

No.127 January 1963



# 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 Suva  
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 1942  
The Hook 1953  
Korea 1952-53*

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### BUSINESS NOTES

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Photo: Hugh Greaves, Halifax

**LIEUTENANT-COLONEL J. C. MONCRIEFF, T.D., M.A.**  
**Commanding The West Riding Battalion (D.W.R.), T.A.**

## A LETTER FROM THE COLONEL

During the past few months members of the Regiment must have heard that there might be a further reorganisation of the infantry and that this could well affect the future of the Regiment. It is true that the War Office have carried out a further examination of the present brigade system and this was referred to by the Secretary of State for War in an announcement in the House towards the end of October.

I am very glad indeed to be able to tell you that, although certain brigades are to be reconstituted, this will not affect either the Regiment or the Yorkshire Brigade. We shall, however, in common with our sister Yorkshire regiments, be expected to move towards the idea of the "large regiments"; but we shall be allowed to do this in ways which suit us and which we can work out for ourselves. Here the matter rests for the moment, except that I feel confident that we shall preserve our title and our connection with the West Riding of Yorkshire.

In November 1962, Lt.-Colonel Gadd handed over command of the West Riding Battalion to Lt.-Colonel Moncrieff. Raymond Gadd's four years' tour of command has been an exceptionally responsible one, involving two amalgamations, the second of which was between infantry and gunner units. We could have had no better commanding officer to shoulder this burden and guide the new battalion through this difficult period. Colonel

Gadd has never spared himself and his services to the Regiment have been outstanding. All our good wishes go with him and I feel sure that I shall continue to have the benefit of his wide experience of the Territorial Army and its problems. We are also greatly indebted to Mrs. Gadd for her constant interest in the Regiment and for her kind hospitality on many occasions.

It is a great pleasure to welcome Colonel Jimmy Moncrieff as the new commanding officer and to extend to him the good wishes of the Regiment for his future success.

Finally, I must take this opportunity to remind all our readers that not only is our 1st Battalion now stationed in Yorkshire, but that their District Commander is Major-General Gordon Upjohn. When you add to this the fact that the West Riding Battalion's new Brigade Commander is Brigadier Pip Moran I am sure you will agree that we have got the right "Dukes" in the right places. This is the greatest opportunity the Regiment has ever had to cement its ties with Yorkshire and between its regular and territorial parts.

With best wishes to you all for 1963.

*J. C. Moncrieff*

### Lt.-COLONEL J. C. MONCRIEFF, T.D., M.A.

Lt.-Colonel Moncrieff, who has succeeded Lt.-Colonel Gadd as C.O. of The West Riding Battalion, was educated at Sowerby Bridge Grammar School from which, after winning the Mayricke Exhibition in Modern History and a County Major Scholarship, he went up to Jesus College, Oxford.

The war interrupted his studies and in 1942 he was commissioned into the KOYLI. He saw service in North Africa, Italy and Greece and was once wounded and once mentioned in despatches. He was released in December 1945, having commanded a company in the 2/4th Battalion, Royal Hampshire Regiment. (His favourite command was the assault pioneer platoon.)

He returned to Oxford after the war and graduated with second class honours in 1947.

#### Sport

Lt.-Colonel Moncrieff is a versatile sportsman. He gained a soccer blue at Oxford in 1946 as a wing half. He also played in University cricket trials and was elected a member of the Authentics' Cricket Club.

Continuing his soccer career he played for Halifax Town as an amateur and was a member of the 1952 side which won through to the 5th round of the F.A. Cup competition. He also played for Pegasus A.F.C., Yorkshire Amateur A.F.C., West Riding County F.A. XI (Captain) and had an amateur international trial.

In 1954 he switched to Rugby Union and gained a regular place in Halifax R.U.F.C. 1st Team as a forward. He was subsequently captain of A and B XV's. He retired from all forms of football in 1961.

At cricket he played for Todmorden in the Lancashire League for six years, being captain for two years. He also played for Lightcliffe in the Bradford League and King Cross in the Yorkshire League. He is still a playing member of The Craven Gentlemen.

#### Territorial Service

Lt.-Colonel Moncrieff joined the T.A. in 1947 when post-war recruiting started and from 1947 to 1951 was with The Queen's Own Yorkshire Dragoons. In 1951 he transferred to 7th D.W.R., commanding "A" Company at Sowerby Bridge and Halifax. In the subsequent amalgamations he became training major to the 5/7th Battalion and second in command of the West Riding Battalion.

#### Personal

Lt.-Colonel Moncrieff is managing director of his family business, Moorlands Bakery Ltd., Biscuit and Toffee Manufacturers, Hebden Bridge.

He is married to the second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Sutcliffe of Halifax—well known to many officers who were stationed at the old Depot. He has one son.



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## REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS

The Bower report—proposals for the reorganisation of the Infantry—has been hanging over our heads for the last few months like the sword of Damocles. We were well aware from rumour and the national press that "The Big Regiment" was coming, though in what form and whether it would sweep away the newly formed Regimental Headquarters was mainly guesswork. It was fairly easy to convince ourselves of the importance of our task but we couldn't help having sneaking doubts as to whether the War Office would see it in quite the same light.

Even the shower of workmen that descended on the barracks and set about modifying the buildings earmarked as our new headquarters failed to reassure us entirely. The work, however, is progressing. A large sum has been cut off the original estimates so we have had to do without the lawn that was to have been made on the site of the old quartermaster's coal yard.

The Regimental Secretary intervened over the proposed colour scheme and got approval for his selection of pastel shades of green, blue and yellow as opposed to the old army favourites, dark brown and green. How much of this will be visible after the oak boards with the names of past Colonels, C.O.'s and Adjutants have been erected remains to be seen.

Visitors have been relatively few this last quarter, almost too few. The remoteness of Halifax from other military establishments used in the past to be a source of satisfaction to Depot Commanders, who were seldom put out by an unexpected visit.

We get, however, a considerable flow of correspondence. A few merely write for buttons or badges for collections. It any reader has any spare cap badges of the old pattern we would be most

pleased to have them so that we can continue to meet this particular demand.

An interesting request came from South Africa from the son of an ex-bandsman who served between 1892-96. He wanted his father's birth certificate in order to get a British passport to return to England. It took several months to find the enlistment documents and trace the place and date of birth. But the birth certificate was finally despatched.

To add to the list of Regimental bodies given in the last issue the composition of the following committees is given.

### Regimental Association—Management Committee

Colonel C. R. T. Cumberlege (*Chairman*)

The Honorary Secretaries of all branches of the Association

The Regimental Secretary

Major-General R. K. Exham, C.B., C.B.E., M.C.  
(*Treasurer Retired Officers Fund*)

O.C., 1st Battalion

O.C. The West Riding Battalion

General Secretary Regimental Association

### Finance Committee

Colonel W. A. Waller, O.B.E., M.C.

Major D. C. Roberts

Mr. B. Boon

Mr. G. Machen, M.B.E.

### Welfare Case Committee

The Regimental Secretary

Lt.-Colonel W. Skelsey, M.B.E.

Mr. T. McMahon

General Secretary Regimental Association

## REGIMENTAL CHAPEL—YORK MINSTER

The Annual Service was held in the Regimental Chapel in York Minster on November 1 (All Saints Day) 1962.

The service was taken by the Bishop of Pontefract (Chaplain to the Regiment) assisted by Canon Cant, the Minster Canon in Residence. The lesson was read by the Colonel of the Regiment and Dr. Francis Jackson, the Minster Organist, played the organ.

The Bishops's address on "Courage—physical and moral" was particularly inspiring.

We have to thank Mrs. Jackson for arranging the flowers; for the first time we were allowed to have our white roses on the altar. It is doubtful whether All Saints' Chapel has ever looked lovelier.

In spite of a wet and cold day there was a large congregation, numbering 200 or more. Besides the Colonel of the Regiment and Mrs. Exham, we were pleased to see, amongst others, General and Mrs. Upjohn, Brigadier Moran, Colonel, Mrs. and Miss Wathen, Colonel and Mrs. Cumberlege, Colonel

and Mrs. Waller and Colonel Powell (the Brigade Colonel) with his wife. Colonel and Mrs. Kavanagh led a party of 50 or so from the 1st Battalion and Lt.-Colonel le Messurier and Major Wellesley brought a party of, mostly, young soldiers from the Brigade Depot. Lt.-Colonel and Mrs. Gadd represented the West Riding Battalion and Lord Savile, hotfoot from the Opening of Parliament, was also there. Mr. and Mrs. Sam Smith came from Scarborough.

Regimental "HQ" was represented by Major and Mrs. Davis accompanied by Mrs. Treacy and Lt.-Colonel Skelsey. Messrs. Sidney Code and Tom McMahon with their wives led an exceptionally large contingent of Old Comrades, all of whom we were very glad to see.

Captain Bailey, accompanied by his wife, represented the West Riding Cadets.

After the service parties were held in the officers and sergeants messes at the Brigade Depot. Our thanks are due to the Brigade Colonel for allowing us these facilities.

## The Yorkshire Brigade Depot

My Almanac says for November "The best Physic this month is good exercise, warm clothes, and wholesome diet. But if any Distemper afflict you, finish your Physic this month, and so rest till March." Good advice, but I don't see us being allowed to hibernate that long!

Soon after our last notes were written teams of "technicians" came down to inspect our various departments preparatory to the annual inspection on October 12. The inspecting officer this year was Brigadier J. M. H. Hackett, D.S.O., O.B.E., late Foresters. All went well and the whole exercise was most valuable.

Brigadier Moran is now firmly in the saddle as Commander York Area. We do hope that he will enjoy his tour and that we shall see him whenever he can spare the time.

September was a busy month. It started with York Military Week when some of us paraded in our very best uniforms to see the Band and Drums of the 33rd beat the first third of what seemed to be an excellent "Retreat." The sky darkened and the heavens opened, and that was that. The Depot saluting base regrettably leaked like a sieve and gave scant shelter for the Civic Dignitaries and Commander York Area. Also, that month, we had a cheery visit from an American Military Attaché, we enjoyed reasonable weather for our Depot rifle meeting and, on one weekend, the Green Howards Old Comrades took over the barracks for 48 hours.

The building has made some progress though the central heating system has caused delay overall. Further the square has had an open trench system on two sides, now filled in, to take the hot water pipes. Thus it was that some Old Comrades of the Gallant 14th Foot, who held a reunion at the Depot in October and who thought they knew the best way to the Globe Cinema, ended up six foot down. Luckily no one was fatally injured.

At the end of October the Council of Colonels met here but we were sorry that Brigadier Denaro (Y & L) was unable to come over.

We were able to fill the Garrison Church here in Strensall for November 11, when a very simple but moving service was conducted by Padre Gerald Solomon.

A very recent visitor to watch Recruit and Junior Soldiers' Wing training was a late GOC-in-C of Northern Command, now Adjutant General, General Sir Richard Goodbody, K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O., A.D.C.

Before passing on to company and mess notes a special mention must be paid to Captain E. Crowcroft (PWO) who was recently commissioned to become a Director of Music to the Malaysia Forces after four years as Brigade Bandmaster. He did a tremendous amount for music in the Junior Soldiers' Band and Drums and therefore for the Brigade as a whole. It was a great shock to read of his illness so soon after his arrival in Malaya and

we trust that he will soon be fit again. Our best wishes also go to Mrs. Crowcroft who has done so much for the families.

Finally from all of us here to all Yorkshire Brigade past and present good fortune for 1963.

### OFFICERS' MESS

Faces come and go making this a real Yorkshire Brigade Mess, and quite rightly so. Some stay longer and we have had to say goodbye to Robert Campbell-Lamerton as a tangible mark of respect for the oval ball. We shall miss his enthusiasm.

We welcome Captain John Halmshaw (PWO) and 2 Lt. R. Stevens (DWR) and trust they will enjoy their tours with us.

We are also in the process of saying goodbye to Captain M. Sharpe (Y & L) who has done so much for the Depot as adjutant and has carried so much of the burden on his shoulders. At the moment he is elbow deep in promotion examinations but we wish him all good fortune both in that and in his new job with the Trinidad and Tobago Regiment. It is a pity he has to take with him Maureen who has also done so much on her net.

The new incumbent is Ian Kibble (Green Howards) fresh from adventure training in Norway. A keen horseman he has the stables firmly under control.

We have had two cocktail parties for a large number of official and private guests who included the C-in-C, Lt.-General Sir Charles Jones, the Chief of Staff and many others who have helped in making life possible for us.

Officers and retired officers came in for drinks, and some stayed for lunch, after the All Saints' Day Service in York Minster.

Guests at a guest night included Brigadier "Pip" Moran, Lt.-Colonel Peter Steel (3 PWO), Lt.-Colonel Barry Kavanagh, and the gallant Major Robertson from the West Riding Battalion.

We were all delighted to hear of the safe arrival of Anthony James Pell. Now life of the Depot can resume its even tenor.

### W.O.'s AND SERGEANTS' MESS

In September a very enjoyable Depot and T.A. Sergeants' Mess Shoot was well supported. Results were:

#### *Depot*

Champion Shot ..	C/Sgt. Simpson, DWR.
Second .. ..	Q.M.S.I. Church, SASC.
Third .. ..	R.Q.M.S. Applegarth, G.H.

#### *T.A. Battalions*

Champion Shot ..	Sgt. Foley, 3 PWO.
Second .. ..	Sgt. Firfield, 3 PWO.
Third .. ..	C/Sgt. Bacon, WR Battalion.
<i>Falling Plates</i> ..	The Hallamshire Battalion.
<i>Wooden Spoon</i> ..	The Depot Band Sgt.-Major Dennis (PWO).

A reunion dinner with members of an experimental police mobile column who camped here a year ago was held in September. It was a great success with the evening being rounded off by a triangular games match between the Police, Sergeants' Mess and Officers' Mess. The Police won, naturally!

R.S.M. Mottram (PWO) left the Depot on October 15 to attend the QM Course prior to promotion. We wish him and Mrs. Mottram all good fortune in the future.

R.S.M. Curtis (Green Howards) held the fort admirably for a short time until the arrival of R.S.M. Campey (PWO) to whom with Mrs. Campey we extend a very warm greeting.

We also extend greetings to the new Bandmaster and Mrs. Greening who replace Captain and Mrs. Crowcroft mentioned earlier in the notes. We also hope Captain Crowcroft will soon be fully recovered.

Among our guests this time we have welcomed C.S.M. Green and S/Sgt. Boyd of the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, up for the PWO reunion, and a party of "Dukes" who came over for the All Saints Day Service, led by Mr. Sidney Code. We were visited also on this occasion by our Representative Colonel, General K. G. Exham.

The Sergeants' Mess now has fortnightly social evenings which are proving a great success.

On October 31, a .22 match was arranged between the Ladies .22 Club and a selected team from the Mess. The result was a not so convincing win for the Mess who scored 460 against the Ladies 405. The best card was fired by Mrs. Church with a 94. Further practice for the mess will be arranged.

Finally congratulations to W.O.1 Pidgeon (Green Howards), R.Q.M.S. Applegarth (Green Howards), C.S.M. Pennington (DWR) and C/Sgt. Pitkin (ACC) on the award of the L.S. & G.C.

### TRAINING COMPANY

The machine has been working overtime not only in training recruits but also in looking after various attachments from TA and, more recently, attachments of Nigeria and Sierra Leone newly commissioned officers and officer cadets for whom Yorkshire Brigade Depot has been appointed a sort of foster parent.

