

No.110 October 1958



THE IRON DUKE

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

THE IRON DUKE

The Regimental Magazine of

THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S REGIMENT

Dettingen
Mysore
Seringapatam
Ally Ghur
Delhi, 1803
Leswarree
Deig
Corunna
Nive
Peninsula
Waterloo
Almd
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 Suwla
Afghanistan 1919
North-West Europe
1940, 1944-45
Dunkirk 1940
St. Valery-en-Caux
Fontenay-le-Pesnil
Djeboul Bou Aoukaz 1943
Anzio
Monte Ceco
Burma 1942, '43, '44
Sittang 1942
Chindits 1944
The Hook 1953
Korea 1952-53

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BUSINESS NOTES

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THE REGIMENT

Colonel of the Regiment :

MAJOR-GENERAL K. G. EXHAM, C.B., D.S.O.

Deputy Colonel of the Regiment :

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

Commanding Officers :

1st Battalion, Palace Barracks, Holywood, Belfast, Northern Ireland	Lieutenant-Colonel P. P. de la H. Moran.
Regimental H.Q. and Depot, Wellesley Barracks, Halifax	Major R. H. Ince
57th Battalion (T.A.), Drill Hall, St. Paul's Street, Huddersfield	Hon. Colonel: Colonel G. B. Howcroft, M.C., T.D., J.P. C.O.: Lieutenant-Colonel J. Davidson.

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"Q" Medium Battery, R.A., Drill Hill, Mirfield ..	Major B. Farrow, R.A., T.A.
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7 Cadet Battalion (D.W.R.), Drill Hall, St. Paul's Street, Huddersfield	Major W. A. Briggs.
A.C.F. Contingent, Heckmondwike Grammar School ..	Captain A. M. Hey.
Independent A.C.F. Company, Eshton Hall School ..	Captain G. H. Slee.

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Rishworth School C.C.F. Contingent	Lt.-Commander P. D. Job, R.C.N.(R.), Ret'd.

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EDITORIAL

The most important event since the publication of our last number has been the visit to this country by the Colonel of the Regiment. General Exham came home to attend the C.I.G.S.'s Conference at Camberley in late July and also took a fortnight's leave. Actually "leave" scarcely describes the Colonel's activities during that period as he spent practically the whole of it in visiting the 1st Battalion in Northern Ireland, the Depot and the 5/7th Battalion, and in a brief, but by no means soothing, visit to the Headquarters of the Yorkshire Brigade in York.

Among other points which General Exham dealt with was the vexed question of the editorship of **THE IRON DUKE**. Doubtless, the fact that the last O.C. Depot took the extreme step of leaving the Army after the production of one copy at the Depot stressed the importance of finding a solution. Anyway, we are extremely pleased to report that Colonel R. G. Turner has agreed to take on this onerous office after the production of the next number.

It is peculiarly suitable that Colonel Turner should be assuming the editorship of our Regimental magazine. His father, apart from being Colonel of the Regiment for years, was associated with Lt.-Colonel M. V. le P. Trench in the original production of **THE IRON DUKE** in 1923 and remained as its business manager until his death. He was succeeded in this important branch of the magazine's production by his daughter, Kitty, who held it until her marriage.

As we all know, Colonel Turner has a strong literary flair and this, combined with his family connection, makes his assumption of the editorship the most happy solution that could have been found.

1st BATTALION

SUB-EDITORIAL

Parturiunt montes, nascetur ridiculus mus—or Fame at Last? Your Sub-Editor cannot resist the temptation to note publicly that the 1st Battalion sub-editorial is (a) occasionally read and (b) is even, possibly once a decade, read by other than retired "Dukes." Appended hereto is an extract from that excellent newspaper, the *Yorkshire Post*, which, dammit, is even funnier than the sub-editorial. Other papers also picked up the story, chiefly through the perspicacity of an ex-"Duke" in Doncaster to whom "Salaam." For the record it should be mentioned that the mouse has escaped capture and we think is now sulking somewhere. The pendulum has therefore swung the other way because, after three months' silence, we are now faced with the problem of whether it will go off at all if we test it properly. Having rendered the thing mouseproof, have we inadvertently rendered it Tyke-proof?

Before we make any attempt to be chronological, we must record the visit of the Colonel of the

Regiment from August 9 to 12. We were all delighted to see him and regret that his visit could not be extended. He was able to meet and talk to most members of the Battalion, and the impression he made on all of us throughout his stay was very noticeable. His programme was a full one and included a visit to the Hindoostan Yacht Club, which unfortunately happened to be relatively inactive owing to the lack of any sailing breeze in the Belfast Lough, the Beating of Retreat, which was very well done by the Band and Drums, followed by a social in the Sergeants' Mess where the wives of Warrant Officers and Sergeants had foregathered to meet General Exham, and next day a similar function in the Officers' Mess where all officers and wives were present. On Monday, his programme covered a tour of barracks and a guest night, when we had the additional pleasure of entertaining our Brigade Commander. General Exham departed on Tuesday morning and we were very sorry to see him go.

Waterloo Day this year passed unremarked except that we had a holiday, much to the surprise of H.Q. N.I.D. and Brigade H.Q., an Officers *v.* Sergeants cricket match, and a successful dance in the Officers' Mess in the evening. Having expended considerable mental and financial effort on the St. George's Day celebrations mentioned in our last notes, we are now saving up for a grand slam on next year's Waterloo Day.

We then had the stimulating experience of having 382 Cadet Medium Regiment R.A. (D.W.R.) and Independent A.C.F. Company, Eshon Hall School, staying with us for their week's camp. We admire the efforts and determination of the officers and cadets of these units, because we should think it was quite a serious logistic problem getting all the boys over here, particularly their braving of the conditions on board British Railways cross-Channel boats at the height of the holiday season. We did not seem to have to do much for them, in fact they were "no trouble at all." Their smartness, behaviour and the way they fitted so easily into the life of the Regiment were most pleasing and we only hope that some of them will join us later as Regulars. The cadets had instant success in Holywood and no doubt Belfast, and it was good to see the embellishments particular to the "Dukes" (especially the old cap badge) so worthily worn. There was only one small crisis: At roll call on the first morning one cadet appeared to be missing. What, to us, would have been little short of disaster was treated with remarkable sang-froid by the staff, and rightly so, because a while later the cadet was found gently perched on his bed, where he had been all the time, apparently overlooked on the first count. We do sincerely hope the cadets will manage another visit next year, if we are still here.

The week the cadets were here was also notable for two other events, namely the July 12 celebrations by the Orange Lodges and a Brigade night exercise for Battalion H.Q.s.

The 12th has literally to be seen to be believed and to describe it properly would take far more space than the Editor would permit. Many of us went to watch the celebrations in Holywood or

Belfast and came away wiser men, awed by the deep loyalty so amply and colourfully demonstrated and muttering to ourselves "they ought to know about this in England." The pageantry, colours, sashes, gauntlets, banners and amount of drink consumed were quite breathtaking. Particularly so were the Lambeg drums—very large drums beaten rapidly with sticks in a, to English ears, savage rhythm which must have sounded menacing in the old days to those not of the right persuasion. In fact, they still sound somewhat sinister. The whole parade, about 2½ miles long, was led by King Billy himself on his white charger and his sword raised in his hand.

The other excitement was the Brigade Signal exercise which necessitated Battalion H.Q., we hope well camouflaged, being in a leafy lane and four Company Commanders with wireless sets being out all night. The battle started in moderately slow tempo, while the 15/19th The King's Royal Hussars held the advancing hordes up, but when they were recalled the fun became fast and furious—massive spearheads were launched across the River Bann and the C.O. got hardly any sleep at all, trying to contain these adamant forays. The last straw was when our right flank was just about to bend under the weight of attack, an enemy mechanised regiment slid itself across the Bann carefully avoiding the presumably watchful left flank and inserted itself in our midst and sat there grinning at us. It took herculean efforts with umpires (who were rather surprised themselves) to get the thing removed because its whole action was very unethical and disturbing, coming, as it did, right on breakfast time. We now have a selection of efficient-looking penthouses, but hardly any room in Ulster to put them up.

The departure of the draft of 50 "Dukes" to The 1st Battalion The York and Lancaster Regiment at the time of writing in Aden, was rather sudden and we are sorry to see them go. The men had to have at least three months still to do and selection was not easy and there were many volunteers who had to be turned down. We wish the draft the very best of luck, most of us here envy them and we are sure they will do the York and Lancasters well. Major le Messurier was also whipped off to a staff job in Aden at disturbingly short notice. We were very sorry to part with him and wish him all good luck.

Our new G.O.C., Lt.-General Sir Douglas Packard, K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O., paid us his first official visit on July 23, 1958, and toured the barracks. He only stayed a short while and nothing startling happened.

As there have been no real operations except for the routine patrols and the extra effort put on for July 12, we come next to training.

Near Larne, as one squelches along a muddy track, through the thick bamboo, with leeches following close behind, one can soon smell wood smoke in the air. As one gets nearer, and slowly parts the dense undergrowth by the African Lily (we do hope some readers will understand this allusion), there, in the rain forest, is a clearing and in it a few tents with a small flag hanging, damply

but bravely, above the horns of what was presumably once a bush cow. Figures flit through the green light and one realises that at last we have reached the last outpost of the "Dukes"—because, though strangely clad, the figures turn out to be "Dukes" enthusiastically training. We mentioned our Outward Bound training in our last notes, so suffice it to say that it still continues with, we think, good results, and is fully reported upon elsewhere. One thing the Outward Bound notes do not mention was the alarming case of the Outward Bounder who stated, in mid-course, that he wanted more wine, women and song. The elder statesmen of the Battalion, considered this to be a praiseworthy and reasonable request, but apparently it is not part of the curriculum of Outward Bound.

Other training: all Companies have now classified, mostly at Magilligan, with quite satisfactory results, and all except "A" Company (who do it next month) have completed a fortnight at Magilligan doing field firing and Company training. Company notes will faithfully report the highlights of their life at Magilligan. The Battalion goes up, as a whole, for a fortnight at the end of September, a report of which will appear in our next notes.

The Londonderry detachment has been reduced to a strong platoon during the summer months, when, presumably, I.R.A. activities are less frequent. The platoon belongs to "B" Company and is maintaining the name we have made there.

One sport not mentioned in its own notes is motor-cycling. Being a major unit, our arm was more or less twisted to enter a team in the N.I.D. M/C. trials, which we did on rather unsuitable machines and with not too much training. Like basketball and athletics, however, the "Dukes" came up from under and were runners-up in the novices, with a Signaller, Pte. Smith, as individual winner. The M.T. rightly mention this more fully in their notes. Look out for hockey and soccer this coming season—croquet has not yet exactly got off to a flying start as you might say.

These notes are long enough but we must mention the odd etcetera. Redecoration, modernisation and the new cookhouse, Junior Ranks' Club and two Company offices and stores are all coming on apace. By the time we leave, or even before, this barracks will really be ready to house the New Regular Army. We must say the new buildings, when finished, will be good. A children's playground, thought of in January, is nearly through the financial and engineer mill and should be nicely ready for the winter.

After deep thought and research we have purchased a 32-seater coach for the Battalion. Our M.T. and R.E.M.E. have put it into good running order and our old friends, R.E.M.E. Workshops, Kinnegar, have painted it in the Regimental colours, with the Iron Duke's silhouette on each flank. We hope it will bring joy to many outings and to the P.R.I.'s sports sub a/c.

Those readers who were with us when we were last in England, at Chisledon, will perhaps wonder how we are getting on with the grass cutting. O.C. 5/7th Battalion, D.W.R., would be in his element—there is a lot of shaggy grass and nettles

and hardly any tools to cut it with. We battled with it for quite a while by ourselves but when it began to grow through the Orderly Room window and clog up the files we got angry with it and, after a lot of buck-passing and shaking of financial heads, finally got it cut by contract. The result is very gratifying and points the moral that a few experts with proper tools, although rather expensive, are, in the long run, far more efficient and economical in manpower.

To end with, the C.O. and 2IC attended the annual prize-giving at Campbell College. The prizes were given away by the Prime Minister, Lord Brookeborough. Most unexpectedly, in the middle of his most amusing speech giving a review of the school's activities for the year, the headmaster alluded to our rugger match with them last season. He mentioned Horsey Brown as the link between us, the school's enjoyment of the match, and the excellent liaison that has been made between us. His remarks were so complimentary and said so publicly to the many parents that the C.O. and 2IC positively purred for the rest of the day and vowed to keep the liaison fresh—which we will.

Extract from the "Yorkshire Post" - "This World of Ours."

A SPALPEEN OF A MOUSE ALARMS THE "DUKES"

No doubt you would scoff at the notion that an entire battalion of Yorkshire soldiers could be alarmed by one small mouse. You would be wrong. That is precisely what is happening at Belfast, where the 1st Battalion, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, is stationed.

The "Dukes," a highly trained and efficient body of men (whatever the Green Howards may think), are being routed out of their beds by a mouse. It is a mouse which has mastered the knack of setting off the alarm bell that calls the Battalion to action stations.

The latest despatch on "Operation Mouse" appears in THE IRON DUKE, the Regimental magazine, which says: "Our alarm bell still goes off on its own, but we think we have tracked down the cause of the trouble—it's a mouse with frivolous tendencies. Perhaps by our next notes we shall be able to report that we have caught the mouse. This brings to mind our recent fire practice when the fire adviser was here. Everything was arranged but when the crucial moment came we could not sound the alarm as we had temporarily mislaid the bugler. Apart from chaining the bugler to a tree there seems to be no other course open to us than to train the mouse to blow a bugle, in addition to its prowess in touching off the alarm."

Sleep Saboteur

If I were the "Dukes," I should not be too ready to assume that this is just a mouse "with frivolous tendencies."

I admit the possibility that it is a misguided sense of humour which leads him to get them out of their beds in the middle of the night. But it is far more likely that what we have here is a Commando mouse

from Southern Ireland, trained by the I.R.A. as a specialist in sabotaging sleep. That is a matter which will have to be investigated thoroughly by the Battalion's Intelligence Officer when the culprit is caught.

If he eludes all attempts at capture, let me remind the Battalion of the sound advice: "If you can't lick 'em, join 'em!" Obviously the "Dukes" cannot join the mouse's mob, but if they can't lick him, they must persuade him to join the Regiment.

Recruiting Campaign

To this end generous offerings of cheese should be placed nightly in all his haunts. The Battalion tailor should be instructed at once to make him a full-dress uniform, which would be placed outside his hole together with a knapsack containing a Field-Mouse's baton. These, accompanied by a special recruiting poster saying: "Why be a mouse when the 'Dukes' can make a man of you? Don't delay! Join tonight!" should work the trick.

Once he has been recruited and his square-bashing completed he should be made Battalion Alarmist i/c the bell and the bugle. Then maybe the "Dukes" will be able to get some sleep.

OFFICERS' MESS

The Mess is still in a state of flux, officers being away on courses, detachment and leave. The Bisley team has returned with its crown of thorns, and as athletics have finished and rugby has not yet really started, we are enjoying the one short time in the year when sporting priorities count for nought.

The summer has been unkind in its weather, but has in no way curbed the activities of the Mess, which are always distinctly "wet" anyway. We have had several parties, from the monthly Band Sundays, to guest nights and even two dances. We have thus been able to entertain many local people, but the visit of the Colonel of the Regiment took pride of place. We had him to dinner along with our Brigadier, and he also met the Mess wives at a Band Sunday. He made a touching little speech and gave the toast "Our sweethearts and our wives." Unfortunately one senior officer could not refrain from adding the usual comment. We hope he was duly chastised by his better half.

The Lord Mayor of Belfast also honoured us with his presence at a guest night. In spite of his undoubted abilities, he could cope with neither billiard cricket nor Peter Hoppe's umpiring. Dennis Shuttleworth also dropped into the Mess one day.

A dance was held on Waterloo Day, and one can safely report that it went off with a bang. The theme was the Duchess of Richmond's Ball, an event which only one person had heard of previously. It was a lavish affair, with horse-drawn coaches, drummers, and even a mammoth D.F. task. The subalterns' gun drill was poor, however, and had the original Waterloo crews been so bad at the "I.A.s," the whole course of European history might have been altered. A more recent dance was held by the Hindoostan Sailing Club, but doubtless that is reported elsewhere.

We have said good-bye to four officers since our last notes. Jim Pell left to become Adjutant of the King's Own Malta Regiment, but last reports stated that he was still imbibing Pontefract ale. Good luck to him and Carmen. Major Hugh Le Messurier was untimely ripped from his family and ourselves, and despatched to the Middle East to unravel the political tangle there. We wish him good luck and a speedy return. Major Dick Ince has gone to close down the Depot, and our bar profit has already dropped appreciably. Finally, Bill Plewman has just left. We wish him the very best of luck at University, but hope that his future efforts in his veterinary vocation are more successful than his recent murderous attempts at looking after starlings.

