding Battalion, Home Guard, where he was one of the

leading lights in the O.C.A., that a muster of about 60 attended his funeral.

(For the above particulars we are indebted to Mr. D. G. Smith, of the 4th (Cadet) Battalion, who sent us a copy of the *Havercake Lad*, published in Darjeeling in 1906, which gives an account of the match in which the Regiment won the Calcutta Cup. Mr. Craven is mentioned as one of the outstanding forwards.)

#### MR. J. W. PALING

The death occurred on March 31, at his home at 17 Norleigh Road, Northenden, Manchester, of Mr. J. W. Paling, first Secretary of the Old Comrades' Association of the Duke of Wellington's Regiment when it was formed in 1912. He continued as Secretary for 25 years.

Mr. Paling joined the Duke of Wellington's Regiment in 1890, at Halifax, and then went to the 1st Battalion in York. He served with the Battalion in the South African War and later in India. He returned to Halifax depot in 1907 and was R.Q.M.S. here until his term of service ended in 1912. He then became civilian storekeeper at Halifax Barracks.

It was in 1937 that he relinquished his position as Secretary of the Old Comrades' Association, which made him a presentation of £100 to mark his retirement. The 1st and 2nd Battalions of the Regiment each added gifts of £25, and he was elected a vice-president of the Association. He had also been a member of the committee of the United Services and British Legion Benevolent Fund.

S.E.C. writes:

"Mr. Paling was too well known for me to enlarge on his services to the Regiment and the Old Comrades' Association. He will be mourned by many. I went over to see him about three days before he died and found him as mentally alert as ever; of course he knew his days were numbered, but he recounted to me events and happenings of fifty or 60 years ago as though it was yesterday. For instance he told me about the 2nd Battalion Colours being burnt in Rangoon in detail and this in his 80th year. He was cremated in Manchester Crematorium on Friday, April 4. Major Skelsey, Mr. T. McMahon, Capt. C. Shepherd, M.B.E., D.C.M., Major W. L. James and myself attended on behalf of the Regiment and the O.C.A."

#### MR. J. C. LEMMON

The death has occurred of Mr. J. C. Lemmon aged 69, a former resident of Hackney. An "Old Contemptible," he enlisted in The Duke of Wellington's 2nd West Riding Regiment at the age of 17, in 1901, taking part in the Boer War, followed by 10 years' service with the Colours in India and Asia.

Better known as "Motte" Lemmon in boxing circles, he was trainer to L/Sgt. Gough, who fought Bombardier Billy Wells for the heavyweight championship of India, and he distinguished himself in Rugby football and other sports, helping his Regiment to retain the championship of India for eight years.

Recalled to the Colours on the outbreak of the

1914-18 war, he saw service in France, and participated in many great battles, including the Retreat from Mons. After further service in France and the Dardenelles, he was discharged in 1920 with the rank of King's Sergeant.

He is survived by his wife, three sons and three daughters.

#### MAJOR C. H. B. PRIDHAM

In the passing of Major C. H. B. Pridham we have lost one who always had the Regiment in mind. He joined us from the West African Regiment, coming at the same time as myself. At once we found that we had two things in common—the Regiment and cricket. During my long career in the game I have never met anyone who was keener; he knew all the records by heart in "Wisdens" and was a great supporter of Somerset. He had seen all our greatest players and had met most of them. He was not a great player himself, but he was one of the best judges of cricket in the country and an excellent Captain in Club cricket.

Never shall I forget his keenness in our Regimental cricket; he did a great deal for it both on the field and off, and in the end, his keenness was awarded by our winning the Army Cricket Cup in Egypt. How proud of the Regiment he was when we won the Cup, he has often related the full details of the match to me. All those who have played under his leadership know how keen and what a great leader he was.

Only a fortnight before his death he met me and we had a long talk both of the past and the future of cricket. He has edited one of the best books on the game: *The Charm of Cricket, Past and Present*. The Press gave him a great write-up. He also told me that his son's initials were L. C. H., the same as the great Somerset cricketer, L. C. H. Palairt, and he only hoped that he would be as great a cricketer.

It has come to my knowledge that "Plum" Warner wrote a charming letter to Mrs. Pridham on his death, saying how he would be missed in the cricket world and at Lords. We in the Regiment have lost a real friend who never considered himself first, but was always thinking of others and his Regiment.

He leaves a widow and a son and daughter.

R. H. D. BOLTON.

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## STOP PRESS

### A.R.A. MEETING, BISLEY

*Worcester Cup.* Winners: 1st Battalion The Duke of Wellington's Regiment.

*Small Arms Cup.* Runners-up: 1st Battalion The Duke of Wellington's Regiment.

*Northants Cup.* Winners: 1st Battalion The Duke of Wellington's Regiment.



## Regimental Dinner, 1952

The 50th Annual Regimental Dinner was held at the Hyde Park Hotel, Knightsbridge, on Friday, May 30, 1952.

Gen. Sir A. F. Philip Christison, Bt., G.B.E., C.B., D.S.O., M.C. (Colonel of the Regiment), was in the chair. The total number of members attending the Dinner was 62. The chief guest was His Grace The Duke of Wellington, K.G. It was a great pleasure to see the Duke amongst us, especially as he had had a very busy week indeed and left the Dinner for other duties in North Wales; his presence was greatly appreciated by us all.

Owing to the Regiment being stationed in Germany, our numbers were not as large as last year, but we were delighted to see Lt.-Col. Bunbury amongst us, and we wish him the best of luck when the Regiment sails for Korea.

The Loyal Toast was given by the Colonel of the Regiment.

In his speech he recalled the principal events in this memorable year and in particular mentioned the generous gift by several members of West Riding Firms to the Korean Comforts Fund of 975 lbs. of wool. Full details of this gift will be published later in THE IRON DUKE.

I should like to thank Lt.-Col. Stewart of the Depot, who very kindly took the trouble to bring down all the silver from the Depot and for displaying it on the table.

As the Editor has asked me to keep these notes as brief as possible, I can only add that from the remarks that I heard after the Dinner, I am quite sure everyone enjoyed it and the meeting of all old friends once more.

