

No.100 April 1956



# THE IRON DUKE

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

# The Iron Duke

*the Regimental Magazine of*

THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S REGIMENT



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

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



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No. 100

## BUSINESS NOTES

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The Right Honourable Louis S. St. Laurent, M.P., C.P., C.R., LL.D., Honorary Colonel of the Voltigeurs, receives the Sword of Honour of Sir Wilfrid Laurier

# EDITORIAL

## A HUNDRED UP

Twenty-seven years ago THE IRON DUKE made its bow to the public and started its long and still unfinished run. It was our first Regimental Magazine in the strict sense of the word, for its predecessor "The Havercake Lad," was a 1st Battalion production and devoted chiefly to their interests. THE IRON DUKE was to embrace the affairs of the whole Regiment, which then consisted of two regular, one militia\* and four territorial battalions. In addition it hoped to enlist and indeed did enlist the support and interest of our allied Canadian Regiment, the Yorkton Regiment at Saskatchewan, H.M.S. *Iron Duke*, with whom we long had a close liaison, and those of the 14 battalions raised during the war, who still maintained their regimental associations. This was no light enterprise, and all honour to those who launched it: to the late Brigadier P. A. Turner, the first business manager and a constant and talented contributor to its columns; and to Lt.-Colonel M. V. Le P. Trench, who edited the first and subsequent 69 numbers without a break, sun or storm, peace or war, censor or no censor. These two pioneers at once set a standard that has been the envy and despair of their successors. The newborn IRON DUKE was equalled by very few of its rivals: it was surpassed by none. The cover design—the work of Brigadier J. C. Burnett—unlike that of its fickle contemporary "Punch" has never changed, except that on one or two outstanding occasions the black has been replaced by French grey.

It was in May 1925, that the now familiar red volume appeared for the first time on a hundred "dual" breakfast tables and it won general approbation; even field officers of vintage character who had not been known to utter at breakfast for years signified their approval. Since that day thanks to enthusiastic support from members of the Regiment and many others, it has recorded with pen, pencil and camera the events of the day and resuscitated the glories of the past. These are few parts of the world which have not contributed some item of interest, few sports in which some triumphal exploit has not been celebrated in its pages, nor has it omitted to flavour its august columns with an occasional dash of humour.

The pre-war IRON DUKES were indeed noble volumes. No. 4—to take an early example—contained 68 pages of reading matter, 16 pages of advertisements and 9 pages of illustrations. Printed on paper of high quality with generous margins, it provided as the saying went, "a desirable addition to any gentleman's library."

For those of us, who are tottering on the threshold of middle age, a glance over the earlier numbers

will recall countless pleasant or thrilling occasions; nerve racking struggles for the Army Rugger Cup culminating in that glorious March 18, when the faithful assembled from all parts to applaud a resounding victory; the triumphs of our cricketers in Cairo; the silver putter at Worplesdon; polo in Singapore; the amazing tour of our soccer team in the Dutch East Indies, when they returned having won two silver statuettes, a silver cup, a silver inkstand, two gold medals and three silver medals for each member of the side; and last but not least innumerable horse-shows.

Football, cricket and golf are still with us and their pleasures and glories can return. But the time is past when it was possible to lavish on the transport a pride and affection which "Genevieve" herself could hardly command and certainly not those ugly monsters, who roar and gibber in the transport lines of today.

From all the wealth of material contained in these old records we have therefore extracted this charming tribute by the late Colonel J. A. C. Gibbs on the death of his old charger for it seems to epitomise the passing of the old era. It appeared in THE IRON DUKE of November 1926:

"Many hundreds of those who have served in the 2nd Battalion will learn with regret of the death of that fine old war veteran 'The Camel.' He joined the 2nd Battalion in Dublin, at the age of 19 according to his official medical sheet, but strongly recommended by the O.C. Remounts as having 'in spite of his age the heart of a colt.' He sailed to France on August 13, 1914, and in spite of being wounded four times he never left it for four and a half years, during which period, Mons, Ypres, Hill 60, the heavy fighting of 1916, Arras and Passchendaele Ridge in 1917, and the 1918 campaign culminating in sweeping the Germans back through Belgium, were all actions in which he played his part, carrying some 14 different C.O.s. He was sent home early in May 1919, and for the next three months he enjoyed a comfortable stable and free range in both the Crystal Palace and grounds where I was then in command. Proudly wearing his medal ribbons, five chevrons and four wound stripes on a leather shield attached to his browband he might be seen daily about tea-time walking through the main building to the A.T.A. where the men delighted in feeding him on buns, of which on one occasion he is credited with having consumed over a hundred. On another occasion, I got an urgent telephone call in my private office saying one of the tobacco kiosk attendants wished me to 'remove my horse,' as she had given him nearly all her tea, but he still refused to move and would keep his head over the counter.

He rejoined the 2nd Battalion on its return home, "performing light duties under the watchful eye of his old groom, now Regt. Transport Sgt. H. Shaw, D.C.M., until just before the Battalion

\* It is only right to add that at this time the militia battalion consisted of an Honorary Colonel and one captain. But it still figured proudly in the Army List.

sailed for Egypt in September 1922, when his old friend took him by road to Carter's Hill and handed him over to Mr. Dimont, who had offered him an asylum in the evening of his days.

Early in August 1919, the Secretary of Our Dumb Friends League wrote and told me that he had heard about the old horses' record and sent me a form to fill up, which resulted in the award of one of the special Blue Cross Fund Medals consisting of brass bosses to be worn on the brow-band, on which were blue enamel crosses with the inscription: "Treat me well. I have done my bit." Truly no horse ever did better."

The younger generation no doubt will treat these reflections with scorn as the sentimental maunderings of old fogies. But who knows? By the time the two hundredth number of THE IRON DUKE appears, they too from their rocket-driven chariots may cast a nostalgic glance back to the lorries and carriers of their youth. But, of course, by that time nothing of us may remain but a self-propelled robot and a push-button in regimental colours.

\* \* \*

The Regimental Council at its last meeting decided that the legacy left by Major McGuire Bate should pay an annual subscription of £15 to the King Edward VII Hospital for Officers (Sister Agnes). This entitles all officers, serving or retired, permanent or temporary, to be treated as subscribers to the hospital. Serving officers are admitted free, retired and ex-officers pay ten guineas a week for a private room and seven for a bed in a ward. The address is Beaumont House, Beaumont Street, London, W.1. A letter from the Appeals Secretary, giving particulars, appeared on page 120 of the 97th number of THE IRON DUKE, July 1955.

\* \* \*

Readers are reminded that the Annual Dinner of the Officers' Dinner Club and the Regimental Tea will be held at the Hyde Park Hotel on Friday, June 1.

\* \* \*

Two events of outstanding importance are to take place this year. His Grace The Duke of Wellington will present new colours to the 1st Battalion on May 25, and H.R.H. The Princess Royal to the 7th Battalion on July 7th.

\* \* \*

The fourth number of "Cahiers des Voltigeurs" contains an account of an interesting ceremony which recently took place in Quebec. The sword of Sir Wilfred Laurier, formerly Prime Minister of Canada and Honorary Colonel of the Regiment, was presented to M. St. Laurent, his successor in both capacities.

The sword already has a history, for it was carried 85 years ago by Sir Wilfred when he was a second-lieutenant in the company of the town of Athabaska, later incorporated in the St. Hyacinthe Regiment. The precious relic was presented to Les Voltigeurs in 1950 by the Hon. Robert Laurier, nephew of Sir Wilfred.

The presentation was made by Lt.-Colonel Raymond Caron, the 23rd Commanding Officer, in the presence of 250 officers and other ranks on November 27, 1955.

\* \* \*

Please ensure that contributions for the July number of THE IRON DUKE reach the Editor not later than June 1.

The Depot wishes to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of a mess jacket from Colonel G. Laing, M.B.E., and Lt.-Colonel W. N. Cox, M.C. Also, the gift of a sword from Major H. C. H. Taylor.

\* \* \*

Vacancies exist for ex-soldiers for employment in the Messes, as batmen and on the ground staff at the R.M.A., Sandhurst. The R.M.A. can offer continuous employment up to the age of 65 and over.

The basis rate of pay is £6 18s. a week, with opportunities for overtime. The average wage is about £10 a week.

Ex-soldiers interested in employment at the R.M.A. should apply for further details to Mr. S. E. Code, M.B.E., General Secretary the Regimental Association, Wellesley Barracks, Halifax, or contact the R.M.A., Sandhurst, Camberley, Surrey, direct.

\* \* \*

The Governors of Rishworth School are offering two Exhibitions annually to the sons of serving members of H.M. Forces. The value of each is £40 per annum. Consideration will be given as much to the boy's character and all-round ability as to his academic results.

Rishworth, a small Public School, is situated in the country about six miles from Halifax.

Detailed information may be obtained from the Headmaster (Mr. M. W. Pitt, M.A.), Rishworth School, Nr. Halifax.

\* \* \*

The Annual General Meeting and Reunion Dinner of the Regimental Association will take place this year on Saturday, September 22, place and time as last year. All enquiries should be addressed to the Secretary at Wellesley Barracks.

## Arthur Sunley

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## 1st BATTALION

### SUB-EDITORIAL

Very little of note has happened since our last notes, but our future is gradually crystallising, so these notes will mostly be in the future tense.

We have heard rumours that we are destined for Germany in November this year and that, combined with the fact that for most of the summer we shall be acting as handmaidens at T.A. and C.C.F. camps and therefore unable properly to carry out Battalion training, means that we are doing Company and Battalion exercises now.

In, to say the least, inclement weather, Companies and Support Company platoons are regularly carrying out exercises and there has already been one to-day Battalion exercise, which coincided with the first fall of the snow that has now been with us for two and a half weeks and, as these notes are written, is only just leaving us. This sort of life is a great change from Gibraltar, but all ranks have reacted extremely well and the Regiment is rapidly getting into its stride as a field unit.

Later on in March we are to do some Battalion exercises on Salisbury Plain under the aegis of Brigade. Companies are also starting to go in turn for three- to four-day camps near Tidworth for Company training, and as these notes are written "C" Company is on its way to Warminster to act as enemy against the School of Infantry in their regular night exercise, "Lynx."

In the "lull" between this field training and the start of our duties at the T.A. camps the date May 25 occurs. It has been confirmed that the presentation to the Regiment of the new Colours by His Grace The Duke of Wellington will be on May 25, and we are starting now preparations to ensure the success of this important occasion. In between training the herculean task of renovating and beautifying this camp goes on regularly. The recent big freeze-up caused a temporary set-back because the main task of everyone was keeping warm and repairing burst pipes, etc., but as spring progresses we hope that our gardening and other efforts will combine to present a pleasant background to the presentation.

This being the second time we have had to renovate this camp, we are tempted to put under the notice board Chisleton Camp "(kept in existence by courtesy of 1st D.W.R.)."

The G.O.C.-in-C., Southern Command, is due to visit us on March 12.

Now we are back in England for a while we have resumed our close liaison with Wellington College, whose C.C.F. will be camping here with us in August this year, and we are looking forward to meeting them again.

Finally, our pay. The increase is too recent yet to say what effect it will have on our Regular recruiting, but we are not just sitting back and letting the facts speak for themselves. The Commanding Officer has talked to all ranks and a Pay Officer from Salisbury Plain District has explained to all Companies the ramifications of the new Pay

Code. Each Company has set up an "advice" bureau to explain individual queries, because the new code is not a document which is readily understandable on sight, except for the main fact that our pay has gone up handsomely. It is hoped that all readers of these notes will help by explaining, where they can, to any potential recruits the pay increases and the advantages of signing on for the six or nine years' term and that the man we want is of good quality with a spirit of adventure.

### OFFICERS' MESS

Much of the period covered by these notes has been one of leave and settling in at our camp in Chisleton. For a brief two days after the Battalion moved in, conditions were somewhat austere since there was no time to unpack silver, pictures and other trimmings. There was, of course, a great urge to go on leave after our foreign tour and, when arrangements for the Battalion dispersal had been completed, our members were not lax in following suit, so that for a time there were left but two or three officers of the rear party. The end of October saw an increase in members with the return of the first leave party, mostly National Service Officers, and finally by the end of November the more senior members condescended to return and brought us more or less up to strength.

Though the Mess buildings are of the hutted type, in common with the rest of the camp, interior decoration, hard work by the Committee and Staff and urgent and successful pleas for new carpets and furniture have helped to produce a far from unattractive and quite comfortable establishment. Here one can anticipate a concerted and expressive "Oh" from the living-in members who, poor souls, have experienced a goodly share of frozen pipes and cisterns and lack of hot water during the past three weeks. There are now, fortunately, signs that the trials of the Arctic conditions are ending and will be remembered merely as a topic of conversation for future years. The siting and setting of the Mess could not be bettered, as we discovered after the removal of two-foot high grass and wild undergrowth and bushes, which had obscured our view on first arrival. This was all a heritage resulting from the use of Chisleton as a transit camp for some years past. Now we look over what promises to be a passable lawn to grass tennis courts, a rockery and a sunken garden which is rapidly being revived. Beyond that is delightful and typical Wiltshire grazing and ploughed land, and finally, in the distance, the outline of the Malborough Downs where we have already done considerable training and dug many holes.

In December we gave a "house warming" cocktail party which was intended for local residents. We were glad of the opportunity of entertaining our civilian neighbours who have extended us a warm welcome. Christmas was a quiet period since nearly everyone spent the festive season at home, but on New Year's Eve we held an informal

buffet supper and dance in the Mess, and this was attended by about sixteen couples including our Brigade Commander, Brigadier J. A. Hopwood, D.S.O., who had just arrived, and Mrs. Hopwood and two of his staff officers and their wives. The very successful buffet was supervised by "Baron" Emmett, who also provided the traditional "Dark Stranger" at the door, closely followed by a chubby "New Babe," appropriately dressed (alia Bill Blakey).

Major-General G. P. Gregson, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., our Divisional Commander, came to visit the Battalion in February with Lt.-Colonel Hewetson his G.S.O., and Lt.-Colonel Dundas his A.A. & Q.M.C. Major-General Gregson is not new to us, since he was C.R.A. to 1st Commonwealth Division during our time in Korea, and it was therefore with particular pleasure that we were able to entertain him and his staff to lunch in the Mess. Other visitors have been Brigadier C. F. Howard, D.S.O., O.B.E., D.D.W.D. the War Office, also Major-General Exham, Brigadier C. W. R. Orr, Colonel E. W. Stevens and Lt.-Colonel R. G. Collins, who need no introduction.

