

YORKSHIRE PUD

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The DAILY NEWSPAPER of the 7th Bn. The DUKE of WELLINGTON'S (West Riding) Regt.

JAN. 2nd 1946

JOIN REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION NOW

Plans for Re-unions

NOTES & NEWS

The Richter Show

This was the second time we had seen Richter's Road Show and we are still coming up for more.

There are too many clever acts in this show to describe them all individually. One thing was especially noticeable, however, and that was the enthusiasm and versatility of the artists, each one of whom had a stage personality and an obvious desire to put over the show successfully to an English speaking audience.

The compere, Tilla Van Biema, made a great hit with the audience, and she was not in the least upset by the repartee she received from the back. She introduced the acts in a way which made the whole show hang together. Gitta Meik, the attractive singer and dancer, had some intimate moments with Mr. Stevens. Why did she sing you out, Vic?

There was an impressive array of talent, both musical and acrobatic. . . . an accordionist with a personality, amazing performances by Corena the equilibrist and two comedy acrobats, the Herbertinis, as well as a remarkable display by a young contortionist who succeeded in twisting himself about in a way we have never seen any male do before.

We hope that this Company will be able to return to us shortly, after their tour with 53 Div., with a new show.

Buy Your Raffle Ticket Now

A list of articles which are being raffled for the Div. War Memorial Fund has now been received. Amongst the articles offered are 5 cameras, 1 wrist watch, 6 leather powder compacts, 2 sets of aluminium ware, 2 electric fires, 2 wall lamps an electric iron, ash trays and many leather articles such as wallets, brief cases, needlework cases, pyjama cases.

There are many other items, and there is a good chance of success for all ticket holders. Sale of tickets, which can be obtained at two marks each from the Company Office cease on 7 Jan. On or about the 11th, the Divisional Commander will draw for the winners.

Grants for Farmers

Grants up to 150 pounds can now be given by the Government to ex-Service men to enable them to restart farm holdings which they were running before enlistment, provided that they can show that they haven't sufficient money themselves and that the farm is intended for food production.

These grants will also be available for partially disabled men who wish to start new holdings.

As the Commanding Officer has heard from so many men that Release Centres forget to ask men to register for the Regimental Association, he has decided to start a system within the Battalion.

Objects of the Regimental Association

The Regiment has formed an Association with the Objects of assisting men to return to civil life, either by grants or loans, of helping those disabled or in bad health, and of aiding the dependants of men killed in action. The fund is primarily designed for soldiers who have joined the Regiment during the war, as there is a separate fund for Regular soldiers.

Keeping in Touch

Another object of the Regimental Association is to enable men to keep in touch with each other. "I am not happy with the arrangements," said the Commanding Officer today. "We want some means of exchanging news, of hearing how the Battalion is faring and of arranging re-unions. I think the best way of doing this is for men to obtain the "Iron Duke" magazine which is published 3 times a year. The Battalion could arrange to insert news of men released in every issue. I am therefore arranging that men can :—

(a) register for the Regimental Association before they leave the Battalion; if they are asked at Release Centres they can re-register.

(b) Pay six marks to his company office and obtain a year's issue of the "Iron Duke."

In conclusion the Commanding Officer said that he would welcome any suggestions about organising a Battalion re-union organisation in the West Riding. He feels that any such suggestions should come from the men.

New Intake

We welcome to the Battalion 27 men from the 607 Searchlight Regiment R.A. These newcomers, all of A and S Gp 28 and over, have been posted to H.Q. and "D" Companies.

You Did It!

Somebody's been singing too loud in the "Iron Duke." This morning a large section of the heavy plaster ornamental border around the top of the walls in the hall fell down with a mighty crash. Just think how it must have been poised when you were singing "Don't fence me in." Another note higher and the whole lot might have fallen on your head.

WIRELESS NEWS

Another Serious Rail Smash Trouble in French Assembly

VOCATIONAL NEWS

Any Jobs Going?