The Best Recruit who passed out of Quebec Platoon in October was Pte. Mitchell (DWR) the second colonial recruit to gain that distinction.

The Company provided men for the parade in both York and Strensall for Remembrance Sunday. In York, Salerno Platoon (2 Lt. Stevens) paraded at the City Memorial Cross together with representatives of the other two services, W.R.A.C. and other organisations. The whole parade was commanded by the Company Commander and marshalled by the C.S.M. The Lord Mayor and City Aldermen and the Service Chiefs attended.

### "H.Q." COMPANY AND JUNIOR SOLDIERS WING

Recently our main topic of interest has been the progress of our football team in the Army Junior Soldiers Football Cup. We had a bye in the first round, beat the Lancastrian Brigade 7-0 at home in the second round, the Highland Brigade 5-1 at

home in the third and met the Grenadier and Coldstream Guards team at Pirbright in the semi-final. A very good game ensued. They were a little bigger and stronger than us, though we played better football and were just as fit. At half-time we were 3-1 down. At full-time the score was 3 all and we had four men injured. They then cracked in three goals in extra time and we were out of the cup. Our team had fought extremely hard but the cup was not to be ours this year.

It is always difficult, and perhaps a little unfair, to pick out outstanding performers, but two do stand out after three very good team matches. J/Cpl. Haigh (DWR), our captain, who plays in defence, was an inspiration at all times with his cool ball control and distribution; J/Bdsm. Callaghan (Y & L), our centre forward, who scored a hat-trick in the first match, two goals in the second, and a goal in the semi-final before he chipped a bone in his knee. Unfortunately, at the time of writing he is in Catterick Military Hospital but we all wish him a speedy recovery.

Apart from football our training has continued as usual. The Band played in the Garrison Church on Remembrance Sunday; the Drums provided the buglers to sound the Last Post and the Reveille in a number of churches in the York area. The St. George's Platoon also provided some junior soldiers for a Remembrance Parade in York.

The new platoon, all except six men, passed their First Aid examination recently and are doing well in the Inter Platoon Competition.

Our basketball team has been playing in the York Youth League and is doing quite well despite the lack of practice due to the gym being still not ready.

We welcome Cpl. Jimmy Brooking (Y & L) who replaced his twin, Cpl. Harry Brooking (Y & L), last month. He has settled down quickly and enters into everything with immense energy.

We were privileged to have Bandmaster Sumner (Y & L) with us for a month. He filled the gap between Captain Crowcroft leaving and Bandmaster Greening, whom we welcome, arriving and he filled it very competently.

### SPORT

#### Boys' Canoeing Club

Prompted by the enthusiasm aroused on Ullswater in the Lake District during the Summer Camp, the Junior Soldiers' Wing canoeing has made great strides this term.

Previously handicapped by the shortage of canoes—having only three Nuffield donated folders—the boys have now started building their own and already one double seater and one single seater have been launched.

Although canoe building classes take place only on two evenings a week the boys have, in fact, been giving up some of their spare time to do extra work. Two of the boys, J/Dmr. Timson (DWR) and J/Bdsm. Plant (Y & L), have gone into production on their own account as a step towards the Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

Canoeing takes place twice a week, with Wednes-

*Continued at foot of p.11*



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## The Waterloo Colours of the 33rd

In 1948 the C.O. of the 1st Battalion—having studied the catalogue of the R.U.S.I. Museum—asked the Curator if he could take over some items deposited in the Museum which were of great interest to the Battalion. These included the Regimental Colour of the 33rd carried at Waterloo and a letter from the Great Duke virtually accepting the conception of the 33rd being named “The Duke of Wellington’s.”

The Curator, a trifle light-heartedly, agreed to hand these items over and the C.O. bore them back to Strensall in triumph. The Colour was encased in one of those peculiar glass domes in which artificial flowers used to be laid on graves. On being opened it was discovered that both Colours were there and also the spear points and shoes of the Colour pikes. Thus we had the complete stand of the Waterloo Colours which were presented in 1813 and retired in 1832 and which were carried at Bergen-op-Zoom, Quatre Bras and Waterloo. They were carefully repaired, mounted, framed under glass and deposited in the Regimental Chapel in Halifax.

This year the then C.O. of the 1st Battalion—now Deputy Colonel—was a member of the War Office Committee to make recommendations for the disposal of the military items of the R.U.S.I. Museum which is being broken up.

As he was leaving the R.U.S.I. building after the second meeting of the committee he was told—to his horror—that the present owner of the Waterloo stand of the 33rd had written to the R.U.S.I. to ask for his property to be returned. The Colours had been deposited in 1914 by a Miss Vickers, a grand niece of Lt.-Colonel J. M. Harty who was acting Commanding Officer of the 33rd when the Colours were retired and who in accordance with the then custom, had had them confided to him.

The Deputy Colonel had taken the obvious precaution of writing to Miss Vickers in 1948 at her last known address and had not been surprised to have his letter returned “addressee unknown.” However, it certainly surprised him to learn now that Miss Vickers in her will had left the Colours—and the ducal letter—to her nephew, Mr. H. Vickers, who was now, very reasonably, asking for his property.

It is a pleasure to report that Mr. Vickers, on having the circumstances explained to him by a practically hysterical Deputy Colonel, agreed—for a token sum—to hand these precious relics over to the Regiment in proper form. This particularly treasured stand of Colours can now hang securely in our Halifax Chapel, having given those concerned as unpleasant a shock as perhaps the Ensigns who bore them in action had known.

B.W.W.-C.

### *Brigade Depot Continued*

day afternoons given over to short trips on nearby waters—the Ouse and Derwent—to introduce beginners to the sport, and Saturday giving the experienced boys an opportunity to explore more distant and more challenging water. Exciting runs in fast water on the Ure and Wharfe have dampened everything but the boys’ enthusiasms.

As the canoeing instructors in this unit see its future in fast water canoeing rather than in trying to emulate the excellent long distance racing performances of nearby Harrogate Apprentice School, the emphasis in our canoe building is on the single seater slalom canoe. Unfortunately the Army seems to neglect this most testing sphere of canoeing so it seems that our activities will be non competitive; nevertheless we feel that it has a great deal to offer a unit like ours in the North of England where English white water canoeing was pioneered.

### **Sailing**

A kit for the “Yachting World” International Cadet Class Dinghy has been bought and a boat building class is in full swing under Major R. Batchelor, R.A.E.C.

### **Soccer**

Highlight of the matches played during the month was the home Army Cup-tie against the cup-holders, 6th Battalion, R.A.O.C. (Chillwell).

Although beaten 5-4 after extra time, the Depot

gave the R.A.O.C. a hard game and deserved at least the chance of a replay, the winning goal coming with only three minutes of extra time remaining.

### **Hockey**

The side is not greatly changed from last year although one year older. R.S.M. Campey has come in place of ex-R.S.M. Mottram and C.S.M.I. Clark, A.P.T.C., is a welcome newcomer.

We have settled down to some good games and if the weather is kind look forward to another robust season.

### **ARMY BENEVOLENT FUND**

Samuel Webster and Sons, the Halifax brewers of “Dukes” ale, have made a generous response to the Army Benevolent Fund appeal in the West Riding with a deed of covenant for £25. They have requested that it be specially allotted to The Duke of Wellington’s Regiment. This gift is much appreciated.

### **CARLTON TOWER**

We are asked to bring to notice that the new Carlton Tower Hotel, Cadogan Place, S.W.1, an advertisement for which appears on another page, has announced special military rates during the winter season, November through March. These are: single rooms, £3. 0s. 0d. per night; doubles, £3. 10s. 0d.; twins, £4. 0s. 0d. (plus 10 per cent. gratuities). All rooms have private bath, shower and television.

## 1st BATTALION

### Sub-Editorial

As usual the December notes are difficult to prepare, so little happens during the last quarter of the year. However, we have a few highlights to record.

Before leaving Barnard Castle for the delights of Catterick Camp we were very pleased to welcome the Colonel of the Regiment for a couple of days on September 21. During this visit we were deeply honoured to entertain His Grace the Duke of Wellington to lunch together with Major-General Gordon Upjohn, our new District Commander.

Our final ceremony at Barnard Castle was a farewell parade in honour of the last national servicemen, as a token of appreciation for all the service the many thousands have given the Regiment. The national servicemen paraded facing the Colours and the regular element of the Battalion. The Commanding Officer shook each by the hand, Old Lang Syne was played and the national servicemen marched off parade for the last time to the strains of the Regimental March.

We have now left the wartime delights of Streatlam Camp for the comfort of a permanent "Sandhurst" type barracks, Boulton Lines, Catterick Camp—very much a change for the better, despite the multiplicity of garrison duties and the gang of painters who harry us from barrack room to barrack room.

"B" Company in British Honduras continue to go from strength to strength; an account of their

activities is elsewhere in this issue. Their successors in the Colony, "A" Company, are now forming and training hard.

The Commanding Officer, Second-in-Command and a representative body of warrant officers, sergeants and rank and file attended the annual Regimental Service in York Minster on November 1, and a detachment of three officers and 100 other ranks, with the band and drums, were on parade for the Remembrance Sunday church parade at Catterick Camp.

We have already tasted the delights of the northern winter, a week's ice and snow in mid-November. "Much too early; means a long hard winter" say the locals. We hope not.

Our rugby team battle on through the Army Cup—more of that elsewhere. The problems of team selection with so many players away are many and heart-breaking.

Our soccer team is also beset with the same search for talent but, are manfully struggling on.

On November 27 the Adjutant-General, General Sir Richard Goodbody, visited the Battalion and, after speaking to many in both the dining hall and the sergeants mess, lunched with the officers before moving on to the Yorkshire Brigade Depot.

Finally, as we go to press we learn the Battalion is to move to Germany in 1964, so our stay in Yorkshire is to be shorter than we had been led to believe. It does, however, give us a target on which to set our sights.

## OFFICERS' MESS

The new officers' mess is really very nice, what we see of it. Only two people live in it most of the time—Topper Brown and John Moir—the rest are either out on rigger training, Garrison orderly officer (we'll have to see about that!), or painting Micky's new sports club. Some of the officers do sleep now and again, and we all have lunch in the mess occasionally—oh, and dinner sometimes too.

I was right about the minutes of the last mess meeting, they never did appear; fortunately some notes had been made by a third party, so none of the pearls of wisdom was lost.

Barnard Castle was a happy interlude but, as we had less than a month in which to clean up after the KAPE tour, and to prepare for the move to Catterick, there was plenty to do.

The one great occasion was when His Grace the Duke of Wellington honoured us with a visit on September 21. We were delighted that he was able to lunch in the mess. General Exham was with us as well, and a most enjoyable day ended with a buffet supper and a very amusing film, "The French Mistress."

Sgt. Garrity, having handed over the mess in Colchester, arrived in Catterick with the advance

party and worked hard to make the new mess habitable. His task was very difficult, for the painters were working in the entire building and all the kitchen equipment was being replaced. The painters have just finished; the new cooker has had time to burst into flames once and be quelled by Richardson with a fire extinguisher; we are still waiting for some decent carpets. Ian Reid as mess secretary has his hands full, but at last we do seem to have the makings of a well trained mess staff.

Since mid-October we have done our share of entertaining in Catterick. We gave a cocktail party for the rest of the garrison and for certain local personalities. This was very successful, thanks partly to some excellent temporary staff and partly because the officers living in spent the previous evening making the savouries.

We dined the West Riding Battalion officers in mess at the end of October. This had never been done before, and it seemed particularly appropriate that we should be able to say farewell to Colonel Raymond Gadd, whose term as C.O. has finished, and to welcome Jimmy Moncrieff who is succeeding him. Some 21 officers of the West Riding Battalion came and, indeed, they outnumbered us.

## THE LAST NATIONAL SERVICEMEN



Photo: by courtesy of "Soldier, The British Army Magazine"

**The C.O. shaking hands on the farewell parade**



Photo: by courtesy of "Soldier, The British Army Magazine"

**The last group being de-kitted**

The dinner was a good one, and afterwards we raced horses in the ante-room to the enjoyment of everybody. The course and the animals had been improved by Micky Bray and, as the overall result was a substantial credit to messing fund, the game will obviously be repeated.

In particular it was a real pleasure to see again those officers who, having once served with the 1st Battalion, are continuing to produce the right spirit in the West Riding Battalion.

One other regimental guest night was held, for a variety of reasons: to entertain Colonels Barras and Winn of 3rd Royal Tanks and 1st Loyals respectively, and several of their officers, and to dine out Colonel Hugh Le Messurier and John Milligan. The standard of indoor bowls after dinner indicated that all had dined and wined well, play being robust, unpredictable and strongly influenced by the rucks in the ante-room carpet.

The first cinema night in Catterick was memorable. The idea was mild and restrained, then the C.O. indicated that the proposed supper was perhaps too simple. Next Andrew Nickell said, "What about starting with rum punch?"; then the P.M.C. said "Later on we might think about dancing after the film." Micky Bray asked innocently "By later on did you mean about 10.30 to-night." "No, but . . . oh, all right, let's." So we had drinks, supper, a film (corny but funny in places) and dancing thereafter with, thanks to the W.R.A.C. and the hospital, partners for all. It looks as if The Duke's cinema nights may become a notable feature of life in Catterick.

We have seen General Gordon Upjohn (socially and on duty), Brigadier Pip Moran, Colonels Waller and Wathen and many other favourite visitors. John Davis's car now knows its own way from Halifax to Bourlon Lines. Dennis Shuttleworth comes and talks selectors' language to us whenever we play a cup match and as often as we can persuade him to visit us. John Sugden and Derek Roberts are finding that their homes are not too far away and we hope to see more of them.

We shall miss John Milligan who has been our "continuity man" for so many years. We do wish

him a good job and much happiness in Singapore where public relations sounds like a life worth following.

Temporary departures are those of Jeremy Cumberlege, off to H.Q. Yorkshire District as G3 (Trg.), and Robin Stevens who relieved Robert Campbell-Lamerton at Strensall.

Topper Brown, forsaking wife, family, and the tundra of Salisbury Plain District, is temporarily living in the mess, and finding more "A" problems in H.Q. company than were ever in SPD. John Greenway, who has taken over the adjutant's chair, is beginning to surface from behind the wall of paper. He is also trying to introduce a stabilising influence into the mess and to restore dignity and decorum to the complaints book. Robert Campbell-Lamerton returned from Strensall complete with dog and cat and, for a while, the mess was more like a menagerie. He has shown tremendous enthusiasm as messing member, and let it be said now that we are all grateful for his efforts and their good results.

We welcome John Moir as a permanent member of the mess—he has been a great asset during his temporary attachment.

Before Christmas we propose to entertain the mess staff. They will have to put up with our cooking for a change, and run the gauntlet of a variety of games and competitions to be scored as Gentlemen *v.* Players (alas no more!). They have all worked splendidly for very long hours and in the face of many difficulties. In particular Pte. Saltonstall has cooked right well for us; he has had plenty of advice but done most of the work himself. I would mention the rest—they have all been splendid—but space does not permit.

The new year brings with it a full programme of entertainment, starting with a formal dinner and dance to which the ladies are invited on Twelfth Night.

So, with the festive season upon us, the bachelors prepare for their round of parties and the husbands look anxiously at their bank statements, but all join in wishing the readers of these notes a very happy New Year.

## W.O.s' and SERGEANTS' MESS

Our mess in Bourdon Lines is rather on the small side and this curtails the number of guests that we can invite to our social activities. Our next big problem will be to find a suitable place in which to hold the 1963 Paardeberg Ball. No doubt we shall eventually sort this one out.