Our last notes began with a farewell to a number of officers, but their departure has been followed by the arrival of equally well-known characters, namely, John Davis, Roger Sugden, Derek Harris and John Butterfield. In addition we welcome Peter Hoppe, Derek Wood, Lt. Huxtable, 2 Lts. Gladwin, Naylor, Miles and Russell, and with the same breath bid farewell and good luck to David Cowell and 2 Lts. Green, Rawson, Jenkins and Mesquita on their release and postings. May we wish every happiness to Peter Mitchell and Diana, also David Miller and Joy. Finally, we extend a welcome to those officers of the Brigade who share our Mess with us.

#### SERGEANTS' MESS

Christmas was celebrated by nearly all members in their own homes or married quarters. About eight members remained behind, and on Christmas Day they banded together with the members living in quarters to serve the dinner to the Corporals and men of the rear party. The Battalion re-assembled on December 29 and we held an informal New Year's Eve Dance in the Mess. It was unfortunately very cold, and dancers were discouraged by the Arctic blast which met them each time they crossed the hall. C.Q.M.S. Burke is to be thanked for his efforts to make this occasion a success.

We are not running our Paardeburg Ball this year as we are conserving our energy and funds for the presentation of new colours ceremony in May. We were able to entertain a small party of the Royal Irish Fusiliers W.O.s and Sergeants on the evening of their arrival at Ogbourne St. George, just after Christmas. The promise of further exchanges of visits was not realised as the Fusiliers left hurriedly for Bulford.

We congratulate Sgts. Chilvers, Evans, Wappett, Smith, Pounder and Gunn on their promotion to that rank. We hope their stay in the Mess will be prosperous and happy. Sgt. Chilvers celebrated

his promotion by putting on another two stones weight.

The contractor has now moved in on us and the area round the Mess looks like a battlefield as we have a new roof in process of erection. Pte. Andrews, our gardener, looks ruefully at the wreckage of his borders. After the renovations and repairs and the construction of a new road up to the Mess are all complete, we shall have to work hard to have the area looking smart for the spring and summer.

Our friends of Brigade Headquarters are now well acclimatised to Chisledon. C.S.M. Wilmot, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, leaves on discharge to pension within a few days of the composition of these notes. He has become a very good friend within the short time he has been with us and we shall all miss him. In his place we welcome C.S.M. Storey of the Border Regiment. The other W.O.s and Sergeants of Headquarters are Condr. Kennedy, A.S.M. Basford, W.O.1 Longbottom, S.S.M. Smith, A.Q.M.S. Weller, C.Q.M.S. Povey and Sgts. Moyle, Hubbard, Breslovsky, Walters, Winfield and Lamper.

The very cold spell in February dealt hardly with our ramshackle plumbing, and we had more than our fair share of burst pipes. Our Caterer was mystified when he turned off the water feeding one leaking pipe, to find that all taps and cisterns in the Mess still worked.

None of us know where that pipe comes from or where it goes to. All single Sergeants' rooms have now been without water for three weeks, but our harassed plumbers are slowly catching up on their work.

#### "A" COMPANY

Much has happened since we last wrote our notes. Instead of basking under a blue Mediterranean sun we find ourselves shivering in the wilds of Wiltshire. We are, however, looking forward to the warmer months when the camp should prove to be quite pleasant.

The Company still continues to train the recruits who arrive from the Depot in continuation training for a period of five weeks, when they get posted either to specialist platoons or Rifle Companies. In addition, "H.Q." Company has shed a piece of its administrative tail and the Band and Drums are now with us.

On arriving back in the U.K. the Battalion proceeded on leave and "A" Company had the task of looking after the rear details, which consisted of soldiers who had recently joined the Battalion from the Depot. We have said goodbye to L Cpl. Bailey and Ptes. Price and Rampley on release and wish them all success in civilian life. We welcome Sgt. Wood and Cpl. Armitage from "D" and "C" Companies, respectively, who have assisted us in training the recruits. We should like to congratulate Cpl. Hopper on promotion to full corporal.

There have been two officer changes since we arrived home. Captain Hoppe, who was our O.C. until recently, has left us for "C" Company and in his place we welcome Captain Scott-Evans, who

arrived from the P.R.I. Lt. Campbell-Lammerton is responsible for the training of the recruits. C.S.M. Clark is still in the chair as C.S.M. of the Company, and C.Q.M.S. Batty has recently taken over the duties of C.Q.M.S.

### "B" COMPANY

Since our return to England, there have been major changes in our "executive staff," as the staff in the Company office have altered almost *en bloc*.

Firstly we welcome our new Company Commander, Major J. H. Davis, and wish him the very best of luck in his command. We say farewell to 2 Lt. Carter, who commanded the Company for our first bleak fatiguing month in England. We trust he will juggle successfully with the figures of the imprest account—his new responsibility.

We congratulate many of our Company on earning their promotions. They are C.S.M. Robins, C Sgt. Arundel, Cpl. Dixon, Cpl. Corlett, L Cpls. Thornton, Webster, Bates, O'Brien, Sharpe, Wylde, Warrener and Nettleton.

The Company say farewell to Cpl. Ashton and Ptes. Pettinger and Johnson, who have returned to civilian life. We remember Cpl. Ashton primarily for being an exceptional performer in the Battalion games and hope he continues to shine in all the teams he plays for in the future.

During the recent weeks the Company's main task has been keeping warm—a none too easy one—but in between we have managed to carry out plenty of training, mainly in the form of route marches and night exercises. We can truthfully say that we are fit now and can take most training in our stride.

In the sporting world we have been relegated in Company soccer, in spite of valiant efforts by such stars as 2 Lt. Carter, Ptes. Pettinger, Emery, Brent and Northrop, and just lately a useful recruit in L Cpl. O'Brien. However, in the platoon competition, No. 5 Platoon won all their matches through to the semi-final and are to be congratulated on their effort. At cross-country running the Company have been represented in the Battalion side by L Cpl. Thornton and Pte. Emery, who have maintained good form and ran well in all matches.

We find ourselves now looking forward with hope to a warm spring and an opportunity to enjoy our camp at Bulford.

Our Company order of battle is as follows:

Company Commander ..	Major J. H. Davis
2IC .. .. .	Captain W. Blakey
C.S.M. .. .. .	C.S.M. Robins
C.Q.M.S. .. .. .	C.Q.M.S. Arundel

#### No. 4 Platoon

Platoon Commander ..	
Platoon Sergeant ..	Sgt. J. Sargeant
Platoon Corporal ..	Cpl. Hartigan

#### No. 5 Platoon

Platoon Commander ..	2 Lt. H. M. P. Miles
Platoon Sergeant ..	Sgt. N. Perrin
Platoon Corporals ..	Cpls. Hartley, Bowering, Corlett

#### No. 6 Platoon

Platoon Commander ..	2 Lt. J. H. Gladwin
Platoon Sergeant ..	Sgt. B. Smith
Platoon Corporals ..	Cpls. Michie, Barnett, Dixon

### "C" COMPANY

On our departure from Gibraltar we regretfully said goodbye to Major A. B. M. Kavanagh, M.C. We thank him for all the hard work he has done for the Company and wish him and his family the very best of luck for the future. In his place Major J. E. V. Butterfield has joined us; we all wish him a successful command.

Since our arrival in Chisleton we have lost 2 Lt. Mesquita, who is now A.D.C. to Major-General Exham in Nigeria; 2 Lt. Jenkins, once more a civilian; and Sgt. Taylor, who has left us for the 7th Battalion. They have all our best wishes for the future. In their place we welcome Captain Hoppe, 2 Lt. Naylor and C.Q.M.S. Burke.

The following are congratulated on their promotions: C.Q.M.S. Kirk, who has now replaced C.Q.M.S. Burke as the Officers' Mess Sergeant; Sgts. Elston and Pounder; Cpls. Wells and Crow; and L.Cpls. Jackson, Robinson, Jagger, Stead, Field, Noble, Smith, Kilbride and Phillips.

The Company is well represented in the Battalion football team with Cpl. Wells, now the captain. The following also have played: Cpls. Crow and Thomas and Ptes. Harman, Woodhouse, Galloway and Blench. At the moment the Company team is an equal first in the inter-Company league on points, but we have a better goal average. C.S.M. Randall is keeping a firm eye on their training. In the inter-platoon knockout, No. 8 Platoon is now in the final and face No. 11 Platoon of "D" Company.

Once again L.Cpl. Rushbrooke has proved his worth as a cross-country runner, being selected for the Battalion team. In the District Championship he came 16th and in the Southern Command Championship 26th, both very creditable performances.

By now we have completely adapted ourselves to the new conditions and are now used to digging ourselves, in even during the most arctic of blizzards.

The Company shooting team is already being trained and we should do well in the shooting championships.

### ORDER OF BATTLE

#### Company "H.Q."

Company Commander ..	Major J. E. V. Butterfield
2IC .. .. .	Captain P. B. C. Hoppe
C.S.M. .. .. .	C.S.M. Randall
C.Q.M.S. .. .. .	C.Q.M.S. Burke

#### No. 7 Platoon

Platoon Commander ..	2 Lt. Naylor
Platoon Sergeant ..	Sgt. Pounder
Platoon Corporals ..	Cpls. Wells, Thomas
Lance-Corporals ..	L.Cpls. Timrney, Sweeney, Brown, Kilbride



*No. 8 Platoon*

Platoon Commander ..  
 Platoon Sergeant .. Sgt. Elston  
 Platoon Corporals .. Cpls. McGowan,  
 Seaton  
 Lance-Corporals .. L.Cpls. Jackson, Robin-  
 son, Jagger, Bower-  
 ing, Phillips

*No. 9 Platoon*

Platoon Commander .. 2 Lt. Lupton  
 Platoon Sergeant ..  
 Platoon Corporals .. Cpls. Wild, Crow,  
 Legard  
 Lance-Corporals .. L.Cpls. Gee, Maull,  
 Dolan, Field, Smith

**"D" COMPANY**

Although these notes cover the period since our return to England, up until Christmas there is little of importance to record because most of the Company were on leave.

However, in this period the Company gardeners were busy improving the already tidy borders which the advance party had prepared in readiness for the gardens competition in the summer and it is only hoped that we will reap the benefit of the gardens before we depart for Germany at the end of the year.

After Christmas we were unfortunate to suffer many important changes in our organisation. These changes all happened during January just at the time when the Company was beginning its training in the field. Major Emmett relinquished the command to go and learn about atomic explosions and observe them off the Australian coast and, before he left, a Company party was held at the "Elm Tree" in Chisleton to bid him *bon voyage*. It was a great success and came to a fitting climax with Major Emmett singing his now-famous song about the cow. We wish him all the best on his course. He was succeeded by Major Harris, to whom we extend a very warm welcome and the hope that he will have an enjoyable and successful stay in the Company. Our other important changes in organisation were the departures of 2 Lt. Green, C.Q.M.S. Webster and Sgt. Arundel—the first to civilian life, C.Q.M.S. Webster to his parent regiment (The York and Lancaster Regiment) and the latter to "B" Company on his promotion to C.Q.M.S. We wish them all the best of luck. They were replaced by 2 Lt. Russel from Eaton Hall, and Sgt. Wilson as the A.C.Q.M.S.

Our soccer side has done well, losing only once to "C" Company, and up to press, second in the inter-Company football league, being equal on points with "C" Company but behind them on goal average. Durrant, Vinton, Haigh, Kenyon and Larvin and L.Cpl. Oates are to be congratulated on their selection for the Battalion team. Shooting, in preparation for the Command meeting, has already started under 2 Lt. Birch and Sgt. Fenn, and we still have the nucleus of our team from Gibraltar.

Promotions have been numerous since our return from Gibraltar and we congratulate Sgts. Chilvers



**The Regimental Badge carved by the 1st Battalion on the rocks at Malta**

and Evans, Cpls. Wood, Scaife, Jemmison, Hawkshaw, Harris and Oates and L.Cpls. Green, Patchett, Brown, Bamber and Barron. Comings and goings to the Company have been so numerous since Christmas that it is impossible to name everyone, but to all those departing to civilian life we say good luck and to those joining us we extend a hearty welcome.

**ORDER OF BATTLE**

Company Commander .. Major D. M. Harris  
 C.S.M. .. C.S.M. Jobling, M.M.  
 A/C.Q.M.S. .. Sgt. Wilson

*No. 10 Platoon:*

Commander .. 2 Lt. Cooper  
 Sergeant .. Sgt. Chilvers  
 Corporals .. Cpls. Morris, Jemmi-  
 son, Oates

*No. 11 Platoon:*

Commander .. 2 Lt. Granger  
 Sergeants .. Sgts. Wood, Evans  
 Corporals .. Cpls. Wood, Hawk-  
 shaw, Harris

*No. 12 Platoon:*

Commander .. 2 Lt. Russell  
 Sergeant .. Sgt. Fenn  
 Corporals .. Cpls. Mawer Scaife,  
 L.Cpl. Barron

**"S" COMPANY**

The Company is back in the same blocks of huts that it occupied in 1951 before going to Germany, 66, 67 and 68 for the benefit of the numerically minded and those on the "Q" side, and it looks as though history is getting up to its favourite trick again.

As far as Company H.Q. is concerned, two members have seen it all before—namely, C.S.M. Williams and Captain Robertson, although the latter has a slightly different view of things this

time, being on the lonely side of the conference table.

Sgt. Blezzard has unloaded the burden of C.Q.M.S. on to the broad and competent shoulders of newly promoted C.Q.M.S. Webb, whom we congratulate and welcome. Sgt. Blezzard is now doing more noble work, leading the resurrected Assault Pioneers Platoon reformed in January. They have learned many things, a number of them not usually on the "School Syllabus"—including road and sign making and the difficulty of getting a hold of defence stores.

The 22nd day of February, 1956, was one which will be long remembered by Company Headquarters. On this day, after a mere two months, we got a replacement for our condemned typewriter, and Cpl. Dodds delivered our Company Distribution Board—both came free of charge, although the latter really cost us approximately 50 cups of our best N.A.A.F.I. tea.

The Company Order of Battle is as follows:  
Company Commander Captain Robertson vice  
Major Grieve, to whom we send our very best wishes.