Here's some more "dope" on the position in certain major industries. Textile. Clothing and Footwear.

These industries need over half a million men and women to bring their labour force up to pre-war strength.

The cotton industry requires experienced workers in almost all the main occupations, and also a greatly increased intake of new workers for training, especially in the cardroom and spinning sections. The rayon industry, a growing industry, offers ample opportunities for employment, and the wool industry needs men for the combing and spinning sections.

Both skilled and unskilled labour is required in the footwear industries, where several thousand operatives are urgently needed.

Food Production and Distribution

Better conditions of employment are hoped to induce many men to return to or take up work in agriculture, where there is an acute labour shortage. In industries dependant on agriculture, blacksmiths, agricultural machinery fitters there are many opportunities for both experienced and inexperienced workers. In many other food trades there are vacancies. Fishing, baking, flour-milling, oilseed crushing, bacon curing, beet sugar refining, all need men.

Building and Civil Engineering

These are the most important on the list. It is hoped to bring the labour force up to at least 1,250,000. As there are not enough experienced men returning to the industries, Government Training Centres are producing skilled workers as quickly as possible.

Building Materials

Finally, all the industries producing materials required for the rehousing programme urgently call for all classes of workers. The most important of these industries are those engaged in the production of bricks, tiles, slates, pipes, asbestos sheets, cement, and for the mixing and quarrying of materials needed for the manufacture of the goods.

Release Jottings

How many men can be sent home at a time?

For release and leave personnel there are enough ships to carry 20,000 men at a time.

Are there many compassionate releases given?

Yes. Between June and November 11,100 men left the Army under Class "C." Can I dye my B.D. when I am released and wear it in the garden?

Yes. Permission has just been granted for men to dye their B.D. any colour that they please after they have been released.

HOME

15 people lost their lives and 22 were injured when two trains crashed at Lichfield last night. The L.M.S., Fleetwood-London express collided with the back of a slow train which was proceeding from Stafford to Nuneaton. Both main lines are blocked.

Banana News

The Ministry of Food has announced the details of the distribution of bananas to the under-eighteens. They are to receive one pound in the first three days.

Bomb Disposal at Eastbourne

Eastbourne people had to evacuate their homes yesterday while service personnel removed a 500 lb bomb which had been dropped in 1940 and had not exploded.

FRANCE

There was a clash in the French Assembly last night during a Budget debate. The Socialists demand a 20% cut in defence estimates. General de Gaulle refused yesterday afternoon and refused to take over the duties of the Assembly. De Gaulle threatened to resign if he did not get his own way. Left parties no longer have great faith in de Gaulle.

AUSTRIA

From this month, many British firms can exchange information with Austrian firms and banks. Resumption of private trade has not yet started.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

President Benesh of Czechoslovakia says that the State is to be a people's State, with nationalisation of heavy industries.

RUSSIA

Moscow radio has named the Soviet representative for the new Far East Commission and Allied Council for Japan.

PALESTINE

The Palestine police have kept up their search during the night in Tel-Aviv and Jerusalem. An explosion in Tel-Aviv revealed an arms store.

GERMANY

The Nuremberg trials start again today, with the conclusion of the case against the Gestapo. From Hamburg there is news that Field Marshal Montgomery has confirmed the death sentence on an Italian who shot a German during a train hold-up.

Leave To The Channel Islands

There are in future to be two sailings each week to the Channel Islands, leaving on Mondays and Wednesdays and returning on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

Application has to be made to the Orderly Room at least 14 days in advance by men who wish to spend their privilege leave in the Channel Islands.

FOG

For the past two days most of Britain has been shrouded in fog, the thickest and most extensive fog for many years. The great transport system upon which the life of the community depends has been brought almost to a standstill; trains have run many hours late, cars have been abandoned by the roadside, and ships have crawled laboriously to their anchorages.

Is it not surprising that, with all our great scientific developments, we are still so much at the mercy of fog? Admittedly during the war years the invention of FIDO made it possible to disperse fog for the first time. But FIDO is a highly expensive way of clearing fog from a very small area. As yet there is no cheap and easy way of clearing fog from our towns and cities.