On the other hand, we have welcomed four subalterns. Gerald Fawcett, James Raimes, Charles Cumberlege (Jack's brother), and Michael Ralph, whom we congratulate on being a member of the English team at the Empire Games, have all arrived recently. They will do well if they keep up with the pace set by the Major, who was the rage of Donaghadee on the night of the regatta.

The most recent arrival is Mike Campbell-Lamerton's second son—congratulations to Mike and Christine. We understand that the stork has had to have his beak re-straightened and have treatment for lockjaw.

On July 31 the Mess descended on the Holywood Golf Club to play for the silver putter. The organisation under Major Kavanagh was worthy of the Open. Unfortunately the standard of play was rather lower, and much erosion was caused. However, everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves in glorious sunshine. The putter was won by Jim Shenton and the mug's prize by Gerald Fawcett.

We were also very sorry to lose our resident Padre, Rev. Rhys Hughes, C.F., on a normal posting to Aden. His quiet chuckle is much missed in the Mess and we wish him a pleasant tour in Aden—at least he seems to be surrounded by Dukes.

SAILING CLUB

The Hindoostan Sailing Club (alias the Sailing Club of the Officers' Mess of the 1st Battalion The Duke of Wellington's Regiment) had to suspend operations on leaving Gibraltar pending being stationed, once more, near navigable water. While in the Mediterranean last year, duties prevented anything but *ad hoc* sailing with local clubs. No time was lost, however, in reviving the Hindoostan Sailing Club on arrival on the shores of Belfast Lough, so famous in yachting history. The "Js" used to race here in the days when Sir Thomas Lipton made the Royal Ulster Yacht Club at Bangor, his headquarters (The Squadron having temporarily eluded him). The Mess is only two miles from the Royal North of Ireland Yacht Club at Cultra, the members of which have extended a tremendous welcome to us. They have arranged temporary membership for a nominal subscription, and could not have been more friendly, hospitable and helpful in every way.

An international Dragon class yacht, *Appolyon*, was lent to us for the season by Mr. E. D. Mitchell,

and about ten officers have been gradually working up their Dragon technique under the guidance of Tony Firth (who had never been in a Dragon before either!). Lack of experience in this very "hot" class did not deter us from entering for the Edinburgh Cup, held this year at the Royal North of Ireland Yacht Club. Ace helmsmen converged on Cultra from all parts of U.K. and from Dublin, together with their fabulous Dragons. The H.S.C. team competing during the week was: Major Firth (helm), Capt. Hoppe (helm), 2 Lts. Bray (helm), Shenton (spinnaker), Stevens (crew), Sharp (crew), and Plewman (crew).

Five races were sailed between July 14 and 20 and the "Dukes" yacht came 21st out of 28 in the final count. As we were competing against big money, synthetic sails, and Olympic standard helmsmen, we reckon this was not bad. Peter Hoppe was the only man to win a prize. (If anyone wants to know exactly what happened to Major Firth on Rockport Rocks, ask the local seals.)

There is racing for Dragons every Monday and Wednesday at 7 p.m. and each Saturday there is a regatta somewhere in the Lough, and so there is plenty of sailing to be done. Among those not already mentioned, the following have been sailing whenever they were able: Major Le Messurier, Major Cummins (R.A.E.C.) and family, Capt. Huxtable, Lt. Greenway and 2 Lt. Fawcett.

On August 15 there was a dance in the Mess, organised by the members of the Hindoostan Sailing Club with the primary object of making money to maintain boats and the secondary object of having a good party. The Hon. Treasurer, Tony Burnett, is still juggling with the figures, and the outcome regarding the primary aim is dubious. There is no shadow of doubt about the secondary angle, however, and this was achieved in the biggest possible way. After the dance, three intrepid yachtsmen (Firth, Huxtable and Shenton) went straight (figuratively speaking) down to the Dragon, and at sunrise sailed her out of the Lough and round to Donaghadee for a most successful regatta. (Epilogue, by baffled Donaghadee local: "There's a man in the bow who's dropped a foul anchor.")

The weather this summer has tended to deter those who would otherwise have been keen to begin. One has to be prepared to get soaked to the skin on many occasions, and this is asking a good deal of those who are not yet addicts.

SERGEANTS' MESS

Since our last notes we have been honoured by a visit from the Colonel of the Regiment, Major-General K. G. Exham, C.B., D.S.O. He met Mess members and their wives in the Mess. We have also had a visit from the new G.O.C., Lt.-General Sir Douglas Packard, K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O.

Congratulations to Sgt. Heald on becoming a Mess member, he is now doing the job of Mess caterer. He is due for civvy street very soon, but we are hoping that we shall be able to persuade him to sign on.

We have had quite a few additions to the Regiment. To C.S.M. and Mrs. Burke a daughter, Sgt. and Mrs. Todd a daughter, C/Sgt. and Mrs.

Arundel a son, Sgt. and Mrs. Brayshaw a son. It looks like being a full house in the Mess on Sunday lunch times.

Congratulations to the following on getting their First Class Certificate of Education. C.S.M. Batty, Sgt. Todd, Sgt. Bailes. C.S.M. Batty now walks around looking a very satisfied and relieved man. He must have really made an effort after hearing of C/Sgt. Quest, M.M., succeeding in the last exam.

Sgt. Garrity has left us for a P.T. course, no doubt he will proceed to get some of the Mess members fit on his return.

Our Mess cricket team turned out on a couple of occasions to play the Corporals' Mess, we won one game and the Corporals won the other, the latter being followed by a social in the Corporals' Mess, a good time was had by all. The Mess also played the Officers, the game ending in a convincing win for the Sergeants, thanks to a fine knock by C.S.M. Batty and Sgt. Pratt, helped by some good long-hops from Major Firth and Major Cummins.

We have said cheerio to Sgt. Pratt, who has left us for civvy street. We wish him well, and hope he will call and see us from time to time. In his place we have got Sgt. Frank Pratt back from the T.A.

As usual, the notes are late and everyone is screaming at us to get them in, and so we conclude with best wishes to all ex-members.

CORPORALS' MESS

During the last quarter of "glorious" Irish weather there has been much social activity, and dealing with these chronologically we start with our St. George's Day Ball. Although this did not take place on St. George's Day it was a magnificent affair, and the cooks must be congratulated on the very fine buffet which they prepared. Indeed, we have gained quite a reputation for our buffets, for, when we invited the Royal Warwickshire Mess to a cricket match (which we won) followed by a social evening, they were so captivated by the spread that a return invitation was had in a matter of days. This second match with the Royal Warwickshires ended in victory for us and the evening was most enjoyable to say the least. Let it be recorded that Cpl. Freeman had a "smashing" time on the return journey.

As is obvious from these notes, we have had a very successful cricket season due to the efforts by Cpls. Hartley, Lee, Dowdall and L/Cpl. Harrison. In fact, the day previous to the writing of these notes we were victorious over the Sergeants' Mess by five wickets and this was followed by a very pleasant social evening during which the R.S.M. gave his famous rendering of the "Keyhole."

Our Sunday tombola evenings have gone from strength to strength and have proved immensely popular with our many civilian friends from Holywood and Belfast. So much so, that sometimes we feel that they would stay all night if the caller had enough vocal power.

Newcomers to the Mess are too numerous to mention by name, but we welcome them all and hope their sojourn with us will be a long and happy one.

Again, we have lost too many members to that

"El Dorado" called civvy street, but we feel that Cpl. Dunne deserves a mention for the admirable job he did as Mess caterer whilst convalescing after his operation.

We are looking forward to the football season and are willing to play anyone, anywhere, so sure are we of success.

"A" COMPANY

Apart from the athletics (which we think "A" Company would have won if there had been a Battalion meeting) little of great moment has occurred since we left Magilligan towards the end of May, and the days have passed in a somewhat routine but necessary round of fatigues and guards. The future is brighter, as we shall spend September first at Company camp and then at Battalion camp.

There has been much coming and going in the Company, despite the difficulty of getting anyone out on training for more than two days and one night each week. (Overlooking, of course, the Company H.Q. exercise in which Major Firth and the C.S.M. took part; the only casualties being 12 rabbits!)

We have said goodbye and congratulate Cpl. Heald upon his promotion to local Sergeant, and appointment as Sergeants' Mess caterer. We also offer our best wishes to Cpl. Shaw, L/Cpl. Brook, Ptes. Coates, Challoner, Grady, Balthazar, Butcher, Whitehead, Bell, Sagar, Chamberlain, Harrison, Smith (21), Cockayne and Wright, who have left us to join the York and Lancasters in Aden. We hope to see them back in the "Dukes" before long.

We have been sending several people to the Outward Bound Camp, near Larne, and it is expected that there will be a steady flow of volunteers for these very worthwhile courses, appealing as they do to the more adventurous spirits.

During the last few weeks Cpl. McLoughlin has been on a first-aid course at Aldershot and got a good report; Sgt. Todd has gone to the Guards Training Battalion, Pirbright, on a drill course. (Beware, all idlers, when he returns.)

In the sporting world we have been quite successful. 2 Lt. Faithfull took part in the N.I.D. motorcycle trials, in which the Battalion team was well placed.

The cricket has been going well, and in our seven friendly matches we have won four. The basketball team has gone one better, with 1 Platoon winning the knockout competition, when we beat the "Employed," whom, we pride ourselves, consisted mainly of Battalion players. In the league we are holding our own, as we have played four matches, all of which we have won; including the "H.Q." Company game (cf. "H.Q." Company notes in last issue).

At the moment we are training for the inter-Company cross-country run. Few of us are fit yet, and after the first practice run, the writer's only wish was to crawl quietly away and die! By the time these notes are published the race will be over, but at the moment we have every hope of producing a good team.

Lastly, but most important, is the visit of the Colonel of the Regiment, Major-General K. G.

Exham, C.B., D.S.O., who came over from Nigeria to spend the weekend with us. He was able to see every aspect of our life here, and in particular he inspected "A" Company. All ranks worked very hard, and we were congratulated on keeping up a high standard of efficiency all round.

ORDER OF BATTLE

Company Commander:

Major A. D. Firth, M.B.E., M.C.

C.S.M.: C.S.M. R. S. Batty

C.Q.M.S.: C/Sgt. T. T. Dickie

No. 1 Platoon

Platoon Commander: 2 Lt. R. J. G. Sharp

Platoon Sergeant: Sgt. R. Todd

No. 2 Platoon

Platoon Commander: 2 Lt. B. T. C. Faithfull

Platoon Sergeant: Sgt. T. Delaney

No. 3 Platoon

Platoon Commander: 2 Lt. G. Fawcett

Platoon Sergeant: Sgt. D. Carman

" B " COMPANY

During the past quarter the Company has suffered many changes. Our Company Commander, Major Le Messurier, was whipped off at very short notice to Aden. The Company also sent 13 men to a large draft the Battalion had to provide to reinforce the York and Lancaster Regiment. We were extremely pleased to welcome seven of them back after a short spell at Pontefract—not enough time to do, apparently.

We welcome Major Harris as our new Commander. C.S.M. Kirk is now firmly installed in the chair. During the past month we have seen our annual classification firmly and fairly successfully behind us. During this period we were extremely pleased to welcome 2 Lt. Ralph into the Company fresh from the Empire Games at Cardiff, he found Magilligan quite a change. He now wanders around with a lost look in his eyes muttering about fine natural training. We are at this moment once again at Magilligan, carrying out our fortnight's training in the "FIELD"?? We have half the Company here as the rest of us are at Londonderry helping the R.U.C. in their I.S. duties. 2 Lt. Garner and Sgt. Collins are keeping up the Battalion's reputation with the police there.

2 Lt. Cumberlege is our third Platoon Commander; we are glad to see him back after a short spell as Battalion Messing Officer. Congratulations to L/Cpl. Henry on his promotion and doing so well on the Battalion Outward Bound Course. He has now been selected to go as a Battalion Instructor to the Army Outward Bound School in Wales. Also to Pte. Spruce for a good effort at Outward Bound and for representing the Battalion in the athletics team. Pte. Read has represented the Battalion regularly at cricket and also been selected for the N.I.D. XI.

We congratulate Colour Sergeant and Mrs. Arundel on another addition to their family. Our "Q" is now having a month's well-earned rest?? We are very glad to welcome Cpl. Fee from the Depot and congratulate Cpl. Gillard and L/Cpl. Jackson on their recent promotions.

ORDER OF BATTLE

Company Commander: Major D. M. Harris

2IC: Captain P. B. L. Hoppe

C.S.M.: C.S.M. Kirk

C.Q.M.S.: C/Sgt. Arundel

Company Clerk: Pte. Cole

Storemen: L/Cpl. Day and Pte. Wylde

Runner: Pte. Milner

No. 4 Platoon

Platoon Commander: 2 Lt. Ralph

Platoon Sergeant (Acting): Cpl. Wright

No. 5 Platoon

Platoon Commander: 2 Lt. Garner

Platoon Sergeant: Sgt. Collins

No. 6 Platoon

Platoon Commander: 2 Lt. C. Cumberlege

Platoon Sergeant: Sgt. Brown

" D " COMPANY

Once again our notes are written in a different place to our last contribution. Since then we have left the "border" at Derry, passed through Palace Barracks for a fortnight and are now in a Company Training Camp at Magilligan, on the coast of Co. Derry, in sight of the lovely hills of Donegal. On our return to Palace Barracks we were surprised and pleased to welcome back to the fold our C.S.M. who had been enjoying eternity (or was it maternity?) leave—dates from and to were almost forgotten. We must congratulate both him and Mrs. Burke on the birth of a daughter.

After a short stay in Holywood a large portion of the Company, including the Company Commander and C.S.M., moved to Ballykinlar to assist in the organisation of the N.I.D. Annual Rifle Meeting. During this time we had to provide 15 men for a draft from the Battalion for 1st York and Lancasters in Aden. We were sorry to see our friends go, but we hope they are enjoying better weather than we are having! Amongst those who went was L/Cpl. Buttle, our Company Clerk, and in his place we welcome L/Cpl. Goulding and congratulate him on his promotion.

The August Bank Holiday weekend followed, then a few days of the inevitable guards and fatigues, and we were on the road again, this time to Magilligan. We arrived at this outpost of wind and rain in the first week of August for 12 days' training. We very soon had the fort organised and were able to start the next day on platoon training. Also the Platoon Commanders, the C.S.M. and Sergeants fired the annual classification courses, under the auspices of "B" Company. The result was "a very wet and windy day, many cartridges expended, but a small bag." As for the actual shooting results—well, it is gratifying that the officers can at least play rugby!

Our time at Magilligan was occupied in platoon training, with exercises, field firing, initiative and map-reading exercises, getting fit with sports and marching for (we hope) better things in the NEAR future. Our final exercise incidentally produced some interesting experiments in new river crossing methods by Messrs. Dowdall, Preston and Haines, amongst others—but we have never seen wetter soldiers! A very successful Company canteen was

organised and run under the guidance of 2 Lt. Marsay with Sgt. Chilvers as "manager," and Cpl. Fairbanks and Pte. Maude as efficient "assistant managers." The liberty truck runs to Derry and Portrush were very popular, so much so that we believe the platoon commanders are thinking of taking shares in a hotel there—or is it the Embassy?

In closing, we would like to welcome Capt. Cowell, fresh from Bisley, as our 2IC, and we are looking for big things in the Company's shooting activities. We hope his stay will be a long and happy one. In saying welcome to Sgt. Simpson, who was attached to us for our camp period, we must also say good-bye—it was nice having you.

Departures from the Company included the draft to 1st York and Lancasters, Cpls. Beaumont and Rushworth, Ptes. Cook, Sorsby, Broughton and Parry to civilian life, Sgt. Morris on a long attachment to the Outward Bound School and C/Sgt. Pennington on the Guards' Drill Course. To all we wish the best of luck, wherever they may be.

ORDER OF BATTLE

Company Commander: Major G. C. Tedd
 2IC: Captain J. D. P. Cowell
 C.S.M.: C.S.M. W. Burke
 C.Q.M.S.: C/Sgt. Pennington
 (Acting): Sgt. Chilvers
 Company Clerk: L/Cpl. Goulding
 Storeman: L/Cpl. Harrison

No. 10 Platoon

Platoon Commander: 2 Lt. E. Duckney
 Platoon Sergeant (Acting): Cpl. Barnett

No. 11 Platoon

Platoon Commander: 2 Lt. J. Raimes
 Platoon Sergeants: Sgts. Fenn and Pratt

No. 12 Platoon

Platoon Commander: 2 Lt. D. Marsay
 Platoon Sergeants: Sgts. Wilkinson and Morris

"S" COMPANY

ORDER OF BATTLE

Company Commander: Major J. E. V. Butterfield
 C.S.M.: C.S.M. S. H. Erswell
 C.Q.M.S.: C/Sgt. R. C. Webb

Mortar Platoon

A/Platoon Commander: Sgt. D. Innes
 A/Platoon Sergeant: Sgt. D. Battye

M.M.G. Platoon

Platoon Commander: Lt. C. W. Ivey
 Platoon Sergeant: Sgt. A. J. Spring

Anti-Tank Platoon

Platoon Commander: 2 Lt. R. L. Stevens
 Platoon Sergeant: Sgt. C. Curling

Major Ince is now officially and, we hope, firmly in the chair at the Depot. He made a brief return to the Regiment, on the occasion of the visit of the Colonel of the Regiment, and by all accounts is enjoying his new appointment. We welcome, in his stead, Major Butterfield, who formerly commanded "D" Company but then disappeared on a course at the Royal Military College of Science, where his knowledge of mathematics and general science was sorely tried.

