

No.128 April 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  
Seringsapatam  
Ally Ghur  
Delhi, 1803  
Leswarree  
Deig  
Corunna  
Nive  
Peninsula  
Waterloo  
Alma  
Inkerman  
Sevastopol  
Abyssinia  
Relief of Kimberley  
Paardeberg  
South Africa 1900-02  
Mons 1914  
Marne 1914, '18  
Ypres 1914, '15, '17*



*Hill 60  
Somme 1916, '18  
Arras 1917, '18  
Cambrai 1917, '18  
Lys  
Piave 1918  
Landing at 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 1944  
The Hook 1953  
Korea 1952-53*

Vol. XXXIX

APRIL 1963

No. 128

### BUSINESS NOTES

Published Quarterly — January, April, July and October

Annual Subscription—10s. (6s. for serving soldiers under the rank of W.O.) payable in advance to the Business Manager on February 1.

Subscribers are earnestly requested to keep the Business Manager informed of any change of address

Editor: COLONEL R. G. TURNER,  
12A MADINGLEY ROAD,  
CAMBRIDGE  
TEL.: 50923

Business Manager: LT.-COL. W. SKELSEY, M.B.E.,  
WELLESLEY BARRACKS,  
HALIFAX

Copy for the July 1963 issue should reach the Editor by June 1, 1963

### CONTENTS

|  | PAGE |
|--|------|
| <i>The Hook</i> .. .. .                        | 49   |
| <i>Regimental Occasions</i> .. .. .            | 49   |
| <i>Regimental Sweepstake</i> .. .. .           | 50   |
| <i>Regimental Headquarters</i> .. .. .         | 50   |
| <i>Cricket</i> .. .. .                         | 50   |
| <i>The Yorkshire Brigade Depot</i> .. .. .     | 52   |
| <i>1st Battalion</i> .. .. .                   | 55   |
| <i>Major (Q.M.) E. J. Hobbs, M.B.E. M.S.M.</i> | 57   |
| <i>Burma Company, British Honduras</i> .. .. . | 63   |
| <i>The Sergeants go Fishing</i> .. .. .        | 69   |
| <i>The West Riding Battalion, T.A.</i> .. .. . | 71   |
| <i>Operation "Three Peaks"</i> .. .. .         | 76   |
| <i>10th (Service) Battalion</i> .. .. .        | 77   |
| <i>Sky Diving</i> .. .. .                      | 79   |
| <i>Obituary</i> .. .. .                        | 80   |
| <i>A Note on the "Wharton" Colours</i> .. .. . | 82   |
| <i>Book Review</i> .. .. .                     | 83   |
| <i>From the "London Gazette"</i> .. .. .       | 84   |
| <i>Company News from Catterick</i> .. .. .     | 85   |

# Regimental Sweepstake 1963

The Regimental Sweepstake will again be run this year on the St. Leger, on or about September 13. It will take the same form as last year. Books of tickets will be sent out by Regimental Headquarters in June, rather earlier than last time.

Last year we sold £508 worth of tickets and realised £268 for Regimental Association funds. Although this was quite satisfactory for a first attempt it was far short of a "possible." By law we may sell up to £750 worth of tickets; deducting prizes (£200) and administrative expenses (£60). The "possible" figure for Regimental funds is thus £490.

Regimental Headquarters would be extremely grateful for any suggestions for the improvement of sales this year. If anyone can disclose a hitherto untapped market or bring to light any mistakes made last time will they please write either to Lieutenant-Colonel W. Skelsey or to Mr. S. E. Code, at Wellesley Barracks, Halifax.

## CRICKET

### 1 D.W.R.

The 1st Battalion cricket week will be held at Catterick from June 22 to 26. The following matches have been arranged:

- June 22-23 v. Free Foresters
- „ 24-25 v. General Upjohn's XI
- „ 26 v. 3 Royal Tank Regt.

### The Brigade Depot

The Yorkshire Brigade cricket week will be held, as usual, during the first week in July. The fixtures are:

- July 1-2 v. Lancastrian Brigade (Roses Cup Match)
- „ 3 v. Free Foresters
- „ 4 v. Harrogate Druids
- „ 6 v. Yorkshire Gentlemen

Will all "Dukes" cricketers please make a note of the dates as we shall need all the talent we can get hold of this year.

### Yorkshire County C.C.

The Council of Colonels has decided that each of the regiments in the Brigade shall donate £5 to the Yorkshire County Cricket Club's centenary appeal.

## REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS

Recruiting figures in December showed an alarmingly downward plunge but we ended up with a slight improvement on our 1961 total.

Our success or failure, regimentally, has to be viewed against the overall figures of the Yorkshire Brigade. These too showed an increase of 282 regular adult soldiers as compared with an increase of 161 during 1961. A similar increase in 1963 would bring the Yorkshire Brigade up to its authorised strength.

This will not mean that all four battalions of the Brigade will be up to strength. There is now a very similar system working on the brigade level to what we had pre-war when the home based battalion kept the overseas battalion up to strength. Overseas battalions of the Brigade will be kept at the strength required for their station while home based battalions will have to be kept below strength.

The policy is to keep inter-regimental postings of officers and other ranks to a minimum; as far as possible the varying strengths of battalions within the Brigade will be controlled by regulating the output to battalions of trained soldiers from the Depot at Strensall.

The Cumberlege plan (the move of R.H.Q. to a new site) had its last mention about a year ago when, with mistaken optimism, we confidently forecast an opening ceremony in September. Work in fact only began at the end of October but then progressed initially at a gratifying speed until Christmas. The oak panels of the past colonels, commanding officers and adjutants were stripped

from our walls and re-erected in the new site giving us a feeling of working on a sinking ship.

After Christmas, in common with building projects throughout the country, work ground slowly to a halt as we snowed up and froze.

Mr. Philip Burt, who has been manager of The White Swan Hotel, Halifax, for the last four years, is moving shortly to The Cairn Hotel, Harrogate. Mr. Burt served in the 9th Battalion during the Second World War. All members of the Regiment will be made welcome at The Cairn in the same hospitable way in which they have been at The White Swan.

An interesting addition to our archives has been presented by the committee of the R.A.S.C. Museum, Aldershot, in the form of the documents of Pte. Thomas Fitzharris, late of the 33rd Regt. of Foot. These record that Thomas Fitzharris, in May 1855, at the age of 21, became an out-pensioner of the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, with a pension of 9d. a day. Another document shows that his pension was increased to 1s. 3d. a day some 42 years later. Fitzharris served in the Crimea. Our medal roll shows that he was at Alma only and, as he was not wounded, one can only guess that he must have been one of the many unrecorded disabled and discharged. The Crimea medal roll gives more information than most. It lists those who died of cholera or in the base hospital at Scutari. A number are shown as "died before Sebastopol" which presumably was regarded as adequate explanation for those who starved, froze or died of exposure in the tented camp or trenches near Sebastopol.

### Les Voltigeurs de Québec

Lt.-Colonel Matte, the former commanding officer of Les Voltigeurs, has been promoted to command the 7th Militia Group (the equivalent of a T.A. Brigade). His place as C.O. has been taken by Lt.-Colonel P. E. Defoy, c.d.

On March 1 Lt.-Colonel Tony Firth visited Quebec to hand over to Les Voltigeurs the silver salver which the Regiment has presented to them to mark the centenary of their formation. We hope to publish a full account and photos of this occasion in our next issue.

### Company Titles

From the 1st Battalion Company notes it will be seen that companies are now named after Regimental Battle Honours. This change was originally suggested by Captain Jeremy Cumberlege during the time he was adjutant. The present Commanding Officer liked and implemented the idea. Companies were renamed, using a battle honour with the initial letter corresponding to the old alphabetical designation, by a Special Battalion Order, dated 14 November, 1962.

### Error Regretted

Personalia erred in the October number in referring to "Colonel" Bill Summers. He is, of course, a Brigadier. Personalia apologises.

### Invalids

Readers will be sorry to learn that two well-known elders of the Regiment have been ill since Christmas.

In the January issue we reported that Lt.-Colonel Boutflower had had to undergo a major operation last summer. After making a good recovery he unfortunately had a relapse while staying at Budleigh Salterton, where he and Mrs. Boutflower had gone to spend Christmas, and had to be taken into hospital there. Our last news, however, was that he was again recovering slowly and was hoping to be able to move back to Devizes.

Lt.-Colonel Mordaunt Trench, who was the IRON DUKE's first editor and who maintained the magazine in high repute for no less than 23 years, has also been much confined to bed since Christmas. To his old enemy, gout, have been added coughs and effects of the extreme cold—the water supply at Llwyn Celyn was frozen for nine weeks). Of him also, however, our latest news is of improvement.

We are sure that all readers will join in wishing both a return to good health.

### Editorial Notice

The Editor gives notice that he will in future submit a bill for 5s. for every time he has to correct the spelling of the Regimental Battle Honour which should be spelt Paardeberg.



DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S  
REGIMENT  
9 ct. gold and enamel  
Home £18-10-0 Export £16-0-0

YORKSHIRE BRIGADE  
9 ct. gold and enamel  
Home £12-15-0 Export £10-17-6



BY APPOINTMENT TO HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN  
GOLDSMITHS & CROWN JEWELLERS,  
GARRARD & CO. LTD., LONDON

A fine piece of jewellery, artistically designed, makes a charming gift. Produced by the house of Garrard in gold and enamel, a badge brooch can be a token of lasting value. Designs and estimates for gem set brooches are supplied free at your request. Please address all enquiries to the military department.

## The Regimental and Brigade Badges

**GARRARD & CO. LTD.**

*Crown Jewellers*

112 Regent Street • London • W.1 • Telephone: REGENT 3021 (11 lines)

## THE YORKSHIRE BRIGADE DEPOT

*"Be sparing in physic, and let not Blood without absolute Necessity, and be careful of catching Cold."*

So says my almanac of 1804. Too late! . . . your correspondent was obviously not careful enough! In that year George III was King, the Rt. Hon. William Markham was Lord Archbishop of York with a salary of £2,682 12s. 2d. The Colonel of the 33rd was General Lord Cornwallis, the Hon. Ar. M. Wellesley was the first Lt.-Colonel, Arthur Gore the second, and the Battalion was in the British Isles. The 76th was abroad, commanded by either the Hon. Wm. Monson or Michael Symes.

Anyway, I bet the weather was warmer! Here at one time all systems froze solid and it was touch and go whether to send everyone home. With great good humour and energy the men restored essential services and we soldiered on.

Christmas leave mercifully started a little earlier owing to a convenient weekend during which, in our various ways, we recovered from the heavy programme of junior soldiers' dinners, orphans' Christmas party, children's Christmas party (an increase this year of over 100 children on last year's score!), troops' Christmas dinners, etc. At the latter some quite excellent entries in the blanket competition decorated the dining room walls.

In January we were visited officially by the G.O.C.-in-C. Northern Command, Lt.-General Sir Charles Jones, who, unfortunately for us, is soon to leave this command to take over as Master General of Ordnance. Lt.-Colonel Scott, commanding the Green Howards, and Lt.-Colonel Taylor, commanding the Prince of Wales's Own, visited us. Another visitor who showed great

### CHRISTMAS DINNER



Photo by courtesy of the "Yorkshire Post"

**The C.O. and R.S.M. serve dinner to the Junior Soldiers Wing under the winning entry in the Blanket Competition**

interest in everything was the Norwegian Military Attaché, Lt.-Colonel Randers.

Each month an open weekend, organised by the Regimental Recruiting Liaison Officers, has been held here for young men who have an interest in seeing something of the Army.

The Council of Colonels is to meet today as I write and, despite the weather, all our Colonels have been able to attend.

The rebuilding programme has been hit very badly by the climate. It must now be about three months behind schedule. This is indeed sad as it may mean another winter with workmen swarming all over the place.

### OFFICERS' MESS

Despite a reduced staff the Mess ran a very successful Ladies' Guest Night, complete with Christmas tree and the Junior Soldiers' Band, which played a selection of seasonal tunes.

A new innovation was a buffet luncheon for Warrant Officers and Sergeants and their ladies. We had felt for some time that the great hospitality traditionally shown to us by the Sergeants' Mess had never adequately been returned.

One guest night which we will remember for some time was on the occasion of the visit of Colonel Randers of the Norwegian Army. Among our guests were the Chief of Staff, Major-General H. T. Alexander, Lt.-Colonel M. G. Elcombe, Commanding the Light Infantry Brigade Depot, Colonel Forbes, Green Howards, Lt.-Colonel J. R. Neighbour, 4/5 Battalion, The Green Howards, and Mr. B. H. B. Milner, who has given us so much help in the planning of the Brigade Museum-to-be. Padre Solomon was dined out, and we are all sorry to see him and Betty leave us. Both have contributed so much to the life of the Depot. We wish them both much happiness in their new life in a living near Warminster.

We welcome the Rev. Douglas and Mrs. Craigie, who have just moved into Alexandra Road. We hope their stay with us will be a long and happy one.

Lt. Lance Brook (Y. and L.) has returned to his Battalion and we shall miss him, particularly on the hockey field. We hope he will be able to visit us from time to time. Lt. "Nick" Coats (Y. and L.) has relieved him and is a staunch member of the shoot.

### SERGEANTS' MESS

The highlight of the Christmas festivities was the Christmas Draw, which proved a great success; the attendance being what it was the TV and billiards room had to be brought into use.

The Mess, honoured by the presence of the Brigade Colonel, the Commanding Officer and their wives, and the Officers of the Depot, proceeded with the draw. We were pleased to see at the end of the evening that neither the Brigade Colonel nor the Commanding Officer went home empty-handed. In fact the Commanding Officer needed all his strength to remove one of his prizes—a 56lb. bag of potatoes.

The members had their share of prizes; to mention a few, R.S.M. Campey had a kitbag full;

C/Sgt. Simpson pushed his laden barrow home; and Sgt. Gascoyne finished up with enough bottles of the hard stuff to set up a cocktail bar in his bunk. A good time was had by all, and praise must be given to Q.M.S.I. Church (P.M.C.) and his committee for the excellent work put in by them to produce a most successful evening's entertainment.

On the day of the O.R.s' Christmas dinner, the Officers and members gathered in the Mess for the customary quick one before going to the Dining Hall to give the traditional service to the O.R.s, who appreciated it with great gusto (cheers).

A grand social was held on New Year's Eve; the usual high spirits were shown, and taken. Mentioning no names, one member brought in the New Year with a BUMP (accidentally slipped on the floor).

Recent departures and arrivals include R.Q.M.S. Applegarth (Green Howards), who has left us to go to Aden, lucky man. He has done a lot for the Depot during his tour, and we shall miss him. We welcome his successor, R.Q.M.S. Bools (Y. and L.) and Mrs. Bools.

Finally, all members here wish all Messes the very best of luck and a "Happy New Year."

### TRAINING COMPANY

We have been busy as usual with the weather complicating training. Corunna Platoon passed out with the best recruit, Pte. Smith, G. (P.W.O.), the best shot on the S.L.R. Pte. Swift (D.W.R.), and the best shot L.M.G. Pte. York (D.W.R.).

Somme Platoon passed out on February 21, when the best recruit was Pte. Place (P.W.O.), best shot S.L.R. Pte. Whitehead (Y. and L.), best shot L.M.G. Pte. Ross (D.W.R.), and winner of the cross-country Pte. Marshall (Y. and L.).

Lt. Pugh has been taking out Officers and men in parties to ski, which has given a few of us a new interest besides a knowledge of muscles we never thought we had.

For a short time we had a draft of Y. and L. undergoing continuation training until they could be accepted at Saighton Camp. Now we are looking after a Green Howard draft until their Battalion comes home to Barnard Castle.

We welcome Lt. N. M. Coats (Y. and L.) and say goodbye to Lt. L. R. B. Brook (Y. and L.), Sgt. Russell (D.W.R.), Cpl. O'Donnell (D.W.R.), Cpl. Fox (Green Howards), Cpl. Graham (Green Howards), and Cpl. Hodgkinson (D.W.R.), and wish them all well.

### JUNIOR SOLDIERS' WING

The Wing gave a resounding party to some lads from three of Dr. Barnardo's Homes. Besides a first-rate tea laid on by the Cook-Sergeant and his staff, music from the Band and carol singing, there were other activities ranging from having a go on the trampoline to roller skating. The junior soldiers gave up of a lot of time making quite excellent models for presents off the tree, and their good efforts were well rewarded by the pleasure these gave.

Since the Christmas holidays there have been 20

## BARNARDO BOYS TEA PARTY



Photo by courtesy of "East Yorkshire News Service"

Hosts, left to right, standing:-

**Leonard**  
(G.H.)

**Plant**  
(Y & L)

**Skelly**  
(DWR)

**Hulse**  
(G.H.)

new entrants, who have quickly settled in.

The Army Commander inspected a parade of the Band and Drums and seemed to enjoy talking to the lads, who were by no means struck dumb by the occasion.

Six of the best lads were transferred on a legal old boy net to the Junior Tradesmen's Regiment at Rhyl. They were later seen by the Depot Commander and they told him that life was jolly good. We have since heard that the Regiment at Troon is the one to which Yorkshire Brigade juniors should go! For the benefit of our readers who do not know, these Regiments train juniors to be drivers, signallers or clerks.

Boat and canoe building is forging ahead. The dinghy is now built and a second one started.