Within the last-century the enforcement of the various smoke abatement laws has had quite a good effect on our winter weather, and the genuine London "pea-souper" has become a rarity. With the increased use of gas and electricity in the home there should be an even greater improvement in the atmosphere above our towns and cities. Our British fogs, however, are not caused entirely by smoke, but are one of the unalterable features of our climate.

Hitherto the problem of fog has never been tackled on a really broad basis. Our efforts are still directed at finding some way of keeping transport on the move, using VADO or Radar to bring aircraft to a halt, automatic train-control to keep the railways open to traffic. Yet fog has other serious effects besides hindering traffic. Imagine how many people suffer in health through breathing damp, fog-laden air. How can this menace be prevented?

prevented? Already more and more buildings are being fitted with air-conditioning apparatus. All air entering the house, shop or factory is filtered and heated. Why should not this system be extended and applied to a complete city? Let the whole city be roofed and enclosed in translucent, plastic walls. Then rain and snow, frost and fog would be unknown in the city streets. An impossible idea you say? No. Before the war broke out plans were well advanced for the first air-conditioned village of this type, to be built in the Amazon forests of South America, enabling white women and children to live in health and comfort in the midst of tropical jungles. Who knows but that in a few years the people of London may enjoy a climate as everlastingly warm and dry as that of Hollywood or Cape Town?

A MEDAL
FOR THE
GENERAL

starring
ROGER LIVESEY

TOMORROW & FRIDAY
at 1930 hrs.

ADMISSION 1 & 2 marks

Great Men of Our Time (6)

Fanny by Gad, Sir

It was about August 1944 that there could be seen for the first time two curious figures tearing about in a jeep at top speed in the Battalion area. One was crouched over the wheel, with G.S. Cap pulled well over back and goggles parked over the forehead. The other was the Great Man himself.

Nobody quite knows when he came, or where he came from, and nobody, least of all himself, knows when or where he is going. But a pair of saucer-like eyes, peering through the lenses of heavy horn-rimmed spectacles, betrayed an unmistakably Far Eastern origin. More than once his resemblance to a prominent Japanese War criminal, accentuated by his muffled speech and his strange spidery writing that few can decipher, got him into difficult situations from which he only just managed to extricate himself by the timely production of an identity card. Once his identity was established, he would whisk off again in his jeep.

Fanfare Holds his Court

Those who were bold and curious enough to follow him might have tacked him down to a certain Company H.Q. where he contrived even under the roughest conditions to maintain a court of oriental splendour. Words cannot adequately describe the exotic colourfulness of the scene, and Fancourt, for such was his name, was invariably surrounded by many slaves and minions who carried on their daily business amidst an appalling din of shouts and yells such as would not have disgraced an Arabian bazaar.

The Origin of Species

Researches into the earlier history of Fanbelt have not borne much fruit. But this much is certain. His family believed in the influence of Western civilisation and had him education in Bradford and afterwards at one of our older Universities, where he soon learnt that one could not obtain a degree through knowledge of Bradshaw's Time-Table alone. It was here that Fanblade's fellow undergraduates learnt that the dropping of his lower lip, disclosing a cavernous mouth and looking for all the world like one of our larger amphibians coming up for air, was invariably the prelude to a gem of profound wisdom and scintillating wit.

Fanlight Productions

A born organiser, Fanbolt soon gathered round him, when hostilities had ceased, a large teaching and journalistic staff, which he rapidly moulded and fashioned into an organisation known as Fanlight Productions Inc., and which was designed for the dual purpose of putting our larger national newspapers and universities out of business. In raising funds he showed the ingenuity of an Otto Kruger or a Clarence Hatry. So far he has not been caught. Any

So far he has not been caught. Any morning he may be seen proudly stepping across the threshold of his seminary of knowledge to instill some crumb from his vast intellectual store into the minds of his happy and fortunate fellow men.