C.S.M.	.. ..	C.Q.M.S. Webb
Company Clerk	.. ..	L/Cpl. Leaf
Company Storeman	.. ..	L/Cpl. Kelly
Company Arms Kote	Pte.	Wells
Company Runner	.. ..	Pte. Burton

Finally, we would like to ask any reader who has any experience, legal or otherwise, with locks, to pay us a visit and open the Company office safe, which has so far defied the combined efforts of our most light-fingered members, together with our football pools combination experts. It has never been opened in our time so who knows what treasure lies inside—we might even find those three years in Germany that we missed.

#### M.M.G. PLATOON

A number of new faces have arrived in the Platoon and some of the old ones departed since we last went to press. We welcome to the Platoon Ptes. Adamson, Coughlin, Harvey, Lawrence, Todd, Tomlinson and Wood. Cpl. Brooks, Ptes. Ellis, Helliwell, Higgins and Wood have departed for civilian life and we wish them all the very best. Three people have returned to the Platoon, namely Lt. Miller, from the Adjutant's Office, Sgt. Houghton, from the Boys' Battalion at Plymouth, and Sgt. Lodge from the Anti-Tank Platoon.

When the Platoon reassembled after disembarkation leave we started training seriously, and it was far more interesting than it was in Gibraltar. At the time of writing we have taken part in a Battalion exercise, and have been put on the open ranges three times so far, once each at Netheravon, Imber and Beaches Barn, and it was the first time that most of us have had an opportunity to fire at natural targets instead of a vast expanse of sea.

We congratulate Ptes. Barnsley, Birdsall and Liddle on their promotion to the rank of L/Cpl., and Lt. Miller and Cpl. Wilson on their recent marriages. We extend to them every good wish for the future.

Finally, we send our best wishes to all ex-members of the Platoon, wherever they may be.

#### 3-IN. MORTAR PLATOON

As these are the first Platoon notes to be written since we left Gibraltar, it would be as well to make the ex-members of the Platoon jealous by telling them of our amenities in England! Imagine a large training area of rolling Downs with many convenient re-entrants, transport more or less when and where you want it, a free hand with the training programme, and you have our present situation! Rather different from the occasional trip round to Sandy Bay.

There have been some changes since we arrived in England: Lt. Dasent left the Platoon to become Assistant Adjutant, and Lt. Pell has taken over as Platoon Commander. Congratulations go to Sgt. Innes and L/Cpl. Baker on their promotion; there will be others to congratulate by the time the next notes come around, but let us not spoil the suspense by saying who they will be!

Unfortunately we are going to lose most of our National Servicemen in August, and this will be a great blow to us, for they help a great deal to make the Platoon spirit what it is. Let us hope that when they see the regulars drawing their new rates of pay in April several of them decide to sign on! However, their replacements will have to be extremely good to match the "August 56" boys.

Our section organisation is Sgts. Dickie and Innes as Section Commanders, with Sgt. Sullivan as the Platoon Sergeant. Cpl. Kelly is the only full Corporal in the Platoon at the moment, so there are plenty of openings. L/Cpl. Embleton still has his wrist in plaster after five months, and the craze for signing it has died a natural death.

By the time the next notes have to be written, we hope that all our National Servicemen will have been enticed into the Regular ranks by the new pay increases.

#### ANTI-TANK PLATOON

Since the last report we have of course moved from Gibraltar to Chisledon Camp where we are now happily ensconced, though the last month or so has been a fight for survival against the cold biting wind and everlasting fuel problem.

The Platoon shows few material changes. Sgt. Flood has left us on demobilisation and Cpl. Chivers, who had a good course report from Netheravon with a "C" grading, is at present on pre-release leave. Pte. Hallos is now a civilian and our best wishes go with him and the other two. Sgt. Lodge has now transferred to the M.M.G. Platoon as we found ourselves with two Sergeants. On the incoming side we welcome Ptes. Randall and Jarvis and L/Cpl. Martin, who have joined us as carrier drivers.

The following are to be congratulated on their promotions: To Cpl.—L/Cpls. Robinson, Ingleson and Thornber. To L/Cpl.—Pte. Hadfield.

We have done some very good training and spend a lot of our time on Malborough Downs, rushing around in the carriers and brewing up tea!! We were fortunate in getting Netheravon Anti-

Tank Range and everyone fired their first round from the "Bat," including Pte. Burton, who was notably reticent in disclosing his enthusiasm.

It is to be hoped that the recent pay rise will have the desired effect and that numerous members of the Platoon will sign on.

To finish off we wish all ex-members of the Anti-Tank Platoon the very best in their various ventures and we hope to see them should they be down "Wiltshire Way."

#### "H.Q." COMPANY

In our brief period so far at Chisledon, the Company has seen many changes, as will be gathered from the order of battle below. The changes are too numerous to mention all by name, but we would like to extend a special welcome to Major Sugden, who has taken over the Company on rejoining the Battalion after so long an absence. We have not really lost Major Milligan, who has left us for the mysteries of P.R.I.

We would also like to say farewell to that pillar of the Company, C.S.M. (now R.S.M.) Callaby, who has left us for the Depot and to congratulate him on his promotion.

We have also to congratulate the following on promotion: C.S.M. Norman, C.Q.M.S. Shechan, Sgts. Wappett, Gunn, Pounder and Sykes.

C.S.M. Norman, who is now a member of the Military College of Science Small Bore Club, has gained a place in the Army Small Bore Team for 1956.

The M.T. and Signal Platoons are now hard at it training replacements, and everybody is busy all round.

The recent cold spell threw an unexpected burden on the Q.M.'s Staff and the Pioneers, but they responded well, and people are now to be seen all over the camp, rushing about, looking very important, and moving large pipe wrenches and long pieces of pipe—roll on, summer—or even spring would do.

#### ORDER OF BATTLE

Company Commander ..	Major R. E. Sugden
Signal Officer .. ..	Lt. C. A. Huxtable
Signal Sergeant .. ..	Sgt. Sykes
C.S.M. .. ..	C.S.M. Munro
C.Q.M.S. .. ..	Sgt. Waite

#### SIGNAL PLATOON

We have now settled down to life at Chisledon, and in spite of "difficult working conditions" we are busily engaged in training and exercises. We have welcomed 18 new members to the Platoon, who are at present in the midst of an eight-week cadre. We also welcome nine signallers to the Platoon from the Green Howards.

We are pleased to have Cpl. Mallinson back in the Platoon after his pilgrimage to Hythe, and congratulate him on his "C"; Cpl. Falkingham has also returned to the Platoon after a time with the P.R.I.

We are very sorry to see many members of the Platoon leave us for civilian life, among them Cpls. Firth and Mitchell and L/Cpls. Mallinson,

Stockell and Richardson, and we wish them all the best of luck.

The Platoon reached the semi-finals of the inter-Platoon Soccer Competition, and many members of the Platoon have been playing in the Company side. Cpls. Mitchell and Holmes have been distinguished members of the Battalion 1st XV and Ptes. Haigh and Bancroft have played for the 2nd XV. Pte. Sivyer reached the semi-finals of the District Boxing Championships, and L/Cpl. Mallinson was a member of the Battalion cross-country team.

Overheard in the Signal Stores shortly after the new rates of pay were announced:

"You've lost an 88 Set."

"I know, but don't worry, it'll come out of credits."

#### REGIMENTAL BAND

After a very hectic last week in Gibraltar, a pleasant journey home, and a long period of leave, we are once again functioning as a Band in the familiar surroundings of Chisledon Camp. We are pleased to record that those adventurers who travelled overland arrived safely with no serious mishaps. We understand that the car which was seen being towed over the Pyrenees by four Spanish donkeys was not Sgt. Appleby's.

Many changes have taken place in the Band and we have said goodbye to many old friends and have welcomed many new ones. We hope that those departed have pleasant memories and those arrived will enjoy their stay with us.

We are finding the work in Chisledon very easy after the rush and bustle of Gibraltar, and the only difficulty we have is a prevention of the instruments freezing up. We have been informed the Officers' Mess is quite a comfortable place when the temperature gets above the sixties.

Our congratulations are extended to Sgt. Thomas, Cpl. Bell and L.Cpls. Kinsman and Towers on their respective promotions.

Owing to administrative difficulties, we find ourselves, for the first time in Regimental history, attached to "A" Company. We apologise for the C.S.M. for making his work so much harder. He now has to work for two afternoons a week.

Once again we have changed Band presidents, and we now welcome to the fold the 2IC, Major J. Davidson, and assure him of our support.

The B.B.C. have written to us asking us for an audition in the summer; we shall try to let as many "Dukes" as possible know when we go on the air.

We expect to see many old friends during May when the new Colours are presented to the Battalion, but cannot guarantee them much of our valuable time!

#### RUGBY FOOTBALL

Owing to the Battalion's arrival in England just as the Rugby season opened, the Commanding Officer decided it would be unwise to commit a Battalion side to the melee of Army Cup Rugby. The policy as far as possible has been to build and train the side for next season, when we hope to bid

successfully for the highest honours. Unfortunately we are losing and have lost many of our best three-quarters and we shall enter the new season with an untried threequarter line.

During the season we have played ten matches, winning seven and losing three. The three games we have lost have really been the best we have played. These games were to the R.P.A.C. Training Centre twice and Wellington College. All were very closely contested and might well have gone the other way. We played the Pay Corps a rubber of three, winning the first and losing both returns.

Many of the 1st XV have played regular Saturday Rugby for clubs. Lt. Granger and Cpl. Holmes have represented Bath 1st XV regularly. L.Cpl. Stoddart has been in and out of Bath 1st XV. Lts. Dasen and Green have played for Bath 2nd XV with distinction; 2 Lt. Birch is a regular member of the U.C.S. XV and Lt. Campbell-Lammerton and Captain Hoppe play for Blackheath and Rosslyn Park, respectively.

Owing to the difficulty of making fixtures after the season has begun, our fixture list has been rather limited. We are looking forward to three more games *versus* 23rd Field Regiment, R.A., Brasenose College, Oxford, and Training Company, R.A.P.C., a 2nd XV game. We are shortly starting a series of inter-Company fixtures, the first being "C" Company *v.* "D" Company.

We should like to conclude by congratulating Mike Campbell-Lammerton on his selection to play for Surrey. We are all hoping he will get his name in the *News Chronicle* yet.

### FOOTBALL

Since the Battalion have arrived back from Gibraltar we have not played any league games, as we have been unable to join a league. We have, however, played two friendly matches—one against the 1st Battalion The Highland Light Infantry and the other match being against Swindon Town "A" team. Although we lost both these matches there is, however, a certain amount of talent which, when exploited, should be seen in the results of matches to come. With the move of some other major units in the area to overseas service, we have now joined a league and it is hoped that we will be able to enjoy a period of league matches. At the time of writing we have arranged a match against the R.A.P.C. Depot, Devizes, who, we understand, are in the running for the Army Cup. We are keeping our fingers crossed as to the result of this match, which is only a friendly. Other friendly matches have been arranged against the 1st Battalion Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment and 23rd Field Regiment, R.A. The highlight of the season will no doubt be a return match between ourselves and Swindon Town "A" team at the end of March. This will take place under floodlight and will be quite a memorable occasion, as it must surely be the first time our team has played under these conditions. The Band and Drums will also be in attendance, which will add to the colour of the match. So much for the present; it is hoped that when we write our football notes in the next

issue of THE IRON DUKE we will be able to record some successful results.

### CROSS-COUNTRY RUNNING

In the one event for which we were able to enter this season, cross-country running, we have had considerable success. In the Divisional meeting we came in first; in the Salisbury Plain District meeting we came in second, which enabled us to qualify for the Southern Command meeting, in which we came in fifth and were the only field unit in the race, the rest being large training units. The cross-country team are to be congratulated for putting up such a good performance against such mighty opponents.

### RIFLE CLUB

We are starting to train for Bisley already and are fortunate in still having many of our Bisley shots with us, so we hope for good results. Each Company has also entered a team for the Salisbury Plain District meeting in May and are starting to train for this.

Major G. C. Tedd represented the Regiment at the unveiling of the East Africa Memorial at Nairobi on January 21. There is one Duke's grave in the cemetery, that of 2 Lt. G. Denham who died on June 1, 1949.

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REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS

## REGIMENTAL H.Q. and DEPOT

### SUB-EDITORIAL

The period from Christmas to Easter is always a quiet one at the Depot. If we had the opportunity we would like to hibernate completely. However, the recruits who recently had to fire their classification courses with temperatures below freezing will testify how far hibernation is from the facts of life at the Depot.

The main topics for discussion as these notes go to press are the recently announced increased rates of pay for regular soldiers. The principle of giving increases to men who undertake to sign on for the longer engagements is ingenious and has aroused much interest amongst all ranks. It must, however, have been a coincidence that within a week of the increase being announced we received a letter asking how many garages we require to be built for single officer cars. The increases are not that big.

Our various Works Services proceed slowly—but surely. One we have not hitherto mentioned is the expansion of the Regimental Museum. We have achieved this by switching round the use of rooms in the small barrack block near the entrance to the barracks. What was a barrack room is now the Museum and what was the Museum is now a barrack room. New show cases of completely different design are now in the course of construction and we hope that by the time the next issue of THE IRON DUKE appears we will be able to give a detailed description of progress. Items for the Museum are always gratefully received and should be sent to the Curator at the Depot. We particularly require other ranks items of uniform.

In December we sent C.Sgt. Lancaster and Pte.

Lofts to London to assist at the Wellington Ball organised by Wellington College. The dance was at the Park Lane Hotel and both our representatives were dressed in full pre-war scarlet, with helmets. Judging from the photograph of C.Sgt. Lancaster which subsequently appeared in the *Tatler*, it was an enjoyable occasion.

On March 6 the Depot was visited by Major-General J. M. K. Spurling, C.B.E., D.S.O., Chief of Staff, Northern Command, who after inspecting various parts of the barracks lunched in the Officers' Mess.

### OFFICERS' MESS

We have little to record since our last notes.

Just before Christmas we entertained the members of the Sergeants' Mess to a stand-up supper; after having been beaten by them at indoor games earlier in the evening. After the supper we entertained ourselves in the usual manner and had most enjoyable evening. Lt.-Colonel R. de la H. Moran dined with us on the evening of January 4, after having taken a pass-out parade in the afternoon. We were very pleased to have him with us, and again it was a very enjoyable occasion.

Our only other entertainment was on February 16, when we had a Guest Night. Our guests were Colonel G. B. Howcroft, M.C., T.D., J.B., Group Captain Denys Gillam, D.S.O., D.F.C., A.F.C., Mr. Charles Ramsden and Mr. Oliver Lodge.

