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THE WIRE

January—December, 1922.

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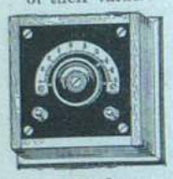
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We manufacture and . supply everything . required by the professional and amateur Wireless enthusiast.

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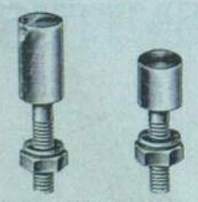
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Actual size.

Finish off your leads with Tags and secure efficient and quick connections.
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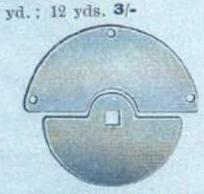
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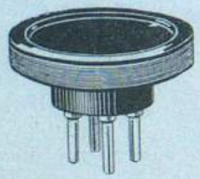


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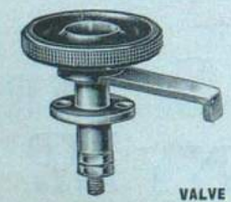
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Fit ordinary valve holders. Wound to a specified wavelength to obtain maximum results. The benefit of the use of these compact Transformers is obvious to the experimenter. A condenser value '0002 may be shunted across the primary to obtain the latitude. *Prices:*

300	600	1,000	4,000	6,000	12,000
6/6	**7/6**	**8/6**	**9/6**	**10/6**	**11/6**

Also wound up to 27,000 m.



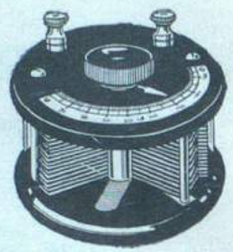
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VALVE HOLDERS.



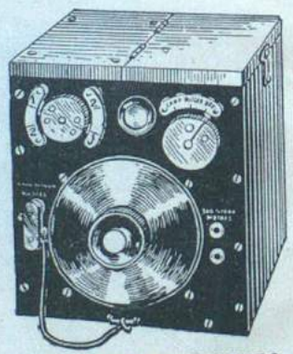
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VARIABLE CONDENSERS.

These Condensers are "die cast," the plates being cast on supports, thereby making them absolutely rigid and suitable for wavemeters or any circuit where accuracy is required. Top and base are of moulded "bakelite," and the whole is encased in celluloid dust proof cover. Fitted with engraved scale and knob and two terminals. Undoubtedly the cheapest, yet most reliable condenser now on sale. **Note the prices:**

'0006...**27/6** '0001...**37/6**



TOWNSEND WAVEMETERS

(Calibrated).

£3 15 0

Range 300 to 4000 m. Can be used successfully as tuners for above wavelengths.

Direct Reading. No Charts.

The advantage of obtaining these wavemeters from a reliable firm is obvious.

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THE WIRE

The Corps Magazine of the Royal Corps of Signals and the Official Organ of the Signals Association.

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All communications to the Editor should be addressed **Signals H.Q., Elverton Street, Westminster, S.W. 1.**

Editorial Notes.

"A Happy New Year" to all Readers!

⁂ ⁂ ⁂

Everybody's attention is drawn to the statement of the President of the Publications Committee on page 6. Now that we have attained the exalted position of *first* among Regimental Magazines, it behoves us all, especially the serving members of the Corps, to see that that honour is not wrested from us by our contemporaries.

Let our motto for 1922 be "Nulli Secundus," and each and every one do his or her level best to increase the circulation, for by that means the Magazine can be improved and new features added. The success of a regimental organ lies not with the organising staff, but with the rank and file. Let us, then, see to it, and take our illustrious Prince's advice and "Pull together."

A feature of general interest will be introduced in the February number, in the shape of the first instalment of the Royal Corps of Signals promotion roster. This will be completed in five or six instalments, and thereafter all amendments to same will appear under the heading "Corps Casualties."

⁂ ⁂ ⁂

Members of the Corps and of the Signals Association who are interested in wireless telegraphy can obtain accessories, instruments, and spare parts, at a very

modest figure, from Messrs. Radio Supplies, 236 High Holborn, London, W.C.1. (see advert. on page 24). Their 1922 catalogue is indeed a monument to the great fall in prices of W/T instruments, and amateurs would do well to secure one.

* * *

Congratulations to Signalman Bass (George) on his obtaining a share of the first prize in the *Daily Express* advertisement competition. We have occasion to remember George's capabilities in the competition line, and we wish him the best of luck for future successes.

* * *

It is with regret that we learn of the departure from the Corps of our clever and talented cartoonist, Signalman F. J. Drake, and we wish him all the success he richly deserves now that he has returned to civil life.

* * *

I take this opportunity of thanking the numerous readers who have written expressing their appreciation of the Christmas number.

G. E. PALIN, Editor.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

WILL Agents kindly note that any returns for which they wish to receive credit should be posted back to the Editor within three weeks of receipt at Agent's station—otherwise the full cost of numbers despatched will be charged.

A Review of "The War History of the Signal Service (France)."

The author of a history such as that under review is of necessity confronted at the outset by the problem of the proper method of treating such a vast and intricate subject.

Is he, in the endeavour to give in some detail a record of the performance of the various Signal units, to compile a series of volumes bulging with statistics and technical minutiæ, and consequently destined to crowd the shelves of a few libraries, undusted and unread? Should he choose the more personal form of narrative, and emulate the purple patches and hysterical inaccuracies of a Philip Gibbs? Or should he rather, while not eschewing technicalities and the more interesting sort of statistics, concentrate the reader's attention on the broader aspects of signal work, sketch in bold outline the main causes which led to the continuous evolution of signals, and define the lessons learnt by hard-won experience and fundamentally true for the guidance of future generations of signallers?

The writer wishes to congratulate Major Priestley on his eminently proper choice and very successful handling of the latter method.

This history of the work of the Signal Service in France admirably fulfils its purpose. Technical details of battles and engagements would have been out of place, and a needless encumbrance of its pages. A mass of circuit diagrams, signal instructions, and reports, would have tended to obscure the essential points which it should be the object of such a history to expose. The author has rightly excluded such material from his book, feeling no doubt that purely technical information is to be found in the "Technical Instructions" issued from time to time during the war, or in the official text books at present in use, and he has consequently produced a well balanced survey of the astounding work of the Signal Service.

If one attempts to study the lessons to be drawn from this history, the importance of mobility may fairly be chosen as the chief. This was a lesson which had been well learned by the Expeditionary Force before 1914, but which, for reasons clearly explained in the book, became obscured by the fog of war. Staff Officers and Signal Officers alike forgot to some extent their pre-war training, and while generally admitting the necessity for mobile Signals with Battalions, and even Brigades, were apt to overlook or ignore the fact that mobility was as essential for higher formations. It is within the writer's knowledge that not once, but several times, representations were made at General Headquarters in favour of drastic reduction of the horses of Divisional Companies and the extensive abolition of Corps Cable Sections; and there is little doubt that such representations voiced the inarticulate opinion of a comparatively large number of Signal Officers. Luckily for the Signal Service these recommendations were disregarded, and the battles of 1918 amply justified the policy that had been pursued.

The wide extension of the telephone system was a definite obstacle to mobility, but for years the warnings of those officers who foresaw the confusion that might attend the sudden breakdown of the system fell on deaf ears. This growing telephone habit was from the first the subject of suspicion on the part of a certain number of Staff and Signal Officers. Unfortunately, even the Staff Officer with pre-war training was but rarely a strong silent man; he often fell into the pernicious habit, largely engendered by the excellence of the telephone system, of ringing up the lower formation to ask his "opposite number" what kind of orders he would like, and, after they were issued, of ringing up again and conferring at length as to their excellence or the desirability of recasting them entirely.

The great essential of the Staff Officer—the ability to write succinct and unambiguous orders and reports—became almost a lost art, and the telephone was responsible to a considerable extent for the neglect of such invaluable means of intercommunication as wireless, the Fullerphone, and so on. An example of the evil effects of the telephone habit is supplied by the case of the G.S.O. of a Division involved in the *debâcle* of March, 1918, who informed his Signal Officer, when the latter reported that telephone communication was impossible but that wireless and other means were through and working satisfactorily, that nothing was any good to him but a telephone!

The retreat of 1918, terrible as it was in most respects, contained for the Signal Service a blessing in disguise. The loss of equipment was very considerable, and the opportunity was seized of very largely reducing the scales of telephone equipment on the ground that replacement for a considerable period would be impossible. This reduction, however, had the effect, which had been foreseen, of greatly reducing the size of the telephone system, and consequently of encouraging the use of methods of intercommunication more suited to those mobile operations which the authors of this reform persisted in foretelling. Chapter XVI. of this History shows very clearly how essential to mobility was the reduction of the telephone system, and the steps that were taken to this end during the closing months of the war.

Another lesson which the most cursory glance at this History must necessarily reveal is the enormous importance of a rapid and reliable system of forward intercommunication. Major Priestley has not perhaps emphasised sufficiently the lamentable fact that some of the blame for the failures, or only partial successes, of many of our attacks, must be borne by Signals. It is true that Signals were never responsible for the internal communications of artillery and infantry units, and for some time had nothing but a sort of moral control (and often not even that) over the signals of Artillery Brigades; but it remains a fact that it was on the Signal Service that the other arms necessarily relied for their technical equipment, and that failure of intercommunication in the forward area very often involved the failure of the operation itself. The vital need for rapid and reliable signal communication in the forward area was never overlooked, and a vast amount of time and energy was expended in seeking for a solution of the problem; but Major Priestley makes it clear that, up to the Armistice, no really satisfactory scheme had been evolved. These remarks are not intended to suggest that signals in the back areas are unimportant, but the problems presented are far more easily soluble, and are largely of the kind which confronts a civilian telegraph administration in peace time.

As Major Priestley shows, Signals throughout the theatre of war were again and again on the verge of breakdown owing to the insufficiency of establishments to cope with the ever-increasing tasks they were called on to perform; but a glance at the table on page 252 will serve to dispel the widely-held impression that an undue proportion of the available man-power was employed in the back areas and on the lines of communication.

The frequent failure of forward signals, however, was not mainly due to lack of personnel; the most potent cause was the want of really reliable material for intercommunication. The author discusses fully the various means which were tried, and to the present writer these passages of the book are instinct with the promise of a satisfactory solution of this supremely important problem.

Wireless—C.W. Wireless—is in the writer's view *the* means of military intercommunication of the future. This History sets out clearly the serious disadvantages inherent in cable, visual, pigeons, and so forth. Wireless also has its drawbacks, but at the time of the Armistice the majority of these were in a fair way to being overcome, and its enormous advantages over other means, particularly for forward intercommunication, are too well known to need repetition. The irritating delays of code and cipher should be capable of very great reduction. Jamming and atmospherics are, it is understood, in a fair way to complete elimination. Power supply for the smaller sets was a difficulty during the war, but the production of the unspillable accumulator generally insured that when accumulators *did* reach their destination, they were in working order. It is true that carrying parties sometimes resembled the historic infantryman who had "carried his blinking bird far enough," and (unable to lighten the accumulators by emptying out the acid) got rid of them altogether in an adjacent shell-hole. Here, unfortunately, the resemblance ended: the bird returned to its loft, but the accumulators were definitely expended.

With well-trained staffs capable of expressing their meaning concisely in written messages, the telephone becomes—in open warfare at any rate—a luxury. The vast increase in bombing and the weight of artillery bombardment to be expected in another great war, seem likely to render permanent line, cable, and visual uncertain means of intercommunication, even on the lines of communication. Wireless, on the other hand, is largely immune from such attack and, whether in the form of powerful high-speed sets on the line of communication or of the smallest and most mobile types working between Companies and Battalion Headquarters, should provide a system of intercommunication approximating nearly to the military ideal.

Considerations of space forbid any more extended reference to the many other points of interest in a book, every page of which recalls the heroic efforts of the Signal Service to meet the demands which never ceased to pour in upon it. This record of its successful endeavour will assuredly be of absorbing interest to every one of those who had any part in the work of Signals, whether in France or in any other theatre of war, while it cannot fail to be a perpetual source of inspiration to the Royal Corps of Signals, whose privilege it is to carry on the tradition of good service and emulate, if not surpass, the achievements of the Signal Service.

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Any reader who has reason to complain that any article supplied is not as represented will have the amount of his purchase money refunded, provided the article (together with the receipt) is sent within seven days of purchase to the Editor, "The Wire," Signals Headquarters, Elverton Street, Westminster, S.W.1.

The Goodwill Push.

You cannot join "Benevolent"
To its "Association,"
And fit them them into any rhymes
In metrical relation:
So, to make the footing friendly,
Without beating round the bush,
Into terser Anglo-Saxon
We translate them—"Goodwill Push."

It has got a lot of irons
In the social-welfare fire,
To be put to worthy uses,
As occasion may require:
There is treatment for the ailing,
Education for the imps,
Work to offer wives and widows—
Help for any dog that limps.

If a man has done his service,
And has failed to find a job;
When he's sick of fruitless tramping,
And he hasn't got a bob—
There the Goodwill Push is ready,
And will push him, sure as Fate—
Not from charitable instincts,
But because he is a mate.

In a nutshell thus is stated
What the Thing's intentions are:
But beneath its aspiration
Its capacity falls far,
For just one cogent reason—
It is needful of support!
Hands and hearts are there to run it,
But its funds are very short.

So the Goodwill Push is looking
To the men who're serving still,
For a hearty pressure forward,
Where the pushing is uphill.
From Colonel down to rookie,
Give it anything you can—
Copper, silver, or a Fisher;
But contribute, to a man.

Apart from being matey,
No one knows
Where the tide of Life will take him
As it flows:
Perchance a man who now his
Seed has sown,
May yet receive the produce
Of his own!

JAY HOO.

December, 1921.

[Contributions should be sent to the Treasurer, Benevolent Fund, Signals Association, Signals Headquarters, Elverton Street, Westminster, S.W.1, or forwarded by the Secretary of the local Branch of Old Comrades Association.]

OUR MAGAZINE.

¶. *THE WIRE* is being run at a small but steady loss: it has been run at a loss since the start. This condition of affairs must terminate, and terminate soon.

¶. There are several alternatives:—

The size of the Magazine could be diminished, and its quality allowed to deteriorate. *That is undesirable.*

The price could be raised. *That is still more undesirable.*

Or the number of regular subscribers could be increased. *That is most desirable, and should be easily accomplished.*

¶. Many friends have worked hard and successfully for us. We appeal now to those others who have *not* done anything direct for us, to stir round and help to secure new subscribers.

¶. Officers, Warrant Officers, N.C.Os and other ranks, old and present members of the Signal Service or Royal Corps of Signals alike—none are yet pulling their weight as a body to make this Magazine the power and source of strength that it should be to ourselves and the Corps.

F. J. M. STRATTON,
Lieut.-Col.,
President, Corps Publications Committee.

Maresfield Notes.

Corps Celebrities—No. 11: Sgt. Parsons.



Headquarters.

It was with genuine regret that we said good-bye to our chief clerk, Supt.-Clerk F. W. Roberts, early in December. He has gone to Hertford, where we may be sure that our loss will be Hertford's gain. He leaves with our sincere wishes for his welfare, and our thanks for the kindly way in which he carried out his duties in the past. It is not only in H.Q. office that he will be missed. Everyone in the Training Centre knows how hard he worked for the Corps football team in his capacity as hon. secretary. L/Sergt N. E. Legg is carrying on pro tem. as chief clerk, and R.Q.M.S. White is now secretary to the Corps team.

The staff take this opportunity of wishing all readers of THE WIRE a very happy and (what is perhaps more important) a prosperous New Year. We hope that 1922 will see the Corps with an enhanced reputation in work and sport. Remember, we are a new Corps, with our name to make. If we cannot win the Army cup, there are still a few trophies worth winning. The Sussex senior cup must be retained, and a few companions found for it as well.

The staff are now quite at home amongst the D.R's, I.R's, etc. The history of their movement is faithfully recorded below, after the manner of Artemus.

An outbreak of fire on December 8th, in the hut next to that occupied by ourselves, caused some alarm, but fortunately it was soon subdued and did not spread to our quarters.

In answer to numerous enquiries, I am authorised by the Orders Clerk to definitely state that there will *not* be a double number of Commandant's Orders on either Christmas or New Year days.

The History of an "Infernal" Posting.

(Certain regimentally employed personnel were recently posted from E to F Company).

1.—And it came to pass that, in the eleventh month of the year nineteen hundred one score and one, the men with the hats that were of brass did take counsel one with the other saying:—

2.—"Behold, they of our staff, are they not having the time that is called 'cushy' ?"

3.—Therefore did they resolve that they of their staff, together with the young men whose duty it was to keep law and order, and those men who laboured at night with lanterns, should with all haste be transported unto a place where one, Dusty, reigned supreme.

4.—And it was so.

5.—And the scribes and men of letters, and they that went with them, were men of spirit, so that they found not favour in the sight of Dusty.

6.—Neither found they favour with one Samuse.

7.—Now when Dusty had occasion to go unto the place where his forefathers dwelt, Samuse reigned in his stead.

8.—And Samuse was blessed with the gift of tongues.

9.—And on a certain Lord's day, early in the morning while it was yet dark, cometh Samuse unto the place where the scribes did dwell. And he, with a voice like unto thunder, sayeth unto them—

10.—"Arise, make up thy beds, and fall in, so that thou mayest be numbered."

11.—And, behold, when the numbering was done, Samuse did chastise them with his tongue, saying—

12.—"Who are ye that ye should slumber whilst others work?

13.—And the scribes did murmur the one with the other, saying: "What manner of man is this?"

14.—Nevertheless their spirit failed them not, neither were their countenances darkened because of these things.

15.—And the length of their sojourn in that place was—who knows?

16.—For the ways of Gods and Brass Hats, are they not inexplicable?

Things We Want to Know.

Should a Musketry Instructor be cross-eyed to train a left-handed and weak right-handed recruit?

Is the highly-coloured cumbersome vehicle, used to transport iron sheets in case of fire, to find a resting-place besides the German guns and cable waggon outside the museum now being formed in the old Documents office?

We learn that the constituents of issue coal are as follows: Coal 40 per cent., coal dust 20 per cent., earth 20 per cent., and assorted rubbish 20 per cent. What, then, is the ratio (if any) of pure coke in issue coke?

E. S. H.

D Company.

Well, here we are; another jolly Christmas jolly well spent! Thank goodness, it's over!

News this month isn't any too plentiful, everybody still feeling a bit stiff after the Christmas celebrations.

Our football team beat the School of Signals by 1—0, and our cross-country runners are still more than holding their own in the Battalion events. The result of the last run has not yet been officially published, but judging by the order in which our men finished, there was nobody in it except F.

About our Christmas festivities. Well, they were IT! Most of our boys went on leave, and the remainder spent a most enjoyable time in the Company. Great credit is due to our decorators (L/Cpl Willis and Sigmn Scarles). Our dining room looked most excellent, and we were awarded 1st prize for the best decorated hut. Well done, lads, that's the stuff to "gie 'em."

The Commandant was particularly taken with the R.E. badge worked in multi-coloured cotton wool, surrounded with the words "Least we forget." We understand that many ex-infantry officers now belonging to the Royal Corps of Signals were not too pleased about it, and murmured something about the P.B.1 being surrounded with "gore." Anyhow, that's only a rumour!

Let me hasten to inform readers that we did not entirely exist on decorations either. The food was excellently cooked and served by Sigmn White and his staff, and we take the opportunity of thanking them most heartily for their painstaking efforts, and assuring them that they were fully appreciated.

We must not forget, either, our worthy Messing Officer (Lieut Antoine) and his merry men. Well done, sir; we knew that you would not succeed in starving us!

We were pleased to see so many officers at dinner time, and to have had the honour of making them a little merrier (if possible!)

We had a smoking concert in the evening which was enjoyed by all.

A very scratch Company football team proceeded to Isfield on Boxing Day, and after quite a good game, were beaten by 3—1. The game produced much humour, but we were left gasping at the end, as the home team failed to produce tea.

Everybody is back from leave now, and we are beginning to get stuck into training once more. The wheels worked a bit stiffly at first, but we are feeling our feet again now. We are looking forward to a successful 1922 in every respect.

