

No.113 July 1959



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
Alma
Inkerman
Sevastopol
Abyssinia
Relief of Kimberley
Paardeberg
South Africa 1900-02
Mons 1914
Marne 1914, '18
Ypres 1914, '15, '17*



*Hill 60
Somme 1916, '18
Arras 1917, '18
Cambrai 1917, '18
Lys
Piave 1918
Landing at Suwa
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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HALIFAX

Copy for the October 1959 issue should have been in long ago

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Farewell Halifax

A herald of calamity once more
I come, O maidens who serenely dwell
Upon the windy heights of Highroad Well,
To bring such grievous tidings as will tear
Your tender hearts asunder. So prepare
To weep as you have never wept before.

Nigh on a century has passed since first
Your forbears witnessed with a faint surprise
The tower of Wellesley's fortress pierce the skies,
And saw—unique and epoch-making sight—
The Lion and the Elephant unite.
For more than eighty years these walls have nursed
Their progeny and taught them all the arts
That make our soldiers men of many parts:
To keep their buttons gleaming like a flame,
Boots burnished up to put the sun to shame;
Presenting arms with a conceited click;
Saluting with, and then without, a stick;
How to form fours with elegance and ease
(Until some vandal turned it into threes);
March in slow time and fire a feu de joie
—And much else indispensable in war.

Today, alas, the bricks alone are left
An empty shell, of all its life bereft.
Silence and dust hold sway in every part:
The gym, where once you danced and lost your heart,
The sergeants' mess, the lawn so fair to see—
Where none might tread save those of high degree—
The square where squad instructors, mighty men,
Shouted endearments, mingled now and then
With kindly admonition, the long rows
Of luxury married quarters—Ah! Who knows
What doom awaits them, what they will become.
A slaughter-house? A sanatorium?
A helicopter air-line terminus?
A school for failures in eleven-plus?
Or, putting on one side such sombre thoughts,
A stadium for the next Olympic Sports?

Envoi

As night with sable cloak enshrouds the square
The last "Lights Out," now dying on the air,
Rings down for us the final curtain. Yet,
Take heart! The Elephant does not forget.

O.P.

EDITORIAL

Farewell, Halifax! What more is there to say? It would be stupid to pretend that this is not the end of a chapter (a sadly incomplete summary of which appears on page 89), but it is the Regiment's determination, and will be the new Regimental Headquarters' particular task, to ensure that it is not the end of the story.

We don't feel we need apologise for the late arrival of this "July" number. But if, as seems likely to us at this stage, it is a mess when it does make its belated appearance, we crave indulgence. It would have been a difficult number anyway—many important events clamour for record. The intrusion of the printers' strike when much of the number had already been set up has provided a complication unfair to inexperienced editors.

We can't say that we were overwhelmed by the response to our request for news and reminiscence from readers. It seemed to us so eloquent that we wondered whether we should make special arrangements with the Post Office to deal with our incoming mail. Then we detected an odd background noise which we identified as the hoarse laughter of previous editors. And how right they were!

If you don't send us the news we can't publish it. We don't propose to go on nagging about this except in one respect. In 1925 the Army historian, Sir John Fortescue, when thanking the Colonel of the Regiment for a copy of the first number of *THE IRON DUKE*, wrote: "Would it not be well, if possible, to collect personal reminiscences of every action recorded in the honours of the Great War, so that they may not become mere names to future generations of the 'Dukes'?"

Well, indeed! And why not possible? Many of you have personal recollections of fights which will not even be names on the Regimental Colours but which are none the less Regimental history. They will be lost if you don't disgorge them. So, once again, where are the diaries and letters from Korea and Cyprus?

But, now, we are gunning more particularly for an earlier generation. That first number of *THE IRON DUKE* started a series, "Ten Years Ago," about the Kaiser's war. It is now twenty years since the Hitler war started—strange to think that many men now serving were not even born then—and we intend, repeat intend, to start a "Twenty Years Ago" series. "Ten Years Ago" was a résumé of the history of all battalions—which may have prompted Sir John's comment. What we plan is a series on experiences of individuals or groups which haven't found a place in the Regimental history or which throw a personal light on the official record. With the "Dukes" or among "foreigners"; grave, gay, brave or—well, you know; anything will go, so long as the protagonist is a "Duke." Do we now approach the Post Office or does the hoarse laughter still win?

We made a few people happy by mistakes in the April number. In fairness to our printers, it must

be said that none was technically a misprint. Two, both due to our misreading the contributor's handwriting, should, in the interests of accuracy, be corrected: the initials of Colonel Tidmarsh who commanded the 1st Battalion were F. J.; more serious, the Borough which in June did the Regiment signal honour is, as most people know, Spenborough, not Shenborough. For this mistake we can only apologise.

One spelling mistake glared and, since it occurred in our editorial, we can blame no-one but ourselves. We wrote, "The Depot has held the breach." We have convinced ourselves that we had become confused through recently reading two anecdotes of the Great Duke which appeared in early numbers of the magazine. In the first, espying a particularly active gunner at the siege of Badajos and learning that his name was Taylor, the Duke, exclaimed: "Cheer up, lads . . . our Taylor will soon make us a pair of breaches!"

The second anecdote recounts how C. J. Loudon, a well-known landscape gardener, wrote to the Duke for permission to visit Stratfieldsaye to inspect the famous Waterloo beeches, planted as a memorial of the battle. Mr. Loudon's handwriting was, apparently, like that of some of our correspondents, with the result that the Duke addressed a reply to the Bishop of London as follows: ". . . My servant will receive orders to show you as many pairs of breeches of mine as you wish, but why you should wish to inspect those I wore at the battle of Waterloo is beyond the comprehension of yours most truly, WELLINGTON."

The Bishop of London (Blomfield) was naturally astonished to receive this communication, and showed it to the Archbishop of Canterbury and the whole Bench of Bishops. They came to the melancholy conclusion that the great Duke's sanity was gravely to be doubted.

It is, perhaps, less important that our sanity should be above suspicion. We would be grateful, nevertheless, if correspondents sending items in manuscript would write names in block letters.

To save space we have reverted, in this number, to the former practice of the magazine and have generally omitted the initials, except where this might cause confusion, and decorations of members of the Regiment. We hope that this will not cause offence. They will always be included in lists likely to be required for reference.

We have also had to omit from this number the Regimental page listing units and their commanders. It will normally appear in future but may vary slightly in form and content.

We hope that the next number will appear not long after its due date, October 25. It will, we fear, have to be a thin number to compensate for this one which is going to cost so much—40 pages and, as book advertisements say, lavishly illustrated—that it will probably get us the sack.

After piecing this lot together we can't say that we would mind very much if it did.

REGIMENTAL NEWS

The Colonel of the Regiment, Major-General K. G. Exham, arrived back in England in June. His present address is: 46 Beaufort Gardens, London, S.W.3. (Telephone: KEN 2285.)

The April number reported that the 1st Battalion was to move, later in the year, to Warley Barracks, Brentwood, Essex. Before the issue was published this destination had been changed to Tidworth. We heard this too late to insert a notification of the change—fortunately, as it turns out, since the destination has been changed again and is, at the moment of writing, once more Brentwood.

The Battalion's stay there may, however, not be long as a move, early in 1960, to modern barracks in Colchester is forecast.

Brigadier Webb-Carter, in his speech at the annual Regimental dinner, said that the last time the Regiment was in Warley, was in October, 1795, when the 33rd were billeted in seven pubs in that neighbourhood on returning from the disastrous campaign in the Low Countries. Their C.O., Lt.-Colonel Arthur Wellesley, who had left Holland in disgust earlier in the year and had been trying to find a civilian job, rejoined the Regiment in Warley.

An account of the Trooping the Colour in Belfast on June 5 appears in the 1st Battalion notes. Subsequently the Colonel of the Regiment received the following letter from the G.O.C., Northern Ireland, Lt.-General Sir Douglas Packard, K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O.:

Headquarters,
Northern Ireland District,
Lisburn, Co. Antrim.

June 10, 1959.

My dear Ken,

I must write to tell you what a splendid show your Regiment put up last week when they Trooped the Colour. It was the greatest pity that you were not able to get back to see it. You would have been proud of them, as all of us were who saw it.

The whole parade was carried out with the utmost precision and complete confidence by all concerned. Pip Moran gave them an extremely good lead in everything he did and never put a foot wrong. Everyone has acclaimed it as one of the finest parades of its sort that they have ever seen.

Many congratulations to you all.

Perfect weather favoured the three days, June 18-20, when a series of functions in the Halifax area marked the closure of the Depot as a training centre, the centenary of the 5/7th Battalion, and the granting to the Regiment of the Freedom of Spenborough.

The Colonel of the Regiment arrived from Nigeria in time to play his part in these functions which were attended by many past and present "Dukes" and friends of the Regiment.

Accounts appear on other pages of the farewell retreat beating and cocktail party at the Depot and of the ceremonies in Spenborough. The 5/7th Battalion decided not to rush an account of their celebrations into this number which, had it not been for the strike, would already have been in proof by the time they took place. They will be fully reported in the October issue but it may be said here that the events were uniformly successful. They consisted of a Regimental ball on the 19th, and on the 20th, a parade watched on a glorious summer evening by a crowd numbering, at a guess, at least 5,000 people. After this the St. Paul's Street Drill Hall was the scene of a "get-together" for all members of the Regiment, past, present and even, possibly, future.

Although the Depot closed as a training centre on August 7, Wellesley Barracks remains the Regimental Headquarters. According to the latest information and plans, the headquarters will be located in the present Officers' Mess block and will be staffed by one R.O. II (Major J. H. Davis) and one R.O. III (Lt.-Colonel D. J. Stewart) with two clerks. Allied to the Regimental Headquarters will be the O.C.A. Headquarters with Mr. Code remaining as its secretary.

The main task of the Headquarters will be to preserve the Regiment's association with Halifax and the West Riding, and to foster regular recruiting in the area. It will also do certain administrative work in connection with Regimental clubs, funds and records.

It has been decided to accept the offer of the Bankfield Museum in Halifax to house our Regimental museum. We hope to be able to give details of the agreement in the next issue. Various suggestions, some excellent, some hardly less surprising than those mooted in O.P.'s poem, have been made for the future use of the rest of Wellesley Barracks. So far as we can discover, however, it has not yet even been decided whether the War Department will retain the barracks or hand them over to the civil authorities.

The Halifax Corporation has also accepted on long loan for exhibition in the Bankfield Museum part of the large collection of silver and curios assembled over the years by 382 Medium Regiment and its forebears the Volunteer Battalions and 4th (T.A.) Battalion.

A meeting, under the chairmanship of the Colonel of the Regiment, was held in Halifax on June 22 to study the recruiting situation and co-ordinate the activities of all concerned with it.

Representatives of the Yorkshire press attended, and among the decisions taken was one that the 1st Battalion would produce a monthly news letter

(*Regimental News is concluded on page 71*)

THE FREEDOM OF SPENBOROUGH

On June 20, 1959, the Regiment received its third civic honour in the West Riding, being granted the freedom of the Borough of Spenborough.

This privilege was conferred at Cleckheaton, on the Princess Mary Playing Fields. Owing to the reduction in regular and territorial strength of the Regiment and the location of the 1st Battalion in Ireland the contingent on parade to represent the Regiment was smaller than at the corresponding ceremonies in Halifax in 1945 and Huddersfield in 1952. The number of spectators, also, was naturally much smaller than in those two great centres. By comparison, therefore, there was a homely atmosphere about the event—and it was in no way the worse for that.

The troops on parade, under the command of Major R. H. Ince, consisted of:

The 1st Battalion Colours and the Honorary Colours of the 2nd Battalion, with a Colour party provided by the 1st Battalion.

A contingent of 80 men from the Depot.

A battery of 5.5 guns of 382 Medium Regiment R.A. (D.W.R.).

Contingents from 382 Cadet Medium Regiment

R.A. and Heckmondwyke Grammar School.

Old Comrades of all battalions.

The Band and Drums of the 1st Battalion.

The Depot contingent was drawn up in line with the Colours, cased, in the centre. The guns were on the right of the line and the contingents of cadets and old comrades were in the rear. The troops had some time to wait on parade before the ceremony began and certain officers had leisure to regret that most of the previous night had been spent in revelry at the 5/7th Battalion's Centenary Ball. But, although the sun had considerable heat, the few casualties were in the ranks of the cadets.

At 11.30 a.m. His Worship the Mayor of Spenborough (Councillor F. E. Wilde, J.P.) arrived, accompanied by the Colonel of the Regiment and a procession of aldermen and other civic dignitaries. The parade presented arms and the Mayor took the salute.

After the parade had been inspected, the Mayor gave the following address:

"My Lords, Aldermen, Councillors, Ladies and Gentlemen, Today we are met to honour the Duke of Wellington's Regiment, affectionately known to



Photo: Spenborough Guardian

The Scroll and inscribed Salver presented to the Regiment by the Borough of Spenborough.

you and to us as the 'Dukes.' It is singularly appropriate that Spensborough, Yorkshire's junior borough, should thus honour a regiment which has for so long been associated with the West Riding. The Duke of Wellington's West Riding Regiment came into existence in 1881 on the amalgamation of the old 33rd and 76th Regiments, but your county connection dates back a century earlier to 1782 when the 33rd assumed West Riding as their territorial title. Our own history at Spensborough goes back only to 1915 when the Spensborough Urban District Council came into being and we became a municipal borough as recently ago as 1955. In Spens Valley, however, such being the reputation of a great and glorious regiment, we have no hesitation in appreciating the proud but simple assertion 'I'm a Duke,' and make bold to regard the 'Dukes' as our own regiment. It is in that spirit that I welcome you all today, not least the Territorial Detachment, your Old Comrades who have laid aside their uniforms and your young cadets.

"There are two further factors which add to the significance of this occasion. First, you are shortly to lose a physical link with the West Riding when Wellesley Barracks, Halifax, which have been your Regimental Headquarters and Depot since 1881, are closed down. In its place we offer you today another link, which, intangible as it is, will, we trust, prove to be an enduring and lasting one. Secondly, as befits a Regiment named in honour of the great Duke of Wellington—the Iron Duke—Waterloo is probably the most revered of your distinguished battle honours. The 18th June is Waterloo Day. This ceremony on the 20th June and your march through our Borough will, I hope, be a fitting commemoration of the 144th anniversary of that outstanding event in British military history. We read that towards the end of that long day the French Imperial Guard advanced as steady as if on parade to be driven from the field, however, by the charge of the 33rd led by Colonel Elphinstone with his stirring call: 'Come on, my brave fellows; let us die like Britons, sword in hand, or conquer.'

"Any regiment is the product of those from the Colonel down to the most recently joined recruit who have served, or who at present serve in it. You are the worthy inheritors of a great regimental tradition. We pay tribute not only to that tradition, but also to the comradeship which is such a distinctive characteristic of your Regiment. The 'Dukes' are as well served today as they have been in the past, and we in Spensborough are proud in the knowledge that successive generations of our local manhood have served with you.

"There may be some here today who saw service with the Regiment during the South African War and to whom the Relief of Kimberley and Paardeberg are vital and living experiences as well as glorious names borne on proud battle honours. To most of us, however, mention of the 'Dukes' recalls the Great War of 1914-18 and the World War of 1939-45. During the former, when 21 battalions, recruited mainly from the West Riding, took part, the Regiment won a total of no less than 63 battle honours: Mons, Somme, Marne and Hill 60 are living memories to an older generation

of 'Dukes' who are proud to have worn your uniform. A younger generation cherish an equal pride in having done so during the World War, and we recall with gratitude and admiration the miracle of Dunkirk, the Anzio Beach-head, Wingate's Chindits and the final and successful campaign after 'D' Day, in which they took part with the 12 battalions of the Regiment which were raised on that occasion. Since the War the Regiment has served as part of the United Nations forces in Korea, and more recently in Cyprus, happily now a less troubled island. Nor do we forget the fallen of the Regiment whose names are recorded on the Rolls of Honour in your Regimental Chapel in York Minster.

"The 'Dukes,' of which you are the living embodiment, have, by valour, discipline and devotion of duty made outstanding contributions both to the defence of our realm and the preservation of our common heritage. We honour you, the inheritors of a noble tradition, confident and certain that a great Regiment will in the future, as in the past, continue to play a worthy part, by example and, if called upon so to do, by deeds, in the development of the British Commonwealth of Nations and the preservation of international peace among the nations and peoples of this world.

"I will now ask the Town Clerk to read the Deed of Grant conferring upon the Duke of Wellington's Regiment the privilege, honour and distinction of marching through the streets of the Borough of Spensborough with bayonets fixed, colours flying and bands playing."

(After the reading of the Deed, the Mayor handed the Certificate of Grant and an inscribed silver salver to the Colonel with the following words.)

"Major-General Exham—It is with pride and pleasure that I, as Mayor, on behalf of the Borough of Spensborough formally present to you, as Colonel of the Duke of Wellington's Regiment, this Deed of Grant conferring the Freedom of Entry to our Borough upon the 'Dukes.' We are happy to honour you in this way and thus pay our tribute to your heroic achievements. Will you please also accept this inscribed silver salver as a memento of the occasion. I invite the Regiment to exercise that privilege and hope that this ceremony and your march through our streets will cement an enduring relationship between the 'Dukes' and Spensborough."

The parade then fixed bayonets and, after the Colours had been uncased, the Colonel of the Regiment replied to the Mayor's address.

General Exham expressed the Regiment's thanks to the Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses of Spensborough for conferring on it the freedom of their borough, an honour in which the Regiment would take much pride and which would do much to strengthen the ties between it and the West Riding.

General Exham said that the Regiment had two very special traditions: its personal link with the Duke of Wellington and its long and close association with the West Riding of which it was the county regiment.

The Iron Duke had been both C.O. and Colonel

of the old 33rd. This close personal relationship was most clearly illustrated by the fact that the whole of the 33rd marched in the Duke's funeral procession. Not just a detachment, as was provided by all other units, but the whole regiment. It was his regiment.

The family connection had not ended with the first Duke. The Regiment's badge was the family's personal crest. The sixth Duke, killed at Salerno, served in the Regiment until he transferred to the Commandoes.

The connection with the West Riding went back for at least 180 years and many thousands of young Yorkshiremen from the families of Spensborough had served in their regiment's ranks, helped to form its traditions and won the battle honours on the Colours now on parade. "It is," General Exham emphasised, "your regiment."

The grant of the Freedom of Spensborough, which he had the honour to accept, was a sign of the close interest taken by the West Riding in its county regiment. It came at a time when the reorganisation of the infantry made it essential to strengthen such ties and ensure that historic links were not broken.

General Exham concluded that the Regiment would now salute the Borough and then exercise its privilege.

After the salute to the Borough had been given, the parade marched past the Mayor and then away

through the streets of Cleckheaton with bayonets fixed, Colours flying and bands playing.

After the parade the Mayor invited all officers of the Regiment who could be present, as well as many civilian guests, to lunch in the Spensborough Town Hall, Cleckheaton. Among the distinguished guests at the parade and lunch were Colonel Sir Alfred Mowat, B.T., D.S.O., M.C., and Colonel Sir William Fenton, M.C., J.P.

After preliminary drinks the company sat down to an excellent and deftly served lunch. There were many beautiful flowers on the tables and elsewhere; on the Mayor's instructions these were later sent to hospitals.

At the end of the meal the Mayor proposed the toast of "The Queen," and then, in a pleasantly informal speech, proposed "The Duke of Wellington's Regiment." In replying to this toast the Colonel of the Regiment stressed that although the training of our recruits was being moved away to Strensall we would maintain all our other links with the West Riding, particularly those with the T.A., O.C.A. and Cadets.

General Exham then invited all past and present "Dukes" to stand and drink to the Borough of Spensborough and its Mayor. This invitation was obeyed with alacrity.

Shortly afterwards the luncheon came to an end and, with it, a very memorable event in the Regiment's history.

REGIMENTAL NEWS *(Continued from page 68)*

which would be sent to all newspapers in the recruiting area to help them keep the Regiment in the public eye.