Our juniors went to Aldershot to run in the Army Cross-Country Championships. They came fourth out of 14 teams, J/Bdsm. Clarke coming second after having led the field for most of the way. Had not J/Bdsm. Morris unhappily twisted his knee we would have taken second place to the Light Infantry Brigade, who won by a truly magnificent margin. The course was very hard going this

year. As a result of this activity we have three juniors who are going to represent York in a Junior Youth League. This success is the result of the great drive and enthusiasm of Lt. Day (Y. and L.) and Cpl. Gree (P.W.O.).

This term 26 of the juniors have completed the Duke of Edinburgh's bronze award and will now be working towards their silver.

### SHOOTING

The .22 shooting has had great support, and in the Depot Home League H.Q. Company were narrowly beaten by the Sergeants' Mess and Officers' Mess. The wives still have an expert team, and the juniors have yet to get their revenge. This winter shooting will, we hope, pay dividends of a better standard of open range shooting in the coming months.

### Notice

### SUMMER BALL

The Summer Ball, this year, is to be on July 12.

# 1st BATTALION

## Sub-Editorial

In spite of the hard winter with its continuous frost and snow, the Battalion has found plenty with which to keep itself occupied at Catterick. When we weren't out snow clearing, there was training in preparation for the departure of Alma Company for British Honduras in May, or administrative preparations and pre-inspections prior to the annual inspection which is scheduled for the last week in March.

On December 14, we enjoyed a visit from the G.O.C. in C. Northern Command, General Sir Charles Jones. After touring the barracks and talking to many of us he paid a visit to the Sergeants' Mess prior to lunching with the officers.

The following afternoon the battalion gave its annual children's Christmas party. After a film and a large tea each child received a present from Father Christmas, genially portrayed by the Quartermaster.

On December 19 at noon, the Sergeants' Mess came to take their traditional Christmas beer off the officers. Afterwards all adjourned to the men's dining hall to serve them their Christmas dinner. This was a very jovial affair at which S.Q.M.S. Benson and his cooks excelled themselves. They are to be congratulated for producing a delicious meal. The day was rounded off by the Sergeants' Mess draw in the evening.

On December 21, most of us departed for the ten-day Christmas break. Before this the Commanding Officer and one or two of the wives had sent seasonal greetings, by means of a B.B.C. tape recorder, from us all in Catterick to Burma Company in British Honduras. It was a different Christmas for them, including hot, sticky weather, but they made the most of it.

Early in January, 2Lt. Megwa of the Queen's Own Nigerian Regiment came to spend a few weeks with us before attending his platoon commanders' courses. Judging from his recent letter he enjoyed his stay as much as we did.

On January 25, our G.O.C. Yorkshire District, Major-General Gordon Upjohn, came and spent the day with us. He toured the barracks during the morning and had a word with almost all of us. Certain conversations commenced with—"And where did we meet last?" to which the answer would be—"In Khartoum in 1948, Sir," or something on these lines.

February 1 saw the Commanding Officer on his way to British Honduras for ten days. He found Burma Company in very good shape. In Catterick we followed his progress with the aid of postcards from Miami, Nassau and other exciting places.

February also brought the result of the staff examination. We are delighted to record the success in it of Captains Edward Dasent and Jim Pell.

In the sporting field we have been active despite the weather. Unfortunately 28 Company R.A.O.C. knocked us out of the Rugby Cup in December, but more of that under rugby notes. Cross country trials resulted in Pte. Brown, Captain Bray, Pte. Hull and Captain Greenway returning home in that order. Later Brown went on to finish third in the Northern Command Championships and Hull was placed eleventh.

Early February saw the Northern Command groups of A.C.F. Cadets lodging with us during their National Boxing semi-finals. Then on February 21, we took part in the Yorkshire District boxing competition. Although we earned no distinctions we gave a creditable account of ourselves.

Finally R.S.M. Robins and his team of organisers are to be congratulated on an extremely pleasant Paardeberg Ball. The 31 Command Workshops canteen was transformed for the evening. An air of warmth, colour and gaiety sprang from every corner of the room and, together with the scarlet of our mess jackets, made the party spirit complete. Again we were delighted to have Major-General and Mrs. Upjohn amongst us.

## NEWS FROM THE MESSES

### OFFICERS' MESS

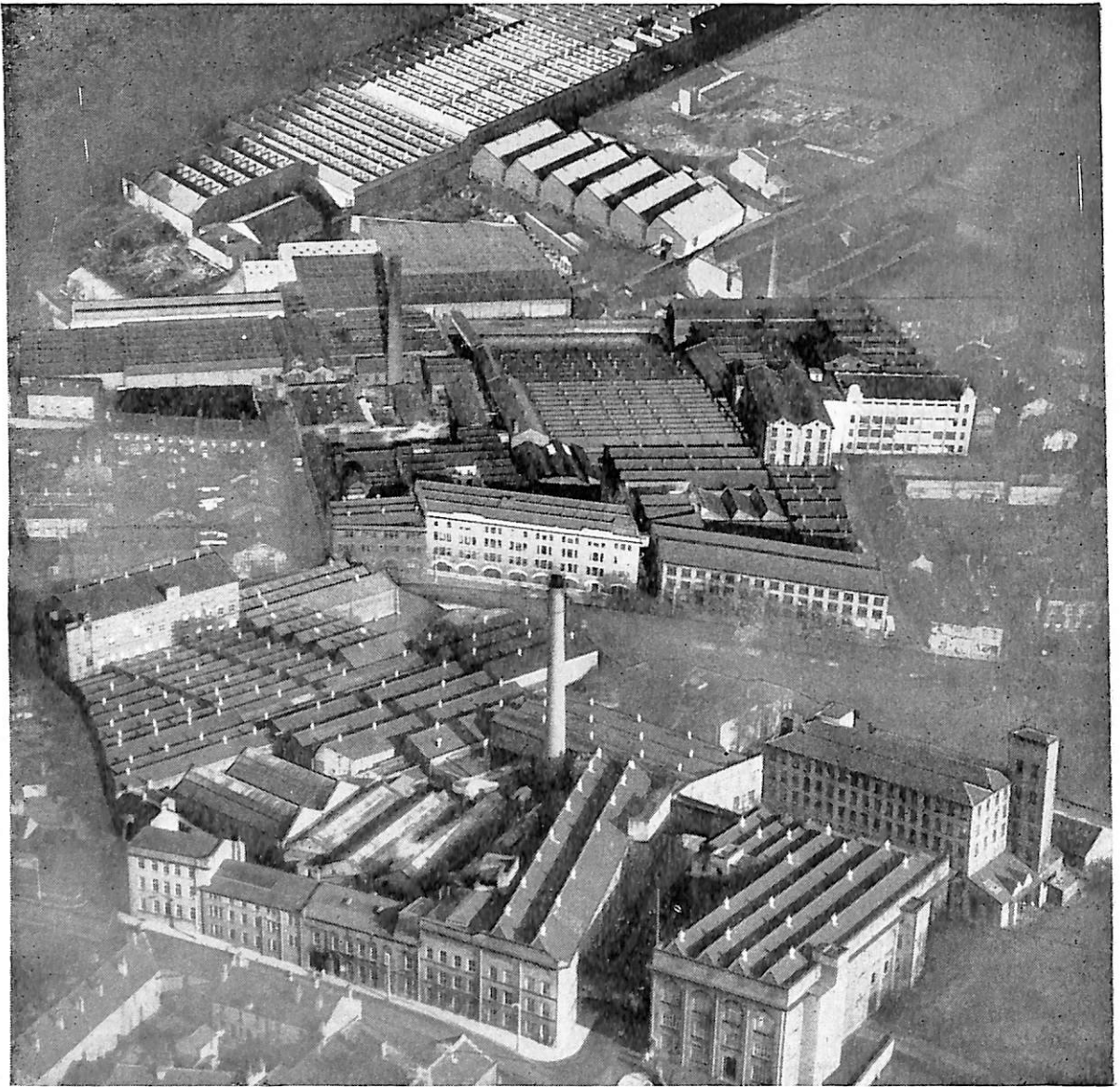
*"Plus ça change, plus ça ne change point"*—Anon.

This accursed wind of change penetrates everywhere. Since the last notes Ian Reid has handed over the post of mess secretary to John Walker, John has departed to Headley Court to have something done about his ankle, and Andrew Nickell has stepped in to fill the breach. In the mess office Sgt. Garrity is handing over to Sgt. Sargeant. As soon as the present P.M.C. has sorted out the resulting confusion he will hand over to Edward

Dasent. There is nothing new about this sort of situation—hence my quotation.

We have not seen any grass for the past two months. We presume it is still there but, as the gardens' officer has had his ankle in plaster ever since the snow came, and isn't here anyway, we haven't been able to get expert opinion. The adjutant persuaded somebody to take a snowplough round the mess when there was only a month's accumulation of snow on the drive; now there is so much packed ice that no snowplough could cope, and the cattle grid is more like an anti-tank ditch.





## T. F. FIRTH & SONS LTD

*Makers of fine Carpets  
and Furnishing Fabrics*

**HECKMONDWIKE and BRIGHOUSE, YORKSHIRE**

Before Christmas we served the mess staff with dinner in mess. Everybody enjoyed the change of role though the standards of waiting drew some criticism from the experts. "Topper" Brown donned the official apron and became cook for the evening; the P.C.M., standing behind the mess sergeant's right shoulder, suffered the ordeal of watching Cpl. Hayton being the talkative guest for whom the rest must wait.

January was a busy month. The cinema night included the film "Tunes of Glory," which surely held a lesson somewhere for all of us. The following Saturday evening we entertained our ladies to dinner and afterwards to roulette and dancing. It was a most enjoyable evening and an occasion which we all hope may occur at least once a year from now on.

The January regimental guest night was very successful. Our military guests were Major-General Gordon Upjohn; Group Captain Sullivan, Station Commander of RAF Station, Catterick; Colonel Geoffrey Powell; Major Ashley of the U.S. Army Signal Corps; Major Harris, Royal Canadian Signals; and Martin Summers, A.D.C. to General Upjohn. George Beddoe of the *Halifax Courier*, and Maurice Ford of the *Huddersfield Examiner*, were our civilian guests, and very good company they were. We were also dining out Jack Hobbs, re-

tiring after a long career with the Glosters and, finally, with us. (See "Profile" below.) The evening included some bottle balancing, at which the U.S. Army proved adept, and an exhausting and strenuous form of scrummaging in which Scotland finally defeated England. All our guests survived and professed to have no regrets for the multiple bruises which they discovered next day.

Chuck Ivey left us in January. He is to serve with 11 K.A.R. in Nakuru. We wish him and Monica a very happy time there and hope they will not stay away too long.

Just after Christmas Dick Mundell returned from British Honduras and Robert Campbell-Lamerton went out to take his place. Various postcards from New York and Miami arrived in the mess, written in Robert's typical "hand-jive" phraseology. He appeared to have fallen on his feet as usual.

Graham Tedd returns to the Battalion as second-in-command in mid-March. We are glad to welcome him and Gwen to Catterick and wish only that they could have returned from Singapore to a milder winter.

Chris Edwards and John Power have just arrived

(Continued on p. 59)

## MAJOR (Q.M.) E. J. HOBBS, M.B.E., M.S.M.

Major E. J. Hobbs of The Gloucestershire Regiment, joined us at Colchester in March, 1962. The Gloucesters had sailed for Cyprus that month and he found himself with nine months more to serve to qualify for his major's pension and retirement.

Jack Hobbs completed thirty-seven years of loyal service to Queen, Country and Regiment in December. He joined the Gloucesters as a boy in January, 1925. The same year he went to join his regiment as a bandsman in the Sudan. He was promoted company sergeant major soon after the outbreak of the Second World War. In 1945 he was posted to the 7th Battalion as regimental sergeant major. He accompanied the 1st Battalion to Korea in that appointment in 1951. Here, his characteristic 'loyalty, gallantry and dependability,' to quote the words of his citation, earned him the award of the M.B.E. for his service in the Imgin Battle. He was commissioned Lieutenant (Q.M.) in 1954.

We were very fortunate that he should spend the last year of his service as our M.T.O. During his short stay with the Duke's he has been a pillar of strength: his boundless energy in the M.T. platoon and his quartermasterly direction of our comforts during our short spell at Barnard Castle were appreciated by officer and soldier alike. He was unquestionably a very "Glorious Gloster" and on the rare occasions when he could be persuaded to tell a war story or two he opened a book of valuable and amusing soldier's experiences.

He will be missed greatly by all of us of the 1st Battalion. To both him and Mrs. Hobbs we



extend every good wish for a long and happy retirement together. Luckily they will be living in Richmond and it is unnecessary to add that they will both be very welcome in our midst whenever they can manage to visit us.



# Build yourself a BOUNTY

Allot part of your pay through the "Save While You Serve" scheme, arranged between the War Office and the Building Societies Association.

An explanatory leaflet, together with a simple form, giving full details of the scheme can be obtained from your Unit Pay Office; your Paymaster will gladly give you any further help and advice you need. The "Save While You Serve" scheme enables you to build a handsome nest-egg for the time when you leave the services. A nest-egg which can be earning a fine rate of interest . . .



in the

**HUDDERSFIELD**

**BUILDING SOCIETY**

Britannia Buildings, Huddersfield.

Established: 1864

(Continued from p. 57)

from Sandhurst. We must sympathise with them for coming at a time when subalterns in the mess are few and orderly officers' duties many. However, it does at last now seem that we shall soon have a reasonable number of officers living in the mess. Recently it has been just as well that an officer who dines alone in mess is no longer entitled to a free bottle of champagne. John Moir might have disposed of half a case 'ere he went north for Hogmanay.

Congratulations are due to Duncan Lupton, Ian Reid and Danny Marsay on their engagements. We were able to entertain Duncan's Hilda, and Ian's Merle on the ladies' dinner night, and look forward to enjoying their company in future. We are happy to congratulate David and Joy Miller on the birth of a second son, Andrew, shortly before Christmas.

Edward Dasent and Jim Pell have both passed the Staff/Promotion Examination. The examination was a difficult one and their success is all the more praiseworthy. We are now waiting, almost as anxiously as they are, the list of nominations.

Mike Campbell-Lamerton is also due for congratulations, but not this time in any family matter. He has already been capped three times this season for Scotland and continues to command his place in Yorkshire's second row.

The weather has reduced the demands of rugger training and other sports but there have been successes. John Greenway and Micky Bray are our best squash players: John reached the semi-finals in the Yorkshire District championships. Micky and John were second and fourth respectively in the Battalion cross-country. Ian Reid also ran but, from his placing, we presume that he was the "whipper-in."

It has been a long winter, but in the wood behind the mess the beech buds are appearing and every shaft of sunshine evokes from the fool birds a chorus that spring is here. So far they have been wrong.

### SERGEANTS' MESS

The painters have at last finished in the mess; the last strip of lino has been laid, in some cases for the second time, and the place is gradually beginning to look "ship shape." We are becoming accustomed to the colour schemes, much to the horror of the Commanding Officer, and only hope that our new carpets and curtains, when they arrive, won't clash too much. Despite the extreme weather we have found the mess quite warm and on occasions even Albert, our mess hound, has been forced to move back a bit from the fire.

In early December we entertained our ladies to dinner. We were also delighted to have Major and Mrs. Hobbs as our guests on this occasion. We wish them both the very best of luck for the future and hope that they will visit us again during our stay in Catterick.

The Christmas draw was held on December 14 and, as usual, was a great success, thanks to the hard work and effort of C.S.M. and Mrs. Batty. This is the third year running that Ray, assisted by Julie, has "volunteered" to run the draw and

we would like to extend our thanks and appreciation to them both. Notable among the prize-winners were C.S.M. France (G.A.F.), who won most of his tickets from unsuspecting victims on the snooker table or at poker dice, the R.S.M., who claims to have won honestly despite the many calls of "fiddle," and C.S.M. Batty—well after all he did run it! On the day of the draw we had a visit from Lt.-General Sir Charles Jones, G.O.C. in C. Northern Command, and, after a little persuasion, he, his A.D.C. and his sergeant driver all bought tickets. We are pleased to report that all three won prizes and we like to think that in some way this contributed to the G.O.C.'s high reports of the battalion.

Other senior officers who have visited us in the mess during the last few weeks include General Sir Richard Goodbody, the Adjutant-General, and Maj.-General Upjohn, who needs no introduction to any of the older "Dukes."

Christmas in the mess was very quiet as many members were out of station and a number of our marrieds were confined to their quarters by the weather. However, we did have a successful social evening and dance on New Year's Eve, despite the fact that New Year's Day was a working one for the battalion.

Weekly games nights with other messes in Catterick District have continued and, although we are unlikely to win any prizes, the results have been fairly satisfactory. Snooker seemed to be our most successful game until we lost two matches on the trot and dropped out of the running for honours.

We hear from Harry Randall, who is now employed by the Foreign Office, that he is settled for the time being in Vienna. Perhaps he will look us up when we go to B.A.O.R. next year.

Now for the comings and goings. We welcome back to the mess Sgt. Russell from the Brigade Depot; he is at the moment assisting our recruiting staff at Halifax; Sgt. Wappett from the West Riding Battalion and Sgt. Sargeant who has returned from his mission as I/C married families in Scarborough. Finally we offer to our congratulations to Sgts. Garrity and Cronin on the birth of their daughters, and to Sgts. Stanworth and Booth on their recent promotion.