Before leaving Barnard Castle we held our monthly dinner on October 5 and took the opportunity of dining out "Pop" Dodds. Besides "Pop" we had two guests, one being R.Q.M.S. Barns of the Royal Signals who was a friend of the Mess in Kenya, and the other was Ray Batty's brother, S.S.M. L. Batty of the Royal Engineers, who did some sterling work with us on the demonstration in Roundhay Park.

We welcome back to the Mess two of the older

members, namely C.S.M. Pat Sheehan from Northern Command and C.S.M. "Al" Arundel from the West Riding Battalion (T.A.). Sgt. "Nobby" Clarke had a quick posting and we hope that he is settling down in his new role of P.S.I. with the West Riding Battalion (T.A.). Sgt. Frank Pratt passed through on his way into civvy street and wished to be remembered to anyone that he did not see. We wish him well in his venture on the outside. Congratulations to Sgt. "Bobo" and Mary Chilvers on the birth of their first-born, a girl.

We have entered the Catterick District Indoor Games League and play every Thursday, which we make a social and games evening. We are not being too successful in the league but we all enjoy

the evenings out. Needless to say, we always win the game of darts for a gallon of ale.

On September 21 we were visited by His Grace The Duke of Wellington and the Colonel of the Regiment. On that day we also had the P.S.I.s from the West Riding Battalion to see us. In conjunction with the corporals we ran a coach to the O.C.A. dinner at Halifax in September and it would seem that all concerned had a very successful reunion.

We received an invitation from 20 Independent Company, W.R.A.C., to a Hallowe'en Ball and most of the living-in members attended and had a very enjoyable time. Most of our married members are still in quarters at Barnard Castle and naturally the transport problem cuts down on our social activity. We are hoping that by the time these notes appear most of them will have moved over to Catterick.

Geoff Nicholson has managed it again and very soon will be back at the Signals Wing, Hythe. No doubt he will spend his half-days next summer in the shade of the breakwaters down on the beach.

On November 1, All Saints Day, C.S.M.s. Arundel and France and Sgts. Wass and Wilson attended the annual service in the Regimental Chapel at York Minster. Afterwards we went up to the Brigade Mess at Strensall where we had lunch and a few beers. There we met Ted Pennington and all the P.S.I.s from the West Riding Battalion. Many yarns were swapped and indeed retold.

### CORPORALS' MESS

As with the Sergeants' Mess, a large number of our members, being married, are still in quarters in Barnard Castle, which puts rather a curb on our social activities for the time being. However in the New Year, when more of our members have moved house, we hope to get to know our neighbours in the Catterick area.

Before leaving Barnard Castle we had a social evening and dance, which was a great success and much enjoyed by all. We were able to sell our beer at half-price, which helped things to go with a swing, and the buffet prepared by Sgt. McGill and the cooks was really excellent. At this social we said our last farewells to Sgt. "Pop" Dodds. He was our guest for the evening and we were able to get him nicely "topped up" before he left. May we once more say farewell and good luck, "Pop," and don't forget to come and see us whenever you have the chance.

We welcome to the Mess Cpls. Wilson, Petrie and Henderson, all of the R.A.P.C., and Cpl. Bayston back from Netheravon. Our congratulations to L/Cpls. Wyeth (R.E.M.E.), Clay and Sieler who have recently joined us on promotion. We hope they will all have a long and happy stay.

We hear that Cpl. Lawrence and L/Cpl. Browne have had recent increases in their families; congratulations to both.

A number of our members have represented the

*Continued opposite*



**Bandmaster B. Bowyer, L.R.A.M.**

Mr. Brian Bowyer, our bandmaster, was born on April 8, 1930, at Stalybridge, Cheshire, but lived as a child at Greenfield in the West Riding.

On leaving school he studied engineering drawing and became an apprentice draughtsman with Fairey Aviation at Heaton Chapel.

In June 1948, the lure of service life appealed to him and he enlisted as a soldier in the Royal Armoured Corps. He was posted to XI Hussars in September of that year and soon afterwards joined the band.

He served with the band of XI Hussars in Germany from 1948 to 1953, except during a spell of 12 months when he was attending the Pupils' Course at the Royal Military School of Music, Kneller Hall.

In 1953, by which time he had risen to corporal and acquired a wife, he accompanied his regiment to Malaya.

He left XI Hussars in March 1955, to attend the Student Bandmaster Course at Kneller Hall, and he was appointed bandmaster of the Duke of Wellington's Regiment in May 1958.

Since joining the Regiment Mr. Bowyer has become the keenest of "Dukes." He has guided the band with a sure hand through the difficult period of the closing years of National Service. Now, largely thanks to his efforts, the Regiment has a fine all-regular band.

Battalion at soccer, rugby and hockey and, unfortunately, Cpls. Wilson and Reddy have been injured in the process. We wish them a speedy recovery.

## RUGGER

Having moved north we lost no time in getting down to rugby again this season. Before the army Cup started we had several warm-up matches, the results of which showed that our fears of the summer were well founded and that a considerable amount of rebuilding had to be done now that the last of our brilliant national service players had departed and Major Isles, Dick Mundell, Bill Bailey, and Wilf Charlesworth had decided to rest this season and depart for British Honduras for a holiday.

Otley 0-17, Huddersfield 5-44, Roundhay 6-11 and Ilkley 3-0, are results which are, to say the least of it, unusual for a "Dukes" XV; but invaluable practice and knowledge was gained which has been put into good use.

Steady improvement throughout these games gave us a fair measure of confidence for the first round of the Cup against 38 Corps Engineer Regiment, R.E. For that match we had, for the first time, Captain M. J. Campbell-Lamerton, after a strenuous, but very successful Lions Tour in South Africa; brother Robert was his partner, so we felt that at least the "engine room" was going to be all right.

Our confidence was justified as we had an easy win 44-0, with the whole team playing excellent rugby against a side who, though weak, never gave up trying. Not bad, one thought—but let's wait for the next few weeks before we decide.

We caught a "tartar" in the second round, against 11 Signals Regiment, Catterick. The introductions were very much to the point and, after an extremely hard match and a few heart attacks, we emerged victorious 11-6. Ten Fijians in their side made sure that no quarter was asked

or given, and only a fine solo try by Lt. D. R. Newell brought us home.

The next on our list was 3rd R.T.R., again a Catterick unit, and, although we won 39-0, our performance left a lot to be desired as we scored a great number of our points in the last 20 minutes and were never really convincing up front.

The fourth round brought us up against the All Arms Junior Leaders Battalion, from an unpronounceable place in Wales, who were met on neutral ground at Oswestry. This gave us an opportunity of meeting Major Hoppe again, much referred to by "Dukes" when discussing front row play, and not so much by his opponents!

The Junior Leaders Battalion gave us a very good lesson in the forwards and only two fine tries by Captain J. Greenway put the issue beyond doubt. So we are again awaiting our next round when we are up against 28th Company, R.A.O.C. who will be extremely hard to overcome.

The following have played for the Battalion so far this season: Captain Dasant (captain); Major Harms, Captains Bray, M. Campbell-Lamerton, Greenway, Lupton; Lts. Bellamy, Reid; 2 Lts. R. Campbell-Lamerton, Newell, Nickell, Pettigrew, Walker; S/Sgt. J. Rea; Cpl. R. Coll; L/Cpls. J. Clay, D. Croft; Ptes. F. Baxter, A. Deegan, D. Rhodes, T. Marshall, T. Waquabaca.

### LATE NEWS

We regret to report that the Battalion lost (6-12) in the Army Cup match against 28 Coy., RASC, on December 18. An account of the match arrived too late for inclusion here.—Ed.

## SOCCER

We opened the season with very few players from last year's Battalion teams, and those that were left were mainly national servicemen on the verge of release. Added to this many of our potentials are with "B" Company in British Honduras. So we virtually had to start from scratch.

However, undaunted, we entered the Catterick District Senior League with our 1st XI and the Catterick District Junior League with our 2nd XI. In these leagues we have come up against some really strong and well-established teams from the Royal Tank and Signal Training Regiments and also from the R.A.F. Stations in the area. Without going into the awful details it will be sufficient to say that we have not won all our matches, but both teams have played hard and with great spirit.

The Battalion has been searched again and again for potential players and each new draft has been met with the urgent cry of "Anyone here play soccer?" The R.Q.M.S. turned out for us on one occasion, and it was even seriously suggested at one stage that the R.S.M., who inherited the duties of Officer i/c Soccer from Mr. Randall, should play himself in goal.

However, we are improving with each game despite a number of injuries and, as the season progresses, we hope to take revenge for some of our defeats.

In the Army Cup we were unfortunately knocked out by our neighbours in Barnard Castle, the 1st Loyals. It was a good game and we wish them luck in the further rounds to come.

Within the Battalion we have an inter-platoon league and, although it has not gone as smoothly as we had hoped due to the move and other commitments, the league positions to date are published below:

	P	W	D	L	Goals		Pts.
					F	A	
Signal Platoon ..	3	3	0	0	16	2	6
10 Pl., "C" Company	3	2	1	0	14	8	5
Band .. ..	3	2	0	1	9	5	4
9 Pl., "C" Company	3	2	0	1	19	10	4
1 Pl., "A" Company ..	2	0	1	1	4	6	1
M.T. .. ..	2	0	0	2	3	15	0
Drums .. ..	2	0	0	2	1	8	0
Sp. Pl., "A" Company	2	0	0	2	1	13	0

## Keeping the Army in the Public Eye, 1962

*“And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother’s eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye?”* (Matthew, ch. 7, v. 3.)

This year’s “Regimental Visit to the West Riding” had not quite the same appearance of an orgy as last year’s, but it had its moments. The programme was full and ambitious; it did not set out to give an excuse for a party, and it did demand long working days and little respite.

August was a month of planning and preparation. Static displays of weapons, wireless, vehicles and adventure training stores were prepared. The new caravan was made more elaborate, vehicles were painted, sign boards and posters prepared, the leaflets printed. The local press were alerted, and the word went round “The Dukes are coming.”

In Halifax the disused barracks came to life: scrubbers scrubbed, boilers hissed, windows were flung open, and the troops moved in. Wellesley Barracks saw again soldiers on its square and in its barrack rooms. Bugles blew, the band played, and everywhere was the hustle and bustle of soldiers with a job to do.

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We intended to produce “The Dukes’ Show” and to present it to as many people as we could in the time available. The period allotted was the first fortnight in September and by then the KAPE onslaught on Bradford and Leeds had already been long and intense. When 15 assorted KAPE teams have already done their best, what remains? The answer appeared to lie in the production of a full scale military entertainment, the next best thing to a tattoo, and that is what the display turned into.

The ingredients of the show were the display stands, a small arena in which a judo demonstration was given, and a demonstration area where a section attack with supporting arms was fought and the band and drums marched and played and beat retreat. The area needed was at least an acre.

During September 1 to 16, the show was put on in ten different places, and adapted to suit each. The total attendance was about 35,000, of whom several thousand were of recruitable age.

We started with a bang at Keighley Show on September 1, and at once problems began to appear. The soldiers dispersed rapidly all over the show-ground, the local girls showed interest, and where we should have been without the RSM I do not know. Hunger brought the men together again for lunch and things began to settle down. The battle was highly successful—so much so that one middle-aged lady, badly shell-shocked, so it seemed, produced the wad and fuse of a thunderflash, and, shaking like a leaf, stated that it had struck and broken her watch. “What,” she asked, “were we going to about it?” The right sympathetic noises were made, the lady departed mollified, and the screams of the children died down. The Army was in the Public Eye!

At Halifax and Huddersfield on the two Sundays of the tour we played to audiences of between five and ten thousand. They were very appreciative and the weather helped us to enjoy a real gala in each town. In Huddersfield we were able to entertain some of our families who came down from Barnard Castle for the day.

Bradford and Leeds produced small but appreciative audiences, and had their own attractions. In Bradford the local art gallery drew some unaccustomed visitors who, confronted by their first “abstract,” paused before asking in a whisper “What is it? Is it the right way up?” The answer came “There you are! Atavistic Group! What did I tell you?”

At Spensborough and Todmorden the show could only be put on at the second attempt. The Mayor of Spensborough put on a splendid lunch for the CO and certain others, and it would have been a great shame if we had had to cancel the display for the second year running. Mr. Maun (Parks) still relates the saga of how he disposed of the pies after the cancellation in 1961. The Spensborough *Guardian* turned out in force, sending three young (female) reporters to cover the show. One of them was unquestionably “the most.”

The Mayor and Mayoress of Todmorden were



## THE KAPE TOUR IN HALIFAX



*L to R in foreground: The Mayoress of Halifax, The C.O., R.S.M. Robins, The Mayor, Ald. F. Berry, Major Harms*

splendid and spent much of the afternoon with us, despite heavy rain and thick cloud. When eventually we were compelled to call off the display, they sent the team a bottle of brandy as their thanks for an enjoyable visit. Certainly they were two of our most popular visitors—and not only because of the brandy.

At Brighouse and Skipton the weather was not helpful, but we were able to put the show on and to attract a worth-while crowd. The only complete failure was at York where we tried to take part in the York Military Week, but the rain poured down unrelentingly.

Throughout the tour the band and drums played excellently, and without stint. The drums gave several fine recitals of bugle calls. Spectators' comments were good. There was, of course, the inevitable child. "Dad! Why has that man only got one drum stick? Dad, is there always a man who only has one drum stick? Does he have to have a special drum, Dad?"