The first letter has already been produced and contains some interesting items. It would, presumably, be stealing the sub-editor's thunder to include them here, but the next number may be too late to inform anyone who might be interested that the Army Arts and Crafts Exhibition which is to be held in the Pillared Hall, New Buildings, Whitehall, S.W.1, from October 23 to 31, will include exhibits from the following men of the 1st Battalion who won prizes at the N.I.D. Exhibition: Bds. Hawkins and Cpl. Smith, 1st and 2nd prizes respectively for model aircraft; L/Cpl. Watts, 1st prize in the woodwork section with a full-sized canoe; Pte. Garvey, 1st prize in the wood carving section; and Pte. Selby, 3rd prize in the modern art section with an impressionist still-life.

Captain Mitchell played for the Army cricket team against both the Royal Navy and the R.A.F. Captain Hardy and Lt. J. Cumberlege have also played for full Army sides.

The 1st Battalion has, since their notes were submitted, gained more distinction in athletics. Lt. Greenway was selected to captain an Army team against Woodford Green A.C. 2 Lt. Ralph has been going from strength to strength, or should

it be from hop to jump. But the story of his records will have to wait until October.

The Regimental Dinner Club is organising a cocktail party on Friday October 30 to welcome the 1st Battalion on its return to England. It will be held in the Army and Navy Club, St. James's Square, S.W.1. The charge will be £1 per head, payable at the door.

YOUNGHUSBAND MISSION

Colonel Peter Fleming, the well-known traveller and author, is preparing an account of the Young-husband Mission to Tibet in 1903-4, and is anxious to see any unpublished matter connected with it, particularly diaries or letters.

The 2nd Battalion was at that time at Lepong, on the frontier, and it appears that a party of N.C.O.s from the Battalion accompanied the expedition; a letter in THE IRON DUKE, No. 25, of June 1933, stated that Mr. J. W. Sandall was thought to be the only member of this party still alive at that date. Should any reader have any information about this party or know of the existence of any diaries or letters written by its members, will he please inform the Editor.

(Of course if THE IRON DUKE had been appearing in those days the editor would certainly have been sent the diaries and letters from Lhasa!!!—or should it be??—Ed.)

1st BATTALION

SUB-EDITORIAL

Our days in Northern Ireland are numbered and the majority will leave it with regret for it has been a popular station despite the number of guards and duties.

The St. George's Day parade was held successfully. This was a domestic affair, with virtually no outside guests, and was followed in the evening by a very successful St. George's Day Corporals' Mess ball, the Queen's Hall in Holywood being filled to capacity for the occasion. On the parade we were happy to be presented with our roses by Mrs. Moran. Unfortunately she is, at the moment of writing, ill; all ranks wish her a speedy recovery.

(We are glad to report that Mrs. Moran has recovered and was expected back in Ireland towards the end of August.—ED.)

We were delighted to welcome the Yorkshire Brigade Colonel, Colonel M. C. K. Halford, D.S.O., O.B.E., who came over on a short visit in mid-May.

The Outward Bound Club was deservedly in the news and on television as a result of their successful crossing of the Irish Channel by canoe from near Groomsport to Portpatrick in Scotland. Major Barry Kavanagh shepherded his flock across from a trawler which was heavily laden with rations and comforts of all kinds.

The N.I.D. rifle meeting saw our partial—and we hope temporary—eclipse by the 60th Rifles. We plan to get our revenge at Bisley.

We end by congratulating 2 Lt. Ralph on breaking the English native record for the hop, step and jump (with 48 ft. 11 in.) at the White City on May 16. It is understood that a following wind may not permit the ratification of this as an official record.

TROOPING THE COLOUR

On June 4 wet weather was predicted for the next afternoon and the 5th dawned darkish but with clouds at some considerable height. Luckily there was no rain and the parade was held in dull but cool conditions—a contrast to the previous week which had been one of sunshine.

The parade was notably successful and a fitting climax to the weeks of hard work and rehearsal which had gone before. Everyone, from His Excellency the Governor downwards, could not have been more complimentary; indeed one spectator was heard to remark that his only criticism of the parade was that it set too high a standard for any succeeding regiment to live up to.

The colours trooped were the Regimental Colour of the 1st Battalion and the Honorary Regimental Colour of the 76th. It was the first occasion on which these two colours had been trooped together. The Regimental and not the Queen's Colours were trooped because the wording of the relevant instruction was found to mean that Governors of British territories overseas are entitled to have the Queen's

Colour trooped; Northern Ireland is not considered to be "overseas" in that sense so it was ruled that the Regimental Colour should be trooped.

The salute was taken by His Excellency the Governor of Northern Ireland, The Lord Wakehurst, K.C.M.G., who was accompanied on the dais by the Deputy Colonel of the Regiment, Brigadier Webb-Carter. It was very much regretted that the Colonel of the Regiment was prevented from attending the parade which we are all sure he would have felt proud to see. A special message from General Exham was read out to all ranks of the Battalion before the parade.

Our principle guests included Lady Wakehurst, the G.O.C. and Lady Packard, the Minister for Defence and Home Affairs and Mrs. Topping and Brigadier and Mrs. Street. In all, there were some 700 guests and spectators. The Press was well represented and a television film of the parade was flown to England the same evening.

We were very gratified by the number of guests who came over from England to give us their support. These included Lt.-Colonel and Mrs. Gadd, Majors Ince, Jones-Stamp and Emmett, Captains Dasent and Naughton, Mr. and Mrs. Code and ex-C.S.M. Wilson. We were delighted to see them all.

After the parade, His Excellency the Governor was photographed with the officers. Some 180 guests were entertained to drinks outside the old Officers' Mess; later the principle guests were entertained to luncheon in our present Mess.

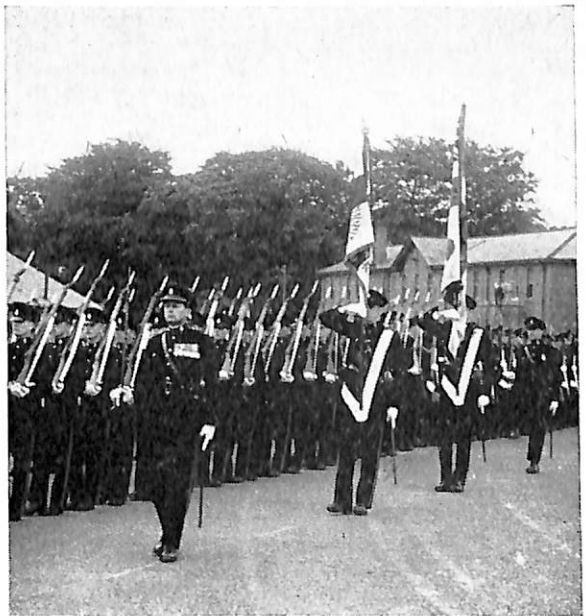


Photo: The Northern Whig

The Escort troops the Colours down the line of Guards.

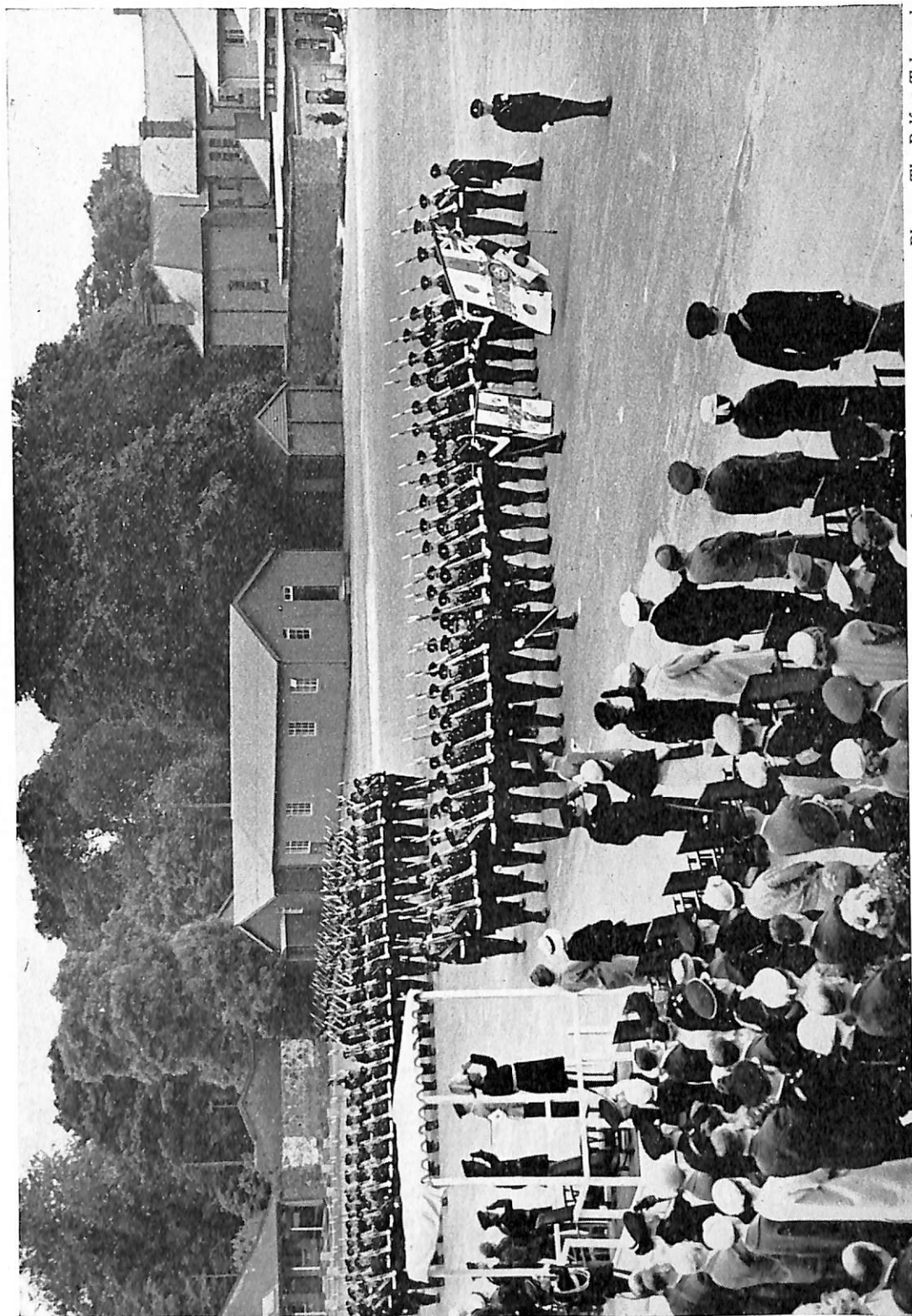
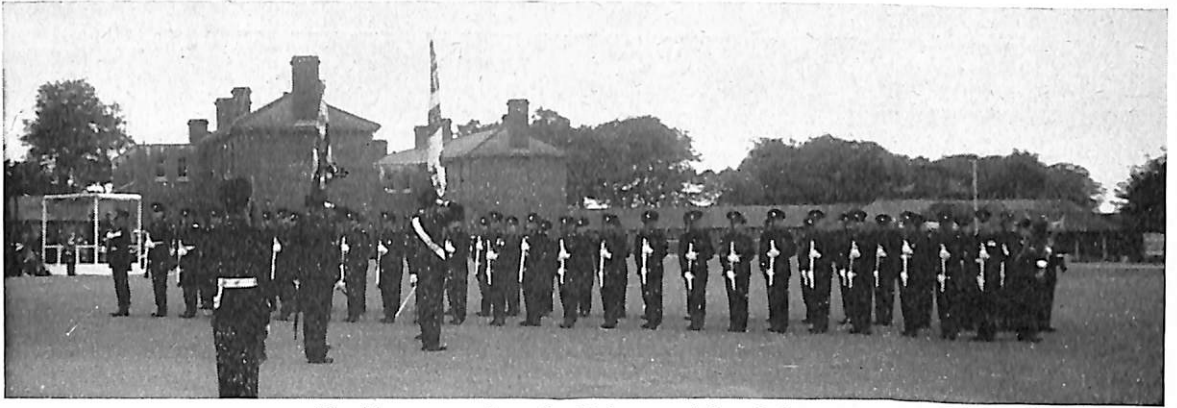


Photo: The Belfast Telegraph

TROOPING THE COLOUR, JUNE 5, 1959.

The Guards marching past H.E. The Governor in slow time. Carrying the Colours are: Regimental Colour Lt. J. A. Shenton; Honorary Regimental Colour 2/Lt. S. Arnold.



The Escort receives the Colours with a Salute

OFFICERS' MESS

The last three months have been punctuated by visits, inspections, and sundry notable entertainments.

At guest nights we have officially welcomed the Commanding Officer of the 60th, Lt.-Colonel T. H. Acton, O.B.E., and his 2IC, Major J. H. P. Curtis, M.C. More recently our new Brigadier, Brigadier V. W. Street, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., was entertained with the Colonel of the Yorkshire Brigade, Colonel Halford. We also entertained the gentlemen of the press to luncheon, and found them pleasant and attentive guests.

The administrative inspection came and went satisfactorily and was closely followed by Charles Huxtable's wedding. Peter Hoppe was best man and took the opportunity to voice his opinions on the standard of the Mess food—unorthodox but effective, as tomato sandwiches have rarely appeared since.

The evening of the rucker match against Queen's College saw a very lively party in the Mess. Irish-type drinking was introduced, and this phased into the pre-planned dance. The evening proved most entertaining.

St. George's Day brought the usual parade. In the afternoon the sergeants were soundly thrashed 6—3 at soccer, their three goals being gifts to keep them happy. At night we all attended a splendid dance given by the Corporals' Mess in the Queen's Hall, Hollywood, which had earlier been the scene of the rival lavish Paardeberg Ball given by the sergeants.

In preparation for the Trooping, drill under the R.S.M. has been organised for the officers parading. Pear-shaped majors have been avoided but the subalterns still suffer for the sins of their seniors, "Mr. . . . Sir, you're idle; bend that knee!" says Mr. Randall, when in fact it was Major . . . next door who was the offender. The R.S.M. must have a great respect for age. However, the biggest bouquet must be given to the Adjutant who turned to his right on the order "left turn."

We have welcomed to the Battalion Major J. H. M. Porter and Richard Chambers, both R.A.E.C. The former has taken over messing with

good results. Campbell-Lamerton minor (Robert) has arrived and Jim Newton has returned after being five years away (save for a short but eventful visit in Cyprus); Major Bernard Kilner is expected as we go to press and is to draw the "short straw" as Headquarter Company Commander. Major Cummins, R.A.E.C., has had to leave us because of ill health; we wish him good luck and a speedy recovery. Ian Addison has finally left for a non-military life. Good luck to him and to all readers.

WARRANT OFFICERS' AND SERGEANTS' MESS

Our annual ball in commemoration of the battle of Paardeberg was held on Friday, February 20, in the Queen's Hall at Hollywood. We were honoured in having our new Brigade Commander, Brigadier Street, as one of our many guests. We were also glad to welcome the R.S.M. and several mess members from the 2nd Greenjackets (K.R.R.C.). As usual the ball was extremely well organised for which we must again thank C.S.M. Burke and his helpers.

After the St. George's Day Parade the Mess was thrown open to members, friends and families for refreshments. During the afternoon we played the officers at football and lost 6—3. In the evening we were all invited by the Corporals' Mess to their ball, which equalled our own.

For years now, in the bar, we have heard R.S.M. Randall "telling the tale" of what a good shot he was and still is. This, while younger members listened open-mouthed, has caused the experts to grin and nudge each other. But they did not grin so much when he proved his powers by coming 6th in the Battalion rifle meeting, and took his place in the battalion team in the N.I.D. meeting. For this he must be congratulated, having done no training at all. We won the officers v. sergeants match again, and by a good margin, and the troops gave an extra loud cheer for the very red-faced officer who collected the wooden spoon. Congratulations to C.S.M. Norman on winning the Cox Medal again and also the Brigade individual championship. Old Comrades will remember his uncle, "Old Tom," doing the same thing in the 1930s.

The latest draft from Beverley was conducted by

Sgt. France and we were all very pleased to see him in our mess once again. On the subject of Beverley, we must say farewell to Sgts. Brown and Collins who are going there to train our recruits. We also congratulate you, Topper, and your wife, on the birth of Jennette Lesley.

We must soon say farewell to one of our old members, C.Q.M.S. Waite; he will be going to Nottingham on an E.R.E. job to do with M.T. Jack has been with us since Strensall days and was an M.M.G. Sergeant in Korea, later taking over the M.T. Don't forget, Jack, that the O.C.A. has reunions not far from Nottingham.

It has happened and C.Q.M.S. Tom Dickie is now a married man. All our best wishes to you and your wife, Tom. We also give our best wishes to Sgt. and Mrs. Morris on their marriage. Whilst swimming, recently, these two found themselves in the middle of a school of seals. Pity there was not a timekeeper there as we hear that Bob Chilvers broke several world swimming and running records. Paddy Collins recently won his weight, by a K.O., in the Regimental boxing and we congratulate him.

Big John Welsh went on a drum-majors' course with the Royal Marines; he came back full of knowledge and, being a very big man, makes an impressive figure in front of the Band and Drums. Quite a few members have been on courses to Hythe and Pirbright; among the most recent were C.S.M.s Kirk and Batty. The latter, having shaken up his company's drill, has now returned to his fishing rod and we are able to recognise him once again.

The Band Sergeants were the envy of all when they went off to Casablanca. They all returned with a good tan but you don't have to go abroad for that; C.S.M. Nichols got his at Ballykinlar whilst training his company team for the rifle meeting.

We have three new members to congratulate on their promotion: Sgts. Fee, Hudson, and Broomhead. Korea veterans will remember Sgt. Hudson in the Signal Platoon; Sgt. Fee stands in for the W.T. C.S.M. who shoots; Sgt. Broomhead used to be in the Band but exchanged to the 3-in. Mortar Platoon.

We have ordered a very large canteen of crested cutlery which should be delivered soon; there still remain odd pieces of crested cutlery from bygone years.

We have had two mess dinners; at one of these the guest of honour was the Commanding Officer. On May 28 we intend to hold a dinner and dance to commemorate the battle of the Hook (Korea). Perhaps this will become a tradition like Paardeberg.

CORPORAL'S MESS

The St. George's Day ball was held at Holywood, on the correct day this year. We would like to take this opportunity of thanking everyone who helped to make it the success that it was; special mention goes to C.S.M. Batty for his hard work, and to the Cook S/Sgt. and his staff for an excellent buffet.

We are building a cricket team; L/Cpl. Russell (Secretary) has pestered Holywood so much that they threatened us with their first eleven; anyway

we are to play a Holywood XI on June 23.

Cpl. Holt claimed that he was snooker champion until a learner player recently lowered his colours to the tune of 68—15; not much is seen of "Stiff" on the table these days.

At the time of writing there is quite some sweat and toil going on in rehearsals for Trooping the Colour. Cpl. Robinson (95) is a very prominent figure in No. 1 Guard. (*The Company*.)

To close these notes we congratulate Cpls. Hudson and Broomhead on their promotion to Sergeant, and to Cpl. Hudson on his very good "B" obtained at Hythe.

RUGBY NOTES

Four games only have been played since the last report and the results were: *v. R.A.F.*, won 40—3; *v. Ballymena*, won 6—3; *v. Civil Service*, won 15—3; *v. Queen's University*, lost 0—3.

In the game against the R.A.F., the XV was representing N.I.D. and, with this win after our win against the Navy in February, we successfully gained the Northern Ireland inter-service trophy.

We were beaten by Queen's University in the Ulster Senior Cup by one penalty goal to nil and Queen's have since comfortably taken the cup. On March 21, however, they were taken very close and, although Queen's just about deserved to win, the result was in doubt until the final whistle. Our side rose to the occasion; the forwards launched themselves into the attack and played until exhausted



Photo: Belfast News Letter Ltd.