There are many budding "PRONTOs" in the mess these days as the signals officer is getting quite serious about signal training for W.O.s and Sgts. The result of his fortnightly tests are viewed with cynical concern and such words as FOX-TROT and TANGO have taken on a new significance. By the way can our WATCHDOG please explain what time 1770 hours is?

### Paardeberg Ball

The Paardeberg Ball was held as planned on Friday, 22 February, in the civilian canteen of 31 Command Workshops. The hall, though rather small for our requirements, contained most of the amenities required and we are deeply indebted to the Officer i/c 31 Command Workshops for allowing us to use it.

Ferns and floral decorations, with the display of Colours, silver and drums on the edge of the dance

floor, made a pleasant setting which was much admired by many of our guests.

Among the guests who were present were Major General and Mrs. G. F. Upjohn, Major and Mrs. J. A. Davis, Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Code, the Commanding Officer and Mrs. Kavanagh, and other officers and their wives. We were also pleased to see a good party under R.S.M. Campy from the Brigade Depot and representatives from many other messes in the area. Arthur Hickie was the only one of our pensioners from the Royal Hospital who was able to be with us. We trust he has taken back a good report to his friends in Chelsea.

The buffet supper arranged by S.Q.M.S. Benson and Cpl. Prestidge, our mess cook, was, as usual, first class and extremely well laid out.

On the whole the evening was a great success and we hope much enjoyed by all present.

### CORPORALS' MESS

With Alma Company going on leave in April prior to relieving Burmah Company in British Honduras, few of our members will be left in Catterick, and it seems unlikely that we shall be able to hold our St. George's Day ball this year.

Though viewed with dismay by many on arrival, Catterick Camp is proving to have much to offer in the way of social activities. We have received many invitations from other messes and clubs in the area and are now well in with the arm of the law after a very good night in the Corporals' Club of the Royal Military Police.

We received an invitation to a dance from the

Corporals' Mess of the Yorkshire Brigade Depot, so we booked a coach and went along to what proved to be a very enjoyable evening. Many of our members were asleep on the way back and so missed the hair-raising experience of being driven by a potential Stirling Moss.

On March 1 we were able to return some hospitality by inviting members of other messes in the area to our social and dance. This was held in the Junior Ranks' Club Room in the NAAFI and was a huge success. There was a good attendance, including a party from the Brigade Depot, and thanks to the efforts of Cpl. (Captain) Johnson there was no shortage of ladies. Cpl. Prestige and his cooks provided an excellent buffet supper and the whole evening went with a swing.

We would like to welcome to the mess L/Cpls. Gaulkroger, Stowell, Riley, Stenton, Moulson, Anderson 59, Anderson 54, on promotion, and Cpl. Hodgkinson on arrival from the Brigade Depot. We also welcome back Cpls. Howard and Clavier from their tour with the recruiting team at Halifax; also Cpl. O'Donnell from his attachment to the Brigade Depot.

Yet another old face who has returned to the fold is Cpl. Bower, who recently arrived from the School of Preliminary Education where he was a P.T. instructor.

Cpl. Hart, having completed 22 years, has left us for civilian life and we wish him all the very best of good fortune. Our congratulations to Corporal Mitchell of the drums who recently took the plunge and got himself married, and to Cpls. Pearson and O'Donnell who are now proud 'Dads.'

## SPORTS NEWS

### RUGGER

Your correspondent finished his last "notes" just before the 6th round of the Army Cup was due to be played against 28 Company R.A.O.C. at Bramley. Alas the provisos made then concerning the team were not fulfilled and we were outplayed by a good pack, and lost by 12 points to 6.

On the morning of the match Captain Campbell-Lamerton dropped out with 'flu. However, the team faced the opposition with confidence which was justified at the start of the match. The Dukes' pack went off at a great pace and Lt. Nickell nearly forced his way over the line early on. Then a slight easing of the pressure by us enabled our opponents to get into our half: A very fine loose heel near our posts resulted in a centre going over on the left, unopposed. Lt. Campbell-Lamerton "caught" neatly from the kick-off and a long pass by 2Lt. Newell enabled Lt. Reid to make a break. Captain Dasent coming in transferred to Captain Greenway who went over near the right corner.

The R.A.O.C. were quick to retaliate, and intensive pressure near our line enabled one of their forwards to dive over from the line-out for another

unconverted try. Half-time and the score was Duke's 3 points, R.A.O.C. 6.

Again we started off very fast and nearly went over with the forwards, but all too soon the R.A.O.C. regained the upper hand. We were under pressure for long periods and they added another unconverted try and penalty goal, and that was very nearly it. However, a desperate rally saw a missed chance of a penalty goal and this was followed by a good kick by Captain Dasent which brought the final score to 12-6 against us. So our hopes of another cup final were dashed.

It is natural to have a post mortem in the Dukes, and I am not ashamed of putting one in here. First, we were labouring under the handicap of having our front row on duty in British Honduras. Secondly, we suffered more than our fair share of serious accidents which meant that each match saw at least a couple of enforced changes in the side. Captain Campbell-Lamerton was sorely missed in the game against the R.A.O.C. Unhappily, we never overcame these difficulties.

Another point to be borne in mind is that we never learn our lessons. With all due respect we have always had misgivings over our forwards. They are the men to win the games. Three finals should have taught us this and the lesson was

cruelly brought home to us in the game against the R.A.O.C. in which we obtained only one heel from the scrum in the second half. We must develop or get hold of strong, hard forwards who can take over the game themselves. We must not rely on the few who are very good but also teach the potential good material that we have at our disposal. Too much reliance has been placed on outstanding individuals in the past. It's up to us now to get moving on making good forwards.

Our training methods, too, must be seriously revised. I feel that, if we do make the effort suggested, our prospects will be very good in future years. Our backs have always been potentially good; we have a glut of talent in this department and can face the future confidently if we also remember that we must play really fast, thrustful, combined rucker, and cut out the selfishness. Your correspondent has also taken note of the last point!

One final word about the game, in case the criticism has been a bit harsh. Lts. Campbell-Lamerton and Nickell were magnificent against the R.A.O.C. and deserve our thanks. Also a word of praise to an "unknown"—Pte. Deegan, the ever-present prop. His spirit and courage was an inspiration to all the team.

A word of thanks also to Norman Bruce and 28 Company R.A.O.C. who made our stay at Bramley both enjoyable and memorable. They couldn't do enough for us. Here's to next year.

**Army Caps**

Congratulations to those who have gained Army caps (not, of course, forgetting Captain Mike's additions to his Scottish collection). The achievement of Pte. T. Waquabaca is, perhaps, particularly noteworthy. Although he has played rucker in Fiji, where it is the national game, since he was 14, this was his first season in representative matches in England.

**HOCKEY**

The season started very well for the Battalion with our coming third out of 16 teams in the Yorkshire and Northumbrian District six-a-side competition which was held at Catterick in early October. Our somewhat scratch team for this event thought that it would be a straight-forward knockout competition but, upon arriving at the ground, were horrified to find that, to start with, all teams played in leagues. This meant at least three games and if we won through to the semi-final another two games. Cigarettes were hastily put out and deep breathing commenced immediately.

To our amazement we won our league partly due to some good hockey but mainly due to some inspired goal-keeping by C.S.M. Batty who had been dragged out of retirement for the day. This took us to the semi-final which we lost to the RAF, Leeming. Our final match was against a civilian team, Richmondshire, who had lost the other semi-final. By this time we had got our sixth or seventh wind and aided by a quick beer we managed to win. It was a very pleasant morning's sport when we thoroughly enjoyed ourselves—

which really was the point of the whole thing.

The six-a-side team was: Captains Miller and Dasant, Lts. Cumberlege and Summers, C.S.M. Batty and Bandsman Lavan.

Upon moving to Catterick we joined the major unit hockey league but have only managed to play one match owing to the shortage of players. At times the hockey and soccer officers have had to take their case to arbitration in order to decide whether a particular person should play hockey or soccer! We hear that Burma Company have been playing a lot of hockey in British Honduras so we hope that next year we shall have more people from whom we can select our team.

**SOCCER**

As with all other clubs in the country the weather has caused havoc with our fixture list. Including the Christmas leave period it is now eight weeks since either the 1st or 2nd XI have played. We were lucky enough during one temporary thaw to have a short practice match on one of our grounds but more snow that night put paid to our plans for a league match the next day.

One or two players of reputed battalion standard have arrived in the last few weeks and we look forward with interest to our next trial game.

The Battalion 2nd XI had a convincing win (8—2) against the 2nd XI of 8 Signal Regiment in their last game. This caused a certain amount of concern to the 1st XI who lost (7—1) to the 1st XI of 8 Signal Regiment on the same day.

Our inter-platoon league is also snowed up and it has been suggested in some quarters that we appoint a panel of experts to decide the results. However, the R.S.M. still has hopes of getting it played off before the cricket season starts.

The positions in the league at the moment are as follows:

|                | Goals |    |    |    |    |    |      |
|----------------|-------|----|----|----|----|----|------|
|                | P.    | W. | D. | L. | F. | A. | Pts. |
| Sig. Pl. ....  | 5     | 5  | 0  | 0  | 26 | 2  | 10   |
| 9 Pl. ....     | 5     | 3  | 0  | 2  | 19 | 20 | 6    |
| 10 Pl. ....    | 3     | 2  | 1  | 0  | 14 | 8  | 5    |
| Sp. Pl. A Coy. | 5     | 2  | 0  | 3  | 23 | 18 | 4    |
| M.T. Sec. .... | 4     | 2  | 0  | 2  | 12 | 17 | 4    |
| Band ....      | 5     | 2  | 0  | 3  | 9  | 18 | 4    |
| 1 Pl. ....     | 6     | 1  | 1  | 4  | 16 | 16 | 3    |
| Drums ....     | 5     | 1  | 0  | 4  | 4  | 24 | 2    |

**"REGIMENTAL COLOURS" TIE**

A stock of the "Regimental Colours" tie—maroon with alternate "Elephants" and "1st Battalion Crests"—is held by P.R.I. 1 D.W.R.

In case any "Duke," past or present, has not heard of the existence of this tie it grew from an idea of Captain Gilbert-Smith, and may be worn by any "Duke" of any rank who has represented the Regiment ten times in the sporting field. The ten representations need not have all been in one sport, but the match must have been genuinely representative, i.e. for the Battalion 1st team.

Anyone wishing to buy a tie, at 14s. 6d., 12s. 6d., 10s. 6d., should apply to P.R.I. 1 D.W.R. enclosing the necessary money and a list of representative matches which he feels entitles him to the tie.

## ***Battalion Personalia***

She has done it again. Colonel Barry had hardly departed from Catterick for British Honduras before his wife, Sheilagh, was driven into by a non-co-operative co-op van. Well, it was snowing hard and blowing a blizzard into the bargain and their drive is one of the blindest spots in Catterick. So it is rumoured that the very next day an accurate accident chart was introduced into the household. Within ten days it is believed to have included the General's car on two occasions; the Brigadier next door was certainly on the list. Although we know that Sheilagh was in no way to blame this did not prevent anguished cries from the Colonel of "what has happened to my no claim bonus?" on his return.

The Milligans' "at home" in the Officers' Mess in December, prior to their departure for Singapore, was great fun. June looked stunning in forget-me-not blue and, to stir up old waters, we weren't quite sure whether it was John's wife or his daughter. It was a sad farewell, though our spirits were scintillating when we took our departure.

Wine testing in the Mess at noon was a pleasant change from the traditional Naafi break. However it was noted that a certain officer leant heavily on the proverb "blood is thicker than water," when he declared, with a detached air for all to hear, that the family business could succour all those assembled on far more attractive terms than were being offered at the moment.

The residences here are simply frightful, according to Major Algernon Arthritis. In fact the Major has become so well known in the area that any "Duke" now applying for a house inquires automatically about central heating and airing cupboards without batting an eyelid.

Some of the battalion depart for St. Nicholas and bridge on Sunday afternoons. Lady Serena James offers open house and amongst delightful *objets d'art* the battle of the sixpences takes place. In the course of the afternoon a short halt is called for a gorgeous tea; then quickly back to battle. On the occasion of our last visit one of the party called five no trumps to a demand from her partner, who was not a "Duke," of four no trumps! The shock of a reprimand, in spite of profuse apologies afterwards, produced a seven pound baby in the Catterick Hospital a few hours later.

Sgt. "Cash" Ogden's brother in British Honduras selling contraband and mixed up in all sorts of frightful rackets? — That we couldn't believe. On further questioning our source revealed that in shape, size and cynicism only were the comparisons similar—will somebody get the paymaster a double pink gin quickly?



We hear from Colonel Tony Firth in Canada that he and Robyn are ski-ing furiously. They have mastered the nursery slopes and have now moved on to bigger things. However, no mention of Alec pursuing this pastime; we assume she is enjoying those duty free cigarettes in the luxurious surroundings of their centrally heated house.

The photograph shows Colonel Tony receiving from the Governor General of Canada the O.B.E. which he was awarded in the New Year's Honours.

Drum Major Welsh has smiled at last! We are at a loss to be sure to whom to give the credit though it was said that after the Paardeberg Ball, while casing the Colours, he picked up a pound, having lost sixpence earlier in the evening.

The sergeants in the M.T. Platoon seem to have been exhausted after a splendid inspection report. The day after the inspection ended Staff-Sgt. Sykes beat a hasty retreat to hospital. Sgt. Wass went "pea green," literally, with envy and followed Sykes' example at once. Sgt. Almond was away on a well-earned week-end and so the cupboard was bare. The invalids are now better, and Almond has returned from leave, though they all plausibly excuse themselves by saying we only took a well-deserved rest on the strength of the report.

### **Birth**

BERRY. — On February 25, in the Catterick Military Hospital, to Jan (née Robson) and Captain Simon Berry, a daughter (Sarah).

### **Engagement**

The engagement was announced in October of Captain Thomas Duncan Lupton, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, son of Mrs. E. Buck, of 54 Greyfriars Crescent, Preston, to Hilda Ellen, younger daughter of Mrs. Crossley, of Willow House, Catterall, Garstang. They are to be married at St. Michael's and St. Mary's Church, Garstang, on April 27. Captain Lupton joins the Army Air Corps in May on a three-year period of secondment.

## BURMA COMPANY, BRITISH HONDURAS

As an introduction to the platoon notes which follow it is only necessary to mention the highlights of the past three months. First it was simply splendid to have a visit from the Commanding Officer who spent almost a fortnight with us. During this time he saw us all and talked to almost all of us individually. We held a parade and the rifle meeting for him and he watched us on training, including a trip up to Mountain Pine Forest Reserve where 5 Platoon carried out a test exercise set by him. 8 Platoon fired their support weapons and 6 Platoon did a stand-by turnout in quick time. Somehow 7 Platoon escaped the net. His visit was a great booster to morale.

We were sorry to lose Lt. Mundell who had to return to U.K. because of the sad death of his mother. Lt. Campbell-Lamerton was flown out hastily to relieve him. 2Lt. Evans has left the job of M.T.O. and now commands 6 Platoon. We congratulate Sgt. Read and Cpl. Carter on their respective promotions.

We have taken to hockey in a big way and it is now probably our most popular game. Our standard on a very uneven and bumpy pitch has improved considerably and a surprising amount of talent has emerged from amongst the soldiers.

We are now busy training specialists and having an administrative look at ourselves before we start classification in March. Then each platoon goes away on what will be its last camp before we hand over to Alma Company in May.

Christmas was enjoyed by all and the A.C.C. really did put on a good show for us. Although all our thoughts were some 5,000 miles away from British Honduras we entered fully into the spirit of the various parties. The Commanding Officer's

message together with some of our wives' messages, recorded in Leeds, were heard over the local radio network and helped to remind us that we are far from being forgotten.

Most of us have now had a spell of leave and some of us spent it more adventurously than others. However, in all cases it was a well-earned rest. Mexico was the most popular country where a very good time can be had by British soldiers.

Pte. Dunford's accident while firing the 3in. mortar was a great tragedy and has marred our tour here. We all send him our very best wishes and look forward to seeing him. Most of us will never see a braver soldier.

We now have twelve weeks to go and it will be good to get home. We have done our best here and made many friends in the Colony—we know too that Alma Company will carry on where we have left off.

### SERGEANTS' MESS

Life has taken on a rosier hue since we moved into the new mess. The official opening was commemorated by a grand ball. It was a very successful and entertaining evening, made all the more so by the free beer and excellent food. The honours for this achievement belong to El Cid (Sgt. Towey), who was responsible for organising the evening.

We were very pleased to welcome the Commanding Officer into our midst. During his stay he dined in our mess and for the occasion everybody wore Red Sea rig. The evening was rounded off with the Commanding Officer playing liar dice: didn't know British Honduras could produce such



### GUARD OF HONOUR

On occasion of visit of  
Senior Naval Officer.

West Indies, Nov. 1962

*left to right:*

Capt. J. M. Newton,  
SNOWI, C.Q.M.S. Fenn,  
Cpl. Clark, Pte. Devine,  
Cpl. Harrison





*A recent aerial view showing the Asquith works, with Wellesley Barracks to the right of the picture*

The World's leading manufacturers of radial drilling machines, vertical drilling machines, horizontal milling and boring machines, in-line and rotary table transfer machines, etc.