Finally, one face was missed—that of Maj.-Gen. W. M. Ozanne, owing to illness; we all hope that he will soon be amongst us again, restored to full health and his well-known energy.

### LIST OF OFFICERS WHO ATTENDED THE REGIMENTAL DINNER ON MAY 30, 1952

Gen. Sir A. F. P. Christon, Capt. R. H. D. Bolton, Lt.-Col. M. N. Cox, Lt.-Col. W. Hodgson, Lt.-Col. C. W. B. Orr, Major Sir N. H. Everard, Major C. A. O'Connor, Capt. S. Currington, Brigadier E. N. F. Hitchins, Lt.-Col. O. Price, Lt.-Col. A. E. H. Sayers, Lt.-Col. F. H. B. Wellesley, Major H. R. Kavanagh, Capt. R. Scott-Evans, Major G. F. Upjohn, Major J. P. Huffam, Lt.-Col. K. A. Macleod, Capt. H. S. Le Messurier, Capt. R. H. Ince, Major J. Davidson, Capt. G. C. Tedd, Capt. C. H. Glen, Lt.-Col. C. W. G. Ince, Major J. H. S. Lane, Major J. H. Davis, Col. L. E. Bishop, Major R. E. Austin, Major A. D. Firth, Lt.-Col. C. R. T. Cumberlege, Major J. E. V. Butterfield, Major J. A. Lennon, Lt.-Col. F. R. St. P. Bunbury, Lt. J. A. d'E. Miller, Wing Commander H. A. Crommelin, Brigadier K. G. Exham, Capt. A. E. Miller, Brigadier B. W. Webb-Carter, Major P. G. L. Cousins, Lt. J. R. L. Antrobus, Major J. K. Sugden, 2/Lt. D. W. Shuttleworth, Brigadier E. W. Rogers, Major R. A. Scott, Major T. St. G. Carroll, Col. Sir P. R. Simner, Col. R. G. Turner, Major C. R. Hetley, Brigadier C. W. G. Grimley, Lt.-Col. J. H. Dalrymple, Lt.-Col. A. H. G. Wathen, Col. F. R. Armitage, Lt.-Col. D. J. Stewart, Capt. G. H. Beyfus, Major P. P. de la H. Moran, Lt.-Col. F. G. Peake, Col. W. A. Hinchcliffe, Brigadier F. H. Fraser, Major W. Skelsey, Lt.-Col. E. C. Boutflower, Lt.-Col. D. Paton, Major J. G. Leppner, Major R. R. F. Maret.

## Regimental Tea, 1952

The 26th Annual Ladies' Tea was held at the Hyde Park Hotel, Knightsbridge, on Friday, May 30, 1952, and the total number of persons attending was 65.

In the absence of Lady Christison, who was unavoidably unable to attend, Gen. Sir A. F. Philip Christison, Bt., G.B.E., C.B., D.S.O., M.C. (Colonel of the Regiment) and his charming daughter received the guests.

It was indeed pleasant to see so many old friends, but owing to the practice of the Trooping of the Colour having occurred in the morning, the familiar sight of the Life Guards passing at tea-time was not seen this year. We must see that this occurs next year!

Finally, I should like to thank all those who attended, and I only hope that they all enjoyed themselves, and let's hope that each year our numbers increase.

### LIST OF THOSE ATTENDING THE REGIMENTAL TEA PARTY ON MAY 30, 1952

Capt. and Mrs. R. H. D. Bolton, Gen. Sir A. F. P. Christison, Major and Mrs. R. H. Ince, Mrs. C. V. Humphrys, Lt.-Col. and Mrs. D. Paton, Lt.-Col. and Mrs. A. E. H. Sayers, Lt.-Col. and Mrs. H. S. Chatterton, Major and Mrs. R. A. Scott, Lt.-Col. and Mrs. C. W. G. Ince, Lt.-Col. E. C. Boutflower, Lt.-Col. and Mrs. C. R. T. Cumberlege, Lt.-Col. and Mrs. A. G. H. Wathen, Col. R. G. Turner, Brigadier F. H. Fraser, Col. and Mrs. L. E. Bishop, Major and Mrs. J. A. Lennon, Miss Lennon, Mrs. Rusbridger, Lt.-Col. K. A. Macleod, Lt.-Col. and Mrs. F. G. Peake, Lt.-Col. and Mrs. C. W. B. Orr, Major and Mrs. T. St. G. Carroll, Mrs. A. M. Wakeford, Brigadier and Mrs. C. W. G. Grimley, Miss Patricia Grimley, Col. and Mrs. F. R. Armitage, Mrs. J. V. Kirkland, Mrs. K. J. Cameron, Wing Commander and Mrs. H. A. Crommelin, Brigadier and Mrs. K. G. Exham, Mrs. Exham, Mrs. R. K. Exham, Lt.-Col. and Mrs. F. H. B. Wellesley, Major and Mrs. R. E. Austin, Major and Mrs. P. P. de la H. Moran, Major and Mrs. A. D. Firth, Major and Mrs. J. H. Davis, Major and Mrs. J. P. Huffam, Major and Mrs. J. G. Lepper, Lt.-Col. P. G. L. Cousins.

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## PERSONALIA

### BIRTHS

**TEDD.**—On March 17, 1952, at Princess Royal Maternity Home, Huddersfield, to Gwendoline, wife of Capt. G. C. Tedd, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment—a daughter (Victoria Francis Graham).

The christening of the infant daughter of Capt. and Mrs. Tedd took place on Sunday, May 18, 1952, in the Regimental Chapel in Halifax Parish Church. The Venerable Eric Treacy, Archdeacon and Vicar of Halifax, officiated.

\* \* \* \*

From the Birthday Honours List:—C.B.: Brigadier R. K. Exham, C.B.E., M.C. C.B.E.: Brigadier R. N. H. C. Bray, D.S.O. O.B.E.: Lt.-Col. J. H. Dalrymple and Lt.-Col. R. de la H. Moran.

We offer them our heartiest congratulations.