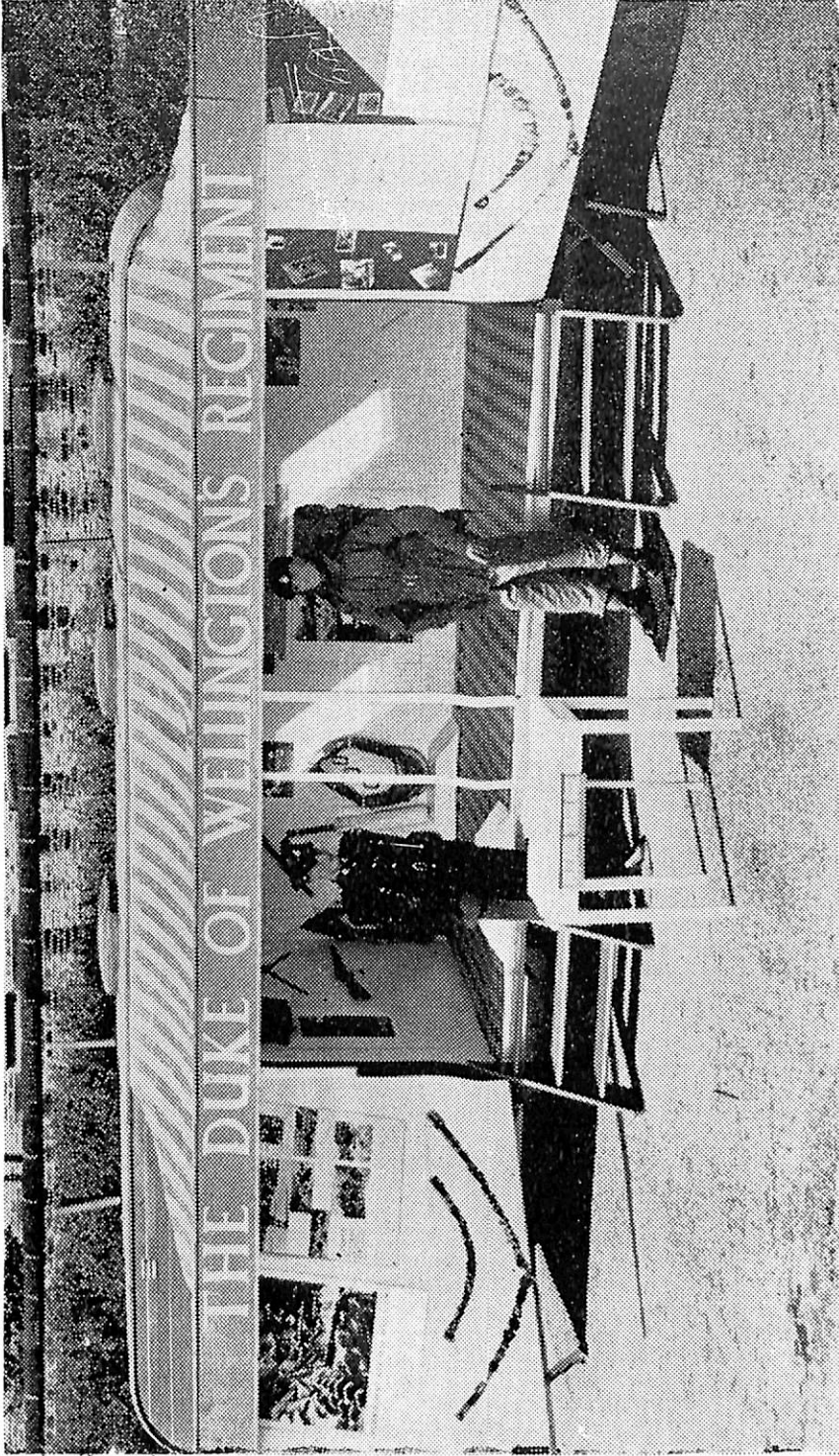
There was also a public address equipment or rather there were two. With both it was apparent that practice did not make perfect. We dreaded the words "That sounded all right, I'll just make this

slight adjustment . . ." "Micky, if you touch that again I'll put you inside." Leeds was the worst, when the CO and OC Team made polite conversation with the Deputy Lord Mayor of Leeds and his wife for 20 minutes while the Tannoy squeaked and groaned. "Captain Bray will soon have the adjustment made, Sir." "You can tell Mr. Bray that he'd better!" Eventually it always worked, except at Todmorden where some gormless native was found to be leaning against the only loud-speaker which could reach the demonstration troops.

In general, our reception was very cordial, and we met with great generosity and friendliness. Undoubtedly the "Dukes" are well and truly in the public eye in the West Riding, and we all enjoyed the tour.

All the team worked well together but the final tribute must be paid to the hard-working and little-rewarded men who cleaned the barracks, pitched tents, struck tents, and cleaned up for the rest of the team whose role was more glamorous. The administration was very good and without it we could never have put the show on.

Next year? The same again? Oh no, that would be asking too much.



Photograph by courtesy of "The Halifax Courier & Guardian"

### The 1st Battalion's Recruiting Caravan



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## BURMA COMPANY, BRITISH HONDURAS

By calling for platoon notes we had hoped to avoid the chore of writing; but regrettably platoon notes are just not the answer, and moreover, they just won't do. And so, decentralisation having failed, here we go again. As always we are pushed for time and there is the distinct possibility that we shall be late again. Fortunately we cannot be bullied telephonically!

We have done so much since our last notes that it is difficult to know where to begin. Perhaps the beginning would be a suitable place; for our last notes were somewhat sketchy. (Not too sketchy, however, to raise adverse comment from the many loved ones at home who took grave exception to our description of the friendliness of the local girls!).

The great thing about Airport Camp is to get away from it at suitable intervals. After a time morale rises in direct proportion to the distance that separates the soldier from this camp. Hence the Company Commander's policy of flinging platoons all over the Colony at the slightest excuse.

At least one platoon is always away somewhere. First it was Mountain Pine, where some excellent training on N.W. Europe lines was achieved, and where the inter-platoon test exercises were held. This was a gruelling exercise and resulted in a win for Lt. Mundell and his No. 5 Platoon. Next, No. 6 Platoon was despatched to Punta Gorda and San Antonio right in the heart of the Maya and Kekchie Indian country. This was a fascinating trip and

one which No. 8 Platoon are now just finishing. There is plenty of good honest jungle-bashing down there and we learned a lot. We now think that we know how to fight in this sort of jungle—so different from Kenya as there are no game trails whatsoever—where the machete is essential to movement off the few tracks that do exist. No. 5 Platoon have left for Stann Creek to-day and No. 6 Platoon leave for Gallon Jug next week. And so it goes on—constant movement—with Company "H.Q." hitching a lift whenever they can.

Not that life is all that bad in camp and in Belize. We do train and we do still play games every afternoon. We are all very fit indeed, although Friday mornings find more than a few of us with our instincts slightly dulled. But nothing that the road walk and run doesn't soon put right. Stand-by platoon is a bore, but a very necessary one to our operational role, and keeps each platoon gated for a week at a time. Films (albeit old) three times a week, plus tombola do help; and of course there is always the N.A.A.F.I. and Heineken beer. Not bad beer this but not like Tetley's. Two-bob a pint too!

We had a visit from the frigate H.M.S. *Whirlwind* on November 15-18. Commodore Martin, Commander British Force, Caribbean Area, was aboard and we furnished the guard of honour. It was a good guard commanded by Captain Newton. The local press even went so far as to say it was the best they had ever seen. (R.W.F., Worcesters,

No. 5 Platoon

at

Goffs Caye



Glosters and Hampshires please note). It was good to see the Navy and we played games against them and entertained them in true West Riding fashion.

As forecast the duck did arrive in thousands—mainly whistler and blue teal—and the officers have spent a lot of time at weekends waist deep in water out on the rice-fields at Boom. Major Isles shot a muscovy and has talked of nothing else since; but for consistent bags, admittedly small, the prize must go to Captain Newton and Lt. Mundell. Lt. Cartwright tries hard but needs some radar assistance! The jaguar has not yet been attacked. Nor has Mount Victoria been climbed. Were we a shade too cocky in our last notes?

Now for a quick round-up of platoon news. No. 5 Platoon congratulate L/Cpl. Burke on his promotion and also Herberts on his selection for Belize soccer team. They also envy Sykes his broken leg—mainly because he is making a fortune polishing everybody's best boots. No. 6 Platoon's notes have got lost but we know that they wanted to congratulate Cpl. Cliffe on his promotion, also McDonald on the birth of his daughter; Simcock (father of twins) gives much advice on this subject. No. 7 Platoon are still too full of themselves at Roundhay Park and hardly realise that they are actually in the Caribbean, but they too congratulate L/Cpl. Blood on promotion and Wood and McSweeney on breaking bones. They also remind us that they formed the "Dukes" contingent on the Belize Remembrance Day Parade. No. 8 Platoon—that repository of all that was good, and bad, of the old "S" Company—are at this precise moment missing at sea, being some seven hours overdue back from Punta Gorda. But they'll be back. In their notes they mention no personalities, but concentrate mainly on emphasising how difficult it is to train without the right kit. True professionals! M.T. drive on, still complaining bitterly of the state their vehicles were in when they took them over, and of how atrocious the roads are. But they do well and have a hard old time of it. The Signals did not submit any notes, but then nobody asked them to, so it's not surprising. They perform prodigious feats with the 62 set and get through over incredible ranges.

## NO. 6 PLATOON VISIT PUNTA GORDA

In October No. 6 Platoon, under Captain Newton and Lt. Bailey, visited Punta Gorda and several of the small villages lying inland from Punta Gorda. This small port is in southern British Honduras, completely cut off from Belize except by sea and light aircraft. The town serves as a centre and market for the Indians who live inland in their reservations.

From the moment of embarking on the Heron H this journey promised to be an interesting one. The Heron H built in 1921 plies between Belize and Punta Gorda calling at such fascinatingly named places as Mullins River Town, Stann Creek, All Pines, Palentia, Mango Creek, Monkey River Town. The boat offers nothing in the way

A quick check tells us that we now have five months to do or—a better way to look at it—only one more set of IRON DUKE notes to write from BH. Christmas looms and promises to be fun—and after that we are on the home-straight for Catterick and our friends and families.

### W.O.S' AND SERGEANTS' MESS

Firstly we must say we were sorry not to be present at the dining-out of Pop Dodds. We are very sorry he has gone and wish him and Mrs. Dodds all the very best for the future.

During the last three months we have put in some very hard training, but still have found time for the lighter side of mess life. We have played the officers at volley ball about 10 times; we promise to win the next one.

Trips to the off-shore islands are very popular. Fishermen take note—we catch fish so big that the mess can feed for a week on one fish. Photos will be sent as proof to any doubtful member.

F.J.T. can now claim to be the finest referee in British Honduras. There is no competition!!

The Garrison mess played the Belize club at darts. Six "Duke's" members were in the team. Sgt. Curling played for the Belize to make up their team and his game was the only one we lost. The C.S.M. now does one hour's practice every night. The night ended with a boat-race, but the mess team was disqualified, thanks to one sergeant pouring beer over his head. We hope the next mortar sergeant can do better. We also played the same club at cricket. Every time a four was hit the C.S.M. and C/Sgt. took off shoes and socks, rolled trousers and paddled away after the ball. Our pitch is not the best in British Honduras!! Tea was served by club members' wives and the day was greatly enjoyed by all. We hope to have return matches in the near future.

We close these notes, our first from British Honduras, with the good news that our new mess and living quarters will be completed very soon. Our next notes will, we hope, be written in complete comfort.

of comfort and the trip was scheduled to last 19 hours. Time means nothing to the Hondurans, and there is no such thing as timetable, as we discovered when we left some 2½ hours late. Every conceivable type of goods is carried with scant regard for human passengers who squeeze in where they can. The journey down was uncomfortable but not uneventful with constant comings and goings.

At Punta Gorda we were met by the Commissioner, Mr. Sutherland, who was delighted to see us in his district; it was purely coincidental that there had been rumours of an incursion by Guatemala the week-end previously. He provided us with transport, and we were shown to a small

## SCENES IN BRITISH HONDURAS



*Top left: Typical Mountain Pine Country Top right: Cpl. Read and L/Cpl. Carter swimming at Mountain Pine  
Bottom left: 7 Section, 7 Platoon: L/Cpl. Blood, Cpl. Stansfield, Pte. Wallis, Pte. Whatmore, Pte. Murphy,  
Pte. Maynard, Bottom right: Hurricane damage in Belize*



A  
General  
View  
of  
Airport  
Camp

hut, or it may have been a house, on the outskirts of the town, where we were to stay. Needless to say we became the centre of attraction as we prepared our food, cleaned weapons, etc.

The soldiers were free in the afternoon until 4.30 to do what ever they wished; some swam, others fished from small coris lent by the locals. Others just looked around the town and made friends. At 4.30 came the highlight of the day—a soccer match. A gang of labourers had been cutting the long grass all day with machetes; even so there were no lines and the playing area was very rough. We lost 4-1 after a very spirited game, much to the delight of the Punta Gordians. When asked later by some government officials who visited the town if anything of interest had been happening they said "Good heavens yes! We beat the Army 4-1."

The following day the platoon split into two parties. One party, under Captain Newton, going to Creque Sarco and the other, under Lt. Bailey, to San Antonio.

The first party arranged to leave at 5.30 a.m., on the Customs launch, Joy—a small boat hardly big enough for 17 men and all their kit for a journey to last seven hours. After two changes of batteries the party left at 6.30 a.m. The trip was interesting; the engine stopped two or three times but a kick in the right place seemed to do the trick. The last four hours were spent going up the Temash river, finally grounding half-a-mile from Creque Sarco. The village, a very small one, had three brick buildings: the police station, a small dispensary and a house which used to belong to the Agricultural Advisor. The latter was our house for the next three nights and was very comfortable. The remaining houses were constructed out of bamboo and palm fronds, and served also as pig sties and hen houses.

The next two days were spent walking jungle paths and visiting villages, Otoxha and Dolores, very near the Guatamalan border. Everyone we met was very hospitable and generous and genuinely anxious for the troops to stay longer. In exchange for the more indigestible parts of our rations we were given fresh oranges, grapefruit and bananas. Many soldiers will remember an incident in Otoxha for a long time. As we were about to leave, the village schoolmaster came up and said, "All the children appreciate your visit here and have a little present for each one of you." The children then presented to each soldier an egg wrapped in

a leaf with a little handle attached. An egg may not sound very much but one must remember that these people are extremely poor.

The party at San Antonio were in a slightly more civilised part, being only 20 miles from Punta Gorda, and were able to move in landrovers kindly lent by the police. The inevitable soccer match was played in the afternoon, the pitch being partly jungle, swamp and what may be called grass. The second half of the game lasted one hour finishing in darkness while the local referee valiantly tried to let the home team win; the "Army" won 3-1—the first game the town had lost.

Celebrations were cut short that night when someone reported having seen a flare go up into the sky. The party was stood to and the platoon commander and three set forth on horseback to investigate. As it happened one of the Indian villages was having a fiesta and the flare was part of their celebrations. The dances at the fiesta were truly Indian with women wearing brightly coloured clothes, if any at all, and masses of beads and trinkets. The flap over, the detachment spent the next two days exploring jungle paths and tracks, many of which could only be done on horseback because of the knee deep mud.

The platoon congregated again at Punta Gorda on Sunday, October 14. No one was looking forward to the return trip in the Heron H, particularly when it was discovered that we were to share it with 80 hogs. It was debatable whether the hogs or the soldiers were more uncomfortable on that journey. The method of loading the hogs into the hold was brisk and not too gentle, and their squealing was not without justification. Also on board for the return trip was a large turtle, five feet from head to tail. To prevent it moving on board its legs or flappers were broken and its front legs sewn together. It survived the journey but only to be kept alive until required for eating. It's mock turtle for us in future.

The trip was well worth while for several reasons. Not only did it get us away from Airport Camp for a week, which is always welcome, but we got to know the jungle tracks and paths which may be useful at some later date. Lastly we met some very interesting, simple and generous people who lost no opportunity in making us welcome. In fact the people at San Antonio prayed in church that the soldiers should stay longer. Regrettably we could not.

## THE LIONS' TOUR, 1962

By Captain M. J. Campbell-Lamberton

I am restricted in what I can write by the contract I signed with the four Home Rugby Unions before flying off to South Africa—a contract binding for three years. I shall be unable to mention any of the Lions individually, rugby matches and tactics employed or political opinions formed about the countries visited.

Being on a Lions' Tour was for me the fulfilment

of a schoolboy dream and one of my life's ambitions. I have many people to thank for it, in and out of the Regiment. I would like to take this opportunity of thanking all those in the Regiment who helped me, with a special mention of Dennis Shuttleworth and David Gilbert-Smith.

A national rugby tour is not what most people think, fun and games all the time; it is hard work

mentally and physically. Apart from the main purpose of the tour, playing rugby to the best of one's ability, there are many other varied duties such as a host of formal luncheons, dinners and cocktail parties, visits to schools, colleges and hospitals, plus lectures to the local rotary clubs and women's guilds. I, for example, talked to 18 schools, two universities, one military college, five insurance and rotary club luncheons and nine hospitals. It was tremendous fun, doing this, although it did begin to become a bind towards the end of the tour; the consolation was that you really got to know the people, no matter what walk of life they were from, and learnt what they thought of things today. One doesn't very often get the opportunity of hearing at first hand what other people think and I found it most enlightening.