Visitors have included Mr. Douglas Houghton, M.P., the member for the Sowerby Division, who had lunch with us one day, having visited the barracks at the invitation of the Commanding Officer.

We were also pleased to have Brigadier B. W. Webb-Carter and Major A. D. Firth staying with us one night, when they came up from Chester to attend a meeting of the Regimental Battle Honour Committee.

Work on installing central heating in the Mess proceeds slowly and should be in full operation by Mid Summers Day.

#### SERGEANTS' MESS

We have pleasure in notifying all readers that Bob Pearce has settled down to the art of drawing beer as opposed to drinking it—quite a good pint, too (would-be customers, please note).

The Christmas festivities went off with a swing, only being slightly ill-attended because of the weather, which was of the sort that only looks nice on a Christmas card. The draw seemed to be fairly evenly distributed, although one particular table seemed to be brimming over with the good things of life.

On December 22 we had a shooting match with the Officers on the .22 range which, it is regretted to say, they won easily. In the evening, however, we regained our laurels by soundly trouncing the Officers at an indoor games sessions in our Mess. We then adjourned to the Officers' Mess, where we did justice to an excellent buffet and, after our larynx had been suitably oiled, had a really enjoyable evening—everyone adding something to the entertainment.

Since the advent of the New Year everyone seems to me marshalling their financial resources and waiting with (im)patience for the long threatened pay rise to rear its head, and hoping (I fear vainly) that the income tax man doesn't hold his hand out too far. We did, however, pull round long enough to entertain the Halifax Branch of the O.C.A., and a very excellent evening it turned out to be, although we would have liked to have seen more Old Comrades turn up.

Hold on to your hats, everyone, for a very important announcement: Our old friend Joe Quest has joined the ranks of married men. To you doubtful ones I may add that we have a Part II Order to prove it. Be that as it may, we all (and not only us at the Depot) join in the hope that he and his wife will be very happy for many years to come.

C.S.M. Wood has also been working the cracle—by going from the status of old soldier to recruit in one easy lesson. How is it done? He has completed his 22 years (for which feat we offer our congratulations) and has now rejoined to complete his three years supplemental service. Easy— isn't it?

We welcome Sgt. Busfield from the 1st Battalion and hope his stay will be a happy one.

We also say farewell to Sgts. Sergeant and Craven, on joining the 1st Battalion.

#### OBITUARY

We regret to announce the death, in Germany, on December 6, 1955, of Sgt. Tommy Wilkinson, R.N.F.

Sgt. Wilkinson served with the 1st Battalion at

Strensall and Chisledon and left the Battalion whilst they were in Germany.

#### CORPORALS' MESS

Since our last notes, social activity has been maintained in the form of a games night which was held on February, 1956.

Of late we have had quite a few changes in Mess members. John Holland and "Bing" Taylor have departed to a better world—although some now doubt it upon hearing of the new pay rates—and we have had the pleasure of welcoming L.Cpls. Graham, Hellawell, Johnson and Stewart, newly returned from York cadres. L.Cpl. Minihan has succeeded "Bing" Taylor as Post Corporal, and is our newest member.

"Aggie" Bland and "Russ" Russell retired from the Social Committee, and we wish to place on record our thanks to them for some very well organised evenings. However, just as "Russ" was preparing to rest on his laurels, he was immediately appointed Mess President and is still doing the major share of the organising.

We feel it must be recorded that, contrary to the belief of leading national dailies, Army N.C.O.s have some sparks of kindness in them. Unknown to quite a few of our members, a reasonable sum of money was raised just before Christmas and spent on toys for a very lonely little girl in the local hospital; a child who had no hopes for Christmas, and yet was the happiest patient of all on Christmas Day. The presents were taken down to her in a car on Christmas morning, and, we are told, the lighting up of her face was the finest present our N.C.O.s responsible could wish for. We proudly display a letter of thanks from the girl on our notice board. We feel the N.C.O.s responsible for the raising of the majority of the money would prefer to remain anonymous in these notes, but they are known to us, and we take this opportunity of congratulating them on their thoughtful efforts.

To those near to demobilisation, we say, "Roll on, the bus that takes you home," since the majority live in the near locality, and to those not so near and those opting for longer engagements—as many must now surely be—"The very best in the future."

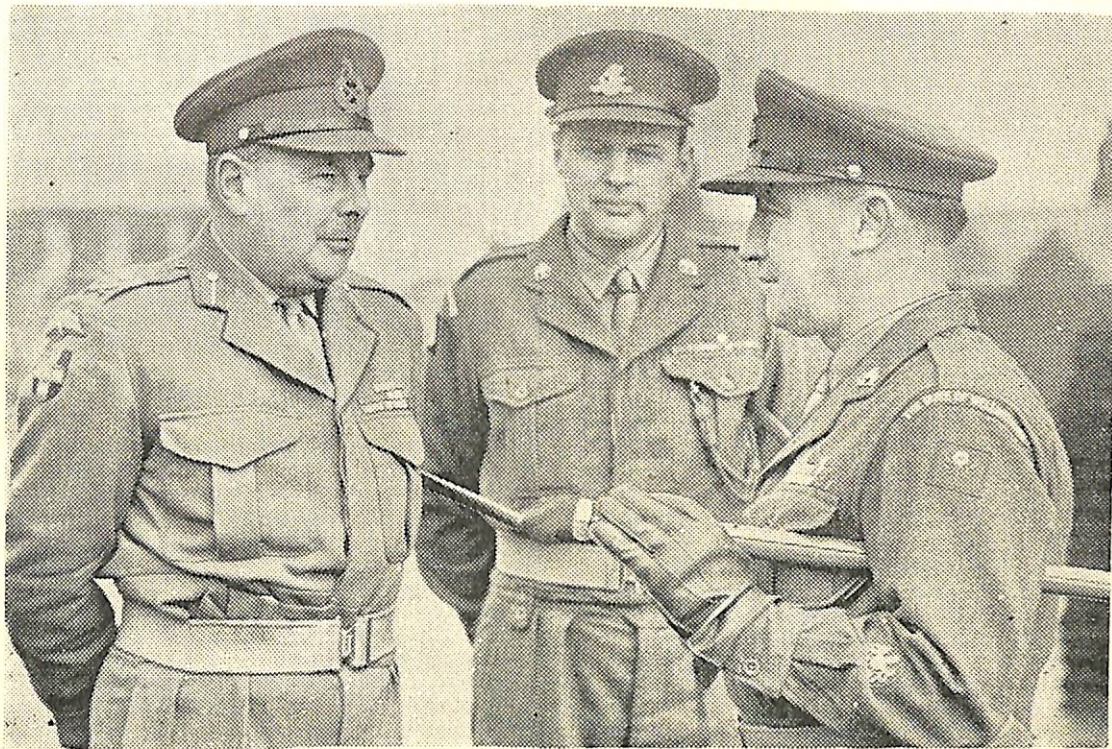
In conclusion, we wish all "Dukes," wherever they may be, "Good luck."

#### TRAINING COMPANY

During the last three months we have had more than our fair share of snow, which has had an adverse effect on training, especially shooting on the open range. It has entailed a lot of extra practice, and we hope we have seen the last of it.

The 32nd Intake, which passed out on November 23, stayed here for a month's additional training, and finally departed to Chisledon on January 4, together with Sgt. Sargeant and L.Cpls. Hill and Barron, who have been posted to the Battalion.

The pass-out parade of 33rd Intake took place on January 24, and we were very pleased to see Lt.-Colonel Moran, who came up from Chisledon to take the salute. The intake spent a short time



*By courtesy of the Halifax Courier and Guardian*

#### REGIMENTAL DEPOT

**Major General J. M. K. Spurling, C.B.E., D.S.O., Chief of Staff, Northern Command talking to Major A. C. S. Savory and R.S.M. R. Callaby, M.M.**

making up for work missed over Christmas and joined the Battalion on January 24.

The 34th Intake, which had not even arrived when our last notes went to press, had its Passing Out Parade on February 15, which we were forced to hold in the Gymnasium owing to the depth of snow outside. Lt.-Colonel W. F. C. Thomas of the Pay Office at Ovenden took the salute. In spite of the weather a good number of parents came for the parade.

The big news at present is the new pay code which was recently announced. It is too soon to estimate the effects of the new rates of pay, but a considerable number of men have shown interest and it is hoped that the requisite number of Regulars will be forthcoming.

Our congratulations to both Sgts. Mountcastle and Pratt on the recent birth of a son. Also to Cpls. Matthews and Sutcliffe on attaining substantive rank, and to Cpl. Kitching on his promotion.

Education results for the 32nd and 33rd Intakes have been most satisfactory. Over 50 per cent. of each intake were in possession of 3rd Class Certificates or were exempt, and the percentage of passes 73 and 78 respectively.

Intake results have been as follows:

*33rd Intake.* Parade on January 4 taken by Lt.-Colonel R. de la H. Moran, O.B.E.

Winning Platoon: Waterloo (Sgt. Simpson).

Best Recruits: Pte. Hattersley (Waterloo Platoon);

Pte. Tennant (Mons Platoon).

*34th Intake.* Parade on February 15 taken by Lt.-Colonel W. F. C. Thomas, R.A.P.C.

Winning Platoon: Delhi (Sgt. Mountcastle).

Best Recruits: Pte. Copley (Delhi Platoon);

Pte. Lloyd (Dettingen Platoon).

*(Continued from page 61)*

In this year 1956, we expect to see many more of you in this Branch, perhaps not every time, but just when you can come. And you can be sure of this, not only will you be certain of a welcome from the members themselves, but their wives too will do their best to make you feel at home. That is the spirit of your Branch Committee, and of the officers who have been elected for this current year, namely: Mr. Tom Pettinger (of Malta and transport fame), Chairman; Captain John Lister (almost a "veteran" of both wars), Vice-Chairman; Mr. E. J. ("Blimey") Goodwin, Treasurer; and your Branch Secretary (who is always willing to reply to any enquiries), Mr. Ray Coates, of 39 Fieldside, Thorne, near Doncaster.

## 7th BATTALION, T.A.

### SUB-EDITORIAL

We go to camp this year from June 23 to July 7 at Wathgill, N. Yorks. We are going back to the same location as last year where we had a first-class camp. A re-adjustment has been necessary in order to arrange the presentation of New Colours to the Battalion and we will be in camp by ourselves, the remainder of the Brigade going to Fylingdales.

Her Majesty has graciously agreed that H.R.H. The Princess Royal should present the New Colours on Saturday, July 7, 1956, in Greenhead Park, Huddersfield. The ceremony will be preceded by a public reception to be given in the Town Hall.

In January, Bandmaster B. B. White, A.R.C.M., joined the Battalion. We are indeed lucky to have secured the services of such a highly experienced musician and Bandmaster. Mr. White, who completed 25 years Regular service a few years ago, was Bandmaster of the 1st Battalion The West Yorkshire Regiment and has now settled down in civilian employment with the Huddersfield Education Authority where he is continuing his musical calling.

### OFFICERS' MESS

Despite the persistent snow and frost which surrounds Wellesley House at the present time we are pleased to say that several of our friends have paid a visit to the Mess since Christmas, including Lt.-Colonel G. Taylor, Major and Mrs. R. L. Bates, Major N. Wimpenny, Major John Pyrah and Lt. D. G. Shaw.

A handsome table lighter of most unique design has been presented to the Officers by General Sir Philip Christison. It is hoped that the General will be able to dine in Mess with us in the near future so that he may present his gift in person.

Councillor H. F. Brook of Huddersfield has very kindly presented two silver coffee pots to the Mess and they are already doing sterling service—we are at a loss to remember how we managed previously without these attractive additions to our silver. On Saturday, February 18, "Pip" Moran travelled some 300 miles to Huddersfield to be "dined out" in the Mess. It was a pity that we were unable to fit this in before he left us in November, nevertheless we were delighted to see our late 2IC and Training Major, who now appears to have settled down to his new appointment with the 1st Battalion The York and Lancaster Regiment.

We would like, through the medium of this column, to remind readers that our Annual Ball will take place on November 30, 1956, in Huddersfield, and the Annual Officers' Dinner will be held on November 10, 1956.

The Right Hon. Ian McLeod, M.P., became an honorary member of our Mess recently and he has written to the Commanding Officer to the effect that he wishes to present a piece of silver to the officers.

As we go to press we welcome Alan Harding and

MacDowdy who have volunteered to become T.A. Officers.

It is with deep regret that we learnt earlier this month of the passing of our honorary member and good friend Alderman Wilfred Mallinson, J.P., of Huddersfield.

### SERGEANTS' MESS

A great deal has been said and written about the future of the Territorial Army and its possible effects on units strength, but we ourselves have decided that there will be no folding up of at least one Sergeants' Mess. The past three months has seen an increased activity in Mess affairs which we are determined to continue.

On December we held our annual Christmas Party. Due to distances and bus routes involved it was decided to hold it at the Drill Hall, Fitzwilliam Street, Huddersfield, as this venue was more central for almost everyone. The party was a great success and was attended by 38 children and over 70 adults. R.Q.M.S. and Mrs. Machen assisted by the P.S.I.s did sterling work in the preparation of the Drill Hall, and Mrs. Spence and Mrs. Woodcock ably assisted in the preparation of the tea meals.

C.S.M. Bye was again a very worthy Father Christmas and this time we were able to obtain a sleigh to ensure a traditional arrival.

On December (New Year's Eve) the Mess held what is hoped will become an annual affair. This was a Mess dinner which was attended by 40 members and wives and lady friends. The Officers' Mess kindly loaned us silver (including candlesticks) for the occasion and the dinner was held in the Drill Hall at Milnsbridge, which was draped with the Regimental curtains. These, together with the Colours, drums and silver, made a fitting setting for the first of what we hope will be many more such dinners.

We have now instituted monthly Mess suppers, the first of which was held in January on the second Thursday.

The pie and pea supper, followed by a games evening, was voted a great success—great admiration was expressed for the R.S.M.s' culinary art, although one member was unkind enough to suggest that he had been rather generous with the bicarbonate of soda.

We have seen a great many changes in our Permanent Staff members. C.S.M. Hardisty has retired after years of sterling work in the Army and has secured a post in Leeds with the Leeds and District Workpeople's Hospital Fund. To C.S.M. and Mrs. Hardisty we send our best wishes and wish them all the good luck in the future. C.S.M. Frier from the 1st Battalion has taken over "H.Q." Company, Sgts. Fogarty and Keily have left us and have been replaced by Sgts. Smith and Pratt. Sgt. Taylor arrived from the 1st Bn. D.W.R. as a relief for Sgt. Dickinson as we were concluding these notes.