\* \* \* \*

Our congratulations also to Major C. K. T. Faithfull on his remarkable success in the Aldershot District Small Arms Meeting. He won the Officers' Individual Event from just over 100 competitors and went on to win the Individual Rifle Championship of all ranks from a total of 572.

\* \* \* \*

In the last number of THE IRON DUKE, Lt.-Col. F. R. St. P. Bunbury, O.C., 1st Battalion, was described in his photograph as O.C. 5th Battalion. The Editor hastens to offer his apologies for not spotting such a glaring misprint; he can only plead in excuse some pressure of time in correcting the proofs—possibly also incipient senility.

\* \* \* \*

We are grateful to several correspondents for the following extracts from the *Yorkshire Post*:

"Units of the British Army of the Rhine, besides doing a first-class professional job, seem to have returned to some of the pleasant regimental customs of peace-time. My colleague, Joe Illingworth, who is visiting Yorkshire troops in Germany, tells me that he was a guest this week at the 'Dinner Night' of the 1st Battalion The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, and a beautiful and impressive occasion it was.

"The Officers' Mess is in a roadside villa just outside Minden, and the dining room is on the first floor looking out on trees in blossom. 'The officers looked magnificent in blues,' writes my colleague, 'and the long dining room table was filled with the Battalion's silver, which includes some lovely pieces.

"We dined by candlelight, and the old Duke himself seemed to lurk appreciatively in the shadows thrown by the magic light. During dinner the Band of the Battalion played at the foot of the staircase. All this seemed a long stride from 1939-45."

"Such interludes must be pleasant indeed amid the strenuous training which our troops are carrying out in Germany."

"The choice of Mr. Iain Macleod, at the age of 38, as the new Minister of Health, has given much

satisfaction to Skipton. Indeed, Skipton people take some of the credit for it, because he was born among them, spent the first 20 years of his life there, and has played for the Skipton Rugby Club. Only so recently as last week-end he was in the district, staying with his sister, Mrs. T. A. Garnett, of Gargrave, and on Sunday spoke at a Young Conservatives' school at Buckden.

"He is the eldest son of Mrs. and the late Dr. Norman Macleod, who was a well-loved medical practitioner in Skipton for some 35 years. Skipton Grammar School can claim Mr. Macleod as an Old Boy, for he spent some time there before going to Fettes College, Edinburgh. After taking his B.A. honours degrees at Cambridge, he began to read for the Bar in 1938. On the outbreak of war he volunteered as a private, and in 1940 resumed his association with Yorkshire by serving in The Duke of Wellington's Regiment. He was wounded in France, and later became a senior staff officer at H.Q. 50th (Northumberland) Division, with whom he took part in the Normandy D-Day landings.

"He represented England at bridge at 22 and has recently written a book on the subject, entitled 'Bridge Is An Easy Game.' He is married and has a son and daughter."

\* \* \* \*

Can any regimental historian say whether we have had the honour of including a Minister of the Crown in our ranks since 1846, when the Great Duke retired from public life?

\* \* \* \*

On December 12, 1951, Mr. Joseph Macpherson, living in Royston near Barnsley, celebrated his 95th birthday. He is probably the oldest living "Duke." The Colonel of the Regiment sent him a telegram congratulating him on behalf of all old comrades.

\* \* \* \*

Another old "Duke" who is still active and still keenly interested in the Regiment is Mr. George Marshall of 11 Temperance Street, Halifax, who is 89. He forms a notable link with the past, for he joined the old 6th West Yorkshire Militia in 1878 and the 33rd in 1880, a year before it was linked with the 76th and became the 1st Battalion. After seeing service in Ireland and India in the days when pay was a shilling a day and the meat ration 12 ounces, he helped to line the route at Queen Victoria's funeral. He was back again with the "Dukes" in the 1914-18 war.

\* \* \* \*

Our thanks are due to Major W. T. Wilkinson, M.C., M.M., of 60 Rome Street, Toowoomba, Queensland, Australia, who has sent us a copy of the Anzac Day Programme in that town, at which he officiated as Marshal of Parade. The elaborate and carefully organised celebrations included the laying of wreaths on the War Memorial by the representatives of no less than eighteen associations and the whole parade vividly illustrates the pride which Australia takes in the memory of

her citizens who fell in the two Great Wars.

Many old "Dukes" will be interested to learn that 3850 Pte. C. Roullier, has been admitted to Chelsea Hospital as an in-pensioner. He joined the Regiment in 1893 and was with the 2nd Battalion in 1901 in Rangoon at the time of the disastrous fire which destroyed the colours. He served with the 8th Battalion in the 1914-18 war.

Lt.-Col. C. F. Pissington, M.C., is commanding the local Company of the Home Guard in Fordwater, Axminster, and would be very glad if old "Dukes" in that part of England would get in touch with him. His new address is:

Mellstock,  
Fordwater,  
Axminster,  
Devon.

## THE LETTERS OF CAPTAIN WILLIAM DANSEY 33rd Regiment

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

On the death of Col. Webster, Col. Yorke had been appointed to command the 33rd, and at the first opportunity Dansey writes to Col. Yorke giving him a description of what he terms the debris of the regiment. By the same post he despatched a copy to Lord Cornwallis, the Colonel of the Regiment, who was by then on parole in England:

"James Island, Mar. 27th, 1782.

"Dear Yorke,

"Altho' it is about two Months since our Arrival at Charlestown this is the first Opportunity I have had of writing to England, which is by a convoy under the command of our Old Acquaintance Sir Jacob Wheate.

"I am sorry to say that on our arrival at Charlestown the first thing I heard from General Leslie and the Commandant was a Representation of the irregular Behavior of the following officers of the 33rd. Lt. Wynard, Innes, Gore and Kelly and this heighten'd by being told the same by some old Friends of the Regiment. Mr. Kelly has gone home but by all Accounts to make use of an expression of an old friend of ours he is a *terrible Fellow*. The other three I spoke of as their Commanding Officer and Friend and flatter'd myself I had been listened to; but on joining the Regiment on this Island, I was rather surprised that Mr. Wynard and Mr. Gore, joined by Mr. Madan, proceeded so far in improper and irregular behavior that I was obliged first to reprimand them at the head of the Regiment and afterwards on another offence to go to the Extremity and put them in Arrest.