The first thing we did when we met at Eastbourne was quite naturally to get to know one another. We were 30 individuals from four different countries and from many different walks of life. Ages, personalities and temperaments were varied; fortunately most of us had met one another on brief occasions during the past international season; but it did seem strange at first our all being on the same side!

Eastbourne wasn't a too pleasant part of the tour because we only had six days to get fit before we set off. Training was very hard indeed, one session in the morning and one in the afternoon—I don't think I have ever come across anything quite so strenuous before. Most of us were so stiff during the first couple of days that we only moved from our rooms to go training—and to eat occasionally. By the time we left these shores the Lions were fighting fit and a tremendously happy compact unit, with a will to win.

We went first to Rhodesia where we had a few days to acclimatise ourselves and to add the finishing touches to our fitness training. We stayed at Bulawayo, where Sir Roy Welensky paid us a visit during one of our training sessions, and Salisbury where we played Rhodesia, our first match. The heat didn't affect us much but the altitude was more of an obstacle; we were very often drawing in breath as though it were our last. Fortunately I had had some experience in altitude acclimatisation when we first flew out to Kenya and the Battalion played a match only five days after our arrival.

From Rhodesia we flew to the Republic of South Africa. Our first port of call was Kimberley, the town that is said to be built on diamonds. Having played on their pitch I quite believe their proud boast. We visited the de Beers diamond mines and saw the whole process of mining; we also had a good look around the "Big Hole" but weren't, unfortunately, allowed to dig around.

Rugby in South Africa is the national game and has a very large following; we didn't realise how large until we arrived in Johannesburg. Our first taste of this was Jan Smuts Airport, where there were over 2,000 people to greet us. This seemed fantastic to those who had never been on a Lions tour before. South African hospitality was magnificent; nothing was too much trouble, whether it was a special trip to a gold mine or a visit to a primitive Zulu village. We were treated like film

stars; even when we went to the cinema we were more often than not greeted by the manager and presented with a box of chocolates—which of course went down rather well with me!

South Africa is a beautiful country, with every type of scenic and climatic condition you could wish for from the dry crisp atmosphere of the Transvaal to the warm sub-tropical climate of Natal, where giant breakers from the Indian Ocean came pounding in on the Durban beaches. Swimming in these was tremendous fun but surf riding was hazardous. We travelled all over the country and saw nearly all the places of historical or scenic interest. One of the things I did was to visit and plot on the map the various towns and villages "Shaka Zulu" founded.

The place that sticks most in my memory was Cape Province, which, in my opinion, had everything: Cape Town, a mixture of old and new dominated by Table Mountain, the sun drenched valleys of Paarl, the major wine growing area, with the snow capped peaks surrounding both. It was like the valleys of Italy and the Scottish Highlands all jumbled up into one.

Wherever we went we were greeted with a sincere warmth, by Europeans, Bantu and Asian alike, and the most surprising thing of all was that they all followed and enjoyed rugby with the same enthusiasm. It is also interesting to note that there are rugby union leagues for the Cape coloureds and Bantu which are increasing in membership every year.

During my travels I met three old "Dukes." First, Jeff Reynolds whom most of us have heard of and read about. He doesn't seem to get any older at all and still looks as young as his photograph in the Regimental scrapbook. Jeff runs a lovely hotel outside Cape Town and any "Duke" who ever goes over there will be assured of a great welcome. I also met John Newton Thompson who played for England in 1947 and served with the "Dukes" in the latter war years. He wished to be remembered to all the old "Dukes" of his group during the war. The last "Duke" I met was a South African called Bill McFarlan who served with the Regiment in Italy—a tremendous character who, when I first met him, was wearing a Regimental tie and blazer. It just shows how far the "Dukes" roots spread.

It was also nice to note how many South Africans remembered Major Charlie Grieves and asked after him. His famous drop goal on the 1938 tour is still a major talking point and people seem to recall it as though it were only yesterday.

The rugby on the tour was of course hard and tough but most enjoyable, despite the hard grounds which sometimes had more sand and grit on them than grass. However, compared with the 1938 tour, we were fortunate; the Clubs have made tremendous strides in grassing their pitches. It was not uncommon to have over 24,000 gallons of water put on the pitch the night before our match; even then it was like playing on a pitch in late Easter in this country.

I was extremely lucky on the tour as regards the games I played in and the lack of serious injury—despite the "Battle of Potchefstroom," of which an

*Continued at foot of p.27*



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## BOOK REVIEW

WELLINGTON IN THE PENINSULA  
1808-1814

By Jac Weller (published by Nicholas Vane, Bishopgate, E.C.2. Price 63s.)

According to the publisher's blurb, the author of this important and well produced book has fired "100 lbs. of lead through Brown Bess muskets, Baker rifles and other weapons of the Peninsular period." He has, however, other qualifications to write a history of the Peninsular War. He is well-known in the United States as a military historian and is the Hon. Curator of the excellent military museum at West Point.

With modesty, Mr. Weller claims only to have produced a reconstruction of some 21 volumes devoted to this six-year campaign, by Napier, Fortescue and Oman. It is, of course, a severe abridgement as well. As few people have the opportunity or the leisure to study those authoritative works, all of which are out of print, Mr. Weller has performed a service to military history.

He has done his homework well and the book is a concise, factual and accurate record of the Great Duke's epic campaigns. Almost every page bears record to the author's infinite capacity for taking

pains. It is illustrated by almost diagrammatic plans of each major action, reinforced by excellent photographs of the terrain taken by the author himself. Much of the country, with its ox-cart tracks and huddled hamlets, has hardly changed since Wellington's day and some buildings still bear the scars of those battles. Thus the photographs greatly help the reader to follow the accounts of the fighting. We are fortunate indeed to be enabled to read an account of this war in one volume containing all the essentials.

There are a few minor inaccuracies which strike the purely regimental historian. Thus the author states that Wellesley on arrival in India in 1797, commanding the Regiment, reported to Lord Cornwallis "the titular Colonel of the 33rd." In fact, Wellesley's stay in India corresponded almost exactly with the gap between Lord Cornwallis' first and second tours as Governor-General and the / were never in that country together.

In his epilogue, Mr. Weller pays full tribute to the professional and personal qualities of the Great Duke who, with Marlborough and Winston Churchill, must surely be acknowledged as one of the three most remarkable Englishmen in history. In short, this is an excellent and useful book which—if, somehow, it never brings the Duke to life—describes his campaigns with knowledge and fidelity.

B.W. W.-C.

***From the "London Gazette"***

*Supplements dated September 1 to November 27*

## WAR OFFICE

## REGULAR ARMY

Brig. G. F. Upjohn, C.B.E., to be Maj.-Gen., 15th Sept., 1962, with seniority 13th Sept. 1962 and precedence next above F. J. Swainson, O.B.E.

## COMMANDS AND STAFF

Maj.-Gen. G. F. Upjohn, C.B.E., late Inf. is appointed General Officer Commanding Yorkshire District.

## INFANTRY

D.W.R.

## REGULAR ARMY

Capt. (Q.M.) C. C. Kenchington, M.B.E., to be Maj. (Q.M.), 4th Aug. 1962 with seniority 14th Jul. 1962.

Officer Cadet Edward John Worley Walker, from the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, to be 2nd. Lt., 4th Aug. 1962.

## REGULAR ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS

*Class III*

Maj. (Q.M.) W. MacGregor, M.B.E., relinquishes his commn., 1st July 1959, retaining the rank of Maj. (Q.M.).

## TERRITORIAL ARMY

The Queen has been graciously pleased to confer the award of the Territorial Efficiency Decoration

upon Capt. K. Buckland and Capt. H. M. Crowther.

Maj. H. S. Heaton, T.D., having exceeded the age limit, retires, 1st May 1962, retaining the rank of Maj.

## TERRITORIAL ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS

Capt. M. G. Hutchinson, T.D., having exceeded the age limit, ceases to belong to the T.A. Res. of Offrs., 19th Sept. 1962, retaining the rank of Capt.

*Lions' Tour Continued*

unfortunate photograph was published! The thrill of a Test Match was unbelievable and one will never play in such rugby again—unless of course on another Lions tour. The atmosphere of 80,000 fanatical rugby fans is electric; there is so much hope and expectation. It is impossible to describe one's own feeling in the dressing room prior to running out on the pitch, except that butterflies in the stomach are very active, but you soon get over them after your first tackle or run with the ball.

My greatest thrill of all was when I was given the honour of captaining the Lions in their last match. This made the perfect ending to a wonderful experience, which I shall always remember as I will always be grateful for the part the "Duke's" played in helping me to get there.

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

by Lt.-Colonel M. V. le P. Trench

*(Continued from THE IRON DUKE, No. 124, page 85)*

At the end of the first instalment of these reminiscences the then Lt. Trench had just re-joined the 1st Battalion, commanded by Lt.-Colonel Rivett-Carnac, which was then (March 1901) at Watervaal, on the railway north from Pretoria to Pietersburg.

On March 27, Headquarters and "B" Company moved up to Pienaars River, leaving "C" Company at Watervaal. They relieved the Gordon Highlanders, who were to follow up a mounted force, under Colonel Plumer,\* which was to advance up the line to Pietersburg. This column consisted of Australian bushmen, a fine body of horsemen who, with their unconventional clothing and slouch hats, might easily have been taken for Boers. Plumer dressed like them; he came galloping into camp without any staff and with nothing to show that he was the Commander; but he was a live wire, and his column as good as any in the country. They left on March 29, the Gordons following to garrison the stations on the line, and on April 9 had captured Pietersburg with little opposition.

Pienaars River was a well-defended post. The railway station was fortified, and housed headquarters and the officers' mess. It was surrounded by a large mud fort with tents for the garrison, and the whole camp was surrounded by a thorn-bush zareeba with, at intervals on the perimeter, mud forts for some of the companies. My Company, "B," had one on the east side of the camp. The bush was very thick here and, at first, we could not see headquarters from our fort, but we soon got the bush cleared; then, as we had no field of fire, large gangs of natives were employed clearing the bush outside the zareeba. I enjoyed felling trees, having got one of the pioneers to instruct me in the use of the axe.

Soon after the capture of Pietersburg, Strafford, Jenkins and Tidmarsh, with "A" and "D" Companies, moved up to Warmbaths, the next station up the line, to relieve some of the Gordons, who moved on.

Having settled down at Pienaars River we began to organise games; cricket and soccer were played in camp on very rough ground; later we made a tennis court, a mixture of cow dung, ant hill soil and cinders which set very hard, being the same material as the natives used to make the floors of huts. We were able to get cricket and tennis gear from Pretoria. On 29th Maffet returned from the M.I., with which he had been serving, and took over "B" Company from me.

The Boers were constantly crossing the line at night and when Intelligence got news of likely movements armoured trains from Pretoria came up to patrol the line. No. 1, the best train, had two

2.12-pounder naval quick-firing guns, a pom-pom and two Maxims. I went in to Pretoria in it once to get cash to pay the men. We started in the early morning, when it was still dark, and it was very interesting to see the various wild animals caught in the searchlight that was on the first carriage, in which I travelled with the Commander.

Besides the various games we played in off hours there was a certain amount of rough shooting to be got, which included buck, guinea-fowl, kora, snipe, plover and partridges. The Colonel, Major Le Marchant, Major Becher and Maffet were the most successful. It was hard work going through the bush and picking up game when one hit them. Guinea-fowl, when found in patches of open country, refused to get up and ran in droves at a great speed; one's only way of getting them was to ride hard and head them off, when they would get up and fly over one's head and gave one a shot. One had to have a steady pony; most of ours were Basutos and would stand and let one fire off their backs or dismounted with the bridle over one's left arm.

On May 21 General Kitchener came up the line inspecting and made a short halt at our camp, so we got a good view of him. About this time Captain Greenwood, in command at Hamans Kraal, was out shooting when some Boers ambushed him, stripped him of his uniform, gun and field glasses and let him free. Next day a Kaffir boy came into camp with a note from the Boers who had captured Greenwood, thanking him for his field glasses, "with which we have had a very good view of your camp." This episode led to the Colonel forbidding any of us to go out singly or far from camp.

A good deal of my time was occupied with making maps. I had done some of Watervaal and the line from Hamans Kraal to Pienaars River, all at the request of the G.O.C. in Pretoria. As a result I was selected to investigate and sketch some drifts to the east of Hamans Kraal, which the Boers were constantly using. On May 23 I went down the line to Hamans Kraal and found that the escort that was to accompany me had not arrived from Pretoria; however, as a drift only five miles out was reported clear of Boers, I went out with the intelligence officer, a colonial named Begg. He was a magnificent shot and killed a hawk from the back of his pony with a rifle.

My escort arrived that evening; it consisted of a party of 10 men from the 1st Mounted Canadian Contingent, very fine, well-built men. We went off next morning visiting drifts north-east of Hamans Kraal, following the river northwards towards Pienaars River; some Kaffirs told us there were no more before the latter place. We had seen no signs

\* The late Field-Marshal Lord Plumer.

*(continued at foot of next page)*

# THE WEST RIDING BATTALION T.A.

## SUB-EDITORIAL

We have said good-bye to Lt.-Colonel Raymond Gadd, Commanding Officer of the 5th/7th Battalion and, on amalgamation, of the West Riding Battalion.

Colonel Gadd's military career started before the war as an officer of the Supplementary Reserve in the Royal Artillery. He can never in his wildest dreams have imagined that he would conclude his period of regimental soldiering in command of an infantry battalion.

It fell to his lot to have to negotiate an amalgamation—an unhappy task for a commanding officer. He was the bearer of sad news to many members of the T.A. who would have gladly soldiered on if room could only have been found for them.

A happier occasion for him was the highly successful centenary celebration in 1959 when we beat retreat in Greenhead Park and held a Waterloo Ball.

The highlights of his last year in command must surely be the recruiting drive in March when we were only just "pipped at the post" by the Hallams for obtaining the highest number of recruits, and the Battalion team's victory in the falling plates at the 49th Divisional Rifle Meeting in record time.

We hope he carries happy memories into retirement of Tavistock, Otterburn, Whitburn and Millom—the four camps at which he commanded. We all wish him success, happiness and good fortune in the future.

## OFFICERS' MESS

The pace in the Mess has been slower since annual camp and the end of summer, but we have had two important social functions: the dining-out of Lt.-Colonel Gadd on November 9, and our dinner with the officers of the 1st Battalion at Catterick.

We dined with the 1st Battalion in their Mess at Bourlon Lines on Friday, October 26. The 1st Battalion very kindly arranged for all of us to sleep at Catterick; some officers stayed at the mess and the remainder were shared out amongst the married officers. The 1st Battalion gave us an excellent meal which was eaten from a table groaning with silver, more magnificent even than our own. After the meal we gathered round and joined the 1st Battalion in their pleasant custom of singing the "Rugby Song" and "Ilkla Moor b'ah't 'at" and listening to the Regimental marches. Later we were introduced to the home racing game, which is similar to that played on board ship; we suggested that we were to be relieved of all spare cash but, as far as can be ascertained, no-one was cleaned out. By comparison breakfast in the mess on Saturday morning was a very quiet affair. We do thank Lt.-Colonel Kavanagh and all the officers of the 1st Battalion for a delightful evening.