**WILLIAM ASQUITH LIMITED** *Member of the Asquith Machine Tool Corporation*

Head Office: HIGHROAD WELL, HALIFAX

Telephone: Halifax 67771

big ones. Again honours must go to El Cid for a very enjoyable evening although the Commanding Officer was heard to ask why Sgt. Curling had a larger steak than himself.

In spite of the comforts of our new mess we look forward to handing it over to our opposite numbers in Alma Company very shortly. It will be good to have both feet back in Yorkshire.

## BURMA PLATOON NOTES

### 5 PLATOON

It seems almost a lifetime since we first sighted British Honduras last August. Since that time we have trained and have been tested in almost all aspects of warfare. We have achieved some fine results in pretty well all our work, including ceremonial duties. We have also had some outstanding results in the inter-platoon competition which includes field training as well as sport.

In addition to work within the Company there has been the familiar round of games with the Garrison and the local teams, notably soccer up country in El Cayo. Before we leave we are hoping to form a R.U.F.C. to cater for the enthusiastic youngsters who tried to join in our game last time we were there. Who better to start them off than the unbeaten champions?

No one ventured far for their leave—a few crossed the border into Mexico for ten days, but most of the excitement has come in other ways! The forest fire at Pine Ridge (and quite a few others) and the air crash shortly afterwards: Pte. Nickerson, suspected of polio and flown back from a goodwill tour at Stann Crock, proved only to have the wrong sort of spirit in mind. We caught the largest fish ever taken on that fine vessel "The Lord Nuffield"—a twenty-seven pounder, or thereabouts; Pte. Tyson broke his arm trying to break down the only suspension bridge in British Honduras and Pte. Sykes broke his ankle playing football; Pte. Booth saw a forest hog, Sgt. Towey a rattlesnake, and we have all seen multitudes of other snakes and iguanas. Oh yes, Ptes. Tyson and Sykes have learned to swim.

Then there was the hermit who joined us on our last trip to El Cayo; he'd been in the Army too. One day a C.S.M. (American type) told him to get off parade and get out of his sight forever, and he did just that. At first he frightened us, more by his appearance than anything else, but when our time was up we were reluctant to leave him. He had forty bananas for breakfast and claimed to be growing younger every day; we told him we had Younger's every morning but he only laughed politely.

People have appeared and others have disappeared at various intervals. Unhappily it was goodbye to our Platoon Commander, Mr. Mundell, who had been around with 5 Platoon for quite a while. He left in tragic circumstances and our sympathy goes with him. Mr. Campbell Lamberton has taken his place.

It was also goodbye to Ptes. Connolly and McCormack who forsook us for the M.T. Section.

Now that we are settling down in much more comfortable surroundings to less arduous tasks in

the form of cadres and rifle meetings it is time to reflect on our stay out here. It has been fun soldiering together and tremendous determination has been apparent to battle through fantastic conditions both in and out of camp. In spite of the luxuries of our new camp, our enthusiasm for it can only last whilst we remain separated from our families at home, so let us see how many days remain.



Defence Exercise at Mountain Pine  
Cpl. Stansfield and Pte. Whatmore

### 6 PLATOON

Life for us out here has reached a turning point in more ways than one. The last six months have passed amazingly quickly, partly because the country was new to us and partly because of the variety of training we have been undertaking. Ten days' camp every month in the Pine Ridge Training area and visits to the remoter districts of British Honduras were greatly enjoyed. One of these trips, commencing on December 2, proved more arduous than most; we visited Gallon Jug, a small village near the Guatemalan border. We travelled there by truck, boat, mule and, of course, we marched. During our short stay we played soccer against the home team and chalked up yet another victory. The locals were very friendly and delighted with some films we showed them.

Along came Christmas and, although our thoughts were very much with our families in England, the cheering though unusual event of a hot Christmas was enjoyed by all of us. This short period of rest being over and there being only three

**STANDEVEN**

**and Company Limited**

*Manufacturers of  
Worsted Coatings, etc.*

**LADYSHIP MILLS, HALIFAX**

Branches:

**HORLEY GREEN MILLS  
HALIFAX**

**RAGLAN WORKS  
HALIFAX**

**FENAY MILLS  
HUDDERSFIELD**

London Office:

**7/8 CONDUIT STREET  
REGENT STREET, W.1  
Telephone: Mayfair 8751-2-3**

**Telephone: 62022-6 (5 lines)**

**Telegrams: "SECO, Halifax"**



### Aboard the Lord Nuffield

*left to right:*

**Pte. Ainsworth, "Bert",**  
**Ptes. Hynes, Jennings,**  
**Connolly, Spaight—**  
**all of M.T.**

months remaining we are now concentrating our energies on specialist cadres for Support Platoon, Signals and M.T. Pte. Cobe has already passed out as a qualified driver and Pte. Dransfield hopes to be the next to qualify.

Our ten days leave period commenced on January 18. Cpl. Holdsworth led an expedition which explored Chetumal, on the border, and Merida, a large town four hundred miles into the interior. A carefully prepared budget ran aground in the darker depths of Merida and the party returned to duty much wiser from their experiences. The remainder of us spent our leave in or around Belize. One day we embarked on a successful Cayos trip to an island twelve miles out to sea on the reef. Beer flowed fast and free and a good time was had by all.

Hattie, a dog of more than one pedigree and so named after last year's hurricane, has become the platoon mascot. Though not yet fully trained by Cpl. Barker he joins in many of our activities.

Tipped as having the best football team in the Company we have risen from peak to peak, much to the jealousy of our opponents. Our proficiency in other sports is not quite so professional but nevertheless good enough to be taken seriously by any would-be challengers.

The remaining great event is our return to England in May. The local ale is appreciated, but it is Yorkshire and her beers that really count.

### 7 PLATOON

Midway through November the platoon found themselves up at Mountain Pine for a second spell of training. Unfortunately the anticipated visit of S.N.O.W.I. did not take place owing to mist over the airstrip. However, the ten days were enjoyed by everyone, especially the final two which were spent carrying out an inter-section patrol exercise. The event was eventually won by 9 Section. We also managed to fit in two football matches against local teams, winning one and losing the other.

Soon after our return came the long-awaited leave period. Mexico was taken by storm. About twelve members travelled up to Merida, a town

with a population of about ninety thousand people, where they watched a bullfight and found that taking out the local talent presented a great problem—their mothers always had to come along as well. L/Cpl. Nicol must be congratulated on making his way up to San Antonio, Texas, all in a space of twelve days. He started by road and eventually included both rail and air to get him there and back.

At the end of our leave we moved into the new accommodation, which was by then completed. This was a great morale booster to the whole platoon, or to all except one, who shall be nameless, who remarked to the Garrison Commander that there was altogether too much bull.

Christmas came and went in a flash. For most of the platoon it was their first spent abroad. Nevertheless it was enjoyed by all, especially the early morning cup of tea produced by Sgt. Morris.

We are now over the halfway stage of our tour, but there is still a lot to be done. Support Weapons, M.T. and Signal Cadres have still to be completed before we return. There is also a searchlight tattoo in which we are to take part at the beginning of April, providing the searchlights arrive in time.

We were sorry to say goodbye to Cpl. Stansfield and Pte. Shrivell, both on medical grounds. We wish them a speedy recovery now that they are back home.

### 8 PLATOON

At the time of writing our last notes in November we were all preparing for our visit to the Toledo district. As planned we were taken south to Punta Gordo in H.M.S. *Whirlwind* and spent a most enjoyable week sending long range patrols to the villages of Santa Cruz, San Jose, Rio Blanco and Pueblo Viejo from our platoon base in San Antonio.

On our return the platoon moved with mixed feelings into the new huts. This was quickly followed by a week's live firing at Mountain Pine Ridge just before Christmas.

Meanwhile the signals section had been par-

taking in a fortnight's refresher cadre run by the Garrison's Royal Signals Troop. They in their turn are now enlightening twelve men from the rifle platoons on the ins and outs of regimental signalling. At the same time individuals have been passing, and a few failing, driving tests.

Shortly after Christmas we were all granted a most welcome ten days leave. This was spent in Merida by some and by others in Chetumal and Corozal, while two more enterprising N.C.O.s sailed up to San Pedro to pass their leave swimming and fishing off Ambergris Caye.

Having just won the Company Rifle Meeting we are starting six weeks of 3in. mortar and anti-tank cadres for 5, 6 and 7 Platoons, who will form the basis of the support platoons for Corunna and Dettingen Companies on our return to England.

Finally, we must pay tribute to Pte. Dunford who humbled us all at Mountain Pine Ridge and afterwards in hospital by his great courage and cheerfulness. We all wish him the best of luck and speedy recovery.

### BURMA COMPANY RIFLE MEETING

The rifle meeting was held on Salt Creek ranges in glorious weather. The shooting although generally not of a high standard was keen, and the inter-platoon competition spirit at times was intense. 8 Platoon, as was expected, were the eventual champions.

The meeting was well organised by that "Bisley Bullet," C.Q.M.S. Fenn, who not once throughout the meeting had occasion to tear out his hair as "Bisley Bullets" so frequently do. This was due largely to the efficient running of the butts by Lt. Charlesworth and Sgt. Brown who, together with their helpers, did an admirable job and highly deserved the praise they received. L/Cpl. Teplis, assisted by Pte. Barron, ran the canteen, which was a great success and at the close of business was just out of the red.

In the Officers' and Sergeants' Mess tent competition was almost as great as on the range. The Sergeants' Mess provided a lunch on the first day which was superb. Lt. Cartwright, as the Officers' Mess food member, was almost overcome by their menu and hurriedly had to change the cottage pie and two vegetables which he had planned for the following day. The eventual outcome of this rivalry was just in favour of the Officers' Mess, simply because mayonnaise was available for the Colonel's salad.

It would be tedious to go through each match in detail. The results are set out at the end of these notes. Cpl. Gott, a fair bet for any gambler, won the individual with Pte. Maynard and Sgt. Middleton coming second and third respectively. It was very gratifying to see Pte. Maynard of 7 Platoon do so well against very much more experienced shots. At the conclusion of the meeting, the Commanding Officer presented the prizes.

**Company News from Catterick  
is on page 85**

### "PARA" CUP

Match 32:—*Winners:* 8 Platoon—score 346 (Cpl. Rusby, 49; Cpl. Gott, 83; Cpl. Clarke, 119; Pte. Mack, 95). *Second:* 5 Platoon (score 316). *Third:* 6 Platoon (score 309). *Fourth:* 7 Platoon (score 242).

### "WORCS" CUP

Match 23:—*Winners:* 8 Platoon—score 403 (Ptes. Monaghan and Hartley, 134; Ptes. Griffiths and Ormerod, 175; Cpl. Hall and Pte. Lamont, 94). *Second:* 6 Platoon (score 381). *Third:* 7 Platoon (score 196). *Fourth:* 5 Platoon (score 186).

### "HOPTON" CUP

Match 48:—*Winners:* No. 1 Section, 8 Platoon score 489 (Cpl. Gott 112, Cpl. Clarke 108, Sgt. Middleton 134, L/Cpl. Blenkinsop 114, Ptes. Griffiths and Ormerod 21). *Second:* Section 3, 7 Platoon, 379. *Third:* Section 1, 5 Platoon, 371.

### COMPANY SHIELD

Match 47:—*Winners:* 5 Platoon—score 575 (Sgt. Read 54, Pte. Tyson 69, Pte. Brown 59, Pte. Hornby 56; Pte. Herberts 70, Pte. Holdsworth 69, Pte. Simpson 90, Pte. McKay 72, Sgt. Tower and Pte. Pollard 23, Pte. Beard and L/Cpl. Burke 13). *Second:* 7 Platoon, 560. *Third:* 8 Platoon, 550. *Fourth:* 6 Platoon, 537.

### "ROUPELL" CUP

Match 6:—*Winner:* Cpl. Gott (score 151), Pte. Maynard (141), Sgt. Middleton (139), Cpl. Barker (126), C.Q.M.S. Fenn (115), L/Cpl. Blenkinsop (111), Pte. Hutson (109), L/Cpl. Johnson (107), Pte. Connolly (107).

### "HOPTON" CUP

| Pl. | Sec. | Pl.    | Sec.  | Place | Pts. | Aggregate |
|-----|------|--------|-------|-------|------|-----------|
|     |      | Aggre. | Score |       |      | Points.   |
| 5   | 1    |        | 371   | 3     | 10   |           |
| 5   | 2    |        | 389   | 9     | 4    |           |
| 5   | 3    | 900    | 240   | 12    | 1    | 15        |
| 6   | 1    |        | 276   | 10    | 3    |           |
| 6   | 2    |        | 293   | 8     | 5    |           |
| 6   | 3    | 875    | 306   | 7     | 6    | 14        |
| 7   | 1    |        | 345   | 5     | 8    |           |
| 7   | 2    |        | 310   | 6     | 7    |           |
| 7   | 3    | 1034   | 379   | 2     | 11   | 26        |
| 8   | 1    |        | 489   | 1     | 12   |           |
| 8   | 2    |        | 366   | 4     | 9    |           |
| 8   | 3    | 1118   | 263   | 11    | 2    | 23        |

### PLATOON CUP

| Pl. | "Hopton"<br>Cup | "Para"<br>Cup | "Worcs"<br>Cup | Coy.<br>Shield | Total |
|-----|-----------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|-------|
| 5   | 15              | 6             | 2              | 8              | 31    |
| 6   | 14              | 4             | 6              | 2              | 26    |
| 7   | 26              | 2             | 4              | 6              | 38    |
| 8   | 23              | 8             | 8              | 4              | 43    |

## THE SERGEANTS GO FISHING

Before the story of our trip to Ambergris Cay is unfolded a few geographical details should be filled in for the benefit of our cold-nosed friends back in England.

The coastal waters of British Honduras are shallow and protected by reefs, while the coastal plain, for the most part, is swampy and covered with mangroves. An attractive feature of the coast is the line of coral reefs and cays (islands) lying off-shore. The most easterly of these cays is more than 45 miles from Belize and they vary in size and vegetation: some are waterlogged and inhabited only by alligators and snakes, while others are inhabited by fishermen and coconut growers. The waters around them have one thing in common—they are a fisherman's paradise with every kind of fish just waiting to be hooked. With that thought in mind our trip was planned.

The Hampshires had told us so much about Ambergris Cay, that we decided it should be our goal. A quick look at the map shows Ambergris Cay to be about 36 miles north-east of Belize and bordering on Mexico. With the Major's approval the boat was hired, stores and provisions made ready and the crew and passengers mustered. With the exception of the cook (El Cid) everybody paraded looking like American tourists, complete with Hawaiian-style shirts, shorts, straw hats, sun glasses and cameras hanging around their necks. Full marks must be given to Dick (a passenger) for the very saucy shorts he wore. The crew quickly loaded the stores and provisions on board and, after a quick check of the vehicle to ensure that no beer had been left behind, we were ready to set sail. "Cast off bow, cast off stern," plus some other naval jargon that I can't quite remember, and the trip was under way.

Once the boat cleared the wharf the bar was open—(something to do with territorial waters). Walter (Sgt. Morris and fishing advisor) soon downed three Watneys. He excused his gluttony with the statement that he felt seasick. The rest of the crew proceeded to divest themselves of most of their clothing and to improve their sun tan whilst lying on the deck.

Below the Steward (Cyril) slaved away opening cans of Watneys, hurriedly trying to meet the demands from on deck.

After a journey of five hours Ambergris Cay slowly came into view. There it lay, surrounded by a calm, blue sea, its shore complete with coconut palms, silver sands and a white house. The anchor was dropped and the crew quickly loaded the ice box into the skiff and made for the shore where everyone was made welcome by its owners, Pete and Peggy Hancock and their son Mike. It was decided to camp for the night on the beach: A good idea until the mosquitos and sandflies made their presence felt.

We were invited into the white house and were

soon holding pots of coffee in our hands and making ourselves known. Pete Hancock is an American who is the late Ernest Hemingway's double. Peggy is English and hails from London. After the last war they decided to leave the world behind and grow coconuts on a tropical isle where they are very happy.

Next morning, accompanied by Mike Hancock, we sailed out past the reef for what we hoped would be a good morning's fishing. The cook's parting words were "It's your dinner you have to catch." Our luck was beyond the wildest expectations. Dick caught the first, then Cyril hauled on board a 4ft. barracuda just ahead of a shark. Walter, our fishing adviser, was green with envy; he even hinted that he was sitting on the wrong side of the boat. Then Walt's line jerked and he hauled on board a 15lb. groupa; Walt knew it weighed 15lb. because it had scales on its back. This was followed by Bert and Ernie landing another two. Jubilantly the cameras were brought into action in order to secure a record of our achievements for inspection at a later date by a perhaps sceptical C.S.M. Batty.

On our return our catch was shown to the cook for approval; he nodded and agreed that there was plenty to eat on them.

We went fishing again in the afternoon but had outrun our luck, although we did manage to see shark, manta ray and squibs. In the evening we visited a little fishing village called San Pedro for a night out. We were serenaded by a Mexican guitarist and in return we showed the locals how really to do the local dances. During the course of the evening Cyril managed to fall through a window. This was his second mishap; during the afternoon he fell into the sea. We left San Pedro in the early hours of the next morning to the sound of 'The Dukes are coming up the Hill,' and knowing that we had made more friends for the Regiment. Our fishing trip over, we made our way back to Belize, everyone wishing it could have lasted longer and planning to go there again at Easter which will be here shortly.

