

LEARN TO SKI

Divisional School Runs Course in Winter - Sports

NOTES & NEWS

23's off

Only three days after the 22's, the men of A. and S. Group 23 are going to leave the Battalion on release. The 38 N.C.O.s and men in this group are expected to leave Gevelsberg at 1345 hrs. on December 7th.

More Cigarettes

Good news for the smokers! Starting this week the cigarette ration is being increased to 75 a man.

Men needed to help German Youth Movements

Have you any experience of Scouting? Men who have served in the Boy Scouts, the Boys' Brigade, and other similar organisations are urgently needed to help the newly revived German Youth Movement. Germans will, of course, run the clubs and societies, but they want British advice and assistance in the difficult early stages.

If you would like to help, then see your company clerk as soon as possible.

Companion Wanted

The Scene:—The Battalion Guard Room. Orderly Officer to Prisoner "Any complaints?" Solitary Prisoner "No Sir, except I'm very lonely here by myself."

Starting next week, the Divisional Training School at Winterberg is holding a series of courses for soldiers who want to learn some of the winter sports. Snow has already fallen at the school, which stands 3,000ft. high amidst the hills of Sauerland.

The courses are mostly of ten days' duration. During this time men will live in the luxuriant surroundings of a former Nazi hotel.

Anyone Can Apply

Don't be disappointed if you've never learned to ski or skate. These courses cater for both learners and experts. A 1st of the courses for which the Battalion has been given vacancies has been sent round companies, so if you're interested go and see your clerk as soon as possible.

SK-ING ACCIDENTS

Going to Winterberg after all? Then it may be a consolation to you to learn that if you are injured ski-ing or tobogganning you will be considered on duty for pension purposes.

SMALL WELFARE PARCEL

A few more items have been obtained from Welfare. Three dartboards, nine table tennis balls, and one football are amongst the latest things received.

WIRELESS NEWS

British Case at Nuremberg French Banks Nationalised

HAALDEREN 1944

Today is the eve of the Battle of Haalderen. Few of those who took part in it will ever forget that struggle, which saw some of the hardest and fiercest fighting in the history of the Battalion.

We had been four days at Haalderen, four days in the ruined cottages and damp cellars of that once-pretty village on the banks of the Waal. On the night of the 3rd there was a slight scare about midnight, when it was announced that, owing to the Germans breaching the dykes, we might have to fall back on to the slightly higher ground nearer Nijmegen.

It was a pitch-black night, for the moon did not rise until an hour or so before daylight. At a quarter past three in the morning heavy fire was directed against D Company, holding a line of posts astride the main road facing the enemy. Despite the gallant stand of 18 Platoon, nearly two companies of German paratroops, intent on seizing and destroying the vital Nijmegen Bridge, poured through the front-line positions on a very narrow front, and, within a few minutes, were engaged in heavy fighting in the middle of the village.

A Soldiers' Battle

For the next 6 hours and more the battle continued, as platoons, sections and even individual men carried on the fight against the attacking enemy. The full story of their heroism has been told elsewhere. But the Battalion will never forget the gallantry of the carrier platoon, which drove the Germans from a succession of houses, the stout hearts of the handful of 13 Platoon who held their two little houses against every attack, and the steadfastness of all who stood firm although surrounded.

Where do they all go . . . ?

Serious discrepancies in N.A.A.F.I. supplies have just been revealed by Divisional H.Q. Some units have been heavily overdrawing, so that in one week alone over 13,000 issues too many were made. In other words, these units in a single week drew a total of 780,000 cigarettes in excess of their proper entitlement. No wonder the ration's been small!

As a result of some very thorough checks, certain units have now been ordered to account for their apparent overdrawals.

GERMANY

The Attorney-General will open the British case against the Nazi War Criminals at Nuremberg tomorrow.

It has just been announced that sports associations can now be formed in Germany without the permission of Military Government. Great care is being taken to ensure that Militarism does not creep into such associations, and all marches will be forbidden.