On November 9 we had a Guest night to dine out Colonel Raymond. This was attended by

Colonel John Sugden, Lt.-Colonel Denis Hirst, Major Davis, Major Bearder and Major Heaton.

As always we had excellent food and fine wines. On this occasion we adopted the 1st Battalion custom of singing the "Rugby Song" round the Band in the ante-room after the dinner, following this by listening to the five Regimental marches. This proved most popular and will be the recognised custom for the future. Colonel Raymond wrote his name on the ceiling of the ante-room in approved fashion and was dragged to his motor car sitting on the wooden "Jumbo."

Whether one unfortunate captain's manoeuvres with a fire bucket will jeopardise his military career remains to be seen.

This was a sad evening in many ways, but also a memorable one.

Colonel Raymond presented to the Mess a silver tablelighter which is most acceptable. Our present collection of cigarette lighting equipment either does not work or, in one case, when in use is in imminent danger of exploding. We thank Colonel Raymond for this delightful gift, and we expect to see him in the future on many social occasions.

Now that Lt.-Colonel Moncrieff has taken command, the role of PMC has been thrust on Captain Henry Crowther. Gone are the happy days when he could overspend heavily on messing, and leave someone else to sort out the financial side. In future he will have to do his own sorting.

We must take this rather late opportunity of congratulating our Q.M. Cyril Kenchington on his promotion to major. It is quite untrue that, when celebrating, he was offering officers either a drink or a pair of boots without signature.

Preparations are now well in hand for our Mess Christmas Party on December 15 and, of course, the dance committee are working desperately to have everything ready for the New Year's Eve Ball.

### *Reminiscences of the Boer War—continued*

of Boers but the Kaffirs told us that some had been at their kraal that night but had moved off at our approach. It was very difficult going through the thorn bush; the horses didn't like it and we got very scratched. The Canadians fanned out in the bush and kept touch with each other in a remarkable way by whistling. We had done about 28 miles by the time we got back to Hamans Kraal.

*(To be continued)*

## Wos' and SERGEANTS' MESS

We would like to open our notes by congratulating our new CO, Lt.-Colonel Moncrieff, on his appointment to command the West Riding Battalion. We know him well and feel certain our service under his command will be most rewarding. (We remind him that our "Tankard" is still second to none.)

Having the 1st Battalion in Halifax on a recruiting tour we decided we would entertain the 1st Battalion members in our Mess at Prescott Street. This noble gathering took place on the evening of September 13. About 20 of our members and their wives turned up and the strength of our guests was approximately the same.

R.S.M. Robins was presented with an oak barometer suitably inscribed as a farewell gift from the West Riding Battalion members. Although this turned out to be his third barometer and his wife now has them hanging in the hall, lounge and bedroom we are quite certain there is nothing wrong with this. After all, philatelists collect stamps. There surely must be those who collect such useful items as barometers!

We entered a team for the Yorkshire Brigade Sergeants' Mess shoot and although we did not

win we gave a good account of our shooting abilities and congratulate C/Sgt. Bacon on being the third best shot (T.A. individual) in the competition. We were beaten at the post by the PWO who were in fine form and deserved to win.

Social activities and attendance at drill nights have fallen away since camp; this I gather is a seasonal occurrence and is quite understandable once it is recognised that camp is the highlight of the year. Unfortunately Remembrance Sunday is observed in the West Riding Battalion by company parades held in their own locations, resulting in the Mess being split. However, "H.Q." and "B" Company members honourably performed their parades and then proceeded to spend their bounty which had been paid out on the first parade of the day. This was to prove to the Regular element that they are not just in the T.A. for financial reasons.

We would like to express in these notes our thanks to Colonel Gadd who has always shown to us an understanding and appreciation in our work, play and problems. We wish him and Mrs. Gadd good health, good luck and success. We are not saying good-bye because we know we shall see them in the future.

## "A" COMPANY

This has been a very busy period in our newly painted drill hall (some of the new colour scheme is, in fact, conducive to violent agitation—if nothing else!) Nevertheless, we have been amply compensated by the appearance of a new parquet floor, after running the gauntlet of loose blocks for years.

The floor has proved its worth at the Company Social on October 6, at the Regimental Association Dinner, and for P.T. every Sunday.

Perhaps the highlight of the past three months was the Company shooting competition weekend at Strensall on October 13-14 when prizes were awarded for best L.M.G. and rifle shots (recruits and trained soldiers) and for all winners of individual events.

During this same period, however, a dedicated body of men have been hard at it, training for the Nijmegen Marches in July, 1963. They are continuing training, increasing the length of their marches as the weeks go by. A competition for the best soldier in the Battalion has kept the entire Company up to the mark. So far, "A" Company have earned high praise from Major Sam Robertson, our itinerant Training Major, and R.S.M. Nichols for their turnout and drill. "Better than regulars in many cases" was how they were described at a recent drill competition (and everyone took this as praise!).

Armistice Day Parade went off smoothly, under

the able and conscientious command of our 2IC, Captain Keith McDonald, in spite of the fact that we were nearly frozen to the ground at the Cenotaph, in Belle Vue. A fast march back to the Drill Hall, pursued by the inevitable tangle of children, dogs and so on, did much to raise our spirits and our temperatures.

An especially sad note crept into the proceedings on Remembrance Day, however, for all of us remembered, also, the recent death of L/Cpl. Saville in a motor-cycle accident. His cheery face will be much missed round the Drill Hall. One heartening thing about the tragic affair is the way in which the entire Battalion has rallied round to the support of Cpl. Saville's widow and child. Mrs. Saville has already written to us thanking everyone.

A word of congratulation to C.S.M. Dillon for obtaining the only "A" certificate awarded at the Civil Defence Camp at Millom—well done! And praise is due also to Cpl. Thompson, our pay clerk. While other Companies wallow in pay difficulties, Cpl. Thompson neatly extricates us—so far, anyway.

One definite point the Company Commander, Major Pat Haws, wishes to make is that, since the Drill Hall has been decorated, we have had no burglars. With these colours, however, no one is surprised!

## “B” COMPANY

Since camp the company has increased in numbers by another eight volunteers, and we hope for some delayed action as a result of a recruiting drive carried out on drill nights—knocking on doors and inviting potential recruits to our open shooting night on the indoor range. This was all very good training for the next general election!!

Winter nights have turned young men's fancy to social evenings, and several have been held at Mirfield and Huddersfield drill halls. The last one especially was a great success, and a good deal of money was raised by one of our N.C.O.'s attractive wives selling her kisses at 6d. a time. Why was it that the C.S.M. had to pay 2s. 6d.? (*And how many attractive wives has the N.C.O. got?—Ed.*) Mrs. Falkingham, wife of the P.S.I., is endeavouring to form a wives club which could be a very enjoyable facet of T.A. life for the forgotten sex.

Brigadier Moran visited the Company at Mirfield drill hall one Saturday afternoon, and talked to many of the younger soldiers over a cup of tea, and asked the senior ranks some rather searching questions which showed an encouraging apprecia-

tion of many of the T.A. problems that beset us.

Many individuals of the company were most interested and impressed to visit the recruiting caravan of our professional brothers in the 1st Battalion, and to watch the displays put on for the public on their recent visits to the local towns in the area.

Four members of the Young Soldier's Shooting Team which did so well at the Divisional Rifle Meeting came from the company and this gave the Company Commander greater confidence when subsequently discussing matters with the Training Major—Sam Robertson—who, to put it mildly, is determined that the West Riding Battalion shall at least shoot straight.

Remembrance Day parade was held at Mirfield again and despite very cold winds, a very fine parade was held. Approximately 80 men marched behind our own Battalion Band, and many hearts, if not nose-ends, were warmed by the sight. “Shiney B” now looks forward to a marching challenge with “A” Company, going around and up and down the “Three Peaks” on December 8 and 9, which should put everyone in a festive mood for Christmas!

## SHOOTING

After Bisley we had our annual camp, leave and the T.A. Mobilization exercise. We managed to fit in a few weekends training, however, for about 30. We finally went to the 49 Division Rifle Meeting with 25 competitors, which included three shooting eights, an “A” and a “B” team and a Young Soliders' team.

This must be the largest meeting outside Bisley; 36 unit teams took part and a total of 734 competitors. It took place during the weekend October 13-14 at Beckingham, and the weather was good.

The highlight was undoubtedly the falling plates. Sixty-four teams were entered and the two finalists, the K.O.Y.L.I. and ourselves, lined up just before prize-giving with a large crowd watching on a beautiful sunny afternoon. The first shot was fired after 31 seconds and 5 seconds later the K.O.Y.L.I. were astounded to be told to unload. For the first time in the whole competition all four members of the team were on the target together, and the result would have been unbeatable even at Bisley. At last we had won a major cup, morale was high and, as one young soldier remarked after drinking from it, “Next year we'll get the lot.”

The young soldiers did extremely well and came second, being narrowly beaten by the Leicesters, and they are so keen to beat the field next year that they wanted to practise when they returned to the Drill Hall after the meeting.

The detailed results were as follows:

*Match I—Individual Rifle* (734 competitors). Pte. Tatchell and R.Q.M.S. Machen qualified for the top 24 (Stage II).

*Match II—L.M.G. Pairs* (100 pairs, H.P.S. 80). C.Q.M.S. Bacon and Major Robertson fifth with a score of 71. Pte. Williams and Pte. D. Smith top Young Soldiers' pair with score of 65.

*Match III—Major Units* (30 teams). W. Riding Battalion, D.W.R. (T.A.) (“A” team), fifth.

*Match V—Young Soldiers* (14 teams). W. Riding Battalion, D.W.R. (T.A.), second.

*Match VI—Falling Plate* (64 teams). W. Riding Battalion, D.W.R. (T.A.), winners.

*Young Soldiers' Team*: Ptes. Williams and D. Smith (both “D” Company), Pte. Andrews (“A” Company), Ptes. Jessop, Hollis, Boyle and Farrar (all “B” Company) and Pte. Ackrigg (“C” Company).

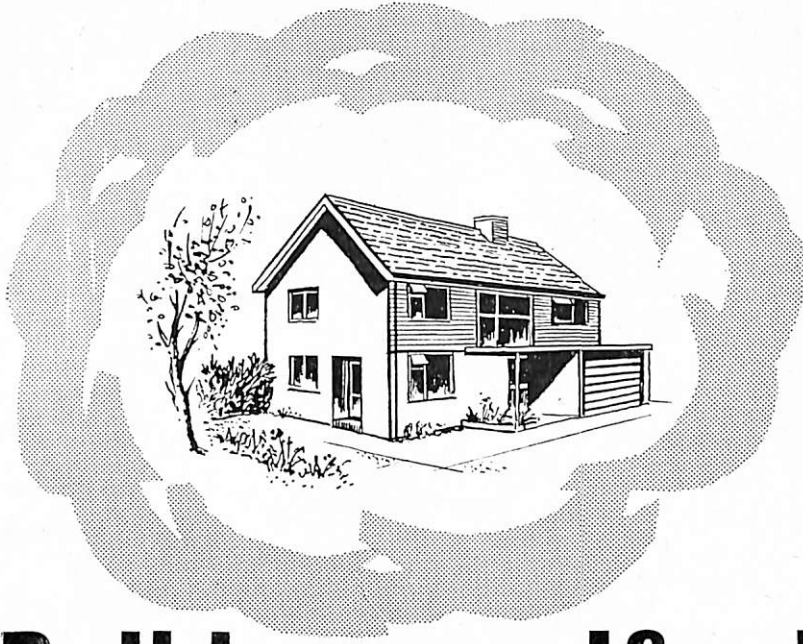
*Falling Plate Team*: Major Robertson, Lt. Dye and Ptes. Tatchell and Brook.

### Graham Pott Shooting Trophy, November 1962

This is a .22 shooting trophy for local units of the armed forces and local branches of the British Legion. Geographically we were allowed to enter two teams, the Huddersfield and Holmfirth, namely “H.Q.” and “D,” Companies. The competition was won by W. Riding Battalion, D.W.R. (T.A.), “H.Q.” Company Team.

Scores (H.P.S. 50) were: Cpl. Fossard 47, Sgt. Milnes 47, Pte. Tatchell 45, S/Sgt. Bacon 43. Total, 182 out of 200.

This competition was shot with neutral rifles, open sights, no slings, no elbow pads, and the Commanding Officer congratulates “H.Q.” Company Team on the excellent results obtained under difficult conditions.



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## THE YORKSHIRE HAVERCAKE

*"The Havercake Lads" is a nickname for the 33rd Regiment which was formerly in much more common use than it is today. This may be because, until the early years of this century, the havercake was a familiar thing to the Yorkshire-bred men of the Regiment. Now probably few have ever tasted it for the havercake, after being a staple food throughout the Yorkshire dales and moors for nearly 1,000 years, has virtually disappeared.*

*So that its history may not be lost like its unique texture and taste the Regional College of Art in Bradford recently produced as a booklet a note on the havercake by Miss Miriam Lord, daughter of Mr. Hird Lord, one of the last skilled havercake bakers.*

*The following account is based on this booklet.*

The havercake was brought to England by our Norse ancestors and derives its name from an old Norse word "hafrar" meaning oats. (Mrs. John Davis informs us that some of the country farmers in Jutland still bake a similar cake.)

Down the years the same simple ingredients were used: whole oatmeal (called "meyl" in the dialect) salt, milk or buttermilk, yeast to rise them and water. The soft oatmeal batter was placed on a thick cloth and then "thrown" on to a hot bakestone to form a flat cake of even texture and good shape, usually 12 in. long and 8 in. across.

The process looks easy but is, in fact, a skilled craft. The skill lies in the mixing of the batter and in the "know-how" of the "throwing" of the cake. The novice usually produces a puddle of wet batter fit only for the pig bucket and many clever people have been amazed and finally disgusted by their failure to throw even the semblance of a cake.

Formerly the "know-how" was general. Throughout the Yorkshire dales, all around Halifax and Bradford, and up to the moorlands of the Pennines havercake was the staple food of the people. Almost every farmhouse had its own bakestone which was kept hot for days whilst the farmer's wife baked for the cottage people around.

The children liked their havercake fresh and soft, spread with butter or treacle and made into a roley poley. The rest of the batch was hung on "t'fleeake"—every cottage had its "breed fleake," a wooden rack suspended from the ceiling upon which the cakes were hung to dry near the kitchen fire. The heat made the thin cakes curl and crisp up. One reached up and snapped off a bit.

With farm butter and treacle and a glass of milk for the children or cheese and a pint of real home brewed ale for the grown-ups, havercake made a simple but nourishing meal, free from adulteration and with good vitamin content. It needed chewing which brought out its nutty flavour and was good for the teeth. A special Sunday treat was a piece of crisp havercake dipped in the good gravy under the Sunday joint and served hot.

In the earliest days the cakes were made on a primitive clay bakestone set over a peat fire. Later the bakestone was made of slate or sandstone over a wood fire and later still of iron over a coal fire. Among the papers of the late Mr. Hird Lord was a note that Joseph Wright of Shipley was the first baker to invent the iron bakestone. On the front, in big round letters, was the inscription "Evil be to him that evil thinks."

In the towns of Yorkshire, too, havercake was the staple diet of the people. They never saw wheaten bread except at festivals and funerals; only the rich could afford white flour when it was first introduced. But many of those who could afford bread preferred havercake. Every public house took dozens each week to serve with cold meats and ale; it was provided in all the big city clubs and was, for instance, served regularly until 1955 at the Mayoral Luncheons in Bradford Town Hall. Among those who tasted it there was the Duke of Windsor, then Prince of Wales; he liked it so much that, subsequently, supplies of it were ordered for him by Lord Lonsdale and baked by Mr. Hird Lord.