"Colonel Balfour was their Friend thro' the Solicitation of Mr. Medan who I had introduced to him on our coming here. Wynard seemed very sensible in his error, Gore had little or no feeling and has put it out of my power to be his Friend except great Reformation which I hope for. As to Mr. Madan he was taken in and I believe will ever remember there is no joking with Commanding Officers and Orders.

"Poor Vincent is in a melancholy Situation and I believe I must send him home as he can never stand this climate. I have some thought of sending Sgt. Walker home, tho' he is very useful to us and

gives his Assistance towards keeping some small Appearance of the 33rd. Fox is very often here and the attention and Encouragement Nutt gives everybody keeps us a little on our legs. I don't know what I shou'd do without him, it is very uphill work keeping Order and Regularity here.

"I have heard from Ingram. I enclose his letter as I thought you might like it. It is the best Account we can make out of the Regiment at present, but when Oakes arrives, which I suppose will be by the first Frigate from New York and one is expected every hour, I trust we shall be able to make things out pretty tolerable, but to be sure the Regiment is in a terrible state and there is a great Field for Labor but no prospect of any Credit for doing it. The Zeal and Attention of Oakes and Nutt are the only Hopes of seeing the Regiment worthy to be remembered as the 33rd. I most sincerely wish we may leave this Country or we shall be annihilated with every Idea of what has been the Character of the Regiment.

"From the Neglect and Irregularity I saw in the Stores when I came here I thought it necessary to have an Enquiry. I enclose you a Copy of the Proceedings and must remark that the Clothing damaged in the Bales has been entirely thro' neglect. We have as good a storeman as any in Town, but the Bales were set down on the floor without anything under them or their being moved or aired 'till their bottoms were rotted out and the undermost things damaged.

"As to the Attestation of Accoutrements lost on Service: 'till I know whether the accoutrements the men of the Regiment had on when taken at York Town were paid for by Government or not, it can't be worth while sending home an attestation of the few I have knowledge of; but I hope Oakes will be here before the Packet sails and we shall be able to make it out. We have not an Accoutrement but what the Grenadier Company have.

"As to the Situation of Affairs here they are as bad as can be, nothing but a Seige can compleat it. A broken Army of all manner of Corps, of which Debris of Lord Cornwallis's Army are the most Respectable amounting to about 300 wounded men and Recruits that never joined. We are all much

hurt at the seeming indifference at home concerning the Fall at York Town. Great Britain will not see such an Officer nor such an Army again soon.

"This I inclose with the States for Lord Cornwallis's Perusal. I dare say you will be glad to hear we shall have a tolerable Band of Musick, I have got some of them in Training with the Buffs."

Dansey and the debris of the 33rd remained at Charleston until December of 1782, but there is only one other letter available which was written during the period and which is now quoted:

"Fort Johnston near Charlestown.

*Decr. 4th, 1782.*

"Most Dear Madam,

"The cruel Situation we are in lock'd up from any Intercourse with the World had made it so long since I had the happiness of hearing from my dearest Friends that nothing but the Affection of Child, Husband and Father cou'd make me believe I have such existing. The last letter I have from you my dear Mother is dated June 1st, now upwards of six months. I hope and trust in God that you are well as I am at present tho' I have encountered the Dangers of this climate and have been shook a little.

"I was honor'd by General Leslie with the Command of the Remains of the Guards and of the 33rd, amounting to about 100 men at this Post. On 15th of last month, a chosen Body of the Enemy, about 70, under Colonel Hoscrcwzko, Chief Engineer of the Rebel Army, came down in hopes to carry the post. My Caution prevented surprise and my good fortune gave them a trimming for which I am indebted to the Bravery of Capt'n Oakes and about twenty fine fellows that stood by him, who beat the Enemy on the first Onset and enabled me to drive them over a river eight miles from my post. You will be much pleased that Dick Roberts was one of these brave men. He is wounded in the arm but doing very well. I can't help saying I was pleased to see him wounded as it has opened a road to my sincere Friendship for him. I shall take Care he never wants any Comforts his station of life can admit of and if he behaves well he may expect my Maintenance and Protection.

"I have the most flattering hope that our Regiment will be Drafted and we shall be home in the Spring. I long much to see my dear wife and daughter. How happy shou'd I be if God grant us peace to enjoy a few years in the tender cares of life and free from the blustering storms of War, in which Life, Honor and Character are suspended by a thread.

"There is a sloop of War just arrived from New York and in hopes to have something to acknowledge from my Dear Mother I shall not close this until tomorrow.

"Decr 6th. Yesterday agreeable to my Warm Wishes and Expectations I got letters. Two I have the pleasure to acknowledge from you, one of July 30th the other of August 29th. I am very happy and much obliged to you, My Dear Madam, for your kind and Affectionate letters, but more particularly for that exprefsed towards my family which every day grows dearer and dearer to him as I get happier and happier in it, and I have the most flat-

tering hope that a few months will restore me to them.

"As to the Publick Events of the World, I am only anxious about one, that is, Peace; that Justice may take Place on those Villains whose tongues and Pens have involved the World in Bloodshed and troubled the Reign of one of the best Kings by their ambitious Villainy. With what should I see them brought to the Scaffold whose treacherous deeds are now sheltered by Robes and Coronets."

#### PART V

After Dansey and what remained of the 33rd left Charleston at the end of 1782, they proceeded to Kingsbridge, near New York. From there Dansey continued to busy himself with the administrative affairs of the Regiment. As his letters show this was no easy task, for there were many points to be sorted out. His letters during this period cover a wide range of peace-time problems, which have an all too-familiar ring.

The next five extracts quoted are from letters written during the period March 11, 1783, to March 16, 1783, and by their number and contents are an indication of his life and problems at this time.

"Kingsbridge.

"Dear Sir,

"March 11th 1783.

"I have the pleasure of yours of Sept'r 30th. I am sorry it was not in my power to acknowledge it last Packet. I am much flattered by your politeness in acknowledging your obligations to me for your leave of Absence. It has and ever shall be my study to serve the deserving Officers of the 33rd especially those who have done so much honour to the Corps. You may be assured it is the greatest pleasure to me, to have the Officers consider me as a Friend, and I shall always endeavour to deserve their Confidence.