The Company spent a pleasant fortnight at Magilligan Camp during the latter half of August.

Training was possible without the interference of barrack duties. Both the mortars and M.M.G.s had several opportunities to fire, though hampered by range restrictions. Also owing to range restrictions, we have been unable to prove that the B.A.T. and 17-pounder really work, but at least we got some practice with special small-arms attachments for these guns.

In addition, the Assault/Pioneer Platoon successfully detonated a number of I.R.A. sounding explosions which included an excellent little demonstration to the remainder of the Company. This was Cpl. Brown's swan song before departing to the School of Infantry on swap posting with Cpl. Gee.

At the end of September the M.M.G. Platoon will leave for Netheravon to take part in a specially arranged concentration lasting a fortnight. At the end of this we firmly expect and hope that the Platoon will rival any other for proficiency. About the same time the Mortar Platoon will be taking part, in competition with the Royal Warwickshires, in a big recruiting display in Belfast.

Finally, we would like to say good-bye and good luck to the East Yorkshire Regiment draft who have done the Company proud. It is they who made possible the resuscitation of the Assault Pioneers as a distinct Platoon.

M.M.G. PLATOON

Since we last went to press we have received seven more recruits into the Platoon, namely: Ptes. Stead, Underwood, Tordoff, Caldicott, Wilkinson, Bennett and McKail, to whom we extend a hearty welcome and hope that their stay with us will be a happy one.

We have had some very interesting training periods in the last month or so, consisting of two weeks at Kilkeel and another two weeks at Magilligan.

We extend congratulations to Ptes. Liburd and Underwood on their recent marriages and hope to be able to congratulate them on a happy event in the next notes but one. Congratulations, also, to our Platoon Commander, Mr. Ivey, on his promotion to Lieutenant, and to L/Cpls. Helliwell and Culloden on reaching the first step up the ladder.

We shall very soon be saying good-bye to Ptes. Fuller and Britchford, who will be leaving us for civvy street, and we wish them all the best of luck and good fortune in their future employments.

Lastly, we are pleased to welcome L/Cpl. Stewart, a trained No. 1 and Corporal, ex the 5th Fusiliers, who, we were horrified to find, was languishing in "B" Company.

3-IN. MORTAR PLATOON

Any mortarman of three months ago would scarcely recognise the Platoon now. Cpl. Kelly and old man Berry remain, but the rest of the "old lags" have gone. In their place, we welcome newcomers from "C" Company, and with them, Cpl. Broomhead. We also congratulate L/Cpl. Laherty on his promotion.

During the past two months we have been training hard, and at Magilligan Camp we even managed

to do some live firing! Off duty, we took the opportunity to renew old friendships in Derry, whilst some of our music lovers went to Portrush to tangle with a pipe band.

Now, with a full-strength Platoon, we look forward to competing against the Royal Warwickshires at a recruiting display, and to as much additional training as this Irish summer will allow.

ANTI-TANK PLATOON

With the Company camp behind us, we now look forward to the Battalion camp at Magilligan.

We trained hard and well at camp. Our big hope now is to be allowed to fire "Big Harry" off, and to prove to all that the guns are real and do fire.

Our Platoon Commander is away on his course; Sgt. Curling and Cpl. Kelly (20) are next for the sausage machine.

The Colonel of the Regiment's visit to the Company made Sgt. Curling's day when he particularly complimented our barrack room (who scrubbed the table?).

We have done our share for the Battalion sports fund, buying a book of tickets for the St. Leger sweep. Other Platoons take note that if we win, no loans.

We wish to mention the Platoon by name. By doing so we hope to sell the same number of IRON DUKES next issue. They are Cpls. Smith (96) and Kelly (20), L/Cpls. Moran and Panton, and Ptes. Deyes, Roderick, Spurr, Butterfield, Hinchliffe, Wager, Jackson, Longbottom, Humphreys, Foster, Rollinson, Smith (52), Robertson, McDougall and, finally, our mobile Gun Fitter, "Second Gear" Williams.

Congratulations to Pte. McDougall for the fine show he put up on the Outward Bound course. Black mark to the one who dodged it.

ASSAULT/PIONEER PLATOON

Since the last notes the Platoon has reformed, thanks to the presence of the East Yorkshire Regiment draft, who, unfortunately, will leave us about the time this edition of the magazine is published. Of the old Platoon only Phillips will then remain but, luckily, we are able to welcome five more men from "C" Company who will bring the Platoon back to establishment and, we hope, equal proficiency after training.

The Platoon will shortly have two weekends training in watermanship, under the auspices of a neighbouring Field Engineer Regiment (T.A.). This is to permit the Platoon to pass on the gospel in preparation for the Brigade river-crossing exercise which the Battalion is due to take part in in late September.

We are very sorry to say good-bye to Cpl. Brown who replaces Cpl. Gee, our new Platoon Commander, at Warminster. L/Cpl. Butterfield is, in effect, Platoon Sergeant, though, of course, no such appointment exists in fact.

Before we close we must (and want to) wish L/Cpls. Levick, McLean and Young, together with Ptes. Rhodes and Sharpe, all the best in civvy street.

"H.Q." COMPANY

Our main news item for the past quarter is our very enjoyable three weeks' visit to Magilligan Camp for the annual weapon classification. This took place from June 28 to July 19. The Company was divided into three groups, each group spending one week at camp. Needless to say the actual dividing into groups was the hardest task that the Company Office staff ever had to face. Many, many nominal rolls were made out, but, when the time came to embus, the roll bore very little resemblance to the men on the trucks. Despite all hazards, we arrived at Magilligan to find a very well established advance party under 2 Lt. Connolly. We even found that they were actually expecting us, and to the delight of many, lunch was ready. Cpl. Lee and L/Cpl. Roebuck had got a very nice canteen in operation, which was soon well patronised by the old soldiers in the M.T.

Then the serious business of shooting started. After a slow start, due to faulty telephones and other minor faults on the first morning, the tempo quickened and everything ran very smoothly. Shooting began at approximately 0830 hrs. and finished about 1730 hrs. daily. About 160 men of the Company classified during the three weeks, and the results, on the whole, were very good. Best shot in the Company was Pte. Binns, of the Q.M.'s staff, who obtained marksman on rifle and L.M.G.

The results of our sporting activities were rather disappointing. The cricket team lost to R.E.M.E. by 38 runs and to "A" Company, in the inter-Company tournament, by 52 runs. Our employed "B" team reached the inter-Platoon basketball final, but lost to "A" Company. A tennis team, to represent the Battalion other ranks, was found from the Company, consisting of Pte. Fawcett and L/Cpl. Fox of the Officers' Mess staff, Pte. Frost, dog handler, and the C.S.M. Our opponents, a team representing 39 Brigade, were soundly thrashed by eight games to nil.

Departures to civilian life have, as usual, been numerous. Mention must be made of some of the old stalwarts of the Company. Pte. Hawkins, Cpls. Shaw, Sykes and Lee, and Sgt. Harrison (R.A.E.C.). Last, but not least, one who has served us well in the cookhouse for many years, namely Cpl. Bill Wakefield (A.C.C.). After two severe illnesses he was finally discharged on medical grounds. He now works as a cook in Wroughton R.A.F. Hospital. We wish him and all other departed members of the Company the best of luck.

SIGNAL PLATOON

Since our last IRON DUKE notes we have done very little practical signal training due to the annual classification at Magilligan.

We have, however, had a couple of exercises with V.H.F. sets which left much to be desired; our maximum range in some cases was only 500 yards! This was not entirely due to the Irish attenuation and incessant rain!

The Brigade signals exercise was very encouraging considering the limited practical experience the Platoon has had. Wireless communications were maintained fully for 36 hours, despite heavy in-

terference at night, some Companies were over five miles away from Battalion H.Q. The line section did extremely well—getting 15 miles of cable down in under eight hours—most of the lines were laid by vehicle, this proving quite comic in certain cases. Pte. Sollitt was pulled off the back of a truck entwined in DIII cable and became the strangest “holdfast” on the exercise.

Line maintenance during the night proved a tedious job; the “Coup de Gras” was when “A” Company line went dis, a line party went out to trace the fault, only to find themselves in a field full of bulls! and the line had been chewed and trodden into the ground. The line was left alone until the morning!

Sgt. Gunn has been left to be three in one; R.S.O., Platoon Sergeant and Wireless Sergeant, whilst the expectant fathers have been on leave. Sgt. Falkingham is awaiting the arrival, whilst Lt. Campbell-Lamerton and Cpl. Senior have both been presented with sons.

We wish to take this opportunity of congratulating L/Cpl. Wells and L/Cpl. Bruce on becoming N.C.O.s.

We also wish to congratulate Cpl. Kelly on becoming a stunt driver in his car, we believe he is the only man in the world to somersault round corners instead of steering!

We have said good-bye to quite a lot of the old faces—Cpls. Shaw, Sykes, Pashby, L/Cpls. Noton, Roebuck, Grant, and Pte. Middleton. We wish to take this opportunity of wishing them the best of luck.

M.T. NOTES

Since last we wrote any notes quite a lot of petrol has passed through the pump. We said good-bye to Captain Wood for the second time as M.T.O. In his place 2 Lt. Huffam, now Lieutenant, arrived, but we often wondered whether he joined the Army to be an officer or whether it was as a civvy to work on cars of rare vintage.

At present we are resting from admin. inspection and C.R.E.M.E. inspection, which we got through O.K. But, as always, we are having a “smashing time” with trucks, and R.E.M.E. Workshops will never close for lack of work.

The face of M.T. has changed quite a lot, but we no sooner get a driver trained than he is posted to the many jobs in the British Isles. Our main posting for drivers is 39 Brigade H.Q., who run a small section of “Dukes,” headed by Sgt. Howarth, our old Technical Corporal. We cannot place all coming and going from M.T. in these notes, but we welcome all newcomers and wish all past drivers a warm farewell. An air of mystery surrounds a tool box missing from the “Fitters Shop.” The explanation given at the end of the inquiry was not too good, as Sgt. Almond had to dig deep for £4. Needless to say, Sgts. Wass and Sykes kept him in fags till he recovered from this blow.

In the way of training we have done quite well. Tuesday night became training night, and the M.T. turned out in force, much to the displeasure of Belfast motorists. Forty-five trucks passed through Belfast at tea time, causing quite a stir, making

many people keep their fingers crossed. As always, we had our moments—Hancocks—“Half Hour” turned a vehicle over at Ballycastle in a manner becoming the M.T., doing the job right. The route taken was a recce by the Rolls one Sunday while looking for picnic spots, so we were told.

Sgt. Wass still wishes to know who followed him to the quarry and put the “do not disturb” notice up at the entrance.

Joe Bosomworth and his golden engine are still going strong together with Cpls. Brown and Morgan, also owners of cars. In the case of Cpl. Brown we have yet to see it running, it is expected one fine day it will roll in completed in every way. It's a good job they get 4s. 0d. for night duty.

We are now open for week-end bookings for our bus company. We are still waiting for customers in a bus guaranteed to get there and back to any place in Ireland, driven by the older end of the section.

As M.T.O., today we give a very warm welcome to Lt. (Q.M.) Dawson, very well known to all M.T. drivers, both past and present, if late on Q.M. detail.

We cannot close without just saying a word about our motor-cycle trials success. In the N.I.D. trials the teams did quite well, managing to be runners-up in the novice award for the best team, and a very fine individual award goes to Pte. Smith (Signal Platoon) as winner. At long last, for the space of one day, rugby, cricket, football and all the rest were forgotten in the Battalion, and the motor-cycle trials team got a mention.

DRUMS

We open these notes by saying farewell to L/Cpl. (“Tipper”) Curtis, who has left us this month for civilian life. He has served us well in the past three years, and we wish him well in the future.

We should like to mention our success in beating Retreat for the Colonel of the Regiment, who afterwards congratulated us on a very fine parade.

Also our “congrats.” to L/Cpl. Millar on his appointment as Lance-Corporal.

BAND

Since our last notes, under our new Bandmaster, Mr. (Brian) Bowyer, L.R.A.M., we have been having quite a busy time, with the various functions at which we have performed. Major Firth has been acting Band President for three months now, but we are not sure whether or not he is “substantive” yet!

We had a broadcast audition at the B.B.C. Belfast Studios and we are happy to say that we were successful. We will most probably be giving a broadcast on the Northern Ireland programme sometime in October.

The Band of the Royal Ulster Constabulary asked us to deputise for them whilst they went on leave, and we gave two lunch-hour concerts outside Belfast City Hall which seemed to be very much enjoyed by everyone present.

We spent some time on rehearsal for Beating the Retreat, which we have performed a couple of times. We had the Colonel of the Regiment to watch our last Retreat Beating, and all ranks were loud in their praise at the way it was performed.

We are shortly going on a Band outing to Newcastle (N.I.). No one seems to know what there is at Newcastle, but it is noticeable that one or two members of the Band are making enquiries regarding licensing hours, etc.

The Bandmaster has been receiving driving instruction during the last few weeks. There seems to be more of the "Dukes's" transport on the road now that he has passed his driving test, and the M.T.O. has lost his worried look!

We welcome Bds. Phillipson and Hawkins into the Band and we hope they will become a great asset to us. We also welcome Bds. McNeil, who has decided to change his bugle for a cornet.

We conclude these notes by wishing the best of luck to all ex-members of the Band, and look forward to hearing from them in the near future.

SHOOTING

BISLEY

As forecast in our last notes, we preceded the A.R.A. central meeting at Bisley this year with a week at Pirbright, where we were fortunate enough to enjoy the use of the ranges previously allocated to the rather unfortunate Irish Guards' team, who, at the eleventh hour, were summoned to the Middle East. In addition to this we used some targets on the Bisley Ranges on the Saturday and Sunday before anyone else had arrived. The result of all this can be summed up by saying that, when other units were scrambling for target space on the Monday and Tuesday for sighting purposes, we were in the position of that well-known character, "Jack."

On June 25 the Army Championship started with the Roupell and Whitehead Cups, which now form the first stage of the championship. Of the 850 competitors, the best 400 qualified for the second stage, which was to be the Roberts Cup. Of the 10 members of our team, six found themselves in the best 400; S/Sgt. Kingdon did particularly well to gain second place. The position of the team in the Unit Championship was disappointing at this stage, as we had gained only just over seven points out of a maximum of 60; this, however, was not so bad as it looked, owing to the rather peculiar scoring system employed, which is too complicated to elaborate on here. The Roberts Cup, considered to be the match to make or mar a shot's success in the meeting, did exactly that to the six of us who fired it. Our successful members were Captain Wood, Captain Robertson and C.S.M. Norman, they qualified with 97 others to fire in the third and final stage of the Army Championship, the Army Hundred Cup.

The position in the Unit Championship was now a little more hopeful as we gained 16 out of 20 points to add to our total. The Worcestershire Cup, a match for L.M.G. pairs, did not prove to be the success it had been at the 39 Brigade meeting; however, our Class B pair, L/Cpls. Ware and Braithwaite, must be commended for a very steady performance which gained them second place in their class. The match gained the team a further 17 out of 20 points to count in the Unit championship and we now lay 12th.

In the latter half of the second week of the meeting were staged the team matches, where the prowess of the individual goes almost unnoticed, as either the whole team score comes back as a total or targets disappear when hit. The two team matches, whose results were to count in the Unit Championships, were the Small Arms Cup and Britannia Trophy, and it was only in the latter that our team met with any marked success, being placed 3rd and gaining a further 18 points out of 20.

The eighth and last match in the Unit Championships, the Parachute Regiment Cup and a sub-machine-gun match, was fired by teams at their own convenience throughout the meeting. Here our team met with no success, but Captain Robertson distinguished himself by firstly being one of the best 30 individuals in the preliminary shoot, and secondly by winning the Victory Cup. This cup was competed for by those 30 individuals in a separate but identical shoot to determine the Army sub-machine-gun champion for 1958.

Our final position in the Unit Championships, in which the winning team wins the K.R.R.C. Cup, was 9th out of some 46 teams, out of the 20 infantry battalions who competed we were 5th.