### A BAKERS LIFE

The life of a havercake baker was a hard one. Before the coming of gas and electricity he had to rise at 4 a.m. to light his fires, then scrub himself as the mixing of the meal was done with the bare arm. The batter was put into huge wooden tubs to rise and he was baking by 6 a.m. There was no break until the mid-day meal. After dinner he had to go out to sell his cakes while still fresh. The havercake man was a familiar figure with his white apron and his scrubbed wicker basket with its load covered with a snowy cloth.

But the baskets were heavy and the hills steep. Some bakers pulled a hand cart but the money to be made would not allow of a pony. Before the 1914-18 war havercakes were sold at 4½d. per dozen or four for 1½d. By dint of hard work and long hours the baker could earn at best about £2 per week.

Even so the havercake bakers started to go out of business mainly because, in those days of depression and unemployment, many people could not afford their favourite havercake even at four for 1½d. War brought greater spending power but the rising demand for havercake could not now be met so people turned more and more to bread which, with the lower cost of flour, was now within their reach.

The old craftsmen went on baking. Mr. Lord, himself, was still baking during the 1939-45 war. He would not use any but pure whole Scottish oatmeal and, on one occasion when he was having difficulty in getting supplies through by rail, was surprised by the arrival, early one frosty morning, of a convoy of large army lorries with a strong escort which had brought the precious oatmeal from Scotland to his small West Riding bakery. The old man, then over 80, was deeply touched by this



display of thoughtfulness and efficiency but the incident is evidence that the authorities realised the value of havercake as a food for hardworking people in wartime.

And this it has proved throughout the centuries so it seems a pity that it has had to yield place to the soft tasteless loaves of today. But havercake baking remained a skilled hand craft; no machine has been invented to turn out the thin cakes in quantity and, not surprisingly in modern conditions, young men are not prepared to devote themselves to a craft at which a long day's work will hardly produce a living wage.

So, where there were once over 50 havercake bakers in Bradford there are now none. The havercake bakers have died out like other old Yorkshire craftsmen, such as the cloggers, and the havercake is now part of Yorkshire's history as it is of our Regimental history.

*If anyone had asked me the origin of our nickname before I had studied Miss Lord's notes I would have*

*said that it was because our recruiting sergeants stuck a havercake on their bayonets when out after recruits. It hadn't really occurred to me to wonder why they indulged in this peculiar and—from recent attempts to copy them—difficult antic.*

*It now seems clear to me that a promise that they would be fed on havercake in the 33rd was a real bait to the lads of the West Riding. And, unless the bait was false, they presumably were so fed when possible. There would be those with the know-how of havercake baking in the ranks or among the intrepid women who followed the flag.*

*One can imagine that when havercake wasn't available our Regimental forefathers drove all within hearing to frenzy by their grouching. And when it was available, think of the plight of the southerner attached for rations to the 33rd and faced with this strange substance which he would be told had a right good chew to it.*

*It is easy to see now why "Havercake Lads" was a name that stuck.*

## PERSONALIA

The Colonel of the Regiment and Mrs. Exham are established in their new house, Brynglas Hall, Llanfair Caereinion, Montgomery. (Telephone Llanfair Caereinion 338.)

Colonel H. Harvey has sold his house at Brent Knoll and is at present living at 5 The Glebe, Hinton Charterhouse, nr. Bath.

Colonel and Mrs. Harvey were contemplating a trip to Rhodesia to visit their son but we hear from him that, for various reasons, it is now doubtful whether they will go. Their first grandson was born on November 27.

### Scholarship

A notable scholastic success has been gained by Miss Valery J. E. Haggie, whose photo we print here, only child of Mr. T. W. Haggie. Mr. Haggie



Miss  
Valery  
Haggie

enlisted in the Regiment in 1924; during the war he was transferred to the R.T.R. and later to the RE from which he retired in 1945 with the rank of CQMS. He is now employed by the GPO in Halifax.

Valery, after distinguishing herself at Crossley and Paton's School in Halifax, was awarded a scholarship to St. Hilda's, Oxford and went up last October to read for an honours degree in English.

Before this she had attended an advanced course in citizenship run by the Halifax educational authorities. In this she came out top, was presented with a certificate by the Mayor and was interviewed by the BBC on the programme "The Week Ahead."

Many of our readers may like to know that ex-R.S.M. E. Smith, late 1st Battalion, and his wife are now back in this country after staying for a short while in Canada with their married daughter, Nellie. Their present address is "Macadia," Lower Sea Lane, Charmouth, Dorset.

Mr. Smith's son, Major Gerald Smith, A.M.I.E.E., is now on the instructional staff at the R.E.M.E. Officers' School, Arborfield.

During his stay in Canada Mr. Smith met Honor, the daughter of ex-Bandmaster E. Ovington. She is married to an officer in the Canadian Army.

### Birth

MILLIGAN.—On October 20, at the Military Hospital, Catterick, to June (née Threapleton) and Major J. S. Milligan, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, a daughter (Amanda Margaret).

Major Dennis Shuttleworth has been elected to be a member of the Yorkshire Rugby Union Selection Committee.

### Engagement

The engagement was announced in October 1962 between Robin Charles Everard, son of Lt.-Colonel Sir Nugent and Lady Everard of Trimmings, Selborne, Hants., and Ariel Ingrid, eldest daughter of Colonel and Mrs. Peter Cleasby-Thompson, The Manor House, Cley-next-the-Sea, Norfolk.

### Weddings

Major and Mrs. Jock Huffam's only daughter, Marian (Ann) was married at Taihape, New Zealand on October 6, 1962, to Mr. Gordon Clifford. Major and Mrs. Huffam were not able to be present but have heard that it was a most happy occasion.

As forecast in the last issue Major "Baron" Emmett was married to Mrs. B. M. Thompson on September 19 last. A number of "Dukes" enjoyed the occasion. Major and Mrs. Emmett are now living at "Lindholme," 19 Brooklands Road, Eccleston, St. Helens, Lancs. (Tel: St. Helens 5787) and would be delighted to receive any members of the Regiment who find themselves in that area.

### Silver Wedding

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Kennedy recently celebrated their silver wedding. They were married at Halifax on September 25, 1937. Mr. Kennedy comes from a famous Regimental family; his grandfather, father, two uncles and his brother all served in "The Duke's." This notable family record was the subject of an article in THE IRON DUKE (No. 25, Volume IX, June 1933).

Mr. Kennedy enlisted into the 2nd Battalion in 1929. He served continuously with the Regiment and in extra-regimental appointments until 1949, when he transferred to the R.E.M.E. Mr. Kennedy finally took his discharge, in the rank of R.S.M., in 1953, 99 years after the date on which his grandfather, Sgt. Michael Kennedy, had enlisted. Mr. Kennedy's elder son is a Regular soldier in the Royal Engineers and is now serving in Malaya.

Mr. and Mrs. Kennedy held an "at home" at

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their house at 18 Mayfield Terrace South, Halifax, on their silver wedding day. Amongst the many friends who called to congratulate them were Mr. and Mrs. James Kennedy, Mr. Kennedy's brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. H. Rowlands, and Mr. and Mrs. F. Stringer.

### Protean Memories

Major Douglas Jones-Stamp is now established at Headquarters North Midland Area, Bestwood Lodge, Arnold, Nottingham, which he finds agreeable. It is a pleasant part of England, marred for him only by its association with Proteus Camp. All those of the 1st Battalion who endured the winter of 1947 in that infamous dump bear an ineradicable scar upon their memories.

Readers will be sorry to hear that Colonel Boutflower had to undergo a serious operation last July. He was in hospital for several months, but is now recuperating slowly but steadily.

Colonel and Mrs. Boutflower have sold their house and are looking for a smaller one. Meanwhile, their address is: c/o Lloyds Bank, Market Place, Devizes, Wilts.

Major Dennis Siddall has been appointed second-in-command of The West Riding Battalion. He



Photo: by courtesy of the Halifax Courier & Guardian

joined the 7th Battalion in 1939 and was one of the first three to be commissioned from the officer-producing company of the 2/7th Battalion.

Brother Alberic, better known to us as Captain John Stacpoole, has completed his two-year novitiate at Ampleforth Abbey.

Mr. Tom McMahon sent us the following story about his grandson:

The small boy, aged 4, was playing with his toys when a visitor commented admiringly on a covered wagon with two white horses. "Yes," the boy agreed, "The Duke of Wellington gave me that last Christmas."

The "Duke" in this case was Major Kenchington, at present Quartermaster of the West Riding Battalion.

(Personalia continued on page 36)

### At the 19th

At least two old "Dukes" are stewards of golf clubs. One is Major Pat Connolly, now at Wyke Green Golf Club, Isleworth, Middlesex. The other is Mr. J. A. Wade of Halifax Golf Club, Ogden, Halifax. They both served together in "A" Company of the 1st Battalion in Malta in 1935 and were very good all-round athletes. They were in the Battalion boxing team together. The boxing officer at the time was the then Lt. Beuttler who was also very keen on golf. Colonel Beuttler, now at "HQ" Southern Command, still manages to get a bit of golf occasionally.

### Where to Stay in Exmoor

Major Lewis Kershaw has now retired to Somerset. He has bought the Crown Hotel at Exford near Minehead in West Somerset. From the photographs which he has sent us it looks a lovely place. It is 900 feet above sea level on the edge of Exmoor. The hotel stands in eight acres of gardens through which flows a small stream with waterfalls and small bridges. Exford is the centre of stag hunting on Exmoor and there is good fishing in the neighbourhood. It all sounds perfectly delightful and we wish him every success in the venture.

## Obituary

We deeply regret to record the following deaths:

### Captain A. E. Miller, M.C.

As was briefly reported in the October issue Captain Miller died at Hove on September 25, 1962.

Eric Miller was born on June 9, 1888 and was educated at Clifton College. He was commissioned into the Regiment from Sandhurst in 1908 and joined the 1st Battalion in India.

He was a keen athlete and all-round sportsman and was a member of the Battalion Rugby team which won both the Calcutta and Bombay Cups in 1910. He was particularly keen on bayonet fighting and sabre; he trained the Battalion teams which excelled in the assault-at-arms at the Delhi Durbar and was himself runner-up to the champion officer at arms. For this he was awarded personally the Delhi Durbar medal. The following year he was champion officer at the 3rd Lahore Division assault-at-arms.

Miller retired on half pay early in 1914 with a view to joining the Colonial Service in West Africa but war broke out before he got there. Instead, he reported to the Depot at Halifax and was appointed adjutant of the 9th (Service) Battalion, D.W.R., which was being formed from scratch. Largely owing to Miller's organising ability and hard work a very fine battalion was raised and such was his popularity that his name became legendary in the battalion.

He went to France in 1915 with the 9th Battalion and remained with it as adjutant and, for a short period, second in command. He was mentioned in despatches and awarded the M.C. He was seriously wounded in action at Ypres on December 19, 1915 and, as a result, lost a leg.

After convalescence he was appointed the first adjutant of a Royal Flying Corps cadet battalion at Uxbridge as a temporary major.

After the war he was invalided out of the Army and in 1920 he married Miss Brenda Adams whom he had met while at Uxbridge. They went out to Kenya to farm, remaining there until 1931 when he came home to take over as chairman of a family business. He remained in this business until the time of his death.

Although Captain Miller only served a comparatively short time with the Regiment he always remained loyal to it and attended reunions for many years until ill health prevented him.

He is survived by his widow and their two sons, Tony and David, who both entered the Regiment via Sandhurst, thus helping to keep up the fine family tradition of the Regiment. Captain Tony Miller was gazetted in 1946 and served with the 2nd Battalion in India; he retired in 1953 to follow his father into the family business. Captain David Miller is still serving with the 1st Battalion.

### Mr. T. V. Rowan

Mr. Thomas Vincent Rowan died suddenly on November 22, 1962, aged 54 years. He leaves a widow, a son and three daughters; all the children are married. Mrs. Rowan lives at 10 Forest View, Illingworth, Halifax.

Tommy joined the Regiment at Halifax in September 1927 and left with the rank of sergeant after 12 years in July 1939. He served in both 1st and 2nd Battalions but mainly in the 2nd Battalion where he served for many years in the signal platoon.

He re-enlisted in June 1940 and was immediately transferred to the Royal Armoured Corps, serving with them until January 1946, when he was demobilised with the rank of S.S.M. In 1948 he joined the Halifax T.A. artillery unit (D.W.R.) and quickly became a B.S.M. He remained with the unit until 1953 when he retired.

His son, Kevin, is a bandsman in the Royal Marine Band with 10 years service to his credit and all his musician's certificates to ensure promotion to higher rank in that sphere.

Tommy was a most popular figure in the Regiment, a good soldier and an excellent N.C.O. He will be sadly missed by many Old Comrades in the Halifax area. The funeral was attended by many ex-"Dukes" who had been his contemporaries. Amongst them were: Mr. Prince (representing Mr. Code, O.C.A. Secretary) Mr. Annesley, Mr. F. Pearce, Mr. J. Brennan, Mr. M. Reed, Mr. G. Joyce, C.S.M. Fitton and Sgt. Howell represented the West Riding Battalion.

## THE REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION

### MR. R. H. TEMPLE

*In the last issue of THE IRON DUKE a series on prominent personalities in the OCA and Regimental Association was launched with a "profile" of the General Secretary, Mr. Sidney Code. This time we present Mr. R. H. Temple who for a number of years has been Chairman of the London Branch.*

Bob Temple, like Sidney Code, was born in London in 1905 but he grew up in London and enlisted there in 1921, having faked his age as 18. In those days the Regiment took in an occasional squad of Londoners—the idea being that they acted as leaven among the more stolid recruits from Yorkshire—and young Temple arrived at the Depot in Halifax in one of these so-called "cockney squads."

He joined the 1st Battalion in Tidworth early in 1922 and served with it in Gibraltar, Turkey and Gosport. In 1925 he transferred to the 2nd Battalion in Egypt and went on with them to Singapore. He left the 2nd Battalion when they moved to India, remaining on the trooper when they disembarked at Bombay and returning to the 1st Battalion at Devonport. He took his discharge to the Regular Reserve as a L/Sergeant in 1929.

From then until the outbreak of war he worked on the London buses.

When war broke out he volunteered for the Pioneer Corps (composed at that time entirely of ex-regular soldiers), was immediately promoted to sergeant and within three weeks was in France. At the evacuation from Dunkirk his company lost some 100 NCOs and men out of a total strength of 260 and Temple contends that his previous training in the "Duke's" stood him in good stead and ensured his safe return.

In 1941 he was promoted to CSM and posted to another Pioneer company and subsequently landed on the Normandy beaches on D+6. The advance of the 21st Army Group took him along the coast and eventually into Germany. He was released in November 1945 and now works on the staff of a chemical firm in Berkeley Square, London.

Bob Temple married a sister of ex-Sgt. G. A. Greagsbey, formerly of the 1st and 2nd Battalions, and has one son and twin granddaughters. His son is a staff sergeant in REME, having already served for 15 years in the Army; he met a number of members of the Sergeants' Mess of the 1st Battalion during the Korean war.