HOME

The British Medical Association, in a recent announcement, urges that benefits for industrial accidents should, as far as possible, be retained at their present level.

A report just issued says, that war damage to British Churches has been much less than was expected. Only one big church, Coventry Cathedral, was totally destroyed, but in London alone 16 of the famous Renaissance churches, many the work of Wren, have been lost.

Today the House of Commons is debating building materials. Tomorrow a Government announcement on India is expected. But the "fireworks" of the week are likely to start on Wednesday, when the opposition, Vote of Censure is moved.

CZECHO-SLOVAKIA

Another Gestapo man has been arrested by the Czecho-Slovak Government and is being charged with implication in the destruction of the village of Lidice.

UNITED STATES

Long financial talks continued throughout the week-end in Washington. Although no official statement has been made, it is believed that a decision of the three month's talks may be announced within the next few days.

A solution of the recent dispute over Trans-Atlantic fares seems likely. Pan-American Airways has agreed to charge higher fares if the British Government will guarantee it a fare share of the traffic.

FRANCE

Today the Bank of France, and several other French Banks open as National Banks. The French National Assembly debated the Bill all day yesterday in order that a decision could be reached before the Paris Stock Exchange opened today.

ITALY

The Italian Government crisis is still not solved. The Liberal Party, whose secession caused the fall of the last Government, is still insisting on securing certain vital Ministries before agreeing to enter a coalition.

VOCATIONAL NEWS

Class B Release

Some men are uncertain about Class B release and how it works.

This scheme is intended to provide labour for certain urgent reconstruction work, such as building and coalmining, and for certain essential services, such as education. It is not intended to provide a way by which individuals may seek their release out of turn on the grounds of their special qualifications. On the contrary, the object is to enable selected industries and essential services to be re-established or developed by the recall of persons with special experience or qualifications.

Selection of the Men

Three methods of release are used:—

1. The "block" release of persons identified by the Army.
2. The release of men who can be identified only by their former employers.
3. The release of "individual specialists."

"Block" release is the normal method. Imagine that another 1,200 bricklayers

are needed for the building industry. Then the Ministry of Labour asks the Army to release that number. The Army, by consulting the Central Records, selects the men, and, this is important, in age and service order up to the number required. These men are then offered Class B release.

When the Army records do not enable the right men to be identified, the names of men with the required qualifications are obtained from former employers by the Government Department concerned with that particular form of reconstruction work and forwarded to the appropriate arm of the Service.

Finally, if certain men are personally indispensable from key posts in urgent reconstruction work, the employer may apply to the Government Department concerned in the work for their release out of turn.

Just one word of warning. For Service reasons it may not be possible for a man to be given a Class B release, even though it has been recommended, but such cases are extremely rare.

FOOD FACTS

The figures recently released by the Ministry of Food-comparing food consumption levels in the United Kingdom, Canada, and the United States should give the answer to those well-meaning but misguided persons who are agitating that we shall still further cut our diet scales so as to release more food for the starving peoples of Europe.

The world shortage in meat, sugar, and fats has been felt in all these countries, but the United Kingdom has been by far the biggest sufferer. In 1945, we are told, our consumption of fats is 5 per cent lower than in the two North American countries, our sugar is 15 per cent lower, meat and milk 25 per cent, eggs 40 per cent, fruit 40 to 60 per cent, and poultry 90 per cent.

We have had to make up for these serious deficiencies by an immense increase in the amount of "filler" foods in comparison with the United States and Canada. Man for man, we eat nearly twice as many potatoes as they do, more grain products, and also more fish. Our diet lacks the necessary balance, and the shortage of meats, fats, and sugar still leaves us in a serious position in spite of the way in which several Dominions have cut their own rations to allow additional shipments to Britain.

We cannot afford to listen, therefore, to those who, ignorant of the facts, insist that Britain should go even further in an "austerity" plan to starve herself and feed Europe. The medical profession has already warned us that we have now reached a dangerously low level of nutrition. Our "Save Europe Now" campaigners are letting their hearts rule their heads. The Government must not do the same.