We take this opportunity of welcoming the new P.S.I.s and of thanking the old ones for their hard work whilst with the 7th.

### "H.Q." COMPANY

The adverse weather conditions which have prevailed during the past quarter seem to have had a derogatory effect upon the attendances at the Drill Hall, the faithful few who braved the rigours of the Milnsbridge Polar Region being mainly the members of Battalion H.Q. at Wellesley House. They have, however, come across to the T.A. Centre on one or two evenings, after drills, to help to increase the Company funds.

The majority of training which has been carried out at the T.A. Centre has been by members of the small-bore shooting team, whose incessant practice on the miniature range has resulted in good scores in the Small Bore Competition. The Brigadier, during the course of his Annual Inspection, visited us on Sunday morning, January 29, when quite a few of the volunteer element in the Company were putting in a day's training. The Brigadier was most pleased with what he saw. No social functions have taken place since our last notes but, "in view of a rash challenge issued by 1st Armd. Div. Wksps. R.E.M.E. (T.A.), assisted by the Para Boys" to the Battalion, serious "training" has been taking place to defend the honour of the "Dukes" with "dart, domino, rifle, cue and tankard." It would seem from the response to this challenge that "H.Q." Company will be well represented, and we hope that our overwhelming victory(?), will cause red faces amongst the rashly confident "Thornburians."

With the change in regulations regarding part-time service of National Servicemen, the call for more volunteers has gone out from "H.Q." Company. It is hoped that improved weather conditions, which should come within the next two or three months, resulting in improved attendance at the T.A. Centre, will enable us to put on a training and social programme which will attract them. The new increase in Bounty should also be an important factor in this matter, and we hope to be able to report progress in the next issue of THE IRON DUKE.

### "A" COMPANY

As our last notes brought us up to December 1, 1955, and as these are being written at the beginning of February, 1956, it will be seen that they must of necessity be brief.

Apart from the fact that the Company Commander had chicken-pox on New Year's Eve there is very little to report.

The party held on December 18 was hardly a success and it would appear that "Stag" parties and "Smokers" are more popular than mixed events.

Whilst bidding a welcome to Sgt. Pratt, our new P.S.I., we must extend to him our very best wishes on the occasion of his forthcoming marriage. We shall lose him for a month's leave on February 14 and we shall next see him as a married man.

During December our new furniture arrived and

the T.A.C. is now fully up to standard. The Brigade Commander's inspection went extremely well and great credit is due to the small band that prepared for it—especially the little party that whitewashed the miniature range.

C.S.M. Bye and Sgt. Pollard are entering for the Inter-Services Small Bore Team Selection Competition, and in this horrible-sounding "shoot" we wish them the best of Bulls!

### "B" COMPANY

The last quarter of 1955 has seen many changes in the Company. Major H. S. Heaton has left us to take over command of "S" Company and we welcome Captain P. H. Haws as his successor.

The Company P.S.I., Sgt. Keily, left us in the New Year to join the 1st Battalion The West Yorkshire Regiment in Northern Ireland. His place is taken by Sgt. Smith from 1st Battalion D.W.R. We have therefore undergone a period of handings and takings over, and all the many problems which these proceedings entail.

In order to boost attendances on training nights we intend to hold pie suppers and social evenings in the next month and hope to persuade more of our National Servicemen to become volunteers and eventually T.A.

The Mossley detachment is taking on a new lease of life and this is due in no small way to the relatively strong T.A. nucleus which we have over there. The team spirit is developing well in spite of the temporary occupation of interior decorators. We shall soon have a cheery comfortable club for all present and past member of the Battalion.

### "C" COMPANY

With the recruiting drive in full swing for more "Terriers" the local district around Elland (this Company's home) is being combed for interested parties.

The Social and Sports Clubs, Youth Centres and so on are being visited and the young men talked to in an endeavour to sell the Territorial Army to them.

Pessimism is OUT in "C" Company! There are the fellows who are patriotic and interested in serving their country and we mean to find them.

We have a good Social Club; good amenities for recreation; table tennis, shooting, etc., and we believe that a small active Commando can be achieved which will give us, in time of England's peril, a nucleus of trained men to lead, instruct and encourage.

### "D" COMPANY

The main consideration at the moment is how to build up the volunteer element within the Company, although it is pretty obvious that any men possessing the true T.A. spirit have already volunteered. During the next few weeks, however, all Company personnel will be interviewed by the Company Commander in the hope that a few more may be persuaded to volunteer.

Sgt. Dickinson our P.S.I. is about to hand over to Sgt. Taylor who has come from the 1st Battalion. We greet him and say farewell to Sgt. Dickinson

so that he can do a strategic withdrawal to his old unit, the 1st Battalion York & Lancaster Regiment. Recently he was concerned in a very rapid withdrawal at the Military Hospital, York, all his teeth were withdrawn at a far greater speed than "D" Company could achieve.

Due to the fact that C.S.M. Woodcock who was our acting C.Q.M.S. has been posted to "H.Q." Company, we have been without a C.Q.M.S. However, Sgt. Thorpe, who has been acting in that capacity, has recently been promoted to Colour-Sergeant, and to him and Cpl. Laherty, who has been promoted Sergeant, we offer our congratulations.

We welcome to the Company 2 Lt. Raymond Green from the 1st Battalion. It has been noticed that our 2IC has a curious glint in his eye—would it be that he would like to see the Company account being administered by other hands? On Guard, Raymond.

On January 29 we had our annual admin. inspection by Brigadier F. L. Martin, our Brigade Commander, and now we wait for his report to sadden or gladden our hearts.

Annual camp this year will be held at Wathgill, June 23 to July 7, and we are all looking forward to July 7 when we are due to receive new colours from H.R.H. Princess Royal, in Greenhead Park, Huddersfield.

#### "S" COMPANY

Having struck the "quiet" season, we are endeavouring to change that by a concentrated drive for volunteers from the N.S. men and N.S. volunteers who, as a result of the new regulations governing N.S. requirements, have completed their commitments. Only the future will prove our success or otherwise.

The only recent change in the Company personnel is the advent of Sgt. Todd as our new P.S.I. in place of Sgt. Fogarty who, at the termination of his tour of duty with us, has now gone to the 1st Battalion The West Yorkshire Regiment in Northern Ireland. We wish Sgt. Todd a happy welcome and trust that his stay with us will be both pleasant and that he will profit by his experience in the T.A.

It is almost true to say that there was a light of envy in the eyes of Brigadier Martin when he had his annual inspection recently. It was his first visit to Arden Road T.A.C., and he was greatly impressed by it. Congratulations to all concerned for their efforts in preparation for the inspection.

Our pre-Christmas Social was a success and well attended. It was also the occasion for paying a farewell tribute to the brothers Mitchell (Sergeants both), who have rendered good service with the Company in the past but found that civilian commitments precluded continuation of service with us.

We are hoping to form a Badminton Club with future aspirations into the Halifax league. It is anticipated that Captain Crowther will show good form in play and thereby reduce his physical form!

C.S.M. Fitton is sticking out his neck by venturing on a drill course at Pirbright in March, and we have visions of a heavy programme of drill (foot and arms) at annual camp to the exclusion of all other forms of training! After all, he will have to justify the time spent on his course (ear-plugs will be part of normal Company issue).

Our old "faithfuls" Sgts. Prince and Kenny, and Cpl. Booth each tend their respective weapons with loving care, and they are, undoubtedly a credit to them. We hope the future will give them less time for cleaning, with the need for more time for training due to a huge influx of patriotic volunteers.

## OBITUARY

We deeply regret to announce the following deaths.

#### LIEUTENANT-COLONEL H. J. FORTY, M.C.

Died at Huddersfield on January 14, 1956, aged 64. Colonel Forty served with the 1st/5th Duke of Wellington's Regiment in France, 1916-18. He was awarded the M.C. and later appointed to the Staff of the 49th (West Riding) Division. During the last war he commanded a Home Guard Battalion of the Green Howards in the North Riding. Colonel Forty was a life member of the 5th Duke of Wellington's Old Comrades Association and a member of the Officers' Dinner Club.

#### MAJOR MALCOLM ROBERTSON, O.B.E., M.C., T.D.

Died at Winchester on February 14. For nearly half a century he was an Assistant Master (and

Housemaster for much of the time) at Winchester, where he was well known and loved by many in and out of the college. He served in the 9th Battalion of the Regiment during the 1914-18 war, with whom he won the M.C. He was later on the staff of the 52nd Brigade, when he was mentioned in despatches, and finally on the staff of the Officer Cadet Battalion, Pirbright.

Brigadier F. H. Fraser, D.S.O., M.C., represented the Regiment at the memorial service in the College Chapel.

#### MR. W. MACKAY

Attached to the Regiment as schoolmaster from 1897 to 1909, died on March 21, in his 84th year. To the end of his days he retained a keen interest in its doings and was a constant reader of THE IRON DUKE.

## PERSONALIA

### FORTHCOMING MARRIAGES

The engagement is announced between Geoffrey, son of Wing Commander and Mrs. H. A. Crommelin, of Theale, Berkshire, and Jennyfer, daughter of Brigadier and Mrs. J. F. Durnford Slater, of 192 Latymer Court, London, W.6.

\* \* \*

Our warmest congratulations to Captain R. H. D. Bolton on being awarded the O.B.E. in the New Year's Honours List.

\* \* \*

We have to thank Mrs. Rusbridger for an excellent photograph of the Regimental Badge cut in the rocks at St. George's Bay, Malta by the 1st Battalion before the war. It was taken by her son James on his way out east and is reproduced on page 40.

\* \* \*

Our congratulations also to Major-General W. M. Ozanne on being appointed Captain of the Seniors Golfing Society of Great Britain and also Captain of St. George's Gold Club, Sandwich, for 1936. General Ozanne played golf for the Army against the Royal Navy and the R.A.F. for 10 years in succession from 1923 to 1933. In the latter year he was Captain of the Army Golfing Society. In 1947 and 1955 he won the General's Cup and was runner-up in 1949, 1953, and 1956. In 1949 he also won the Veterans' Cup. May he have an enjoyable and memorable year in his two captaincies.

Another distinguished golfer, who though not a member of the Regiment is widely known in it, is Mr. Sam Smith of Halifax. It is a great pleasure to know that he is to be honoured this year by being elected President of the English Golf Union. He was Captain of the West End Golf Club in 1927-1928, but more recently has been closely connected with the Ganton Club, near Scarborough, being captain in 1953. Way back in 1923 he played for Yorkshire.

He was president of the Yorkshire Union of Golf Clubs in 1949 and was a member of the Council of the English Union. He is also a founder of the West Yorkshire Alliance and took a leading part in the formation of the Halifax and Huddersfield District Union.

In a very different sphere from her father's, Patricia Ozanne has attained distinction. She was a driver with Mrs. Joy Cook in the Ford Zephyr women's team in the Monte Carlo Rally. Starting from Stockholm—under most difficult conditions—they arrived at Monte Carlo intact and qualified among the first 90 to compete in the final mountain circuit—in itself no mean feat. Their final placing was 4th in the Coupe des Dames; 2nd among the

British women competitors (incidentally they beat the famous British driver Mrs. Sheila Van Damm); 63rd in the final placing of all competitors.

She has very kindly described her experiences for us (page 54), but is too modest about her achievements in this gruelling contest.

The competitors—about three hundred and fifty in number, selected as the pick of many applicants from every country in Europe—must maintain an average speed of something approaching 40 miles an hour for four days and three nights, covering 2,400 miles, driving all round the clock, hell for leather, through snow, fog, blizzards, ice and any other horrors nature can produce, with no time off for sleep, and for many miles over mountain roads. It is a feat calling for a high degree of courage, endurance and skill. We offer her our admiring congratulations.

\* \* \*

Mrs. Hicks, a most faithful correspondent, sends us the following cutting from a "Believe It or Not" page in a Canadian paper:

"The five bells in the Church of Trim (Ireland) were ordered to be rung to announce the death of The Duke of Wellington, but one of the bells cracked and remained silent. An examination of this bell revealed it had been cast on April 29, 1769—the day on which the Duke was born."

This casts fresh light on the vexed question of the Duke's birthday.

\* \* \*

The following have been promoted to their substantive rank: Brigadier R. K. Exham, C.B., C.B.E., M.C., Colonel F. R. St. P. Bunbury, D.S.O. and Colonel D. I. Strangeways, D.S.O., O.B.E.

\* \* \*

Colonel G. Laing, M.B.E., has been appointed Commander of a District in M.E.L.F. and Lt.-Colonel P. G. L. Cousens, Commander of a Sub-Area in East Africa, with the local rank of Colonel. We are sorry we cannot be more specific, but recent War Office security instructions prevent us from doing so. We congratulate both officers on their appointments and wish them every success.

\* \* \*

We warmly congratulate Captain D. W. Shuttleworth on being chosen to captain the Army Rugby XV, and D. E. Gilbert Smith on his selection in the Inter-Services matches.

It is interesting to note that Captain Shuttleworth's younger brother was playing as his opposite number in the R.A.F. XV. The score seems to indicate that the latter hardly showed the respect due to his elder.

## REGIMENTAL ARCHIVES AND LIBRARY

In the July 1953 issue of THE IRON DUKE there was an article on the Regimental Archives.<sup>1</sup> In the July 1954 issue there was a note on the Depot Libraries.<sup>2</sup> In recent months the layouts of the Archives and Libraries have both been considerably altered and it seems desirable therefore to place on record the nature of the alterations.

Up to a few months ago the books at the Depot were located in three places; namely in the Officers' Mess Library, in the Administrative Officer's office and in the Q.M. Stores in the Keep. In addition there were a large number of reference books with the Archives, which were kept in a second room in the Officers' Mess. These arrangements were not satisfactory in so far as the books were widely separated, whilst the use of two rooms in the Mess for the storage of books and records was wasteful of the limited space available.

Concentration of the Archives and Library in one room has now been achieved and the resultant arrangements have proved most satisfactory.

Two large glass-fronted book cases, each holding over 200 books, and one small case have been constructed by our Museum caretaker, Mr. J. Berry, who served as a bandsman in the Regiment from 1911 to 1920. The bottom half of each case con-

sists of cupboards containing the Archives and Regimental records, the general layout being as follows. In the first book-case are copies of the history of practically every Cavalry and Infantry Regiment in the British Army, with original Regimental papers and records in the cupboard below. The second book-case contains military biographies and autobiographies from Cromwell to Eisenhower, and copies of the histories of nearly all wars and campaigns since 1702. In the cupboards of this case are specially fitted drawers containing literally hundreds of photographs of Regimental interest.