Bob Temple is, and always will be, a very keen "Duke." He, with his Secretary, Mr. Ben Hearsom—who is unfortunately not in very good health at present—runs our London Branch. This is no easy task as the members of this branch are more widely scattered than those of any other—even in London itself, and the branch covers the Home Counties as well. Both Chairman and Secretary devote a lot of time to the affairs of the branch and its members. The ever growing attendance at the



London dinner on Rugby League Cup Final night is proof of the success of their work but perhaps not all those who enjoy that evening once a year realise how much work goes on all the rest of the time to make the branch flourish. And Bob Temple would be the last person to tell them.

### 6th BATTALION O.C.A.

The annual general meeting of the 6th Battalion O.C.A. was held at the Devonshire Hotel, Skipton, on October 6, 1962. The report and accounts for the year ended June 30, 1962 were read and approved. The following officers were re-elected. President: Colonel F. Longdon Smith, M.B.E., M.C., T.D., D.L., J.P., Chairman: Major H. Dixon, O.B.E., J.P., Vice-Chairman: Mr. J. W. Minnikin, Hon. Secretary and Treasurer: Captain H. J. Lawson, 4 Mill Bridge, Skipton.

The meeting was followed by the annual reunion dinner at which Colonel F. Longdon Smith presided and which was attended by 68 members and guests. The guests were Major J. C. Moncrieff, T.D., 2IC (now C.O.) of the West Riding Battalion, Major J. H. Davis, Regimental Secretary, and Mr. S. E. Code, M.B.E., General Secretary of the Regimental Association.

Colonel F. Longdon Smith proposed the loyal toast and Major T. P. Brighthouse, T.D., proposed the toast of the 6th Battalion Duke of Wellington's Regiment Old Comrades Association to which Major J. H. Davis responded.

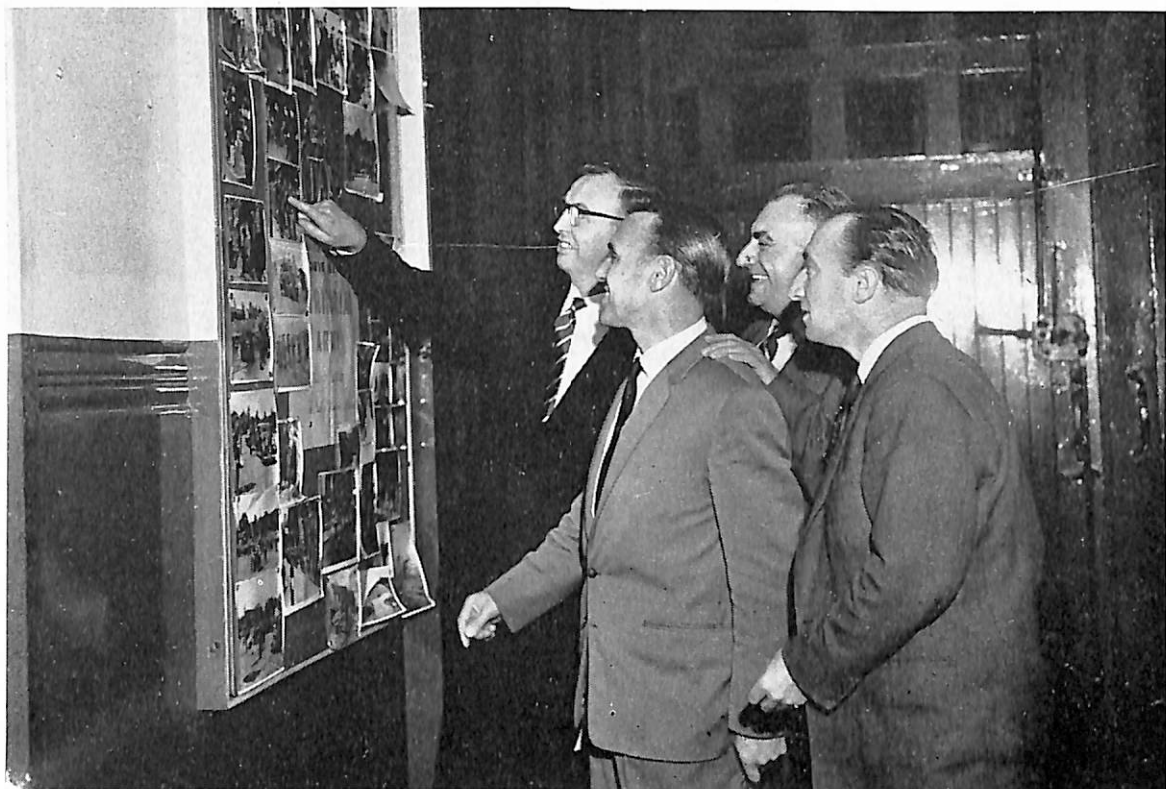


Photo: By courtesy of "Huddersfield Examiner"

**A group of war-time section leaders of 7th Battalion at the reunion**  
*L to R: Messrs. R. Downs, S. Revill, W. Bellamy, E. Cooper*

### **OLD 7TH BATTALION "GET-TOGETHER"**

A "Get-together" reunion for members of the old war-time 7th Battalion, organised by Mr. W. Downs, ex-"D" Company 1939-1945, was held at St. Paul's Street Drill Hall, Huddersfield on Saturday, September 29, 1962.

From towns, villages and hamlets throughout the land 200 men flocked to this noble gathering. Memories of drill halls, home stations, Iceland, Holland, Germany; old acquaintances were renewed, incidents pleasant and maybe not so pleasant were re-lived; tales flowed, beer flowed and on that night Huddersfield warmly received the men of the 7th. The spirit, comradeship and unbreakable bond of these "warriors" was evident and echoed throughout the drill hall on this memorable occasion.

Colonels Howcroft, Hinchcliffe, Kavanagh, Taylor, Le Messurier, Gadd, and numerous other officers mingled with the excited groups; time ceased to exist—the night was over ere it had begun. How can one describe the pleasure of such intimate occasions with a pen?

A buffet supper laid on by W.O.2 Hannan of the present West Riding Battalion was well and truly "polished off" with relish and swilled down with good ale.

Mr. Downs, (Bleak House, Tunnacliffe Road, Newsome, Huddersfield) would like to hear from any old 7th Battalion members. This "wandering tribe" must now touch every corner of the globe.

### **9TH BATTALION, D.W.R.**

The fifteenth annual reunion dinner was held on October 6, at the Victoria Hotel, Leeds, when over 70 old comrades and their friends spent a very cheerful evening together.

Tony Verity was in the chair and welcomed all those present. Having been with the Battalion since shortly after it was re-formed, he was always a well-known and popular officer.

Harry Brunskill gave us his usual interesting address before toasting absent friends.

Garry Hall with his "quiet" manner kept the meeting in some sort of order until all the business was complete. The cost of the tickets for the dinner was reviewed and it was agreed to maintain the price for the coming year at the same level as for the past.

Many members had written to say they could not attend, including the following; Lt.-Colonels R. L. Agnew, F. P. A. Woods; Majors Alex Luhrs, Sir J. Simon; Captains J. M. M. Bilham, A. Westman, Alastair Scott-Johnston, M. Girling, S. Gorst; Lt. T. Dickson, Mr. S. Code, Mr. G. Hepworth.

**LONDON & HOME COUNTIES BRANCH**

The London dinner will be held on **Saturday, May 11th, Time: 7.30 for 8 p.m.**

The committee have decided to change the venue to

**The Victory (Ex-Services) Club  
73 Seymour Street, London W.2**

The price of dinner tickets will be 14/-

As the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Ben Hearsum is, unfortunately, still far from well, applications should be made to:- **Mr. R. H. Temple, 59, Burnfoot Avenue, Fulham, London, S.W.6.**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Old Comrades Association (1st and 2nd Battalions) and the Regimental Association of The Duke of Wellington's Regiment held at Halifax on Saturday, September 22, 1962**

**Present:** The Colonel, General Sir Philip Christison, Major-General Upjohn, Brigadiers Webb Carter, Miles and Moran, Colonels Wathen and Taylor, Lt.-Colonels Kavanagh, le Messurier and Skelsey, Major J. H. Davis and 65 other members of the Associations.

**1. Minutes**

The proceedings of the last meeting, having been published in the Press and THE IRON DUKE, were signed as read and approved.

**2. Chairman's Remarks**

General Exham explained that the Regimental Association Trustees, taking advantage of the Trustees Act of 1961 and the best possible advice, had embarked on a re-investment scheme with the Associations' funds which would be reflected in next year's accounts.

In support of the A.B.F.'s appeal to Regimental Associations to pursue a policy of self-help, we had now established a yearly sweepstake which it was hoped would eventually bring in some £500 p.a.

Action was being taken, through Q.R.s, to give power to C.O.s to invite soldiers to subscribe one day's pay p.a. towards Regimental Charitable Funds.

**3. Secretary's Report**

The Secretary read his report.

**MR. CHAIRMAN AND OLD COMRADES**

I have pleasure in presenting my report on the working of the Associations and their activities for the year ended June 30, 1962.

**Case Work**

During the year under review the R.H.Q. Case Committee dealt with 144 applications for financial assistance in one form or another; this represents an increase of 24 on the year 1960-61.

After investigation, 31 of these applications proved to be either unworthy or did not come within the scope of our funds. Of the 113 cases assisted by grants, 30 qualified for help from the Old Comrades (1st and 2nd Battalions) and 83 from the Regimental Association Funds. The average age of the applicants was 58 years and the average grant worked out at £7 10s.

A summary of monies disbursed in grants and subscriptions is as follows:

	£	s.	d.
<i>O.C.A. Fund:</i>			
30 cases assisted .. .. .	232	18	1
Pensions .. .. .	213	10	0
<i>Regimental Association Fund:</i>			
83 cases assisted .. .. .	621	4	7
Grants to Institutions .. .. .	86	15	0
<i>McGuire Bate Fund:</i>			
Four cases assisted .. .. .	244	17	6
Wreaths .. .. .	1	0	0
Grants—Officers Association .. .. .	10	10	0
King Edward VII Hospital .. .. .	15	0	0

Details of other expenditure and income are shown in the accounts published in THE IRON DUKE for October 1962.

**Pensions Grants**

One new O.C.A. pension of £6 10s. a quarter has been granted to Mr. Jack Wood of London, late 1st Battalion, 1906-20. We now have seven quarterly, and one half-yearly, pensioners on our books. They are: Mr. A. May of Newport, I.O.W.; Mrs. C. Payne, Halifax; Mrs. Briscombe, London; Mrs. E. Partridge, Bradford; Mrs. Earnshaw, Huddersfield; Mrs. C. Vott, Bradford; Mr. J. Wood, London; and Mrs. D. O'Shea, Tralee, Eire (half-yearly pension).

Mr. J. Wood, who has been very ill in St. Thomas's Hospital is, we now hear, well on the way to recovery.

**Institutions**

There is no change to report in the subscriptions to institutions from the Regimental Association Fund and the McGuire Bate. They total £112 5s.

**Accounts**

The audited accounts of the Associations are produced at this meeting for circulation amongst members. The General Account has been explained to the Management Committee, at their meeting on Thursday, August 30, 1962, who adopted it unanimously.

**Army Benevolent Fund**

The second half of the Army Benevolent grant of £400 (1961) has been received and figures in the current balance sheet.

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## Membership

Membership figures of the Associations are as follows:

*Regimental Association:* 2,195 (1,103 paid up, 243 partly paid up and 849 registered but non-subscribing).

*Old Comrades Association:* 1,905 paid-up members. This may not be absolutely correct as we are not always informed of the decease of members. Also many members of the 1st and 2nd Battalions partly paid up before the outbreak of the second world war are now untraceable.

Only six new members were enrolled during the current year: five from the Brigade Depot, one from Bradford and none from the 1st Battalion. This is a dismal picture to have to report and all concerned are aware of this shocking state of affairs. But I am able to report that both Colonel Kavanagh, who has just recently taken command of the 1st Battalion, and Colonel le Messurier, C.O. of the Yorks Brigade Depot, have assured me that the O.C.A. recruiting structure in both units will be drastically overhauled at once.

## Branches

It has been yet again a good year for branch socials. Halifax, Bradford, Keighley and South Elmsall have all had inter-branch shows and all very well attended, 150 to 200 being the usual number present. Sheffield and Huddersfield have not as yet been able to do any entertaining and neither have Leeds but we are hoping that, when the new branch social programme opens, possibly in November, these three branches will "have a go" and so come into line with the others.

Much of the credit for these successful events must, of course, go to the hard-working honorary secretaries and the committees, but behind much of the success has been the extremely hard work put in by the ladies' sections; they have produced food and light refreshments in prodigious quantities, at little or no expense to the branch concerned, set it out most tastefully, and served it most efficiently.

There will be a Branch Secretaries meeting, held under the chairmanship of the General Secretary, in late October to draw up a social programme covering the whole of 1963. This will be sent to all members of branches and retired officers living in Yorkshire. This should help the O.C.A. branch recruiting efforts.

## O.C.A. Jubilee Year

The Colonel of the Regiment will no doubt have much to say about the O.C.A. attaining its 50th year of service. But I could not end my report without also saying a word. In 50 years of existence, during which there have been two world wars and a hungry decade in the 1930s, the Old Comrades Association and, since 1945, the Regimental Association too, have been helping those old comrades and their dependants who have found themselves in needy circumstances. Some 6,000 have been assisted financially since the inception of a benevolent side to our Regimental activities, no mean achievement for a Regimental Fund, and

no genuine case has ever been turned away. I should like to make one last point, that is to make it known that our benevolent door is open to help the Old Comrade or his dependants seven days a week 365 days a year; there is always a member of the Case Committee available at R.H.Q., and the General Secretary's address can be had from the Guard Room.

## Conclusion

As usual we take this opportunity to thank again the ladies and gentlemen of S.S.A.F.A., the Forces Help Society and other voluntary organisations who so kindly undertake, on our behalf, the investigation of cases. Our thanks also to Messrs. Whitham, Smith and Mitchell, our auditors, to Major J. E. Driver for the exceptionally hard work he has put in this year in connection with the reinvestment policy, and to Major Coop who has become our honorary stockbroker.

We welcome the Lord Bishop of Pontefract, the Rt. Rev. Eric Treacy, M.B.E., who has kindly consented to become our Regimental Chaplain, to our fold. As vicar of Halifax until last year we came to know him as a forthright and outspoken critic of the besetting sins of greed and selfishness which pervade society today. The Old Comrades of the Regiment have come to regard him with much warm affection for his inspiring and appropriately turned phrases on the occasions he has preached to them at Regimental services.

This concludes my report.

## 4. Chairman's Comments.

The Chairman commented on:

- (a) The need to increase O.C.A. pensions grants.
- (b) Membership problem will now be linked with the 'day's pay' scheme.
- (c) Special effort to be made on Remembrance Day by O.C.A. branches to ensure a maximum turn-up at local Cenotaphs.

On a proposal by Mr. F. Stringer, seconded by Mr. G. Marsden, the Secretary's report was accepted unanimously.

## 5. Accounts

The audited accounts of the Associations were circulated to members and, after inspection, were approved unanimously on a proposal by Lt.-Colonel J. E. Johnson, seconded by Major D. Roberts.

## 6. Other Business

Mr. F. Deighton, Bradford Branch Secretary, suggested that the Association should purchase a quantity of crockery to be held at R.H.Q. and loaned out to branches when required for social events. Chairman said he felt it was a good suggestion but should be left to the Management Committee to consider at their next meeting.

Mr. R. Pearce made an enquiry as to his position on the Management Committee. The Regimental Secretary was instructed to look into the matter.

The meeting closed at 1800 hours.



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