"You must long ere now have seen Capt Nutt and Gore who will have informed you that there was an unthought of Sprig of Laurel left on James Island for the poor Debris as by the Appearance of things it will be the last shot fired in the Contest. Lockhart is got quite well and joins us this week, I think the Officers Thighs of the 33rd have suffer'd severely this War.

"There has been no Packet since our arrival from Charlestown. We are all in suspense but generally beleive there is Peace.

"We have a very agreeable change in Capt Stewart for Curzon. He is a young man and will form himself one of us. Beevor has been at Halifax all the Winter with the Recruits. I hope we shall have them here soon.

"I beg my most Respectful Compliments and beleive me in great Truth.

Lt Wynard 33rd."

The Halifax to which he refers was Halifax (Nova Scotia).

It will be noted, incidentally, that Dansey lays claim to the 33rd having taken part in the last engagement of the war. He repeats the claim in his letters to Lord Cornwallis and Lt.-Col. Yorke, but to avoid constant repetition these extracts have been omitted from the next two letters quoted.

*(To be continued)*



## REVIEW

### The Letters of Private Wheeler, 1809-1828

Edited by Capt. B. H. Liddell Hart. (Michael Joseph.)

The remarkable thing about these letters is that, though written by Private Wheeler during his army service, covering the Peninsular War and Waterloo, they were only published recently. They were apparently not written with an eye to publication, but Wheeler, after he had been invalided from the Service in 1828, found that the letters had been carefully preserved by his family, and copied them into a leather-bound book. It was this volume that his great granddaughter inherited and was advised by friends in 1948 to have published.

Capt. Liddell Hart, in his foreword, says:

"I know of no contemporary story by a fighting soldier that equals this in atmosphere and interest." And later on adds: "The Letters of Private Wheeler are a unique find. They provide a living picture of war in the days of the 'thin red line' as seen through the eyes of the man in the ranks, and at the time he saw it—instead of through the haze of distant recollection. . . . By his descriptive gifts he gives the reader a vivid picture of warfare as it was waged in the Napoleonic era, and of the countries in which Wellington's army fought."

Wheeler enlisted in the 2nd Royal Surrey Militia and in early 1809 transferred to the 51st Light Infantry (now the 1st Battalion, King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry). He was very soon on active service, as the regiment took part that year in the disastrous Walcheren Expedition, and Wheeler's early letters give his experiences of it. In March, 1811, the regiment was in Lisbon, and Wheeler commenting on the inhabitants writes: "What an ignorant, superstitious, priest-ridden, dirty, lousy set of poor devils are the Portuguese." From then onwards he gives a vivid account of all the marching, counter-marching and battles of the Peninsular War up to the time that he was wounded in the action at Puerto de Eschellar in November, 1813. After many months in hospital, when he very nearly had his leg taken off, he eventually

arrived home, and landed at Portsmouth in September, 1814.

Early in 1815 he had rejoined his regiment and had been promoted Sergeant, and by April they were in Brussels, with the allied army under the command of the Prince of Orange.

This is Wheeler's comment: "There can be no doubt but the Prince is well experienced in war, having served on the Duke of Wellington's Staff during the Peninsular War, but he is not the man for us. None but Wellington or Hill, or some one of the generals who have served with us in the late campaigns, can have our confidence. The Emperor will most assuredly command the French Army, and it will require a General of uncommon skill to withstand so powerful a genus *sic*]. Wellington's the man that must lead us on, he who has baffled the skill of most of the French Martials *sic*] . . . an hundred times a day the question is asked, 'Where is Wellington, surely we shall not be led to battle by that boy,' meaning the Prince." When the news of the Duke's appointment became known the jubilation was intense, and Wheeler writes: "I never remember anything that caused such joy, our men were almost frantic, every soldier you met told the joyful news. . . . 'Glorious news, Nosey has got the command, wont we give them a drubbing now.'"

Waterloo is dealt with rather briefly, but there is much of interest in the letters from Paris following it. The final letters, though written in peace time conditions from Corfu and other Ionian islands, are full of interest, and the racy style of writing and amusing anecdotes that run all through the book are as much in evidence as in the earlier letters. Wheeler was a born story teller, and though his education was rather thin, he must have been well read from his references to Shakespeare, Sterne's "Tristram Shandy" and other classics.

M. V. Le P. T.

## 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 62, THE IRON DUKE, No. 84

*Rostock, Friday, October 1, 1813*

Was on the main guard.

*Rostock, Saturday, October 2, 1813*

Relieved at 11 o'clock. . . . Was at a concert this evening which I did not much admire; a great number of English officers were there.

*Rostock, Sunday, October 3, 1813*

A delightful day. Went to the theatre in the

evening. Very few people there, but the performance, I think, tolerably good; I understood enough to find out the plot.

*Rostock, Monday, October 4, 1813*

The Regiment had a field day at 2 o'clock, where we remained till 5. Engaged Mr. Buhning to give Archbold, Pagan and myself lessons in German at one shilling a lesson, each an hour long. . . . The

British troops now take all the guards which the Landsturm had before.

*Rostock, Tuesday, October 5, 1813.*

Had our first lesson from Mr. Buhring this morning from 8 to 9 o'clock, that being the hour agreed upon. Miller and Pagan drank coffee with me in the evening.

*Rostock, Wednesday, October 6, 1813*

Breakfasted with Boyce. Fazacrzy and I ascended the steeple of St. Nicholas church to-day, from which we had an extensive prospect.

*Rostock, Thursday, October 7, 1813*

Lesson in German from 8 to 9 o'clock. Parade at 10. Companies dismissed as soon as inspected. Went out at 3 o'clock for a field day.

*Rostock, Friday, October 8, 1813*

A wet morning. Private parade. An order was issued that all the billets both of men and officers be changed to-morrow, previous to the arrival of another English regiment we suppose. Rain most of the day.

*Rostock, Saturday, October 9th, 1813*

We had all our billets changed but for what purpose no one could tell; it was extremely unpleasant to some who got much worse billets by it. I very fortunately got Gapt. Milward's old quarters in Hein Strasse.