**St. George's Day, 1959:
Mrs. Moran presenting the roses.**

while the tackling of our three-quarters was a joy to behold—almost worth waiting a season to see. David Hewitt kicked a long-range penalty goal for Queen's mid-way through the second half for the only score of the match. Immediately before the game we were unfortunate to lose the services of Captain Shuttleworth, Cpl. Saville and L/Cpl. Glanfield, and Cpl. Scroby was almost a non-starter but turned out in spite of suffering from a very heavy cold. It was one of the best games of the season and splendid to play in but an agony of excitement for the spectators.

Two members of our XV have now left the Army and we shall miss them both. Lt. Addison, although on release leave, stayed on for the Queen's game. His partnership with Gilbert-Smith has been a feature of our two seasons in Irish rugby and, as a character, he will be remembered by many in Northern Ireland! We hope to see him in club colours next year. Cpl. Saville has returned to civilian life and rugby league. He is a talented footballer and, although dogged by injuries this season, has always added a touch of creative class to the three-quarter line.

2 Lt. Arnold, Cpl. Scroby and L/Cpl. Davies were awarded their Army caps in the inter-service games. All are to be congratulated but particularly Cpl. Scroby who, as a rugby league player, was not allowed to play against the French Army, yet managed somehow to persuade the authorities to take him to Paris as baggage man.

CRICKET

The season has got under way: two matches have been played, and some company games. The chief snag is the quality of the pitches and the need to strike a balance with athletic training and the ever present soccer ball. We have steered soccer on to the rugger pitch (*horribile dictu*) and some cricket has been played on the hockey pitch. With its short boundaries this has produced huge and unrealistic scores in at least one game so far.

The battalion team lost Lt. Addison before the season began, and Captain Gilbert-Smith, being "Outward Bound," has been unable to play so far. Athletics loom over the heads of Lts. Greenway and Cumberlege, and Captain Shuttleworth is still out of the firing line. So, having made all the usual excuses, a brief résumé of the season so far.

On May 1 we played Campbell College away and drew by the skin of our teeth. The college made 162 for 4, declaring at 4.45 and asking us to get the runs by 6.30. This was a tall order but we had hopes that a good start would put us on terms with the clock. The author, deciding that an evening watching other people bat would be nice, placed himself at number 8 and prepared to watch. At 5.30 p.m., with the scoreboard showing the grisly figures of 32 for 6, he had to go and do some work. In the end we were 68 for 8 when stumps were drawn. Lts. Shenton and Baxter deserve praise for holding the college, after they had broken through in a manner normally reserved for Australian teams against England. The hospitality afforded to the team after the game was delightful, and we hope we can have another fixture.

A game against C.I.Y.M.S. was won. Their ground is good but small. Winning the toss we made 110 for 8; Lt. C. Cumberlege made 57 exceedingly good runs, L/Cpl. Reid's 21 being the next highest. C.I.Y.M.S. entertained us well, and a large quantity of cakes disappeared during the interval. This did not affect the fielding, which was as good as it had been bad against Campbell. L/Cpl. Russell bowled unchanged for 14 overs and deservedly took 6 wickets for 29. Taking two with successive balls, he was on to an unusual hat-trick as both batsmen were l.b.w. He did not, however, emulate H. Fisher (Yorkshire *v.* Somerset, 1932) for Sgt. Jennians refused a vociferous appeal against the newcomer. Their score of 76 all out would have been less if two other chances had been held but, as there were two good catches and one excellent one, we must not be ungrateful.

The chief worry now is to find more bowlers. There are plenty of opportunities for the ambitious but strangely very few come along to evening nets and ask for a chance.

ATHLETICS, 1959

With last year's achievements (winners of the Brigade and N.I.D. inter-unit trophies and runners-up at the Western Command meeting), to aim at and improve on, the call went out in March for all potential athletes to rally once again.

The response was disappointing but the season got under way with an enjoyable inter-company meeting on the new 440 yard track. The shield was won, not altogether surprisingly, by "H.Q." Company who had only been asked to produce one team, but "A," "B," "D" and "S" Companies were divided by only a very few points.

The selection of a Battalion team was made on the results of this meeting and training began in earnest. This was followed by matches won against Campbell College and lost against Stranmillis Training College. At neither of these were there any particularly outstanding performances. Although the general standard has been raised in comparison with last year in almost every track event, the field events have not shown the same advance.

The next few weeks hold a match against a Queen's University team, and the Brigade and N.I.D. meetings followed, we hope, by the Western Command meeting on June 18.

The following have represented the Battalion so far this season, each name has only been mentioned once but several names could be shown under two or three events.

100 yds. L/Cpl. Davies ("D"), Pte. Price ("S").
220 yds. 2 Lt. Marsay ("D"), Pte. Goddard ("S")
440 yds. Lt. Greenway ("H.Q."), Cpl. Devanney ("D").

880 yds. L/Cpl. Schofield ("H.Q."), Pte. Bulmer ("H.Q."), L/Cpl. Wood ("H.Q").

1 Mile. Pte. Lindsay ("A"), Pte. Hardisty ("D"), Pte. Marney ("D"), Pte. Firth ("A").

3 Miles. Sgt. Simpson ("A"), Pte. Robson ("H.Q."), Pte. Porter ("B"), Pte. Bridden ("S"), L/Cpl. Firth ("H.Q").

Long Jump. 2 Lt. Ralph ("B"); High Jump.

2 Lt. Cumberlege ("B"), Cpl. Reddy ("A").
Pole Vault. Cpl. Dowdall ("D"), Pte. Berry ("S"), L/Cpl. Mitchell ("A").
Discus. Cpl. Whitehouse ("H.Q."), 2 Lt. Chambers (Edn. Offr.).
Weight. Lt. Campbell-Lamerton ("H.Q.").
Javelin. 2 Lt. Arnold ("A"), Cpl. Lee ("A").
Hammer. Captain Hoppe ("B"), Cpl. Gay ("H.Q.").

LATE NEWS

The athletics team surpassed last year's performance, winning the Western Command meeting and thus reaching the finals of the Army inter-unit championships at Aldershot. *En route*, N.I.D. records were broken by the 110 yds. and 440 yds. relay teams, and by Lt. Campbell-Lamerton for both the shot and the discus.

Although being placed only fifth at Aldershot the team is to be warmly congratulated on reaching the finals for what is believed to be the first time in history. A full account of their progress to that goal will appear in the next number.

SHOOTING

As far back as October 1958 the selection of our young soldiers began. Under C.S.M. Norman three cadres, of approximately 20 each, were run from October to December. The ten best men were then put into the "Bisley Cadre" which began training in February. This training was mainly "dry" and indoors until, finally, these precious "chicks" were led out on to the open range a few days before the Battalion rifle meeting. It was with some relief that we saw their names at the top of the Battalion, beaten only by "old gladiators" who were once more straining to flex those all important pull muscles.

"H.Q." Company was split into two for the inter-company championship, "H.Q. A" being the Signal Platoon and the Q.M.'s staff, and the "H.Q. B" the remainder. Although gallantly pursued by "A" Company and "H.Q. A," "H.Q. B" team proved too formidable. Their hard core contained C.S.M. Norman, Captain Robertson, L/Cpl. Braithwaite and Pte. Tatchell; three of these were among the first four individuals, the Cox Medal for champion shot being won by C.S.M. Norman, with Captains Robertson and Wood equal runners-up and L/Cpl. Braithwaite fourth; Pte. Tatchell got the highest individual score on the S.M.G. (Captain Robertson, who coached him, came nowhere).

After the Battalion meeting the team stayed with the 60th Rifles at Ballykinlar, finalising teams and practising some of the more complicated team shoots required at the Brigade meeting and Bisley.

The Brigade meeting which started on April 27, 1959, proved excellent and produced very keen competition. We had already noted names in the K.R.R.C. team that were prominent in the A.R.A. Handbooks and we knew that the last time the 2nd Battalion, K.R.R.C. had entered the lists at Bisley in 1957 they had swept the board, winning everything except the Britannia and the Parachute Cup in which they came second. Also entered were the 15/19 Hussars, the present holders of the Royal

Cambridge Shield which is another way of saying that they are the best shooting regiment of all the cavalry and R.A.C. units in the Army. Brigade H.Q. also entered a full team as did the North Irish depots.

We started in fine style by winning the Roupell and the Whitbread Cups, both individual rifle matches. We then lost the Small Arms Cup and the Worcester Cup to the 60th and were all square again. The Roberts Cup came next—all-important as it was to be the decider in the event of a draw. Tremendous mental arithmetic went on and varying answers were produced; both Colonels could be seen striding from range to range, adding up on the way, and an expectant crowd was gathering at the "Stats" hut.

After friendly but firm argument, and a night spent checking and re-checking scores, the following points were officially and finally displayed:—

| | |
|--------------------|--------------|
| 2 K.R.R.C. | 1,004 points |
| 1 D.W.R. | 1,003 points |

It was a bad omen; we lost from then on. In the Britannia we did a magnificent first practice but in the next, with the six best shots in the Battalion, Sgt. Fenn, gazing through a pair of Mk V binoculars, failed to see the first exposure of the small snap targets at all; a flock of crows flew up from the left of the butts and one shot from the left-hand man rang out; no crow fell and we all thought that he had taken the second pressure by mistake. After what we thought were nine exposures, Major Tedd, as Chief Range Officer, gave the "unload." We protested, but in vain, and came second in the Britannia. The crow incident has taken its place in the shooting history of the Regiment, ranking beside the muscles and marmalade of earlier days. At a touching ceremony our friends, the 15/19 Hussars, presented us with a suitably attired but obviously dead crow. We dried our eyes and hung it on our tent.

Although we were beaten into second place by the K.R.R.C. in the unit championship, individually we swept the board. In the rifle, C.S.M. Norman became the champion shot in the Brigade, with Captain Robertson 3rd and Captain Wood 4th. In the L.M.G., Sgt. Fenn and Captain Robertson came first; Captain Wood won the individual S.M.G. In Class "B" we were almost as successful: Ptes. Tatchell and Lodge were equal runners-up on the rifle and we gained four out of the first six places.

The N.I.D. championship is mainly for the benefit of the T.A. and cadets of all the services, Queen's University and the R.U.C. taking part as well. Out of 48 teams we were runners-up in the falling plates. We won the section competition and came 2nd and 3rd in the company match ("A" and "H.Q." Companies in that order). Once again that magnificent cup, the Queen Victoria Trophy, eluded us and we were runners-up to the K.R.R.C. However we did manage to beat Queen's University. In the individual rifle Captain Wood came 2nd and S/Sgt. Kingdon and C.S.M. Norman equal 6th.

The team is now relaxing before the final training for the last and most important hurdle, Bisley. This year only 10 competitors may be taken by a major

unit. The final line-up consists of the six Class "A" "gladiators" and six young soldiers of whom four only will go. Our young soldiers are doing extremely well and have come through a very hard and selective training; the six remaining out of the original 60 are L/Cpl. Braithwaite, L/Cpl. Preston, Ptes. Tatchell, Lodge, Bell and Cust.

Many whom we have not been able to name helped us in the Brigade and District meetings. We owe a lot to them and to all the others who trained hard and did their best; most of them got no trophies or medals, but they did get a sounder pair of lungs and a suntan from the wind and rain.

Small bore. "H.Q." Company again won the N.I.D. small bore league for the No. 8 rifle. The winning team was C.S.M. Norman, S/Sgt. Kingdon, L/Cpl. Braithwaite and Pte. Tatchell. C.S.M. Norman also shot for the Army again this year.

LATE NEWS

At Bisley the Battalion was placed 4th in the Army Championships, 4th Training Battalion R.E.M.E. being 1st, K.R.R.C. 2nd, and Rifle Brigade 3rd.

The following reached the Army Hundred: C. S. M. Norman 17th, Captain Wood 55th, Captain Cowell 62nd, Captain Robertson 96th and Pte. Tatchell 97th.

S/Sgt. Kingdon won the Victory Cup (S.M.G.) and thus became the current Army S.M.G. Champion.

OUTWARD BOUND

The Outward Bound Club is flourishing in its many and various ways.

Perhaps the most noteworthy of all the sections is the canoeing section. To date they have built four two-man canoes and one single seater under the excellent guidance of 2 Lt. Duckney and L/Cpl. Watts. The actual builders have been Cpl. Spruce and Ptes. Nash ("D") and Joyce ("D"). Two of these home-made canoes went on the Irish Sea crossing and proved immeasurably superior to the purchased ones.



L/Cpl. Mitchell climbing on Little Bignion.

Several canoe expeditions have taken place at weekends to such rivers as the Quoile at Downpatrick, the Blackwater off Lough Neagh and to the many islands of Lough Erne. The shortest trip was on the Quoile rapids when the canoes and their occupants were deposited on the river bank within 200 yards.

Several sea expeditions took place, mostly between Holywood and Donaghadee, primarily with the view of training for the Irish Sea crossing. L/Cpl. Self ("C") will never forget his journey in the dark with half a gale blowing from Cultra to Groomsport. Perhaps it will teach him never to be "volunteered" into canoe trips again! Possibly the most exciting expedition was the night crossing over the Belfast Lough to Carrickfergus harbour for dinner; unfortunately a high wind got up and it left a lasting impression on the minds of all those who took part—none more so than 2 Lt. Charles Cumberlege! The Irish Sea certainly lived up to its reputation that night.

(We understand that another later occasion when it did so again will be reported in the next number.—Ed.)

The Irish Sea crossing is reported separately but it is with pride that we make particular mention of those members of the crews who had hardly ever been in a canoe before but who put up a very gallant show. The names which spring readily to mind are 2 Lt. Fawcett, L/Cpl. (now Corporal) Mitchell and Cpl. Johnson.

The climbing section has also been very busy. In addition to many trips to the Mourne Mountains it has "rubbed noses" with the I.R.A. in the Sperrin Mountains.

Pte. Howard (Signal Platoon) has been the leading light on these expeditions and his tiny figure, plus a red climbing cap, has been observed on many a sheer face, jauntily climbing aloft like a mountain goat. L/Cpl. Mitchell ("D") returned from the Army's Outward Bound school a really first-class climber and instructor and has been a tower of strength in assisting and encouraging beginners.

L/Cpls. Selby, Maynard and Cole, and Ptes. Burgess, Ackroyd and Lawler have been regular members and have become quite adept climbers. We are indebted to L/Cpl. Laird of the R.M.P.s, who has also been a regular member and has given invaluable assistance to the uninitiated. Others have been along on a few occasions. 2 Lt. Charles Cumberlege, having had his fill of thrills in canoes, tried his hand at climbing one weekend and promptly returned to golf.

2 Lt. Gerald Fawcett and C.S.M. Batty have taken out the fishing members on nearly all weekends. It is a toss up as to which can tell the best fishing story most convincingly. However, they have caught some excellent fish.

The dinghy building has progressed slowly but steadily under the encouragement and guidance of Major Firth, in the absence of 2 Lt. Bray. Being a man of no little influence he has managed to extract money from the R.A.E.C. on some pretext or other in order to hire a professional builder.

His namesake, L/Cpl. Firth, runs the arts and

bookbinding sections. Unfortunately the only "binding" done to date has been by L/Cpl. Firth himself as the materials are very slow in coming.

Cpl. Smith and his aero-modellers still breed their "offspring" like rabbits. They have made some really first-class models which will be entered for the N.I.D. handicrafts exhibition.

The most abused section is photography. Several dozen photographs have been taken which

results in an agitated demand by the "subject" for copies, and a very harassed Pleasants with his other members. Instruction in photography is also given to beginners and, although small, this section is well run and progressive.

Some excellent lectures, slides and films have been shown to club members from time to time. We are indebted to the "outsiders" who have helped us in this.

Orlock Point to Portpatrick by Canoe

This crossing was the outcome of some ambitious thinking on the part of Captain Gilbert-Smith and 2 Lt. Charlesworth. When it became known that the trip was being seriously considered, these two had to suffer the derision and criticism with which original and progressive thought or action is normally greeted. Most of the unfavourable comment drew no reply but the more barbed remarks brought the retort "WET!"

This challenge was too much for some and two more crews were accepted as starters; they were 2 Lt. Bray accompanied by Cpl. Spruce and 2 Lt. Duckney with L/Cpl. Watts, the pair who had probably put in most work on the building of the

canoes. These three crews were the "shock troops" (perhaps the best way to describe the executors of the "Master Plan"!)

As the day of the crossing approached it became clear that the trip was being very well planned: the effect of tides had been worked out, a seaworthy escort vessel obtained and official permission to go received. Meanwhile the originators of the "Master Plan" had spent some weekends in sea canoeing and general acclimatisation while lesser canoeists had crossed Belfast Lough once or twice for supper in Carrickfergus.

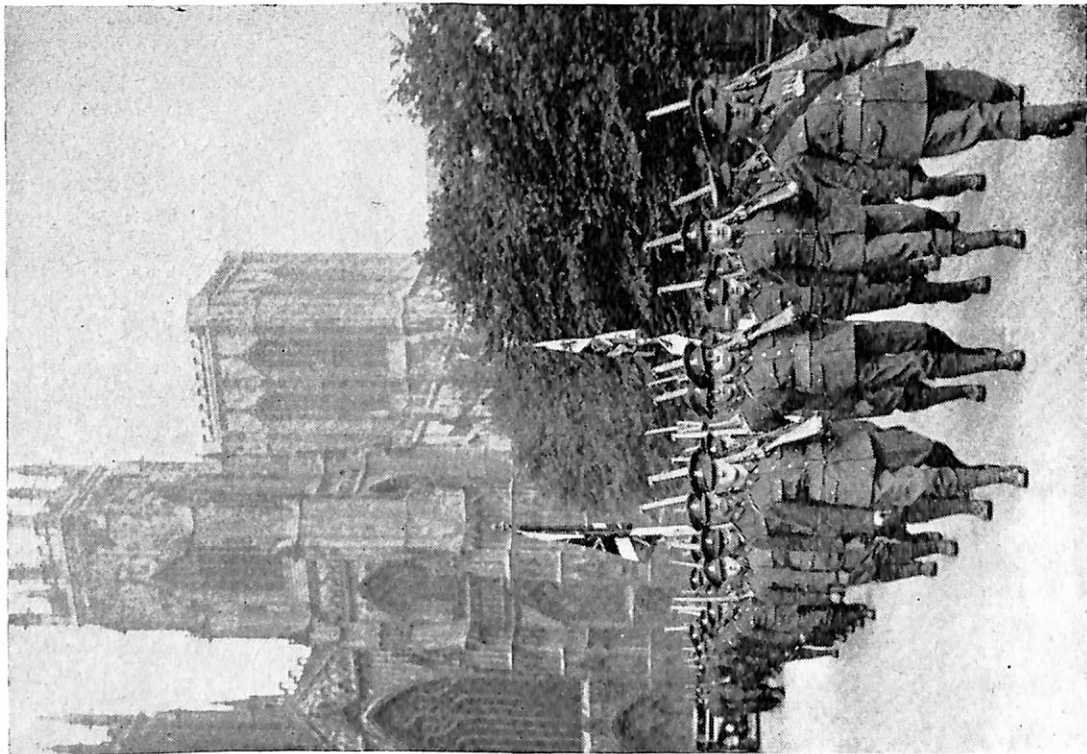
On discovering that the flimsy appearance of the canoes belied their seaworthiness and that they



Photo: Belfast News Letter Ltd.

The crews ready to start on their 22-mile trip to Scotland.

THE COLOURS OF THE 4th (T.A.) BATTALION



Presentation, May 16, 1927.