Best wishes to all members, past and present!

DON

Crowborough Notes.

B Company.

Sports.

Our cross-country runners have done well. Cox is steadily improving. Cant, like old wine, will improve. Geer, Sayers, and Branagan are running well. At football we are triers, but sighing for those past players who graced the football field in B's old colours, and fought and won. We depend on our youngsters in these days to help us through, and we feel justified in sticking to the policy of playing as many recruits as possible for the game's sake. Of those who have played recently, I append a few names: L/Cpl Tracey, L/Corpl Smith, Lieut Younie, Signalmen Baxter, Bates, Coward, Friend, Chambers, Smith, Fairclough, Johnson and Clements.

We have not yet stemmed the tide of misfortune, but hope to improve our position in the league in the New Year.

Hockey finds us stronger. Certainly, in the return match, X were unlucky not to win, and perhaps *we* were. After a two goal lead, we finally managed to draw. The game was fought strenuously, if not scientifically, and the robustness was a revelation to the onlookers. These meetings stimulate interest in the game of hockey, which has now been taken up seriously all round. Our team in recent matches has been: L/Cpl Rankcom, C.Q.M.S. Keane, L/Sergt Gordon, Sigmn Hewlett, Sigmn Whittington, L/Corpl Tracey, Corpl Wade, L/Corpl Woods, Lieut. Younie, L/Corpl Smith, and Sigmn Cant.

Casualties.

C.S.M. Turner recently reported from Jubbulpore, and has now left us for a pension. L/Corpl Purvis, who brought a party consisting of Sappers Nailon, Jenkins, Shea, and another whiff of India from Meerut, has had to report to his old regimental depot, the West Yorks. It is strange how, after years spent with the Signals in India, these infantry veterans find themselves "not transferred." They find life so different here, but they can scarcely blame us if misfortune, in the shape of a piercing nor'-easter, greeted their arrival, and introduced them to the rigours of our camp.

The inimitable and pugnacious Johnnie Horner has rejoined from the west of Ireland. We were sure glad to welcome his frail self. He looks fatter than ever after his sojourn in the wilderness of Limerick City. Miles greeted him with two square rissoles on a round plate, but not having seen that shape before, like the good soul that he is, his hesitation proved fatal (Powell saw them off!) By the way, unlike a contemporary, he says, "We are *not* the best Company in the Army."

Our adventures with the collecting box for the Benevolent Fund have proved so successful that we recommend others to follow in our footsteps. Up to date, we have collected the sum of £4 2s.

Gwyn James speaks highly of his new residence in the quarters at Maresfield Camp; but what a rotten journey on a cold and frosty morning!

Brett has resumed his responsible position once again.

General.

It was thoughtless of us to forget to send to all old friends the season's greetings. In the words of the prophet, we "do it now." Some, perhaps, will read these lines where the weather is bright and glorious, where the sun is brilliant and warm; where there is a note of joy in life, and health-giving air. We in Crowborough are in the midst of dull, dark, cold winter days.

It is foggy as we write—yes, even Crowborough experiences the dreariness and dampness of fog—but we are cheered by the prospect of a change from "change overhead" to a cosy fireside. The Christmas vacation is here, and those of us who can get away are off to enjoy the fruits of our toil, to enable us to start with fresh vigour in the New Year.

"Ring out the old, ring in the new;
Ring, happy bells, across the snow.
The year is going—let him go;
Ring out the false, ring in the true."

VISOPS.

X Company.

By the time these notes appear, Christmas will be over and we shall be in the New Year, so we take the opportunity of wishing all members of the Corps (past and present) the compliments of the season.

Since sending in my last notes, things have been fairly quiet in the Company with regard to sports. We have played four football matches—two in the senior and two in the junior leagues. The results were as follows:—

Senior League—versus B Company, won 2—1; v. P Company, draw 3—3. In the first match, the game was very hard and fast. The ground was slippery, and the players found it difficult to keep their feet. The scoring was done by Sigmn Robertson and L/Corpl Withers, the latter from a penalty kick.

Junior League—versus B Company, won 4—0; v. P Company, won 4—0.

Hockey.

We played a draw of 2—2 against B Company. The game was very fast indeed the whole way through, and there was some excellent play by both teams. Sergt Hayter played a very good game, and Corpl Peat was simply splendid. His judgment and quickness of eye carried him through several times when both teams seemed to be hopelessly mixed up, and it was he who scored both goals, making the game equal. B Company were the first to score, and it looked very much as though they would finish up victorious, but the supporters of X put new life into the team and undoubtedly helped them to equalise.

Rugby.

At last we have started the Rugger League. We played our first match against P Company, whom we defeated by the somewhat heavy score of 42 points to nil. We can now say, without fear of contradiction, that we have still got some sportsmen in our Company, and would like to remind all concerned that we have not been beaten in any game this season.

C. D. M.

The Soldiers' Club.

Crowborough Camp Comedy Company.

A CELEBRATION PERFORMANCE.

The special performance given by the Crowborough Camp Comedy Company to celebrate the opening of the new stage in the Soldiers' Club, was a brilliant success in spite of the London fog which prevented the attendance of the West End artistes.

After a lively selection by the orchestra, who looked very nice in their new dress suits, Capt. Hulbert—apologising for the absence of his son and his wife (Mr. Jack Hulbert and Miss Cecily Courtneidge), who made four attempts to penetrate through the bank of fog surrounding London, and only escaped disaster by inches on two of the four occasions—appealed to the audience to stand by him under the circumstances. He promised them a good show, but said that any who wished could give up their seats and receive their money back, and so thoroughly won the sympathy of the audience that not one left the building.

The Commanding Officer, Lieut.-Col. Edgeworth, D.S.O., M.C., in a few well-chosen words, formally declared the stage open, and the audience who filled the large hall to its utmost capacity settled down to the enjoyment of a programme composed of items full of snap and merriment from start to finish.

The first half comprised turns that had been previously arranged, and much amusement was added to the fourth and last performance of "The Mystery Lady" by Lieut Chubb, who insisted upon putting his own padlock upon the magician's box and, after it had been handed up to the stage, asked that it might be placed upon another table; and when in the end the box was given to him to hold himself he was more than surprised when the Sorcerers correctly described in detail the articles that had been placed in the box.

The comedians who followed this turn created roars of laughter by referring to the incident, and Lieut. Chubb was invited once again to go on the stage and join them in their performance—but he was quite content to enjoy the fun for himself, and remain comfortably seated in his arm chair.

Corpl Kendall, who mounted and arranged the mystery scena, scored so heavily in this and his many other contributions, that in the finale he was led on to the stage by the manager and was given three hearty cheers. In thanking the audience for their kind reception, he informed them that it was already arranged that he should put on a revue in January, which would occupy the whole bill, and so give the manager a chance to devote his whole attention to the performance for February and March. Mrs. Kendall was presented with a beautiful bouquet by Lieut.-Col. Edgeworth.

Corpl Olive's monologues were well appreciated, and he was encored again and again. The double turn comedians, Corpl Dakin and Sigmn Riggall (stage manager) were on the top of their form, and kept the audience in a continuous state of laughter.

Sigmn Fisher (bass) and Sigmn Chambers (tenor) were well received, and the latter gained an encore for his rendering of "The Star of Bethlehem."

The general opinion in the camp seems to be that the C.C.C.C. got out of a tight corner, and so extended themselves that they gave the best performance of the season. This may be attributed to some extent to the convenience of the new surroundings, now that £100 has been expended upon the stage.—*Southern Weekly News.*

Army in Constantinople Signal Company.

Chanak W/T. Station.

I have no doubt that our latest wireless feat in this army will prove interesting reading to fellow members of the R.C.S., so I send the facts for their benefit.

We have just completed the erection of the second largest pair of masts to be raised with a derrick. The first to be erected was 141 ft. 6 in. high, and consists of nine sections of a Marconi 124 ft. boxwood mast. The standard mast consists of only eight sections, each 15 ft. 6 in. long, but as the A.W.O. desired height we put on another section. This was tried, and the mast raised about a quarter of its height with the aid of fifty Indians. The next day we had 100 of them turned out, and then successfully raised the mast.

As the first mast was erected quite easily, Captain Fuge, R.C.S., decided to try another section in the second one, so extra guys were immediately made from spare short ones.

The erection of this mast proved considerably more difficult than the first, owing to our having to make all the tails connecting the stays to the derrick head.

These stays were made from old stay wire, and to get them the correct length we had to lay out the mast and derrick on the ground at right angles. These were then secured by driving barbed wire pickets in the ground at the head of and against the inside of each section of both mast and derrick. The tails were then joined across and strained tight by four men, afterwards being secured by four "bull dog" grips on each.

By the time the mast was ready, the wind had sprung up, but the A.W.O. (expecting the weather to break) decided to hoist it. This was done with the wind blowing against it at about 20 to 25 miles an hour. When the mast was vertical, it was found impossible to transfer the guys to the back holdfast owing to the wind, so we had to lash the derrick down by means of more pickets and G.I. wire. Eventually the stays were moved to the holdfast, one by one, by releasing the grips on each wire and six men straining on it.

To make these masts safer we have made two sets of holdfasts, one being 75 ft. from the base of the masts, and the other 145 ft. on the smaller mast and 160 ft. on the larger. To these we have transferred the top four and five stays respectively.

The inner holdfasts are made from the standard Marconi set, but the outer ones are made from submarine anchor chain secured by G.I. round 6 ft. logs of wood, buried about 6 ft. in the ground, the chain coming out at an angle of 45 degrees.

The aerial in use at present is a single wire T, 180 yards long, but this will be altered later to a four-wired T. To check any strain from this aerial, a fifth stay was fitted to the top section and run out in line with the aerial to an additional holdfast.

The whole of the excavations for holdfasts, etc., were done by Turkish brigands who are prisoners here, and who are now employed making two holes in the walls of the engine room. One of these holes is through a 12 ft. foundation for the exhaust pipe of our Dorman engine, and the other is for the charging leads through an 8 ft. 6 in. wall.

The whole of this work has been done under the supervision and direction of the A.W.O. (Capt Fuge, R.C.S.), assisted by L/Corpl Woodhead, R.C.S. The set in use is a 500 watt C.W., situated in the Florence Nightingale Hospital, Chanak.

The station is in daily communication now with Egypt, the Rhine, and Silesia, and may, if a larger set can be obtained, try to work with India, but that remains to be seen.

T. E. W.

"F" Divisional Signals.

Waziristan, N.W.F. Province, India.

The strip of territory west of the river Indus, in the N.W. Frontier Province, is peopled by tribes who for periods during past generations and the present have been the cause of not a little inconvenience to the Government and people of India. Consequently, we find here a large force of troops holding the chains of stations or posts throughout this troubled land, and amongst such are to be found ever-industrious Signals.

Perhaps we find them at the buzzer, sounder, telephone, flag, helio, D. ring, or at some of the other means of communication; or it may be, the Chief of Signals or one of his staff on a flying visit of inspection. Still, they are from our friends F Divisional Signals, or the distinguished F as they are sometimes styled. We find them working in an area many hundreds of miles in extent.

So scattered is the unit that it is interesting to record, and safe to say, that one-half of the British and Indian personnel has never met the other half whilst in the unit. However, the unit as a whole is well known in these parts, but outside, their existence is probably unknown. That is due to one cause: that all ranks have found themselves so taken up with their work that there has been little opportunity of letting the outside world know that such an after-the-war war-worn portion of the Signals exists.

The unit has done duty in these parts during the last few years, and a stiffening of old hands from France, Mespot, etc., came to join it in 1919, during which year some of the severest fighting in Frontier history was witnessed; and as an indication of the periodical tough scrapping within these regions in which Signals have assisted, the participants have here and there been awarded such a high honour as the Victoria Cross.

During the latter part of 1920, F Signals found complete personnel for active operations in another quarter of these regions, which meant that they were then performing the work of a double unit.

F Divisional Signals continued to carry on, and it is very gratifying to all ranks to know from various reports received that the work has been well done, and has drawn high praise from the General Staff on several occasions. To many, the mention of life on the Frontier draws the reply, "Poor devils!" "Oh! ——" etc. To such people we would reply that there are many advantages in becoming a "Frontiersman" which make up for roughing it, and if they don't believe it, a trial is suggested.

F Divisional Signals, after such a long period in these regions, are nearing their time for a relief, and by the time this appears in print they will, I hope, be quartered in a different part of India, and B Divisional Signals from Jubbulpore will be carrying on.

A few of the well-earned honours received whilst serving in Waziristan are as follows:—M.M., Sergt B. P. Grimbley and Sergt F. C. Caines; M.S.M. Sergt B. C. Saville, Sergt A. E. Granger, Sergt J. Feather, and Sergt F. A. Powder; Mention, Sergt H. Southwell, Sergt F. Clarke, Sergt H. G. Dimmick, and Sergt Lovell. Many more honours, promotions, etc., it is hoped to give at a later date.

Naturally, F Divisional Signals can hold their own at sport, and the following few notes in that connection may be of interest.

Before the time-expired men were due to leave for return to U.K., a very successful farewell concert and a sports meeting were held at Company headquarters on the plains at Dera Imail Khan.

The new draft, to whom we accorded a hearty welcome, were in attendance before proceeding to the mountainous regions of the Wazirs and Mahsuds, and it is safe to say that with the large number present a very successful "good-bye" was arranged, and all present fully enjoyed themselves.

The success of the meeting was due to the kind assistance and attendance of Maj. F. G. Drayson, M.C., D.C.S.O., Major C. F. L. Ruck, I.A., O.C., and the officers, including Lieut Hearn from the Depot, and to the able committee who spared no pains to see everything through to the conclusion.

At the close of the concert, Major Ruck, in a neat speech, mentioned the fine traditions that F Signals on the Frontier had built up; and if our labours in these parts were nearly ended, and a new life was before us, he would look to all ranks to pull together and keep up the good name of the unit. It was his hope that Major Drayson, the present D.C.S.O., would take command, but that was not yet decided. Major Drayson, who was suffering from a severe cold, no doubt would have replied if his voice had permitted; and judging by the kindly-spoken words to the home party on the morning of their departure, and the new draft afterwards, undoubtedly all missed a fitting conclusion to a very pleasant evening.

The turn for Captain Disney and Lieut Jones to speak came at the end of the whist drive, when both officers, in able speeches, were unanimous in their opinion that the whole of the two days' proceedings had been highly successful.

Capt Disney spoke of the efficient manner in which all ranks who served under him had done their duty; how sorry he was that so many of his men, some of whom were the finest he had served with, were now leaving. He wished them "God speed and good luck" in their new undertaking.

Lieut Jones gave a short but interesting review of the unit since its creation, mentioning some of its members, and concluded by inviting those who were now departing to write to the Company when they arrived home; and if any *did* join up again in the Army, he'd be pleased to see them back in F Divisional Signals.

The following were successful in the sporting events as shown:—

100 Yards (Flat), 1, Sergt Southwell; 2, Spr. Windras; 3, Sapper Chapman.

Relay ½-Mile—Corpl Stone's team.

Relay Tug-of-War—C.S.M. Haines' team.

Potato Race—1, Sapper Windras; 2, Sapper Fellows.

Horse Jumping—1, C.S.M. Hepburn; 2, Sergt Southwell.

Tent Pegging—1, Sergt Caines; 2, Sergt Southwell.

High Jump—1, Sapper Chapman; 2, Corpl Stone.

Long Jump—1, Sapper Chapman; 2, Corpl Stone.

Football in Sacks—Sergt Saville's team.

Officers' Race—1, Major Drayson, M.C., D.C.S.O.

Three-Legged Race—1, Sappers Fellows and Chapman; 2, L/Corpls Gilmour and Brill; 3, Sigmn Page and Sapper Oxenham.

Wheelbarrow Race—1, Sappers Fellows and Chapman; 2, Sigmn Page and Sapper Oxenham.

Threading the Needle—1, Mrs. Haines.

220 Yards (Flat)—1, Sapper Chapman; 2, Corpl Stone; 3, Sigmn Page.

Horse Bending Race—1, C.S.M. Hepburn; 2, Sergt Southwell.

Consolation Race—1, Sapper Woodward.

Clowns' Prize—Sappers Currie and Cummings.

Indian Ranks, 100 Yards—1, Naik Ismail Khan; 2, Sapper Sher Bahadar Sinvh; 3, Sapper Hari Singh

Wrestling on Horseback—1, Sergt Southwell; 2, Sergt Caines.

In the British Ranks mile "horse race," held at the Autumn (Open) Meeting at Dik, the following were successful in securing prizes (all of F Signals):—1st, Sergt Saville, "Peggy," (c.b.) 11st. 8lbs.; 2nd, Sergt Southwell, "Jungley" (aus.) 12st. 3lbs.; 3rd, Sapper Hegarty, "Mary" (aus.), 12st. 6lbs.

Jungley led the way almost to the winning post, when Peggy, perhaps more by luck than by good management, won by a head. Ten lengths between the second and third. The distance proved too much for the favourite, Tommy (ridden by C.S.M. Hepburn).

In the weekly football and hockey matches, the Detachment at headquarters continue to beat all comers. We hope our recent success in the semi-final of the Area "Climo" Football Cup will enable our successors to pull off the trophy in the final, to be played after F Signals have left, in which final they are now permitted to play.

"G" Divisional Signals, India.

Presentation.

A very interesting social event, arranged by C.S.M.s Dixon and Jones, took place in the bungalow of the latter w.o. on the evening of November 12th, as a farewell party from the w.o.s and sergeants of G Signals to Capt. B. Humfrey on his leaving the regiment to take up the command of C Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop.

The proceedings opened with a very effective little speech from C.S.M. Jones, in which he expressed the high esteem in which Capt. Humfrey is held by the senior n.c.o.s of the regiment. The speaker then presented Capt. Humfrey with a parting gift from the senior n.c.o.s—a beautiful silver and glass tobacco jar, suitably engraved, accompanied by a supply of the recipient's favourite brand of tobacco.

Capt. Humfrey, who seemed overcome with emotion, expressed his keen appreciation of the thoughtfulness of the senior n.c.o.s, and his deep regrets at leaving the regiment. He enlarged on the progress being made by G, and enjoined all the n.c.o.s to put their hearts into the work in hand, with a view to making their unit a power in the Corps of Signals.

Healths were then suitably toasted, after which a pleasant evening was spent, the party breaking up—oh, no! not irrevocably.

Capt. Humfrey was one of the oldest members of G Signals, being in the old 39th D.S.C. (Major Fergusson in command). He leaves the regiment with sincere regrets from all ranks. We wish him success in his new command, and also in a little affair that Dame Rumour hath, but she was ever fickle, so more anon.

Jokes *en passant.*

PASSING THE NATIVE GUARD.

Indian Sentry: "Hald! Who goes der?"
Tommy: "Sherrup!"
Sentry: "Pass ferren (friend), all is vell!"

ON PARADE.

Sergeant-Major: "Who are you?"
Private C.: "Well, I'm not much of a soldier, sir."
S.M.: "Ain't you? Well, what are you here for?"
Private C.: "I'm sent down as Pigeoneer, sir."
S.M. (pointing to two horses in lines): "Well, there's your pigeons, take them over for walking exercise, etc."

MUST BRING SOMETHING.

Sergeant (to Native Driver): "Fetch my keys from shop."
N.D. goes to shop and returns with topi.
Sergeant to N.D.: "Why did you bring my topi?"
Native Driver: "I couldn't find the keys, sahib."

IN THE MESS.

Umpty: "Have a drink, Eddy?"
Eddy: "Yes, old bean; large top."
Umpty (calls bearer): "Bearer, large top and barra shandy, Juldi."
Bearer brings drinks.
Umpty: "No change to give you baksheesh, boy!"
Bearer: "I can change dat 10 rupee note, sahib."
(Collapse of Umpty and Eddy).

IN THE BAZAAR.

Soldier's Wife: "Boy, how much is this?"
Shopkeeper: "Rupees 1-8 (one eight) mem-sahib."
S.W.: "Kis wasty—tom bolo—loose admi—I'm nay manta—er—"
Shopkeeper: "Speak English, mem-sahib."

Football.