*Rostock, Sunday, October 10, 1813*

In the house most of the day reading.

*Rostock, Monday, October 11, 1813*

German from 8 to 9 o'clock as usual. Morning parade from 10 to 11.

*Rostock, Tuesday, October 12, 1813*

German lesson, no morning parade on account of the rain, busy with men's accounts . . . ; private parade of Companies in the evening. . . .

*Rostock, Wednesday, October 13, 1813*

The men were to-day completed in shirts, shoes and stockings and were also paid the balances of their accounts.

*Rostock, Thursday, October 14, 1813*

Rainy weather and very cold. Most of our officers are gone to Doberan, where the Duke's\* country house is, to attend some swan shooting which is to take place to-morrow. . . .

*Rostock, Friday, October 15, 1813*

Letters and papers arrived from England. Col. Gore received his appointment as Brig.-General. The bad weather prevented the shooting yesterday at Doberan so that it was obliged to be put off until to-morrow, but one or two of our officers who returned gave a very favourable account of the Duke's kindness; his house is very handsome and furnished in some degree like an English one. He seemed very proud to show his English fireplaces with coals burning in them.

*Rostock, Saturday, October 16, 1813*

Private parade of Companies.

*Rostock, Sunday, October 17, 1813*

A wet day. In the house reading German. Received a letter from my father dated Kilkenny, 17th September. A rumour is abroad that we are to march in two days and that the whole British force is to advance.

*Rostock, Monday, October 18, 1813*

Private parade of Companies at 10. Parade again at half-past 2 to receive the Duke from Doberan, but we found after we had formed that he had already arrived. The Landsturm came in to-day from the army; 4,000 of them are, however, to remain. It is reported to-day that we are to embark immediately for England. Was on piquet.

*Rostock, Tuesday, October 19, 1813*

The Regiment parade at half-past 7 this morning to punish two delinquents. Col. Gore's appointment as Brigadier-General and Capt. Cozclough's as his Brigade-Major were in orders to-day, and an order was also issued for us to be in readiness to move at a moment's warning; this was in consequence the last day of our messing in Rostock.

*Rostock, Wednesday, October 20, 1813*

Preparing things for a sea voyage, dined at an hotel, went afterwards to visit the library and the museum of the university city; the former consists of 14,000 volumes written in almost every language, the museum is very small and there was nothing in it that I had not seen before. Almost all the students as well as many of the professors are now with the army.

*Rostock, Thursday, October 21, 1813*

Parade at half-past 1 o'clock for a field day with blank cartridges. Mess committee afterwards.

*Rostock, Friday, October 22, 1813*

News of a great victory\* having been gained over the French by the allies arrived to-day; the battle was fought on the 16th-17th. Received a letter from my father dated Kilkenny, 26th ult.

*Rostock, Saturday, October 23, 1813*

Private parade of Companies. Was evidence on a court martial against James Prigg for using disrespectful and threatening language to me whilst in the execution of my duty.

*Rostock, Sunday, October 24, 1813*

Te Deum was sung in all churches. Muster at half-past 9 o'clock, at 11 the two regiments formed in parade order in the square and as soon as the Prince† came on, the whole gave three cheers in consequence of the great news. . . . A general illumination this evening.

*Rostock, Monday, October 25, 1813*

Parade at 2 o'clock for punishment. Priggs received 300 lashes. The 2nd Battalion, 25th Regiment (now K.O.S.B.s) marched in to-day from Barth.

*Rostock, Tuesday, October 26, 1813*

Went to the steeple of St. James Church to see if any ships were arrived to take us to England, but did not see any. Took a walk into the country.

*Rostock, Wednesday, October 27, 1813*

Was in the house most of the day reading German bible.

*Rostock, Thursday, October 28, 1813*

The 54th Regiment (now the 2nd Battalion The Dorset Regiment) marched in to-day from Stralsund and Gen. Gibbs also arrived to embark.

\* The Battle of Leipzig.

† Prince Charles of Mecklenburgh.

\* Duke of Mecklenburgh Schwerin.

## O.C.A. NEWS

## 4th BATTALION

The Old Comrades' Association of the 4th Battalion The Duke of Wellington's Regiment is to make application to Wakefield Diocese to move its war memorial screen, dais and book of remembrance at present in the Prescott Street Drill Hall, Halifax, to Halifax Parish Church.

Mr. E. Greenwood, M.M., who was elected the new Chairman at the Annual Meeting held recently, has been a member of the Committee since the Association's formation in 1919. There were over 130 members present, including representatives from Reading and Bridlington.

The proposals relating to the war memorial were outlined by the Treasurer, Mr. F. Bentley, who said that in the altered circumstances the Drill Hall was not the right place for the memorial. The building now housed vehicles and guns and on occasions Army cadets in their natural youthful exuberance possibly kicked a football around.

The longer the Memorial stayed there, the greater the danger of damage, and it was naturally a heavy burden of responsibility on the C.O. of the unit.

The Committee had therefore considered two suggestions: the first that the memorial should be moved to St. Hilda's Church, where it would have been welcomed and given a very fine place; and the second was that it should go to the Parish Church, where the Archdeacon had found a similarly good place for it. The committee had unanimously decided in favour of the Parish Church and had taken steps to ensure that if the Association made formal application for a faculty to establish it there, permission would be granted.

The removal, re-erection, with certain alterations, and the shading of the oak to tone with that in the Parish Church, would cost £165, and it was proposed to open an appeal fund so that this cost could be met without recourse to Association funds. Though the memorial did not strictly belong to the Association, that was the obvious body to be responsible for its welfare and future, and the Committee asked for authority to move the memorial to the Parish Church.

The decision to have the memorial removed to the Parish Church was then approved with only three dissentients.

Reporting on the Association's work, Capt. N. T. Farrar, joint Secretary, said many deserving cases had been given help in the year. It was interesting to note that since its formation the Association had disbursed £3,809 in groceries and sundry relief, £1,264 in loans, and had found employment for 382 members.