### Arthur Sunley

LADIES AND GENTS CIVIL AND  
MILITARY TAILORS

*(Tailored on the premises)*

Silk Ties and Blazers Badges in stock for the  
Dukes and all other Regiments and Corps

44, TRINITY STREET, HUDDERSFIELD

Telephone: Hudd. 1158

# TAYLOR MILLS LTD.

WHITLEY WILLOWS MILL, LEPTON, HUDDERSFIELD  
Telephone 6383 (3 lines)

## ASSOCIATE COMPANIES

**SAMUEL TWEED AND CO. LTD.,**  
Woollen Manufacturers

**SHELLEY TEXTILES LTD.,**  
Carpet, Rug and Fabric Manufacturers

**CELAIRIC LTD.,**  
Cellular Blankets and Speciality Fabrics

**WOODHOUSE MILLS LTD.,**  
Rug and Blanket Manufacturers



Maintain your  
service to  
**Queen and Country**  
in civilian life  
**Join the British Legion**



*The Legion co-operates with your regi-  
mental association and speaks for all  
ex-service men and women*

**BRITISH LEGION, 49 PALL MALL, S.W.1**



'CELLARCRAFT' has been expertly  
practised for over 120 years  
to ensure that our

**WINES, SPIRITS & CIGARS**  
*are always in absolutely perfect condition*  
**SACCONE & SPEED LTD**

32 SACKVILLE STREET LONDON W.1

Telephone: REGENT 2061

# THE WEST RIDING BATTALION T.A.

## SUB-EDITORIAL

Compared with the activities crammed into previous months one might almost say that this period has been a peaceful one. But on looking into it further one finds that, in fact, it has been anything but. Everyone has been very busy and in all fields of activity—military, social and those beyond description.

The administrative staff has been kept hard at it by the weather and the annual administrative inspection held on January 20, 1963. The inspection was a happy occasion as well as a trying one. We were inspected by our Brigade Commander, Brigadier Pip Moran, and the Brigadier was able to renew quite a few old acquaintances in the course of his tour. The tour was determined by the elements rather than anything or anyone else. The inspection started with a swing with the Brigadier stuck in a snow drift north of Skipton and the Commanding Officer calling for a fatigue party to dig him out; by the time this party got through to Hebden Bridge the C.O. had covered many miles on foot—at the expense of his service

dress. But once the inspecting team was re-directed through Halifax all went as planned.

The House of Commons does not have a monopoly of introducing retrospective legislation. The West Riding Battalion did it for the Champion Company Competition. Last year's annual classification results and attendance at annual camp were carefully investigated and reduced to a percentage for each company. "C" Company emerged as the winner in both. There were still four subjects to go, however, and with the publication of the first results the interest and effort began to mount.

The rules for the competition had been published on one sheet of paper by the Training Major in order to avoid heated arguments over what counted and by how much. Six subjects were eventually chosen, namely:—

1. **Evening Training** (Drill nights—marked under four different headings by the Training Team)
2. **Attendance** (At annual camp).



Block by courtesy of "Huddersfield Examiner"

Annual Administrative Inspection 20th January, 1963,  
Brigadier P. P. de la H. Moran (centre), with Lieut. Colonel Moncrieff, and Captain R. Huffam



3. .22 Shooting (Inter-Company League).
4. Annual Classification (Percentage of passes).
5. Recruiting (Percentage increase on Company strength).
6. Company Administration (Marked under eight separate headings by Administrative Team).

After much effort and considerable arithmetic the final placings were as follows:—

|                            |     |     |           |
|----------------------------|-----|-----|-----------|
| 1st—"D" Company            | ... | ... | 24 points |
| 2nd—"C" Company            | ... | ... | 22 points |
| 3rd—"B" Company and "H.Q." | ... | ... | 16 points |
| 5th—"A" Company            | ... | ... | 12 points |

"D" Company gradually overhauled "C" Company by winning both the company administration and evening training. A lot of work had

obviously been put into their weapon training.

On March 2, at the annual prize-giving, the following will be awarded for the Champion Company Competition.

|  |          |               |        |                |
|--|----------|---------------|--------|----------------|
| Mellor Shield—Champion Company             | ...      | ...           | ...    | "D" Company    |
| Champion Company Board for outside display | ...      | ...           | ...    | "D" Company    |
| Hirst Rose Bowl—Evening Training           | ...      | ...           | ...    | "D" Company    |
| Nutter Cup—Company Administration          | ...      | ...           | ...    | "D" Company    |
| Clough Trophy—Attendance                   | ...      | ...           | ...    | "C" Company    |
| Naylor Trophy—Classification               | ...      | ...           | ...    | "C" Company    |
| Sugden Trophy—Recruiting                   | ...      | ...           | ...    | "B" Company    |
| Sykes Rose Bowl—.22 Shooting               | ...      | ...           | ...    | "H.Q." Company |
| Beaumont Gold Medal—Open                   | .22      | Champion      |        |                |
|  | W.O.I.I. | G. H. Machen, | M.B.E. |                |
| Hirst Rifle—Young Soldier                  | .22      | Champion      |        |                |
|  |          |               |        | Pte. G. Smith  |

## MESS NOTES

### OFFICERS' MESS

The New Year's Eve Ball we are happy to report was a huge success. Even our Q.M., Cyril Kenchington, who had spent the two previous days worrying about the heating, seemed happy. It is reported that 2Lt. Charles Kilner was without doubt our happiest officer. The ball committee are also pleased with the financial success, though Captain Charles Curry complains of exhaustion through overwork.

On January 20 Brigadier Moran carried out the annual inspection. Lt.-Colonel Moncrieff and the officers entertained him to lunch in the Mess. We might add that very little escaped Brigadier Moran's eagle eye, but we are sure that we were able to give a good account of ourselves.

We must congratulate our R.M.O., Lo'Max' Roberts, on his promotion to Major, though somehow we don't think he will ever recover from it. We must congratulate our Paymaster, Stephen Kaye, on his promotion to Captain. He informs us that this is the highest rank he can attain; he also says that he can stay with us until he is 60, and that he has every intention of doing so, Training Major permitting.

At the end of March we entertain our ladies to dinner. Preparations are going ahead, and we will report on the "high jinks" in the next edition of THE IRON DUKE.

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

1962 closed on us with the G.P.O. taking over our drill halls for their rush of Christmas mail. Very little activity took place over this period other than post office workers dashing madly around. Socials were arranged for Boxing Day and New Year's Eve in the Halifax Mess but, due to the

exceptionally bad weather, were not very well attended. Although we voted money for these occasions from our funds, the money was not spent and we entered 1963 richer and also wiser. We found that members will not leave their families and TV sets to face many miles of Yorkshire roads in arctic conditions such as we have experienced this winter.

The unit's children's party was held on January 26, 1963. Belated though it may have been we found it to be a success. The Mess at Halifax held their own party for members in that area; the remainder attended at Huddersfield; in all about 120 parents and children turned up. We started with a tea party then had funny films (the projector broke down three times which proved equally funny, but not to Sgt. Smith, the operator). Children are easily satisfied but were found to have no illusions over "Father Christmas." They all seemed to know that presents came from the signal stores and that when a table was placed outside the door the time had arrived. It's debatable who enjoys parties the most, fathers or their offspring; harassed mothers were seen wending their way from the hall as the evening wore on but it was noted that fathers remained to finish off "Whitbreads" jellies and "Websters" sticky buns. We thank the ladies for their help in preparing the food, also the members who kindly lent a hand, not forgetting Cpl. Ellis who played the man in red. We have no corpulent sergeants to play Father Christmas but please don't get the idea that this has anything to do with the American President.

We finish our notes on a sadder note. Readers may remember C.Q.M.S. F. G. Dews of the 7th Battalion days; it has been reported that he died suddenly at work. We are sure that ex-members will join us in sending our commiserations to Mrs. Dews and family.

## WEST RIDING COMPANY NOTES

### "A" COMPANY

Perhaps the main function of our year was the annual dinner, dance and prize distribution held at the drill hall on January 12 when we were privileged to have the Commanding Officer at our table among other distinguished guests. Among many flattering and heart-warming remarks about the Company, Colonel Moncrieff mentioned the fact that we were the only company to hold an annual dinner. If not before, everyone certainly felt in top form after the Colonel's speech!

The Saturday before the annual dinner the drill hall was besieged by all our children and their friends, for it was their party. Everyone was in a festive mood to suit the occasion. A stage was erected at the far end of the hall, with a backdrop based on something from a Wild West show. Almost inevitably, it seems, this produced the odd wag of an eight-year-old, walking stiff left-legged (or is it right?) after our C.S.M., shouting "Mr. Dillon! Mr. Dillon!" in the broadest southern "you-all" accent heard outside Alabama!

Children are quicker than we think.

Speaking of Mr. Dillon, our C.S.M., he has, it seems, been "hobnobbing with the stars." Well, at least he got his photograph in the *Courier* drilling the local Thespians' cast for "The Amorous Prawn." But that is not all; a national daily immediately 'phoned the 1st Battalion who, completely mystified, put them on to us. The nett result was a reporter's visit to the drill hall on the following Sunday to photograph C.S.M. Dillon drilling the squad again—with the exception of the male section of the cast. (That was the only proviso the national daily made—I leave it at that!).

Now, recruiting and advertising are occupying all our time, apart from the preparations we are putting in for the Battalion parade in Halifax on St. George's Day. And that, we promise, will be something Halifax has not seen for a long time! On that ambient note, we conclude.

### "B" COMPANY

On drill nights during the last month the plaintive call of the wireless operator has been heard, trying with all his might to establish a link between Mirfield and Huddersfield—with, we might add, some result. The idea is that, once a link is firmly established between the two, that infernal invention, the telephone, will be non-existent officially between the two drill halls on drill nights. One can only wonder what new problems will arise from an idea such as this. We will have to wait and see.

During January the Mirfield branch of the O.C.A. held a pie supper in the drill hall which was a great success; among those present were Colonel Sugden, Colonel Huxley, Major Farrow, Captain Buckland and those two stalwart members of the O.C.A. Mr. Haigh and Mr. High. Amongst much beer drinking and jubilation Mr. Haigh once again ran off with most prizes for dominoes and cards.

The first two weeks of March will be spent on our annual recruiting drive, and one can only guess at how many pubs, clubs, etc. will be visited to hand out the leaflets inviting the local populace to our two open nights at Mirfield on March 12 and 14. This year we also have the loan of the 1st Battalion recruiting caravan and this will prove to be a great attraction for the local residents.

On January 20 Brigadier P. P. de la H. Moran battled through snow and ice to carry out the annual administrative inspection, the result of which we still await. Tea was laid on in the Officers' Mess at Mirfield by the wife of our P.S.I., Sgt. Falkingham, and this took one's thoughts away from the weather outside even if only for a short while.

The brains of our Company officers were taxed by the Brigadier and his staff on the Officers' Study Group held at York during January, but one is left wondering if the brains were taxed on the Study Group or on the cocktail party held the same weekend.

Congratulations must go this time first to Cpl. Grady, M.M., on his recovery after his recent illness; we hope to see him back in the drill hall in the very near future. Also our congratulations to Cadet Ross (Mirfield) and his brother Pte. Ross, 1st Battalion D.W.R., on winning the .22 rapid shoot at Strensall on Thursday, February 14; Pte. Ross is an old T.A. soldier from "B" Company,

## George Hattersley

and SONS LIMITED

### Keighley

*The oldest firm of Loom Makers  
in the World, have many  
vacancies for skilled and semi-  
skilled labour. Sports Club,  
Pension Scheme, Canteen, etc.*

**WRITE or CALL**

# TYLER'S

## TAXIS

and SELF DRIVE CARS



### THE CAMP CENTRE

or Telephone Catterick Camp 2224

Telegrams: ATAXI, CATTERICK CAMP

*You may book your requirements at our office  
opposite the G.P.O.*

Telephones: 2291 - 2292 ELLAND

'BENCO' FINISH  
(Registered)

'WOOSTRON' FINISH  
(Registered)

"AQUAGARD" PROOF  
(Registered)

## J. E. Bentley & Co. Ltd.

WOODFIELD MILL

Greetland, Nr. HALIFAX

**DYERS AND FINISHERS, TROPICALS  
FANCY WORSTEDS, GABERDINES  
DRESS GOODS**

# Fillans

## HUDDERSFIELD

Telephone 889

Established 1852

Fine Value and Quality in

ENGAGEMENT RINGS

WEDDING RINGS

WATCHES, CLOCKS

and PRESENTATION GIFTS

*Jewellers for more than 100 years  
at 2, MARKET WALK  
AND STILL FILLANS*

*Sole agents for the famous "Omega" watch*

## CHANGING YOUR CAR?

Call and see

# DEWS

Main Vauxhall · Bedford Dealers

Where you are assured of  
courteous and understanding  
Attention

*Confidential H.P. facilities through our  
own Company*

### DEWS GARAGES LIMITED

Northgate—Halifax

Tel: 60681 (5 lines)

### ERNEST DEWS LIMITED

Bailiff Bridge—Brighouse

Tel: 1454 (5 lines)

"YOU GET A GOOD DEAL AT DEWS"



Block by courtesy of the Keighley News

### The New Drill Hall at Keighley

The Mayor, Alderman T. Gallagher (formerly of 1st and 2nd Battalions, D.W.R.) opens the bar

and we wish him every success in the 1st Battalion.

Cpl. Clegg and all our M.T. staff are awaiting the result of the R.E.M.E. vehicle inspection with bated breath and hoping that they are tops again this year as they were last. Our two main events in March are the Battalion all ranks dance and prize-giving on March 2 at which we hope to receive some of the prizes. Then on March 9 we hold our own Company dance at Mirfield; this dance proved a great success last year and we are hoping for the same results again. Everything is in grand style including the cabaret which is laid on by Captain Buckland, which leads up to the big question of the year—where does he manage to find all those charming girls each year? We may add that the question is never answered.

With the snow now disappearing we once again start our outdoor training in March and hope that during the coming year we have as many interesting training week-ends to report on as last year.

The Training Team which consists of our R.S.M. and Training Major carried out Ts.O.E.T. with the Company on February 14 and we are glad to report more passes than failures in the Company. At this we will obviously go from strength to strength.

### “C” COMPANY

On November 9 Major D. R. Siddall, M.B.E., T.D., was appointed Second in Command of the Battalion, and Captain P. B. Knowles became Company Commander. Major Siddall had been in command since the amalgamation in March, 1961, and it is entirely through his patient efforts and

great enthusiasm that we have been converted, in every sense of the word, from a gunner battery to an infantry company. Major and Mrs. Siddall were dined out at Skipton Drill Hall on November 10, when an inscribed salver was presented to him by the members of the Company, and he in turn presented a very fine portrait of the Duke of Wellington to the Drill Hall. (We can assure all connoisseurs that it was not painted by Goya.)

Recruiting has been proceeding slowly, and we are gradually maintaining a net increase in numbers, our main leakage being to the Regular Army. We are, however, desperately short of young officers, and we should welcome any young man who has the qualifications of a potential officer, or any former serving officer at both Skipton and Keighley. If any “Old Duke” knows of anyone who might be interested I should be most grateful if he would write to Captain Knowles at either Skipton or Keighley drill halls.

Possibly our most newsworthy achievement during the last three months has been that Keighley drill hall has been completely redecorated in a most striking and attractive contemporary style. At the same time we have rebuilt the canteen ourselves, and the main clubroom has been transferred from a congested, somewhat scruffy place to a room of which we are justifiably proud. We were very pleased that His Worship the Mayor of Keighley, Alderman T. Gallagher, J.P., was able to perform the opening ceremony on February 9, particularly as he is a former member of the 1st and 2nd Battalions of the Regiment, serving from 1919-1926 in Gibraltar, Egypt, Turkey, Palestine and Ireland. We should like in passing to place on

record our thanks to T.A.F.A. for providing us with a new oil-fired heating system in place of the archaic, temperamental and inefficient coal-fired plant, which was designed in such a way that only one section could be heated at any one time. In short we have now at Keighley a drill hall which is a show piece, and we should be glad to welcome anyone to see it.

Training has been confined to cadres during recent months, but with the longer evenings we are planning more ambitious expeditions. Tentative moves have been made to affiliate the Company to the Upper Wharfedale Fell Rescue Service, so that in cases of necessity we should be prepared to turn out to assist in searching for lost persons; we are also maintaining our close liaison with the Police and Fire Services, both from a training angle, as a natural follow-on from our civil defence training at camp, and from a social side.

The recruiting fortnight from March 2-16, is close upon us. Our target is an intake of 30 recruits by the end of March. Already we have had six firm inquiries in the last 10 days. With a little determination and a lot of salesmanship we are certain that this target can be achieved.

### "D" COMPANY

*Do you know the world's white roof tree?*

*Do you know that windy rift?*

*Where the baffling mountain eddies chop and change?*

## OPERATION "THREE PEAKS"

By Lt. A. E. Dye

At the annual dinner and prize distribution of "A" Company at Halifax, in January, the Commanding Officer of the Battalion, Lt.-Colonel J. C. Moncrieff, said that, if "A" Company were famous for nothing else, they were famous for their toughness.