We are carrying on in the football world in creditable style, our team beating B Corps a few times, not to mention 3rd Wireless. In our last match with B, although we lost the honours by 2—0, the team played in grand style, several really brilliant dashes and passes ending up with the ball just refusing to go under the cross-stick.

We have one or two players who might improve their hustling powers, and then I don't see why we should not hold our own against some of the best on the frontier.

We are expecting great things in the game of the elusive leather, especially when we meet C Cav. Brigade Signals, so look out, Capt. Humfrey, sir!

Hockey.

There is nothing to enlarge on in this game. Our boys have the dash and the seeming ability to overcome the dogged persistency of most goalies I have seen, and no doubt will make the stick and ball a terror when handled by G.

In our matches with a few teams, we have more than held our own, and shall endeavour to make our team impregnable.

Only a Dream.

In this bounteous land so fair,
Stands a beauteous dwelling:
G Div. Signals are living there,
Their heads with pride are swelling.

The fruit trees grow around the door,
They fill one's heart with glee;
Strawberries grow upon the floor—
So it's berries and cream for tea.

We never think of doing work,
Our time is all our own:
Parades we never need to shirk,
There are none, and that's well known.

The natives come to clean our boots,
Our beds they sure make down;
We never ask for "civvy suits,"
They give 'em us in the town.

They even come to comb our hair,
And never dare to speak;
They give us jhools (jewels) oh, so rare!
And money they never seek.

Guards and picquets we never do,
It wouldn't do—oh, no!
In church we have a special pew,
In case we wish to go.

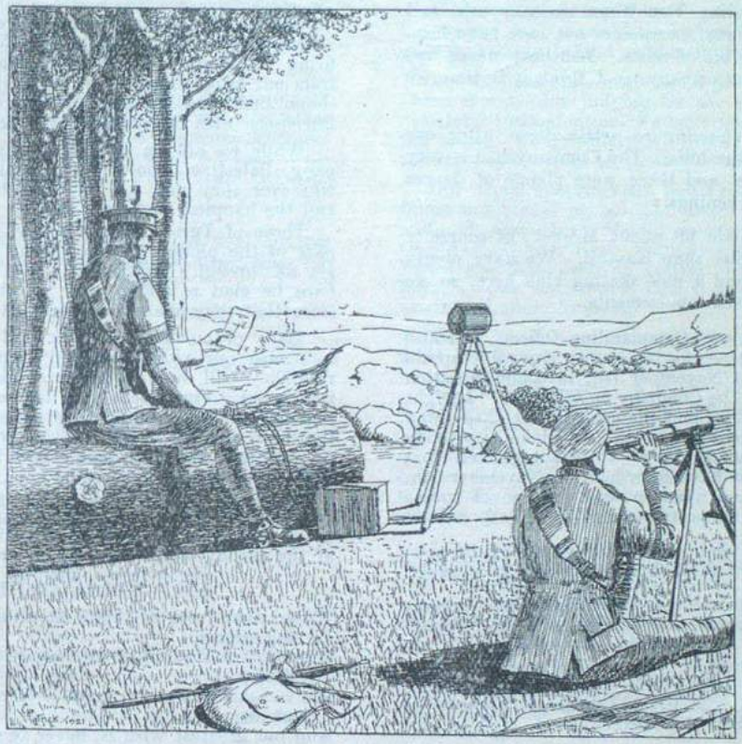
Our food is fit for any lord,
We live just like a king;
If the best just isn't on the board,
We only have to ring.

And so you see we are well set:
This unit is supreme,
Until you wake up in a sweat—
It's all a—blooming dream!

Fall in for Stables!

MOSQUE.

Types of the Corps: No. 3—"The Visual Operator."



Except perhaps for the Pigeon Service, first used by Noah on a celebrated occasion, the trade of visual opertaor is the oldest Signal trade extant.

From the earliest times beacon fires were lit on commanding heights to warn the inhabitants of approaching invasion or attack—a form of visual signalling. Again, at the period of the Napoleonic wars, both in this country and on the Continent, lines of semaphore stations were largely employed to carry out the work now done by the telegraph. On active service at this time, Wellington employed an extensive semaphore system within the famous lines of Torres Vedras. This form of communication was in use till about the middle of last century, and about 1850 a message was sent from London to Portsmouth in fifteen minutes—a record. The invention of the electric telegraph and the Morse code displaced the semaphore, and we find the first signalling lamp invented by an officer of the Royal Navy in, I think, 1852.

From that day to this visual signalling has always been used in war in some form or other. A notable example is the great use made of visual in the American civil war of 1861-65, when the main means of signalling employed was the large flag. The principal field for employment of visual in our own Service has, of course, been India. Rates of sending and reading on heliograph and flag have been attained there which can scarcely be believed, and are hardly exceeded by the ordinary line operator. For long distance work, we may take examples from South Africa, with its clear atmosphere and absence of woods. One hundred and seven miles is believed to be the record for helio reading. This was attained in 1911 or 1912 by a party of cavalry regimental signallers. The writer has himself read the helio at 90 miles with ease in that country.

The limits of this short article will not permit much reference to the work of the visual operator in the recent war, and the events are so fresh in the memory of all that this is hardly necessary. The visual operator forms the link between the fighting troops and those Services and Departments not engaged in actual combat, but without whose help the fighting troops could not hope to attain success. His duties, therefore, lie on or near the actual field of battle, and the nature of his work entails exposure to rough weather, shot and shell, to the same extent as his comrades of the infantry. Constant watchfulness, coolness in emergency, careful accuracy, and devotion to duty, are the characteristics of the visual operator, as indeed they are of all branches of the Signal Service.

We find, however, that the activites of the visual operator are not confined to daring deeds on the field of battle. He may be regarded as the handy man of the corps, and in the writer's experience has been found occupying all positions of trust and responsibility from that of confidential clerk to a Signal Officer-in-Chief to that of section cook. In every case, the duties were performed with that zeal and efficiency which are to be expected from an all-round soldier—in brief, a visual operator.

Next Month—"The Switchboard Operator."

"H" Divisional Signals, Meerut.

I have been reading THE WIRE every month, and I see that all the Signal Companies out here have been sending you a little bit of news. You have never had any news from this Company, so I think it is time we sent a few notes.

We are just beginning to settle down after our recent move from the hills. The Company had a very good time up there, and there were plenty of dances to pass away the evenings.

To tell you a little bit about Meerut: of course it is rather more livelier than Kasauli. We have plenty of picture palaces and a nice skating rink here, so we are well supplied with amusements.

We must thank our Commanding Officer, and also the Sports Committee, for the most enjoyable sports which were held on November 7th, in commemoration of the formation of the Company on 5/11/1917. I might add that L/Corpl Elias and Sigmn Wilde walked away with most of the prizes, but on the whole everybody spent a most enjoyable day. It was regretted that the sports could not have been held on November 5th, but the Meerut races were on that day, so of course other sport had to be postponed.

The sergeants' mess is in full swing again now, and by all accounts I think it is progressing favourably.

At present sports are very slack, but when we have felt our feet in Meerut, we hope to give the "Topes" and the "Jocks" a good game of football. We are very pleased to hear of the new promotions which have appeared in orders: C.S.M. Bradford to R.Q.M.S., C.Q.M.S. Willis to C.S.M., and F/Sergt Hamper to F/S/Sergt. We wish them every good luck in the future.

The corporals of the unit have a room of their own now, and a pleasant evening was spent in a whist drive and dance. Thanks are due to Corpl Williams and the Corporals' Room Committee.

Christmas is nearly here now, and all the officers, w.o.'s, n.c.o.s and men send their heartiest greetings for a happy Christmas and a bright New Year to all Signals in dear old England.

As it is getting on for mail time, I must finish up, hoping to have more news for THE WIRE next month.

Things We Want to Know.

When will "Bluey's" wireless set be able to read Naini Tal?

Who was the fellow who shaved Paddy's eyebrows?

Who was the n.c.o. who hired the furniture for the Corporals' Room so cheaply?

When will the contractor make better lemonade and get in some better condensed milk—and not be fined?

When will the Jocks stop playing their instruments of torture?

Who are the fellows still sweating for their L.P.C.s coming from Mespot?

WOODBINE.

Signal Company, Palestine.

Bir Salem.

Our notes for last month were unavoidably held over owing to the whole of the Company being busy firing "Table A," which caused a slight divergence from our usual routine; but now things are all in ship-shape order again, and we are looking forward to Christmas with its various joys *and* heads.

While we are on this subject, we of Signal Company, Palestine, would like to wish all our comrades, wherever they may be, the very best of Christmases and the happiest of New Years.

Those of THE WIRE readers who have been to this part of the globe will know what dreary weather we get all through Christmastime as a rule, and will perhaps be glad to huddle over the fire and thank their stars that they are not out here to spend this winter.

Many of our Haynes Park and Bedford folk will remember our violinist friend, Sigmn Gill, or at any rate they will most likely know him by the time this is in print. For over a year he has been the life and soul of our dance club. The news has come through that he is to go home at once, and we are selfish enough to wish that he could have stayed for the winter; but good luck to him wherever he goes. The fine music to which he has treated us has been greatly appreciated, and we shall miss him very much indeed: he has done us all much good. Perhaps he will sometimes think of the parody which we used to sing:—

LAND OF MILK AND HONEY.

We've come from Blighty's mountains to Egypt's blazing strand,
Where Afric's sunny fountains are mostly choked with sand;
We've seen its ancient rivers, we've scanned its palmy plains,
And our greatest wish is, never to see the place again.

We've climbed up all the Pyramids, we've fished in Suez Canal;
If we haven't had the sunstroke, no doubt in time we shall.
We've tried the plagues of Egypt, we've known the flies and lice,
And we sympathise with Pharaoh, who hadn't any ice.

Although the spicy breezes blow soft o'er Ceylon's isle,
They're not much good to us blokes, who sweat beside the Nile;
The sun has scorched our noses, and our idea of bliss
Is for another Moses to take us out of this.

The purple hills of Palestine (we know them off by sight)
Are always on the skyline, by day and all the night;
And when we see the last of them, we'll cheer the distant sight,
And hope when next we see them, 'twill be in our dreams at night.

Football.

At the time of writing, the main topic is, "Who will win the Company footer cup"; and as this important question is to be decided by Christmas, by the time this appears in print the nerve-racking query will be settled. My forecast is that the "Jockeys" will be well in the running. At any rate, I hope that the man with the "longest" thirst will enjoy drinking out of the cup, even if it is carried off by A.

The question of the "Sultan's cup" is also occupying the attention of our football enthusiasts, the scheme at present being that we find our strongest team to meet Kantara (who by the way, up to the time of writing, have not yet been beaten)—and the best of these two teams will meet Signals, Cairo.

Nothing then will remain to be done except to pick out eleven really capable men to meet the first team of the competition, i.e., the Royal Munster Fusiliers on February 1st. We are all looking forward with great anticipation to seeing "The Corps" cart the cup.

Does Anyone Know

Whether Gus could find his way out of the Arab quarter at Port Said? and what is his sprinting time for the 220 yards?

When Egypt Signals are going to put a few notes in THE WIRE?

What caused the "Admiral" to fall off the bridge?

How the following would fare in the "Sultan's cup":—Goal, "Bottles"; backs, "Williams of the Dump" and Tim Healy; half-back line, "Admiral," Finnigan and "Jeff"; forwards, Needles, "Effendi" Thompson, Pigeons, "Phillip," and "Bucksheesh"?

R. F. H.

Rhine Signal Company.

November did not bring much, or leave to us anything of exceptional interest, except the keen frost, which made us quickly get into greatcoats and gloves. Everyone rushed to buy skates, these being very cheap here; and not a few are showing bruises as rewards for trying to impress the Germans by doing fancy stunts.

We have been fulfilling our football engagements, and on the whole coming out top dog. We now lie third in the league table, two points behind the leader, and we hope to top the list—the two leading teams having to play each other, whilst we consider we have disposed of our most formidable rivals. The team has been welded together by "General" Anderson (as he is popularly called in Rhineland), and they play sparkling football.

S.M. Anderson, I may add, is captain of the Rhine Army team, which has up to the present carried all before it.

Of other sporting events our contributions are nil. We wait until after the festive season is over before we startle the Rhine Garrison with our hockey team.

With Christmas so near, our thoughts naturally run in that direction, and we hope, after seeing the preparations that are being made, to have a jolly time. We suppose that you will be doing the same, and we all send the greetings of the season.

We hope to hold various social meetings, and are arranging to give the kiddies a good time, a large Christmas tree being in the course of erection.

We all wish the editor and his staff a happy Christmas [Thanks!—Ed.] and desire to express our thanks and admiration for their work on the little WIRE, which keeps the Signals in all parts of the world in touch with each other.

P. B.

2nd Signal Company, Aldershot.

Here we are again, all looking forward to Christmas, but by the time these notes are published it will have passed, leaving behind sadder if not wiser men.

The Company has made rapid progress in the educational world, and judging by the results of the last "guzinter" examination, we have quite a lot of promising talent. Congratulations to those who obtained certificates, sympathies to those who didn't.

Our visual operators are undergoing a course at the Command Signal School, and from what we know of some of them they should manage an extra rating. Our Asst. C.S.O. (Col. Vernon) and our O.C. (Major Firth) are both keen on getting all they can for the boys, so put your hearts into it and prove yourselves worthy of their interest.

Major Firth is at present on leave. his place being filled pro tem. by Lieut Straight, M.C.

Our Quarter-bloke, C.S.M. Hayward, is also having a month to recuperate, his job being managed by C.S.M. Causey, who won't be sorry when it's finished.

Our last batch of "leave wallahs" depart at the end of this week. They mostly comprise the football team, who have stayed behind in order to get our matches played off to date.

A barrack room, placed at our disposal by the O.C., has been prepared as a ball-room, and every Tuesday and Thursday night weird figures may be observed tripping the "light fantastic" to the eerie notes of Jonah's banjo, improvised since Sigmn Lough put his foot through the gramophone.

We also managed a whist drive, at which Sigmn James obtained first prize with the wonderful score of 195—a total that would prove very useful in the £1000 whist drive.

Our Christmas draw takes place shortly, and of course everybody *will* get a prize either in kind or "to come"—that is, if the treasurer doesn't persist in putting all his money on the "put and take."

Things We Ponder Over.

How a certain runner felt when passing the Queen's Head? and if it is true that he was disappointed at not finding a certain driver waiting there with a "help me on"?

Who was the scholar who told the schoolmaster that "a republican was a man who kept a public house"?

Why everybody smiles so sweetly at the Pay Sergeant? and if they really do wish to "buy their mammas a present with their credit"?

Whether the sergeant-major and one or two other n.c.o.s carry throat pastilles for use after a football match?

Why we don't go in for that big bell which the R.A.M.C. are raffling since they got knocked out of the cup?

Football.

On Wednesday, November 16th, we added to our laurels, and incidentally to our goal average, by disposing of the Scots Guards, whom we met in a league match and defeated by 8 goals to 1.

The game was not so one-sided as the score might suggest. Our forwards were in great form, and let

few opportunities go begging, especially McKellar, who went mad and found the net on six occasions.

In the second round of the junior cup we have drawn a bye, so we are still living in hopes.

Our last match before Christmas was with the C.M.A., whom we visited on Wednesday, Dec. 16th. A very good game ensued, but we sadly missed the services of Longhurst, Brunton, and Lockhart, and in consequence only managed to draw after a very spirited and fast game. The second half was by far the fastest we have ever played.

Once again our supporters turned out in goodly numbers, and yelled themselves hoarse with cries of "Good old inkwells," etc., etc.

We still retain our position as league leaders, but only by one point, so we are hoping everybody will look after themselves over the Christmas. We cannot afford any "casualties" now. We are still in the junior cup, and are looking forward to some keen struggles after the holidays are over.

Cross Country Running.

On Wednesday, November 26th, we turned out for the Command Company cross-country run, but after a good effort we found ourselves defeated by our old rivals, the Tanks and Dubs, our team being fifth of nine. There is still room for improvement in the team, and we should like more of the boys to enter for the trial runs because "'tis practice that makes perfect."

The team was as follows: Lieut Manners Smith, Sergt Hatton, L/Sergt Banfield (captain), Corpl Penfold, Signalmen Crees, Mackie, Silk, Lockhart, Dipple, Moseley and Taylor, and Drivers Odell and Hart.

We have formed a running club, which is rather weak at present; but as we have the earnest support of our O.C. and officers, we are hoping to turn it into quite a good club in the near future. All R.C.S. in the Command are eligible for membership, and those who have not yet enrolled should do so at once. All particulars from the hon. secretary, Sigmn Dipple.

The club had a meeting, presided over by our O.C., Major Firth. Various matters were gone into, and at the conclusion we found ourselves started on our way as "The Aldershot Signal Harriers."

Our thanks are tendered to Major Newington, whom our O.C. induced to come and give us a few helpful words of advice appertaining to running in general.

We are only waiting for our running outfits to turn up, and then we are hoping for some very enjoyable runs in the near future.

3rd (London) Corps Signal Companies.

Old Comrades Association.

A meeting of the Westminster Branch O.C.A. was held in these headquarters on December 3rd. Capt. Williams, M.V.O., and R.S.M. Prescott, M.C., vacated their positions as *pro tem.* Branch representatives, handing over records, books, etc. (showing an enrolment of 280 members to this branch), to the newly-elected officials.

The new officials are: Capt Ransom, President; Comrade J. Stoars, Vice-President; Comrade H. Green, Treasurer; Comrade Bendell, Secretary; Comrades Nicholl, Blaney and Bradbury on the Committee.

It is deeply regretted that the attendance at the first general meeting of this Branch was so poor, but it is anticipated that on future occasions members will roll up in their hundreds.

After the meeting a grand concert was given through the instrumentality of Lieut G. J. Morley Peel, and a most enjoyable evening was spent, but again the attendance was poor.

Dances.

It has been decided that in future the practice dances will be held on Wednesdays after "dismiss" from parades. This will give all members an opportunity to learn. C.Q.M.S. Campbell and Sergt Creighton have offered their valuable services in teaching any member personally; other n.c.o.s will follow suit.

We still hope that more members will show themselves at the Saturday dances.

Training.

Early in the New Year we shall commence training, which I think all members are eager for. We are handicapped by the unsuitable premises which we occupy.

Sports.

Our sports committee are busy preparing for various outdoor sports, including cricket, tennis, and swimming. It is hoped that better support will be given these than that already shown to the football club. This club is still running, but I have been asked by the secretary to refrain from mentioning the results of matches played.

Club Funds.

It was decided at the general meeting held on Wednesday, December 14th (at which Lieut.-Col. M. W. Emley, O.B.E., T.D., R.C.S.(T.) presided), that all members be asked to subscribe 5s. towards the Corps sport club—this amount to be deducted from the annual bounty.

Recruits.

Recruits are still required by this Corps, and all members are asked to bring along friends.

Personal.

Congratulations to the A ride on being passed out; this shows the hard work and capabilities of Sergt.-Inst. Adams, M.M.

G.H.Q. Signal Company (Ireland).

Dublin.

This being our first contribution after the holidays, we hope that great things will not be expected of us. However, we have a few notes that may be of interest at least, we *hope* so).

The Company is at present in rather an unsettled state, as (the "Irish War" having come to to a conclusion) there are rumours of moves, etc., in the air. Officially there seems to be "nothing doing," so we sit tight, and wait to see what *is* going to happen.

The best of luck to C.S.M.s (Skin) Sinclair, (Doughy) Baker, and M.S/S. Piercy, on their departure, the two former to Belfast, and the latter to Curragh.

Our sporting achievements have rather decreased, probably due to an increasing local fraternization over the so-called "Peace," and the nearness of Christmas festivities. However, we hope to leave a "mark" or

two on the country before we leave this land of sinners and hurlers.

Rugger, unfortunately, has been rather displaced by hockey (another compliment to the local national pastime of hurling).

Soccer is recovering from a curious depression; but boxing refuses to come into the limelight, although more may be heard of it anon.

The runners may be seen splashing past the office, training at twilight (both of them). They say there are a few more (probably on paper). Can they run? Yes (on paper).

"Oscar" failed us: no dance club. We don't grouse, but say a lot about "Higher Formations" (San Fairy Ann).