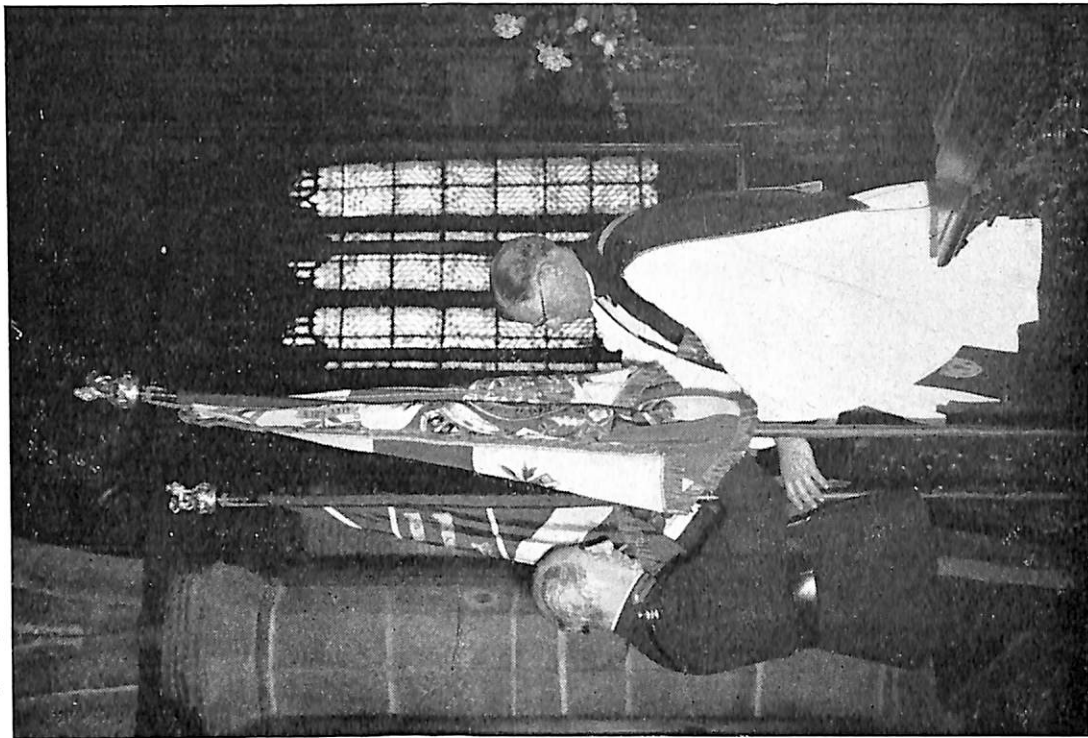


Photo: Halifax Courier & Guardian
Retirement, April 26, 1959.

were comparatively stable, even in a heavy swell, and seeing, moreover, that the donkey work of planning and organisation had already been carried out, two further crews asked at short notice to join the party; they were accepted and consisted of 2 Lt. C. R. Cumberlege with Lt. Greenway in one canoe and Cpl. Johnson with L/Cpl. Mitchell in another. Then it was announced that the Press were interested and that there would be cameras present; upon this Lt. J. A. Shenton grabbed a paddle and tried to join. When asked who was to be his partner he nominated 2 Lt. Fawcett who, ignorant of this honour, was shooting at Ballykinlar. This crew was accepted as a variety turn but subsequently did extremely well.

Sunday the 19th dawned rainless and comparatively calm and the crews of slightly nervous "Dukes" were seen off from Orlock Point by the Commanding Officer, 2IC, Major Tedd, Captain Robertson and a cameraman or two at about 9 a.m.

There is little to report on the crossing itself. It was generally agreed by the crews that it was extremely strenuous, the cold and wet and lack of solid food taxing the strength of every man. The Scottish coast never seemed to come any closer and a certain lighthouse appeared to be deliberately following us. After approximately seven hours

canoeing, 2 Lts. Cumberlege and Fawcett and L/Cpl. Mitchell had to be relieved by Pte. Howard, and 2 Lts. Chambers and Arnold. The Scottish coast had been visible for some time but not until after 8 hrs. 56 mins. did it at last come genuinely within reach. Then it could be seen that a number of people had collected on the rocks round the harbour mouth and when we entered the harbour, we found that yet more had collected on the harbour walls. In all there were approximately 200 spectators.

Fifteen cold, wet and very weary but secretly satisfied men stepped rather shakily ashore accompanied by an assorted collection of determined supporters who had survived an equally chilly, and considerably less stable, sea trip under the watchful eye of Major Kavanagh, who had been a solidly reassuring figure to canoeists beginning to discover the weaknesses of the human frame.

The return journey, in the escort vessel, took over two hours, but heavy sleep passed the time quickly for some while others discussed the trip. A very welcome hot soup and beer ration was waiting for us at Groomsport and a good meal back at camp. Midnight reverberated to some very heavy snoring and thus ended a red-letter day in the history of the Outward Bound Club.

Laying-up of 4th Battalion Colours

On Sunday, April 26, the Colours of the 4th (T.A.) Battalion were laid up in Halifax Parish Church. The ceremony was unusual in that they were laid up by a gunner unit, 382 Medium Regiment, R.A. (D.W.R.), T.A., the offspring of the 4th Battalion. The old Colours were marched into the churchyard under the present Colours of the Regiment which are represented by its guns.

The Colours being laid up were the third stand carried by the 4th Battalion. They were presented in York on May 16, 1927, by the then Colonel of the Regiment, Lt.-General Sir Herbert Belfield. A photograph opposite shows them being borne away from the Minster after presentation. They were carried on that occasion by Lt. H. L. Grylls and Lt. S. Smith.

For the ceremony of retirement the Colours were marched from the drill hall in Prescott Street to the Parish Church. On arrival the parade, commanded by Lt.-Colonel R. A. Simpson, the present C.O., was inspected by the Honorary Colonel, Colonel G. H. Aykroyd (whose family have had a long connection with the unit) and the Mayor of Halifax. The colour party consisted of Captain M. R. M. Tetlow (Queen's Colour), Captain A. G. M. Hall (Regimental Colour), B.S.M.s J. Greenwood, C. A. Fox and G. W. Farrar.

During the service the Colours were handed to Colonel H. H. Aykroyd who was C.O. of the 4th from 1929 to 1935 and who, in 1927, as senior Major, handed the King's Colour after consecration to General Belfield for presentation. Now Colonel

Aykroyd delivered the two Colours for safe keeping to the Archdeacon who later placed them in the Regimental Chapel. The Archdeacon, in the course of an excellent sermon, said that we had suffered a good deal during the last 25 years from "smart Alecks" who had thought it clever to jeer at our history and traditions; we had had enough, he continued, of people who scoffed at things which had been purchased by the blood of men and women on the battlefields of the world.

The large congregation in the church included many past and present members of the Regiment and those who had served with the 4th Battalion.

After the service the parade marched past Colonel G. H. Aykroyd and the Mayor in George Square, Halifax.

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FAREWELL FUNCTION AT THE DEPOT

Waterloo Day 1959



Drum-Major J. Welsh.

On June 18 the closure of the Depot as a training centre was marked by a ceremony on the square, at which the Band and Drums of the 1st Battalion beat retreat, followed by a cocktail party in the Officers' Mess.

It was a lovely evening and, as the guests assembled on the lawn, the thoughts of some must have gone back to earlier Waterloo Days when the traditional Depot sports day was so often attended by high winds and icy rain. As it was, conditions were nearly perfect.

The ceremony of retreat beating was carried out with great precision. To one who last saw the 1st Battalion beat retreat on the Palace Square in Valletta in 1937, the programme seemed almost too restrained and unemotional. In 1937 we would certainly, for instance, have had a cornet echo from the top of the tower. One was told firmly that theatrical tricks are out of fashion today, and

perhaps that is just as well, for the ceremony performed was, in the circumstances, moving enough.

The music played was:

March On "The Dukes are coming up the Hill"
 Fife March "Transvaal"
 Quick and Slow March
 "The Standard of St. George"
 Chord Troop "Les Huguenots"
 "Sambre et Meuse"
 Double Cross "National Emblem"
 Drums Retreat "The British Grenadiers"
 (Drums only)
 Quick March "New Colonial"
 "Drummers' Call"
 "Sunset Retreat"
 "Abide with me"

March Off "The Wellesley"

The Colonel of the Regiment took the salute.

(Continued on next page)



Drum. B. Cooper (leading) and L/Cpl. C. W. Worthington.

Among the many guests who attended were:

The Mayors and Mayoresses of Halifax (Alderman Miss Mary Pickles and Miss E. A. Oakley), Huddersfield (Alderman and Mrs. J. Louis Brook), Spensborough (Councillor and Mrs. F. E. Wilde) the Chairmen and their ladies of the Urban District Councils of Bingley (Councillor and Mrs. Penn), Mirfield (Councillor and Mrs. Sheard), Saddleworth (Councillor and Mrs. Lawton); Colonel and Mrs. J. F. Crossley, Colonel and Mrs. W. A. Hinchcliffe, Colonel G. B. Howcroft, Lt.-Colonel and Mrs. E. A. C. Keyworth, Mr. and Mrs. C. Ramsden, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Smith, Mr. and Mrs. George Stansfeld, Colonel and Mrs. J. B. Sugden.

After the parade the guests adjourned to the Officers' Mess and gradually filled it until what appeared to late-comers to be a bottle-neck in the hall was, in fact, an area of comparative calm on the fringe of hubbub. But inside, although there was hardly room to move, one seemed to have no difficulty in getting ample drink and excellent "little eats" devised by Major Emmett. A comparatively peaceful backwater was preserved in the

library, and here it was pleasant to find Mr. and Mrs. George Stansfeld, who have entertained so many generations of "Dukes" officers.

Meanwhile, outside, the Band strove valiantly to make themselves heard. At first they had little success, but they gradually attracted an audience and their efforts were appreciated by those who heard them.

Had the party needed any fillip this would have been provided by the arrival of Lt.-Colonel Moran and a number of officers of the 1st Battalion who, having been winning the Western Command athletic meeting, had been unable to reach Halifax in time to hear the beating of retreat.

A hard core composed, one understands, of some of the younger serving officers and some of the older retired officers kept the party going until Waterloo Day had long since become yesterday.

During its eighty or so years of existence the Depot Mess must have seen many parties. Should this one prove to have been the last it may, anyway, be said that few, if any, of its predecessors can have been more successful.

NOTES FROM BEVERLEY

The Temporary Home of the Regimental Depot

On February 2, Lt. J. Cumberlege, Sgt. France, and Cpls. Greenwood and Illingworth left Halifax and set out for their new station at Victoria Barracks, Beverley. Their task was to train National Service and Regular recruits for the "Duke's" alongside those of The Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire. On arrival they were met by Cpls. Hartley, Rusby and Proctor from the 1st Battalion.

On February 5, 50 National Service recruits arrived for the Regiment, and were trained in two platoons: "Alma," Sgt. France; and "Dettingen," Sgt. Hardaker (P.W.O.). The intake was badly hit by the flu bug and "genuine" injury. Pte. Lindsay when firing his recruit qualification course shot very well indeed, scoring 232 out of a possible 240. Congratulations go to Pte. Atha on passing his W.O.S.B., and to Pte. Lumley on his marriage. Ptes. Acaster, Lumley, Simpson and Robinson played for the Depot soccer XI. Fifty recruits finally passed out on April 16, the salute being taken by Colonel C. R. T. Cumberlege.

Prize Winners:

Best all-round recruit: Pte. Middleton ("Alma"); Pte. Carlton ("Dettingen").

Best rifle shot: Pte. Leslie ("Alma"); Pte. Appleyard ("Dettingen").

Best L.M.G. shot: Pte. Lumley ("Alma"); Pte. Lindsay ("Dettingen").

Best combined shot of the intake: Pte. Lindsay ("Dettingen").

On March 26, Cpl. Illingworth left the Army for civilian life; we wish him all the best for the future.

Late in March, Sgt. Delaney, with Cpls. Barnett, Kelly, Young, Simons and Hamilton, arrived from the 1st Battalion to strengthen our training staff. On April 2, 120 National Service and Regular recruits for the "Dukes," P.W.O and The York and Lancaster Regiment arrived to start their training. Sgt. Delaney formed "Inkerman" Platoon for 38 "Dukes."

The Depot has entered for the Hull Thursday Cricket League. The record to date is quite good: 6 won, and 1 lost. Lt. Cumberlege, Sgt. France, Cpl. Hartley and Pte. Sweeting play regularly, with Ptes. Smith (001), Shirbon, and Cpl. Greenwood playing the odd game.

On May 1, Major D. M. Maude (P.W.O.), took over command of the Depot at Beverley from Major J. H. Tardrew, M.B.E.

Arthur Sunley

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5/7th BATTALION, T.A.

SUB-EDITORIAL

The last notes saw us in the T.A. slack period, when units are gathering their wits and strength for the pending season of frenzied activity which culminates in the annual camp, but when nothing of real note ever happens. These notes, however, find the pace of training and social activity speeding up by leaps and bounds from week to week.

A fitting preface to a period of great expansion was the establishment of a new company, "C" Company, in the Thongsbridge area, with its H.Q. in the local drill hall. Command of the new company was given to Major Barnes and a nucleus of trained soldiers was transferred from "D" and "H.Q." Companies to start it going. The company has started to flourish and recruits are coming in in quite satisfactory numbers.

Since the start of the recruiting drive mentioned in the last IRON DUKE we have had 27 recruits "finally approved" by records and have another 40 going through the documentation mill. This reflects great credit on all ranks of the unit as many of these men have been brought in as a result of constant urging by P.S.I.s to their men to bring along their friends. Another fruitful source of recruits has been the advertisements on the buses. If this rate of enlistment is maintained we should be able to go to camp this year 200 strong and thus look and operate something like a normal unit for the first time since the amalgamation.

Preparations for the centenary celebrations are going ahead at a furious rate now. They will be over by the time these notes appear and will be fully described in the next issue. The programme is:

Friday, June 19—Officers' Centenary Ball in Huddersfield.

Saturday, June 20—Beating of the Retreat in Greenhead Park by the combined Bands and Drums of the 1st and 5/7th Battalions and an inspection of a representative detachment of the unit by the Colonel of the Regiment.

This is followed by a Regimental Rally in the Drill Hall for all men who have ever had any connections with the Regiment whatever.

Saturday, June 27—Regimental Dance at St. Paul's Street.

We are very pleased to welcome C.S.M. Erswell, newly arrived from the 1st Battalion to replace C.S.M. Clark who is due to finish his tour with the Battalion shortly. We hope that he and his family will be happy with us and will soon settle down to life with the T.A.

We were very pleased to see Lt.-Colonel Moran and the Bandmaster of the 1st Battalion when they came over to discuss centenary arrangements.

Colonel Moran is, of course, an old friend of this unit, having once been training officer of the 7th Battalion. Two other old friends to drop in were Major "Topper" Brown, a former adjutant of the 7th Battalion, and Major Lewis Kershaw, a former training officer.

As a result of experience gained in our recruiting drive, and with a view to our large public commitments in regard to the centenary, it has been decided to appoint a permanent unit publicity officer. The first holder of this most important post is Captain Crowther.

Lt. Lee has assumed the appointment of unit sports officer.

OFFICERS' MESS

On first reflection there appeared to have been no notable activities in or concerning the Mess since the last notes were written, but prodding and memory jogging by various members make the subject more healthy.

As forecast, our February beer-wine-bread and cheese party proved as popular as the first one. A greater influx of our younger and more vigorous officers with their lady friends made the rock-'n-roll dancing really hum. Again the food proved the major attraction and thanks are once more due to Major Brian Webster and Captain Bob Hawkins for their excellent organisation.

The Army Forms AB 199 of Major Jimmy Moncrieff and Captain Hawkins have had to be amended recently due to the arrival in their families of a son and a daughter respectively. Now their conversation is interspersed with hints on baby handling along with, in Jimmy's case, advice on Battalion training and in Bob's, details of R.T. frequencies.

Sad was the tale of Lt. John Lee who forgot to look in his driving mirror when speeding—correction: travelling—along Leeds Road late one night. His recounting of the plebeian life of bus journeys proves that his education was sadly neglected prior to the temporary loss of a car.

We have recently welcomed to the Mess Lt. Eric Mather (on transfer from 436 L.A.A. Regiment R.A. (T.A.)) who happens to hold a judicial appointment as Prosecutor at Huddersfield County Borough Court. (So far he and John Lee have not met but one hopes that the unavoidable event will not cause enmity through mutual recognition.)

The approaching centenary celebrations have certainly made the use of the Mess very hectic occasioning as they have the formation of many sub-committees of the main committee headed by our Hon. Colonel, Colonel Gilbert Howcroft.

The Chairmen are as follows:—

Waterloo Ball: Major Johnny Bearder
Regimental Dance: Major Stanley Heaton
Retreat Beating: Major Jimmy Moncrieff
Regimental Rally: Major Jimmy Young

Our Intelligence Officer, Lt. Charles Curry is shortly to be married and all members of the Mess

wish the happy couple a contented and blissful future. The bachelor complement of the Mess is rapidly diminishing and now musters a mere five heads: Bill Duckney, Chris Taylor, John Lee, Gerald Naylor and Eric Mather.

Our new Brigadier Major, Major Geoffrey Errington of the King's Regiment, recently paid an official visit to St. Paul's Street and was much impressed by the activities and attendance on drill nights. As with his predecessor, we find our new B.M. very amenable and T.A. minded.

Unfortunately the visit by Major Topper Brown to Battalion H.Q. took place on an evening when many of us were busy elsewhere; many officers who tangled with him as our Adjutant would have been only too pleased to entertain him again.

As one who participated, our Adjutant, Captain Nick Naughton, insists that mention should be made in these notes of the hard living suffered on training recently by so many of our officers, to wit: Major Jimmy Young and Captain Pat Haws on an all-night Divisional M.T. rally; Lts. John Lee, Jimmy Mallalieu and Alan Carter on the Brigade tactical weekend (the Adjutant a hardworking umpire!) and others on a practice weekend for the aforementioned at some remote inn on the moors when Brian Webster kept the bar open until a little while before dawn and was joined at some revolting hour of the morning by "cock-a-doodle-doo" John Lee! (The fact that the 2IC was present was purely to ensure orderliness.) A stormy night on Deer Hill rather damped, in more ways than one, the ardours of Eric Woodhouse and Captain Henry Crowther.

The following weekend these hazards—and anyone who knows Deer Hill will appreciate that term—were braved again by Eric Woodhouse with Brian Webster and Nick Naughton as company. Shuddering at the thought of those occasions and thinking ahead to the better weather to come for future activities seems the brightest note on which to close.

TRAINING

Most of our members are saying that this is one of the busiest periods they can remember in ten years. Certainly we have got through a tremendous amount of training, at the same time carrying on with all the conferences, rehearsals and various preparations needed for our centenary celebrations.

These latter have involved most of the officers and all the men of the unit. drill on Thursday evenings, Colour Party rehearsals, sword drill and, starting on Sunday, major rehearsals with the Band and Drums at Greenhead Park.

Amongst other interesting items of training the M.T. Cadre is worth mentioning. Sixteen volunteers have been selected from a large number of applicants for training as drivers. The course runs on Monday evenings under the leadership of Major Young, assisted by Lt. Bob Callaby the M.T.O. The instructors are T.A. and we are hoping that the trainees will all be ready for driving duties by the time we move to camp. Another driving cadre is being run by the M.T.O. on Wednesdays for our P.S.I.s. This is a great spectacle and provides light entertainment for the hard worked members of

the office staff. Sgt. Spring had to be convinced the hard way that a gear lever will not go straight from first into reverse—however urgent it may be that the vehicle goes backward in order to prevent imminent disaster! The adjutant's car is the biggest hazard, so it seems.

We entered a team under Captain Haws for the Div. M.T. rally. This is believed to be the first time we have entered a team and the result, 12th out of 17, was satisfactory in the circumstances. But for one extraordinary piece of bad luck we might have come several places higher.

That same weekend we sent our small-bore team under Major Heaton to the West Riding T.A. small-bore competitions at Knostrop Range, Leeds. Again, the results were only average, but very useful experience was gained and the inclusion of a large number of "individuals" has served to stimulate interest in shooting in the unit. R.Q.M.S. Machen once again proved himself to be the best small-bore shot in the Battalion.