The small bookcase is of a similar design to the large ones and contains books of reference on medals, battle honours, military uniforms, etc.

The general indexing of the Archives was most thoroughly carried out by Major G. C. Tedd, with the result that documents can be traced with great ease and rapidity. If, for instance, the custodian was asked for details of a particular soldier of the 33rd who fought in the Crimea, it would be possible for the enquirer to be informed of the names of the battles at which the soldier was present and whether he was killed or wounded within a minute or two. The Regiment must, incidentally, be for ever indebted to the late Colonel J. A. C. Gibbs that so much information of this nature has been placed on record, in such a concise and orderly form.

A. C. S. S.

<sup>1</sup> Iron Duke No. 89 The Regimental Archives.

<sup>2</sup> Iron Duke No. 93 The Depot Libraries.

## REGIMENTAL CHAPEL

## ALL SAINTS' CHAPEL, YORK MINSTER

*Committee:* Colonel C. R. T. Cumberlege (Chairman); Major F. H. V. Wellesley (Secretary and Treasurer); Major W. H. C. Cobb.

As a new Committee our first duty is to thank Brigadier B. W. Webb-Carter, D.S.O., O.B.E., for his direction of matters affecting the Chapel during the last few years. We also thank Major B. V. Thomlinson (late 7th Bn.) for service on the Committee, and his help and interest in this connection.

During the year the Dean of York had the good fortune to find available for sale an altar frontal of material such as is not made to-day. He acquired it for a sum exceeding £150 and, as you will see from the following statement of account, the Regiment has contributed towards the cost the sum of £50 out of the small credit balance of the Chapel Fund. The altar frontal is therefore the joint gift of the Dean and the Regiment, and we know that the latter as a whole will be grateful to the former for his large contribution towards something which greatly enhances the beauty of our Chapel. We also thank our subscribers (named below) for their generous support.

STATEMENT FOR 1955  
INCOME

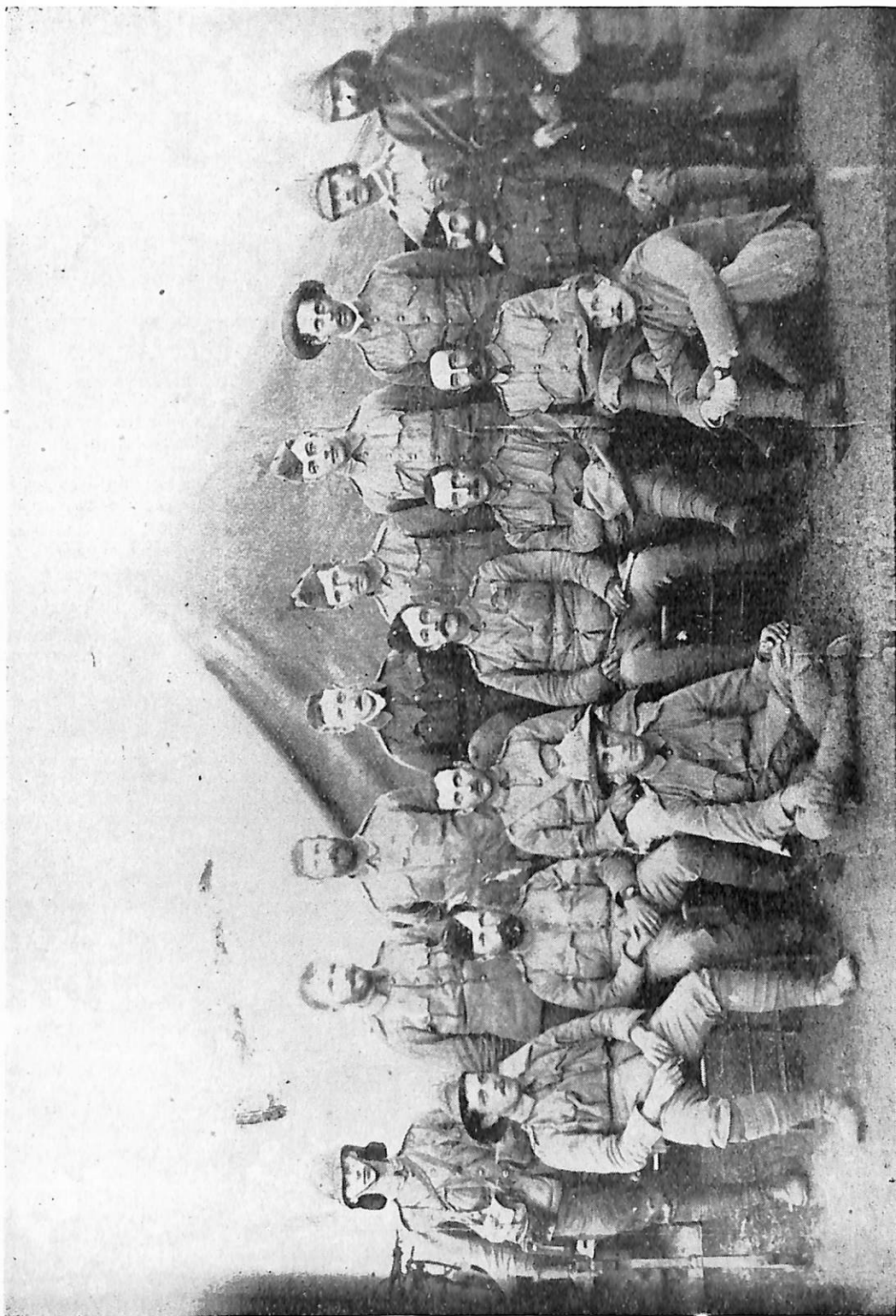
	£	s.	d.
Balance brought forward (as per last published Statement) .. .. .	52	19	10
Subscriptions .. .. .	4	1	0
	<hr/>		
	£57	0	10

## EXPENDITURE

	£	s.	d.
Friends of York Minster .. .. .	1	1	0
THE IRON DUKE .. .. .		9	0
Dean of York (altar frontal) .. .. .	50	0	0
Balance in hand .. .. .	5	10	10
	<hr/>		
	£57	0	10

## SUBSCRIBERS

Captain A. F. Hemming, Major J. P. Huffam, Lt.-Colonel O. W. G. Ince, Lt.-Colonel E. M. Liddell, Lt.-Colonel W. G. Officer, Major-General W. G. Ozanne, Mr. Gilbert Beyfus, Q.C., Brigadier E. W. Rogers, Lt.-Colonel R. M. Tidmarsh, Lt.-Colonel N. R. Whitaker, Colonel E. M. Huntriss, Lt.-Colonel M. V. le P. Trench and Brigadier J. C. Burnett.



**1st BATTALION, THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S REGIMENT, BLOEMFONTEIN, MARCH 1900**

Standing—2/Lt. Trench, Lt. Maffett, Major Thorold, 2/Lt. Oakes, Lt. Whitaker, Lt. Jenkins, Lt. Exham, Lt. Sibary, R.A.M.C., Lt. Townsend  
 Seated—Captain Acworth, Captain Behrend, Lt. and Adj. Tyn dall, Lieutenant-Colonel Lloyd, D.S.O., Major Le Marchant, Captain Harris, Captain Houghton  
 In Front—2/Lt. Maples, Lt. Strafford

# Reminiscences of a Subaltern in the Boer War, 1899-1902

BY LIEUTENANT-COLONEL M. V. LE POER TRENCH

## 10TH INSTALMENT

Our camp at Bloemfontein was on sloping ground near some kopjes, only blanket bivouacks, of course, but we were thankful to be halted, and with a town with shops near. Major Le Marchant and Captain Harris went into Bloemfontein with the Mess cart, and came back with a lot of stores, including whisky, port, tobacco and cigarettes, and we had a grand dinner that night. Colonel Lloyd and Harris had dinner at an hotel and said there was an awful scum, and prices very high: a whisky and soda cost 2s. 6d. and a lager beer 4s., English tobacco 10s. 6d. lb., though Boer tobacco was only 1s. 6d. Some of the things that delighted us were: to see houses with flower gardens, to hear church bells ringing, the whistle of a train, and cocks crowding, and to eat fresh bread.

The next day (March 15) we were inspected by General Kelly-Kenny, followed by a quiet time for some days—when we were able to pay frequent visits to the town. The massed bands of the Highland Brigade played in the Square every evening, and were a great attraction. I met a good number of friends of Sandhurst days from other units at these gatherings. One evening I attended service in the Cathedral and got a close view of Lord Roberts as he left afterwards. He looked very sad, and wore a black band on his arm and no medal ribbons. His only son had been recently killed at Colenso, receiving a posthumous V.C. for his attempt to save some guns. On March 19 our Division was inspected by Lord Roberts; I unfortunately missed the parade, as I was on fatigue duty.

The weather continued very wet at intervals, and most of us slept under the tarpaulin shelter rigged up for the Mess. Outpost duty was not very heavy. One position was in a fort on the top of a kopje near camp, and one got a wonderful view of the town and the large camps all round it. I had been sending home pencil sketches for some time, and my father had sent some of them to the *Daily Graphic*. I was very pleased when later on some of these, including the view from the fort, were reproduced on the front page. That newspaper was the only daily illustrated in England at that time. Some of our officers, I think Tyndall, Exham and Jenkins, played cricket for our Brigade in matches against the Bloemfontein Cricket Club, and other brigades; the pitch was cocoa-nut matting. It was about this time that a photograph of the officers was taken (see page ??).

One evening our divisional intelligence officer came to dinner. He had been German instructor at Sandhurst, and had taken messages to and from Cronje at Paardeberg under the white flag, and was most interesting to listen to.

After about 10 days of very little parade work we started twice-weekly route marches. Colonel Lloyd was in hospital with fever for some days, and came back on March 25 looking very pulled down. That day there was an unpleasant surprise for some Guards' officers who had gone out shooting beyond the outposts some 10 miles out. They came across some Boers and tried to capture them, but having only revolvers to the Boers' Mauser rifles they decidedly got the worst of it. One was killed and the other three wounded, the Boers binding up their wounds and leaving them in a farmhouse from which they were eventually rescued. This, of course, put a stopper on going beyond the outposts.

On March 27 signs of activity began when General French's cavalry reported some 15,000 Boers about 15 miles to the north. The 7th Division marched out for a few miles and next day were followed by the Highland Brigade. On the 31st, our turn came, and at very short notice our Brigade marched off at midday carrying blankets. We reached the Modder River at dusk, after doing about 12 miles. No transport arrived, and we were glad of our blankets, as the night was very cold. At dawn on April 1 we marched off again and after five miles reached a small stone bridge over the river. Here we were joined by our brigadier, General Knox, who had breakfast with us, as his mess-cart had failed to turn up. He had orders that we were to join the 9th Division (General Colville), and our signallers made great efforts to get in touch by helio, but without success. News had come through to Knox that there had been sharp fighting at a place called Sannad's Post, and it was presumed that Colville was moving to support the cavalry. It was some time later when we heard of the disaster to our horse artillery and the heroic fight put up by them and their escort. It was not until 3 p.m. that our transport having come up, we were able to resume the march forward. We crossed the river and followed the north bank eastwards for about eight miles, when we camped below a high kopje in the dark. We had an unpleasant time here as a swarm of locusts invaded the camp, covering the ground and ourselves and falling into one's mug of soup.

During the night our signallers at last got in touch with Colville by signal lamp, and had the unpleasant news that he had retired to Bushman's Kop, some 14 miles to our rear. So here we were, a brigade, with no guns and with our transport on the wrong side of the river, and the countryside reported to be swarming with Boers elated with their success. We were roused early in pouring rain to receive this bad news, and the Brigade moved off on the return route. We did not get off

till 2 p.m., as we were acting as rearguard. We expected to be in action at any moment, and we were surprised to find the bridge we had crossed the day before still intact. We had expected to halt there, but news came that the 9th Division and the cavalry were retiring on Bloemfontein, and were going to camp at Springfield, about eight miles from it. So on we plugged in darkness, very tired and hungry, our clothes soaked and the blankets we were carrying very heavy in their sodden state. Everyone was disgruntled at the useless marching we had done, owing to the lack of information given the Brigade by Colville. There was a good deal of grumbling from the men until the Company was raised their spirits, in

response to a mutter of how much further we had to go, by shouting out, "You've got five more miles to do, and if I have any more of yer grousin' I'll make it seven"—all in good, broad Yorkshire.

After about 13 miles of stumbling in the dark we viewed the lights of Colville's camp and, halting in quarter column, lay down in our ranks and slept from sheer exhaustion. It was a cold night, so the sleep was not long, and we were all thankful when the sun rose. The 9th Division and the mass of cavalry moved off early, and we left at 10.30. The eight miles to our old camping ground at Bloemfontein took five hours, as we were very weary and the route took us across numerous spruits.

## Monte Carlo Rally, 1956

BY PATRICIA OZANNE

This year I was lucky enough to do the "Monte" in a works Ford Zephyr, co-driving Joy Cooke, with Marion Hamilton as navigator.

Together with some other members of the Ford team, we started out from London Airport *en route* for Stockholm on January 12. Before long the weather had clamped down, and instead of going via Oslo, we were diverted to Stavanger, staying there overnight, and taking off again early next morning. The farther east we went, the whiter the ground became, until it looked like the proverbial Christmas card! Ford representatives were there waiting to greet us and drive us to our hotel, from where, a short time later, we were driven out to the Ford factory. Being a day late seemed to put everyone out rather, as there was a good deal of work to do on the cars, so the nicely-timed schedule that our hosts had so kindly got out for us rather had to be waived.

That evening there was a cocktail party given for all the British competitors, after which we dined out. (I still couldn't quite believe the fairy-like feeling that I hadn't got to pay for everything, it seemed wonderfully unreal!)

Priority for the cars again next day, but in the evening we went and dined at one of the most fascinating inns, right in the heart of the old city. I had been there many years before, and was delighted to see that it had not changed in the least. There you get the true Swedish food, coupled with Schnapps, which I found very strong!