The Company join in wishing the editor and all readers a happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Sincere congratulations on the success of THE WIRE during the past year. May it continue for many more years to come!

K.

Belfast Signal Company.

We wish all Signals a happy and prosperous New Year.

We have now with us C.S.M. Sinclair, also C.S.M. Baker, recently posted from Dublin to the Company. One's mind is taken back to Haynes Park and Bedford when you see old faces turning up like this in Belfast.

A very familiar face is now missing from the Company, owing to Sergt A. P. Hunt having been posted to Maresfield. His loss will be greatly felt, as besides being interested in all sports and games, he has been the hon. secretary of the Belfast Branch of the Signals Association since its inception, and of the R.E.O.C.A. previous to that. In both branches he worked hard, and it is not by any means his fault that the Belfast Branch is not stronger in numbers than it is at present. We all wish Sergt Hunt the best of luck in his new sphere.

Again the Signals are to the fore as regards billiards, and this time we have to thank Corpl Tolley for upholding the prestige of the cueists of the Belfast Signal Company. Corpl Tolley beat all comers in the Garrison tournament, winning by 252 points: time 65 minutes. Taking into consideration that we had at the time four regiments in the garrison, I think the Signals ought to feel proud of the result.

S. C. C.

Football.

Since my last notes a few games have been played in the Belfast Garrison senior Football League. Our first opponents were our old friends the Corps of Royal Engineers, who by getting very good men in from detachments turned out a first class team. Our team put up a good fight and accepted defeat in a sportsmanlike manner, the result being 4 goals to 3 against us, despite the good centre forward play of our Adjutant (Lieut Firth). A share of the credit for the stiff fight put up must be given to Dick Forshaw (outside right), Taffy Jones (right back), Stickie (centre half), and Ebby (inside right).

Our second game provided another win for our opponents, the 3rd Regt. R.A.M.R., although we had a few stars from Sections in Derry who played a very good game, considering the weight of the opposing team (average 10st.) compared with ours (8st. 7lbs.).

R.G.A. were our next opponents, but owing to train delay, short time had to be played in this match. This proved our downfall, as our boys are used to going all the way, and the last half hour is always our best: the result in the game was 4—1.

Next came a full Battalion team, who thought we were First League footballers, and so prepared themselves for us. In a torrent of rain the ball was set going, and from the start the game belonged to the Somerset Light Infantry (1st Battn.). We were six down at half time, but despite this our boys played gallantly, always trying for a goal. They almost got one once, but our centre slipped up and allowed their defence to recover. The final whistle blew with the score recorded somewhere on a crib board, but it would be very unfair to publish the result! The O.C. was congratulated by many on putting up such a fine clean game despite the odds.

Better luck next time!

LEATHER.

Glasgow Signal Units.

1st (Scottish) Corps Signals.

52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals.

After an interval of some months, we once again drop into our little corner of THE WIRE. For the cause of our silence, I must plead "the Defence Force," to whose account many sins of omission have been placed.

Our strength now is: 1st (Scottish) Corps Signals, 15 officers and 278 other ranks; 52nd (Lowland) Divl. Signals, 17 officers and 201 other ranks.

Our camp this year was at Troon, on the west coast, and was attended by practically full strength. The weather in the first week was ideal, but (unlike the tropics of the South of England) we had heavy storms the second week, culminating in the collapse of the officers' mess tent at 04.00 hours on the morning of departure—as a result of which the officers' breakfast was served in the cookhouse.

The camp sports were an agreed success. The tent-pegging was carried off by Capt Findlay, V.C., R.E., and the tug-of-war by the 52nd L.D.S., who vanquished the Glasgow Heavy Bridging Company (men of much brawn and muscle) after a long pull (followed by *another* in the canteen).

The annual inspection was carried out by Maj.-Gen. Sir P. R. Robertson, K.C.B., C.M.G., and the technical by Lieut.-Col. Prickett, Chief Signal Officer, Scottish Command. We apparently satisfied the authorities, even if we were not exactly satisfied with ourselves. Next year we are going to improve.

Football.

We have entered the Glasgow T.A. League, and have so far lost only one match, drawn one, and won five. In the T.A. championship, the Scottish Corps lost by the odd goal in three to the Gunners, after a hard game. The 52nd L.D.S. lost to the Lowland R.E. (last year's Scottish champions).

Boxing.

Boxing last year was a success, and we got our fly-weight as far as Manchester (the fourth stage).

Training.

A series of technical classes has commenced for the winter, as well as a riding school.

Musketry.

After a struggle, due to Defence Force, camp, etc., we have practically finished our musketry—only a few men remaining to complete their firing.

Entertainments.

A weekly dance for members and friends is held at headquarters, and these functions are proving very popular. Most of the junior officers and many n.c.o.s and men are supporting this form of enjoyment (there is no lack of ladies, who are our best supporters).

LOWCOR.

43rd (The Wessex) Divisional Signals.

(Territorial)

Boxing.

Our much-looked-forward-to tournament took place on December 9th, and the verdict was that it was "a bumping success."

Our Company competition was very well supported, and produced spirited encounters, which roused great enthusiasm among the large crowd of sportsmen assembled.

Really, I must congratulate our boys on their pluck and endurance, which was favourably commented upon afterwards in the public press.

Sigmn Wright and Driver Nicholls fought their way to the final, although the latter had a stiff tussle with L/Corpl Alford to get there. Nicholls was generally fancied as the winner, but to the surprise of all he capitulated to Wright in the second round. Wright fought well throughout, and his triumph was well received.

With other events, some of which were open to the Depot Devon Regiment and Exeter Teerritorials, an evening full of good sport was provided.

Again we have to express our grateful thanks to our Permanent Staff—R.S.M. Rodwell and C.S.M. Lavers—for the splendid assistance they rendered. They made themselves responsible for getting the hall ready—no small matter to turn such a building into a place fit to hold a boxing tourney.

The erection of the platform, arranging for seating accommodation, and the gorgeous decorations, meant days of real hard labour, but they always set about these jobs so cheeerily that those not "in the inner circle" do not perhaps realise what it all means. We can only say that their assistance in our social and recreational functions is thoroughly appreciated.

Our No. 3 Company is now beginning "to sit up and take notice." Progress as far as numbers is concerned has been slow, but the right material is in evidence, especially as regards the Section formed this year at Topsham—that ancient and historic port on the Exe, of Armada fame. Here numbers have reached 25, and they are proving themselves to be a real live little body. Increases in the family are expected, and by the camping season we hope to have this number doubled.

At Crediton, the birthplace of St. Boniface, matters are not moving so swiftly. However, all the Company rolled up there on Sunday, December 11th, for a church parade. The Vicar (the Rev. Preb. Smith-Dorrien, brother of the famous General) made kindly reference to ourselves and to the work of the Royal Corps of Signals in his address, and the strain on the top buttons of our tunics (on marching back to our headquarters) was enormous!

OLD SPARK

SPORTS NEWS.

Football.

B.A.C. Signal Company, R.C.S. (Turkey)

European Side League.

To date we have played nine matches in this League, and having won six, drawn one, and lost two, we are credited with 13 points. The following are brief accounts of matches played:—

SIGNALS versus R.A.O.C.

This match was played at Bouyagji-Keuy, on the Ordnance ground, before a few (but enthusiastic) supporters. Signals lost the toss, and kicked off against the wind. Thompson opened the scoring for the Signals after seventeen minutes' play. Goodall quickly added a second goal. Some give and take play ensued. Signals got away on the left, and Bagley centred for Hollis to score Signals' third goal. This completed the scoring before the interval. Half time: Signals 3; R.A.O.C. 0.

Ordnance opened the second half with a rush, but they met with no success in the scoring line. They were up against a sound defence, to whom credit must be given for their efforts. Bagley and Thompson added further goals for Signals, thus bringing an easy win for Signals. Result: Signals 5; R.A.O.C. 0.

SIGNALS.—Upton; Herbert and Pryce; Adams, Gibson and Healey; Goodall, Thompson, Hollis, Couchman and Bagley.

SIGNALS versus B Co. HANTS REGT.

Played at Mashlak, before a good attendance. The game was good and exciting, especially to the spectators. Signals kicked down the slope, the field being in a bad state. They soon attacked, and Hollis opened the scoring, this being the only goal before the "breather." Couchman got injured, and left the field. Half time: Signals 1; Hants 0.

On commencing again the Signals took up the attack, and after twenty minutes Bagley scored with a good shot. After some delightful play, Bagley scored again. Signals played without Couchman all through the second half. Result: Signals 3; Hants 0.

SIGNALS.—Upton; Healey and Pryce; Adams, Gibson and Foley; Goodall, Thompson, Hollis, Couchman and Bagley.

SIGNALS versus C Co. HANTS REGT.

At Mashlak, on the 54th Battery ground. Hants won the toss, and elected to play with the strong wind behind them. Our defence had no easy time in the first half, C Company continually pressing. Hants opened the score after twenty-five minutes' play. Signals then took up the attack, and during a raid, Foley equalised. Half time: Signals 1; C Co. 1.

On resuming Signals pressed, and Adams gave them the lead from a free kick for hands. Hants got away on the right and ended in equalising. Soon afterwards their inside right gave them the lead again. Just before the close Hollis scored with a long shot, thus bringing the scores again level. Result: Signals 3; C Co. Hants 3.

SIGNALS—Upton; Healey and Pryce; Adams, Hollis and Gibson; Goodall, Thompson, Hession, Foley and Bagley.

SIGNALS versus A Co. HANTS REGT.

At the Bungalows, Bebek. Signals opened quietly, but after twenty-five minutes Goodall opened the scoring. This was all before the interval. Half time: Signals 1; Hants 0.

Both teams started the second half briskly, each end being visited in succession. Hants tried hard to break through our sound defence, but it was useless. Bagley scored the second and last goal of the match for Signals after a good run. Result: Signals 2; Hants 0.

SIGNALS—Upton; Healey and Pryce; Adams, Hollis and Gibson; Goodall, Thompson, Woods, Jordan and Bagley.

SIGNALS versus 54th BATTERY R.F.A.

On the Hospital ground at Mashlak. The ground was in a very bad condition owing to the rain. Signals made one change in their team, Herbert coming in for Goodall (injured). The Battery commenced by pressing, but could not score, our defence being in good form. Signals got away on the right, and ended in Herbert scoring. The Battery equalised from a penalty. Half time: Signals 1; 54th Battery 1.

Both teams opened the second half in vigorous style. It was a ding-dong battle all through, each striving to get the winning goal. With almost the last kick of the match the Battery outside-left put in a high long shot, which our goalie caught but could not hold, thus giving the Battery their second and winning goal. Result: 54th Battery 2; Signals 1.

SIGNALS—Upton; Healey and Pryce; Adams, Hollis and Gibson; Herbert, Thompson, Woods, Jordan and Bagley.

SIGNALS versus D Co. HANTS REGT.

At the Bungalows, Bebek. The weather was ideal. Hants took the lead after twenty minutes' play. A good fast game ensued. From a free kick Adams put the ball into the goalmouth for Jordan to score an easy goal for Signals. Half time: Signals 1; Hants 1.

Signals went off well on the restart, and Jordan got away to score Signals' second goal. Hants then added two more goals. Result: D Co. Hants 3; Signals 2.

SIGNALS—Upton; Healey and Pryce; Adams, Hollis and Gibson; Goodall, Thompson, Woods, Jordan and Bagley.

SIGNALS versus 3rd HUSSARS.

Played on the Hussars' ground at Halibji-Oglou. Both teams opened well, Signals being slightly superior. Jordan got injured five minutes from the start, and had to leave the field too seriously hurt to take any further part in the game. After twenty minutes Adams scored for Signals from a free kick. The play then got very scrappy, possibly owing to the state of the ground. Half time: Signals 1; Hussars 0.

The Hussars got going in the second half, and from a breakaway they equalised. This livened Signals up, and the Hussars rarely got into their half. Bagley put in some fine runs and ended with scoring the best goal of the match. Result: Signals 2; Hussars 1.

SIGNALS—Upton; Healey and Pryce; Adams, Hollis and Gibson; Goodall, Thompson, Woods, Jordan and Bagley.

SIGNALS versus A.F.O.

This match was scratched by A.F.O., who could not field a team, thus giving the points to Signals.

SIGNALS versus 78th M.T. Co. R.A.S.C.

Played on the Veterinary Corps ground at Mashlak, in bad weather. Signals started well, giving R.A.S.C. defence no rest. Adams opened the scoring for Signals with a good goal from 30 yards' range. After some good play on the left wing, Bagley centred for Hollis to score Signals' second goal. A little midfield play ensued, and then Signals dashed away on the right. Woods crossed the ball for Hollis to score Signals' third goal. Woods and Jordan put in some good shots. Half time: Signals 3; R.A.S.C. 0.

Signals kept up the attack in the second half. Woods put in a great shot which the goalie pushed over the bar. From the flag kick Adams scored an easy goal. Soon afterwards Jordan added Signals' fifth goal with a good shot. R.A.S.C. could not do anything against our sound defence. Just before the close, Woods was going through to score when a defender handled the ball in the forbidden area, and the referee awarded a penalty. Hollis took the kick and scored with a low shot in the corner, giving the goalie no chance to save, and also completing his hat trick. Result: Signals 6; R.A.S.C. 0.

SIGNALS—Upton; Healey and Pryce; Adams, Goodall and Gibson; Hollis, Thompson, Woods, Jordan and Bagley.

Football Notes.

Our Unhappy Experience at Hastings.

Never since we were formed as a new Corps have we met with such a heavy defeat as that registered against us at Hastings; and never since we entered the county of Sussex have we lost so many goals in one match. The 3rd of December was indeed a black day for us!

But we are not going into sackcloth and ashes over it. Naturally, we were not pleased; but we have been beaten before, and probably shall be again. Defeat comes to all teams, and it is a commentary on the fickleness of football that Hastings—the invincible, as they appeared to be on their own ground—could only manage to draw against the R.A.M.C. at Aldershot a week later, and from all reports they were rather lucky to do that.

BEATEN, BUT UNFORTUNATE.

We were well beaten. We quite admit that, and we must pay Hastings the compliment of saying they were the better team; but, at the same time, we hardly think they were so much superior as the score (6—0) suggests. They played very well indeed, but it was one of those days on which everything ran well for them.

The result might have been different had Webb equalised from the penalty given us just before half-time. That was only one of our misfortunes—for it *was* a misfortune—and we are constrained to think that it affected the play for the remainder of the game.

No fewer than twenty-two corners were forced by our lads, and not a single one was converted; we had more than a fair share of the game, but the fates seemed to deny us a goal, which (in the writer's opinion) would probably have made a great difference.

CLEVER PLAY UNFINISHED.

We are not for a moment suggesting that the Hastings team were lucky, or that they did not deserve to win. We have already admitted that they were the better team; but our boys were not by any means hopelessly outclassed, and they have no occasion whatever to be disheartened by their unhappy experience.

It was the Hastings' day out, and we venture to say that, on the form shown on December 3rd, they would have beaten *any* team.

Baines and Gresham co-operated in some very clever movements—as good as any shown by the Hastings team—but they had not the felicity of achieving the same results. Perhaps one reason for this was that they dribbled too much, and were too close in their passing. Shenton did not get many chances, he also being too well marked. Our halves had a gruelling time against the quick-footed forwards of the Hastings side, and so had the backs, who never ceased trying. If Vickers was not at his best on this occasion, he was deserving of sympathy in the quick success of the home side, which might have affected any goalkeeper.

We wait very anxiously for the day when the Hastings boys come to Maresfield for the return match. No doubt our boys will go all out to avenge such a humiliating defeat.

Army Cup.

The result in the second round of the Army cup, as far as we are concerned, turned out as follows:—

R.E. Depot, Chatham 2; *2nd T.B. R.C.S. 0.

*School of Gunnery, Shoeburyness 1; 1st T.B. R.C.S. 0

* Home team.

So once again we received marching orders from the Army cup. The 1st T.B. were distinctly unfortunate not to get through, for they had much more of the play than the Gunners in the first game, and no replay should have been necessary.

The 2nd T.B., at Crowborough, ought also to have got through, but weak finishing and wild shooting helped to put them out. The R.E.s were quicker on the ball, and by taking advantage of one or two blunders they entered the third round.

Amateur Cup.

In this competition we have been very unlucky. Two seasons in succession, we have appeared in the first round proper and managed to draw "away" each time. Last season we were defeated in the last five minutes of the game by Wycombe Wanderers, by 3—2. This season we had to journey down to Bournemouth, and were again defeated—this time by 2—1. A very close game! Hobbs managed to "click" again, and whilst he was off the field the Bournemouth men added their second and winning goal.

Wooldridge has been a notable absentee from the team lately owing to a "gammy" leg. Well, John; pull the wick up, lad, and get a move on!

Shillingford has filled the vacancy, and from all reports has "fitted in" fine. He made his debut in the Amateur cup tie, and played a sterling game. Well done, Shilly!

LULU.

Army Cup (Second Round).

1st T.B. R.C.S. (Maresfield) v. EXPERIMENTAL ESTABLISHMENT, R.A. (Shoeburyness).

The above Army cup tie took place at Maresfield on Saturday, November 26th, before a good attendance. The Signals made no change in the side that was successful in the 1st round. At 2.30 the teams lined up as follows:—

SIGNALS—White; Barby and Wooldridge; Johnsey, Hall and Bonner; Squirrell, Hollness, Shenton, McGregor, and Carter (captain).

ARTILLERY—Moore; Youngman and Clarke; Baird, Sharpley and Haddock; Newland, Baites, Lieut Bartholomew (captain), Arnold and Rawlins.

Referee—Capt Walton, R.F.A.

Bartholomew won the toss for the Gunners, and elected to kick up the incline. The Gunners soon made a determined effort, but the home defence kept them at bay. Barby, putting the ball through to Shenton, enabled the Signals right to get through, and Squirrell finished up by shooting into the side of the net from an awkward angle.

Another warm attack on the Gunners' goal resulted in Shenton sending in a terrific drive which Moore held and cleared. The Gunners got away, and a melee in the Signals goalmouth was cleared by Barby, who was playing a sterling game.

In turn, Signals took up the pressure, and Shenton went through and shot wide when hard pressed. A minute later Shenton again got through, and in steadying himself for a shot was neatly robbed on the goalline.

GUNNERS OPEN THE SCORE.

A foul against Hall resulted in the Gunners forcing a corner. Newlands placed in the Signals goalmouth, and an exciting melee followed. Sharpley headed in and White managed to save, but let the ball bounce out of his hands into the net, thus giving the Gunners the lead.

The Signals went all out for the equaliser, and the Gunners were penned in their own area for a considerable time, but though the Signals had many narrow escapes they were one goal down at half-time.

On the resumption the Gunners were pressed, and resorted to kicking out tactics, much to the disapproval of the crowd. Squirrell on the home right got through and sent in a terrific shot on the run, which Moore only just managed to turn round the post. Shenton also hit the crossbar with one of his famous drives.

SIGNALS EQUALISE.

The Signals indeed were having terribly hard luck, but kept pegging away, and at last Shenton found himself unmarked in the Gunners' goalmouth and scored with a terrific drive, thus drawing the scores level.

Excitement ran high, and with the Signals trying desperately hard for the decider, the Gunners were completely outplayed, and many times their goal had marvellous escapes. Hall, the centre half, played a magnificent game and was well assisted by Bonner. Carter got away and shot right across the goalmouth, and then Hollness sent in a real pile driver, which Moore saved well.

"Hands" against Shenton saw the Gunners go away, and Wooldridge conceded a corner. Newlands placed well, and from the melee that followed, Johnsey cleared.

Time arrived with the Signals hotly engaged in the Gunners goalmouth, with the score one each. The referee ordered extra time, although the light was failing fast. The teams changed over with the score sheet still level, but the light getting worse, the referee decided that further play was not possible.

LULU.

REPLAY.

EXPERIMENTAL ESTABLISHMENT R.A. (Shoeburyness) v. 1st T.B. R.C.S.

At Shoeburyness on Wednesday afternoon, Nov. 30th. Two changes were made in the Signals team which drew at Maresfield. Wooldridge, the left back, who was injured, was replaced by Webb, and McGregor was dropped in favour of Baines.