During this quarter, too, weekend training periods have been run out at Deer Hill and beyond Hebden Bridge for the teams entering the Brigade tactical competition. These have been most successful and enjoyable. Organised by Major Moncrieff and administered by the Q.M. these weekends have enabled us to cover many aspects of training, especially fire and movement, ambushes, compass marching and map reading. Whilst the trained men have been out exercising, cadres have been run for recruits under company arrangements in the drill halls. These, too, have proved most valuable, especially in view of the number of recruits enlisting now who either served in other arms or who have never served at all.

The Brigade tactical competition, held at Leek on May 23 and 24, in ideal weather and admirably organised by the B.M. and his assistants, was most interesting.

The results were:

| | |
|----------------------------------|----------------|
| Highest average of points scored | 5/7th D. W. R. |
| Highest average on placings | Hallams. |
| Best single team | 4th K.O.Y.L.I. |

Everyone agreed that a fairer result could not have been achieved. Our three teams, led by Lts. Carter, Lee and Mallalieu, not only enjoyed the competition but gained a lot of valuable experience. They worked nearly the whole time against a "live" enemy armed with rifle and L.M.G.s firing bulleted blank. They operated both by night and day, met agents, were ambushed, layed ambushes, lowered wounded men out of top floor windows and finished up by having a surprise "quickie"—stripping a Bren Gun—in which Lt. Carter's team gained 96 per cent.

From May 6 to 10 certain ranks of the Battalion under the C.O. were down in Devon carrying out a reconnaissance of Plasterdown Camp, nr. Tavistock, where the unit will be stationed for its annual camp from July 18 to 31. It is a hutted camp with wonderful training areas and range facilities on the doorstep and lying only a few miles from Plymouth. It could be one of the best camps ever and, from the way the 2IC and the Training Officer have got their teeth into the preparations, it most likely will be.

One interesting aspect of this recce was the move to and from Dartmoor of the C.O., 2IC and Training Officer by air. They gained a lot of time and prestige by this novel method of transport but lost large quantities of both later on when carrying out tours of Dartmoor in the Adjutant's car. Those who weren't overcome by fumes got palpitations from pushing.

Sport has been rather neglected this quarter. However, we did enter a team under Lt. Lee and O.R.Q.M.S. Wood in the Div. Six-a-side Hockey Competition on April 19. We took fourth place but had the satisfaction of having the least number of goals scored against us of any team. On the journey back the team displayed the true "Dukes" spirit of co-operation by tucking into a good meal at a cafe—and then helping to wash up the dirty pots afterwards!

Sgt. Pollard competed in the T.A. central cross-country championships at Lichfield in March. He was not placed but the important thing is that, through him, the Battalion was represented in this competition for the first time.

SERGEANTS' MESS NOTES

We start on a happy note to report that C/Sgt. Thorpe, having tottered on the brink for so long, finally decided that another 12 months could be managed and has "signed on." We congratulate him on his promotion to C.S.M. We also offer a

welcome to C.S.M. Erswell who, as noted in the sub-editorial, is here to relieve C.S.M. Clark. Good-bye "Nobby," see you again. Good-byes must also be said to C.S.M. Woodcock, C/Sgt. Walker and C/Sgt. Thackra; the first two named we still see daily carrying out their duties (in a civilian capacity).

Two social evenings have been held in the Sergeants' Mess and were thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended them. It is regretted that owing to the scattered layout of our members' homes so many are deprived of the enjoyment that attendance at these affairs can bring.

Sergeants' Mess members in the three successful teams for the Brigade tactical competition (see Training notes) were Sgts. Carey, Booth, and Pollard with Sgt. Laherty in reserve. They were ably administered by R.Q.M.S. Machen and Sgts. Wallace, Sach and Ewart.

The surprise visit paid by Lt.-Col. Moran who interviewed all P.S.I.s was appreciated by all Sergeants' Mess members concerned.

As usual at this time of the year the annual camp looms large on the horizon. A preliminary report by the R.S.M., who sojourned for five days in the wilds of Dartmoor, is most encouraging.

We must close these notes in a different vein. All we of the Sergeants' Mess offer to Sgt. Robinson our deepest sympathy in his recent sad bereavement.

From the London Gazette

CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD

St. James's Palace
28th April 1959

The Queen has been graciously pleased to give orders for the following appointment to the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, in recognition of distinguished service in Malaya for the period 1st July to 31st December 1958.

To be an Additional Member of the Military Division of the said Most Excellent Order:

Major Anthony Charles Sutherland Savory, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment (West Riding).
(Now R.A.R.O.)

WAR OFFICE

REGULAR ARMY

Brig. C. W. B. Orr, O.B.E., late Inf., retires on retired pay 13th Apr. 1959.

Col. F. R. St. P. Bunbury, C.B.E., D.S.O., to be Brig., 5th Apr. 1959.

The Queen has been graciously pleased to confer the award of the 1st Clasp to the Territorial Efficiency Decoration upon Maj. D. R. Siddall, T.D.

The Queen has been graciously pleased to approve that the following, seconded to the Malayan Federation Forces, be mentioned in recognition of gallant and distinguished conduct in Malaya for the period ending 31st Dec. 1958: Brig. (temp.) G. F. Upjohn, O.B.E.; Maj. S. G. Dunn.

REGULAR ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS

Brig. B. W. Webb-Carter, D.S.O., O.B.E., having attained the age limit of liability to recall, ceases to belong to the Res. of Offrs., 31st July 1959.

COMMANDS AND STAFF

Maj.-Gen. R. H. N. C. Bray, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., late Inf., is appointed Commander, Land Forces, Arabian Peninsula, 1st May 1959.

Maj.-Gen. K. G. Exham, C.B., D.S.O., late Inf., relinquishes his appointment as General Officer Commanding Nigerian Military Forces, 13th June 1959.

INFANTRY D.W.R.

REGULAR ARMY

Maj. R. E. Austin, M.C., retires on retired pay, 25th Apr. 1959.

Maj. J. H. Davis retires on retired pay, 18th July 1959.

Lt. J. E. Pell to be Capt., 31st July 1959.

To be Lt., 2nd Aug. 1959: 2nd Lt. M. R. N. Bray, 2nd Lt. D. Marsay.

Short Serv. Commn.

Cadet Robin Charles Everard to be 2nd Lt., 16th May 1959.

NATIONAL SERVICE LIST

Cadet John Percival Burleigh Golding to be 2nd Lt., 16th May 1959.

REGULAR ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS

Short Serv. Commn.

Capt. P. Woodcock from Active List to be Capt., 27th Apr. 1959, retaining his present seniority.

Class III

The following from T.A., Nat. Serv. List to be Lts., retaining present seniority: Lt. B. M. Jantet, 20th Feb 1959; Lt. J. G. Raybould, 17th Mar. 1959

Short Serv. Commn.

Maj. (Qr.Mr.) William MacGregor, M.B.E. (Emp. List 4) from Active List to be Maj. (Qr.Mr.) 1st Apr., retaining his present seniority.

ARMY EMERGENCY RESERVE OF OFFICERS

NATIONAL SERVICE LIST

2nd Lt. E. M. E. Garner to be Lt., 7th May 1959.
Lt. I. A. Addison from Reg. Army, Nat. Serv. List to be Lt., 12th Apr. 1959, with seniority 21st Sept. 1958.

TERRITORIAL ARMY

Lt. E. T. Mather from T.A. Nat. Serv. List, R.A., to be Lt., 25th May 1959, with seniority 22nd Mar. 1959.

Capt. (Actg. Maj.) B. N. Webster, T.D., to be Maj., 18th July 1959, with seniority 16th Feb. 1959.

Lt. R. J. G. Sharp from T.A., Nat. Serv. List, to be Lt., 22nd June 1959, with seniority 25th Dec. 1958.

PERSONALIA

Even before our last number was published our information that General Bray had been designated as the next Chief of Staff, Southern Command was out of date. As shown in "From the Gazette" he was appointed Commander, Land Forces, Arabian Peninsula with effect from May 1. As he is already in Aden we feel that this time we are disseminating reliable intelligence. Announcing his appointment, *The Times* of April 16 commented that the command structure of British Forces, Arabian Peninsula was being upgraded. Whereas, hitherto, the commander had been an air vice-marshal, with an air commodore as deputy air commander and a brigadier as deputy land commander, in future the commander was to be an air marshal (or its equivalent in the other services) and the air and land commanders (the title of deputy being dropped) were to be an air vice-marshal and a major-general. "The upgrading of the command structure," added *The Times'* Defence Correspondent, "reflects the growing importance of the Arabian Peninsula and the western half of the Indian Ocean generally."

Mrs. Bray tells us that her husband, whom she plans to join in Aden after the summer holidays, has encountered Lt.-Colonel Fallon who, we gather, is well on the way to becoming another Lawrence of Arabia.

The engagement is announced between Jeremy Richard Parbury Cumberlege, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, eldest son of Colonel and Mrs. C. R. T. Cumberlege of Dalby Rectory, Terrington, Yorkshire, and Elizabeth Anne, elder daughter of Brigadier and Mrs. A. G. P. Leahy, of the Meads, Ripon, Yorkshire. We think Mr. Cumberlege must be the first officer to get engaged whose birth was recorded in THE IRON DUKE.

After the laying-up of the 4th Battalion's Colours on April 26, a presentation was made in the Prescott Street Drill Hall by the Honorary Colonel of 382 Medium Regiment, Colonel G. H. Aykroyd, on behalf of the W.O.s and sergeants of the Regi-

ment, to B.S.M. G. W. Farrar to mark his retirement after 35 years' service with the T.A.

The marriage took place on April 4, 1959, at the Royal Garrison Church of All Saints, Aldershot, of Hugh St. George Carey, younger son of Colonel and Mrs. St. George Carey, Rose Court, Pluckley, Kent, and Jill, younger twin daughter of Brigadier and Mrs. C. W. G. Grimley, Linden Lodge, Farnborough.

The following members of the Regiment attended the wedding: Lt.-Colonel and Mrs. Cox, Brigadier Fraser, Lt.-Colonel and Mrs. Chatterton, Colonel and Mrs. Armitage, Captain and Mrs. Mitchell.

We congratulate Colonel Howcroft, Honorary Colonel of the 5/7th Battalion, on the award of the C.B.E. in the Birthday Honours.

Captain Charles Richard Huxtable was married on March 31 at Holywood Parish Church to Margaret Mary, daughter of the late Brigadier J. H. C. Lawlor, and of Mrs. Lawlor of Holywood, County Down. We deduce from the 1st Battalion notes that the reception was held in the Mess at Palace Barracks.

Major R. H. Ince is going to Nigeria in August to be G.S.O.2, Southern Sub-District.

We learn from Mr. Code that Major W. L. ("Larry") James was awarded an M.B.E. in the New Year's Honours' List for services to the Cadet Forces. He received his award from the Queen at an investiture earlier this year. We, as will our contemporaries, remember Major James as Signal Sergeant in India. He is now Staff Officer to the East Lancashire Cadet Force Association—a post which he has held for some years. Mr. Code adds that Larry James is very popular amongst Old Comrades and that his decoration will be hailed with delight by them. We would like to add our own congratulations.

We have received news of the Reverend D. I. Strangeways—better known to most readers as Colonel David Strangeways—who is now at Leeson-Solent, his address there being: 38, Marine Parade East. (Tel. 79966). He writes: "I started training for the Ministry at the end of March last year and was made a deacon on March 15 of this year. I am now the assistant curate here (what in ordinary terms is called the curate but, to be accurate, the Vicar is that)."

We had asked him for an article and he replies: "I will try to produce something but in my new task I heartily agree with Napoleon in saying. ask of me anything but time. It's all day—up at 6 a.m.—until bed." He concludes: "Eleanor is well—working like a black. The young grow up; Michael—17½ now and 6 ft.—is at Bedford."

Mr. Code, who is indefatigable in his work for the O.C.A., took the opportunity of a trip to the London O.C.A. dinner to visit "Dukes" in hospital in the London area; he gives the following news of them:

Mr. Jack Wood recently underwent a serious operation in St. Thomas' Hospital. He is recovering and expects to be out of hospital shortly. Anyone wishing to contact him should do so at his home address, 14 Binfield Road, Clapham, S.W.4. Mr. Wood is a prominent member of the London Branch of the O.C.A. and is "Permanent Visitor" to our Royal Hospital in-pensioners.

Mr. W. Pentlow, who is an in-pensioner of the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, joined the Duke's in 1896 and served in South Africa and Burma. He is now 80 years of age and, except for an infirmity of the legs, is hale and hearty. He would always be pleased to see any member of the Regiment who has a little time to spare for a chat.

Mr. J. R. Willcocks, who is at present in the Royal Pensioners' Hospital at Leatherhead, recovering from a serious illness, joined the Regiment in 1907 and served until 1929. During the late war he served as Lieutenant (Q.M.) with the Royal Pioneer Corps. Mr. Willcocks would much appreciate a visit from any of his contemporaries or any member of the Regiment living near Leatherhead. He can be visited at any time.

Mr. Code ends his letter by saying: "One gathers what a boon THE IRON DUKE is to our temporarily less active members; the Chelsea Pensioners, in particular, look forward to their issue with great interest. Both Mr. Pentlow and Mr. Willcocks spoke in glowing terms of life in the Royal Hospital. I arrange for them to be visited and go and see them, myself, as often as possible but visits from 'unofficial visitors' would be very welcome."

Mr. Code also visited Lt.-Colonel Trevor Bentley who was in the King Edward VIIth Hospital. Lt.-Colonel Bentley has been attacked by arthritis in both hips and had undergone a serious operation. The editor, who also visited him, found him, though still immobile, hopeful for the future.

Meanwhile he was in remarkably good heart and had the hospital staff well under control.

NOT CORK, YORK

In the April issue we republished from an early number of THE IRON DUKE a short extract from the digest of service of the 76th, that in 1878, in consequence of the probability of war with Russia, the regiment was reinforced by 160 men of the North Tipperary Militia and 153 men of the 6th West Cork Militia.

We have since discovered that, in a later issue, Mr. A. Westbrook, who had been Band-Sergeant at the time, pointed out that "West Cork" should have read "West York." He wrote: "I do not suppose that anyone serving at that time will ever forget it. It was quite a mistake to put the Tipperarys and the Yorks together; they could never agree and were continually upsetting the Regiment by fighting. It was by far the worst time we had in the Regiment and I think everyone was glad when the Band played them back to their homes.

We had at that time a Sgt.-Major Hunt. I must say he was a wonder; he used to go amongst them and I never remember him getting hurt though there were always some of them taken to hospital after their scraps which usually took place on pay nights."

ANGLO-KOREAN SOCIETY

From the Colonel of the Regiment

Sir,—I have received a letter from Bishop Cecil Cooper, C.B.E., in his capacity as Joint Hon. President of the Anglo-Korean Society.

This Society was started three years ago as a link between the two countries. Since then Korean students in England have been entertained by the Society, it supports two Anglican orphanages in Korea and prominent Koreans are entertained when they visit Great Britain.

Bishop Cooper suggested to me that the Regiment might become a corporate member of his Society, but I felt that our ties with Korea are no longer strong enough for this. I have, however, told the Bishop that I would bring the objects of the Society to the notice of readers of THE IRON DUKE so that anyone interested may approach the Society as an individual.

The Society's address is: Anglo-Korean Society, St. Bernard, Burwash, Sussex.

Yours sincerely,

K. G. EXHAM.

Lagos.

April 28, 1959.

STAFF COLLEGE CLUB

The Committee of the Staff College Club wish to draw the attention of all serving or retired officers who qualified on war staff courses to the fact that they are eligible to belong to the club.

The annual subscription is 5s. and full particulars can be obtained from the Secretary at the Staff College, Camberley, Surrey.

THE DEPOT STORY

In 1873 the War Office adopted a plan whereby regiments were to be brigaded and based on a depot, and it was in pursuance of this plan that the 33rd (Duke of Wellington's) and the 76th (Hindoostan) Regiments were brigaded together. It was decided that their depot should be located at Halifax, for which purpose new barracks would be built.

The connection with Halifax belonged only to the 33rd. This is dealt with in an admirable and detailed article by Major Savory in *THE IRON DUKE* No. 78, of November 1950 under the title of "Halifax and the Dukes."

That article also described the controversy which raged in the town of Halifax, the sermons preached and the leaflets distributed, when the proposal to establish a depot there was made public. Mr. George Beddoe of the *Halifax Courier* has, however, been good enough to respond to our request for an account of the Depot as reflected in the files of his paper. His account covers some of the same ground as Major Savory's article (the historian should read the two in conjunction) but we will let him retell the tale. *Over, therefore, to Mr. Beddoe.*

A VIEW FROM THE TOWN

The Regiment's association with Halifax ends, as it began, with regret: but the regret with which Halifax at first accepted the soldiery has been transformed by now into a sincere regret that the soldiery are to go.

The establishment of the barracks at Highroad Well caused quite fierce controversy in the town. In 1873 a deputation of the town's prominent citizens went to London to interview officials at the War Office—taking with them a petition, signed by 4,664 inhabitants, protesting against the scheme to establish a barracks in Halifax.

This memorial urged that such military centres should be established only at a considerable distance from the great centres of population, especially those engaged in manufacturing and industrial pursuits. The reasons for this now apparently curious point of view were two-fold.

One was that "the temptation arising from frequent parades, reviews and other military spectacles offered inducements to irregularity and neglect of work."

But the memorialists had another and far more, they thought, weighty argument: "the immorality and demoralisation which all experience shows are the result of the congregation of large bodies of troops."

The deputation, however, found this argument turned against them. They had pointed out that Halifax already had some experience of the military, for the militia came into the town once a year for a month's training. They were billeted in various public-houses and the memorialists claimed that Halifax experience of this class of men "was not entirely satisfactory."

The Duke of Cambridge and Mr. Cardwell, the

Secretary of State for War, who saw the deputation, then pointed out that the establishment of the barracks was intended to eliminate the very evil of which they complained. The object was not to keep the men for any length of time but to put them through a course of training and pass them as rapidly as possible to other battalions at home and abroad. As to the militia, the barracks would help in that direction, for these men would be accommodated for their four weeks' training in tents within the barracks grounds and they would thus be away from public houses.

"Ordinarily" declared the War Office spokesmen "there would be attached to the barracks nothing more than a few of the very best soldiers and non-commissioned officers and a few recruits from time to time."

The authorities may have been encouraged to take a firm line by the fact that, two days earlier, Mr. Cardwell had received a petition from another faction in Halifax which welcomed the idea of establishing the depot on the grounds that "the bringing in contact of Regular members of the Military Forces and the general public of Halifax would produce a great military spirit."

Back to Halifax came the "con" deputation, not entirely satisfied, but from this point the opposition weakened and four years later the barracks were a reality and ready to be occupied.

The occupation is recorded on August 30, 1877, as follows: "Yesterday evening a detachment of the 33rd and 76th Regiments arrived in Halifax by special train from Aldershot. They were met at the railway station by the band of the 6th West Yorkshire Militia and marched to Highroad Well." The barracks were described as being in two blocks, each capable of accommodating 112 men and with residences for married quarters, a Q.M.'s house, a hospital, officers' quarters and offices "for the Commandant and other officials of the depot." The buildings, it was noted, were of a most substantial character and expected to afford a comfortable home to the men forming the depot.

That was the "Halifax Guardian"—the "Halifax Courier" had a more graphic account of the arrival of these first troops. "The detachment comprised 111 men and the train left Aldershot at 8.45 a.m. and arrived at Halifax at 4.55 p.m." said its reporter—and one is left to wonder if British Railways can offer better timings today.

"Hundreds of people lined the streets" went on the report, "or crowded the station yard to witness their entrance and, on the train steaming into the station, a hearty shout was raised by the soldiers who looked tired and dusty and was answered by the crowd. Many hearty greetings were made between mothers and sons and between friend and friend and some time thus elapsed before a line could be formed in the station yard. This was ultimately effected (a phrase which should tickle the military palate of today), however, and headed by the band the soldiers under command of Major

Caldecott marched through the town to their depot."