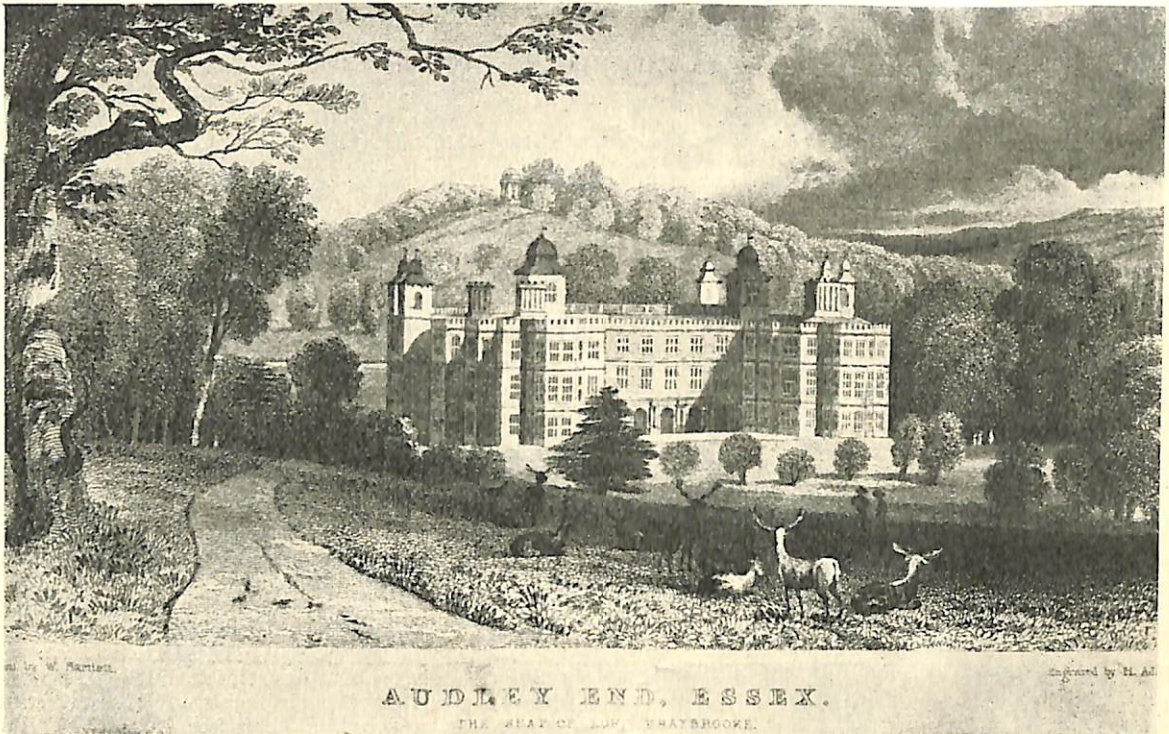
At 6.20 a.m. on the morning of January 16 we were on the start line, the flag was dropped and we were on our way. For the first hour Joy drove, then I took over, wondering how the Zephyr reacted on ice, but any fears I may have had were soon gone, for with the Pallais tyres she was as steady as a rock. The road was very slippery; on one hill I got behind a heavily laden lorry and, unable to pass, got stuck, and in the end had ignominiously to back down the hill and start all over again! Oslo was reached well on time, it was bitterly cold, and I felt truly sorry for all the

officials who had the cold job of directing competitors.

With Oslo well behind us, the snow and ice began to give way to rain, coupled with a howling gale. It was on this section that the wipers gave up the unequal struggle, and the battery half decided to do so as well. During our first ferry crossing which, happily, was only a short one, we didn't dare stop the engine. However, one wiper was repaired and, having such a wide sweep, it really didn't matter about the passenger's one being still non-operative. The battery we had replaced at Odense at a very quick and efficient Ford garage. By then the weather was really lovely, although there was still a good deal of wind, the sun was out, taking the nip out of the January air. By nightfall it became bitterly cold; so cold, in fact, that coming into Amsterdam, I looked at the water "temp." and decided, on its reading, to pull up the radiator blind. A short time later on Marion asked what the reading was and, to my horror, it was up to about 200! At once Marion tried to release the blind, but it had no effect on the "temp." which continued to rise steadily. Finally I stopped the car, opened the bonnet and was greeted with lovely gurgling boiling noises! Needless to say, the blind had jammed, and it took a screwdriver to get it down. We did *not* pull it up again!

The run into Paris was far better than last year as we were lucky and arrived there during the evening; in fact, I was driving along nearly deserted streets until we reached the hustle and bustle of the Arc de Triomphe. We had only a short time there and then were on our way again. After several hours, both Marion and Joy were sleeping, and, having come to the end of the list I had made of the towns to go through, I hadn't the heart to wake them and decided to follow the five cars in front of me. After all, it was a dead easy run as far as navigation went, and they couldn't possibly go wrong, or could they?

Before long, we were all turning, having taken the wrong road! It just goes to show—never follow the car in front!



The home of John Griffin Griffin, Colonel of the 33rd Regiment 1760-1766

(See the article in the last number of the Iron Duke)

Forty kilometres before Bourg I was beginning to see too many little men dangling from trees (I'd been at the wheel since Rheims) so decided that I must wake Joy and have a short nap. So we changed over and I went out like a log until Bourg, when we once more changed over. At Chambéry we decided to leave as late as possible so as to get most of the "cols" in the daylight. We pulled out at 7.30 a.m. in the half-light of dawn, and the moment we began to climb were enveloped in thick cloud, having just the same effect as a dense fog. Joy went like the clappers although visibility was down to a few yards. Before long, there was a violent hooting behind us, and Raymond Baxter shot past. Later on we passed them, pulled into the side of the road and working frantically on their car; it was very bad luck.

It was not a very pleasant run into Grenoble, and we were two minutes late in arriving there. Leaving Grenoble behind us, the steep climb up the narrow, twisting road towards Villars-de-Lans led us into the sharp clear mountain air, and onwards towards Monte. As that city came into view there was the braking test to do, to the accompaniment of screaming tyres. A gentle run into the city, and the first stages of the Rally were over.

Next morning we knew that we had qualified for the mountain circuit, but no work on the cars was allowed. Apart from the tyres not being 100 per cent., we were lucky in not having to worry too much. On Saturday morning at 10.20 a.m., we set off;

this time I was in the front of the car, and very glad indeed to have a safety belt, as before long the car was behaving like a bucking bronco! Early on, up the Col de Castillon, Joy misjudged a corner, and we went smack into a wall. We got the car on to the straight, and then tried to pull the wing off the wheel. Happily for us, one of the Ford team, who were not in the circuit, but just following the cars around, appeared at that moment, and helped us. It is always so easy to push a wing in, but a very different matter to try to pull it out!

We carried on but, of course, were late at the first Control; the whole timing on the circuit of 150 miles didn't allow for error anywhere. It was a case of flat out the whole way.

There was a little snow up in the Turini but, apart from that, we were again fortunate with the weather. Joy put up a very good show, for it was extremely tough going; nothing but acute hairpin with the exception of one section, where, as it didn't appear to be quite as bad, nearly all the crashes occurred; perhaps tired drivers thought they could make up a little time or relaxed for one fatal split second. Judging from the pranged cars, there must have been some miraculous escapes.

We arrived back in Monte at 3.30 p.m., had a meal and a look at the final placings. Car (No. 290) was 4th in the "Ladies" and 63rd in the general classification. Proudest of all, I collected the second bar to my Monte badge!



## EXTRACTS

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

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

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

Continued from page 119, The Iron Duke, No. 97

*Starbroeck, Tuesday, April 12, 1814*

We hear very often the firing of cannon at different points, but they do not give us much alarm as everyone is now thinking of peace and of our entry into Antwerp. They are like the dying groans of the vanquished enemy which only calls to our recollection what they once were.—I went to have a look at Fort Lillo today and was really surprised at its strength. The country around it is entirely uninundated with the exception of a dyke which leads up to it and this is enfiladed by the broad side of a two decker lying in the river besides the works and other preparation from the fort itself. It is in this dyke that we have a temporary work (Fort Frederick) with a piquet of a hundred men.

*Starbroeck, Saturday, April 16, 1814*

We marched to Putte this evening, which is only two miles from Starbroeck, this was on account of the Army being divided into different brigades.

*Putte, Sunday, April 17th, 1814*

Marched from Putte, cross a heath, passing Kalmphouth close on our left to West Wesel, a distance of about 12 English miles; here we joined the 54th and provisional Battalion of the 21st (now The Royal Scots Fusiliers) and 37th (now The Hampshire Rgt.) Regiments and were presented to our new Brigadier, Lt.-Colonel Crawford, 73rd Rgt. (now the 2nd Bn. The Black Watch). Priestly resumed his duty again (*Note Adjutant*).

*West Wesel, Monday, April 18, 1814*

Marched at 6 o'clock, passed through the village of Brecht and arrived at West Maal at about 1 o'clock. The provisional Battalion of the 21st and 37th and the 54th marched with us today. Weather very warm. The whole of the country that we crossed this day was very deep sand, not all cultivated, with here and there a plantation of fir trees which did not appear to thrive well.—Both in Brecht and West Maal some kind of of pestilential disorder was raging with great violence amongst the inhabitants. At the latter place we did not enter a house without finding either dead or dying people in. It was today that I met my old friend Costly of the 37th whom I had known at Kilkenny in Ireland when he was recruiting there last year. He introduced me to Colonel Hart.

*West Maal, Tuesday, April 19, 1814*

The brigade marched again this morning at 4 o'clock. We had some rain today, roads horrible and must certainly be impassable in winter, country richly cultivated, sandy soil, some good looking country houses and villages with here and there a plantation of fir trees. The provisional battalion and 54th Rgt. occupied Broeschem and adjacent hamlets and the 33rd marched about two miles

further south to Viersel, all these little places are in the midst of a most fruitful country but very flat. The Grenadiers occupied a water mill which is turned by a branch of the river Nethe from which department derives its name.

*Viersel, Wednesday, April 20, 1814*

The poor inhabitants have all suffered extremely by the Cossacks and Prussians who think they are revenging themselves for the cruelties committed by the French in their country. They are entirely ignorant of the great events that have taken place in France and don't know whether they ought to be sorry or glad for the abdication of Bonaparte and restoration of the Bourbons,—how different from the people of England, where every man is a politician! There in every, the poorest, village you can find a newspaper, because every peasant who reads or hears the news is at liberty to give his opinion freely on every part of it, but here no one durst say one word against any public transaction or against any public character, for if he did, information would soon be given against him and he would be seized, thrown into prison and his goods confiscated.

This village being extremely small and our men in consequence too much scattered, Major Parkinson ordered three companies to occupy a very fine chateau, the property of the Mayor of this place (Mr. L. E. Brun), who is at present in Antwerp. Here we made ourselves very comfortable, although there was scarce any furniture in the house and the Cossacks had been in it before to ravage every corner. They found out a hidden cellar filled with valuable old wine and drank or destroyed the whole of it. Upstairs, finding that one of the walls sounded hollow, they had broken through into a most beautiful private chapel and destroyed the altar and everything in it except a very valuable painting which was not touched.—The war being now ended we have no outlying piquets which would not be so unpleasant now that the weather is fine as they were when the ground was covered with snow.

Viersel is six English miles east of Lire which is at present occupied by the Brigade of Guards:—The Head Quarters of the Army are now at St. Greven Wesel and the Heads of departments at St. Job and Ghoer, both near Antwerp on the Breda Road.—Malines and Brussels are still filled with Prussians, who live entirely on the inhabitants without paying them a single sou from the General down to the private soldier; it may therefore be imagined how anxious they are for the arrival of British who have left every town richer than when they entered it.—The gates of Antwerp are now permitted to be open for the inhabitants, but no officer or soldier can go in or come out.



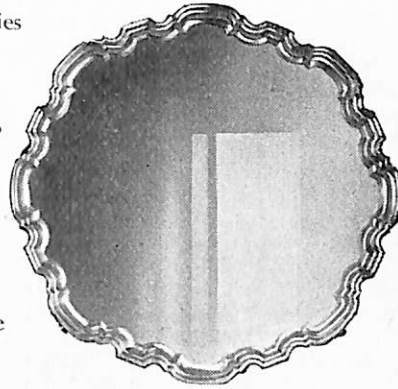
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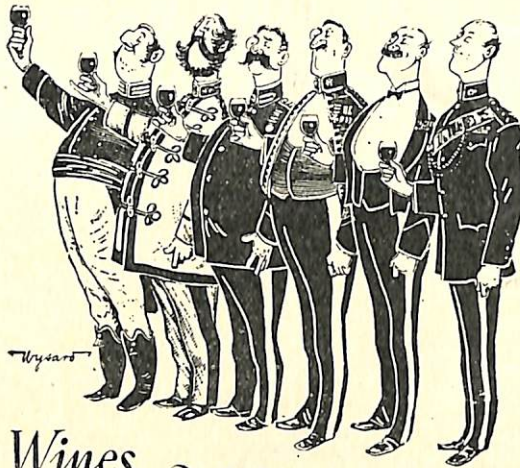
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# Regimental Worthies

BY BRIGADIER B. W. WEBB CARTER, D.S.O., O.B.E.

Most readers of THE IRON DUKE who have ever been inside a military establishment will be familiar with Lady Butler's famous picture—"The Remnants of an Army." It portrays the exhausted form of Dr. Brydon, bestriding an equally exhausted horse, approaching the walls of Jellalabad in January 1842. Brydon was the sole survivor of General Elphinstone's force which had been garrisoning Kabul in an interval of the 1st Afghan War. Actually, like so many "sole survivors" before and since, the doctor was the first rather than the only member of the 4,500 troops and 10,000 camp followers to survive the disaster. Probably fewer readers are aware that the luckless commander of the army in question was the same officer who 27 years before had commanded the 33rd Regiment at Waterloo.

William George Keith Elphinstone was born in 1782, the son of the Hon. William Elphinstone who in turn was a son of the 10th Baron Elphinstone and a brother of Admiral Lord Keith. He was thus a collateral ancestor of Her Majesty the Queen. The Hon. William was a director of the Honourable East India Company and a man of some wealth and substance. Our William at the comparatively late age of 22 decided on a military career, and with his background it is only surprising that it took him nine years in those days of purchase, to reach the Lieutenant-Colonelcy of the 33rd. His early career is best shown by the following list of promotions:

Ensign, 41st Regt., 24.3.04  
 Lieutenant, 41st Regt., 4.8.04  
 Captain, 93rd Regt., 18.6.06  
 Captain, 1st Foot Guards, 6.8.07  
 Captain, 15th Light Dragoons, 18.1.10  
 Major, West India Regt., 2.5.11  
 Lieutenant-Colonel, 33rd Regt., 30.9.13

A miniature by Cosway taken about 1808 in the uniform of the 1st Foot Guards shows a pleasant rather undistinguished-looking officer in powder. At the age of 31 this erstwhile Highlander Guardsman and Light Dragoon purchased his Lieutenant-Colonelcy from Lt.-Colonel West, an officer whose only claim to fame was that when A.D.C. to General Wellesley in India he had had the temerity to remonstrate with his General for his—the General's—penchant for married ladies, and yet retained his appointment.