In summing up our part in the Bisley 1958, we must begin by saying we had hoped to do and should have done better. The experience gained during the training and by some of our less experienced shots at Bisley should stand us in good stead next season.

1 D.W.R. BISLEY TEAM, 1958

Team Manager: Major R. H. Ince

<i>Class "A"</i>	<i>Class "B"</i>
Captain D. H. Wood	L/Cpl. Ware
Captain W. F. C. Robertson	L/Cpl. Braithwaite
Captain J. D. P. Cowell	Pte. Kelly
C.S.M. Norman	Pte. Cox
S/Sgt. Kingdon	
Sgt. Fenn	
Cpl. Holliday	

<i>Team Placings</i>	<i>Army Hundred</i>
Britannia Trophy 3rd	Captain Wood
Worcestershire Cup 4th	Captain Robertson
Eastern Command Cup 3rd	C.S.M. Norman
Small Arms Cup 16th	

Victory Cup (Army S.M.G. Champion): Captain Robertson.

Our notes on Bisley would not be complete if we did not mention with some pride the fact that English Regiments won the Methuen Cup. Our representatives in this success were, Captain Wood who contributed a very good score and Major Ince who put in a deal of work as team Adjutant.

N.I.D. MEETING

On return from Bisley the shooting team had to get down to practising for the Northern Ireland District rifle meeting. Some of the matches were similar to those with which we were familiar whilst others were completely new; in addition, we had to call on the services of other shots to join us in our training.

To our great surprise and relief, the four days we spent on the ranges at Ballykinlar and those of the

meeting itself turned out to be some of the few fine ones Northern Ireland has enjoyed so far this year. As a result, morale was high and results encouraging.

The reader will see from the table of results below that our main rivals were again the Royal Warwickshires, but although we appear to have come off second best in some cases, individually our shots met with greater success than theirs. We therefore left Ballykinlar on the best of terms with our friends and rivals.

N.I.D. MEETING RESULTS

Match I: Inter-Company Shoot

1st	1 R. Warwick, "H.Q." Coy.	170
2nd	1 D.W.R., "H.Q." Coy.	160
3rd	R.E.M.E. Kinnegar	152

Match II: S.M.G. Team Match

1st	15/19 H.	271
2nd	1 D.W.R., "A" Team	268
3rd	1 D.W.R., "B" Team	266

Match III: Recruits' Open Championship

4th	Pte. Cox, "A" Coy.	61
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Match IV: Recruits' Challenge Cup

1st	Depot R.I.F.	33½ secs.
2nd	"H.Q." Coy., 1 D.W.R.	33½ secs.
3rd	"A" Coy, 1 D.W.R.	39½ secs.

Match V: Queen Victoria Trophy

1st	1 R. Warwick	755
2nd	1 D.W.R.	744

Match IX: Open Championship

1st	S/Sgt. Kingdon	136
3rd	Captain Cowell	130
4th	Captain Robertson	129

Match X: Section Competition

1st	1 D.W.R. ("A" Coy Team)	1 min. 28 secs.
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Match XI: Falling Plate

Winner: 1 D.W.R. "A" Team.

ATHLETICS

The Battalion athletic season started off inauspiciously with the sudden departure of the officer i/c athletics, Lt. J. E. Pell, to Malta, but a replacement having been found in 2 Lt. Greenway, training began for the N.I.D. inter-unit meeting.

The possibles for the Battalion team were selected from the best performers in an inter-Company meeting, held on April 5, and from subsequent volunteers. The Battalion team, once formed, changed very little throughout the season. Those who regularly represented the Battalion are listed at the end of this article.

After some steady training the members of the team met their first serious opposition, at the N.I.D. individual athletic meeting, on a rainy June 11. The following members of the Battalion team won their events, while several others achieved good results. Pte. Price, 100 yds.; 2 Lt. Marsay, 220 yds.; 2 Lt. Greenway, 440 yds.; Lt. Campbell-Lamerton, weight and discus; Cpl. Dowdall, hammer. We also won the sprint and medley relays. These results also won us the inter-unit trophy, with 1 Royal Warwick taking second place.

Three days later a large proportion of the team were selected to represent the Army in the inter-

Services meeting. Our relay team again won both relays, Lt. Campbell-Lamerton won the weight and 2 Lts. Marsay, Faithfull and Garner, and Cpl. Dowdall, were all placed second or third in their event. The trophy, which was won by the Army, was passed to us for one year.

Then followed the Brigade sports, a very enjoyable and successful meeting, in which we won every event save two and were second in those. The final results were:—

1, 1 D.W.R.	80 pts.
2, 1 Royal Warwick	55 "
3, Depot, Royal Inniskillings	36 "
4, 15/19th Hussars	27 "

Following the successes up to date, H.Q. N.I.D. strongly suggested that the team should travel to Western Command to compete in an eliminating stage for the Army inter-unit championships. In preparation for this, two further meetings were arranged with the R.U.C. II and Campbell College, both of which we won, and from which we benefited greatly.

The Western Command meeting at Oswestry was very enjoyable and our first experience of a cinder track; disappointingly it did not improve our times as much as we had hoped. Our weight pair, Lt. Campbell-Lamerton and Pte. Whitehouse, won the event and we also won the 4 x 220 yds. relay and the 4 x 440 yds. relay. The eventual result of the meeting was: 1, 17 Training Regiment, R.A., 104 pts.; 2, 1 D.W.R., 92 pts.

The 17th Training Regiment eventually went on to come fifth in the Army meeting at Aldershot.

In spite of several strenuous training sessions the whole team enjoyed the season's athletics. Our long-distance runners surprised themselves by winning the three-mile event at the Brigade sports, while Cpl. Dowdall and L/Cpl. Mitchell achieved great heights in the pole vault, neither of them having pole vaulted before. Pte. Davis improved his 100 yds. time by almost a second, while 2 Lt. Garner ran consistently well to catch numerous opponents from behind. It was unfortunate that no one would believe that 2 Lt. Ralph had cleared 24 ft. at the Brigade sports, but no one could doubt his speed in the relay. He and L/Cpl. Mitchell put up a new Western Command record in the long jump. But the Oswestry meeting must surely be remembered for "Marney's Mile" and the two good short relay wins; also towards the end of the season, Lt. Campbell-Lamerton topped the magic 40 ft. in the shot and 120 ft. in the discus.

The season's results were achieved through willing hard work from all who performed. An additional factor might have been the way, too, in which our opposition tended to fold up on hearing that we possessed an Empire Games performer in our midst.

This was 2 Lt. Ralph, who represented England at Cardiff, clearing 48 ft. 8½ in. in the hop, step and jump event, not to mention similar distances for the A.A.A. and Northern Counties A.A.

This season's results only serve to show that next season, with better preparations, we might even get to Aldershot—and win!

MEMBERS OF THE BATTALION ATHLETICS TEAM

Captain Dasent	Pole vault
Captain Hoppe	Hammer
Lt. Campbell-Lamerton ..	Shot, discus
Lt. Greenway	100 yds., 220 yds., 440 yds.
2 Lt. Marsay	100 yds., 220 yds., 440 yds.
2 Lt. Garner	440 yds., 880 yds., 1 mile
2 Lt. Faithfull	120 yds. hurdles
2 Lt. Cumberlege	120 yds. hurdles, high jump
2 Lt. Ralph	100 yds., high jump, long jump
Cpl. Dowdall ("D") ..	Pole vault, hammer, discus
Cpl. Heald ("A")	440 yds.
Cpl. Broadbent ("A") ..	Javelin, 120 yds. hurdles
Cpl. Johnson ("C") ..	3 miles
L/Cpl. Lee ("A")	Javelin
L/Cpl. Mitchell ("A") ..	Long jump, pole vault
Pte. Davis ("C")	100 yds., 220 yds.
Pte. Price ("S")	100 yds., 220 yds.
Pte. Spruce ("B")	100 yds., 220 yds.
Pte. Schofield ("H.Q.") ..	880 yds.
Pte. Firth ("A")	880 yds.
Pte. Bulmer ("A")	880 yds.
Pte. Craig ("S")	880 yds.
Pte. Scrobie ("C")	120 yds. hurdles
Pte. Robson ("H.Q.") ..	1 mile, 3 miles
Pte. Fawcett ("D") ..	1 mile, 3 miles
Pte. Marney ("C")	1 mile
Pte. Sagor ("A")	3 miles
Pte. Whitehouse ("C") ..	Shot, discus

The following trained and occasionally competed:—

Cpl. McLoughlin ("A"), Pte. Stocks ("S"), Pte. Coates ("A"), Pte. Elliott ("S"), and Pte. Frost ("B").

ARMY SAILING ASSOCIATION

We are lucky enough to be within ten minutes' walk of the local (Kinnegar) Group of the Northern Ireland District Branch of the A.S.A., of which Major A. D. Firth, M.B.E., M.C., is Hon. Secretary. There is a "Snipe" and we have the use of an "18-footer," not to mention the brand new "cat." The season started with a membership of nearly twenty, but with the poorer weather after May fewer have been sailing regularly. Belfast Lough is not always in such a mood as is likely to attract the unadventurous! The Regiment sent two teams down to the Isle of Wight to compete in the A.S.A. Regatta on June 12 and 13 and enjoyed a very well organised and pleasant two days, sailing Seaview "Mermaids" against teams from the various garrisons, formations and units in U.K.

RESULTS

(a) Inter-group Challenge Cup.

Heat 1 .. 1st	1 D.W.R. ("A" team) Major Firth 2 Lt. Bray Pte. Whittle
---------------	--

Heat 2 .. 7th	1 D.W.R. ("B" team) Major Le Messurier Lt. Berry Pte. Feather
Final .. 5th	1 D.W.R. ("A" team)
(b) Officers' Race.	2nd 2 Lt. Bray Major Firth Pte. Whittle
(c) O.R.s' Race.	1st Pte. Whittle 2 Lt. Bray Pte. Feather

Not bad, considering it is the first time the Regiment has entered. We hope that the Regimental Dinner will more exactly coincide with the A.S.A. Regatta next year so that both can be fitted into one visit to U.K., a costly business.

The following "sailors" have from time to time put much hard work into maintaining the A.S.A. boats and facilities at Kinnegar in conjunction with that tower of strength and experience, Mr. Maxwell: Ptes. Whittle, Feather, Toolin and Jackson.

A hearty welcome is extended to all those who would like to learn to sail.

THE OUTWARD BOUND SCHOOL

In June the Duke's Outward Bound School was formed by Lt. Gilbert-Smith, M.C., and 2 Lt. Bray, under the guidance of Major B. Kavanagh, M.C. (O.C. "C" Company).

The aim of the school is to further the spirit of adventure, to produce leaders, and to teach trekking, climbing, first aid, wood-craft, canoeing, map-reading, and many other subjects not normally met in the normal course of duties.

The school is based near Larne, on a piece of land kindly lent by Mr. Robinson, a solicitor of Belfast, and conveniently on a lough offering excellent bathing and boating facilities.

Enthusiastic work by Lt. Gilbert-Smith and 2 Lt. Bray, together with their staff (Cpls. Johnson, Titherington and Chew, L/Cpls. Craghill and Self, Ptes. Higgins, Rape and Vickers, and the drivers, Ptes. Brook and Banks), resulted in an excellent tented camp, complete down to a wooden cook-house, home-made hot and cold water and an open-air bath, a mobile cinema, tented canteen, and its own mulberry breakwater for mooring boats.

Great help has been given by the Brigade Commander, the C.O., Major Cummings (R.A.E.C.), the Q.M., and "C" Company C.S.M. and C.Q.M.S., civilian lecturers, and numerous civilian contractors, the latter having supplied some old (!) building materials and other useful items. (Only David G. knows how useful!)

So far two courses have been run with good results, and 2 Lt. Bray, Cpls. Johnson and Titherington have been to Wales on a course. Twelve students from the Battalion attended each of the Battalion courses at Larne.

In September a club will be opened in Palace Barracks, under Major B. Kavanagh. This club will be closely allied to the school and will endeavour to keep going the spirit of the school in

barracks. The club will, with again the instructional help of Major Cummings and Pte. Watts of "C" Company, have liaison with civilian boating, sailing, trekking, wood-craft, geology, and other organisations. They will, in addition, make items such as canoes, tables and chairs, which will be of immense value to the school.

A very generous gift of money, by the Nuffield Trust, enabled us to buy canoes to start the school. Now it is hoped to build our own canoes as well.

This year's course will end in September and start again next year in April.

An idea, produced by the C.O. and made effective by the staff of the school, is now playing an important part in the life of the Battalion, and no doubt will help produce our future leaders.

REGIMENTAL CHRISTMAS CARDS

Christmas cards will be available from the Administrative Officer, Regimental Headquarters, from November 1, 1958. Cost: 12s. per dozen.

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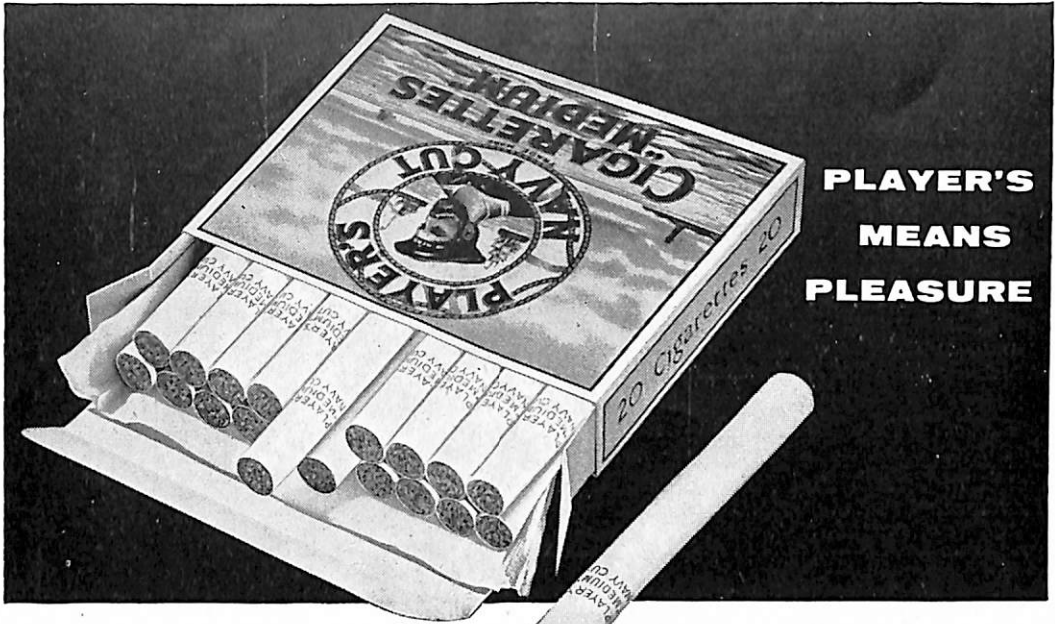
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Sgt. W. Morris leaving the sliding tackle.



Setting forth on 5-day exercise "COCKLESHELL".
Reading from left to right: Sgt. Morris, Pte. Keebler, Pte. Ainsworth, L/Cpl. Shepherd.



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SUB-EDITORIAL

Since our last notes we have had quite a number of visits. On June 30 we were delighted to entertain Colonel D'Arcy Mander, the Brigade Colonel, who came to look at recruits under training and stayed to lunch afterwards.

In October, East and West Ridings Area closes and we then come under command of North Midland District. As a result of this change we have already had visits from Colonel Forsythe, the District Education Officer, and the Colonel A/Q. On July 23 we had a brief visit from Brigadier C. A. I. Suther, Inspector of Physical Training, from the War Office. He watched recruits doing P.T. and stayed to lunch.

Our main visit, of course, was from the Colonel of the Regiment, General Kenneth Exham, whom we were delighted to see. Unfortunately he was only here for one night. He arrived at the Depot on August 12 in the afternoon, having been met at Manchester Airport by the Commanding Officer. We think he was somewhat tired after being well entertained at the 1st Battalion in Northern Ireland. After tea in the Officers' Mess and an early change into Mess kit, the General, accompanied by the Commanding Officer, paid a brief visit to the Sergeants' Mess before being entertained by the 5/7th Battalion at a guest night. Before departing the next morning, General Exham walked round the barracks renewing old acquaintances. We look forward to seeing him again next May when he returns from Nigeria.

On July 25 we held our rifle meeting, a detailed report of which appears elsewhere. Suffice it to say that the weather was perfect and everybody appeared to enjoy themselves.

Our only passing-out parade during the period was on August 20, when 11 Regular recruits passed out and the salute was taken by our new Commanding Officer. A number of relations and girl friends of those on parade attended and were entertained to tea afterwards.

Our cricket team has been very successful. We have won the Collinson Cup and are in the final of the East and West Ridings Area Cup. Unfortunately we were knocked out of the Northern Command Cup.