Result: Royal Artillery 1; 1st T.B. R.C.S. 0.

SECOND ROUND REPLAY.

2nd T.B. R.C.S. (Crowborough) v. DEPOT R.E. (Chatham).

On the Crowborough Football Ground before a good attendance. The Signals made one change in the team which drew at Chatham, Eynott being dropped for Wilkes.

Set to face the wind, Welch got going for the Signallers, Miles nipping a likely movement. Play was transferred into the Signals area, and Pascall slung the ball into the centre, Tracey relieving a critical situation.

Exchanges ruled fast, without tangible result. During a spell of pressure by the Signallers the Engineers backs were compelled to kick out frequently. Later, a hot attack on the Signals goal saw Vickers fist out a high dropping shot, but Mackay, dashing in, secured the ball and beat him with a lightning drive.

Fog now began to settle on the ground, making play difficult to follow. The Signals went all out for the equaliser, and Welch shot for goal, but Pearce punched clear. Clever play on the Signals right finished by Gresham shooting into the side of the net, and a minute later Withers skied the ball over.

In an attack later by the R.E.s, Vickers punched clear from Langdon. Another raid quickly followed, and Shenton, getting possession close in, beat Vickers at point blank range. Thus the Engineers led 2—0 at the interval.

On the resumption the fog became thicker, spoiling what might have been a really good game. A brilliant run on the home left resulted in Withers shooting wide.

SIGNALS PRESS WITHOUT AVAIL.

A regular bombardment of the Engineers goal followed, their citadel having some marvellous escapes. Very rarely in the second half did they cross the halfway line.

A centre from Wilkes resulted in Pearce dashing out of his goal to save from Jackson, who was a fraction too late. The Engineers' right got away, and Shenton was neatly robbed by Tracey, who swung the ball back, and a hot melee in the Engineers goal was relieved by Brookes.

A minute later a low drive by Withers went wide of the far post. The Signals outplayed their opponents, but the visitors' defence frustrated all the efforts of the home forwards, and the final came with the score: Depot R.E. 2; 2nd T.B. R.C.S. 0.

SIGNALS—Vickers; Shillingford and Bartlett; Hobbs, Tracey and Holmes; Gresham, Welch, Jackson, Wilkes and Withers.

DEPOT R.E.—Pearce; Mason and Brookes; Baldwin, Harrison and Miles; Shenton, Kelly, Langdon, Mackay and Pascall.

Referee—Capt Walton, R.F.A.

LULU.

Amateur Cup (First Round Proper).

BOURNEMOUTH GASWORKS v. R.C.S. (Uckfield).

The Bournemouth Gasworks—Corps of Signals match took place on the Eastlake Ground, Branksome, on Saturday, December 10th, before an attendance of 2000 spectators. The Signals travelled down to Bournemouth on the previous afternoon, and had the benefit of a good night's rest. Two changes were made in the Signals' side, Vickers being dropped and White reappearing in goal. Wooldridge, the left back, was unable to turn out through injuries, and his place was

filled by Shillingford, who played a great game. The home side was at full strength :—

BOURNEMOUTH GASWORKS—Joyce; Gladstone and Burry; Strange, Ferguson and Phillips; Rogers, Palmer, Hodges, Cornibeer, Dempsey.

SIGNALS—White; Barby and Shillingford; Hobbs, Hall and Bonner; Gresham, Shenton, Carter, Welch and Withers.

Referee—Mr. J. T. Pitts (Weymouth).

The "Lights" won the toss and elected to kick up the field with the sun at their backs. The homesters came into the picture, Cornibeer and Dempsey being prominent, but their efforts did not materialise, and the Signals retaliated with a fine concentrated run. Burry intercepted Welch and cleared. The Signals again atacked strongly, but this finished up by Shenton shooting over the bar.

Play changed ends again, and both Hodges and Ferguson sent in hot shots, which White cleared well. Continued pressure by the Lights' forwards put the Signals goal in danger, but their shooting was very inaccurate, with the result that many good chances were missed.

The homesters were now having the balance of the play. They attacked strongly, and Cornibeer put in a brilliant piece of individual work, but finished by shooting over the bar. White, the Signals' goalie, was playing a fine game and always managed to get there before the ball.

The Signals frequently broke away but they found Burry and Gladstone a stumbling block—they tackled and cleared well. Play ruled faster, and end to end play followed. A smart attack by the homesters resulted in Palmer giving them the lead with an excellent ground shot, sent in at such an angle that it gave White very little chance.

The Signals attacked strongly, but could not reduce the homesters' lead, and half-time arrived with the score 1—0 in favour of Bournemouth.

On a resumption, the Signals attacked strongly and gave Joyce a warm time between the sticks. Both pairs of backs were playing a sound game and effected some fine clearances, Shillingford playing exceptionally well.

The Signals went all out for the equaliser, but their efforts were foiled by Joyce, who was playing a brilliant game in goal. Hobbs, the Signals' right half, met with a bad injury, and had to be carried off the field.

A determined effort by the homesters resulted in Palmer getting possession, and a neat pass to Hodges enabled that player to beat White, the course of the ball giving him no chance to save.

After twenty minutes Hobbs reappeared, but limped badly throughout the remainder of the game. The Signals made a supreme effort, and Withers getting possession, sent in a fast ground shot, which found the corner of the net, thus reducing the homesters' lead. The Signals made a desperate rally, and several times the homesters' goal was in danger, but they managed to retain their lead to the end, and a fast, clean game ended with the score: Bournemouth Gasworks 2; Royal Corps of Signals 1.

Sussex Senior Cup.

The matches for the Sussex senior cup have resulted as follows :—

1st Round.

Depot R.S.R. 2; Southwick 1.

2nd Round.

Horsham 1; *Depot R.S.R. 0.
*Worthing 2; Shoreham 0.
*Eastbourne 7; East Grinstead 1.
*Lewes 3; Eastbourne 2.
Vernon Athletic 2; *Bognor 0.

* Home team.

Signals and Brighton and Hove Amateurs have yet to meet.

Sussex County League.

HASTINGS AND ST. LEONARDS v. R.C.S.

The above match took place at the Pilot Fields, Hastings, before a good attendance.

Signals lost the toss, but had the advantage of the incline in the first half. They set up a terrific bombardment of their opponents' goal throughout this period, no fewer than twenty-two corners being forced, though all proved fruitless

The Hastings left broke away and a beautiful centre was met by Stentiford, who beat Vickers with a fast low drive, thus giving the homesters the lead.

At the other end, a desperate attack by the Signals resulted in a penalty being given through one of the Hastings men handling in the penalty area. Webb took the spot kick but shot wide, and the interval arrived with the score: Hastings 1; Signals 0.

In the second half, Hastings kicked down the slope, and repeatedly got through, and before the end five more goals were notched. The final whistle sounded with the score: Hastings 6; Signals 0.

LULU.

"Friendlies."

SIGNALS v. BRIGHTON & HOVE AMATEURS.

The 2nd round of the Sussex senior cup between these two teams should have taken place at Maresfield on Saturday, December 17th, but it had to be declared a "friendly" match. The Amateurs, owing to trouble with their motor, arrived an hour late, and it was found that the light would not hold out for a full game. The Signals sportingly offered the Amateurs a "friendly" of half an hour each way, which was accepted, and the teams lined up as follows :—

SIGNALS—White; Barby and Shillingford; Welch, Hall and Bonner; Gresham, Baines, Shenton, Hollness and Carter.

AMATEURS—Wiseman; Richardson and Merchant; Simmonds, Steele and Nash; Vallett, Elliott, Austen, Rowe and Reynolds.

Referee—Mr. H. A. Ayling (Southwick).

The Signals soon got busy, and at the interval led by 1—0. On the resumption of play Baines increased the Signals' lead, but soon afterwards Rowe beat White, thus reducing it. Result: Signals 2; Amateurs 1.



Promotions and Appointments.

1850679 Sergt Boulger, H. W.—Appointed C.S.M. Promoted W.O. Class II. with effect from 1/9/21
2306347 Sergt Scott, W.—Promoted C.Q.M.S. with effect from 1/9/21
2307178 L/Cpl Shoebridge, G.—Promoted Corporal with effect from 1/2/21, and appointed L/Sergt with effect from 1/9/21
2307014 Corpl Bell, A.—Appointed L/Sergt with effect from 1/9/21
2307371 L/Corpl Taylor, M.—Promoted Corporal with effect from 1/9/21
2306671 L/Corpl Garner, F. C.—Promoted Corporal with effect from 1/9/21
2307289 L/Corpl Willmore, T.—Promoted Corporal with effect from 1/9/21
2306348 Sergt Keane, M. W.—Promoted C.Q.M.S. with effect from 1/9/21
2306331 L/Sergt Goldman, C.—Promoted Sergeant with effect from 1/9/21
2311440 L/Sergt Scrivens, E.—Promoted Sergeant with effect from 1/9/21
2307440 Corpl Mitchell, J. S.—Appointed L/Sergeant with effect from 1/9/21
2307535 L/Corpl Dickenson, G. A. W.—Promoted Corpl with effect from 1/9/21
2307857 Corpl Crompton, V.—Appointed L/Sergeant with effect from 1/9/21
2308929 L/Corpl Wade, R.—Promoted Corporal with effect from 2/11/21
2307968 L/Corpl Proost, F. J.—Promoted Corporal with effect from 1/9/21
2307345 Corpl Downer, G.—Appointed L/Sergeant with effect from 1/9/21
2306505 Corpl Kingman, C.—Appointed L/Sergeant with effect from 1/9/21
2306396 Corpl Tremain, T.—Appointed L/Sergeant with effect from 1/9/21
2306058 C.Q.M.S. Butler, A.—Appointed C.S.M. Promoted W.O. Class II. with effect from 1/9/21
2306020 C.Q.M.S. Horgan, E.—Appointed C.S.M. Promoted W.O. Class II. with effect from 1/9/21
2306114 C.Q.M.S. Williams, H.—Appointed C.S.M. Promoted W.O. Class II., with effect from 1/9/21
2306340 Sergt Dorling, R.—Promoted C.Q.M.S. with effect from 1/9/21
2306342 Sergt Mills, T.—Promoted C.Q.M.S. with effect from 1/9/21
2306133 L/Sergt Sandey, E. J.—Promoted Sergeant with effect from 1/9/21
2307349 L/Sergt Markham, W.—Promoted Sergeant with effect from 1/9/21
2313062 Corpl Tomlinson, A. J.—Appointed L/Sergeant with effect from 1/9/21
2306364 Sergt King, L.—Promoted C.Q.M.S. with effect from 1/9/21
2307665 L/Sergt Kneebone, G. F.—Promoted Sergeant with effect from 1/9/21
2307118 L/Sergt Hadfield, J. A.—Promoted Sergeant with effect from 1/9/21
2308299 L/Corpl Palin, G. E.—Promoted Corporal with effect from 1/9/21
2306503 Corpl Harris, E. W. G.—Appointed L/Sergeant with effect from 1/9/21
2307233 L/Corpl Main, W.—Promoted Corporal with effect from 1/9/21
2306093 C.Q.M.S. Waterhouse, G.—Appointed C.S.M. Promoted W.O. Class II. with effect from 1/9/21
2306050 C.Q.M.S. Cuzzens, J. T.—Appointed C.S.M. Promoted W.O. Class II. with effect from 1/9/21
2311235 L/Sergt Call, A. B.
2307176 L/Sergt Davey, W.
2306958 L/Sergt Britton, A.
2306709 L/Sergt Kelly, E.
2306323 L/Sergt Harrington, W.
2305161 L/Sergt Diffey, W.

The a/m are promoted Sergeants with effect from 1/9/21

2306498 Corpl Moralee, J.
2307680 Corpl Cowley, J.
2308236 Corpl Hobbs, G.
2307896 Corpl Baker, Z.

The a/m are appointed Lance-Sergeants with effect from 1/9/21

2307262 L/Sergt Green, L. W.
2306222 L/Sergt Weeks, G. F.
2306297 L/Sergt Link, W.
2307810 L/Sergt Wilson, T.

The a/m are promoted Sergeants with effect from 1/9/21

2306408 Corpl (A/Sergt) Mathews, J.—Appointed L/Sgt with effect from 1/9/21. Retains rank of A/Sergt vide A.C.I. 197/21
2307828 Corpl (A/Sergt) Gradden, E.—Appointed L/Sgt with effect from 1/9/21. Retains rank of A/Sergt vide A.C.I. 197/21
2308897 L/Corpl Clarke, J.—Promoted Corporal with effect from 31/10/21, and seniority from 1/2/21
2308267 L/Sergt Jackson, J. J.—Promoted Sergeant with effect from 1/9/21
2306985 Corpl Lee, A. G.—Appointed L/Sergt with effect from 1/9/21

1852766 L/Corpl Hoare, C.—Promoted Corporal with effect from 1/9/21
2306231 L/Corpl Fahey, G. K.—Promoted Corporal with effect from 1/9/21
1850175 L/Corpl Tebby, C.—Promoted Corporal with effect from 1/9/21
1850325 Sigmn Wilson, E.—Appointed L/Corporal on Corps Roster with effect from 5/10/21, and seniority from 2/8/20
1850253 L/Corpl Fulford, A. C.—Promoted Corporal 5/10/21, with seniority from 1/2/21

Extension of Service.

2309489 L/Corpl Rankcom, V. A. F.—Extended his service to complete 12 years with the Colours.
2308075 Sigmn Cozens, S. T.—Extends his present terms of service to a total of 12 years, of which 6 years will be with the Colours and 6 years in Reserve.
2306756 L/Corpl Young, C. E.—Extended his service to complete 12 years with the Colours.
2307482 Sigmn Burroughs, W.—Extends his present terms of service to a total of 12 years, of which 6 years will be with the Colours and 6 years in Reserve.
1850175 Corpl Tebby, C.—Extends his present terms of service to a total of 12 years, of which 6 years will be with the Colours and 6 years in Reserve.

Re-engagement.

2306254 Sigmn Soper, A. C.—Re-engaged to complete 21 years service with the Colours.

Births.

2306173 Sergt Draper, E.—Son, William Ernest, born at Andover, Hants, 26/7/21
2306133 L/Sergt Sandey, E. J.—Son, John, born at Fletching, 30/10/21
2307096 Sigmn Moss, P. F.—Son, Robert Frederick, born at East Croydon, 30/11/21

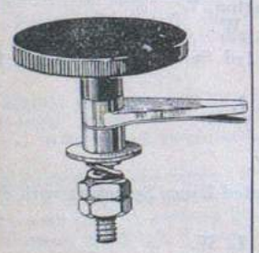
Marriages.

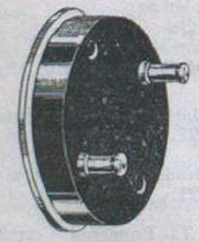
2314090 Sigmn Whitehead, A. H.—To Doris Cryer at Holbech, 25/9/21
2313949 Sigmn Pratt, A. R.—To Ellen Gwendoline Roff at Biscot, Bedford, 23/10/21
2310938 Sigmn Morris, W. H.—To Jessie Robertson at Edinburgh, 24/10/21
2306415 Sigmn Foster, W. M.—To Alberta Christina Chatfield at Uckfield, 26/10/21
2306712 Sigmn Henson, W. A.—To Vida Eudora Brown at Uckfield, 26/10/21
2306275 L/Sergt Hore, W.—To Emily Victoria Gillman at Dover, 12/11/21
2309537 Sigmn Nelson, C.—To Rhoda Maud Moore at Dover, 23/11/21

Death.

2312965 Sigmn Bullard, C.—At Patcham, Sussex, of gastric influenza, 11/11/21

Wireless



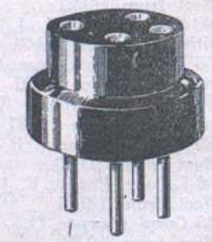


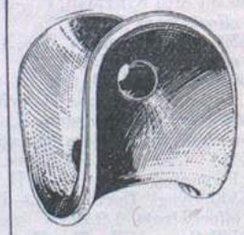
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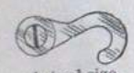
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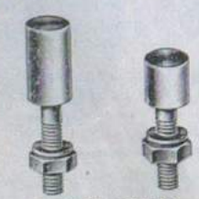




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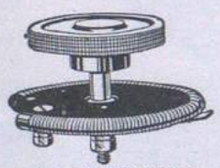


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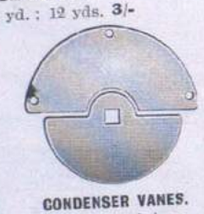


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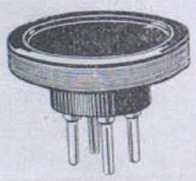
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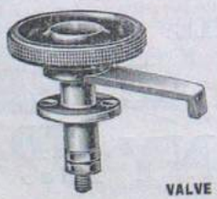
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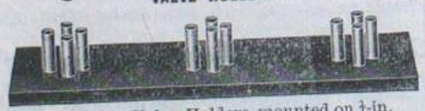
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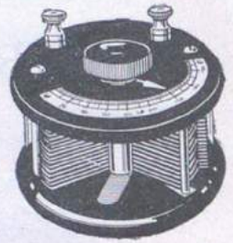


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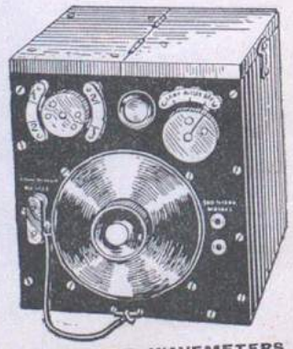
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THE WIRE

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Editorial Notes.

At last we have been able to secure the Corps Promotion Roster for the edification of our readers. The information is to be published in four instalments to complete, and thereafter, all amendments as they arise.

We are pleased to be able to state that the entry in Editorial Notes for January *re* the discharge of Signalman Drake was incorrect. Our cartoonist is still with us, and has signified his willingness to continue to contribute his clever cartoons and caricatures. We anticipate some further ink from his pen.

Owing to illness, the usual monthly sketch from Corpl Patrick is "taboo" this month, but, I understand, will reappear in the March number. His series, "Types of the Corps," is much appreciated, judging from the comments received from readers from time to time.

Our "old comrade," Signalman R. C. Barrett, has started things moving in his new "home"—the 4th Divisional Signal Company—at Colchester. He has undertaken the duties of Signals Association representative and agent for THE WIRE. We hope that success will crown his efforts on our behalf.

I take this opportunity of thanking all those readers who so kindly sent New Year greetings.

G. E. PALIN, Editor.

Direction Finding by Wireless.

By Lieut.-Col. C. G. Crawley, R.M.A.

"Direction Finding" is an aspect of wireless signalling which has not yet received so much attention as it deserves from the commercial point of view. The reasons, however, are not far to seek; first, its commercial advantages are somewhat indirect, and, secondly, its practical application, which was developed in the secrecy of war, has hardly yet emerged into the full glare of commercial enterprise, except perhaps in the case of aircraft, where such enterprise is still somewhat diffident.

It was in 1887, in Germany, that Hertz commenced his famous experiments, based on Maxwell's work in this country, which led up to the use of what are now called Hertzian or Wireless waves. These waves are produced by the action of rapidly alternating currents of electricity, are radiated into space, and have the property of reproducing similar currents in any electrical conductor which they meet. In some of his experiments, Hertz used a coil of wire as the receiving electrical conductor, and showed that the strength of the currents produced in it by the waves depended upon the orientation of the coil, thus demonstrating the fact that the strength of the currents in the receiving conductor depended, at any rate to some extent, on the direction from which the waves were received.

This was the foundation of direction finding by wireless, and depended on adjustments in the orientation of a coil of wire at the receiving station, the principle which is most generally used at the present day. It was not till 1899 that a scheme by which the waves could be transmitted in one direction more strongly than in any other was invented by S. G. Brown in this country. This directive transmission is also used today, though the arrangements now employed are different from those used by Brown.