Elphinstone's arrival with the Regiment is noted in the Thain diaries and he commanded the 33rd during their rather aimless wanderings about North Germany in 1813. In 1814 he led the Regiment in the desperate and unsuccessful assault on Bergen-op-Zoom, but his part in the battle was brief.

## 3

### Lieutenant-Colonel William Elphinstone

Colonel Muttelbury of the 30th was commanding the column of which the 33rd formed a part. He was hit at the first discharge and on Elphinstone assuming command he also was instantly wounded and borne to the rear.

By the following year the Colonel had recovered, and June 1815 found him again commanding the Regiment which, forming part of the Allied Army commanded by the Duke of Wellington in the Netherlands, was quartered at Soignies. We now come into the orbit of Lt. Pattison's "Recollections of Waterloo." This very interesting account of the Waterloo Campaign by a subaltern of the 33rd is marred by the stilted and unctuous style so typical of the period. Thus the sun never rose for Fredrick Pattison—instead "the shooting rays from the east heralded the birth of another day."

About midnight on June 15 the 5th Brigade in which the Regiment was serving assembled and commenced their long march to Quatre Bras. Pattison gives a lively account of the approach march and of a halt in the morning of the 16th, when Elphinstone held what corresponded to a modern "O" Group and gave his orders to the company commanders. The bugles then sounded, the band struck up "The British Grenadiers" and the regiment pressed on to battle. The Allies were hard pressed by Marshal Ney, and Wellington was directing troops as they arrived to stop gaps in the line. The 5th Brigade was ordered to support the Brunswickers and moved up beside the wood of Bossu. Here they were charged by French cuirassiers who appeared suddenly out of the standing corn. The 33rd formed square and the cavalry swung round on the 69th. This hapless regiment had just been ordered out of square into line by the Prince of Orange, Wellington's titular second in command, an excitable young officer who could not have done more to lose the battle for the Allies if he had been a Napoleonic marshal. The 33rd were spectators of the fate of an infantry regiment caught in line in the open as the cuirassiers cut the 69th to pieces and rode off with their King's Colour.

The 33rd pressed on in square, came under artillery fire and deployed. Hardly had they accomplished this than they were threatened by cavalry. Doubtless the fate of the 69th had affected the young soldiers, but the fact remains that the 33rd retired precipitously into the shelter of the wood of Bossu, and it was some time before Elphinstone could collect his companies. As Pattison guardedly puts it, "a retrograde movement became imperative." Put bluntly, the 33rd, who had lost ten officers and 100 men, had to be got out of the wood and sorted

out before resuming battle. Meanwhile a Guards Brigade cleared the wood of Ney's light troops and the 33rd moved forward in support. Night was now falling and the battle died away, the Allies sleeping on the ground they had held.

It was fairly late in the morning of the 17th ("the sun had made considerable progress towards the meridian," says Pattison) before the troops assembled and began the retreat to Waterloo, where the Duke had decided to fight it out with Napoleon. That night the 33rd were on "out picket" near the Brussels-Charleroi road. Pattison lay down between Elphinstone and Captain Knight, a future C.O. of the Regiment.

Shortly after a message was brought to Elphinstone which told him that his younger brother, James, a Captain in the 7th Hussars, had that day been wounded and captured by the French at Genappe. "Our Colonel, who was a very amiable man and much attached to his family, was deeply affected by this intelligence," remarks the ineffable Pattison.

As the fatal June 18 dawned, the rain ceased and the troops on both sides took up their positions, that of the 5th Brigade being in the right centre with Maitland's Guards Brigade on their right and a Hanoverian Brigade to their left. The Brigade deployed into "contiguous columns of companies at quarter distance," with the 73rd and 30th in front and the 33rd and 69th in the second line in echelon. The Brigadier was Sir Colin Halkett.

It is extraordinary that, for a battle about which so many accounts have been written by participants, even the basic fact of the actual time of its commencement is not known for certain. But sometime between 11 o'clock and noon the French guns opened. It is not proposed here to describe the action or the Regiment's part in it. Halkett's Brigade was cruelly tried but not found wanting. Under cannon fire for hours and with French cavalry surging round their thinning square the 33rd fought it out. The Duke visited them late that afternoon and received cheers for "our old Colonel."

At last came the crisis of the battle—the last attack, delivered by the Imperial Guard. The battered regiments of the 5th Brigade formed line, the 33rd and 69th moving up in dressing with the 30th and 73rd. Halkett took the Regimental Colour of the 33rd from the dying hands of Lt. Cameron and, resting the pole on his stirrup, took post in front of his Brigade.

As was usual the heavy columns of the Guard were preceded by swarms of light troops, and guns, moving between the columns, unlimbered and fired at intervals. Terrible casualties were inflicted on the 5th Brigade. No less than nine officers and about 50 other ranks were shot down in the 33rd alone. The Brigadier, shot through both cheeks, reeled out of the saddle and was borne to the rear.

This was the great moment in Elphinstone's career. As senior officer surviving in the Brigade, he assumed command. He was on foot. His black mare had been hit earlier. She was a gift from his brother so recently captured and one of her hooves now lies on the mess table of the

1st Battalion. Drawing his sword and waving it over his head, he sprang to the front of the Brigade. "Come on, my brave fellows," he shouted, "let us die like Britons, sword in hand, or conquer." The response was a British cheer and the Brigade advanced in the teeth of the fire. At this moment, the Duke, his horse halted behind Maitland's Guards Brigade, said quietly: "Now Maitland, now's your time!" The Guards, immediately on the right of the 5th Brigade, stood up and fired. To their right again was the veteran 52nd Regiment, under Sir John Colborne. That officer, on his own initiative, swung out his regiment until they faced the flank of the attacking Imperial Guard, delivered one tremendous volley and charged. It was enough. The heavy fire on the 5th Brigade suddenly ceased, and as the smoke billowed away, Elphinstone could see the backs of the Guard as they ran in disorder down the slope.

As the Duke's famous order "The whole line will advance" was passed along the allied ranks, Elphinstone paused for a moment beside Major Chalmers, the senior surviving officer of the 30th. As Chalmers remarked that having been in command he would be gazetted a Lieutenant-Colonel without purchase, a few desultory shots whistled by and Chalmers, shot through the chest, fell dead at Elphinstone's feet. It was the last shot fired in that part of the field, or in Pattison's style, "the destroying angel had now stayed his arm." Out of 2,254 men of the 5th Brigade who arrived at Quatre Bras no less than 1,060 had fallen, and in the 33rd, out of 36 officers, only 14 remained unhurt.

Elphinstone received for Waterloo the C.B.—the first officer of the Regiment to be awarded this distinction—and also was made a Knight of the Order of William of Holland and of St. Anne of Russia. He also, in common with all others who had fought at Quatre Bras and Waterloo, received the Waterloo Medal—the first British award made to all ranks for a campaign. It is interesting to note that Elphinstone took the greatest care in the award of the Waterloo medal to the 33rd and sent back no less than 44 medals to the Mint which had been issued to soldiers who, though with the Regiment, had not actually fought between June 16 and 18. Thus he refused to allow the medal to be awarded to a soldier who had left the field to assist a wounded comrade and not returned. He also returned the medals of 20 batmen who had been prudently left out of battle—doubtless so as to be available to look after their officers at its close.

Elphinstone remained in command of the 33rd for seven more years after Waterloo. In 1822 he went on the Half Pay list but was promoted Colonel in 1825 and made A.D.C. to the King. In 1837 he was made a Major-General and two years later he was given command of the Benares Division of the Bengal Army. As A.D.C. he took his old adjutant at Waterloo, now Major Thain of the 20th Foot. Late in 1841 he was selected to succeed Sir Willoughby Cotton who was commanding the British Army of Occupation in Kabul.

He was by now 59 years old and much crippled

by gout. The Kabul force which was controlled by the political officers was living under peace time conditions, although surrounded by a hostile and treacherous population. On Christmas Day the English Resident (Sir William Macnaghten) was murdered, the situation grew daily worse, and eventually the more or less moribund Elphinstone signed a treaty with the Afghans and commenced the tragic evacuation. This developed into a running battle and eventually into a massacre. The General had delivered himself up as a hostage early in the retreat and he died in Afghan hands on April 23, 1842.

It was a sad end to an honourable career. There is no doubt that Vincent Eyre, the historian of the First Afghan War, summed Elphinstone up correctly as "a kind and good old man." The unfortunate Thain who was killed early in the fighting was remembered in a codicil to his will, executed by Elphinstone while a prisoner. A debt of £200 was remitted and £100 a year was left to Thain's sister.

Other qualities than kindness are required of General Officers, but it can be remembered that Elphinstone had shown that he possessed these as our Commanding Officer at Waterloo.

## THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION

### Doncaster and District Branch Report

Repeated in the last issue of THE IRON DUKE was that fine phrase, "Once a Duke always a Duke." It has been said at some of the meetings, etc., of this Branch of the Regimental Association, but it is feared that many of the 100-odd ex-Dukes in the Doncaster district must have forgotten that saying, because they are seen so rarely, if at all, at the various functions of their very own Branch of the Association, to which they should *all* belong.

Perhaps they feel that they have been out of touch for so long that they will not know anybody and there will be nothing to interest them. Not know anybody—nothing to interest them! Why, in this Branch we have veterans like "Daddy" Pollard, who has already outlived his three score years and ten by a good many years, right down almost to members of post-war vintage. And as for interest—well, what do they want?

During the past year, on the serious side, we have investigated appeals for help, in the course of which it has been necessary to write to the National Assistance Board, interview their officers, and visit old "Dukes" in their homes. We have studied our own accounts and deliberated ways and means of improving the Branch.

But perhaps that is too much like work for some, so let us turn to the lighter side. Here we find in the social field much of interest, including visits to Halifax for Waterloo Day, a combined social for all branches of the Regimental Association, some functions well attended by our members, others merely by two or three representatives of the Branch, according to time and place.

The high-light of the year though, and possibly the most successful function we have ever held in Doncaster, was the Branch Annual Dinner and Dance last November. There we had good companionship in plenty, good food and liquid refreshment, and entertainment which included games, competitions and dancing. Fortunately we had an extension, but even then the necessity in many cases to catch the last bus broke up the party all too soon. Major James in a short speech after dinner brought us up to date with the activities of the 1st Battalion and other Regimental news. There were over 50 members, friends and guests present,

including visitors from places as far distant as Manchester, Halifax and Pontefract. If they thought it worth while to come all that way to Doncaster Branch, surely the non-attenders would have found something to interest them there too. Think it over, those of you who were not there, and then ask yourself if it is not only your duty and right as an old "Duke" to support your own Regimental Association, but also if you too would not have gained a great deal of pleasure by being present.

(Continued on page 46)



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**DONCASTER & DISTRICT BRANCH** *Income and Expenditure Account for the year ending 31st October, 1955*

EXPENDITURE			£	s.	d.	INCOME			£	s.	d.
Stock of Badges as at October 31, 1954	...	...	1	0	0	Members' Subscriptions	...	...	4	0	0
Outing to S. Elmsall Branch	...	...	1	10	0	Contributions towards Cost of Outing	...	...	1	2	6
Annual Dinner	...	...	25	10	0	Annual Dinner—Sale of Tickets	...	...	20	16	6
Cost of Christmas Cards and Diaries	...	...	1	14	0	Sale of Christmas Cards and Diaries: £1 9s.					
Printing and Stationery	...	...	6	6	3	Less refund for Cards over-ordered: £1 4s.					5 0
Postages and Cheque Book	...	...	4	16	6	Travelling Expenses recovered 1954 and 1955	...	...	3	0	0
Delegates' Travelling Expenses	...	...	1	17	6	Refund from H.Q. on Account of Printing, Stationery, etc., 1954	...	...	6	6	0
Repairs and Renewals	...	...	2	6	10	Proceeds of Raffles, etc.	...	...	5	13	0
						Stock of Badges on hand (10 at 2s. each)	...	...	1	0	0
									45	1	1
						Excess of Expenditure over Income	...	...	2	18	1
									£45	1	1
									£45	1	1

## BALANCE SHEET as at 31st October, 1955

LIABILITIES			£	s.	d.	ASSETS			£	s.	d.
<i>Accumulated Surplus:</i>						Radio Set and Amplifier, at cost: £15					
Balance as at Oct. 31, 1954	21	9	1			LESS Depreciation written off: £12	...	...	3	0	0
LESS Excess of Expenditure over Income for the year ended Oct. 31, 1955	2	18	1			Stock of Records (presented to Branch)	...	...			
						Wooden Chest and Lock	...	...			
					18	11	0	Panel (presented to Branch)	...	...	
								Stock of Badges	...	...	1 0 0
								Cash at National Provincial Bank: £19 12s.			
								LESS Cheques not cleared: 5 1s.			
										14	11 0
										£18	11 0
										£18	11 0

We certify that we have examined the books of The Duke of Wellington's Regimental Association, Doncaster and District Branch, for the year ended 31st October, 1955, and that to the best of our knowledge and belief the Income and Expenditure Accounts and Balance Sheet have been truly and correctly drawn up.

8th November, 1955.

A. E. GREEN (Signed). T. PETTINGER (Signed).

## HOW YOU CAN HELP THEM

EVERY day brings to light new cases of hardship among ex-soldiers or their next-of-kin. The benevolent funds of Corps and Regimental Associations do what they can—but they rely financially on the Army Benevolent Fund. This is the central fund of all military charities. Through the Army Benevolent Fund you can give help where it is most needed.

Donations and legacies should be made payable to

## THE ARMY BENEVOLENT FUND

Patron: *Her Majesty the Queen*

20 GROSVENOR PLACE, S.W.1 Telephone: BELgravia 5639

President: General Sir James Steele, G.C.B., K.B.E., D.S.O., M.C.

Secretary: Brigadier C. P. R. Johnston, C.B.E.



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