As we go to press we are in the throes of a visit from representatives of the Command Secretariat. We understand that so far they have not found any discrepancies.

OFFICERS' MESS

There has been such a variety of activities during the last few months that we find it difficult to know where to commence. It may appear rather illogical to mention one of our more recent happenings so prematurely, but we feel it is of the greatest interest and it certainly affects us here directly. It is that we have changed our Commanding Officer; August 1 brought the retirement of Major D. C. Roberts. We were all very sorry that such a

pleasant and happy tour of duty had to come to an end, but we are glad that Major and Mrs. Roberts have taken a house near York and are consequently very much our neighbours. We wish them both the very best of luck for the future and look forward to many jovial visits from them. Major R. H. Ince succeeds Major Roberts as C.O., and we extend a warm and hearty welcome to him and Mrs. Ince.

May 25 found our Deputy Colonel, Brigadier B. W. Webb-Carter, staying with us. We gave a small luncheon party for him in the Mess, prior to his taking the salute at a passing-out parade.

In the evening we held our annual cocktail party and enjoyed entertaining many past members and friends of the Regiment.

Waterloo Day was celebrated quietly by a cricket match against Rishworth Grammar School in the afternoon. A few friends, including Colonel and Mrs. Cumberlege joined us for tea in the Mess.

The Inspector of P.T., Brigadier C. A. I. Suther, and Colonel Turnbull came and took luncheon with us during July. We have also received calls from Colonel J. S. Spencer, late 1/6th Battalion, D.W.R., John Keatley and Gerald Reddington.

It was one afternoon towards the end of July that an amused Edward Dasent informed a speedily bemused Jeremy Cumberlege and Simon Berry that they were warned to stand by for the Middle East. Eventually Jeremy Cumberlege's name was picked, and he departed in haste for a few days' leave prior to joining a party of York and Lancasters at Barnard Castle and an air trip. Ever since then his day of departure has been regularly postponed and we feel it is not at all unlikely that he will return here by the time our next notes go to press and he can then complete the story himself!

On the evening of July 24 we held a guest night, at which we dined out Major Roberts and Anthony Seager, and dined in Major Ince. Other guests included Major R. O'D. Carey and Captain R. Scott-Evans. Before retiring to bed Major Roberts took a night-cap with the house members and amused us greatly by quaffing his ale from a singularly inappropriate glass receptacle! Our new Mess Sergeant, Sgt. Wakefield, must be congratulated on carrying off the proceedings with the air of a veteran!

Anthony Seager has now left us for a Civil Defence course at Epsom, and then civilian life and Cambridge. It has always been fairly difficult to get our Mess telephone to pay its way, but with Anthony Seager's departure it will be well nigh impossible! We wish him the very best of luck.

New arrivals include 2/Lt. M. Ralph and Charles Cumberlege who passed through on their way to the 1st Battalion from Eaton Hall.

On August 12 we received a visit from our Colonel, Major-General K. G. Exham. He, Major Ince and Simon Berry dined that night with Lt.-Colonel J. Davidson and the officers of the 5/7th Battalion. It was a most pleasant evening, enjoyed by them all.

Finally, we offer our congratulations to Edward and Rachel Dasent on the arrival of their daughter, Tessa, and the best of luck and good wishes to our doctor, Malcolm Butler, for his wedding on September 6.

SERGEANTS' MESS

We fear these notes will be shorter than usual as there seems to be so little to write about.

In July we said farewell to the Commanding Officer, Major D. C. Roberts, and family on their departure for the joys of civilian life! A farewell party was held in the Mess on their behalf. This was a very good night, and thanks must be given to Sgt. Holmes and his staff for an excellent buffet, which made the night more enjoyable.

The Sergeants' Mess members were very pleased to see Major-General K. G. Exham, C.B., D.S.O., Colonel of the Regiment, during his short visit to the United Kingdom.

We congratulate Major R. H. Ince on his appointment to command the Regimental Depot, and hope his stay will be a long and happy one.

Congratulations to C/Sgt. Sullivan and Mrs. Sullivan on the arrival of a son. (It looks as though he's well on the way to catching up C/Sgt. Munro.)

We also congratulate S. I. Throssell on his marriage, and wish him and Mrs. Throssell all the very best for the future.

Congratulations to Sgt. Peckover on his promotion, and we hope his stay will be a long and happy one.

We have said farewell to Sgt. Fee, who has left us to join the 1st Battalion.

Finally, we are all looking forward to the Old Comrades' dinner in October, when we hope to see a lot of old faces.

CORPORALS' MESS

We would like to welcome L/Cpl. Snee, the most recent addition to our membership, and also Cpl. Stabb, who was promoted to full rank.

Although he will be a loss to us, we all welcome heartily the elevation to the Sergeants' Mess of Sgt. Peckover. His promotion was thought to be well deserved and was received with pleasure by all. Our best wishes go with him.

The Mess saw the departure, at intervals, of Cpls. Lane and Chivers, who are now with the 1st Battalion, and also "lost" Cpl. Illingworth, whose marriage took place in July.

Another notable event in the social calendar was the farewell party given to mark Major Roberts's relinquishment of his appointment as C.O., Depot. An amusing evening was held, and the officers received almost as hearty a welcome as the beer!

Cpl. Blacow did not come up to many people's expectations in the annual Depot shoot, but by way of consolation landed the pool bull. Cpl. Hall, not unexpectedly, brought home the cup by being adjudged best combined shot.

TRAINING COMPANY

Although the Company is greatly reduced in numbers, it continues to be extremely active and run at a fast tempo. At the moment we are planning

the pass-out parade of one of our all-Regular (bar Schofield) Platoons—Dettingen. The salute is to be taken on August 20 by Major R. H. Ince and, after a fortnight's leave, most of the Platoon will be off to Northern Ireland on September 11. Pte. Sharp, the best recruit, is going to Pontefract for an N.C.O.'s cadre.

Our activities, which have been numerous and varied, have included running a Depot T.E.W.T. on defence. After a short lecture by Major Isles, Lts. Cumberlege, Seager and Berry took all available N.C.O.s to Roils Head, and there, on a very undulating piece of ground, got down to business. A glass of ale with our haversack lunch and some pertinent administrative questions rounded off a very pleasant day.

The Depot rifle meeting was a great success and enjoyed by everybody. The weather, which has been known to be indifferent at Deer Hill, could not have been better! Some good shooting was accomplished; prize-winners are noted below.

A number of Civil Defence cadres have been running during the summer months, and it is fair to say that, under the instruction of Cpls. Bamforth and Gascoyne, 99 per cent. of our numbers have received training in Civil Defence.

Life Saving has also featured in our curriculum. Under the meticulous eye of Sgt. Wilson we achieved excellent results. Although he made us work like flunkeys during training in the baths, the score was evened up when he finally took to the water!

We have made a most pleasant liaison with Rishworth Grammar School and have enjoyed



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running a demonstration afternoon for them here; we have also visited them at school and taken part in instruction, during a corps afternoon.

A number of soldiers, including Cpl. Connolly and Pte. Spivey, went to camp with the 5/7th Battalion in July. By doing this they experienced their first insight to real soldiering! On inquiry, everybody had a tremendous time with plenty of bathing.

Congratulations go to Cpl. Peckover on his promotion to the Sergeants' Mess and to L/Cpl. Campbell-Lamerton on passing his W.O.S.B.

L/Cpls. Mitchell and Boakes, and Pte. Scroby have dropped in and brought news of the 1st Battalion. Their visits are greatly looked forward to by all of us here.

Finally, we say farewell to 2 Lt. Seager, who is off to Cambridge, and to Sgt. Parker-Smith, who is off to join the 1st Battalion. *Au revoir* seems to be the applicable greeting in the case of Lt. Cumberlege and his impending departure to the Middle East.

DEPOT RIFLE MEETING RESULTS

<i>Roberts Medal</i>	<i>Ince Medal</i>
1, Sgt. France	1, Pte. Field
2, Cpl. Hall	2, L/Cpl. Greenwood
3, Cpl. Kitching	3, Cpl. Kitching

Best combined rifle shot: Cpl. Hall

L.M.G. Pairs

1, Sgt. France and L/Cpl. Greenwood
2, Cpl. Blacow and L/Cpl. Taylor
3, Cpl. Stabb and L/Cpl. Cairns

DETTINGEN PLATOON RESULTS

Platoon Sergeant	..	Sgt. Parker-Smith
Best recruit	..	Pte. Sharp
Best rifle shot	..	Pte. Barker
Best L.M.G. shot	..	Pte. Darrington
Best combined shot	..	Pte. Darrington

CRICKET

There has been little activity on the cricket field this season owing to the inclement weather. However, the Depot XI have met with success, having once again won the Collinson Cup and reached the semi-final of the East and West Riding Area Competition. We learn that our next opponents are 15 Company, R.A.S.C. (York), and we look forward to another victory.

The brunt of the attack has been borne by Lt. Cumberlege, Pte. Mallison, Pte. Beard and C.S.M. Williams, ably assisted by our skipper, Captain Dasent, who again took wickets with his leg breaks.

The fielding of the team has brought complimentary comments from many quarters, whilst the batting average is headed by Pte. Wilson, with 2 Lt. Seager a close runner-up. Our opening pair—Ptes. Wilson and Bottomley—put up some very useful scores. Other batsmen worthy of mention have been Sgt. France and Cpl. Saville.

The Collinson Cup was run as a knockout competition and the rounds were as follows:—

1st round: Depot, D.W.R., 80 for 7 (Sgt. France 17 not out); S.B.C.I., 79 for 7 (Cumberlege 4 for 44, Mallison 2 for 31).

2nd round: Depot, D.W.R., 193 for 5 (Wilson 64, Cpl. Saville 86); Old Town II, 80 for 8 (Cumberlege 6 for 29).

Semi-final: Depot, D.W.R., 94 (2 Lt. Seager 44); Old Town I, 87 (Cumberlege 3 for 38, Mallison 3 for 44).

Final: Depot, D.W.R., 108 for 8; Denfords, 29 (Cumberlege 5 for 3, Seager 3 for 15).

The Collinson Cup was presented by Mr. Collins, the President of the Halifax and District Amateur League.

The following have played in the Depot XI:—

Captain Dasent (capt.), Lt. Cumberlege, 2 Lt. Seager, C.S.M. Williams, Sgt. France, Cpl. Saville, L/Cpls. Taylor and Murphy, Ptes. Wilson, Bottomley, Beard, Mallison, Winder, Mortimer and Mulrooney.

In addition, Lt. Cumberlege has played for Northern Command.

MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES

We are very grateful to Colonel J. S. Spencer, O.B.E., M.C., T.D., for presenting the Regiment with the following articles:

- Typewriter used to type the 6th Battalion Orders during the 1914-18 War.
- Photographs of the 1914-18 War.
- Various uniforms.

MESS JACKETS

Mess jackets have been gratefully received from: Major R. R. F. Marett, Colonel P. G. L. Cousens.

REGIMENTAL DINNER CLUB—TIES

Ties are obtainable from the Administrative Officer, Regimental Depot, at 23s. each, post free. Cheques should be made payable to P.M.C. Officers' Mess, Depot D.W.R., and sent with the order.

Arthur Sunley

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5/7th BATTALION, T.A.

The elephant's strength and his wisdom
 Are two things that all men admire.
 Of good deeds he's never forgetful,
 In anger he'll terror inspire.
 But let us admit his shortcomings
 He's really no beauty we fear
 Nor would his most ardent admirer
 Extol his agility here.

So, to make up for his failings,
 He is teamed with a lion in our crest,
 And thanks to this rare reinforcement
 The result includes all that is best.

Now look once again at our cap badge,
 You see "The West Riding" enscrolled
 And *Virtutis Fortuna Comes*
 Which means, "Fortune Favours the Bold."
 Why not pluck up your courage and join us?
 From no matter what angle one looks
 There's no doubt that you're backing a winner
 If you come to the "FIFTH-SEVENTH
 DUKES."

SUB-EDITORIAL

The period before annual camp is always partially obscured when the autumn edition of these notes comes to be written, but this year the period of preparation almost took second place to the many activities in connection with the T.A. Golden Jubilee. There was a celebration in London, another in Huddersfield, and yet a third in Mossley, in fact the Jubilee was well and truly celebrated by this Battalion in its entirety. We look back on the T.A. Exhibition in St. Paul's Street Drill Hall, and the Regimental dance, followed on the Sunday by a Church parade and inspection by the Mayor, with pleasure at the achievement and those few thoughts of reservation concerning the things which "mustn't happen again the next time we do this sort of thing."

For the first time in several years the Battalion was on show at the Manor Heath Gala in Halifax. After the decision had been made that as many of our goods as possible should be in the shop window, those of us who were present began to realise that our display stand was the next best thing to the "Schoolboys' Exhibition" for the youth of Halifax. It was a successful day, but one with some worrying times for those who saw the objects on display disappearing into the clutches of eager small boys, and the middle distance.

In early June a S.A.S.C. Warrant Officer, one of the touring team from Netheravon, ran two very successful courses at Arden Road for the P.S.I.s and officers and N.C.O.s of the unit. As we choose to put it, the remainder of the Brigade were in attendance.

Our camp this year was at Whitburn, next door to Seaburn, the local seaside resort for Sunderland. Although the training was intensive during working hours, there was plenty of opportunity for everybody to lose on the Big Dipper what they gained on rolling the pennies. The shooting galleries were

noticeably under-subscribed, but perhaps the feeling that it would be unfair to take the bread out of the locals' mouths was prevalent. The weather was kind in its own way; most of the days were fine, or, at least, not wet, and by night there was often the downpour which had threatened all day. All were agreed, however, that the camp was highly successful. Among the incidents were the visit of the G.O.C., 49 Infantry Division, Major-General Goodwin, who saw us at work in the camp and on a T.E.W.T. at Chollerford; a smoke screen of enormous proportions, which neutralised not only the enemy but our own troops as well; and a blood-curdling demonstration, ably laid on by 146 Field Ambulance, who were in camp with us, of the various calamities which may be classified as wounds, and the treatment that goes with them.

The T.E.W.T.s were planned on lines rather different from the conventional, as they included the many problems of infantry fighting at close quarters; the integration of fire plans with the complications of a plan that has begun to go wrong, the unbelievable build-up of responsibility upon the shoulders of an unfortunate Company Commander in charge of a bridge guard, and the novel ideas of a company deployed to keep observation over a seemingly endless stretch of river.

After camp an intrepid band, led by the O.R.Q.M.S., went to the Divisional motor-cycle trials at Proteus Camp. They came back, scarred but glorious, having won, not the winner's crown, but a lot of encouragement from all who saw them put up an excellent show, with one man well up with the leaders.

So now the tempo slackens; there is a lull before the expected rush of build-up to the Divisional rifle meeting in late September, and we have time to ruminate over the results achieved, the lessons learned, the incidents, humorous and unfortunate, which have gone to make up the better half of our training year, and let us hope she doesn't mind our calling it that.

OFFICERS' MESS

Celebrations for the Jubilee of the Territorial Army were held during the week-end June 28 and 29. A display, representative of all T.A. units in Huddersfield, was staged in the Drill Hall at St. Paul's Street, and a stand, showing the Army Rugby Cup, balanced by a display of Regimental silver, attracted much attention. The Brigade Commander and his wife, together with the Mayor and Mayoress of Huddersfield, were among the many visitors entertained to afternoon tea in the Mess.

The Battalion moved to annual camp, at Whitburn, on July 12, and the Mess was shared with officers of 146th Field Ambulance. The presence of our medical friends was appreciated in many ways, not least for an intriguing and, naturally, most hygienic facility which they designed and erected conveniently near, but not too near, the Mess.

The more relaxed atmosphere of the middle week-end was heralded by a guest night on the first

Friday. Our honorary Colonel, Colonel Howcroft, travelled up to spend the week-end with us, and among the guests who dined with us were Major-General Palmer, D.D.M.S. Northern Command, and Colonel Turnbull.

Our guests succeeded in appearing not too startled when, towards the end of the evening, a lone and rather wild-eyed piper strode into the Mess giving us a loud but mercifully short selection of airs with a medical flavour. A most successful cocktail party was held on Sunday midday. Among the many visitors and friends who travelled long distances to come and see us were the Mayor and Mayoress of Huddersfield, Brigadier and Mrs. Gwynn, and a small party of ex-Commanding Officers who, until recently, were somewhat irreverently referred to as "Aged Gentlemen."

Back in Huddersfield the Mess staff were still kept busy with arrangements for a guest night, which took place on August 12, to mark the visit to Yorkshire of General K. G. Exham, C.B., D.S.O., whom we were very proud to entertain for the first time as Colonel of the Regiment. We were very happy to have Colonel Keith Sykes dining with us again, and among our other guests were Lt.-Colonel Laurence, Lt.-Colonel Denys Hirst and Lt.-Colonel Paul Ward, G.S.O. 1, 49 Division, who is shortly flying to take up an appointment in West Africa. Major Ince was dining with us for the first time at St. Paul's Street as Depot Commander, and we wish him a happy tour of duty. We really must give a pat on the back to Henry Crowther, the Mess staff, and to our cooks who served an excellent dinner.