It is pretty generally conceded that the most important single example of direction finding by wireless yet recorded was that disclosed in the despatches of the Battle of Jutland. During the war, we had a number of wireless receiving stations on the East Coast, specially fitted for determining the direction from which enemy signals were transmitted, and on the 30th of May, 1916, these stations reported an unusual amount of signalling from enemy ships, which they located at Wilhelmshaven. Later on the same day, it was found that the signals were coming from a position a few miles further north, from which it was clear that the signalling ship had moved into the Jade River preparatory to putting to sea. Arrangements had been made for the Grand Fleet to get to sea at short notice, and it was important for us to anticipate the enemy's movements, as otherwise there was very little chance, as had been found by experience, of bringing the German Fleet to action, unless under most favourable conditions for our side. As soon, therefore, as the Admiralty heard that German ships had moved into the Jade River, they decided to despatch our fleet at once towards the German Bight, with the hope of at last bringing his fleet to action if he should put to sea.

The Battle of Jutland took place next day.

This momentous achievement of our D.F. stations passed almost unnoticed in the press, though for its dramatic glamour alone, it might surely have merited a whole headline to itself, even if in less prominent type than those announcing the latest society divorce case or the result of a football match.

Direction finding stations during the war were used principally for locating enemy ships, aircraft, and military wireless stations, but were also used to some extent by ships and aircraft for obtaining their own position or the direction in which they were proceeding. An amusing incident is recorded of how the locating of an enemy submarine was combined with fixing his own position. An Austrian submarine in the Mediterranean came up to the surface one day and started to signal by wireless. Its position was at once obtained by two of our D.F. stations in the vicinity, one of which signalled the position by wireless, whereupon the submarine said "thanks," submerged, and made off. So far, the story is correct and has often been told to show how clever was the enemy and how foolish were we. But, as a rule, positions were made in cypher; this time the position was made in plain language, still more foolish? No, it was not so, but "that is another story." Most of the direction finding work, as already stated, was devoted to determining the positions from which enemy signals were being transmitted, but directional apparatus in aircraft was also often used for steering a course from a known fixed wireless station. In such cases, the aircraft adjusts its directional receiving apparatus so as to read off from a graduated scale the bearing from which signals are being received. The required course is known, so as soon as the aircraft is on that course, it can maintain it, apart from the effects of drift, by taking frequent checks on the fixed station, providing no errors arise. This proviso, however, covers a multitude of sins, not yet fully understood, of the wireless waves themselves. It was largely owing to these last troubles that the Zeppelin fleet, which set out for England, lost its way, became dispersed, and was ultimately destroyed on the continent. Much more now is known of these obscure errors than was known at that time, but it must be recognised, even yet, that though good results may be obtained in nine cases out of ten, the remaining one may be hopelessly inaccurate. These errors are due to the path of the waves being deflected by intervening objects, and also to effects produced by certain states of the atmosphere.

So much for directional wireless in its cradle, the War, but what of its childhood since the Armistice, and its promises for maturity?

There are two main lines for commercial development, with the same end in view, viz., the determination by wireless of the position of a mobile unit, ship or aircraft, when other means of such determination are impracticable. One method is for the mobile craft to carry directional apparatus, the other is for the fixed station to be equipped for the work. Both methods have their special advantages, and both are being developed.

Let us first consider the case of having the apparatus in the mobile unit. The apparatus is fixed alongside of the usual wireless installation, as some of the parts are common to both sets, and are naturally worked by the same operator. The operator on hearing a wireless station making signals adjusts his directional apparatus until he obtains the maximum sound possible, when he reads off from his graduated scale the bearing of the sending station with reference to the direction of the fore and aft line of his craft. If he can do this operation with two fixed wireless stations, the bearings can be plotted on a chart, and the point on the chart where the lines of bearing intersect will be his position. If he can obtain a check bearing from another station, so much the better. It will thus be seen that the position can be obtained irrespective of weather conditions provided the shore stations' positions are known, and if the story ended there, every mobile craft carrying wireless would be fitted with directional apparatus, as the exact positions of all commercial wireless stations throughout the world are known, and published. Unfortunately, however, the story has not yet reached such a happy conclusion. There are the chances of grave errors occurring in the bearing ascertained, from causes which, as already stated, have not yet been overcome, and there may also, of course, be difficulty in hearing at least two stations suitably situated for a good intersection of the lines of bearing.

The actual method of taking the bearing varies in different systems, and that just mentioned of adjusting the apparatus until the maximum strength is heard is not so accurate as a method of adjusting until the signals are at their minimum strength, i.e., inaudible, or a method of adjusting until the strength remains unaltered whether or not a certain separate circuit is introduced. These are, however, technical details which it is unnecessary to discuss here.

The advantages of having directional apparatus in ships is beginning to be recognised, and a few score of our Mercantile Marine are already fitted. At its present stage of development the point to be borne in mind is that a directional set is very much better than nothing at all when other means of locating the position fail, due, for instance, to thick or foggy weather, and there can be little doubt that development before long will justify the fitting of ships in a much more wholesale manner. It is of interest to note that up to a hundred miles or so the bearings can be plotted on the usual Mercator's chart with sufficient accuracy for all practical purposes, but that special charts, on gnomonic projections, must be used for greater distances. Such charts are usually supplied with the set, but as a matter of fact, for ship work, bearings from stations at such long distances are very rarely required.

In aircraft, where a knowledge of direction, let alone position, is so vital, directional apparatus has a great future, and its technical application to all forms of aircraft is making such rapid strides that it has almost become a part of the normal wireless installation. This is as it should be, and the results of aircraft experiences will hasten, and indeed are hastening, the improvement of ships' sets.

Let us turn now to the employment of directional apparatus at shore stations for the use of ships and aircraft. It might be expected, and it is the case, that conditions on shore, viz., a steady noiseless platform, plenty of space, and expert operators, are all in favour of accurate work compared with conditions on mobile craft. There is, however, one essential condition not always easily fulfilled, and that is that the site of the station must be suitably located if accurate results are to be obtained, and for this reason many stations suitable for communication purposes would be quite useless for directional work.

There are two main classes of directional shore stations, viz., those which send out known wireless signals in a certain direction, like a searchlight, and those which can ascertain the direction from which signals are coming. The former, called radiophares, are being developed in the United States and France for the use of ships in restricted waters, as channels, river mouths, etc., and many are already in operation. This form of station has not, so far, found favour in this country, and none have yet been erected. The latter, the direction finding stations, are those which were used so successfully in the war, and are now in extensive use in the United States, less so in France and Germany, and still less so in this country, where only a very few are now in operation. This service is at present under the control of the Admiralty, but, as recently announced in the press, will be transferred shortly, with the exception of the Lizard Naval Station, to the Post Office.

The method of using directional shore stations is for the mobile craft to call up one or more of these stations and ask for a bearing or position, as the case may be. The craft then sends signals continuously for some seconds, and bearings are taken by the station or stations. In the case of a bearing only being required, the station signals the result to the craft, but if the position is required, the controlling station obtains the bearings determined by the other station or stations as well, and signals the result. In this method of direction finding, the whole responsibility rests with the shore stations, on the whole an advantage under present conditions, which undoubtedly favour accuracy at fixed stations as compared with mobile ones. If, however, the chances of accuracy were more evenly balanced, the advantages of the responsibility resting on the mobile craft would be obvious. In this country, a charge of five shillings is made for a bearing given by a direction finding station, and similar charges are now being enforced, or are being contemplated, in other countries where such stations are in operation.

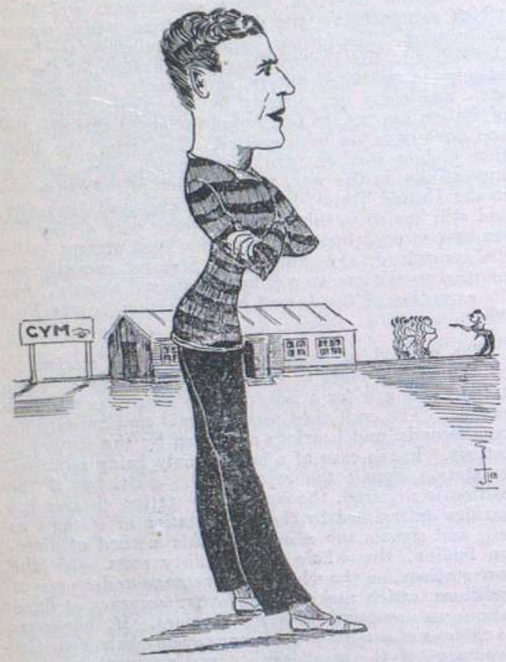
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Maresfield Notes.

Corps Celebrities—No. 12: Sgt. Trapmore



Headquarters.

The past month has witnessed several changes in the personnel of this Headquarters.

Sigmn R. C. Barrett has at last succeeded in obtaining a transfer to the 4th Divl. Signal Company at Colchester, where he will be quite near his home. Won't wifie be pleased!

Sigmn E. Garity and R. Emblem, having tired of Maresfield's attractions, have returned to Crowborough, where, we hope, they will soon find heart to "trip the light fantastic" once more.

Sigmn S. Russell has been admitted to the Royal Herbert Hospital suffering from internal hemorrhage. We wish him a speedy recovery.

The only other casualty to record is the marriage of Sigmn P. Dunkley, of Documents Office, which took place in Maresfield Parish Church a few days before Christmas. The staffs of Documents and Headquarters Offices made him a very useful present of cutlery.

So far, we have welcomed two reliefs in the persons of Sigmn C. Murcott (our late D.R.L.S.) and Sigmn Clay (late of A Company Office).

D Company's dances are now run on a Battalion basis, and continues to enjoy well deserved success in their new home in the Y.M.C.A.

By the way, when are we to have a Camp Concert Party? Surely Crowborough does not possess all the talent in the S.T.C.

Congratulations to the 1st T.B. hockey team on their splendid victory in the third round of the Army Hockey Cup.

Things We Want to Know.

The name of the ex-senior Service D.R. who was heard to exclaim, "Shiver my cylinders!"

Who is the man who refers to his wife and two children as his "Trouble and strife and the two other ranks"?

E. S. H.

D Company.

There is nothing much to talk about this month except that the "flu" epidemic has claimed most of us, but I am very pleased to report that, as far as our Company is concerned, it is now practically stamped out. The C.S.M. has been busily amusing himself by issuing "gargle" (*not* the "gargle" that cheers, though!) I might mention that the troops did *not* look forward to its arrival quite so eagerly as to that of the rum (S.R.D.) that was issued in the peaceful days of war.

Several new arrivals have joined the Company lately, the "largest" being Lieut. Thorp (of Messing Office fame) He now assumes the rôle of multi-airline expert. We are also receiving bandsmen from the lately disbanded cavalry regiments. We sympathise with them in having to leave such fine units, but hope that they will be happy with us. At any rate, they have been posted to the best Company in the Depot! (So we say, anyway).

Football.

On January 11th, we played "Eddy," and after a very evenly contested and vigorous game we managed to win by 1—0, Tidswell breaking through and scoring a brilliant goal. We have now to play "Ack" for second place in the league.

Cross Country Running.

We are still going as strong as ever. We are living in great hopes of being the premier team this season. At any rate, it will not be for lack of trying if we are not.

We miss notes from other Companies in Maresfield, and hope they will soon resume. Come on, "Eddy," "Ack," and F; let's hear from you!

I must close now, in case I am too late for publication. Best wishes to all!

DON

E Company.

Here we are again, after an absence of a few months. Our last representative is at present "soldiering" at Hounslow, and I have been wangled into the job of carrying on in his place.

There is really very little news, and things have been very quiet as regards sport: the only sport we are having at present is "gargling" handicaps. We have a fair number of cases down with "flu," but a certain n.c.o. of ours is mothering the patients so well, that I'm sure we shall very soon see their smiling faces at work.

Hockey.

We were to have played F Company on the 4th January, but they "scratched" as they couldn't fix up a team. Better luck next time, F. Our last game was with the School of Signals, and we managed to pip them by 4—3.

Shooting.

The accompanying photo shows the team who won the "Mhow Challenge Cup." Left to right: L/Sergt Parsons, Sigmn Martin, Sigmn Cassidy, and L/Sergt. Dorrington.

Things We Want to Know.

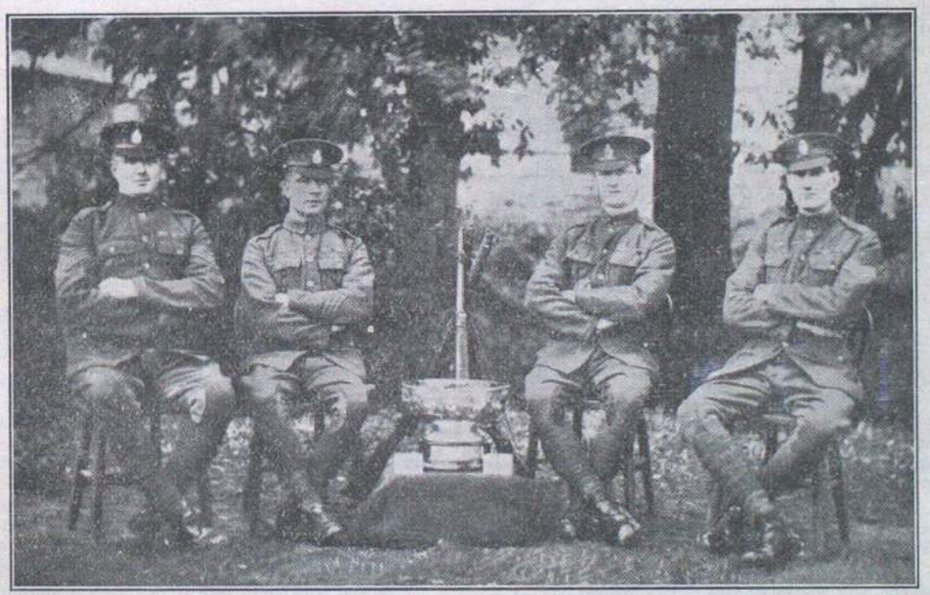
How often has Jimmie had the cane lately? and does he enjoy his bread and jam?

Is Bernard expecting to have his portrait painted *à la* Chester?

What foot do we "gargle" on? Ask Bell you.

Can we rake up a decent team of Greys?—and would summer be more suitable for the purpose?

EDDY.



Rugger.

We should have met "Don" Company on January 12th, but when our team rolled up, Don had gone with the exception of Mr. King and one other, who considered it advisable to give us the points. However, we did have a game by means of a "friendly" with a team of officers from the School of Signals.

Soccer.

Our only game was with D Company (seniors), who defeated us after an exciting struggle by 1—0. Of course, we were without several of our regular players, the most noted being the "Rissole King," who was resting for the cup tie.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

WILL Agents kindly note that any returns for which they wish to receive credit should be posted back to the Editor within three weeks of receipt at Agent's station—otherwise the full cost of numbers despatched will be charged.

Crowborough Notes.

B Company.

Our Christmas Festivities.

It seems rather late in the day to chronicle the happenings of a past era, but our notes are necessarily posted mid-month, and it may perhaps interest some to know how we spent Christmas here.

We will not dilate at length on the fare. Suffice to say that the usual English dinner was sumptuous, excellently prepared by the Trio (ably assisted by the "Ablution King"), and served *à la mode* in the dinky Mess Room.

This was tastefully and suitably decorated with holly berries and greenery blending with the usual tinsel and cheery mottoes. Professor Starling and his co-workers were congratulated on the success of their efforts.

The C.O. and officers came as usual and toasted everybody, and after dinner everybody toasted—literally and otherwise—everybody else. For hours the rafters re-echoed to the toasts and cheers of the multitude (in this case scarce fifty strong), and ere dusk had fallen many brave warriors (superbly brave at 13.00 hours) had bitten the dust. At least, they were *hors de combat*—not, of course, through the deleterious stimulants or sparkling wines, but perhaps through partaking too freely of the good cheer provided.

At 17.00 hours, when tea was served, we counted five daring souls who (to their credit be it said) had manfully remained from dinner, the sole survivors of the gas attack.

Thus passed a Christmas which will live in the annals of those fortunate enough to be present. Alas! McNeill is not of those. By noon his vision was clouded, and before the sun had scarcely crossed the meridian he lay like a warrior taking his rest, with his family of cats around him.

The New Year.

We have settled down to wag our flags on the grassy slopes again, with the usual resolutions for the New Year, and trust our efforts will produce the required results. We turn out these Signallers by "mass production," and by the time these notes are in print, fifty or so will have left us for lands anew.

Some will flit where Wireless is yet but an adjunct, others where she predominates. The usefulness of a "Visualler" may not always be appreciated, but wherever he goes he will serve his masters well. His utility is wasted in the back areas. In the forward zone he comes into his own. His portability enables him to dispense with "carrying parties" and wheeled transport. He and his chums can trek for miles over the veldt, where kopjes abound; or across the desert sands; or over the frontier passes, where a mule could scarcely find a foothold. He can sit for hours behind an antheap, or a sand dune, or lie concealed behind a sangar, ticking off his message on lamp or helio, with just a bite and sup till the day's work is done.

He comes through the ages, tested and tried in every war, his versatility lauded, his prestige high. His days are not yet numbered; he will be heard of again.

General.

We have few happenings to record beyond the fact that Nailon and Jenkins were ordered to Chatham prior to discharge, not having transferred to the new Corps.

Corpl Batts has arrived from Constantinople, but will shortly be leaving for civil life.

Scrivens has decided to lengthen his stay in the Army by another nine years.

Tracey lingers for another year. Chapman will shoe boots for another four years. Now that Brett, our pay bloke, has joined the Comedy Company, we will not grieve if the pay list is smeared with grease paint.

Sports.

Of sport we have little to relate. Our sporting fraternity are barely back from holiday-making, although we believe Cant, Cox and Geer did stretch their limbs with the Brighton Harriers.

Our hockeyites and footballites are hibernating temporarily. When they awake we will record their doings.

VISOPS.

C Company.

Now that we have passed through the trials of Christmas, and have seen the New Year safely in (we couldn't get the Old Year to go out until about 4 a.m. though!) it behoves us to turn our attention once more to THE WIRE.

We terminated our football fixtures of the season in really good style, giving the Battalion a chance of seeing what was considered the best match of the season.

Both teams met those of X Company, the juniors going down to a better team to the tune of 4—1, and the seniors losing a hotly contested match by 2—1.

We had rather bad luck in the latter match, Welch shooting into the goal-keeper's arms when he had a golden chance of equalising; but it was a splendid game, and the Company are well satisfied with their positions in the League, the seniors being second and the juniors third.

We offer our heartiest congratulations to L/Sergts Tokely and Burgess upon their promotion to full rank, and to Cpls Tremain, Kingman, and Downer upon their appointment as L/Sergts.

There was some talk of forming a platoon of senior n.c.o.s for meal parades, but nothing has so far appeared in Orders to that effect. In fact, nowadays, it seems they have just enough time in the mornings to sprint down to the Mess, dash round the table, and sprint back again.

We have to welcome to our standard C.S.M. Cussens, who came just before Christmas to take over duties of Sergeant-Major—this being the first occasion for some time that we have had a real live C.S.M. all to ourselves.

I must apologise to "Abu Kawas" for failing to notify him of the number of 1sts we held in November, but I had no other notes; and really, G, these things are becoming so common in C that they are hardly worth a special note. But if you wish to keep your books up to date, we have now 19!

It was with a very deep feeling of regret that we bade farewell to Sgmn Winterflood upon the expiration of his 12 years' engagement. One of the very best, and a thoroughly good soldier, we wish him every success in his career in civilian life.

I must apologise to all concerned if these notes seem somewhat disjointed, but with half a dozen "wad-punching swaddies" round about, each carolling the various and respective charms of Omaha, Wyoming, and Sunny Devon, and a grunt from another that he will "push a shaky solo"—mingled with the infinitely more expressive than elegant remarks of the remainder when they find that the said "push" is an "Ace, King, Queen, Jack, seven times" one—one's train of thought is apt to be interrupted. So I leave all other notes until next month.

THE PARSON.

Things We Want to Know.

Why did a certain senior n.c.o. sleep down in the Mess?—and exactly how many bandoliers did he find round his neck in the morning?

Who was the cheery optimist who returned in the early hours of Christmas morn, filled a stove to the top with coal, and was still seated there at breakfast time?

G Company.