A roar of approval greeted these words.

In the minds of many of us present, that roar embodied memories of the extremely arduous — not say nerve-racking—Operation "Three Peaks," in December last.

The scheme germinated and flourished in the ever-fertile mind of Sgt. J. Hemmings, an ex-rugby leaguer, who is constantly searching for something new for the Company to pit its skill and strength against. But even he did not realise quite what was in store for us.

I must say, sitting in the Company Commander's office at Prescott Street, we felt rather confident as Major Haws briefed us on the entire operation:

It would take the form of a competition with "B" Company, and would involve a night march and assaults on the three peaks—Ingleborough, Whernside and Pen-y-Ghent. Lt. David Sugden, Assistant Signals Officer, would be in charge of signals which would be by means of 38 sets, I would see to the

Kipling's words might well describe the routes between "D" Company and the rest of the Battalion. All credit must go to C.S.M. Webb who has nobly skated up and down the Pennines keeping the lines of communication open. Surprisingly, the worse the weather has been the higher the attendances at the T.A.C.s, particularly on nights when we have been visited and put through our paces by the Battalion training circus. It would seem that Robertson and Nicholls have greater audience appeal than Steptoe and Son.

Training of the indoor variety has gone ahead quietly but steadily with the .22 ranges being much used. The Company .22 team from Thongsbridge were even putting in "overtime" after their one and only defeat by H.Q. Company in the .22 competition. The Company Commander did his best to demoralise H.Q. Company team but they were not to be shaken and he had to pay for drinks after all.

The great news has just come through that "D" Company is Champion Company 1962/63 by only two points from "C" Company. This has been a fine effort by all ranks of the Company and particularly the shooting team—Lt. Foster, Sgt. Simpson, Ptes. Williams and Boothroyd—all from Thongsbridge. The way in which our P.S.I., C.S.M. Webb, in his ever cheerful way has whipped up enthusiasm also deserves mention. Charming!

Recruiting is our immediate problem, the Company being a little like MacNamara's Band, and then some serious week-ends out of doors again.

administration, and Lt. John Golding would be in charge of planning the march itself.

All very simple.

We set off on the Saturday, however, filled with some trepidation, due partly to the blustery, wet weather conditions and partly to the ominous and gloomy spanners which Lt. Edward Duckney had thrown into the works on the previous Thursday! Although unquestionably the mountaineering expert of the Battalion, "Ted" had not been able to attend the week-end; this did not prevent him from indulging in a little scepticism as to the success of our enterprise!

The first snag we came up against was after we had successfully arrived at the disused village school at Helwith Bridge, our headquarters for the week-end; we were informed there were no cooks.

This was soon overcome by appointing C.Q.M.S. Reed as chief cook, with Sgt. Major Dillon, and sometimes myself, skirmishing on the flanks, as it were, with "bangers," bacon and so on. The pressure burners were completely dismantled and re-assembled so that they would work, and celebrated their rejuvenation by scorching my hand and singeing my eyebrows (luckily Sgt. Smith, R.A.M.C., was on the scene). We gave everyone a

hot meal, and then got down to the serious business of the week-end.

At 1730 hours the umpires were sent off to their various peaks: 2Lt. Charles Kilner (Pen-y-Ghent), Sgt. Kenny (Whernside) and Sgt. Howell (Ingleborough).

Two hours later the teams set off from the Ribbleshead Hotel, and were soon swallowed up in the driving sleet which was increasing in force every minute.

Back at Helwith Bridge there was nothing to do but wait. And we did not have to wait long:

At 2350 hours, the clumpy squelch of heavy waterlogged boots heralded the return of one of "B" Company's teams, led by O/Cdt. Davidson. They had conquered Pen-y-Ghent, but were unable to continue. It was easy to see why: their clothes were stiff with ice, which entailed thawing out by the fire before they could be stripped off.

How the remaining "B" company team and our team were progressing we did not know, for radio contact was, to say the least, intermittent.

However, 0100 hours saw O/Cdt. Kenyon and his team struggling into base even more exhausted than their other team. They had climbed Pen-y-Ghent and reached the foot of Ingleborough. This left "A" Company's team to carry the flag.

And this they did until 0300 hours when they, too, reached Headquarters, their clothes frozen solid. They had managed Ingleborough and Pen-y-Ghent, but had not completed the course.

Sgt. Hemmings told me later that, when they had struck the top of Ingleborough, the piercing wind had immediately frozen their waterlogged clothes, and falling in streams and minor crevasses on the way down Ingleborough did nothing to

increase their comfort. Their clothes refused to thaw out again even on the fast march back!

Honours for the teams were pronounced equal, though I like to think "A" Company's "equality" was perhaps a little more than the others!

## Correspondence

Dear Sir,

Whilst congratulating Capt. Campbell Lamerton on his magnificent Lions tour, and also on his most interesting report, I feel that the record should be put straight regarding his reference to the very well-known wartime officer of the Regiment, Major Christopher Newton Thompson.

He was commissioned to the Regiment in 1940, and his entire service was with the 8th Battalion, later 145 R.A.C. He was at Cambridge before the war obtaining a rucker blue and England caps. He played in most of the wartime games until the regiment moved to North Africa, and he was very severely wounded in the leg in Italy in September, 1944. This put an end to his rucker career, otherwise there is no doubt he would have been in the England pack in 1947 and probably in 1957.

His brother Oswald came to Oxford after the war, and played for England on two or three occasions.

Yours truly,

F. B. MURGATROYD

3, Fulwith Mill Lane,  
Harrogate, Yorkshire.  
18th March, 1963.

## 10th (Service) BATTALION

### Personalia

Mr. Percy Holdsworth, of Greengates, Bradford, retired at the end of 1962 after 59 years' service—he started as a half-timer, rising to the position of Assistant Weaving Manager—with Messrs. G. Garnett and Sons, Ltd., woollen and worsted manufacturers, of Apperley Bridge, Bradford.

During the First World War Mr. Holdsworth served throughout hostilities with the 10th (Service) Battalion, first in England and then on the Continent, and was wounded during the Battle of the Somme. He joined the 10th Battalion, O.C.A., when it was formed in 1933, and regularly attended the annual reunions of that body until last year, when it was found impossible to hold one owing to ill-health preventing the Hon. Secretary (Mr. G. R. Goodchild) from continuing his duties. Mr. Holdsworth is now 71 years of age.

Former members of the 10th Battalion will be interested to know that their old Adjutant (Captain

the Rev. I. Norman Phillips, M.C.) has now retired from the ministry and is living quietly in Sussex, where for many years he held a vicariate at Crawley. He, too, is a septuagenarian. During the last war he held the rank of Lt.-Colonel while in command of the Cadet Battalion of the Royal Sussex Regiment

Major J. C. Bull, M.C., although now over 80 years of age, still runs his school at "Twyford," Winchester. During the First World War he was Second-in-Command of the 10th (Service) Battalion. On the other hand, other well-known members of the Battalion have retired from their civilian occupations. These include: Captain the Rev. H. W. Todd, M.C. (Sussex); Captain R. Bolton, M.C. (Horley, Surrey); Captain R. S. S. Ingram (Claygate, Surrey); Captain S. Currington (West Clendon, Surrey); R.Q.M.S. Frank Stephenson (Bradford); and C.Q.M.S. Maurice Denham (Sheffield) —who spent his first Christmas as a "free" man on a visit to Palestine.

# SIDHIL

*Makers of Fine Furniture  
for over 70 years*

*Siddall and Hilton Limited*

CENTRAL BUILDINGS, SOWERBY BRIDGE, YORKSHIRE

Tel: Halifax 81818

# BUTLER

*for high production of  
accurate components*

## SPECIALITIES:

Spiral Electric Planers (double standard and openside), 36" Openside Crank Planers, 6' and 8' x 3' x 3' Hydraulic Openside Planers, Drawcut Shapers, Super Shapers, Hydraulic Shapers, Puncher Slotters, High Production Slotters, Precision Toolroom Slotters, Etc.

\* PLANING  
\* SHAPING and  
\* SLOTTING MACHINES  
\*

\* \* \* \* \*

**the  
BUTLER MACHINE  
TOOL CO LTD**

**MILE THORN, HALIFAX**

Telephone: 61641 (4 lines)

Telegrams: "Butler, Halifax"

## SKY DIVING

By Captain J. B. K. Greenway

Sky diving is the somewhat glamorous name that has been given to the sport of free-fall parachuting, to which I was lucky enough to receive an introduction last summer.

First, a brief explanation of what takes place. The parachutist, wearing a main parachute and a reserve, both operated manually by means of a ripcord, boards a light aeroplane and at a predetermined height leaves it, either by climbing out onto a wing and stepping off backwards or simply by making an exit from the door. He then assumes what is known as a "stable" position, spread-eagled facing the ground, and falls for a length of time of his own choosing before pulling his main ripcord and completing his descent under his "modified" canopy. This canopy has segments removed enabling him to control more easily his angle and speed of approach to the ground. In competition jumping he aims to land as near a target as he can.

It is very often asked why the parachutist follows this sport. I can only say that it is a most exhilarating experience. There can be but a few who have not at one time or another envied a bird its freedom and its ability to move swiftly and unimpeded through the air. Here is the opportunity to do just that.

My outline description has only given a rough idea of sky diving; like any sport it can be developed into a far greater art. For instance, in competitions the parachutist leaves his aircraft and, on receiving signals from the ground, carries out a series of aerobatics. These may include turns, loops and changes of direction, all to be executed within a certain time limit whilst striving to land eventually as near as possible to a target on the ground.

The highlight of free falling is still considered to be the baton pass. Here one jumper maintains a stable position while another, by altering his body position, manoeuvres himself close enough for a baton to be passed from one to the other. All the time the bodies are falling free at approximately 115 m.p.h.

The inevitable question arises: is sky diving dangerous? I consider that there is no more risk involved than there is in any other sport where reliance is placed on oneself and one's equipment. Although I do not know the statistics of the proportion of accidents to divers, I would say that it is certainly not as dangerous as motor racing or bob sleighing and probably no more dangerous than riding or ski-ing, which are accepted as everyday forms of sport.

It may be of interest to know that a body in free fall accelerates rapidly for about 12 seconds whereupon it reaches a terminal velocity of 174ft. per second. By this time it has descended 1,483ft. The world record for "tracking"—that is the

assumption by the jumper of a position which will take him horizontally across the sky rather than vertically down—is claimed by an American who jumped from a great height and covered four miles before opening his parachute.

The cycle for sky diving begins with the collection of equipment and the careful preparations of fitting and packing of the parachutes. There follow anticipation and slight apprehension during the slow, chilly and noisy ascent in a small aircraft, dryness of the mouth as the plane reaches its predetermined height and turns for the run in, the buffeting of the wind as an exit is made onto the wing and the breathlessness of facing a 45-knot slip stream while looking for the marker on the ground. Then comes the signal to the pilot and the throttling back of the engine, the slight gasp which accompanies the determined step backwards and the immediate urgent downward acceleration while outstretched arms and legs strive to achieve a stable flight. The mind counts *one thousand and one—one thousand and two* and the eyes, if they are open, look for the target which suddenly seems to be coming up very fast. The tug of the air on limbs and clothing followed by the deliberate pull of the ripcord and the jolt and crack as the canopy develops give way to the most blissfully peaceful moments possible and a warm glow of satisfaction—or relief, or whatever it may be. There is a second or two to reflect on this pleasure before concentrating again, this time on the control lines to get near to the target. Finally the landing and the collection of the canopy while fighting, or more often giving in to, the urge to talk very loud and very fast. Then back to repack and plan the next descent: "This time I think I'll try . . ."

It is difficult in such a short space even to begin to cover a subject that can be written about indefinitely. I hope that any expert who reads this article will excuse it on the grounds that a novice is attempting to raise enthusiasm for a sport which is not well known and which offers a full range of emotions and sensations.

### JAMES HOYLE & SON

• THORN TREE STREET  
KING CROSS, HALIFAX

*Removal and Storage Experts  
Dry-Heated Storerooms  
Goods packed for Shipment*

*Send p.c. for our representative to call*

Telephone: HALIFAX 61204-5



## Obituary

We deeply regret to record the following deaths.

### Mr. T. Drewitt

Mr. Drewitt died on February 13, 1963, at his home, 30a Larch Road, London, S.W.12, aged 80 years.

Tom Drewitt enlisted into the "Duke's" in London in 1908 and spent all his service with the 1st Battalion, mostly in India. Much of his service was spent in the armourer's shop and he was a well-known member of the Cockney fraternity which existed in the battalion at that time.

He was a member of the London Branch of the O.C.A. from its start and never missed a reunion dinner. He was rather a quiet, self-effacing type but had a fund of stories to relate of the battalion's activities and its characters during his early days in India.

It was Tom's express wish that no flowers be provided at his funeral; instead he asked that the money for them be collected and passed on to the Regiment's benevolent funds. This was done and his adopted daughter, Mrs. Haines, of 119 Waddon Road, Croydon, was able to send to Mr. Code a cheque for £16.

Tom's widow also survives him and we would like to tender our best thanks to her and Mrs. Haines and family for the generous gift to Tom's old comrades.

### Brigadier C. W. G. Grimley, M.C.

The death occurred in the Cambridge Hospital, Aldershot, on February 26, 1963, of Brigadier Cyril Walter ("Peter") Grimley. "Grimes" had been in indifferent health for some years and had been almost entirely confined to his home at Linden Lodge, Farnborough, since last October, until being admitted to hospital a week before his death.

"Grimes" was born at Peshawar in 1896, was educated at Wellington College and R.M.C. Sandhurst, and gazetted to The Duke of Wellington's Regiment at the end of 1914, when he joined the 3rd Battalion. He went to France early in 1916, joined the 2nd Battalion, and was wounded near Beaumont Hamel. In December, 1916, he transferred to 8th Battalion, Tank Corps, as an acting captain, and returned to France with them in the following August, receiving an immediate award of the Military Cross after the Battle of Cambrai. He was later wounded again near Havrincourt and returned to England.

In 1921 he was seconded to 4th Battalion, Nigeria Regiment and was promoted Captain in 1924. On returning from West Africa in 1927 he joined the 1st Battalion at Gosport. He was appointed Adjutant and in 1934 was promoted brevet major.

In 1934 he returned to Nigeria and was promoted Lt.-Colonel in the R.W.A.F.F. in 1937, and for a few months was Area Commander of No. 1 Area, The Nigeria Regiment.

Early in 1939 he went to India to join the 2nd Battalion, returning to England a year later when, after a short period with 2/6th Battalion, he assumed command of 1/5th Battalion, West Yorkshire Regiment, accompanying it to Iceland. He vacated command at the end of 1940 on appointment to command 2nd Nigeria Infantry Brigade with the temporary rank of brigadier, subsequently transferring to command the 4th Nigeria Infantry Brigade.

On return to England he assumed command of 145 Infantry Brigade early in 1943, but had the misfortune to be wounded on an exercise which necessitated his relinquishing command in February, 1944.

In November, 1944, he was appointed Commander (Col.) Bristol Garrison, and subsequently Commander (Col.) Gloucester Sub-District.

He retired with the honorary rank of brigadier on December 31, 1946.

After his retirement he held appointments for nearly 10 years in the Ministry of Food at Colwyn Bay, London and Guildford, and from 1956 held a retired officer's appointment at the A.C.C. Depot at Aldershot until retiring in 1959.

"Grimes" was first and foremost a Regimental officer, and his interest in Regimental affairs was always his first consideration. It was his great regret that ill health of recent years prevented him from attending Regimental functions which he enjoyed so much, but Regimental visitors to his home were always a joy to him and gave him pleasure for weeks afterwards.

He married, in 1929, Kathleen, elder daughter of Dr. and Mrs. William Allen, of Glasgow, by whom he had twin daughters, who are both married and have families. They all survive him.

The funeral took place at Woking Crematorium on March 2. Among those present were the following from the Regiment, in addition to Mrs. Grimley and her family: Major General R. K. Exham, Brigadier Webb Carter, Colonel and Mrs. Armitage, Lt.-Colonel and Mrs. Ince, Lt.-Colonel and Mrs. Cox, Lt.-Colonel and Mrs. Chatterton.

### Lt.-Col. S. S. Hayne, D.S.O.

Believed, up to the time of his death, to be the last surviving Commanding Officer of the 10th (Service) Battalion, D.W.R., Lt.-Colonel S. S. Hayne, D.S.O., died last November at St. Leonards-on-Sea, Sussex.

He was commissioned in the Northamptonshire Regiment and took over command of the 10th

Battalion of The Duke's in France from Lt.-Colonel H. J. Bartholomew in March, 1916, and held that position until October of that year, just after the Battalion had moved into the Ypres Salient. He was thus in command of the unit during the whole of its participation in the Battle of the Somme, including such engagements as the capture of Contalmaison, Horse Shoe Trench, the attack on Le Sars, and fighting at other points along the famous—or infamous—Albert-Bapaume Road.

Shortly after he arrived at Ypres with the Battalion in October, 1916, he was succeeded by Lt.-Colonel R. R. Raymer, D.S.O. When the latter officer had inspected the Battalion he remarked, "They are a fine body of men," to which Colonel Hayne retorted, "A damned fine body"—an estimation to which Colonel Raymer was glad to subscribe after subsequent heavy fighting in the notorious salient—at Hill 60 and Messines, for example.