SERGEANTS' MESS

We are pleased to state that our party which attended the T.A. Jubilee Celebrations in London had a very good if hectic time despite the rain. The R.S.M. has not mentioned anything, but the mere fact that he had an extra day in London points to the fact that he had an excellent time and was reluctant to leave. Our annual camp, which we shared with 146 Field Ambulance is over, we are sorry to say, but an excellent time was had by all. We only had one official function during the camp, namely a dinner, followed later in the evening by a social at which we entertained the commanding officers and officers of both units. Sgt. Booth is still the champion at placing the bottle, despite heroic efforts on the part of our Adjutant, Captain Harms, and Major Moncrieff to displace him. We thank all the staff and the Messing Committee, namely C/Sgt. Stringer and Sgt. Pollard, aided by Mr. Ashton and abetted by C/Sgt. Larnder, for the hard work done by them in producing such an excellent meal and the arrangements for making it such an excellent evening.

We camped at Whitburn on the north-east coast and many and varied were the outside attractions, but nevertheless, the bar still had its quota of diehards. Happily we were this year spared the Rock 'n' Roll demonstration by that jovial pair, Sgts. Dawson and Prince. Drum-Major Noon is looked upon by members of the Mess with mixed feelings, owing to his efforts with his tape recorder. The contributions, voluntary and involuntary, on the

part of the R.S.M., C.S.M. Clark, C/Sgt. Pearce, Sgt. Dawson and several close harmony groups too numerous to name, have to be heard to be believed.

C/Sgt. Dews, making his debut as Mess caterer, ensured that at all times the beer was in "fine fettle," and his slogan if he ever takes over a pub will be "Service with a Smile." The tone of the Mess was of the highest order and we were pleased to see a number of our members' wives and families in the evenings.

We are now looking forward to our autumn and winter season when we hope to hold a number of functions, as it is only on these occasions and on week-end training that the Mess members can get together, owing to the widespread nature of the Battalion.

TRAINING

During the past quarter, training throughout the Battalion has been mainly confined to drill nights, due to the extra work and time taken with rehearsals for the T.A. Jubilee Parade and local celebrations connected with the Jubilee Year. Add to that pre-annual camp preparations and we find we have had one week-end at Strensall for pre-classification shooting, and the District Regular Service Units' week-end at Ollerton.

The latter proved successful once again, and the Battalion had the task of testing the Regular Service Units' teams on night patrols. This time we went prepared to be entirely self-contained and carried out our own cooking in the field. Much time was saved and more "brews" were available throughout the period. Apart from an attempt to set fire to the whole of Sherwood Forest—accidentally!—by a cook who shall remain nameless, the whole affair passed off without hitch.

Training at annual camp was, in the main, confined to cadres and T.E.W.T.S. with the usual 24 hours' exercise to complete the two weeks' work.

Captain Barnes, with the help of P.S.I.s C.S.M. Wood, Sgts. Wood and Smith, and Sgt. Laherty as his T.A. instructor, proceeded to knock the cadre of recruits into shape. One heard the strident tones of C.S.M. Wood drilling the squads until, by the end of the first week, it is suspected that the C.S.M. conducted his drill parades by mime as his voice, if not his spirit, refused to stand the strain!

The inclusion of weapon training, patrolling, shooting on the 30 yards range, night movement and all forms of basic training made the recruits' cadre very comprehensive and, from apparent results, most successful. By the end of next year's camp, if the plans of Captain Barnes come to fruition, his recruits should be able to consider themselves trained soldiers.

Under the combined control of Captain Crowther, Lt. Taylor and R.S.M. Frier, the M.M.G. cadre made considerable progress towards being efficient enough once again to win the M.M.G. Cup in decentralised competitions to be fired in October. Almost every afternoon, the range rang with the chattering of the guns as effort was made to reach and maintain a high standard of shooting. By the end of their training they seemed a very self-satisfied body of men and high hopes are entertained for that M.M.G. Cup.



Annual Camp, 1958. The Recruit Platoon under instruction by Sgt. E. A. Smith.

Major Woodhouse's 3-in. Mortar team (Sgts. Bailey, Booth, Newton Pollard, and Prince) enjoyed a varied life; they took part in T.E.W.T.S., helped on the ranges, did two full days of first-aid instruction, expertly conducted by 146 Field Ambulance, and a number of other tasks which cropped up as they always do at camp. In spite of this interference, the mortars gave a very successful demonstration firing to the Battalion at Otterburn Ranges at the end of the Battalion exercise.

Training Company did not always keep on the friendliest of terms with the Band and Drums. The enforced borrowing on odd occasions of small groups of their personnel for range duties, preparation of a slit trench for demonstration purposes and help with other work minimised their "blowing" and "tapping" activities. Their solace is that they helped the smooth functioning of the Battalion as a whole.

The two T.E.W.T.S., "fighting through the objective," and "duties of close bridge garrison and deployment of a Company in the observation role during defence in nuclear operation," were unusual and correspondingly interesting. The first, "Dukewell," took place on a glorious summer's day, and dealt with some of the nasty situations which confront section, platoon, and Company Commanders once the battle has been joined. The second, "Adrian's Cross," held at Chollerford on a rainy day, proved to be of interest from two aspects

in particular, namely, the introduction of the new concept of nuclear operations, and the responsibility of a Company Commander during the build-up of an enemy attack on the bridge for which he is responsible. According to the resident psychiatrist the final action by the Field Ambulance would be to evacuate the Company Commander as a case of battle exhaustion and reassess his mental condition.

The G.O.C., Maj.-Gen. Goodwin, visited us during "Adrian's Cross" and managed in a few brief comments to put his finger on all the essential points.

The same "rainy season" had to interfere with the Battalion Rifle meeting in the second week, which tended to spoil what would have been a good day's shooting for all ranks. The close proximity of the ranges to camp made it possible for everyone to get under cover before being completely drenched.

As always, the culmination of training at Annual camp is the 24 hours exercise and, for once, this took place in entirely fine weather. An initial advance to contact by Major Ashton's "local" forces against that double-dyed rogue Major Woodhouse with his party of "Woodenheads" on the rampage, took the Battalion far north of Newcastle and, after three platoon or company skirmishes, finished up in a pleasant concentration area prior to night patrolling to precede a dawn attack. Fortunately for the attacking forces, Major Wood-

house's "Giles-like" sense of humour was controlled by the C.O. which gave the Ashtoneers a chance to win the final battle. The provision of a smoke screen of Divisional dimensions on a company front certainly blinded the enemy to all movement of the attacking troops. The fact that a greater portion of those in the attack were almost asphyxiated was purely incidental to the action! (Major Moncrieff, please note, for future operations of this nature!) At least it gave the Field Ambulance, out on the exercise with us, a chance to treat one real casualty, apart from simulated battle casualties.

Once again, the standard of training seemed to have been maintained at the level we pride ourselves on, and it was generally felt that all had benefited from annual camp.

NOTES FROM THE COMPANIES

From Mossley to Halifax, Halifax to Huddersfield, Huddersfield to Nottingham, Nottingham to London, London to Durham—since our last notes movement has been terrific and the "Dukes" flashes have appeared everywhere.

Our T.A. Jubilee contingent, consisting of Major H. S. Heaton from Dewsbury, Captain R. A. Hawkins from Huddersfield, Lt. W. P. Duckney from Halifax and Lt. G. A. Reddington from London, with C.S.M. J. Fitton from Halifax, O.R.Q.M.S. A. Wood from Barkisland, C/Sgt.



Annual Camp, 1958. M.M.G. training under R.S.M. J. J. Frier. No. 1: Pte. D. Ford; No. 2: Pte. J. Hale.

F. H. Stringer from Halifax, C/Sgt. A. J. Larnder from Mossley, Sgts. K. Ewart, J. S. Jacques and F. Laherty from Huddersfield, Sgt. G. A. Holberry from Bradford, Cpl. D. Carey from Todmorden, Cpls. P. T. Humphries and T. Wilson from Huddersfield, L/Cpl. E. Williamson from Marsden, and Pte. K. Ashton from Mossley, travelled to London, staying at St. John's Wood, for the T.A. Parade and Inspection by H.M. The Queen in Hyde Park on Sunday, June 22, 1958. This was a memorable occasion and, although the weather was rather unkind, the T.A. outshone it and to quote Cpl. D. Carey, "I wouldn't have missed this for a pension" sums up the feelings of all present.

Our local celebrations followed at Huddersfield and Mossley, and again the enthusiasm shown by serving soldiers and civilian guests alike augurs well for the future of the Territorial Army.

Notes from camp, which was held at Whitburn, near Sunderland, Co. Durham, from July 12 to 26, 1958, must commence with a welcome to the many recruits and ex-soldiers who have recently joined us. Mere names in themselves will add no lustre at the moment, but we anticipate their names appearing in greater detail in future notes, whether it be for deeds, sport, or perhaps some other little point of mention.

With the camp situate by the sea, a seaside holiday resort a few minutes' walk down the road, a bus ride from Sunderland, South Shields or North Shields, not to mention Marsden (of "grotto" and not "cuckoo" fame), every taste was catered for.

Apart from exercises, T.E.W.T.S., etc., training was mainly composed of rigorous recruit training in what was known as the "Recruit Platoon," that near-heartbreak-cum-spirited platoon that makes the man. Meanwhile the M.M.G. experts, under the watchful eye of R.S.M. J. J. Frier, concentrated on their guns. The usual horde of "admin. blokes" buzzed around the camp like so many bees, but let credit be given to them for their fine performance in winning the Battalion six-a-side soccer competition. "The Robins," captained by C/Sgt. H. Thorpe, that veteran all-round sportsman, with Captain R. M. Harms, C/Sgt. T. Thackra, Sgt. W. D. Dean, and Ptes. P. King and Spivey, "hoofed it out" on the cliff top, defeating representative teams from 146 Field Ambulance ("The Splinters"), the civilian employees ("The Smashers"), who fielded strong sides, to win an exciting final against "The Larks," representatives of the M.T. and "Q" side. Let it be reported here that Pte. Spivey, one of the lads from the Depot who were in camp with us, played no small part in this victory.

A 36-hour exercise in the Cheviot Hills brought curses, song and sweat, but taken all round this exercise was enjoyed and many good points learned. "The Woodenheads," led by Major Eric Woodhouse, battled against the "Ashtonians," led by Major G. V. Ashton; "Ashton of Whitburn" and, dependent on the reporter, all were destroyed and all were victorious—let the umpires fight the final battle away from these notes.

"Wine, Women and Song" was the out-of-camp slogan, and we're glad to report that a happy band of "Dukes" left a lot of pleasant memories in this friendly county. A trip by a few of the lads to

Durham Miners' Gala was reported on as a "sight to be seen." The tape recordings of Drum-Major Noon will recall many pleasant interludes. For the wives of soldiers reading these notes we must also say that the Messes, clubs, and cinemas were well patronised.

Our rather ancient B.S.A.s, which had been mostly learner-training machines at camp, were taken down to Nottingham on the Sunday following camp for the Divisional motor-cycle trials, and although we were not placed we congratulate L/Cpl. ("Tiger") Eric Williamson on a fine performance with his B.S.A. against mostly far superior machines, especially on one particular hazard when he was the only competitor to take a B.S.A. through. We also offer to L/Cpl. Williamson our congratulations on his recent promotion to Corporal.

Another stalwart who has recently joined us, Cpl. J. Pilkington, who has a fine record of service, has set about the sports stores with a will.

So now there rises from the bones of the 5th and 7th Battalions, the body of a re-born "Dukes" T.A. unit that will make itself known. Sports at camp, organised by Major J. C. Moncrieff and S.I. Marsden, although not a colossal affair, were a beginning and a start that can be recorded as very encouraging.

Our next activity will be the Divisional rifle meeting, which is to be held at Beckingham Ranges, Lincs, on September 27 and 28. A practice is being held this weekend at Strensall in preparation, with over 70 volunteers. In this number there are quite a few new lads who are pretty handy with the rifle and Bren, and as the older stalwarts retire these are the men who will carry our good name forward. In them we have every confidence.

It is reported that our Mossley Drill Hall Company Commander, Major D. R. Siddall, has novel ideas for autumn and winter training and social activities, and with the steady inflow of recruits we are looking forward to more detailed individual company notes in the future.

We have just heard that our old friend, C/Sgt. Bob Pearce, has been taken ill. We send to him our best wishes for a speedy recovery.

YORKSHIRE BRIGADE JUNIOR TRAINING UNIT

Since publishing our last notes, the Unit has moved to Pontefract and we are now administered by the Regimental Depot of the York and Lancaster Regiment.

On the whole, our new station is preferable to York. Although we are accommodated in wooden militia buildings, these have been very nicely re-decorated and strip lighting has been installed. We have a nice games room with our own NAAFI counter.

Our numbers continue to increase and at the time of writing we are around the 70 mark, a breakdown by Regiments being as follows:—

	R.N.F.	P.W.O.	Yorks	G.H.	D.W.R.	Y. & L.
Junior Bandsmen	5	8	6	8	2	
Junior Drummers	4	12	7	4	15	

During the period under review we were glad to welcome Bandmaster Crowcroft, who has arrived to take over from Mr. Seed who is due to retire shortly. We also welcome Band Sgt.-Major Bilsland and Drum-Major Smelt, both of the Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire, and L/Cpl. Garrett, who has been loaned to us by the York and Lancaster Regiment.

We have had two visits from the Brigade Colonel, who expressed himself as being impressed with the training he saw in progress.

We have also had visits from the Depot Commanders of the Royal Northumberland Fusiliers and the Green Howards. Both had a personal chat with their own boys. We hope the other Depot Commanders may also be able to visit us soon.

We congratulate the following Junior N.C.O.s on their promotions during the period under review: J/Cpl. Wilkinson (P.W.O., Yorks), J/Cpl. Cross (Y. & L.), J/Cpl. Kitchen (Green Howards), J/L/Cpl. Atkinson (P.W.O., Yorks), J/L/Cpl. Martin (R.N.F.).

In the sporting field our endeavours are primarily concerned with getting everyone a game every afternoon during the week and there is little opportunity for outside fixtures. Soft-ball has become very popular and cricket, basketball, athletics and swimming are all included.

Our one outside match was at cricket, against the Light Infantry boys at Strensall who made us very welcome and provided an excellent tea on the field. Unfortunately, the day was somewhat spoiled by rain but we nevertheless managed a two-innings match. On both sides the bowling was of a much higher standard than the batting, and, after a first-innings lead of three runs, we were beaten on aggregate by the same number.

HONOURS AND AWARDS

KNIGHT BATCHELOR

DAVID LEWIS EVANS, O.B.E., Deputy Keeper of the Records, Public Record Office.

Mr. Evans has been Deputy Keeper of the nation's records since 1955. He entered the Public Record Office in 1921, and 17 years later was appointed officer in charge of the repository and repair department.

He was principal assistant keeper from 1947 to 1955.

A native of Loughor, he spent his early life in Bridgend, where his father, the Rev. David Evans, was a Welsh Presbyterian minister. He was educated at Bridgend County School, the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth, and Jesus College, Oxford, and served in World War I with The Duke of Wellington's Regiment. He is a member of the Cymmrodorion Council and the History and Law Committee of the Board of Celtic Studies.

He was also for a number of years lecturer in archive administration at the post-graduate school of London University.

Mr. Evans organised the evacuation of the country's records, including the Domesday Book, to places of safety in 1939 and their re-assembly in London in 1946.

Obituary

CAPTAIN D. G. R. BILHAM

A highly respected Bedfordshire hotelier, and formerly manager of the Swan Hotel, Bedford, Captain D. G. R. Bilham, M.C., died in Luton Hospital on July 5, 1958, after a brief illness. He was 61 years of age.

After ten years as manager of the Swan Hotel, Captain Bilham moved in 1945 to Silsoe, where he purchased the George Hotel.

Born at Dorchester, the son of Mr. and Mrs. D. G. Bilham, he was educated at Hymers College, Hull, and there he had the unusual honour of becoming an officer in Hymers College Cadet Force while still a pupil. On the outbreak of the 1914-18 War he went direct to the Inns of Court Regiment and went to France in 1915. Later he became Captain and Adjutant 8th Battalion the Duke of Wellington's Regiment, and won the Military Cross for conspicuous bravery in 1917. He was Mentioned in Despatches three times.

During the 1939-45 world war he served as a Major in the Bedfordshire Home Guard. He was a vice-president of the Silsoe Branch of the British Legion.

CAPTAIN T. W. BUCKLEY

Died suddenly on July 5, 1958.

Captain Buckley served in the 1st/7th Battalion during the Second World War.