Christmas has come and gone, and we are left to sigh with regret for "the things that were" for a short time. Some said, "Good old Christmas!" whilst others, I believe, have said—well, unmentionable things concerning the festive season.

The celebrations here were undoubtedly an unqualified success. Perhaps the liberality of the issue of the "hammers and tongues" might afford an explanation of the intense but quite innocent joy which (I am given to understand) prevailed.

The thanks of all members of the Company are due to L/Corpl Jordan and his enthusiastic committee (composed of Signalmen Milbourne, Enright and Richardson) for their work in arranging and decorating the gymnasium, and to Sergt Black and his noble band of cooks for their praiseworthy culinary efforts.

Rugby.

Since last month we have met X, and have suffered ignominious defeat at their hands to the tune of 13 points to 3. The football field resembled a duck's happy hunting ground at the finish; and our lighter pack could do nothing against the sturdier forwards led by Capt Beatson-Bell.

Soccer.

The only game of the month has been the replay between C juniors and ours to decide which of us should occupy second place in the league table. An intensely exciting game resulted.

In the first ten minutes of the game C scored two goals which were equalised through the agency of Wilson and Mann. Wilson scored again before the interval.

In the second half the "Telegs." made heroic efforts and succeeded in equalising. Doudge then busied himself and scored another leading goal for G, but C insisted on equalising.

An extra twenty minutes' play was unproductive of any further score, and the teams left the field with their league position still undecided after a total score of eight goals.

Things We Want to Know.

If the senior n.c.o.s have yet adopted "Stiffy's" Christmastide advice with regard to the bath book?

What odds we may quote for "Hoots" and the Orderly "Scorpion" in the "Matrimonial Stakes"?

What is the meaning of "Ten months more—roll on"?

Why the zone-wheel should not run on 90 A.H. batteries?—and how many amperes there are in a horse-power?

ABU NAWAS.

X Company.

It is rather late to talk about Christmas, but I would like to say a few words for those who were not here.

Well! the fun commenced with dinner. The food was first class, and the cooks certainly deserve credit for the way it was prepared. There was plenty of it, and I can safely say without fear of contradiction that everyone thoroughly enjoyed it.

The Company was visited by Major H. A. B. Salmond and Lieut F. Carstairs (Adjutant), both of whom drank to the health of all and wished us the compliments of the season.

The officers of the Company were also present. Major Bradley (Company Commander) gave us a short speech on the progress of sport in the Company, and also spoke of the *esprit de corps* existing among all ranks. We then drank with him to the further success of the Company, and after wishing us "a happy Christmas," the officers departed amidst rousing cheers.

After dinner the troops retired to a part of the hut which was set aside for singing, dancing, etc., the usual after-dinner fare was issued, and singing and general amusements proceeded.

Our "Tim" obliged with "Devil may care," but got stuck halfway after a very good attempt. Sigmn Massey gave us his latest "Gaiety" hit, "Hi-ki-wallah-wallah-ooo-bah-bay," and several of the lads followed suit. They were then left to it, and on the whole everyone enjoyed himself.

Since last month's notes we have not had much to do in sport, as you will see by the results appended below.

We have finished our games in the senior and junior Soccer Leagues, and are at the top of the table in both, so we are now waiting to try conclusions with our Maresfield rivals.

Senior League: v. C, won 2—1; v G, won 3—1.
Junior League: v. C, won 4—1; v G. won 1—0.
Rugger: v. C, draw 0—0; v. G, won 13—3.

We have had one cross-country run since last month, and managed to capture first place.

OVERHEARD IN THE GUARD ROOM.

Rookie (to another): "The Corps of Signals is the backbone of the British Army."

Corporal i/c Guard: "No, my lad; not the backbone—but you might say the nerves."

Voice from the dark: "Then the B—— Army's neurotic!"

THOSE GOOD SOLDIERS.

Two of the boys were out walking, and one of them had the misfortune to fall over. He struck the ground rather forcibly, and expressed himself in a similar manner, using several adjectives (not in the book).

A little girl standing by ran to her mother, and said "The poor soldier has fallen down."

"Did he, dear?" said ma.

"Yes," said the child; "and he's such a good man."

"Why, darling, how do know that he is a good man?" asked mamma.

"Well," said the girl; "he went down such a bang, and I heard him telling God all about it!"

Picturesque Fancy Dress Carnival.

The fancy dress balloon carnival held at the Soldiers' Club proved a great success, and if the Club Committee have a trumpet on the premises they should dig it out and blow it hard, because they have earned the right to do so.

The decorative scheme was very effective, with its hanging lanterns, and gay flags, and the blending of the different coloured lights gave the Club rather an Eastern effect, very pleasing to the eye. There was no doubt about it, all previous records were put in the shade, and a camp contributor writes that if many more had come Mr. Marriner would have had to lease the adjoining field to accommodate all the guests!

The affair was honoured by the presence of Major and Mrs. Bradley, Capt. and Mrs. Hobkirk, Lieut. and Mrs. Carstairs (who were the judging committee), the Matron (Miss Cameron) and Sisters from the Camp Hospital.

Owing to unforeseen circumstances, Major and Mrs. Salmond, and Capt and Mrs. Harris, were absent.

From 8 p.m. until 2 a.m. the fun travelled at top speed, and even during the dances the antics of "Old Bill" (Sergt Kendall), "Tarzan of the Apes" (Sigmn Starling), and "Charlie Chaplin" (Sigmn Massey), kept everybody in roars of laughter.

Prize Winners.

The competition in fancy dresses was very keen, and the winners of prizes fully deserved the congratulations of everybody present.

The first prize for the ladies, an ornamented biscuit barrel, was won by Miss Gladys Kirkbride, who entered as a "Balloon Girl." The second prize went to Miss Nellie Willis, representing the "Navy and Army," and she secured half-a-dozen tea spoons in leather case. The "Air Mail," splendidly portrayed by Miss Ivy Langford, carried off the third prize, a silver-mounted photo frame. The lucky spot prize for ladies, a butter dish and knife, was won by Miss Daisy Goldsmith.

In the gentlemen's class, Signalman Starling, as an "Orang Outang," was first, and the prize was a shaving brush and mirror on stand. As a "Chinese Mandarin," Mr. T. Crittall won second prize, a pair of hair brushes and comb in leather case. A leather writing case, won by "Charlie Chaplin" (Sigmn Massey), was the third prize. The lucky spot prize for gentlemen, a hair brush and comb in case, was presented to Mr. A. G. Saunders.

Mrs. Bradley presented the prizes, and the hearty round of applause that greeted each recipient proved the popularity of the judges' decision.

Thanks All Round.

Corpl Olive, R.A.M.C. (Chairman of the Club Committee), in a few well-chosen sentences, thanked Mrs. Bradley and the ladies and gentlemen present for their valuable assistance in making the carnival such a success, and called upon all present to shew their appreciation in the usual manner, which, by the way, was loud, long and hearty.

Major Bradley responded, thanking the Club Committee for the splendid manner in which things had been carried out. That meant more cheers, but the Committee deserved it.

The catering and decorating arrangements were in the hands of Mr., Mrs. and the Misses Marriner, but to explain how well it was done, and the interest they take in the boys in general, needs a very able pen to give them the credit that is really due to them for their absolute unselfishness.

The Gaiety Orchestra, under the able direction of Sigmn Thoroughgood, A.L.C.M., supplied music that put one in a "jazzy" mood, and to praise Corpl Olive and his committee was simply met with, "Well, what are we here for?"

Another carnival such as the last is eagerly looked forward to. Under the auspices of the Soldiers' Club Association, London, a visit was paid on 26th January by the Roosters Concert Party. Readers who served on the Balkan or Palestine fronts will, no doubt, know how eagerly the visit was anticipated.—*Southern Weekly News.*

Callous Criticisms of Crowborough Camp.

Dear Mr. Editor—

Christmas is over! Thank Gawd!! We few, we happy few, that remained in Camp undoubtedly became a (very) "*happy* band of brothers" (my apologies to Shakespeare and Capt Hulbert) with the aid of our good spirits and the good winter wines—I mean, winds. The main feature was the undoubted *camaraderie* that existed among all ranks. Even the slight discussion in C Company's cook-house ended happily!

Christmas Eve was eventful in that the married officers were constrained to plunge deep into their pockets! But, then, what a treat they had! What could have been more fascinating than to listen to the Crowborough Camp bell-ringers? And what more inspiring sight than those four dear deluded parsons who rendered "Good King Wenceslas" with such pathos?

Christmas Day itself was great. The C.O. did his duty nobly, and survived the terrible round of inspection with considerable *éclat*. Even the visit to the Sergeants' Mess did not cause him to wish for a taxi. The decorations in the Company mess rooms were splendid, particularly in X and P Companies, where there was displayed a cotton-wool "Jimmie" *rampant* on an *azure field*.

Yes! Christmas was very merry at Crowborough, but it is just as well that it only comes once a year! M'yes! I think so!

The Children's Christmas Tree Party, held at the Soldiers' Club on January 11th, was a huge success, and the hearty vote of thanks given to the organiser and controller, Major Salmond, was well merited.

Yours sincerely,
CHAVENDER.

P.S.—I fear that an attack of "the Willies," together with an inexplicable haziness of what happened, must account for the brevity of these notes.

Things We Want to Know.

Who were the four parsons who went carol singing on Christmas Eve?

Whether there is any truth in the story that one of them returned so *tired* that he put the harmonium in the stables and the horse in the church?

Whether the sentry enjoyed his drink?

Who said that he'd "come f'r'armonium"?

Flies.

I have been asked by the editor to write the following article in anticipation of a repetition of the worries of last summer [?—Ed.]

Whilst hating flies with a very decided hatred, most of you will agree that the creatures are interesting in a way.

Who has not taken part in a fly race up the window pane—the fly being minus its wings? Who has not, I say? But then, who has?

To resume—sorry, I don't believe I've even started. Well, then, flies are divided into two classes, known to the "professor johnnies" as tenses, *i.e.*, past and present. These should not be confused with the tense moments that many flies experience during their short stay on earth.

The present tense of fly is "fly." The past tense of fly is "flew." Thus it is seen that a fly who was progressed through life on the wing, but for some reason or other is no longer able to do so, must be classed as a "flew." These "flews" are of no use to mankind. Their hoofs cannot be utilised, neither are they good to eat. They are, however, often found amongst currants, to which they bear a marked resemblance except for the fact that "flews" possess many more legs than currants. Imaginative grocers go bald and spend hours pulling legs off "flews."

However, this article was commenced primarily with the object of explaining the habits, manners, and customs of the fly.

I shall also endeavour to show how these creatures may be relegated to the "flew" class. To be brief, we will consider the habits, ideas, manners, and customs at once. These are easily dealt with, as will be seen below:—

Habits—Cold meat and windows. Ideas—Very fly. Manners—None to speak of. Customs—50 per cent (at port of disembarkation).

A question that puzzled thousands for many years is, "Where do flies go in the winter time?" After many years of careful study, I am able to state with confidence that they do not.

We now come to the most interesting part of the subject: depriving flies of their living, or in other words, "putting them out of mess."

There are still those conservative folk who will insist on using father's current copy of "John Bull" for the purpose, but this is a very dull and prosaic method and is not recommended.

A very successful plan is to engage the fly's attention by showing it the family album or the wart on your neck. Whilst engrossed in the contemplation of one or both of these, the fly should be struck a heavy blow abaft the binnacle, or rather, behind the left auricular appendage, with the leg of a chair.

Before it can recover consciousness, it should be bound hand and foot and flung into the dustbin. Red hot ashes should then be emptied on top of the victim, and a close watch kept for two hours to ensure that it does not escape.

At the end of two hours, the fly (which is rapidly becoming a "flew") should be removed from the ashes, threaded on a piece of barbed wire, and hung up in the garden, lawn, or other waste ground to die of starvation. Most flies of ordinary physique succumb rather easily to this treatment, but if any difficulty is experienced, the method adopted by Professor Cosh will be found infallible.

I will now outline the——[I don't think!—Ed.]

BARLEUX.

Jubbulpore Notes.

Sergeants' Mess.

Dear Mr. Editor—Salaams. Since the last notes were published, there has been nothing awfully exciting to write about, except that the permanent establishment of the Depot has been published, and also the postings to various Companies in India.

As a result of the latter we have lost a few of the old hands, amongst them being C.S.M. Jack Allen, who has gone to the Northern Command Signal School, C.Q.M.S. "90" Elmes to Karachi, and the bold Jimmy James to Peshawar. Surrey Gilbert has been posted to the Depot, and is beginning to feel quite comfortable.

I think that "Bunny" Carpenter has given up all hopes of every forming another Bridge School, so has started to hunt around for a few to make up a game of "rummy." He gets on fairly well, and has apparently made a small fortune. Anyhow, he went to Calcutta for the races.

Our "little Alf" is still one of the quiet people, but he has an occasional moan. Although he seems to keep out of the way fairly well, he has heard of the story of the man who kept bees. Yes, he has been severely stung—not once, but many times.

We have been giving a couple of practice dances every week for the past month or so, and some of the learners, if not meant to be performing elephants, were certainly not intended to be experts on "the light fantastic toe." The best of the bunch is "Molly," who takes size umpteen in boots. I leave the remainder to your imagination.

George "Boo" seems to be leading a fast life lately, but somehow or other she gives him a big liver at times. Oh, yes, he also has heard the story of the man who kept bees.

We held a four-handed billiard tournament some weeks ago, the winners being Sergts Davidson and Lawson. R.S.M. Reid of the Medicals, and his "buttie," Sergt Rumary, were seen off in the semi-final by the winners.

There has also been a fair amount of sport in the way of football, hockey and tennis, with the officers of the "S" Course (who, by the way, are a jolly good sporting set). We have held our own as regards the first two, but at tennis they very gently removed our mocassins.

No doubt, news as to the welfare of R.Q.M.S "Crow" Kinnard will be acceptable to his innumerable friends. He is still keeping fit, but seems to have lost something since he came back from Mespot, which he puts down to being on the "tack" for about four months. Good old "Crow!" May your shadow never grow less!

Some of the leading "bar" members have been putting in a little overtime, so as to be in good form for Christmas. We have had some reinforcements in this section, R.Q.M.S. "Jock" Sutherland and Shoey Aldridge having just returned from Mespot.

Owing to lack of news, this will have to be the end of this. I hope, however, to give a few more after Christmas, for which arrangements are in full swing. We are preparing to act upon "Tich" Westwood's suggestion that we have four good square meals to celebrate the occasion, but as Tich is still a growing lad, he has been forgiven.

Once again, Mr. Editor, best salaams.

Buzz.

Baghdad District Signal Section.

Everybody (including the C.Q.M.S.) has at last settled down in the new billet.

Football, hockey and *wall-making* are our chief amusements at present, but, of course, King Football reigns supreme. I sincerely hope that the wet weather will soon be over, so that we may get on with our matches that are overdue.

This is how we stand in the League at present:—Played 11; won 7; lost 0; drawn 4. Goals: For, 20; against, 9. Points 18. Position in league, 1st. Not so bad for Mespot!

We shall be very sorry to lose our best players, who leave to-day for Blighty and India, but we'll give them a rousing cheer when the train steams out this evening.

Our visual scheme comes off very shortly, so let's hope that it will be a success and please everybody concerned.

By the time this appears, the wet weather will have ceased, and football and hockey will once again be the order of the *after work*.

PICEWALLER.

2nd Signal Company, Aldershot.

Our contribution is somewhat meagre this month, owing to the recent return from leave of "yours truly."

The Company is settling down after a very enjoyable Christmas, nearly all having finished leave, so we are hoping to hold our own in the forthcoming Command athletic events.

Our football team is still leading in the league, and is also through to the third round of the Aldershot Junior Cup—a trophy we are very anxious to annex at the first time of asking.

Our runners have not been very successful to date, but are still persevering in the hope that success will attend their efforts in the future.

Our O.C., Major Firth, is once again with us, as also is C.S.M. Hayward.

I am unable to give any definite account of the Christmas Day programme, but I know that those who were unfortunate enough to be left behind with the Company had a very nice dinner and a good social afterwards, and were, in fact, as happy as could be expected under the circumstances.

The cooking and arrangements were perfect, as also was the decoration of the room in which the banquet was held (for which a word of praise is due to all concerned.)

Football.

On Wednesday, January 11th, we met the Command Military Police in our first fixture of the New Year, and we commenced in good style, winning by nine goals to four, in spite of the absence on leave of the majority of our best players. However, with the inclusion of S.M. Cawsey, Sergt Keevil (Dick) and a few others, we managed to keep our end up and maintain our position at the head of the League.

The whole team deserve praise for the way they set about what many thought a hopeless task. The ground was very greasy, which probably accounted for the large number of goals scored.

Driver Ethered, a new arrival from Colchester, marked his first appearance in the team by doing the "hat trick." Corpl Brunton scored four, and Sigmn Stevenson and Sergt Bayliss completed the total.

Our nearest rivals, the Coldstream Guards, are only one point behind us in the league table, so we hope our team will continue in the winning vein, and thus make our position as leaders an assured thing.

Cross Country Running.

Owing largely to leave there have been no Command fixtures during the past month, and our runners have therefore had an enforced rest prior to the race on Tuesday, January 17th, when they will turn out in an endeavour to gain places in the Group team. The course is one of five miles, and the first fifteen in are to be chosen to represent the Group in the forthcoming Command championships. We are hopeful that at least six of our boys will be chosen, but, of course, the more the merrier.

Billiards.

We have entered a team in the Command Billiard League, and although we have no Tom Newman's or Willie Smith's, we are sure the members chosen will put up a good show.

Our first fixture is with the Army Education Corps on Monday, January 16th, the result of which we shall have to report in our next contribution.

We Wonder!

If we can win the League and the Cup as well?

What the Company Office thought when they received an application for a "month pending" from the lucky individual who is "time-ex." in 1926?

If it's true that there was a tube connecting the barrel of beer to the bed of the n.c.o. who slept close by?

Who conceived the idea of describing bottles as being either "dead" or "alive"?

What some of their mammas do when they're at home?

DIN.

4th Divisional Signal Company.

After long silence we again appear on the scene of action.

We open our notes this month with departures. Lieut C. A. Jackson, Middlesex Regt. (our Second-in-Command), departs this life for the Great Unknown on the 7th inst. He is a keen sportsman, and has done much to help along our football. Our good wishes for the future go with him.

C.S.M. Hanley, 9th Field Co., R.E. (our temporary Company Sergeant-Major) proceeded on furlough pending his discharge, on January 21st, on completion of twenty-one years' service. We all wish him luck on his return to civilian life.

The following arrived from the Signal Training Centre during January: 2309340 Sigmn Barrett, R. E., F Co.; 2312343 Sigmn Cluness, G. M., P Co.; 2312567 Driver Ross, H., P Co.

We are making fine progress with our football, although our numbers are so small.

A Signal Class assembled on January 20th, so with increased numbers we are hoping to start dancing once again.

It may interest some of the old members of the Company to know that "Busty" still plays a very prominent part in the daily routine. His attempt at "stunting" during the recent heavy snowfall was very amusing.

R. C. B.

43rd (The Wessex) Divisional Signals.

(Territorial)

Exeter.

With the festive season over, we are off again into a steady trot. December was not a particularly eventful month for us, Territorially speaking.

At Topsham a successful effort was made in connection with a boxing tournament, which was productive of good sport and drew a crowded house. This was mainly due to the abounding enthusiasm and energy displayed by Signalman Gould, the hon. sec. He was backed up earnestly by a hard working committee—hence the result.

Christmas shooting competitions were held in connection with the Crediton and Topsham Sections, and as there were enough prizes to go all the way round, everybody was (like the dog in the show) highly delighted.

The R.S.M. had a Mess party on New Year's Eve, which was attended with the usual result—a very happy little evening.

We are hoping with all the fervour of which we are capable that the New Year will see the Wessex Signals increase and multiply.

Hopes are at present centred upon a busy little seafaring town near Topsham, to wit, Lympstone. Great things are likely to happen there, and we are all on the tip toe of expectation.

The Christmas number of THE WIRE, Mr. Editor, has been most favourably commented on. Congratulations!