It might also be said that, as the gates closed on this detachment, so did the spotlight of publicity. The task, if it is ever undertaken, of writing a definitive history of Wellesley Barracks will, therefore, have to rest on the shoulders of other than a civilian journalist. If a search of my paper's files proves anything it is that the Army's public relations service has come a long way in the past 20 years. Until the Army became "popular" in the years immediately before the war, our records suggest that little value was ever placed in Service circles on lifting the veil on what goes on beyond the guardroom.

Right into the 1930s, news from "the Barracks" was brief and official and mainly confined to a curt reference to change of command or, more frequently, a reference in the sporting pages to success on the rugby field or association with the Halifax R.U. club at Ovenden Park. Someone other than this writer will have to take on the task of filling in that 60-year gap.

This did not mean, however, that the presence of the depot was not felt in the town. In the evenings the hard pavements of Halifax town centre rang with the nailed and brilliantly boned boots of the recruits "walking out," and pipe-clayed belts gleamed even on the dulllest days. Some of us may feel that the cost of a swagger cane was worth its weight in gold for the morale-value of that little stick!

In those years, when Halifax went gay or ceremonial—and it seemed to do that more in those years than it does today—The Duke of Wellington's Regiment played its part, with music and military panoply.

So that, if the depot retained a subdued—and, to a newspaper, sometimes irritating—modesty during those years and little has been left on the record, the fact that the Regiment played its full part in the civic and social life of the borough of Halifax and the surrounding district cannot be challenged. And there are many lasting personal friendships which exist today that prove that point.

So the story ends as it began—with the people of Halifax expressing regret. For Halifax people, the days of the Regiment's material association with the town will be looked back on with nostalgia. They will hope that there will be members of the Regiment who will feel the same.

This has not been the history of the Barracks that the Editor hoped it would be. But it will not have been written in vain if it can be used as a preamble to an expression of good wishes to the Regiment and its depot cadre in the future from newspapermen who have had occasion over the years to value the friendliness and, when possible, the co-operation of the staff of the depot: there are many ways of repulsing newspaper inquiries and, when that has been necessary, depot C.O.s and adjutants have almost invariably managed to do it with courtesy and even charm.

Thank you, Mr. Beddoe. Now, to fill in part of the gap caused in Mr. Beddoe's account by the Depot's avoidance of publicity, we have asked Colonel

Trench to tell us something of what lay behind the barrack gates during the first quarter of this century. Colonel Trench:—

THE DEPOT IN 1910

My records of the Depot date from 1910, when I was posted to it from the 1st Battalion in India as a Captain. The barracks were very old-fashioned; the men had their meals in the barrack rooms, and the married quarters were antiquated. The lighting was gas, without mantles, and there were no baths even in the Officers' Mess. There, the passages only were lit with gas jets; lamps had to be used in the rooms.

Colonel Gibbs, the C.O., had his wife and two children in the C.O.'s quarters, and must have been very uncomfortable as there was no kitchen—just a batman's room with an antiquated stove.

There was no football ground; the gymnasium was only recently built; cricket, hockey, and tennis were played on the lawn.

But those were spacious days for officers, before the 1914 war. The local gentry were most hospitable and entertained lavishly. Such names as Baldwin, Crossley, Edwards, Holdsworth, Nugent, Stansfeld, and Whitley, will be remembered by many for their kindness. The day's work was normally over by lunch time, and the rest of the day given over to games and amusements. The town boasted two theatres and a music-hall.

Some of the staff had to give their services to the 3rd Militia Battalion during their annual camp training. They mobilised at the Barracks, and the "old sweats" of those days filled the pubs and caused some disorganisation to the townsfolk.

AFTER THE GREAT WAR

My next tour was when I took over command of the Depot from Colonel Parsons in 1919. There was little change in the place except that a squash court had been built, a bath had been put into one of the officers' rooms in the mess; and the men had shower baths and a dining-room. There was still no electric light.

The chief event that year was the return of the 2nd Battalion cadre from France, a reception for them being held by the Mayor and Corporation. Large numbers of men for discharge had to be put up in barracks, and I solved the problem of employing them by putting them on to roughly levelling a field just outside the Barracks. We had been told by Command to do what was possible to make playing fields. Brigadier General Kentish, then Head of the Army Sports, came round inspecting depots, and was so pleased at our efforts, having found nothing much done at other depots, that he sat down in the Mess, and then and there wrote a cheque to cover our expenses.

General Sir Ivor Maxse, C.-in-C. Northern Command, made great reforms in recruit training and organisation of depots. Unlike some that were reluctant to change their ways, we took up these changes enthusiastically, with the result that we became very popular at Command H.Q. At this time I started a Regimental museum in a small way, with a few articles. I never realised at that time what a big thing it was to grow into.

An important event during my tour of command was the re-starting of the O.C.A., which had been formed just before the war but had rather lapsed; General Sir Herbert Belfield, the Colonel of the Regiment, attended the first reunion.

We must round off the story from the back pages of THE IRON DUKE.

In the mid-thirties the need for recruits taught the Army to advertise. In May 1935 the Depot held its first "Army At Home" and 6,000 people visited the barracks. In 1935, incidentally, recruit squads were first named after battle honours. In 1936, P.T. classes for civilians were started with great success; there is no record, however, of how long the enthusiasm lasted.

Meanwhile, efforts were being made to brighten up the barracks. All blocks were painted inside with pale green walls and white ceilings. In 1933 hardy specimens of mountain ash were planted "at strategic points round the barrack green." In 1935 the German guns which had guarded the corners of the green since 1918 were replaced by shrubberies and, next year, "thousands of daffodil bulbs" were planted along the bank between.

On Waterloo Day, 1936, a fire started in the false roof of the Officers' Mess. The Halifax Fire Brigade was summoned and the notes commented: "We recognise with thanks their speed and efficiency, but a new Mess would have brightened our lives and now the opportunity has gone, perhaps for ever." For the Officers' Mess it had, but for the rest of the barracks help was at hand in the shape of a five-year plan by R.E. Northern Command.

This £40,000 plan hit the news. "Sitting Rooms and Spring Beds"—"Suitcases to Replace Kit-bags." So ran the headlines to Press accounts of the promised amenities which were to include hot and cold running water and central heating in all blocks, and steel cupboards in place of barrack boxes. THE IRON DUKE featured the building programme which included a full-sized gymnasium, drill shed (without holes in the roof), miniature range, double-storied Sergeants' Mess, with quarters for single sergeants, a real dining hall (for the first time in history), a new cookhouse with steam cooking, "whilst the married quarters are to be converted into 'bijou residences' with bedrooms upstairs and sitting rooms downstairs—just like any ordinary house."

It was a five-year plan and work started about the time of "Munich." In the circumstances it is surprising how much was completed. During the winter of 1938-39 a great part of the barracks was in the builders' hands. This interfered considerably with training and necessitated sending squads to complete their training with the 1st Battalion after only a few weeks at the Depot.

There were complaints of slow progress—"Hitler will be in Iceland before we are in our new Sergeants' Mess." However, the notes written shortly before the German invasion of Poland recorded: "Though the barracks still present an untidy face to this abominable summer, many of the new buildings are now complete." These included the Sergeants' Mess, gymnasium, min-

ature range and drill shed. The Corporals' Mess was opened in October. The new playing field was also completed, but was not to be used for two years to allow the grass to bind.

Earlier, the barrack gates, which had been there since the Depot first opened, were replaced by new gates on which were fixed iron plaques bearing the Regimental crest. These gates admitted the first 150 men of the new-model militia who arrived for training on July 15, 1939.

On the outbreak of war the Depot became an Infantry Training Centre with a greatly increased staff including a contingent of A.T.S. A second Officers' Mess was opened in the town and, as the months passed, more and more of the training staff and recruits had to be found billets outside the barrack walls.

By July 1941 the A.T.S. contingent had developed into an A.T.S. Training Centre and shortly afterwards, cuckoo-like, they evicted their nest-fellows, who departed to form the D.W.R. I.T.C. at Brancepeth. Later in the war the barracks housed an R.E. establishment.

The "Dukes" returned to Highroad Well on November 1, 1946, in the guise of No. 33 Primary Training Centre. This was disbanded in April 1948 and the barracks became once again the Regimental Depot. Owing to current policy, however, it was virtually in suspended animation, with a small care and maintenance staff only. There was plenty to be done to restore the Regimental H.Q. after the war years: the Museum was reinstated and, among other good work, was the rescue of the oak panelling which was originally installed in the Sergeants' Mess by Lt.-Colonel Thorold in 1914 to record the names of C.O.s, adjutants and R.S.M.s. The 1939 Mess had no wall space for these and they had suffered ten years of neglect in the unit billiard room. In 1950 they were rescued and restored and placed in the Officers' Mess; at the same time a new panel was placed in the dining room bearing the names of Colonels of the Regiment.

After another three years the decision was taken that the infantry training organisation should revert to the depot system and, on October 15, 1951, the Depot was reactivated and reorganised on the lines on which it has functioned until now.

In recent years further improvements have been made to the amenities of Wellesley Barracks—it may, incidentally, surprise some readers to learn that it was only in 1951 that this name was given to what had for seventy years been known simply as The Barracks, Halifax. But, as in 1938 the *Halifax Courier and Guardian* commented: "People who know the barracks will appreciate that the improvements are overdue . . . nothing material has been done since they were erected in 1877," so the more recent improvements have tended to lag behind contemporary standards and nearly twenty years after the great rebuilding, a Member of Parliament was telling the House of Commons that the Halifax Barracks were "a beastly place for our men to have to stay in." One wonders what the M.P. would have made of the barracks in Colonel Trench's day, but it was perhaps ominous that his remarks

produced no new plan. "Since the M.P. visited us the whole barracks has been painted inside and out," was the official reply. The shadows were beginning to fall.

And we must leave the Depot to its shades. Many have served it well and should have been recalled in this account. Perhaps they will not mind being represented by one of the least exalted of their company. The rebuilding of 1939 swept away one landmark, the piggeries, which for years had been a source of pride and profit. In their heyday they would house some fifty piglets whose mothers all answered by name to their attendant genie, Mr. Sturman. No-one of his time will forget Sturman's regular passage to and from the piggeries, trundling his barrow and invariably followed, closely, by an old fat black spaniel and, at a proper interval to display its independence, by a sleek black cat. Surely that little procession still passes, for those who can see it, to mingle with the other ghosts of the Depot's eighty years.

OBITUARY

BAUME.—On May 22, suddenly at his home, "Ambleside," Church Drive, Hopwas, Staffs., Captain Fred Helliwell Baume, late of the Duke of Wellington's Regiment, aged 68.

A civil servant by profession, Captain Baume was gazetted to the 3rd Battalion in July 1916 and later served with the 10th Battalion, attaining the rank of captain.

A native of Halifax, he moved to Hopwas six years ago. He was vice-president of the Hopwas Branch of the British Legion and, at his funeral, members of that branch, led by the standard bearer, formed a guard of honour as the coffin, draped in the Union Jack, entered the church. At the graveside "The Last Post" was sounded and the Legion's Tribute to departed comrades was read by Mr. J. Hobbs, chairman of the Hopwas Branch.

FORTESCUE-HITCHINS.—On April 16, 1959, at Border Lodge, near Bruton, Somerset, Brigadier Edward Norman Fortescue-Hitchins, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., most dearly loved husband of Francesca.

Brigadier Fortescue-Hitchins was born on January 16, 1884. He was gazetted to the Regiment from the Militia in December 1904. In 1912 he was seconded to the Army Signal Service, at that time under the Royal Engineers, and remained with Signals until his retirement, transferring to the Royal Corps of Signals on its formation in 1920.

In 1927 he was commanding 2nd Divisional

Signals at Aldershot. Other home appointments followed, including O.C., Training Battalion, Catterick and C.S.O., Eastern Command. In 1938 he was appointed to what was then the plum of all Signals' overseas appointments—Signal Officer-in-Chief, India. His foresight and planning in India during the early days of the war were to be of inestimable value to Signals in the years ahead.

He left India in 1941 and, after a short spell of retirement, was appointed Commandant, 2nd Signal Training Centre. In 1943 ill-health and age compelled him finally to retire. He settled in Somerset where he became a member of the County Council.

He was a keen sportsman. As a young officer he played rigger for the 2nd Battalion; later his devotion was chiefly to hunting and cricket. It was as a result of hunting that he suffered severe damage to a leg which was to cause him increasing trouble as his years advanced, and which ultimately prevented him from travelling to take part in old associations—up to 1952 he had been a regular attender of the annual Regimental dinner.

Brigadier Burnett writes:—Hitchins and I served together in the 76th at Lichfield from 1904 to 1906. During the greater part of this period I, in my capacity as Battalion Signalling Officer, had the responsibility of instructing Hitchins in the use of morse code and Army signalling procedure. That this period in his early career resulted in a very distinguished record in the Royal Corps of Signals, I might perhaps take some small degree of credit. We were soldiering together again later, in Dublin, and here again I connect him with signalling. I still have a cartoon I drew in those days: Hitchins and Bill Cholmley are breakfasting in the Mess at a late hour when all other officers are on parade. Hitchins is commenting on the advantages of what is now known as "wearing two hats," he being at that time Assistant Adjutant and also Brigade Signalling Officer.

Hitchins' chief characteristic was a superb nonchalance, which earned him in the Regiment the nickname of "Blasé." Nothing upset or excited him. Perhaps because of this he was always a companionable mess-mate who, despite his "blasé" attitude towards life, really got a great deal of fun out of it. I well remember him on a late autumn evening in 1914 during the retreat from Mons, a situation which he described as "rather a bore." It is many years since I saw him but my memories of him and our experiences together as young officers are very pleasant ones.

READINGS.—On February 27, 1959, at his home, 1 Elms Avenue, Thatcham, nr. Newbury, Ernest John Readings, M.C., late the Duke of Wellington's Regiment.

Mr. Readings enlisted on January 19, 1903, and served with the 1st Battalion in India from 1904 until 1913, when he returned to the 2nd Battalion in Dublin. He went to France with that battalion on August 14, 1914 and went through the retreat from Mons. He was wounded at Hill 60 in April,

1915. After recovery he was posted to the 8th Battalion in the Mediterranean area but returned to France as R.S.M. in 1916. In February, 1917, he was awarded the M.C. and given a commission in the field and was posted to the Green Howards. He retired in 1920 on account of ill health.

Mrs. Readings, who sent the above particulars, says that her husband always regarded himself as a "Dukes" man. Until recent years he attended our O.C.A. reunions and he took part in the Coronation Parade in Hyde Park in 1953 with the "Dukes" O.C.A. Detachment.

SHEPHERD.—On July 29, at the Military Hospital, Chester, Captain Charles Shepherd, M.B.E., D.C.M.

This news was received too late for us to include an obituary notice in this number. It will appear in the next.

MILES.—On July 26, 1959, at her home in Madeira, peacefully in her sleep after a serious illness, Louise Victoria Miles (née Pearson), aged 80, widow of Henry A. Miles, and much beloved mother of Dodo and Cecil.

Mrs. Miles was the mother of Brigadier H. G. P.

Miles and grandmother of Michael and David. Probably few of her grandsons' contemporaries knew her, though in Michael's time she attended the presentation of Colours at Chisleton. Many of her son's contemporaries, however, and particularly those whom she entertained at Quinta Cova, her lovely house in Madeira, remember her charm, humour and kindness with much affection and will be greatly saddened at the news of her death.

TREE.—On August 8, in a road accident near Holywood, Northern Ireland, Captain Michael John Tree, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, aged 33 years.

"Mike" Tree was the son of Mrs. E. M. Tree, of 76 Highfield Lane, Southampton. He joined the 2nd Battalion in Delhi in January 1947 from the Indian Army (Gurkhas). He served with the 1st Battalion in Chisleton, Malta and Cyprus, remaining in Cyprus as a staff officer when the Battalion came home. He rejoined the Battalion in Northern Ireland only in June of this year. He was not married.

The accident which caused his tragic death occurred while he was driving his own car. He swerved to avoid an oncoming car which had also swerved out to overtake an autocyte. He died a few minutes after the accident.

The 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

(Continued from page 57 of No. 112, April 1959)

The last instalment of Pte. Sunley's diary ended with the Battalion being relieved in the front line by a battalion of The Border Regiment, in March 1916, and moving back to Rheningelst.

We left Reninghelst and marched to Oultersteen for three weeks rest—a very nice country village, this, and beautiful weather. The time was spent in games and drilling: the Battalion won the Divisional rugby union championship, beating the Northumberland Fusiliers by 40 points to nil.

Two days before the Battalion left for Armentieres I was fortunate enough to sleep next to a fellow-orderly who was supposed to have measles. This necessitated isolating five of us (all chums). We remained in camp and instructions were left for the incoming battalion (K.O.Y.L.I.) to ration us. I don't know what kind of disease they thought we had, but a plentiful supply of rations—in fact sufficient for ten men—was dumped over the railings into our field; we never had so much to eat. The only snag was that we had no money and no postal address; we raised the wind by selling our surplus to the French villagers, but in most cases we only got French beer in lieu. An amusing incident happened when we struck camp one after-

noon and set off for a village about six miles away with a "Victory Gum" tin of moist sugar. On the way we called at a French house, knocked at the door and, in our best French, asked: "Voulez vous vendre du sucre, Madam?" "Quoi, Messieurs?"; then, tasting the sugar: "Tres bon, Messieurs. Voulez vous entrez?" We followed the lady but, perceiving a British officer inside, excused ourselves and, grabbing the sugar out of the lady's hands, made off as quickly as possible for the next village.

There, we entered an estaminet, without a sou, but Johnny MacLellan, with some gentle persuasion, managed to sell the sugar for ten francs. Feeling quite wealthy, we stayed in the estaminet drinking French beer for an hour. On our way back to camp we came across some Canadian soldiers running a crown and anchor board; we plunged our remaining three francs on "the old sergeant major" and lost the lot.

Next day we met a chap from the home village,

Elvie Middleton from Huddersfield, who was attached to the K.O.Y.L.I., and entertained him royally on our rations. Poor chap, he was killed in the next offensive on the Somme in July.

An officer from the Royal Medical Corps arrived to inspect the measles suspects and found Billy Briggs with a very high temperature. The doctor would have understood this temperature if he had seen us pounding and rolling Briggs about in the hot sun before he arrived (the visit was expected). Not daring to send us back to the Battalion, he arranged for a motor ambulance to take us to the Divisional rest camp at Caestre; but, after a week there, they realised that we were much fitter than the usual patient, and sent us back to the Battalion at Armentieres. We found that Whiting, the man who was supposed to have had the measles, had been back with the Battalion for three weeks; the "measles" had been the result of a night on the spree, drinking cheap French wine, which caused him to break out in spots all over his body.

In Armentieres we were amazed to find shops and the inhabitants carrying on as though the war were 50 miles away. We reported to the Quartermaster Sergeant, who paid us all 30 francs. Then we went to find the Battalion, naturally calling at a few estaminets on the way to celebrate re-union. Proceeding via the canal bank, we eventually crossed a bridge near a ruined church, arrived at Houplines and, enquiring for Battalion H.Q., found them in a very comfortable large house on the river bank—the "cushiest" H.Q. it was possible to have; the orderlies, whom I was pleased to rejoin, had a nice room, with a wood floor to sleep on—marvellous!

We had a very good time the first week—everything very quiet—had a daily swim in the river and a general hunt round for souvenirs. There was a mill chimney which we climbed from the inside; there were iron staples fixed (but obviously for fellows with very long legs) and when you arrived at the top you had a clear view of the German trenches.

It was the duty of the Second in Command (at this time Major P. R. Simner) to inspect the trenches every night. One night, when I was with him as orderly, he surprised two sentries in the front line who were not very alert. Strafing them for fully five minutes, he remarked that, if he had been a German, he could have killed them quite easily. The next evening, we were rounding a bay in the trenches when Major Simner was quickly pulled up as two voices shouted: "Halt! Who are you?" and two bayonets prodded into his tummy. Although much taken aback, Major Simner sportingly complimented them on their alertness. We proceeded on our way but I could hear the two chaps having a good chuckle to themselves and a Yorkshire voice saying: "That's larned the old b . . ."