CHARLEY CALLING-----

At last Christmas is over, so, with throbbing head and shaking hand I shall endeavour to put together our weekly column.

Monday saw eight more of our friends depart to rough it in Civvy street. Let us wish them a Happy and Prosperous New Year in 1946.

The Christmas Eve party I can't very well recollect. What I do remember is that at the unearthly hour of 0700 "Cuffs" rudely awakened us by banging doors with his pot and shouting "Char up." Rather slowly I realised what was going on. By that time "Cuffs" and "Daddy" Scaife had gone on their rounds pouring out tea with unsteady hands. Whether it was due to lack of practice or the inevitable effects of the night before I don't know. Perhaps "Cuffs" can tell us.

Hard Labour

At 0930 hrs. prompt the N.C.O's. started work. There was no scrounging, was there, "Buck?" "Daddy" scaife thoroughly enjoyed himself putting snow on the holly and Christmas tree. May I remind you, "Daddy," that all fatigues are not as pleasant. The waiters did a good job of serving but the cooks did a better one. So I take this opportunity to thank Messrs Beaumont, Raper and staff on their excellent work.

They'll make such good husbands

It wasn't until the C.O., arrived that "Gloves," "Cuffs" and Company got a rest. It is rumoured that it was the hardest days work they had ever done. It seemed so, for Mrs. Hazeldine and Thompson had the washing up to do. Even the Poona Wallah complained of being rushed off his feet. When the C.O. had given his speech it was none other than "Stagger" Eastwood who promptly stood up and answered for us. No, he didn't use a chair.

Although we celebrated Christmas, the Company, much to our disappointment, was split up. Some men being on Battalion H.Q. guard and others at Iserlohn. However, New Year's Day will see us one big, happy family again.

Wants to Look Tough

Has anyone ever seen the "Charless Atlas" of the Company? Well, if you are ever in the Company lines and see a bloke with huge shoulders approaching you, don't get a shake on, it's only our friend Burberry. He has found a new place for his socks. What, no kit-bag, Jim? It looks quite effective too. It's even got "Buller" West jealous. Better look to your laurels "Buller" or they'll wither away.

By the way, "Irish Boy," can I publish the procedure of initiation into your Purity League? We don't hear him singing nowadays, he's busy muttering to himself: "Where has that B----- rifle got to?"

It is rumoured that Cheerful Charlie is thinking of applying for a Brussels leave. He wants to get more fishing tackle. I'll believe you, Charlie, if the other nine hundred and ninety-nine won't.

BOOK-LIST FOR JANUARY

Who are the most popular writers for the average soldier in the battalion?

Pte. D. C. Smith, the librarian, has compiled a list of requested titles for January which it is hoped can be added to the library shortly.

Books by Peter Cheyney seem to be in demand. His "Love with a Gun," is asked for specifically, and there is a general request for any novels by him. Gerald Kersh, a novelist and short story writer who has come into prominence during the war, also commands a wide following. Requests have been made for his "The Dead Look On," "Nine Lives of Sgt. Nelson" and "They Died with their Boots On."

All stories in Leslie Charteris's "Saint" series are popular. Otherwise there are no requests for thrillers. We know there is a wider demand for this type of literature than any other, but if the librarian doesn't get requests he can't ask for the new titles you want.

Tomorrow's Radio

THE LIGHT PROGRAMME

1830 : Swing Club.
1900 : The Richard Tauber Programme.
1930 : Record Review.
2015 : Music from the Movies.
2100 : The Count of Monte Christo (8)
2130 : Music in Miniature.
2200 : Northern Music Hall.
2230 : The Armchair Traveller.

THE HOME SERVICE

2025 : BBC Scottish Orchestra.
2130 : ITMA.
2230 : Mystery and Imagination.

**DRIVERS ----
WHERE THERE'S
ICE
THERE'S DEATH**

Coming 
ON SATURDAY

DICK POWELL
and
CLARE TREVOR
in

"Farewell
My Lovely"