Mr. Bentley said the Association's surplus had been depleted during the year by £108, and was now £451, compared with £560 last year. That was, however, still a comfortable balance. For some years it had not been thought necessary to make any appeal to members, and it was felt that, if such an occasion should arise, it would be met by sympathy and support.

Sergeant-Major Lee, who said he had come 250

miles to see the old comrades, paid tribute to the Association's officers, and Mr. E. A. Jones, responding, said that the turn-up showed that the spirit of 1914-18 was far from being dead.

Sir Alfred Mowat, joint Secretary, was unable to be present for the first time since the Association was founded. Among those present were Col. J. Walker, Honorary Colonel, and Major W. Skelsey, commanding the Duke of Wellington's Depot at Halifax.

At the Annual Dinner which followed, Mr. Greenwood presided and proposed the toast of "The Regiment." Responding, Lt.-Col. J. F. Crossley, M.B.E., T.D., Commanding Officer of 382 Field Regiment, R.A., said that though the numbers and title of the unit might have changed in the years, it retained its "Dukes" interests.

The spirit which had kept such an association as theirs together was one of which they might be proud. If that same spirit could run throughout the country to-day, then things might present a rather different picture.

In the past year, the strength of 382 Field Regiment had increased by 100, and they had 520 Z men who were going to camp with them this year. They had also their Cadet Regiment, and the cadets from Giggleswick School.

Col. Crossley paid tribute to the work which Major Skelsey had done during his tour of Halifax in cementing the bond between the Regiment and its Territorial Battalions, and asked for full support from old comrades when the Regiment celebrated, on May 24, the 250th anniversary of the raising of the 33rd of Foot by marching through Halifax and exercising the rights granted under its freedom charter.

## 6th BATTALION

The annual reunion dinner of the 6th Duke of Wellington's Old Comrades' Association took place in the Devonshire Hotel, Skipton, on October 6, 1951. There was a large and representative gathering present, many former members of the Regiment having travelled as far as from London.

Major H. Dixon, of Keighley, presided in the unavoidable absence due to illness of the chairman, Col. C. M. Bateman, of Sutton.

Capt. D. F. Peacock, of Settle, when proposing the toast of "The Old Comrades' Association," said that of all the comradeships which one acquired there was nothing like the comradeship of the old Battalion. They found it in sport and pleasure in other walks of life.

Responding, Major Dixon expressed his pleasure at seeing such an excellent attendance of old comrades. The membership had now risen to 120, he said, but he would like to see the numbers grow even larger.

The health of The Guests was proposed by Col. F. Longden Smith, which was replied to by Brigadier Lowther, of London.

Brigadier Lowther said he had served in the Army from 1915 to 1950 and was proud that he

started his service in the 6th Duke of Wellington's Regiment. The world was in a "bit of a mess" at the present time, declared Brigadier Lowther, and he did not think that armaments, atomic bombs or politics would put matters right. The real answer, he said, was a true spirit of comradeship all round.

At the annual meeting of the Association, which proceeded the dinner, the following officers were reappointed: President, Brigadier-Gen. R. L. Adlercron; chairman, Col. C. M. Bateman (Sutton); vice-chairman, Major H. Dixon (Keighley); hon. secretary and treasurer, Major R. Wood (Skipton).

Major W. Skelsey, Officer Commanding the Regimental Headquarters, Halifax, and Mr. S. E. Code, secretary of the Duke of Wellington's Regimental Association, attended as guests.

### 8th BATTALION DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S

The 6th Annual All Ranks Reunion was held at the Guildford Hotel, Leeds, on Saturday, April 26, 1952. Over 100 ex-members of the Regiment attended, many from distant parts of the country. Lt.-Col. A. C. Jackson, D.S.O., presided and Major W. L. James proposed the toast of "The Regiment." Major F. B. Murgatroyd gave an account of the year's work, and Sgt. W. Read also spoke. We were honoured by the presence of Lord Savile. The evening followed the usual lines and several spontaneous musical impressions were given. The duet by Messrs. Lambourne and Gardiner (who had travelled from London) was the high spot. Col. F. R. Armitage, O.B.E., and Lt.-Col. Sir Nugent Everard were unavoidably prevented from attending.

We are pleased to hear that Major F. J. Reynolds has an appointment at the Langham Hotel, Johannesburg, and we send him our salaams. We were pleased to see an original 1940 member, Lt. "Sandy" MacLaren the other day, complete with kilt and other Highland accoutrements, whilst on holiday from Inverness. We understand he caused some little consternation when he visited Mr. Code at the Barracks.

We would congratulate R.S.M. H. Marshall on his appointment as R.S.M. of the 67th Training Regiment, R.A.C., and wish every success to R.Q.M.S. Eden on his return to civilian life.

We look forward to seeing all officers at the Officers' Dinner in London during November. This is being organised by Capt. Douglas Overend, 2 West Cromwell Road, S.W.5, and we ask every ex-member of the Battalion to note the date of the next All Ranks Reunion in Leeds on April 25, 1953.

### 10th (SERVICE) BATTALION

The "crazy idea" of trying to organise a reunion of our Southron members in London 33 years after the disbandment of the Battalion turned out not to be so "ridiculous" after all. The function was organised from Bradford, but Capt. R. Bolton, M.C., who lives in London, was most helpful with guidance and advice—and in the all-important task of "getting hold" of reluctant members in and around the Metropolis.

As a result, 37 ex-10th officers and men met at

the Royal Court Hotel, Sloane Square, London, on the evening of Saturday, April 26, and held a most successful and enjoyable reunion dinner. How could it have been otherwise with Lt.-Col. S. S. "Slasher" Hayne, D.S.O., the only surviving Commanding Officer of the Battalion, among the guests? Supporting him were Major J. C. Bull, M.C. (Winchester), Capts. Bolton, S. Currington (Surrey), R. S. S. Ingram (Surrey), W. Oldfield, M.M. (Brighton), the Rev. H. W. Todd, M.C. (Suffolk), and J. R. A. Todhunter (Birmingham); Lts. K. S. Bain, M.C. (London), Rev. H. E. J. Biggs (Kent), D. L. Evans (Hertfordshire), R. Ferguson (London), J. Midgley (Halifax), W. J. Simpson, J.P., M.C. (York), J. Snowden (London), C. W. Wildy (Surrey) and S. R. Wilson (London), besides "other ranks" from London, Essex, Bradford, Halifax, Todmorden, Sheffield, Keighley, Harrow, Huddersfield, Watford and Middlesex.