Tomorrow's Radio

THE LIGHT PROGRAMME

1630 : England v. Scotland.
1830 : Forces' Favourite.
1915 : Floor Show.
2010 : These You Have Loved.
2100 : The Old Town Hall.
2130 : B.B.C. Dancing Club.
2215 : Raffles.
2230 : Theatre Organ Plus.

THE HOME SERVICE

1625 : Billy Mayerl.
1745 : Flotsam's Follies.
1900 : News.
1925 : Programme Parade.
2030 : Man in Society.
2100 : The Merrymart.
2215 : Death of a Poet.

"Wit & Polish"

By

E.N.S.A.

at Iserlohn

on THURSDAY

Krupps The Firm that Swayed an Empire

Everyone has heard of Krupps, but few have realised the importance of that great organisation in the history of modern Germany. Founded as early as 1812, it was not until 1859 that the firm began to thrive, when it received the first contract for six-pounder guns. It was at this time that Alfred Krupps, realising the value of a voice in high quarters, began to establish contacts with Prussian court circles.

The Rise of Krupps

In the fifty years preceding the first World War, Krupps from a minor steel works grew into one of the greatest industrial concerns in the world to ensure plenty of cheap raw materials for his works. Alfred Krupps soon began to buy collieries in the Ruhr and iron mines in the Rhineland, in Lorraine, and in Spain. To ship his ore from Spain he founded his own shipping company, whence it was but a short slip to begin building his own ships.

Increased Political Power

To pay for all this expansion armaments, shells, armour plating, and heavy guns were sold to various Governments. Then, at the beginning of the present century, the penetration of Germany's leading political circles was undertaken in real earnest. The German Navy League was heavily subsidised, the Krupp heiress was married to a member of the Diplomatic Service, and a leading Pan-German, Alfred Hagenberg, was appointed chairman of the board of directors.

Krupps Deceives Control Commission

After the last war Krupps fared remarkably well. Armaments research, although officially banned, was continued by establishing connections in formerly neutral countries. Naval design was continued at a marine engineering research station in Holland, and many valuable patents were transferred to the Bofors Company of Sweden, which came largely under Krupps' controls. The main new produce of the Essen works was locomotives, but a great range of things were made, from lock gates to stainless-steel false teeth.

Under Nazi Protection

After 1933 Krupps reverted operating to armaments production. In 1935 their shipbuilding branch, the famous Germania Werft at Kiel, built Germany's first U-boats since 1918. Forseeing the war as early as 1937, some production, mostly gun manufacture and tank assembly, was moved east to Magdeburg. By 1938 Krupps, besides being the outstanding producer of German heavy guns and mining machinery, was producing 4 per cent of German coal, 25 per cent of the medium guns, 30 per cent of the ships, and 68 per cent of the locomotives.

The Future

What must be done with Krupps, now taken over by the British Control Commission? It must be realised that this great concern has produced and is producing many of the non-warlike materials essential for German recovery. Whether it will be possible to find some means of controlling the disastrous political power of this combine without destroying its efficient plant and wasting its skilled staffs is one of the most important questions to be solved in modern Germany.

"A" COMPANY ANNOUNCES----- FAREWELL TO FOX

Monday saw us on our "toes" against the "Black Marketeers," but "Vic" and his merry men again drew blank. Are we losing our grip or are the Boche getting wise to our moves?

Our attempt to capture a bunch of armed Polish "toughs" likewise drew blank after Cpl. O'Connor and stalwarts of the Company had spent a cold and weary night out in the wilds.

Thursday was a sad day for the Company when our very popular "Skipper" bid us farewell. In his speech, given in that inimitable style, he distributed compliments which were very gratifying to us, knowing our work had been appreciated. A toast was drunk (in Deutsche beer) to our departing "friend" and to our new O.C. wishing him every success.

Our mainstay of the hockey team, L/Sgt. West, was the unfortunate recipient of bad news which entailed his immediate departure for the U.K. We wish him "Bon Voyage" and a speedy settlement of all his troubles.