This quiet restful period was abruptly broken on May 15 when Jerry started a very heavy bombardment on No. 88 Trench. This was occupied by "D" Company and they were practically annihilated, suffering about 90 casualties. The front line trench was levelled to the ground by the shell-

fire and the lads there had not an earthly chance. The barrage then lifted from the front line on to the support trenches and then Jerry made a trench raid, taking some of our men back with him. The German officer in charge of the raid met face to face with Captain Savory, O.C. "D" Company; both fired simultaneously, the German being shot through the heart and Captain Savory wounded in the chest. The German was a big fine fellow, over 6 feet tall; he was left on the parapet until time could be found to take his body to Houplines for burial. Captain Benjamin organised a party to assist "D" Company, and found a white tape which had been traced across "No Man's Land" as a guide for the Germans in the attack.

The Germans, when subjected to an attack of this kind, immediately took their men out of the front line trenches into deep bomb-proof dugouts, assuming their original positions as soon as the bombardment lifted from the front line. Thus, they would have few casualties, whereas the English were not allowed to leave their posts.

(To be continued)

Editorial Note. Extracts from the diary and letters of Lieutenant J. W. Russell, also of the 9th Battalion, which were published in early numbers of THE IRON DUKE, cover the same period as Pte. Sunley's diary until Russell was killed on July 7, 1916 in the Somme offensive. Russell describes the above action as having taken place on April 26. We have not attempted to check which date is correct—the difference of a few days is of no great significance in the context—but feel that readers may find interest in comparing the two accounts, and reprint the relevant extract from one of Lieutenant Russell's letters, as follows:

Yes, we were in the thick of it on April 26. "C" Company in reserve had no casualties, but "D" caught it very badly—Savory and Mallinson both wounded. The stunt started about 5 p.m. Savory did awfully well; he was early wounded by shrapnel in the shoulder, but hung on to his job. While going up a battered trench he suddenly met a German raiding party. The leader fired and hit him through the lung; Savory fired back and knocked the Bosche out—some nerve after his two wounds. Mallinson had a gash right across his jaw and bled profusely. He was bound up and put in a dugout, having fainted, but was next seen, with a man's rifle, at a bombing stop where he stolidly did sentry for three hours till Benjy (Captain Benjamin) came along from the right and ordered him back; even then he flatly refused at first. Benjy himself did splendidly and helped to reorganise the right of "D" (who lost 46 men) as well as keeping "B" well in hand. He deserves some decoration if ever man did. . . . Another message of praise and thanks in Brigade orders. We relieved "D" Company; the trenches were an abomination of desolation. We stayed on all night, trying to get things shipshape. There were some beastly sights, including the Hun shot by S., a brutish looking devil (about 16 stone) with close-cropped head and foul little pig-eyes and yellow skin. He was an Iron Cross man, but he did look a beast.

The Officers' Regimental Dinner Club

The annual regimental dinner was held at the Hyde Park Hotel on Friday, May 29. In the absence of the Colonel of the Regiment, the chair was taken by the Deputy Colonel, Brigadier Webb-Carter. Sixty-three officers sat down to dinner.

After the toast, Brigadier Webb-Carter read H.M. The Queen's message of thanks for the assembly's loyal greetings, and telegrams from "Dukes" unable to attend.

He said that it would be clear to all present that the dinner was under new management, the result being that we had "no Colonel, no guests—and a 5s. levy." He read the Colonel's message, which is given below, and explained that, of the two guests invited, His Grace, The Duke of Wellington, had found that this was the only period when he could visit his estates in Spain while Mr. Stainforth, Headmaster of Wellington College, had been ill and had asked to be excused in view of the arduous programme of centenary celebrations which he shortly had to face. The levy was simply due to the fact that the Hyde Park Hotel had put up their prices while the Dinner Club had now used up all the "fat" accumulated during the war years.

Brigadier Webb-Carter then summarised the main items of Regimental news. These are all dealt with more fully in this issue so we will here only note the headings: the 1st Battalion's Trooping the Colour on June 5; their bad luck in the Army Rugby Cup and hopes for Bisley: their move to Warley where the 33rd were last in 1795 under Lt.-Colonel Arthur Wellesley; and the canoe crossing of the Irish Channel. Other regimental news included: the closing of the Depot in August and the establishment there of our Regimental Headquarters; the training of our recruits at Beverley until the opening of the Brigade Depot at Strensall; the 5/7th Battalion's centenary and their new Commanding Officer, Lt.-Colonel Gadd.

Brigadier Webb-Carter then appealed to all officers to do everything possible to help and support the Regimental Journal, *THE IRON DUKE*. This, he said, fulfilled a very necessary function in the Regimental family but was faced with increasing difficulties owing to rising costs and the reduction of regular components of the Regiment.

Brigadier Webb-Carter concluded by congratulating 2nd Lieutenant M. Ralph on breaking the record for "something called the hop, skip and j-jump."

The following officers attended the Regimental Dinner:

Brigadier Webb-Carter (Deputy Colonel); Major-Generals R. K. Exham and Ozanne; Brigadiers Bunbury, Fraser, Miles, Orr and Rogers.

Colonels Armitage, Bishop, Harvey, Hinchcliffe, R. Moran, Stevens, Turner, Wathen and Wortham.

Lt.-Colonels Boutflower, Dalrymple, Hodgson, Isles, P. Moran, Sayers, Stewart, Whitaker, F. P. A. Woods and W. A. Woods.

Majors K. W. Brown, Cartwright, Collins, Firth, Grieve, Huffam, R. H. Ince, Jones-Stamp, H. R. Kavanagh, Lane, Lennon, Maclaren, Milligan, Roberts, Savory, Scott, J. K. Sugden and R. E. Sugden.

Captains Blakey, R. H. D. Bolton, Cowell, Dasent, Hardy, Keatley, Mitchell, Naughton, The Lord Savile and Shuttleworth. Lts. Barkshire, Bray, Greenway, Kelly, D. P. Miles, Naylor, G. A. Reddington and M. J. Reddington.

The following were present at the Regimental Tea:

Brigadier and Mrs. Webb-Carter, Colonel and Mrs. Armitage, Colonel and Mrs. Bishop, Captain Bolton, Lt.-Colonel and Mrs. Boutflower, Mrs. R. N. H. C. Bray, Mr. M. R. N. Bray, Major and Mrs. Cartwright, Brigadier Fraser, Brigadier and Mrs. Grimley, Major Huffam, Lt.-Colonel and Mrs. Ince, Major R. H. Ince, Lady Landon, Major Maclaren, Lt.-Colonel P. Moran, Mrs. J. Naylor, Major-General Ozanne, Mrs. V. Paton, Lt.-Colonel and Mrs. Sayers, Major and Mrs. Scott, Lt.-Colonel and Mrs. Stevens, Lt.-Colonel Stewart, Colonel Turner, Colonel and Mrs. Wathen and Lt.-Colonel and Mrs. W. A. Woods.

MESSAGE FROM THE COLONEL OF THE REGIMENT

I am very disappointed indeed to miss the Regimental Dinner for the second year running. I had made all my plans to get home from Lagos in good time but was suddenly told I must stay on until after the visit to Nigeria of the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester. As this was the last War Office order I was likely to get as a serving soldier, I thought I had better obey it!

Brian Webb-Carter will be telling you about all the Regiment's activities of the past year and so I shall confine myself to mentioning one matter of vital importance to the Regiment. This is officer recruiting.

For the first time since the war we are finding it difficult to get enough officers from Sandhurst of the quality we must have for the Regiment. This is partly because Sandhurst is very under-subscribed at the moment and partly because nearly all the good chaps arrive there with their minds already made up as to which Regiment they want to join.

There is no doubt that our organisation for attracting prospective young officers to the Regiment needs an overhaul and some new thinking. The Regimental Council will get down to this at once, but, to get things started, I have already written to a number of senior serving and retired officers of the Regiment to enlist their help. If we are to solve this problem, which is quite vital to the future of the Regiment, everybody, past and present, has got to help. I am sure many people will have useful ideas and suggestions to contribute which I hope they will send me.

I get back on June 15, and shall go up to Yorkshire for the 5/7th D.W.R. Centenary Celebrations and the Freedom of Spenborough. After that I shall be living in London for most of my leave.

With all best wishes for an enjoyable evening.

R.W.A.F.F. DINNER CLUB

General Sir Lashmer Whistler, Commandant of the Royal West African Frontier Force, has asked that this dinner club should be brought to the notice of officers who have served at any time in the force.

Life membership of the club is only 10s. The dinner is held normally in October each year.

Enquiries for membership should be sent to the Honorary Secretary: Lt.-Colonel G. Blackburne-Kane, Bisterne, Normandy, Surrey.

THE REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND REUNION DINNER, 1959.

The O.C.A. reunion dinner and general meeting will take place this year on Saturday October 3 in the Regimental H.Q. of the 5/7th Battalion at the Drill Hall, St. Paul's Street, Huddersfield, by kind permission of the Commanding Officer.

The general meeting will be held at 5.30 p.m., presided over by the Colonel of the Regiment. All members are asked to do their level best to support General Exham by turning up in good time.

Dinner will be at 7.30 p.m. Tickets will be available from the General Secretary at a later date and will cost 8s. 6d. each.

This year we are not having the usual dance. We feel that it attracted a number of people not connected with the Regiment and, in any case, we shall not have the same facilities as we had in our old headquarters. After the meal members will have plenty of opportunity to meet old friends and talk about old times.

We shall not be able to accommodate large parties or arrange "bed and breakfast" for them as previously. But will any members wishing to book a room for the Saturday night in an hotel in Halifax or Huddersfield please let me know in good time and I'll arrange it for them.

General Secretary.

LONDON AND HOME COUNTIES BRANCH

The annual reunion dinner of the above branch was held on May 9 (Rugby Cup Final Night) at the Westminster Dragoons' Drill Hall in Elverton Street, London, S.W.1. Everyone present agreed it was an unqualified success, and the number who sat down to dinner (86) was a record attendance. In addition, there were quite a few Old Comrades in the bar who had left their dinner booking to the last minute, with the unfortunate consequence that they could not be accommodated. They included Mr. J. Hough's party from Sheffield, but they agreed it was their own fault in not letting the secretary know in time. Mr. Guy of the London Branch was another who tried to buy a ticket ten minutes before the dinner commenced; of course he was unlucky.

We had our usual get-together in the bar, prior to dinner, and it was grand to hear the laughter and conversation as Old Comrades renewed friendships and recalled incidents. This renewal of friendships was not confined to the men, as we had many ladies present with us who had been neighbours together in married quarters at the Regiment's various stations.

Grace was said by our President, Colonel Armitage, and toasts to the Queen and the Regiment were ably proposed by Mr. Dave Benson. The Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. Ben Hearsam, was then called upon by the Chairman, Mr. Bob Temple, to give his report and, after first extending a very

hearty welcome to all present, stated how pleased we all were to have the Deputy Colonel of the Regiment, Brigadier Webb-Carter, present with us, also Major-General Roy Exham. Among other points mentioned was the death of our Vice-President, Lt.-Colonel Duncan Paton, and that Mr. Alf Harrison, D.C.M., M.M., would very much like to hear from any Old Comrade who knew him. He has more or less been confined to his bed for a long time now, and his address is "Moascar," 2 Glenn Avenue, Purley, Surrey, and not 18 Glenn Avenue as given in the last issue of THE IRON DUKE. The Treasurer concluded by giving the names of Old Comrades who, although unable to come, had sent their best wishes for a successful and happy reunion.

Brigadier Webb-Carter was then called upon for the speech of the evening on the Regiment's activities.

He expressed the regret of Major-General K. G. Exham, Colonel of the Regiment, at being still in Nigeria and so unable to be present. Among the points he mentioned were: the 1st Battalion's successes in Northern Ireland and their forthcoming Trooping of the Colour, when both the regulation and honorary Regimental Colours were to be trooped; the probable move of the Battalion to Tidworth; the closing of the Depot as a training centre; and the need for all Old Comrades to support THE IRON DUKE which was very short of funds now that we only had one regular battalion. He ended by expressing our thanks to Mr. C. Hookham who was responsible for the excellent catering.

Incidentally, Major-General Roy Exham stated quite firmly that he and his brother would both be present at next year's dinner and that statement must be regarded as a happy omen for an even larger attendance then. But please do, once the dinner notices are sent out, let the Secretary know as early as possible of your intentions.

Finally, a very hearty vote of thanks must be given to those members who sent donations, and thus helped us with the expenses which occur over and above the cost of the dinner.

Present at the dinner were the following. (Those marked with an asterisk were accompanied by their wives.):

Maj.-Gen. R. K. Exham, Brigadiers Webb-Carter and Fraser, Colonels Armitage, Turner, Harvey, Dalrymple, Majors Huffam, R. A. Scott, Savory, Connolly, Ince, J. Johnson,* H. T. Sills, C.S.M. Williams, Messrs. D. Benson, F. Richardson, F. Crouch, E. Smith, D.C.M., W. J. Simmonds, D. Leach, D. Frame, Hammond, H. Matthews, D.C.M., R. Temple, R. Handyside, J. Barnett, G. Bellett, R. Pearce, A. Wild, J. Yaxley, F. Manger, W. Guggerty, W. Casson, G. Dent, J. Garrod, Horner, B. Hearsam,* D. Coppack,* S. Ambler,* J. Hartwell,* P. Johnson,* G. Fielding,* J. Myatt,* E. Cherry,* A. Ancill,* S. Code,* G. Webster,* J. Birch,* F. Kennedy,* G. Kenny,* T. McMahon,* F. Pearce,* M. Reed,* F. Stringer,* G. Hartley,* H. Hellowell,* J. Church,* F. Brooks,* R. Kingston.

Letters regretting non-attendance were received from:—

Major-Generals Ozanne and Bray, Brigadier Orr, Colonels Bill Woods, Pat Woods, Croup-Capt. Walter Wilson, Major Randall, Capt. R. H. D. Bolton, W. Barber, Messrs. Jock Woods, Alf Harrison, D.C.M., M.M., "Topper" Brown and Chelsea Pensioners Willcocks and Pentlow.

1st Battalion Notes

Continued from page 79

"A" COMPANY

The seasons change and the command of our Company has changed too; temporarily Captain D. W. Shuttleworth, ex-P.R.I., and 2 Lt. Arnold have replaced Captain D. H. Wood and 2 Lt. Fawcett who have been "busy Bisley bees."

Our small-bore "A" Team. Captain Wood, 2 Lt. Fawcett, Cpl. Holliday and Cpl. Gott, gained third place in the Brigade small-bore competition; this is, as far as we know, the highest rifle company placing for over two years. After concentrated training on "bleak Divis Hill" range and Ballykinlar, we managed to come second to the "pundits" in "H.Q. (B)" team. Our Company team (the four small-bore representatives plus Cpl. Boakes and Pte. Lodge) did well to come second in the N.I.D. inter-company competition against strong opposition.

In the Battalion athletics meeting we again came second to "H.Q.", which we feel is no mean achievement. We congratulate 2 Lt. Arnold, Sgt. Simpson and Pte. Lindsay on winning the javelin, 3 miles, and 1 mile and the half mile respectively,

and also many others on their very good untrained efforts in other events.

In the inter-company rugby seven-a-side we managed to turn out a team of only one regular rugby player and the rest soccer players and, although we put up a professional effort, we were unfortunately knocked out fairly swiftly. In the inter-company soccer we beat "B" Company by 4 goals to 3 in the first round, but were put in our place again by "H.Q." Company.

In the Battalion boxing competition we came third. We congratulate Pte. Connolly on being best loser, and Ptes. Ibbetson, Cowburn, Senior, Brooksbank, Booth and Perkins on gallant efforts.

We welcome to the Company L/Cpl. Laherty from "S", Pte. Cooper from "H.Q.", Pte. Woodhead from M.T., Ptes. Kilding and Lindsay from the Depot, and also Ptes. Chamberlain, Challoner, Coates, Shaw and Smith (21) after their tour in Aden. We congratulate Dean and Cooper on promotion to Lance-Corporal, and Craghill, Mitchell, Armitage, Boakes, and Bowles to Corporal. We are sorry to lose our sports car enthusiast, Lt. Addison, and wish him every success in civilian life, also L/Cpl. Whitfield, Ptes. Smith (21) and Bradley. We have also said good-bye to Pte. Connolly who has been posted to the Support Weapons Wing, School of Infantry.



Photo: Belfast News Letter Ltd.

St. George's Day, 1959: C.S.M. Erswell distributing roses to "A" Company.

"B" COMPANY

The Company is once again acting as the Derry detachment. But this time there is a difference: only the Company Commander, 2 Lt. Charlesworth and Sgt. Pratt plus a strong "B" Company section are at Londonderry, the remainder of the detachment being from "A" and "D" Companies. This is in order that all companies can have maximum numbers at Belfast for the Trooping. The larger part of the Company remains in Belfast under the command of 2 Lt. Cumberlege.

On the sporting side the company has been a hive of activity. The ball was, so to speak, set rolling in mid-March by the inter-company boxing competition. There were some extremely good keen fights and the standard of boxing for novices was above average. After a very close run we were just beaten to the post by "D." L/Cpl. Read, our 1st string welter, had to withdraw from the final contest with a broken thumb; had he been able to box we might have won. L/Cpls. Cole, Read, Field and Pte. Lee all fought well.

Shortly after the boxing we were once again in the arena, being down at Ballykinlar in the inter-company rifle meeting. The competition was keen and though we did not come first or second our team did not disgrace themselves.

This was followed by the seven-a-side rugby. We were slightly handicapped, being half at home and half away. Nevertheless the team put up a very good performance against an H.Q. side and were only narrowly beaten just on the final whistle.

And so to the athletics. After a close competition we ended up 4th, only one point separating the three rifle companies. We must congratulate C.S.M. Kirk for a fine effort in the half mile and 100 yards. 2 Lt. Ralph was again our stalwart and we would have been trailing the field without him. Pte. Porter ran well to come second in the three miles; L/Cpl. Field was another strong member of our team.

As usual there have been changes. 2 Lt. Ralph has been detached to the Officers' Mess; to replace him 2 Lt. Charlesworth has returned from his courses at Hythe and Warminster. Sgt. Fee has returned from Hythe and is to be congratulated on his "B" Grading; he is now Battalion W.T. Sergeant. Sgt. Pratt has returned to the Company; we were all pleased to see him again. L/Cpl. Cole completed a successful Outward Bound course in Wales; he is now a mad-keen mountaineer and claims he has climbed all the picture rails in the office block. Cpls. Stowell and Morgan have left us for E.R.E. jobs, one in Singapore, the other in Yorkshire; we wish them and their families all good fortune.

Lastly, congratulations to Cpl. Spruce on his promotion and to Ptes. Bell and Cust on gaining places in the Battalion Bisley team.

"C" COMPANY

N.C.O.s' cadres are over for the time being. The Outward Bound School is now in full swing and Captain Gilbert-Smith is busy putting his courses through their paces. Around camp men can usually be found saying with a shiver that they are next

for the Outward Bound. Most return admitting that they have enjoyed themselves, looking very healthy, and with even a friendly word for the "death slide." Cpl. Johnson, who was recently instructing up at Larne, has gone into hospital to have his tonsils removed; we gather that they had reached a stage where they could only be removed one at a time.

Major Kavanah has been very busy; his duties, including Band President, Sports Officer and P.M.C., have kept him away from the Company for most of the time. C.S.M. Sheehan, whilst on a Guards' drill course, met with an unfortunate accident; after a long spell in hospital he is still to be seen limping around camp with a stick recovering from an injured knee. Sgt. Fee has assisted in his absence and, of course, there has always been the able work of L/Cpl. Bottomley.

"D" COMPANY

What military training we can fit in between preparations for the Trooping and athletics is aimed at perfecting minor tactics, night work and fitness, in preparation for classification in June, the move to Derry in July and Battalion Camp in August.