PERSONALIA

Mr. L. A. V. Weaver, late Bandsman 1st and 2nd Battalions, 1922 to 1934, is now mine host at the sign of the Red Horse Inn, at Shipton-under-Wychwood, Oxon., and would welcome any members and ex-members of the Regiment at his hostelry passing through that part of the country.

Mr. E. E. Bush, late Quartermaster 7th Battalion, now resides in Guernsey at No. 5, Le Mont, Delancey, St. Sampson, and would like to meet any ex-members of the Regiment, particularly ex-7th Battalion, who may be holidaying in the Channel Isles.

Brigadier and Mrs. V. C. Green write to say that they have now moved to: Oak Lodge, Budleigh Salterton, Devon. Tel.: Budleigh Salterton 709.

Telephone 3198

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CORRESPONDENCE

To THE EDITOR.

DEAR EDITOR,

I was dining in Lagos recently, when some old Wedgwood china was produced. I thought nothing of it until I saw our crest set in the rim of the plates. I enclose a photograph (see page 124).

The two crests have, written under them, "3rd Vol Batt Duke of Wellington's Regiment." I believe this dates them at the Boer War. The Militia, I am told, gave place to the Volunteer battalions at the turn of the century, which in turn gave way to Haldane's Territorial Army.

The reverse of the plates are marked "Adams. Warranted Staffordshire. W.A & S Co. England." They were made for Arthur Edward Spencer, late of the Regiment. I believe that name features in 7th Battalion archives fairly regularly.

Perhaps you can throw more light on the subject.

Yours sincerely,

H. A. J. STACPOOLE.

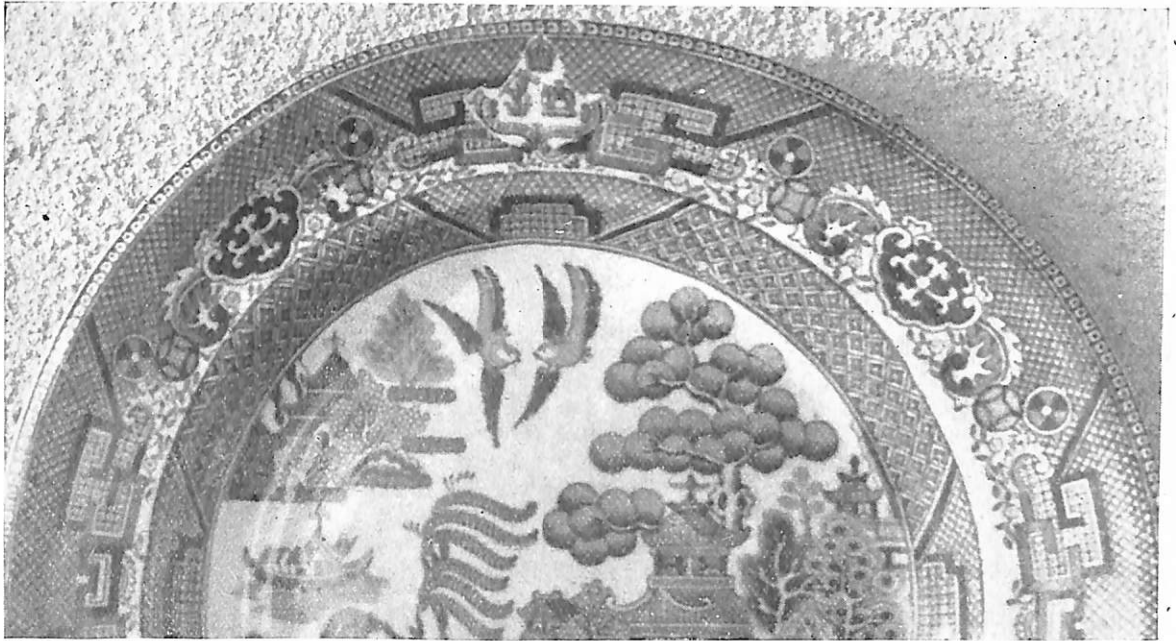
H.Q. Nigerian Military Forces,

Lagos, Nigeria.

July 15, 1958.



See page 124



See Correspondence page 123

Lt.-Colonel T. B. Gough, 33rd Regiment

The memorial tablet shown in the photograph on page 123 is situated in Londonderry Cathedral. A detachment of the 1st Battalion of the Regiment is now stationed in Londonderry.

Thomas Bunbury Gough was the son of the Very Reverend T. B. Gough, Dean of Derry, and Charlotte, his wife, daughter of John Bloomfield and sister to the first Lord Bloomfield. He was a nephew of Viscount Gough of Punjab War fame.

Gough purchased an Ensigncy in the 33rd Regiment on December 27, 1827, and, purchasing each step in turn, became a Major in the Regiment on December 22, 1848. He was wounded at the Alma and invalided home. He was one of the officers of the Regiment who was given his Crimean Medal by H.M. Queen Victoria at the presentation in May 1855.

Returning to the Crimea, Gough was promoted Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel and commanded the Regiment in the last and still unsuccessful assault on the Redan on September 8, 1855. The French, however, captured their objective—the Malakoff—and the Russians abandoned Sebastopol. Gough was severely wounded in the assault and died 10 days later.

The memorial is a good example of the baroque style still popular in the middle of the last century. The trophy of arms include a belt plate with the Regimental number. Gough, of course, was not "Lt.-Colonel of the 33rd" as stated on the tablet. He was a Major in the Regiment and a Lieutenant-Colonel in the Army at the time of his death.

The Regimental Chapel, York Minster

The composition of the Chapel Committee is now as follows:—

The Lord Savile, D.L., *Chairman*

Major F. H. V. Wellesley

Colonel A. H. G. Wathen, O.B.E., *Secretary/
Treasurer*

Mr. W. H. C. Cobb, who served throughout the last war with the 7th Battalion and on the Staff, has resigned from the Committee owing to increased pressure of business. Mr. Cobb has been of great assistance to the Regiment in Chapel affairs, particularly in our dealings with the Minster authorities. As Mr. Cobb lives in York, his valuable advice will still be available to us.

We are grateful to Lord Savile for consenting to assume the office of chairman. Lord Savile served in three battalions of the Regiment during the 1939-45 War and his father was for many years Hon. Colonel of the old 4th Battalion. A Deputy Lieutenant of the West Riding, he performs a great number of public offices in Yorkshire but was good enough to add this Regimental duty to his other responsibilities.

The work of preparing the labels of the last war Battle Honours has started; it is being done by Messrs. Bainbridge-Reynolds, who made the original ones. The new labels, which will be of similar design to the old ones, will be placed on the outside of the West Screen. The two honours which we understand that we will receive for Korea will be placed on the outside of the North Screen.

The fund was fortunate in receiving a legacy of £50 from the late Major H. P. Travers. It is proposed to use this sum for the Battle Honour labels.

A Statement of the Accounts for the period ending June 30, 1958, is shown below. It was agreed at the recent Regimental Council meeting that 1 D.W.R., 5/7 D.W.R. and Depot D.W.R. should each contribute a yearly subscription of £5 5s. These amounts have not been included in the current account.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS AS AT JUNE 30, 1958

<i>Receipts</i>		£	s.	d.
Brought forward, January 1, 1958 ..		13	9	4
Travers's Legacy		50	0	0
Subscriptions, 1958		3	8	6
		<hr/>		
		66	17	10
<i>Payments</i>		£	s.	d.
Subscription, "Iron Duke" ..			9	0
Subscription, Friends of York Minster, 1956-58		3	3	0
Balance credit.. .. .		63	5	10
		<hr/>		
		66	17	10

Subscribers: Mr. G. H. Beyfus, Q.C., Brigadier Burnett, Captain Hemming, Lt.-Colonel Huffam, Lt.-Colonel Ince, Lt.-Colonel Liddell, General Ozanne, Brigadier Rogers, Lt.-Colonel Tidmarsh, Lt.-Colonel Le Poer Trench, Lt.-Colonel Whitaker.

OFFICERS' LOCATION LIST

OFFICERS

Major-Generals

EXHAM, K. G., C.B., D.S.O., *H.Q., Nigeria District.*
 BRAY, R. N. H. C., C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., *H.Q., Infantry Div. (T.A.).*
 EXHAM, R. K., C.B., C.B.E., M.C., *Director Land/Air Warfare, War Office.*

Colonels

ORR, C. W. B., O.B.E. (T/Brigadier), *School Land/Air Warfare.*
 BUNBURY, F. R. St. P., D.S.O. (T/Brigadier), *H.Q., 50 (Indep.) Inf. Bde.*
 LAING, G., C.B.E. (T/Brigadier), *H.Q., Tripolitania Dist.*
 UFJOHN, G. F., O.B.E. (T/Brigadier), *H.Q., 2 Malay Bde.*

Lt.-Colonels

MORAN, R. de la H., O.B.E. (T/Colonel), *G.S.(W)1 War Office.*
 DAVIDSON, J., *5/7th D.W.R.*
 MORAN, P. P. de la H., *1st D.W.R.*
 COUSENS, P. G. L. (T/Colonel), *M.A., Rome.*

Majors

FALLON, J. B., *Aden Levies.*
 BEUTTLER, L. B. B., O.B.E. (T/Lt.-Colonel), *Amphibious Warfare H.Q.*
 AUSTIN, R. E., M.C., *3rd (K) Battalion, K.A.R.*
 GRIEVE, C. F., *H.Q., 7 Armd. Div.*
 DAVIS, J. H., *H.Q., Northumbrian Dist.*
 SUGDEN, R. E., *1st D.W.R.*
 KERSHAW, L. F., D.S.O., *H.Q., Northag.*
 HARRIS, D. M., *1st D.W.R.*
 JONES-STAMP, D. S. D. B., *Aden Levies.*
 SAVORY, A. C. S., *H.Q., Singapore Dist.*
 FIRTH, A. D., M.B.E., M.C., *1st D.W.R.*
 INCE, R. H., *Depot, D.W.R.*
 HALL, P. B., *H.Q., B.A.O.R.*
 SIMONDS, D. H., *1st D.W.R.*
 KAVANAGH, A. B. M., M.C., *1st D.W.R.*
 BUTTERFIELD, J. E. V., *1st D.W.R.*
 LE-MESSURIER, H. S., *H.Q., Arabian Peninsula.*
 MILLIGAN, J. S., *School of Infantry.*
 NICHOLSON, R. W., *Hospital.*

EMETT, E. J. P., M.C., *1st Y. & L.*
 KILNER, B. M., T.D., *1st Battalion, Ghana Regiment.*
 TEDD, G. C., *1st D.W.R.*
 DUNN, S. G., *5th Battalion, Malay Regiment.*
 STREATFIELD, J. L., M.C., *R.A.F. Singapore.*
 BROWN, K. W., *1st Battalion, Queen's Own Nigeria Regiment.*
 ISLES, D. E., *Depot, D.W.R.*

Captains

WOOD, D. H., *1st D.W.R.*
 BLAKEY, W., *Fortress H.Q., Gibraltar.*
 ROBERTSON, W. F. C., *1st D.W.R.*
 HARDY, E. M. P., *R.M.A., Sandhurst.*
 SHUTTLEWORTH, D. W., *1st D.W.R.*
 COWELL, J. D. P., *1st D.W.R.*
 HARMS, R. M., M.C., *Aden.*
 HOPPE, P. B. L., *1st D.W.R.*
 NAUGHTON, J. H. H., *Int. Corps Trg. Centre.*
 STACPOOLE, H. A. J. W., M.C., *H.Q., Nigeria District.*
 NEWTON, J. M., *H.Q., 56 Infantry Div. (T.A.).*
 HUXTABLE, C. R., *1st D.W.R. (Adjutant)*
 DASENT, E. J. H., *Depot, D.W.R. (Adjutant)*
 MILLER, C. D. d'E., *Depot, Y. & L.*
 MITCHELL, P. A., *Mons O.C.S.*

Lieutenants

GILBERT SMITH, D. S., M.C., *1st D.W.R.*
 CAMPBELL-LAMERTON, M. J., *1st D.W.R.*
 BERRY, S. A., *Depot, D.W.R.*
 PELL, J. E., *King's Own Malta Regiment.*
 SOUTHERST, R. G., *2 Para. Regiment.*
 LUPTON, T. D., *2 Para. Regiment.*
 CUMBERLEGE, J. R. P., *1st Y. & L.*
 GREENWAY, J. B. K., *1st D.W.R.*
 HUFFAM, R., *1st D.W.R.*

Second-Lieutenants

STEVENS, R. L., *1st D.W.R.*
 BRAY, M. R. N., *1st D.W.R.*
 MARSAY, D., *1st D.W.R.*
 CHARLESWORTH, W. F., *1st D.W.R.*

Quartermasters

JACKSON, N. (Major), *Depot, D.W.R.*
 FARR, A. (Captain), *H.Q., North West Dist.*
 KENCHINGTON, C. C., M.B.E. (Captain), *1st D.W.R.*
 CALLABY, R., M.M. (Lieutenant), *5/7th D.W.R.*
 DAWSON, B. (Lieutenant), *1st D.W.R.*

EXTENDED AND SHORT SERVICE COMMISSIONS

Major

ACKWORTH, C. R. G., *B.A.O.R.*

Captains

HOLLOWAY, T., *1 Trg. Battalion, R.E.M.E.*
 TREE, M. J., *H.Q., 3 Inf. Bde.*

Lieutenants

WOODCOCK, P., *26 (T.T.) Battalion, K.A.R.*
 KELLY, H., *Federation of Malay Forces.*
 SKINNER, A. B., *3 (K) Battalion, K.A.R.*
 IVEY, C. W., *1st D.W.R.*

Second-Lieutenant

ADDISON, I. A., *1st D.W.R.*

Quartermaster

MCGREGOR, W., M.B.E. (Captain), *H.Q., Home Counties Dist.*

NATIONAL SERVICE OFFICERS

Second-Lieutenants

SHENTON, J. A., *1st D.W.R.*
 DUCKNEY, E., *1st D.W.R.*
 FAITHFUL, B. C. T., *1st D.W.R.*
 GARNER, E. M. E., *1st D.W.R.*
 BISHOP, J. C. M., *1st D.W.R.*
 FAWCETT, G. N., *1st D.W.R.*
 RAIMES, J. R., *1st D.W.R.*
 CUMBERLEGE, C., *1st D.W.R.*
 ARNOLD, S. R., *1st D.W.R.*

APOLOGY

Our thanks to Major D. S. D. B-Jones-Stamp for his letter, enclosing a most interesting diary of a soldier of the regiment during the Burma Campaign, which we had hoped to publish, but space did not permit. We hope to have space in the next number.