We wish also "God Speed" and all the best of luck to our comrades who depart this week (lucky fellows). The company office is going to look very bare without Sgt. Spooner. Sgt. Sales has volunteered to fill the vacant chair for a short while (the shorter the better).

New Faces

This week hasn't been entirely one of departures. We welcome the Falstaffian figure of Cpl. Schofield to our midst, fresh from triumphs and adventure in India; he should have some tales to tell us. We bid him welcome and hope that he will spend a happy time with us.

We sadly miss the learned scribe who formerly penned our notes, but hope to settle in and if not emulate his standard at least produce something topical and interesting each week.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Sir,—I feel that "Yorkshire Pud" has up to the present, received more "kicks than ha'pence" for its pains, and so I, for one, wish to shake you by the hand and express my gratitude for the hard work put in by your small paper. I offer my humble appreciation for the keen, progressive, and to-the-point editorials that appear each day. These small articles are for me gems of wisdom and can, in my opinion, compare more than favourably with some of the editorials turned out by our national press. They have aided me greatly to understand the problems and pitfalls of our "modern world" and clarified many a point in the national and international sphere for me.

It strikes me that this column in particular does not receive the attention which it merits from the vast majority of men in this unit. On one occasion recently, I believe, one solitary voice was raised in protest at what it considered the unwarrantable propaganda line taken by "Y.P." But this protest was to my mind rather unfair and not at all substantiated by the facts, unless we are to misconstrue a bald statement of the facts as propaganda. Constructive criticism will, I am sure, always be welcomed by our paper,

continued foot of next column

SPORTS NEWS

Rugby Match Result

7th D.W.R. 10 pts., 3rd Rocce Regt. 0

On Saturday afternoon the run of bad luck came to an end and the Battalion scored a clear victory over the 3rd Rocce by two tries and two goals to nil.

Playing down the hill in the first half, the Battalion soon went into the attack and forced the play down to their opponents' 25 yards line. The forwards were more than holding their own in all departments and the three were given plenty of opportunity. The first try came after about fifteen minutes' play, a nice passing movement ending in Sgt. Fennell beating his own man and the full-back to score between the posts. Lt. Evans converted. The Rocce were well on the defensive and tried to relieve the pressure by touch kicking, but Davies, at full-back for the Dukes, was right on top of his form and, despite a nasty sun, fielded the ball and kicked extremely well. A further try nearly came when Major Vickers and Lt. Evans broke away, but this was stopped about a yard from the line.

Playing up the hill in the second half, the Dukes continued to press and every three-quarter had plenty of passes. Sgt. Machin, intercepting a pass, was brought down just short of the line. Major Vickers, breaking away from a line-out, was tackled right on the corner flag. Lt. Evans was stopped about two yards from the line. Many times were the Rocce threatened. The second try came about ten minutes from the end, when another passing movement ended in Sgt. Fennell beating two men to score again. Lt. Evans converted.

No further score came, but the Battalion were clearly masters of their opponents. Major Vickers and Lt. Evans played a great game at wing forward, and a great amount of hard work was put in by all the forwards and the backs enjoyed more chances than in any previous game.

Result of Table-Tennis Match

"H.Q." (1) 4 sets, "A" Coy Nil

Teams.—"H.Q." (1): Cpl. Short, Pte. Probert, Pte. Ison, L/Cpl. Brown. "A" Company: C.S.M. Gregg, Cpl. Rogers, Pte. Tye, Pte. Cheney.

Very steady game. "H.Q." (1) won the first three sets with a few points to spare in each game. The last set provided a certain amount of interest, the score being one game each, the final game being won by L/Cpl. Brown. All the "H.Q." services proved a source of worry to the "A" Company team.

and the pity at the moment is there is not half enough of this. Even if criticism cannot always be constructive it should be welcomed, none the less as an encouraging sign that at least a live interest is being taken in the paper and world events.

Permit me to offer my thanks to "Y.P." and staff for much hard, painstaking work, and to wish "More power to your elbow."

S. F. O.