Colonel Hayne was affectionately known to his men as "Slasher" because he invariably had a riding whip coiled round his neck, which he not infrequently slashed and cracked. During the last war he served in this country with the RAF Regiment. The condolences of the 10th Battalion, O.C.A., have been sent to Colonel Hayne's widow in her bereavement.

### Mr. B. Hearsom

Last September, at the annual re-union dinner of the O.C.A. in Halifax, it came as a great shock to his many friends to find that Ben Hearsom was not present among the representatives of the London branch and to learn that the reason was that he was gravely ill. It seemed difficult to believe that the night would end without Ben being at the centre of a happy group singing the old songs. But so it was and just four months later, after a brave fight, he died on January 23, 1963, at his home, 198 Wrythe Lane, Carshalton, Surrey, aged 59 years.

Ben enlisted in London on August 26, 1919, and, after a few weeks with the Depot and 2nd Battalion, he was posted to the 1st Battalion, then in the Middle East. Except for a break with the T.A. he soldiered continuously with the 1st Battalion, rising to the position of C.S.M., until July 1940, when he went as C.S.M. to the 8th Battalion then forming under Colonel Armitage at Otley. In 1941, shortly after the 8th Battalion became R.A.C., Ben was posted to a P.O.W. unit and afterwards served in North Africa and Italy, coming home for discharge to pension at the end of 1945.

He became a civil servant and was based, as a clerical officer and later as an executive officer, at the Foreign Office. He kept up his connection with the Regiment by joining the London branch of the O.C.A. and, five years ago, became its secretary and treasurer. The branch owes much to his talents as an organiser. Each year saw increasing numbers attending the London dinner and it has twice

become necessary to find larger premises for it. Ben had actually done the ground work for the next dinner to take place at the Victory Ex-Services Club when his illness overtook him and he had to leave the chairman, Mr. Bob Temple, to carry on the good work in his stead.

Ben was a character—a man who called a spade by no other name; he had a terrific sense of fair play; any suggestion of sharp practice or rule-bending to suit an individual rather than the community soon incurred the lash of his tongue. He loved a pint of beer, a good cigar and the company of old comrades; his smiling and ruddy complexioned face will be sadly missed from our regimental gatherings as will the pungent and witty remarks offered from his secretary's report during the coffee and biscuit stage of the London dinner.

Ben was cremated at the East Surrey Crematorium, Morden, on Tuesday, January 29; the service was attended by his widow, Mrs. E. Hearsom, son, R.S.M. Hearsom, R.E., and daughter, Betty; also by his four brothers and their wives and other members of the Hearsom family. Colonel Jack Dalrymple represented the Colonel of the Regiment and Major P. B. Hall, the officers. Mr. Code and Mr. Temple attended on behalf of the O.C.A. and the London Branch of the Association respectively.

The Hearsom family is a closely knit unit and we know that Mrs. Hearsom will derive comfort and strength from them now, at the time of her sad loss, and in the future. In addition to the son and daughter who were able to attend the funeral there is an elder daughter, Rose, who is married and settled in Australia, and another son, Fred, who is serving overseas, also with the Royal Engineers.

### Mr. J. G. Townend

The Regiment lost a very old member by the death on December 20, 1962, of Bandmaster James G. Townend.

He enlisted in the Regiment at York as a boy in 1903; in due course he attended Kneller Hall and joined the 1st Battalion in India. A good musician, he became solo cornet player and first violin and then Sergeant Drummer. During the first war, in 1919, he was with the Battalion in Afghanistan.

After a short spell in the Army Reserve in 1920 he joined the Manchester Regiment for two years, and transferred to the Wiltshire Regiment, which he had to leave in 1925 owing to illness.

In 1929 he came to the 7th D.W.R. as storeman and bandmaster—the fiction by which at that time the T.A. was able to have a bandmaster. He served the Battalion well in both capacities until a medical examination in 1940 pronounced him unfit.

There followed 12 years in the Corps of Commissioners and then 10 years of retirement at Greenfield, where he still found useful activities and where he was in touch with many members of the 7th Battalion of his time. He had recently lost his wife but was apparently in good health until the last few days of his long life of 75 years.

## A NOTE ON THE "WHARTON" COLOURS

By James Hayes

I was looking through my copy of Major Savory's account of the Regimental Colours recently and found inserted there a note of my own which I had quite forgotten. This note adds a little more to what we know about Stand 4, the "Wharton" Colours (page 3 of Major Savory's account).

It also poses a question.

The "Wharton" Colours—so called because they were returned to the Regiment by Lord Wharton—were, we believe, presented to the 33rd in 1761 and retired about 1771. They are now in Halifax Parish Church.

My note concerns a mention of these Colours in the Calcraft Letter Books in the British Museum (add MS 17494, folios 54 and 77). John Calcraft, a well-known military agent of the time, was agent to the 33rd when these new colours were required. They figure in two letters which he wrote in 1760 to Sir John Griffin who had just become Colonel of the 33rd (See I.D. for Jan., 1956, p. 23) and was, at the time, a major-general with the army in Germany.

In the first letter, dated June 18, 1760, Calcraft wrote: "I am to see Lord Tweeddale about your Colours to-morrow and will get them forwarded with all Expedition." The next day he wrote again: "Your Colours are bespoke and shall be sent as soon as finished: Lord Tweeddale (*sic*) was gone to Holland but his Manager in Town has undertaken to pay for them." Lord Tweeddale was the father of Lord Charles Hay, Griffin's predecessor as Colonel of the 33rd, who had died in the month before these letters were written (see I.D. April, 1958, p. 54).

Two points emerge. First, it seems that the Colours were needed in a hurry. Second, they were a charge on the former Colonel whose father now had to pay for them.

As regards the hurry, I may, of course, be reading too much into Calcraft's letters. He was an efficient agent and would doubtless always act with "all Expedition." Even so, there does seem to be a hint of urgency in his letters. If so, what caused it?

The 33rd had received orders to embark for Germany on May 9, 1760, as part of what Newcastle called "the glorious re-enforcement." It reached the army's rendezvous near Cassel in the middle of June—just when Calcraft was writing to Sir John Griffin. Were the new Colours required urgently because the old ones were worn out and unable to stand the rigours of campaigning?

The second point—that the new Colours were a charge on Lord Charles Hay—suggests that they had become due to be replaced during his colonelcy. Perhaps his absence on the staff in North America had something to do with the delay. Letters took a long time to get there and

back, and were sometimes lost at sea. Or had Lord Charles been dilatory in replacing the previous ones—as dilatory, perhaps, as he accused Lord Loudon of being in attacking the French in Nova Scotia? (Lord Charles came to an obscure but certainly "sticky" end: apparently as the result of his libel on Lord Loudon he was tried by court martial "for every military crime as an officer except cowardice and disaffection." He died before the findings were made public.)

If he was dilatory the old Colours may well have been worn out. Is it possible, even, that the 33rd had to leave for Germany without them?

This would seem too unlikely to be worth suggesting were it not for an odd item in Major Savory's account of the previous Stand, the so-called "Richmond" Colours.

These are lost and little is known of them, but the Regimental Colour was at one time in the possession of the descendants of the 3rd Duke of Richmond and, according to a catalogue prepared in 1907 by the 7th Duke, came to the 3rd Duke during his tenure of command of the 33rd which was from 1756 to 1758—that is at least two years before Calcraft was promising new Colours with "all Expedition."

Major Savory presumes that the catalogue is in error and that the old Colours came to the Richmond family when the "Wharton" stand was presented, at which time the 3rd Duke's younger brother, Lord George Lennox, was commanding the 33rd.

This indeed seems more likely, and it is to be hoped that it is the right answer and that the 33rd did not have to fight at Warburg on July 21, 1760, and for the rest of that year's campaign without Colours—however tattered.

For it seems clear that, in spite of Calcraft's promises in June, 1760, the new Colours were not presented until some time in 1761. This is the date given by Major Savory and it is confirmed by an inspection return for 1774, seen recently by Brigadier Webb-Carter in the Public Record Office.\*

Perhaps this time-lag was the normal one. Or did Calcraft, perhaps, find Lord Tweeddale as dilatory and difficult to pin down as his son, with the result that throughout the 1760 campaign season the 33rd carried a ragged set of Colours—or none?

To offset this shocking possibility there is, perhaps, one comforting thought. The fact that the old Colours, or at least the Regimental Colour

\* *This, however, seems to pose another problem. An inspection return of 1774 would presumably relate to the colours then being carried. But the "Wharton" stand is believed to have been retired in 1771.—Ed.*

"on its original pole," went to the Richmond family, makes it unlikely that the Regiment had none in Germany. Even had the Duke taken it with him when he left the 33rd in 1758, it is scarcely likely that his younger brother would not have got it back when a new pair were still not ready for his battalion to take to the German War.

One editor, I may say, was keenly interested in this dramatic situation (perhaps he misplaced a Colour when he was a subaltern†) and has given much help and encouragement with this note.

† *Not so far as we remember.*—Ed.

## Book Review

### THE ALEXANDER MEMOIRES, 1940-45

(Cassell, 25/-)

The memoirs of "Alex" will make heartening reading to many IRON DUKE readers, whose warmer memories of the war years will be fanned and stirred. Alex himself was profoundly moved by the mystique of the desert when he returned: "Time and sand antique all things; there are one or two old sites where guns were dug in, but the foxholes and the slit trenches have all disappeared. Over the years, the sands, blown by the never-failing wind from the sea, have rubbed them out." His desert descriptions are evocative. "What is the attraction in endless wastes of sand and desolation? And what is more moving than a night under a starlit sky, when earth and heaven seem united in

one great presence? What is more beautiful than the passing shadows over distant horizons, or the sound of the wind over rock and sand? . . . the grandeur of the desert silence . . . nature at its simplest, no limit to its vision . . . quiet, silent dignity."

But this is a memoir of war, and action. Rommel is portrayed as "a most able battle commander . . . a fine tactician for an independent force like the Afrika Korps." The Rommel legend is here sketched in, reinforced by that curiously seductive and nostalgic song about Lili Marlene, which, it seems, "lulled both armies to sleep." Monty is depicted as always rather a lone wolf—opinionated, ambitious, difficult and not a good mixer . . . full of restless energy. His Alam Halfa and Alamein battles are fought out again, showing the great respect paid to loss of life, the various formulations of plans, and their adaptations in face of the pressures of action, all swiftly and cogently touched on. Alex also deals with the vexed question of whether he and Monty were new brooms, or whether they had inherited a degree of sound battle planning from the Auk; he answers this in a way that dissatisfies the military experts—THE TIMES correspondence column bore testimony of that.

There are some splendid Churchillian phrases here—as, for instance, his comment on the relief of General Auchinleck: "You know, it's like killing a magnificent stag!" Then at the height of the advance through the desert to Tunisia, Churchill asked, "Pray let me have a message which I can read in the Commons when I get back—and make

## THE RETIRED OFFICERS' FUND

### STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR 1962

| INCOME                  |     |          | EXPENDITURE                     |     |          |
|-------------------------|-----|----------|---------------------------------|-----|----------|
|                         |     | £ s. d.  |                                 |     | £ s. d.  |
| Balance Credit 1962     | ... | 52 13 6  | Annual donations:—              |     |          |
| Officers' Subscriptions | ... | 54 16 6  | Officers' Families Fund         | ... | 3 3 0    |
| Defence Bonds dividend  | ... | 7 10 0   | Royal School, Bath              | ... | 5 0 0    |
|                         |     |          | Honorary Colour Fund            | ... | 15 0 0   |
|                         |     |          | Regimental H.Q.                 | ... | 10 0 0   |
|                         |     |          | Subscriptions:—                 |     |          |
|                         |     |          | Silver Salver to Les Voltigeurs | ... | 50 0 0   |
|                         |     |          | York Minster Regt. Chapel       | ... | 5 5 0    |
|                         |     |          | Gale and Polden                 | ... | 5 10 9   |
|                         |     |          | Bank Charges                    | ... | 10 6     |
|                         |     |          | Balance Credit                  | ... | 20 10 9  |
|                         |     |          |                                 |     |          |
|                         |     | £115 0 0 |                                 |     | £115 0 0 |

### NOTES

1. Annual donations to both the Officers' Families Fund and the Royal School, Bath, are now being taken over by the Army Benevolent Fund.
2. No donation was paid to THE IRON DUKE

during 1962, but this is likely to continue in future.

3. There is a discrepancy between the Balance Credit shown in THE IRON DUKE of April, 1962, and the above statement. This is due to two entries, both dated December, 1961, having been omitted from the earlier account.

it dramatic and colourful." The ultimate message it led to was this:—

"Sir, it is my duty to report that the Tunisian campaign is over. All enemy resistance has ceased. We are masters of the North African shores."

What of his fellow generals, what does Alex say of them? Of Ike, he holds a high opinion: "These (North African) were halycon days for Ike, and helped to prepare him for the great strains that lay ahead." Of Patton and Bradley, he recounts this characteristic conversation of the thruster and the man of caution:—

"Why are we sitting down doing nothing? We must do something!"

"Wait a minute, George! What do you propose we do?"

"Anything rather than just sit on our backsides!"

George Patton is called "a bit of a poseur"; asked about some planning on one occasion, he clicked his heels, saluted and said, "General, I don't plan—I only obey orders." Of "Brookie," much is said: "I could not have had a wiser, firmer, or more understanding military chief to guide and look after our interests . . . today he is the senior of our five Ulster Field-M Marshals—and may he live to enjoy that distinction."

Dunkirk is told, the Battle of France, Burma briefly, Sicily and Italy. One remembers Churchill's warning to the Italians, that unless they surrendered, the Allies would drag "the red-hot rake of war" through their lovely land. This of course happened, and the tale is sadly told. Among it is

the decision to destroy the venerable and ancient monastery of Monte Cassino; the decision turns on living men's blood versus bricks and mortar, a just and irrefutable one. It was typical of that campaign, with its succession of difficult problems, set in difficult terrain, with what Churchill called "it's savage versatility."

There are accounts of Osbert Sitwell's villa, the King's visit, the Papal blessings in Rome, and liaison with Tito and Stalin. Then we are brought back to the ever impatient Churchill, urging the armies on. "What are you doing sitting down doing nothing? Why don't you use your armour in a great scythe-like movement through the mountains?" And during the ill-starred Anzio landing—"I expected to see a wildcat roaring into the mountains—and what do I find? A whale wallowing on the beach!"

And so the war draws to a close. Rome is timed to fall exactly two days before D-Day, as a fillip to invasion morale. Operation Dragoon draws away vital troops to the American South of France front. But still the Italian advance continues. Finally we see the New Zealand Division pressing on hard—"The story is that, on the way to Trieste, his (General Freyberg, V.C.) men advanced with even more than the usual impetus because they knew that their general had spent his honeymoon at the Hotel Danieli in Venice, and were determined to requisition it for him!" There is a fine ultimate chapter, entitled "Last Parade," full of tributes.

In all, this is a soldier's memoir, told by the most beloved of our World War II generals.

A.J.S.

## *From The London Gazette*

*Supplements dated Nov. 30, 1962 to Feb. 5, 1963*

### WAR OFFICE

#### REGULAR ARMY

Lt.-Col. P. P. de la H. Moran to be Col., 30th Aug. 1962.

#### INFANTRY

##### D.W.R.

Capt. R. M. Harms, M.C., to be Maj., 16th Dec. 1962, with precedence in the Yorkshire Bde. next above N. G. G. Beach, P.W.O.

Lt. R. L. Stevens to be Capt., 21st Dec. 1962.

2nd Lt. John Donald Moir, M.A., (University Candidate) from Gen. List, T.A., to be 2nd Lt., 3rd Sept. 1962, with seniority 23rd July 1960. To be Lt., 3rd Sept. 1962, with seniority 23rd Jan. 1962, and with Army precedence next below J. D. M. Sayers, D.L.I.

2nd Lt. P. D. D. J. Andrews to be Lt. 29th Jan. 1963.

#### REGULAR ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS

##### *Class III*

Lt. W. D. Camidge from Res. of Offrs. Class I, to be Lt., 1st Dec. 1962.

#### TERRITORIAL ARMY

The Queen has been graciously pleased to confer the award of the Territorial Efficiency Decoration upon Major E. A. Woodhouse.

Maj. J. C. Moncrieff, T.D., to be Lt.-Col., 9th Nov. 1962.

2nd Lt. C. E. Kilner (on probation) confirmed in his appt. as 2nd Lt., 29th Jan. 1961. To be Lt. 29th Jan. 1963.

#### 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.

Capt. (Hon. Maj.) D. A. Rickards, having exceeded the age limit, ceases to belong to the T.A. Res. of Offrs., 2nd Jan. 1963, retaining the hon. rank of Maj.

#### GENERAL LIST

##### ARMY CADET FORCE

##### *York (West Riding)*

Hon. Lt.-Col. C. M. Dando is awarded the Efficiency Medal (Territorial).

## COMPANY NEWS FROM CATTERICK

### ALMA COMPANY

*"And thick and fast they came at last, and more, and more, and more."*—Lewis Carroll.