D.W.R. REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION — GENERAL ACCOUNT

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended June 30, 1958

EXPENDITURE	£	s.	d.	INCOME	£	s.	d.
Printing, Stationery and Postages ..	81	6	2	Subscriptions	86	1	3
Wreaths	28	14	0	Donations and Grants	104	5	6
Travelling Expenses	26	1	6	Interest on Investments (gross)	15	0	0
Donations to Branches	21	10	0	Excess of Expenditure over Income	16	4	7
Miscellaneous Expenses	49	12	11				
Reunion Dinner Excess of Expenditure ..	14	6	9				
	<u>£221</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>4</u>		<u>£221</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>4</u>

OLD COMRADES ASSOCIATION (1st. and 2nd. D.W.R.) FUND

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended June 30, 1958

EXPENDITURE	£	s.	d.	INCOME	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Grants to Sundry Individuals	477	18	11	Interest from Investments (gross):						
IRON DUKE—Subscriptions	20	0	0	2½% Defence Bonds	7	10	0			
Excess of Income over Expenditure	111	1	3	3½% War Loan	126	9	4			
				3½% Conversion Loan	257	13	10			
				3% Savings Bonds	24	0	0			
				4% Consols	24	17	0			
				3% Defence Bonds	9	0	0			
				3½% Defence Bonds	3	10	0			
				4% Funding Stock	106	0	0			
	<u>£609</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2</u>	Grant from Regimental Charitable Fund				559	0	2
								50	0	0
								<u>£609</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2</u>

REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION FUND

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended June 30, 1958

EXPENDITURE	£	s.	d.	INCOME	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Grants	346	4	2	Donations, Subscriptions and Grants:						
U.S. Trustees Fee	2	10	0	Sundries	10	1	4			
Secretary's Honorarium and National Insurance	586	19	0	Army Benevolent Fund	200	0	0			
Excess of Income over Expenditure	143	19	10	Transfer from McGuire Bate Fund	50	0	0	260	1	4
				Profit on Sale of Badges and Records						19
				Interest on Investments:						
				3% Savings Bonds 1960/70	171	16	0			
				3½% Defence Bonds, Conv. Issue	31	2	3			
				3% Defence Bonds, 2nd Conv. Issue	28	2	10			
				3½% Conversion Stock	17	10	0			
				3% Savings Bonds 1965/75	123	0	0			
				3½% Treasury Stock 1977/80	175	0	0			
				4% British Transport 1972/77	200	0	0			
				4% Defence Bonds	40	0	0			
				4½% Defence Bonds	32	1	1	818	12	2
	<u>£1,079</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>0</u>					<u>£1,079</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>0</u>

MITCHELL TRUST FUND

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended June 30, 1958

EXPENDITURE		INCOME	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
U.S. Trustees Fee.. .. .	1 1 6	Interest on Investments:	
Grants	10 0 0	4½% Defence Bonds	45 0 0
Excess of Income over Expenditure ..	67 8 8	4½% British Electricity.. .. .	33 10 2
	<u>£78 10 2</u>		<u>£78 10 2</u>

McGUIRE BATE TRUST FUND

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended June 30, 1958

EXPENDITURE		INCOME	
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Grants	157 0 0	Interest on Investments:	
U.S. Trustees Fee.. .. .	1 5 0	3½% Defence Bonds	23 16 6
Transfer to Regimental Association Fund	50 0 0	3½% War Stock.. .. .	98 15 0
Excess of Income over Expenditure ..	93 8 8	3½% British Electricity.. .. .	35 0 0
	<u>£301 13 8</u>	3½% Treasury Stock	35 0 0
		3% Savings Bonds 1965/75	30 0 0
		3% Savings Bonds 1960/70	30 0 0
		3% Metropolitan Water	
		Board	30 0 0
		4½% Defence Bonds	19 2 2
			<u>301 13 8</u>
			<u>£301 13 8</u>

OLD COMRADES ASSOCIATION FUND

Balance Sheet as at June 30, 1958

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Capital Account—as at June 30, 1957	11,368	8	10	Investments at cost:	
Add: Premium on Conversion of Defence Bonds	2	0	0	£463 10s. 6d. 3½% War Loan	463 10 6
	<u>11,370</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>10</u>	£3,150 3½% War Stock..	3,117 11 0
Income Account—as at June 30, 1957	2,206	1	7	£5,384 3½% Conversion Loan	4,107 16 7
Add: Excess of Income over Expenditure ..	111	1	3	£1,979 0s. 8d. 3½% Conversion Loan	1,586 0 0
	<u>2,317</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>10</u>	£2,650 4% Funding Loan	1,950 1 6
				£621 5s. 0d. 4% Consols	500 0 0
				£300 3% Defence Bonds	300 0 0
				£100 3½% Defence Bonds	100 0 0
				£100 2½% Defence Bonds	100 0 0
				£300 3% Savings Bonds 1965/75	300 0 0
				£500 3% Savings Bonds 1960/70	469 3 3
				£200 3% Defence Bonds	200 0 0
				(Market value, June 30, 1958, £11,391)	<u>13,194 2 10</u>
				Loans	100 0 0
				Cash at Bank:	
				Current	393 8 10
					<u>£13,687 11 8</u>
					<u>£13,687 11 8</u>

D.W.R. REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION — GENERAL ACCOUNT

Balance Sheet as at June 30, 1958

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
General Fund Account—as at June 30, 1957 ..	750		1 0				Investment at Cost:			
Less: Excess of Expenditure over Income ..	16		4 7				£500 3% Savings Bonds 1960/70 (Market Value June 30, 1958, £393)	503	0	3
			<u>16 4 7</u>				Cash at Bank	223	17	9
				733		16 5	Cash in Hand	6	18	5
				<u>£733</u>		<u>16 5</u>		<u>£733</u>		<u>16 5</u>

REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION FUND

Balance Sheet as at June 30, 1958

LIABILITIES				ASSETS			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Amount of Fund as at June 30, 1957 ..	22,707		16 7	Investment at cost:			
Add: Excess of Income over Expenditure ..	143		19 10	£500 3½% Conversion Stock 1961/A ..	379		19 9
			<u>22,851 16 5</u>	£1,000 4% Defence Bonds	1,000		0 0
Mitchell Trust Fund as at June 30, 1957 ..	1,967		11 8	£1,000 4½% Defence Bonds ..	1,000		0 0
Add: Excess of Income over Expenditure ..	67		8 8	£5,726 14s. 4d. 3% Savings Bonds 1960/70 ..	5,679		15 3
			<u>2,035 0 4</u>	£4,100 3% Savings Bonds 1965/75 ..	4,353		4 11
McGuire Bate Trust Fund as at June 30, 1957 ..	8,595		4 9	£5,000 3½% Treasury Stock 1977/80 ..	4,203		1 5
Add: Excess of Income over Expenditure ..	93		8 8	£5,000 4% Brit. Transp. Gtd. Stock 1972/77 ..	4,562		1 0
			<u>8,688 13 5</u>	£1,500 Nottingham Corp. 6% Redeemable Stock 1975/78 ..	1,494		18 7
			<u>£33,575 10 2</u>	(Market value, June 30, £18,973)	<u>22,673</u>		<u>0 11</u>
				Mitchell Trust Fund:			
				£1,000 4½% Defence Bonds ..	1,000		0 0
				£744 13s. 8d. 4½% Brit. Electricity Gtd. Stock 1967/69 ..	700		0 0
				(Market value, June 30, £1,707)	<u>1,700</u>		<u>0 0</u>
				McGuire Bate Trust Fund:			
				£2,821 12s. 0d. 3½% War Stock ..	2,560		3 0
				£1,000 3½% Brit. Electricity Stock 1976/79 ..	1,008		8 6
				£1,000 3½% Treasury Stock 1977/80 ..	1,017		3 6
				£1,000 3% Savings Bonds 1965/75 ..	959		17 9
				£1,000 3% Savings Bonds 1960/70 ..	971		9 0
				£1,000 3% Metropolitan Water Board ..	877		14 0
				£1,000 4½% Defence Bonds ..	1,000		0 0
				£100 Workman Clarke & Co. Ltd. 7% First Mortgage Debenture Stock ..	2		0 0
				(Market value, June 30, £6,538)	<u>8,396</u>		<u>15 9</u>
				Stock of Badges, etc. at cost ..			127 18 11
				Cash at Bank			<u>677 14 7</u>
							<u>£33,575 10 2</u>

AUDITORS' REPORT

We have audited the Balance Sheet and Accounts of the Associations as above set forth, and have obtained all the information and explanations we have required.

In our opinion such Balance Sheet and Accounts are properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the affairs of the Associations, and are in accordance with the books and papers produced to us.

WHITHAM, SMITH, MITCHELL & Co.,
Chartered Accountants.

4 and 6 Harrison Road, Halifax.

August 19, 1958.

IRON
DUKE
CROSS-
WORD

1	B	A	2	D	M	3	A	N		4	B	5	A	6	R	K					
	O			U			L					B	E			7	B				
	O			8	L	O	S	E			9	T	O	N			A				
	K			10	C	O	O				11	D	O	D	O		C				
	O			I								E					K				
	12	F	I	N												13	M	S	S		
	14	V	I	E				15	M			16	I	17	R	A			H		
	E			A				18	A	L	O	A						19	H	E	
	R							20	P	L	O	T	S					21	T	I	E
	S			22	T		O					23	A	C	R	O	S	S			
	24	E	V	E	N								A		R					H	
				25	N	E	T					26	C	L	A	R	E				

Solutions to
the crossword
which appeared
on page 97 of
the July 1958
issue

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The Personal Diary of No. 12624 Pte. Arthur Sunley

9TH BATTALION, THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S REGIMENT

The Diary of a Battalion Orderly during the First World War

On July 15, 1915, the 9th Battalion left Winchester for Southampton to proceed overseas. All the boys were elated at the prospect of France. After an uneventful voyage, in complete darkness escorted by destroyers, we arrived at Boulogne about 3.30 a.m.

At that hour Boulogne was quite deserted, with the exception of a few sentries on guard on the sea front.

On arrival the Battalion was formed into companies and marched about 3 kilos to St. Martin's Camp, and there bivouacked for the night. The Battalion entrained to Wisernes, the following inscription on the train trucks: Hommes 40—Chevaux 8; the journey taking three hours. We then marched to billets in old untenanted houses at Esquardes—here we found the civilians very kind and we soon made friends. A chum and myself quickly had an invitation to tea, which we thoroughly enjoyed, and as we both had a slight knowledge of the language were able to make ourselves understood. Just when we were enjoying ourselves a Military Police Sergeant came to the house and we had to depart at the double, back to the billets—a few strong words being used about Police Sergeants, etc.

Loaded like pack mules, the Battalion moved off in the early morning and marched 20 kilos to Hazebrouk. It was fearfully hot, and although we were in the best of training, the march was torture and we thought we should never hold out. At the last gasp, we reached Hazebrouk. A halt called—and we “fell out” on the roadside and lay on our backs gasping for air. Some French inhabitants filled two of our water bottles with wine, but unfortunately the Captain of the Company noticed it and ordered it to be emptied on the road. Imagine the feelings of the boys—throats parched, too fatigued to stand up, and all that delightful liquid to be thrown away.

On the call to “fall in” we wearily pulled ourselves together and marched to billets about a mile away, where with a feeling of relief, packs were thrown off and a rush made to pumps for water, only to find a notice on the pumps—“NOT FOR USE”—“GAS POISON.” Half an hour later the notices were taken down—they had been posted to make the troops careful when entering a strange village.

After a meal, we were quite cheerful again. The Battalion stayed here two days, livening the place up with singing, etc., football and other games—Tommy was not dismal for long, cursing every army under the sun one minute, the next having the time of his life.

After this to Godvaasveldt in Belgium and billeted in country barns, where we stayed a few days, and passing the time with parades in the morning while in afternoons were free to do as we

wished. I remember calling at the house of a Belgian peasant-farmer for coffee, which he made very strong and black, but for sweetening he produced a bottle of pear-drops (sweets) which were consumed at the same time as drinking the coffee; these people appeared to live very frugally.

Eventually we left Godvaasveldt at 10 p.m. and marched to Canada Huts. It was a long weary march in the dark—half-asleep—bad-tempered—cursing as they were marching—fed-up. I am afraid it is impossible for a man to be a humorist on a long forced march with full pack. Arriving at Canada Huts—packs were dumped, tea and rations served up, everybody soon cheerful again.

The next two days were spent in training for trench warfare. On July 25, ten days after leaving England, we entered the trenches at Bois Carre, Dickebusch, under instruction from the 2nd Battalion Royal Scots. The phrase “Going up the Line” meant something different from what was expected, it was more like a hiking party going to the seaside—a case of “carry as much as you can and as much more as possible”—extra water was carried in a large biscuit tin by two men, and it was not often there was much left by the time they had struggled through the narrow communication trenches—groaning under the weight, it was quite a relief to enter the front-line trenches and our destination for a period. (Petrol tins were used later for carrying water; they were much easier to carry and there was no wastage.)

We were soon very chummy with the Scots boys; a few of them were busily examining their shirts, etc., for trench lice (our first experience of such pests). One Scottie remarked, they were like Jerry's—the more you killed the more there seemed to be. The next days were spent in digging parties—consolidating trenches, and sentry duty—two hours on and four off. What a relief when it was time to change sentry and snatch a few hours sleep.

On the evening of July —, we were withdrawn silently from the line and marched to a position in reserve for a liquid fire attack at HOOGE. We bivouacked in a wood near White Chateau where the Brigadier General inspected the Battalion, told us he expected us to keep up the traditions of the British Army. Fortunately we were not required, and we slept peacefully in the wood that night. It was d—d cold, but otherwise “putupable.” (What a world of heroism and misery is contained in that clumsy word.)

The front-line trenches were taken over from the 2nd Battalion Royal Scots at Bois Carre in July, which meant days spent in repairing trenches, heavy fatigues and sentry duties. I remember digging down a communication trench and coming across the body of a dead Frenchman—the stench was fearful—and we hastily threw back the soil and

continued our digging lower down the trench. In the evenings men were detailed to go down to the dump for rations to the Brasserie, this was generally a "windy business" because "Jerry" appeared to know time and place and we had to make frequent departures hurried by shells.

The spirit of the lads was invariably cheerful, and it was surprising how naturally we adapted ourselves to conditions and the life of a soldier. Every platoon or company had its "Old Bill" or otherwise star comedian. I remember the O.C. Company, Captain Bengaman coming round to inspect the trenches (by the way, the trenches had to be kept spotlessly clean) and noticing a swarm of flies on the parapet around some Tickler's Jam that had been spilt, remarked, "Private Webster, what are those flies doing there?" With a bland look of innocence on his face Webster said, "I think they are mobilising for an attack, sir." The Captain, "Oh, is that so, Webster. Report yourself to Sgt. Harrington for three extra fatigues for having a dirty trench, Webster." "Very good, sir," and so we carried on.

Our first really exciting incident was when the Sergeant came around and told us that in the evening we should have to go over the parapet and dig a dummy "jumping off" trench in "No Man's Land." When the time arrived, I am sure the hearts of most of us were in our boots for, to be quite candid, we had a hair-raising feeling of "wind up" on this, our first venture. We had been digging about ten minutes when one of the boys was shot (I believe the first casualty in the Company "B"). He was carried in by Sgt. Rankin, but he died from shock and loss of blood. He came from Holmfirth—Horsfall by name. It was a queer business crawling between the barbed wire, getting stuck in it, hands torn, and there was a feeling of relief when an order was received to move back into the trenches.

Routine of trench warfare, fatigues, etc. We came out of the trenches and marched to Canada Huts for a rest—the "rest" consisted of parades, etc., more of a change than a rest, but here we had our first bath since leaving England, and a complete change of underclothing. The shirts had been sent from some field laundry, and we felt more "hitchy koo" than before the bath.

Back in the line again for three weeks. During this period in the line, I had a thrilling experience—the Platoon were giving rapid fire in the trenches, when my rifle was shot into two pieces, leaving the butt end in my hands, and the bayonet and nozzle end went over the other side of the parapet, which I retrieved later when all was quiet.

The weather was fearfully hot, and having to eat bully-beef and tinned foods made us very thirsty, the ration of water only consisting of one full bottle a day, that is, about a pint, which, being hopelessly inadequate, we filled our canteens with water from an old sap which the Engineers had dug and which we used when proceeding on listening patrol. In the bottom was about two feet of yellow water, but this, when made into tea did not taste too bad. As only to be expected, dysentery or acute diarrhoea broke out in the Platoon and

much of the time was spent at the latrines. "Jerry" could have come over and taken the trench without effort, for our chaps had quite lost interest in the war for a time.

In September the Battalion went to rest at Godvaasveldt and had a good time playing inter-Company football matches, and arranging sports, etc. The Company were feeling the effects of drinking bad water and there was a big medical parade, most of the chaps suffering from boils, septic trench sores and most irritating skin complaints caused also through lack of vegetable foods. I remember parading before the M.O. with boils, and his advice after lancing them (rough treatment and a painful process) was to eat plenty of vegetables and fruit. I asked him where these could be obtained as I had not seen any since leaving England. "Oh," he remarked, "scout around the Belgian farmhouses for apple trees, but don't get caught."

We left Godvaasveldt to take over the line at Sanctuary Wood or Canada Wood, and relieved the 9th Division. What a place! All the trees had been destroyed by shell fire, only stumps left. It was so weird, we felt like ghosts, flitting up and down, and to further cheer us up our trenches were full of water. Nothing really exciting transpired as far as the Battalion was concerned, although we had a number of casualties. The men were mostly occupied on fatigue duties when not in the front line, but the fatigues were very heavy work, particularly assisting the Royal Engineers to clear water out of the trenches. We infantry were the scavengers of the Army, anyone could use us for fatigue duties. If the R.E. wanted assistance for hard work—send for 50 chaps from the infantry, they will do the work whilst we superintend. Out at rest billets, the Town Major wants his billet cleaning out—send around to the Infantry Battalions for some men!—Poor Bl—dy Infantry (P.B.I.), all work—every danger!

Sanctuary Wood was a place that played on your nerves. You had an eerie feeling that something was going to happen. One small incident: One of the lads went to the latrines and, being such a long time away, we went to investigate. When we got there, he was sitting on the latrine, stone dead—killed by a stray bullet. One became callous and indifferent, seeing so many dead, but that incident gave me a shock. Relief came at last and off we marched to Outersteen—owing to the heavy rain we found the camp waterlogged. Our boots by this time were yielding to the strain, unfortunately there were no replacements, due to a shortage of supplies or bad management. The ones we were wearing (being in a deplorable condition) meant that our feet were continually wet, hourly socks were removed, wrung out and replaced still wet.

At that time the Battalion was engaged in very heavy fatigue duty on the third line of defence trenches near Ypres. These trenches were breast high, full of slush and water—a hopeless task attempting to make them tenable. An attack by the Germans was expected on the main Menin—Calais road, so the men had very little sleep.

(To be continued)

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