The great disappointment was that the chairman of the Association (Lt. M. A. S. Wood, M.C., of Bradford) was unable to attend because of illness (from which he has made a good recovery now). A message of good wishes for his speedy return to health was sent from the gathering and Mr. Frank Stephenson (Bradford) made an efficient deputy for him. Regret was also expressed that, at the last moment, Capt. The Rev. L. Norman Phillips, M.C. (Brighton), had to send a telegram expressing his inability to be present, because many of these attending had been eagerly looking forward to seeing him again—including his former batman (Mr. H. Charnock, of Todmorden).

Speeches were severely restricted for a number of reasons, but, during his remarks, Major Bull commented that Mr. M. H. Denham (Sheffield) had pointed out that the figure of attendance (37) was a prime number. That meant it could not be divided by anything and he thought that typified the spirit of the old 10th Battalion and the O.C.A.—it could never be divided.

Col. Hayne was so delighted with the gathering—and some of those present had not seen one another for over 32 years—that he suggested, and everybody agreed, that the function should be made an annual affair to be held on the last Saturday in April. Before next year's gathering members in the south are looking up other ex-10th Battalion officers and men and telling them of this decision in order to raise the numbers who will attend on April 25, 1953.

On April 26, too, the 8th Green Howards (who were brigaded with the 10th "Dukes" in the First World War) were "reunioning" in Stockton-on-Tees under the chairmanship of Lt.-Col. Miles Backhouse, D.S.O., who was the 10th "Dukes" O.C.A.'s principal guest at the annual reunion in Bradford last October. A telegram of good wishes was therefore sent to them from London and a reciprocal message was received in return.

At the beginning of May, news was received that Mr. H. G. Morris, of Birkby Lodge Road, Huddersfield, died last December after three years' illness. A letter of sympathy and condolence from the O.C.A. was sent to his widow.

Mr. R. C. Chorley, of Watford, who was present



at the London reunion, has retired from the position of manager of the local employment exchange, and is now leading "the life of a gent." His capacity for organisation and so on caused the Battalion to lose his services during the First World War, for he was "snatched" away for duty at 23rd Division H.Q.

Mr. R. P. Parker, of 8 Lanbury Road, Nunhead, London, S.E.15, who also attended the London gathering, has offered hospitality to any former 10th Battalion man who may be visiting London or the immediate district. He is a Yorkshireman, of course, and his generosity will therefore not be found wanting.

### DEWSBURY, OSSETT AND WAKEFIELD BRANCH

The introduction, during the past quarter, of a regular monthly weekend social, in addition to our usual meetings met with a very fair response from all members, being well represented by our "shift workers," who, on account of their employment, find themselves unable to attend the ordinary branch meetings. It is rather a curious situation which has arisen during the past few months, that of many of our "Old Guard," suddenly finding themselves switched over to regular night work, or alternate afternoons and nights. This cannot be helped, as the situation may just as suddenly right itself in time—we hope!

Our election of branch officials was held on Saturday, March 15, and the result showed only little change, many absent members being apparently satisfied, judging by the non-return of election papers.

Two enjoyable functions have been safely negotiated. The first, on May 17, being the visit to our H.Q. of our Doncaster Branch. We took this opportunity of playing them at darts, to be followed by a social evening. Once again we were fortunate in beating them, after a good game, which aroused a great deal of interest. Doncaster have certainly improved, and our congratulations and thanks for some good "Arrers." After the darts a social evening was held, during which items were given by one of our members, Mr. E. Driver, assisted by the pianist. Mr. E. Driver is one of our recent discoveries who has a really fine voice and can "put it over" judging by the applause he received. All three raffle prizes were won by our Doncaster visitors. This may have helped to compensate a little for the darts result.

We were very pleased to have as our guests for the evening Major Davis (O.C. Depot), to whom we extend a very warm welcome, as being the link between the "young 'uns and the old 'uns," and also our General Secretary of the Regimental Association, Mr. S. E. Code, M.B.E., an old friend of serving days.

May 24 saw us attending the 250th birthday celebrations at Halifax, a special coach being hired for the occasion. The branch were represented in the marching column by a few of the members who went on ahead by service bus. After the parade the whole party travelled on up to the Depot, where the members and ladies had the opportunity

of being shown round the Regimental Museum by the Curator, who interested all by his various descriptions.

The highlight of the visit was the magnificent demonstration of the Beating of Retreat, given by the Band and Drums of the 1st Battalion. This was most impressive to all of us, bringing back many memories of the old days. May this Branch take this opportunity of congratulating them on their splendid display in all their movements, their bearing, and smartness, which being under a few critical eyes on the spectators' side left nothing to be desired. We "old 'uns" put them second to none.

Owing to our coach being booked for the return journey at 11.30 p.m. we were unable to stay for the finish of the evening's entertainment. Even so, it was well past midnight before our members could be safely gathered together for the return journey. Truly we shall remember May 24, 1952, for a long time, as being a very outstanding event, indeed, of "once in a lifetime."

We close our notes by welcoming to the Branch membership two more old friends of serving days, Capt. ("Paddy") Kirwin, 2nd Battalion, and "Les" Tolson, also 2nd Battalion. We trust our efforts and activities will be to their approval and satisfaction, and as we say round these parts, "Reight up ar street."

Darts result (May 17):—D.O.W.: Messrs. Chapham, 499; Jones, 501; Ashton, 372; White, 498; Rowley (captain), 501; Wright, 501—total, 2,872. Doncaster: Messrs. Goodwin, 501; Green, 329; Coates (captain), 501; Milner, 501; Spint, 328; Holdsworth, 391 total, 2,551. Aggregate 321.

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## *Note!!*

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*all contributions for the*

## OCTOBER NUMBER

*should be in the Editor's hands by*

## SEPTEMBER THE FIRST