We completed P.E. tests, 100% of those eligible passing successfully—including all sedentary gentlemen found in odd corners. The unlearned have all obtained their 3rd class certificate—some, who shall be nameless, after three attempts!

In inter-company sport we have done extremely well as the following record shows:—Basket Ball, 2nd; Rugby Seven-a-Side, 1st; Boxing, 1st; Athletics, 3rd; Soccer, Semi-finalists.

The rugby team consisted of Lt. Shenton, 2 Lt. Marsay, 2 Lt. Duckney, Cpl. Scroby, Cpl. Dowdall, Cpl. Connor, L/Cpl. Davies—and congratulations to Cpl. Scroby on being awarded his Army cap. A photograph of the Company boxing team appears on the following page—congratulations to Cpls. Clarke and Dowdall who trained the team; thanks to them and all the boxers we have now won the championship for the second year running.

The athletics meeting was a "close run thing." Only five points separated the first four companies. Individual attainments of note were:—

| | | | | |
|---------------|----|------------|----|---------------------|
| L/Cpl. Davies | .. | 100 yds. | .. | 1st (in 10.2 secs.) |
| | | 220 yds. | .. | 2nd |
| 2 Lt. Marsay | .. | 440 yds. | .. | 3rd |
| | | Discus | .. | 2nd |
| Pte. Hardisty | .. | 1 Mile | .. | 3rd |
| Cpl. Dowdall | .. | Hammer | .. | 1st |
| | | Pole Vault | .. | 1st |
| Cpl. Scroby | .. | Shot | .. | 2nd |

We did not do so well in the Battalion rifle meeting, but were 3rd in three matches and won the falling plates.

Ninety per cent. of the junior N.C.O.s have completed cadres, whilst Sgts. Fenn and Morris have studied platoon weapons at Hythe, C/Sgt. Pennington the guardsmen's secrets at Pirbright, and Captain Cowell the tactical mysteries on the company commanders' course at Warminster.

Captain Cowell, Sgt. Fenn and L/Cpl. Preston are in the Battalion shooting team, training madly for Bisley. 2 Lt. Duckney is one of the leading instructors at the Outward Bound School.



"D" COMPANY BOXING TEAM.

Winners, Inter-Company Boxing Championships, 1958 and 1959.

Back Row: Pte. Haigh (welter), Pte. Maplestone (light-welter), L/Cpl. England (light-middle), L/Cpl. Beetham (middle), Pte. Hill (feather).

Sitting: Cpl. Scroby (heavy), Pte. O'Hara (welter), Cpl. Clarke (light-heavy), Major Tedd, C.S.M. Burke, Pte. Bunn (light-welter), Pte. Wilkinson (light).

The annual administrative inspection came and went with a frenzy of activity and a sigh of relief respectively. The Company's individual contribution was to be turned out for inspection in full battle order. On the St. George's Day Parade the Company provided No. 3 Company.

Whilst "S" Company were at Derry we took their rear elements under our wing and are performing the same service now, in a lesser degree, for "B" Company, while a full section of "D" Company, under Cpl. Birch, is part of a composite platoon at Derry.

New arrivals in the Company have been Phillips, Ainsworth and Wightman from "H.Q." Company, Rhodes, Andrew and Marshall from the Depot and, returning to the fold, McDanielson, Theakston and France from Aden. Cpl. Devanney has returned from Brigade H.Q. but is on loan as ration corporal to Lt. Shenton, also on loan as Messing Officer. We also welcome 2 Lt. R. D. Campbell-Lamerton, fresh from the Depot.

We lost one third of the Company, including two thirds of our soccer team, when the York and Lancaster's returned to their 1st Battalion at Barnard Castle on March 3.

Other departures have been Cpl. Barnett to the Brigade Depot, Cpl. Clifton, Ptes. France and Moon to civilian life and Theakston to the Drums. To the latter has fallen the signal honour of uncasing the Colours on the "Trooping" parade.

Congratulations to Cpl. Harrison, L/Cpls. McCrea, Rix, Preston and Parkin on their promotion and—last but not least—to Sgt. Morris on his marriage. We have no family additions to report, but rumour has it that a large flock of storks has been sighted, flying in delta formation. The Company is poised, waiting for the birds to settle.

Finally, we must report the move of Company H.Q. complete from the old block to an ultra-modern office block, built in 1959 style, with office accommodation based on a very low lower estab-

lishment, ample facilities for "brewing up" with a built-in electric geyser, but—with pre-1914 telephones. By some mystery which only Signals can explain the exchange is called by means of a button—not, as one might suppose, by pressing it, but by lifting it up! The future is fraught with interest.

SUPPORT COMPANY

Our second and last tour at H.M.S. *Sea Eagle*, Londonderry, ended on April 13. Though it was not quite the novel experience of a year ago there is no doubt that it was popular. A little more excitement during the I.S. patrolling would have been welcome; on the other hand the fact that there were no I.R.A. incidents in which the Company was involved must be accepted as a measure of the success of the police intelligence and precautions, backed up by the Derry detachment. We do regret, though, that we were not in on the first big "kill" which the security forces in County Londonderry had had for many months, when two uniformed I.R.A. and a goodly cache of arms, ammunition and explosives were taken. Immediately following this success the Company Commander and our Brigade Major spent many hours of one cold day with the Police, prodding hopefully for further arms in a ploughed field. They were unable to prove that they were better snoopers than the Royal Ulster Constabulary, for nowt was found!

In sport we have not done as well as we normally expect to do. The boxing and football competitions both took place while we were split between Derry and Holywood with attendant difficulties in selection and training. The same happened in the Battalion rifle meeting; here however we did particularly well to come immediately after the two Headquarter Company and the "A" Company teams, all three of which had a very strong backbone of the Bisley team who had already been practising for weeks. Our team contained no accredited

Bisley performers and the Company's good showing is largely due to C.Q.M.S. Webb, who put great enthusiasm into the scant opportunity we had for practice. The rugger seven-a-side occurred immediately after our return; we went on the field with five complete novices who had but a bare idea of the rules. We were faced in the first round by the natural winners, "D" Company, and our seven deserve great credit for holding the opposition to 11-0—better than any other company managed.

Immediately after the Trooping parade we spend a fortnight in Magilligan for classification and, we hope, some specialist field training. On or about June 20 the Company, less the M.M.G. Platoon, goes on a fortnight's leave; the M.M.G.s remain at Magilligan to prove themselves in the Bisley non-central machine-gun cup matches. At the beginning of July we move to Ballykinlar for a month where we will have the dual task of running much of Northern Ireland District's summer Army show for the public, and doing our annual firing with the 3-in. mortars and anti-tank guns. A fortnight's breather and back to Magilligan.

On May 25 C.S.M. Erswell leaves the Company to join the 5/7th Battalion. For more than two years he has cajoled, encouraged, and threatened the men of "S" and in every way has been a great asset. We will all miss him a great deal and regret the loss of the choice words and phrases which he coins out of the blue to the great delight of the officers, if not of all ranks. We thank him for what he has done and wish him and his family a congenial tour in Huddersfield. It is with pleasure that we introduce his successor C.S.M. Sheehan. The latter had the misfortune to have a knee operation go wrong on him recently, but we hope by the end of the year he will be so recovered that he can be as active out of the office as he is already showing himself to be in it.

MORTAR PLATOON

The Mortar Platoon now has as many sergeants as it has regular privates. Most deplorable, but we congratulate Sgt. Broomhead on creating this state of affairs.

Ulster ranges are of limited value, and most exhausting for the Platoon Commander who spends much of his time digging vast pot holes to expose blinds which sink to an incredible depth. He suspects certain mortar numbers of deliberately failing to remove the pins in order to get their own back.

After returning from Derry we have spent all morning, every morning, on the drill square. In the afternoon one third of the Platoon train with the Battalion athletic team. Despite this we have managed two days' firing at Magilligan.

We have acquired a hut of our own and are building a "puff" range in it. We have been sent some trolleys for trials and hope to have some fun with them. As they are amphibious, propelled with a shovel G.S., trials ought to be entertaining.

M.M.G. PLATOON

Since our last notes we have returned to "Devil's Island" (Palace Barracks), having left behind at *Sea Eagle* many Naval friends. All the WRENS would have turned out to wave their tender farewells but, alas, our time of departure was a closely guarded secret.

On arrival at Palace Barracks we were quick to get into the swing of things once more, and our pre-M.M.G. cup training started almost immediately. This is consisting of a 12-week cadre climaxing in the competition itself. Until the Trooping is over our cadre is restricted to afternoons only, but priorities will alter at Magilligan where, apart from classification, time will be our own for four weeks. We were very pleased to welcome Q.M.S.I. Bidmead, M.M., our old friend from Netheravon, who came over recently for a few days. With luck he will return in June to help out in our concentration.

Congratulations are due to Cpl. Garth on his promotion and on obtaining a very good course report from Netheravon. Recently we purchased some section and platoon pennants, and now somewhat resemble the U.S. 5th Cavalry moving around barracks. The Platoon Commander has even introduced a new word of command: "Forward Ho" and is expected to appear on parade one of these mornings wearing spurs.

ANTI-TANK PLATOON

Alas only in name at present, for ceremonial drill and barrack chores have drastically reduced training. Sgt. France, our old Platoon Sergeant, dropped in for a couple of days, exchanging his role of training recruits for conducting them. He was a welcome sight until it was rumoured that he had come over to take the Platoon on a manhandling course. Our welcome immediately deteriorated but all turned out well for we traced the culprit who started this false alarm and visited our wrath on him.

The Platoon Commander is believed to be on Bisley training at Ballykinlar; however nobody can vouch for this. Sgt. Curling is undergoing specialist training as Sergeants' Mess caterer and Pte. Singleton is on a cooks' course in England (we have some misgivings). Cpl. Kelly has developed an ambition to be a pilot in the Army Air Corps despite Cpl Smith's sound advice that he would do better with a kite.

Commitments are many and it was felt we would escape gundrill, manhandling and the more physical exertions of A/TK work, but this is not to be. A refresher cadre for our six latest members has just appeared from out of the blue "and the best of British luck to them."

Our comrades of the M.M.G. Platoon are pressing a point that they are second to none. Henceforth we feel they are entitled to be called NONE.

"H.Q." COMPANY

We have been training regular soldiers so that we may go to England with as many regulars in our departments as possible. The idea was for the regulars to replace the National Service men but our departmental heads are most reluctant to let any man go; consequently we have a company strength of 290 officers and men. It is well known that the M.T.O., when R.Q.M.S., had a magpie complex and the R.S.O. is only happy when he can hold a muster parade with more men than a rifle company. If only they would look at them with the eyes of the C.S.M. and count them as sets of documents and heads that require haircuts!

Nearly a hundred men from the Company took part in the St. George's Day parade. We formed one guard and the other men reinforced the rifle companies much to the consternation of the rifle C.S.M.s who insisted on blaming the "H.Q." men for the mistakes made by their guards. Readers will agree that it is difficult to drive a vehicle for 11 months in the year and hope to become a guardsman in the same number of days. On the Trooping parade, however, the "H.Q." Company Guard is to be Escort to the Colours. We can find no record of "H.Q." Company being selected for this honour in the past and we are very happy that we are considered capable of performing ceremonial duties.

Due to our size we now have to provide two teams in the inter-company competitions, ensuring that the two strong groups (M.T. and the Signal Platoon) are divided. Our victories so far have been: soccer—both our teams reached the final with the Signal Platoon side the winners; seven-a-side rigger Group "A," Signals, was defeated in the final by "D" Company. Our soccer team reached the finals of the N.I.D. minor units competition and were defeated by the Depot R.U.R. in a very hard game. In the Battalion rifle meeting our teams finished first and third, thanks to the efforts of Captain Robertson, C.S.M. Norman, S/Sgt. Kingdon and the R.S.O. who arranged the teams. The Company .22 team did very well but we feel that this will be reported in the Shooting Notes so we will not dwell on the subject.

The Battalion athletics meeting was won by the Company with some fine performances. We would like to make special mention of Lt. Greenway for some very fine running and Lt. Campbell-Lamerton for some great feats with the shot and discus.

It is with regret that we are soon to say farewell to Major D. N. Simonds, our Company Commander. He has commanded the Company for the last 18 months and we know that he will be missed. We take this opportunity to thank him for his service and regret that he will not be with us when we remove the "Champion Company" board from outside "D" Company office.

We have had very few departures since the last notes but have had some promotions and would like to congratulate, Sgt. Hudson, Cpls. Maynard, Wardle, Mason, L/Cpl. Henry, Cpl. Whitehouse, L/Cpls. Wren and Coughlan to mention but a few. We hope they stay with us as they will be urgently required when National Service ends.

SIGNAL PLATOON

The Signal Platoon has taken part in various recent Battalion activities with triumphant success, despite heavy odds against us, and all old signalers will be glad to know that the platoon spirit is very much alive.

The first success was the inter-platoon endurance competition; this was a 7-mile route march in full battle order to be done in an hour and a half, followed by the assault course and then 5 rounds application on the 30 yds. range. The Platoon put every ounce into this; we were determined to beat

the rifle platoons, which we easily did and became CHAMPION PLATOON. The Commanding Officer presented a prize to each member of the platoon who took part. The Platoon also took a prominent part in the inter-company rugby and football competitions. Now that "H.Q." Company has been divided in two, the Signal Platoon, Q.M. staff, Educational staff and Officers' Mess staff make up one side. Both the rugby and football teams consisted of two-thirds of the Signal Platoon (*if so, they must surely have been very much over strength—Ed.*); both teams reached the finals and gained runners-up points for "H.Q." Company in the inter-company competition.

Signalling has suffered a little with various spring activities taking priority but the regular cadre will be ready for classification in a couple of weeks' time. These will be the "old soldiers" of the platoon when we move in October as as 50% of the National Service men will leave between August and October.

Congratulations to Sgt. Hudson on his promotion and getting a "B" grading on his R.S.I. Course at Hythe also to Cpl. Whitehouse on his promotion and getting a "C+1" grading on his R.S.I. Course. The Platoon are now well off for instructors: five are Hythe-trained and Cpl. Kelly and L/Cpl. Cronin will be going there in September.

We welcome Ptes. Smith, Livesey, Haig, Rushman, Carlton, Middleton and Houghton to the Platoon. They will be starting a cadre after the Trooping and we wish them every success.

In the Battalion athletics team we have Pronto, Cpl. Whitehouse and L/Cpl. Wood. Ptes. Roberts, Houghton and Rushman are strong contenders for the Battalion cricket team.

L/Cpl. Castle and L/Cpl. Wells were demobilised in April and, more recently, Pte. Wood, known as "the Phantom Storeman"! We wish them every success for the future.

M.T. NOTES

Since our last notes, we have been out on a few convoy drives with Battalion H.Q. and, apart from a few hair-raising remarks to drivers in the high-ways and by-ways of the Irish countryside, things have gone quite well.

With summer coming round and fine days in store (we hope), lots of time will be spent behind the wheel in the form of convoy drives by day and night. The hold-up in the training programme at present is the trooping, followed by leave, range courses and outside commitments.

Transport at present is scattered around the countryside (outward bounding, Bisley team and at Londonderry on I.S. duties). Some of this is seen or heard at odd times and ungodly hours; messages come over the phone ("I am broken down," "bogged down" or "run out of petrol" in the most unlikely spots).

We hope to start competition driving after the troop (unless something else pops up) by using the square to see if improvements can be made to driving, thereby attaining a higher standard. By this it is hoped to keep the accident rate down. Then, by keeping our fingers crossed, getting a

three-month period accident free, with even hopes that a twelve-month period will follow.

An air of friendliness hangs over "H.Q." these days, Signals and M.T. going out on small schemes together. The two Platoon Sergeants having a "natter" before Muster Parade. Some people wonder whether the Muster Parade is for them or a discussion group to see what the future holds in store for some unfortunate person.

We have said good-bye to all but one of the R.E.M.E. craftsmen to whom we say thank you. We welcome in their place reinforcements to whom we wish a hearty welcome and hope that they will settle down just like the last group. The M.T. Section wants them to meet the barber in the near future, but not just to say "hello."

Our Stirling Mosses, Riley, Sanderson and Kench, have come to a smashing finish. Let this be a lesson to all drivers to learn from other people's mistakes.

We must say thanks to all drivers who have recently departed to civilian life. To all new drivers we wish a hearty welcome.

CORPS OF DRUMS

We open by welcoming the Regimental Band back from their successful tour to Casablanca. It was easy to distinguish them from the Drums by their sun tan (or was it "Vino"?)

On April 22, we had the honour of playing at the international soccer match in Belfast between Ireland and Wales. This went down quite well apart from a few hoarse voices next morning.

The following day found us all "teed up" for St. George's Day Parade; strangely enough there was no "flapping" in front of the vast audience and we were heartily congratulated by the C.O.

Since then we have been deeply engrossed in preparations for the Trooping, following which we look forward to a period of engagements in Yorkshire.

We end by welcoming to our flock Dmrs. Flaherty (ex-Band), Theakston, Johnson, and Eccleston. We hope they intend to remain with us. We also bid a sad farewell to "Smudge" Smith; we hope Civvy Street isn't too strenuous for him and that he keeps in touch with us.

BAND

The main event has been our visit to Casablanca as guests of the Royal Navy. At Rosyth we embarked in H.M.S. *Adamant*, a submarine depot ship. Having settled in we went on deck to play as the ship left harbour; we were then left much to ourselves and it was not long before we were swaying round the ship like old sea-dogs and using very nautical terms, especially after the rum issue.

As we approached Gibraltar, where we were making a short visit, we went on deck to play into harbour. To some it brought back old memories of the time when we had been stationed there, and it did not take long to get ashore when permission was given. Some went sightseeing, others to renew old and pleasant relationships; as you walked down the streets members of the Band were to be seen, their arms full of parcels, seeking more bargains.

We left Gibraltar with regret to go on to Casablanca. It was on this journey that we gave our first concert on deck to the crew, who greeted it with acclaim. At night we played for the officers' dinner.

We again played on deck as we entered harbour at Casablanca and at night we played at a cocktail party on board. The next day we were on deck to play the salute to the Colours. This was followed later on by a guard of honour for the Governor of Casablanca; in the afternoon the dance band played at a tea dance.

On the following day we played at a party which was held on board ship for the local children; it was very amusing to see members of the ship's crew dressed as pirates entertaining the children.

On our final day we gave a public concert in the park in Casablanca. Just before we were due to start we had a downpour of rain. This did not dampen the spirits of the vast crowd which had collected to listen, but caused us to shelter. Fortunately the rain did not last long and we were soon able to carry on; as each number ended we received much applause.

We left Casablanca, in another shower of rain, sorry that our visit could not have been longer and hoping some day to return.

On the journey back, at a small ceremony on deck, the Bandmaster received a ship's plaque to commemorate our voyage, and handed over in exchange our own Regimental plaque so that we would not be forgotten. We retain fond memories and the hope that we may be asked to go on another voyage as guests of the Royal Navy.

We have said farewell to L/Cpl. Brown and Bdsm. Airey (10) who have left us for civilian life and wish them all the best in the future.

UNIT PAY TEAM

The administrative inspection in February was highly successful on all counts. The staff is congratulated for a sound job of work.

The impending release of Cpls. Medlycott and Lloyd means that the Paymaster is now beginning the second generation of clerks; when the battalion moves there will be only two members of the present office going with it. We wish these N.C.O.s the best of luck in the future and are only sorry that we have been unable to twist their arms into staying on.

L/Cpl. Hey has proved his worth on the tennis court and has been to Aldershot for Army trials. The newcomer Pte. Large (ex "C" Company) hails from Leeds and so is perfectly at home. He is taking over "C" and M.T. Groups.

Colonel Chapman the District Paymaster, leaves Northern Ireland before us. He is going to South West District, and we wish him all good luck for the future.

This office is now responsible for paying all travel claims in cash to officers. This decision has meant frequent pleasant chats with officers not normally seen in the Pay Office as well as with other officers who do not often appear anywhere else but the Pay Office. The consumption of AFsO. 1771 has increased by alarming proportions; soon we shall have to print our own.