At last the pattern of Alma Company is beginning to emerge—but what a scramble it is. Before Christmas there were the makings of one rifle platoon, with Support Platoon still short of men. Since the New Year men have been trained to complete the anti-tank and 3in. mortar sections, and the M.M.G. section has been formed under Sgt. Wilson; seven soldiers have done a four-week signals course to become platoon operators; forty men have arrived from Corunna Company to carry out section training, and eight corporals and privates have attended a N.C.O.'s cadre, and—anything else? Yes, Ptes. Clough and Marshall have been on a water duties course.

We have moved our accommodation while repainting was in progress, and moved back again afterwards. Hours of work have been spent in scraping the painters' residue off floors and windows, and then in polishing, scrubbing, and touching up paintwork.

Training has been badly hit by the snow. Every time we planned any really interesting outdoor exercise the skies opened and a blizzard howled. Before Christmas we spent several splendid days in the Feldom training area, and recently Lt. Andrews has forced his way over to Warcop with Sgt. Kelly and the anti-tank section to fire a few H.E.S.H. rounds. As the Landrover canopies had been withdrawn for repair, this was an even more rugged operation than it sounds.

The 3in. mortar section fired their first shoot at Wathgill after carrying their kit the last two hundred yards to the baseplate position, and clearing away a foot or two of snow. "Bedding-in" was unusually effective; the left-hand mortar nearly disappeared altogether. That day the sun shone, the air was wonderfully clear, and all went well.

The M.M.G. section have just finished a month's training. Sgt. Wilson spent a fortnight at Netheravon, Cpl. Dove relinquished his rifle section, Cpl. Howard returned from recruiting activities in Halifax, and the section began to form. They are now settling down well and look like being a really good team.

Cpls. Proctor and Johnson have been giving some very useful instruction on first aid. Cpl. Proctor is also starting a company judo club. Cpl. Johnson captained the Company's cross-country team which won the Battalion cross-country. He looked a bit surprised when praised for keeping his team bunched and coming in as the last man to count; but, whether it was done by accident or design, he deserves the credit for a very good effort. Pte. Hull was third man in and went on to the Northern Command Championships in which he finished 13th of a large

field. Conditions were very bad and he ran an excellent race.

From now on the administrative preparations for the interior economy inspection (and for British Honduras) will be intensified. Inoculations, dental inspections, kit checks, inspections of documents, stores, weapons, and all that jazz, will fill every available moment. We have so far survived an arms inspection, and for that the credit must go to Ptes. Loxam and Dyke, and to the C.S.M. C.S.M. France and Pte. Donkin have spent hours checking documents, and have gained high praise for the way the office runs.

There is much training yet to be done. Ahead of us lies five weeks of hard section and platoon tactics; a five-day exercise, "SWEET AUBURN," which includes a road move to and from Warminster; a week's cadre on the .50 Browning machine gun; a stretcher bearer's course; instruction in jungle warfare; internal security exercises; sanitary orderlies' duties course; demonstrations for some boys from Sedbergh School, and so on. Background lectures on British Honduras, current affairs, hygiene, and padre's hours, signal exercises, and battalion and company study periods for officers and N.C.O.s will also take place.

At this stage it would be risky to include an order of battle. Lt. Newell has been the continuity

## W. A. Jolliffe and Son

*At your service for*

*All Regimental Goods*

*including*

*Regimental Ties*

*Wall Plaques*

*"Dukes" Pattern Badges and  
Chevrons for No. 2 Dress*

*Sergeants and Warrant Officers  
Mess Kit*

**CIRCULAR ROAD, ABBEY FIELDS and  
3 MERSEA ROAD, COLCHESTER**

*Telephone 5617*

man as 1 Platoon Commander. Lt. Andrews, fresh from Netheravon, is commanding Support Platoon, and is still full of ideas and enthusiasm—long may it last. Capt. Pell has passed his Staff/Promotion Exam. (I hope you got a nomination, but what do I do for a Second-in-Command?) 2 Lts. Bunbury and Pettigrew are due back from their platoon commander's course in mid-March. 2 Lt. Edwards is with the company for the time being, and commands 2 Platoon. Sgts. Chilvers, Hall and Pratt are now with us, and Cpls. Bower, Hodgkinson, O'Donnell and Slinger are recent arrivals.

Congratulations to Sgt. Booth on his recent promotion. He is now commanding the 3in. mortar section. Congratulations also go to Cpl. Pearson and Pte. Greenwood, both of whose wives have recently had babies.

By the time the next notes are due this company will be in, or on its way to, British Honduras and the present period of seething activity will be over. For the time being, let it be enough that we give thanks to C.S.M. France and C.Q.M.S. McManus and announce that 'The preparation of Alma Company for British Honduras is proceeding according to plan.'

## CORUNNA COMPANY

### *Order of Battle*

|                  |                         |
|------------------|-------------------------|
| Commander ... .. | Capt. Campbell-Lamerton |
| C.S.M. ... ..    | W.O.2 Sheehan           |
| C.Q.M.S. ... ..  | S/Sgt. Dickie           |
| W.T.O. ... ..    | W.O.2 Arundel           |

### *Training Squad Instructors*

|         |  |
|---------|--|
| 1 Squad | 2 Lt. Nickell, Sgt. Foster, Cpl. Wright.                 |
| 2 Squad | Lt. Moir, Sgt. Allerton, Cpl. Stephens, L/Cpl. Smith     |
| 3 Squad | 2 Lt. Power, Sgt. Holliday, Cpl. Elston, L/Cpl. Pollard. |

As you can see from our order of battle, Corunna Company is in full swing. At the present time, we are engaged on continuation training for recruits from the Brigade Depot at Strensall. On completion of the five weeks course, these men are posted to Alma Company which will be relieving Burma Company in British Honduras in May. To date, 85 recruits have passed through our hands, which has kept the instructors pretty busy.

Besides the continuation training the company has organised two junior N.C.O.s cadres, which have proved a great success.

We have enjoyed some amusing games evenings which included basketball and a five-a-side knock-out soccer competition: The training squads issued a very confident challenge to the company officers to enter a side. The result proved a win for the officers by sheer soccer skill, plus a little weight!

Since our last notes we have been joined by 2 Lt. John Power, from Sandhurst, and Sgt. Hudson who, apart from his work as a squad instructor, will become a prominent member of

the company basketball team. We wish them both a happy time in Corunna Company.

## HOOK COMPANY

The New Year saw an expansion in our territory and now "Hook" has peacefully occupied more than half of the available accommodation. Whilst we don't run to cubicles, private rooms or even bedside lights, we hope everyone is reasonably comfortable in the spacious heated barrack rooms. The latest trends in War Department planning have yet to reach these parts.

We welcome to the Company Office, Cpl. Wallace, as the C.S.M.'s whipper-in. On recent muster parades, all but five have been present; even Pte. Todd comes to have a look. The new messing officer and second quartermaster, Lt. Charles Wiley, is making a fine platoon out of the employed men.

It is noted that the drums are progressing, musically speaking. A stage was reached when much more individual practice would have condemned them to the derelict huts way out yonder.

We are glad to see Cpl. Cherry back with the band from a short spell in the great outside world where he found the "ardships" not dissimilar to those within.

In M.T., it's now all over—that annual R.E.M.E. inspection. They came through with flying colours, and now there may be some M.T. on the road. However, there will be one vehicle less than expected since it was bumped fore and aft in the Yorkshire Rally. Three vehicles were entered and Staff Sgt. Sykes with Sgt. Battye and Cpl. Lee are to be congratulated on completing the arduous 330 miles course. Many lessons were learnt and it is hoped that they may be applied on the next rally in Westmoreland.

The elders of Hook look forward to a pleasant fishing season in Catterick, having formed the usual club. We hope the camera club will show a spark of life, and photograph some of the other activities. If you've got a camera, join the camera club and earn a place as official photographer with the various sporting fraternities. The sub-editor would appreciate such assistance.

In the unit cross-country we produced 1st, 2nd and 4th places, but were beaten by the Alma Company pack behind Captain Greenway in 4th place. Pte. Brown, recently returned from Paris, won brilliantly and is our secret hope in the Northern Command Race. Captain Bray did well to come in second.

## THE CORPS OF DRUMS

Our order of battle, headed by our new Adjutant, now reads:—

Captain Greenway  
Drum Major Welsh  
Cpls. Mitchell and Dowd  
L/Cpls. Lever and Walker.

It will be seen that we have a new officer in charge of the drums, to whom we extend a hearty welcome. Goodbye and good wishes go

to Captain Cumberlege now in his new job at Yorkshire District Headquarters. He championed our cause very well. The drummers will probably long remember him for the pertinent conversations they had together on the occasions when they had the misfortune to drop a stick on parade!

In December we spent an interesting five days with the Junior Leaders Battalion in Oswestry. In the course of our visit we rehearsed and played at a passing out parade. During the actual parade it started pouring with rain and, as luck would have it, we were the last to leave the ground! Nevertheless, the spectators, amongst whom was the Colonel of the Regiment, were kind enough to compliment us on the finesse of our performance.

Training at the present time revolves around a concentrated effort to improve our fifing. The results are such that the bandmaster, so it is rumoured, has ordered extensive revision on this instrument within his ranks!

In the sporting field, L/Cpl. Walker has represented the Battalion at rugby. From all accounts he played in two positions—hooker and spare ball; Captain Greenway, L/Cpl. Walker and Drummers Dickens and Thornton ran for Hook Company in the Battalion cross-country, the team coming third.

We have heard on the grape-vine that we may be receiving some silver drums soon. The receipt of this magnificent prize is looked forward to by us all.

We welcome to our ranks Ptes. Allen, Moore, Whapham and Moorehouse. Congratulations are extended to Cpl. Mitchell and Drummers Butterworth and Basford on the occasion of their marriages. May all their troubles be little Dukes!

### THE BAND

With the departure of Major Milligan, the post of band president has passed to Captain Miller. We wish Major and Mrs. Milligan every success during their tour in Singapore.

We were sorry to see Sgt. Allerton leave the band for Corunna Company, but from all reports he has sorted out quite a few "duty wallahs" prior to going on a long-awaited drill course at Pirbright.

Cpl. Cherry, after only a few months in civvy street, decided he preferred the way the army buttered his bread and we are delighted to have him back amongst us.

Sgt. Cooper received a shock when he was told to report to the Education Centre to sit an entrance examination for a student bandmaster's course at Kneller Hall. This is an innovation and, with only two days' notice, it is not surprising that he was caught a little off balance, although he is hopeful of a satisfactory result.

With the end of National Service there is no denying the fact that we felt the pinch but readers will be pleased to hear that we have survived and are now very comfortably off for recruits. With seven new replacements under training at Kneller Hall we should have the strongest band for many years when they return in October.

The year 1962 was for us very successful and

we travelled through nearly every county in England and Wales. On moving to Catterick we faced the competition of two other bands, The Royal Signals and 3rd Royal Tank Regiment (Cambrai).

We are sorry to report that Cpl. Dobson is in hospital again. He has had trouble with his back for the past 12 months. We all wish him a speedy recovery.

In December we opened our band social club room with a Christmas social. Members of the nearby "W.R.A.C.ery" were invited. The Commanding Officer and Captain Miller paid us a visit and we thought they were pleasantly surprised to see how comfortable we have made the club room. Our thanks go to the quartermaster and his staff for their noble assistance. The evening was a resounding success and was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

The band are rather perturbed at the thought of facing a summer season without seeing W.O.I and Mrs. Roberts, and the six little Roberts, smiling back at them from the audience; on occasions theirs have been the only smiling faces! It came as a surprise to hear that they were off to Tasmania in February. We wish W.O.I Roberts and his family the very best of luck and good fortune.

In closing we would all like to welcome Bandsmen Rochelle who has just joined us from the Junior Bandsmen Wing at Strensall.

### MOTOR TRANSPORT PLATOON

Captain Berry joined the platoon shortly before Christmas. An active board of officers, plus the old and new M.T.O., were seen everywhere, frantically checking this and that. After a week all was quiet again and Major Hobbs departed for leave, prior to retirement. All M.T. staff were sorry to see him go. We wish him a long and happy retirement.

Shortly afterwards it became known that the annual R.E.M.E. inspection was to take place in the first week of February. The new M.T.O. checked his nominal roll of men and vehicles to discover, much to his alarm, that the latter trebled the former! From that day onwards, so it is said outside the platoon, he has been unable to say "yes" to a detail, without a scowl. A driver was heard to complain to his mate during January that, although he considered himself proficient at cleaning and servicing his and others' vehicles, he thought he had forgotten how to drive!

Christmas dinner for the Regiment was enjoyed by all of us. The old trio, S/Sgt. Sykes, Sgts. Wass and Almond, were in scintillating form after Christmas beer in the officers' mess, and proved themselves to be highly skilled waiters in the dining hall.

We returned from Christmas leave to continue preparations for the inspection. In due course the great day arrived to find all vehicles assembled on the drill square by 0900 hrs. Each make by rank was carefully dressed off from the right, the staff car in the lead. This formidable array seemed only to be waiting for the bugle. Very shortly the advance was blown and the inspection was under




By Appointment to  Her Majesty The Queen  
Hatters

**Tradition in the modern manner**

H. J. are well known to all regiments as makers of fine Service caps, but not everyone may know that we also offer a range of quality soft felt hats. In fact, we are very proud of our "softs", and for many years they have been the choice of discerning gentlemen who like to feel as correctly —yet comfortably—dressed off parade as on. We supply hats to suit every occasion and taste. Why not call and see the full range? Or write for an illustrated brochure.

**H. J. OFF PARADE**



*Dual-purpose hat, in brown, green or grey. Style 6153*

**REGIMENTAL CAPMAKERS  
TO:**

**The Duke of  
Wellington's Regiment**

HJ 1996

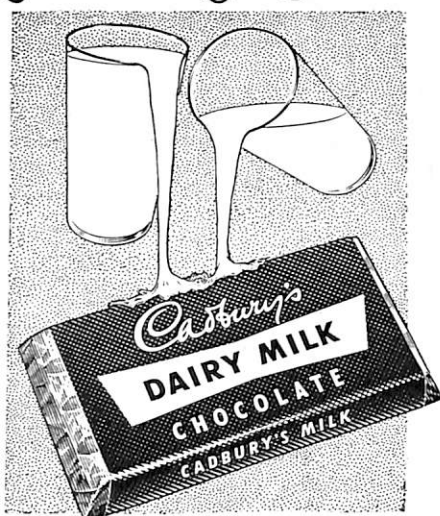
*Herbert Johnson*  
(BOND STREET) LTD.

*Civil and Military Hatters*



40a LONDON RD., CAMBERLEY (Wednesday afternoons only)  
38 NEW BOND ST., LONDON, W.1. Tel: MAYfair 0784

*You'll enjoy....*



The proper creamy  
Cadbury taste!

**HALIFAX  
PAID-UP SHARES**

**3 1/2%**

Income Tax Paid by the Society

**£10 to £5,000 can be accepted for Investment  
Easy withdrawal facilities**

Shares and Deposits in the Society are Trustee Investments

**HALIFAX BUILDING SOCIETY**

HEAD OFFICE · HALIFAX · YORKSHIRE  
London Offices : 51 Strand, W.C.2 62 Moorgate, E.C.2  
136 Kensington High Street, W.8



Photograph by courtesy of The Telegraph and Argus, Bradford"

**S/Sgt. Sykes (team captain), with S/Sgt. Smith, Sgt. Hall and Mr. and Mrs. Peter Procter at the Racing Drivers' Dinner at the Metropole Hotel, Leeds, where the Dukes collected their trophy for being winning vehicle in their class in the Northern Command Midnight Rally, held on 19/20 January 1963**

way. By the end of the week all was over, and a good report was safely in our hands.

During these bitter winter weeks a number of us have been taking part in local motor rallies. S/Sgt. Sykes, with Sgt. Battye (Signals) achieved a win in their class and a third place overall in the Northern Midnight Rally. S/Sgt. Smith (O.R.Q.M.S.) and Sgt. Hall (Corunna Company) also finished with distinction. This encouraged the M.T.O., Cpls. Lee and Greaves and Major Brown and Captain Dasent also to venture forth in the Yorkshire Rally. This proved a very tough undertaking; in spite of appalling road conditions, S/Sgt. Sykes, Sgt. Battye and Cpl. Lee completed the 300 odd miles on time. The others fell by the roadside!

Most of the platoon will be departing with Alma Company for British Honduras in May. With the return of Burma Company's contingent, we look forward to building ourselves up in numbers and proficiency, as for ever and a day you cannot say "no"!

## SIGNAL PLATOON

We completed a successful cadre before Christmas; Ponijasi, one of our Fijians, came top and was awarded the Commanding Officer's prize.

Since then we have got through much useful work on exercises. Being in Catterick and no longer part of a very active brigade does mean that most of our training is self-inflicted on a platoon level, as opposed to being part of some higher formation exercise. This is very satisfactory.

Our detachment with Burma Company in British Honduras seems to be enjoying life. L/Cpl. Shaw tells us about bull fights and night clubs in Mexico. We now have another nine men headed by Cpl. Coll, ready to go out in May.

Pte. Waqabaca has gained his Army rugby cap and five of the platoon have played for the Battalion XV. Our platoon soccer team is undefeated and we also nearly won the battalion cross country.

We now have a very de luxe public address system and consequently hope to be more reliable in the future on Kape tours.

Digitised by The Regimental Archives