Oh, I forgot to whisper that our Signals football team is in the final for the Territorial Championship of Devon. Next month we shall publish the result—in block if we have won, small type at the bottom if we have "gone down." The Territorial Sports Committee are providing medals for the victors, and a "feed" is being supplied to both victors and vanquished. So in any case we shall get *something*. *C'est bon!*

The Adjutant, Capt. C. A. Murray, is on leave in Ireland. He didn't cancel his order for THE WIRE before he departed, so we are in hopes of having him back again with us! It's lonely without him.

OLD SPARK

46th (North Midland) Divisional Signals.

There has been little doing in the training line since my last notes, owing to the Christmas holidays, but now these are over we are hoping to resume, and (with prospects of decent weather) to work a week-end scheme occasionally.

Our Cable Section has been out several times, and (although composed chiefly of raw materials) showed such enthusiasm that, with a little more training, it should become as efficient as it is possible for a Territorial unit to hope for.

Although training was relaxed during the holidays, we held a successful whist drive. The refreshments were in the hands of two ladies, Mrs. Ball and Mrs. Bray, to whom thanks were accorded for contributing so largely to the success of the evening.

On New Year's Eve a smoking concert was held, the artistes being members of the unit.

The many friends of Capt. Jack Bray will be pleased to learn that he has fully recovered from his recent operation, and is eagerly looking forward to the coming cricket season.

MEREBIMUR.

Glasgow Signal Units.

1st (Scottish) Corps Signals.

52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals.

December was not a busy month with regard to training, but now the New Year festivities are over, we hope to settle down to Spring training.

Our strength is slowing mounting, but unfortunately we are losing men who join the Regular Forces. C.Q.M.S. McWilliams left us to rejoin at Maresfield for duty, and has been replaced by Sergt G. Terry, who will find plenty to do with our football team.

C.Q.M.S. McGuire, we are pleased to state, has been permitted to continue with us for another year. ("Sound as a bell," quoth the M.O.)

Football.

The team are doing well, and stand fourth in the League with a couple of matches in hand. They had a reverse at the hands of the 9th Glasgow Highlanders, but only by one goal (2—3). To date the team have played eleven matches—won 7, lost 3, and drawn 1.

Entertainments.

The weekly dance is still popular, and on January 24th we are to hold our annual regimental dance. The tickets have been in great demand, and we are looking forward to a most successful evening.

The annual dinner was held in the Officers' Mess, and many well known faces were to be seen.

The G.O.C., Major-Gen. Sir P. R. Robertson, K.C.B., C.M.G., Lieut.-Col. Prickett, D.S.O. (C.S.O. Scottish Command), and Lieut.-Col. Rose (well known to all who passed through Hitchin), took an active part in the "Eightsome Reel."

Arrangements are in hand to hold the annual smoking concert in the near future.

Questions.

What is the cost of repairing the hearts broken by our popular Dance President?

What happened to the blankets?

What happened at the dance when the lights went out?

LOW COR.

53rd (Welch) Divisional Signals, Cardiff
(Territorials).

Scene: Cardiff. Time: 10.00 hours. Weather report: Decidedly chilly. Such was the rather "hopeless dawn" setting when the flagging energies of the Staff at Park Street were goaded into one last frenzied effort, in order that the 53rd (Welch) Divl. Signals might make their bow to their other "companions in crime" whose notes habitually adorn the pages of THE WIRE.

However, we've done it, and what's more, we mean to make a song about it!

The whole of the Welch Divl. Signals are together in Cardiff, a state of affairs which, from the Territorial point of view, is a decided advantage.

The unit is fully organised as regards the three Companies, and though not fully up to strength as regards men, will compare favourably with any other T.F. Signal unit in England. Strength: 15 officers and 263 other ranks.

The unit is commanded by Major R. G. Llewellyn, M.C., R.C.S.; Adjutant, Capt. R. T. O. Cary, M.B.E., Middlesex Regt. O.C. No. 1 Co.: Major F. S. Morgan, R.C.S. O.C. No. 2 Co.: Capt. F. N. Fawcett, R.C.S. O.C. No. 3 Co.: Capt. R. C. Seel, M.C., R.C.S. The permanent Staff Instructors comprise the following n.c.o.s (whose names, I venture to state, are not unknown at the Signal Training Centres, Maresfield and Crowborough): R.S.M. B. Pease, D.C.M., Sergt-Instr. Richards, and Sergt-Instr. Hoare.

Need I say more about the efficiency of the unit? I think not!

Sport in the unit, I may venture to add, is exceedingly good, and very keenly contested. Unfortunately, owing to the lack of open space, football is greatly handicapped.

We managed, however, to reach the semi-final of the Welch Divl. T.A. Cup, but lost to the 2nd Welch Field Ambulance, after a gruelling game played on the Barracks field.

It has been rumoured that several directors of the Cardiff City (First League) Club were included amongst the spectators, and although modesty forbids us to suggest that our team's methods (especially those of Jim O'Brien) have been copied, one can only admire the rapid advance of that talented team since that period. (X Company, please note!)

Our rifle team is one of the successes of the season, having so far only lost two matches out of 17, and has now reached the semi-final of the Dewar Cup. Our chance of winning this trophy has been guaranteed by the practised eye of our official scorer (the moral effect of our side on our opponents is astonishing, and s'ould prove a great advert for Chivers and Co.)

Our latest protege, the skittles team, is progressing very favourably, our latest victims being the United Services Mess. This match was organised to assist in the formation of our local O.C.A. Branch, which we hope to have in full swing by the time our next notes appear in print.

Things We Want to Know.

Who put the stones in C.S.M. Hartree's coal?

Has not the malady of "oscillating the plumbago" been brought to a fine art by one of the members of the semi-Permanent Staff?—and whether, in view of the activities on Saturday nights, the Drill Hall should not be re-named "the Dancing Academy"?

Whether the entire filing system of D Co., Maresfield, has not been introduced into the Company Office at Park Street?—and whether the author of the transfer has not placed on the market his famous "Luzo" cabinet file, with which he claims mice can never get at your correspondence?

Whether the arrival of our medical stores coincided very well with the return of one of our officers from Crowborough?—and if the well-known hospitality of the Sergeants' Mess of that Depot led the said officer to express an opinion that the steps of that hostel should be sanded?

Whether the recent instructions issued by the "powers that be" have led to "no ordinary" activity in the locksmith's department?

Whether one of the members of the P/S has not been added to the Permanent Inventory Board?—and is a ladder, and not a rifle, now this soldier's best friend?

Whether (now the new arrangement of the Company Offices is an accomplished fact), "Pease" now reigns, as it has never reigned before?

R. T. O.

Belfast Signal Company.

Since my last notes, a great change has taken place in the Company.

A draft of twenty-seven n.c.o.s and men left on the 9th January for Crowborough, *en route* for India. Included in the draft were our old friends, Sergt Mack, Sergt (Dick) Whittingham, and L/Corpl Tolley (of billiard fame). Our best wishes for a safe journey go with them all, and we trust they will have a quieter time in India than has been their lot recently in Belfast.

As seven of our football team were included in the draft, Soccer has been out of the question lately owing to preparations for leaving Belfast. Under the circumstances we have nothing to report in this respect.

We hope the reinforcements will roll up, so that we can get a team together again, and have the chance of a few games before the season ends.

Heartiest congratulations to our Q.M. (C.S.M. A. G. Baker) on obtaining the long service and good conduct medal.

S. C. C.



[It is to be distinctly understood that information given under the headings, "Promotions, Births, Marriages, and Deaths," etc., is altogether unofficial, and is on no account to be quoted in official correspondence.]

ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS.

Promotion Roster.

WARRANT OFFICERS, CLASS I.

SERGEANT-MAJORS.

2306011 Mepham, C., 1/5/19
2306045 Gallagher, W., 1/9/21

WARRANT OFFICERS, CLASS II.

QUARTERMASTER-SERGEANTS.

2306433 Finmore, J., 18/4/15
2306048 Winton, A. E., 9/9/19
2306044 Manton, C. H., 1/9/21
2306032 White, R., 1/9/21
2306434 Nolan, P., 1/9/21

WARRANT OFFICERS, CLASS II.

COMPANY SERGEANT-MAJORS.

2306006 Prescott, W., 9/10/14
2306053 Cook, W., 1/4/13
2306026 Watson, S., 25/12/16
2306024 Rodwell, C., 31/8/14
2306067 Barham, G., 23/1/15
2306050 Simnett, P., 7/9/14
2306091 Gray, A., 26/9/14
1857135 Creed, S., 18/4/15
1852255 Lane, G., 23/4/20
1850007 Hone, W. J., 17/12/19
2306107 Brown, B., 13/7/20
2311681 Cawsey, A., 13/7/20
2306435 Santer, L., 5/11/14
2306105 Lasham, T., 17/11/14
2306437 Adams, J., 18/4/15
2306438 Brown, P., 18/4/15
2306337 Burrows, G., 18/4/15
2306028 Evans, W., 3/5/15
2311797 Coates, F. J., 20/5/15
2306009 Hayburn, J., 6/9/15
2306052 Walshaw, G., 1/9/21
1850079 Boulger, H. W., 1/9/21
2306058 Butler, A., 1/9/21
2306106 Baker, J., 1/9/21
2306020 Horgan, E., 1/9/21
2306072 Hearn, W., 1/9/21
2311717 Kenyon, A., 1/9/21
2306093 Waterhouse, G., 1/9/21
2306050 Cussens, J., 1/9/21
1850291 Pickett, A., 1/9/21
2306121 Sinclair, R., 1/9/21
2306114 Williams, H., 1/9/21
2306064 Duckett, J., 1/9/21
2306055 Hayward, W., 1/9/21

[*Note.*—The foregoing ranks are shown in their order of seniority for further promotion.]

COMPANY QUARTERMASTER-SERGEANTS—

2306084 McWilliams, J., 7/9/14 (follows 1851201 Sergt. Wright for further promotion)
1850357 Haines, J., 7/9/14 (follows 2306176 Sergt Lawrance for further promotion)
2306050 Jordan, H. (C.Q.M.S. 1/9/21)
2306171 Harding, P. (C.Q.M.S. 1/9/21)
2306062 Shepherd, E. (C.Q.M.S. 1/9/21)
2306117 Anderson, E. (C.Q.M.S. 1/9/21)
2306340 Dorling, R. (C.Q.M.S 1/9/21)
2306342 Mills, T. (C.Q.M.S. 1/9/21)
2306348 Keane, M. (C.Q.M.S. 1/9/21)
2306347 Scott, W. (C.Q.M.S. 1/9/21)
2306367 Carvell, W. (C.Q.M.S. 1/9/21)
2306151 Eldridge, J. (C.Q.M.S. 1/9/21)
2306043 McGuire, A. (C.Q.M.S. 1/9/21)
1850758 Hogben, H. (C.Q.M.S. 1/9/21)

SERGEANTS—

1850008 Essam, J., 1/8/12
1851201 Wright, C., 1/8/12
1852004 O'Brien, P., 1/8/12
2306126 Lavers, C., 1/4/13
2306136 Lovell, W., 1/4/13
2306174 Pease, B., 1/4/13
2306079 Weeks, W., 1/4/13
1851803 Bale, R. F., 1/4/13
2306176 Lawrance, F., 1/4/13
2306173 Draper, E., 1/4/13
2306172 Fry, T., 1/4/13
2306128 Wills, G., 1/4/13
1850265 Craig, F., 1/4/13
2306345 Campbell, J., 1/4/13

1857137 Brown, G., 1/4/13
1850479 May, H., 1/4/13
1855185 Robinson, E., 12/4/13
1850338 Chitty, J., 24/10/13
2306343 Bird, H., 10/12/13
2307708 Gadsby, A., 5/2/14
2306373 Stevenson, W., 5/2/14
2306188 McGregor, H., 1/4/14
2306370 Donovan, F., 1/5/14
2306381 Walsh, P., 15/5/14
2306365 Winter, A., 5/8/14
2306383 Boulsbee, J., 5/8/14
2306382 Edwards, G., 5/8/14
2306086 Hill, W., 5/8/14
2306110 Thompson, F., 5/8/14
2306125 Colvin, F., 5/8/14
1851903 Stevens, G. A., 5/8/14
1857158 Watson, G., 5/8/14
2306166 Patrick, E., 5/8/14
1857069 Wassell, J., 5/8/14
2306190 Dixon, T., 5/8/14
2306213 Spalding, R., 5/8/14
2306207 Horner, W., 5/8/14
2311225 Jones, H., 5/8/14
2306208 Nichol, W., 5/8/14
2306157 Francis, W., 5/8/14
2306056 Allan, T., 5/8/14
2306019 Hewitt, F., 5/8/14
2306220 Hoare, A., 5/8/14
2306186 Adams, H., 5/8/14
2306194 Harris, F., 5/8/14
2306118 Skinner, A., 5/8/14
2306095 Mehigan, J., 5/8/14
2306168 Evans, H., 5/8/14
1857157 Benton, F., 5/8/14
2306218 Brooks, G., 5/8/14
2306899 Johnson, W., 21/8/14
2308184 Currie, D., 28/8/14
2306147 Duffett, C., 31/8/14
2306377 Shaw, J., 31/8/14
1852025 Walker, J., 31/8/14
2306142 Atkins, A., 31/8/14
2306199 Terry, G., 31/8/14
2306113 Hatton, C., 31/8/14
1855192 Willis, F., 31/8/14
2306120 George, G., 1/9/14
2306075 Smithson, C., 1/9/14
2306112 Cadwell, J., 16/9/14
2311560 Thomas, G., 21/9/14
2306384 Newman, E., 9/10/14
1857006 Campleton, H., 9/10/14
2307830 Ansell, F., 9/10/14
2306130 Harris, C., 9/10/14
2306902 Hullett, T., 22/10/14
2306668 Hart, R., 25/10/14
2311226 Foster, E., 3/11/14
2306231 Biart, R., 5/11/14
2305225 Brown, F., 5/11/14
2306181 Jones, H., 5/11/14
2306179 Ruffle, G., 5/11/14
2306237 Smith, E., 5/11/14
2306221 Williams, E., 8/11/14
2306883 Pinder, J. A., 10/12/14
2306196 Clark, W., 30/12/14
2306109 Norton, R., 30/12/14
1855251 Berry, H., 30/12/14
1850377 Sweeting, J., 30/12/14
2308022 Sandys, E., 30/12/14
2306149 Hankins, A., 22/1/15
2306396 Allen, J., 27/2/15
2306332 West, F., 18/4/15
2306253 Griggs, W. H., 18/4/15
2306372 Walsh, M., 18/4/15
2306211 Coulson, R., 19/4/15
2306964 Gillin, F., 21/9/15
2311718 Fegan, H., 4/10/15
1857141 Bowler, H., 26/10/15
2308181 Betteridge, F., 9/3/16
2311631 Johnstone, F., 6/4/16
2306089 Gorringe, D. A. T., 1/5/16
1852265 Bryant, C., 24/10/16
2306898 Ferguson, J., 12/12/16
2306101 Smith, W., 25/12/16
1854109 Cornish, R. H., 15/4/17
1854158 Morris, L., 18/4/17
2306986 Birch, F., 16/5/17
2307043 Harrison, G., 22/5/17
1850266 Hole, E., 22/9/17
1857143 Jacks, W., 1/11/17
2306344 Setterfield, E., 27/11/17
2308083 King, E., 12/4/18
2306314 Andrews, C., 1/6/18
2306209 Hall, S. J., 13/8/18
1861302 Manley, A. R., 1/9/20
2313005 Watkins, W. T., 26/9/20
2554520 Barron, W. H., 15/10/20
533743 Lambourne, W., 2/11/20
5819125 Crabb, G., 9/11/20
6076200 Mack, C. G., 8/12/20
2306335 Sharp, C. J., 14/12/20
2313057 Richards, H. G., 27/1/21
2313058 Barnes, W. J., 31/1/21
2306085 Taylor, H., 1/2/21
2306744 Webster, T., 1/2/21
2306228 Beattie, A., 1/2/21
2306769 Forward, V., 1/2/21
2306177 Laycock, W., 1/2/21
2306187 James, G., 1/2/21
1858978 Cains, E., 1/2/21
2307473 Brown, P., 1/2/21
1856293 Wray, G., 1/2/21
2308037 Todd, C., 1/2/21
2307730 Dowie, A., 1/2/21
2308347 Watts, G., 1/2/21
2307387 Jones, G. A., 1/2/21
2306346 Purkiss, P., 1/2/21
2307347 Atkins, J., 1/2/21
2306395 Tyler, W., 1/2/21
2306115 Sorrell, A., 1/2/21
2306219 Hoitt, W., 1/2/21
2306312 Jeffery, B. H., 1/2/21
2306288 Wigglesworth, J., 1/2/21
1852765 Hughes, S., 1/2/21
2306175 Sharpley, W., 1/2/21
2306742 Underwood, H., 1/2/21
1851358 LeQuelence, C., 15/2/21
2313061 Leach, A., 7/3/21
5038848 Thorpe, A. E., 11/3/21
2555232 Jones, H. J., 24/3/21
2307802 Hyson, H. (Sergt 1/9/21)
2306164 Thompson, C. (Sergt 1/9/21)
2306116 Hunt, A. (Sergt 1/9/21)
2311471 Davidson, H. (Acting Sergt 1/9/21)
2306323 Harrington, F. (Acting Sergt 1/9/21)
2307262 Green, L. (Sergt 1/9/21)
2306341 Fleckney, F. (Sergt 1/9/21)
2306025 King, G. (Acting Sergt 1/9/21)
2306222 Weeks, G. (Sergt 1/9/21)
2306324 Tokley, F. (Sergt 1/9/21)
2307665 Kneebone, G. (Sergt 1/9/21)
2306133 Sandey, E. (Sergt 1/9/21)
1855195 Bray, A. (Acting Sergt 1/9/21)

1857265 Lane, F. (Acting Sergt 1/9/21)
2306297 Link, W. (Sergt 1/9/21)
2306331 Goldman, C. (Sergt 1/9/21)
1852175 Gibbon, J. C. (Sergt 1/9/21)
2307810 Wilson, T. (Sergt 1/9/21)
2307703 Eves, J. (Sergt 1/9/21)
2306161 Diffey, W. (Acting Sergt 1/9/21)
1851563 Smith, R. (Sergt 1/9/21)
2307118 Hadfield, S. (alias 314053 Field, J.) (Acting Sergt 1/9/21)
1852381 Devereux, A. (Sergt 1/9/21)
2311235 Call, A. (Sergt 1/9/21)
2308267 Jackson, J. (Sergt 1/9/21)
2307176 Davey, W. (Sergt 1/9/21)
2306832 Stockwell, J. (Sergt 1/9/21)
2308029 O'Connor, J. (Acting Sergt 1/9/21)
2306439 Hudson, C. (Sergt 1/9/21)
2306292 Burgess, J. (Sergt 1/9/21)
2306249 McGregor, S. (Sergt 1/9/21)
2306155 Burgess, C. (Acting Sergt 1/9/21)
1857264 Warner, H. (Acting Sergt 1/9/21)
2306968 Britton, A. (Sergt 1/9/21)
2306709 Kelly, E. (Sergt 1/9/21)
2306418 Whittingham, W. (Sergt 1/9/21)
2311440 Scrivens, E. (Sergt 1/9/21)
2307068 Keenan, A. (Sergt 1/9/21)
1855160 Sands, G. T. (Sergt 1/9/21)
2307349 Markham, W. (Sergt 1/9/21)
1861301 Mitchell, P. E. (Sergt 1/9/21)
2555796 Smith, M. H. S., 4/10/21

(To be continued).

Weather Forecast.

By our Special Meteorological Correspondent.

Bluewich,
Wednesday, Jan. 11th, 1922.

The depression over the greater part of Maresfield Park is reported to be rising steadily as Pay Parade approaches.

Rain. More rain. Early morning visibility poor, owing, no doubt, to bad light and rough night.

Warm or cold according to the temperature; if not, then otherwise.

Wind north or east, but if not, then probably west or even south.

The night will be dark owing to the sun becoming obscured by the horizon. *Note*—the sun is a large ball of fire allowed to roam through the heavens by kind permission of the Daily Quail. Was distinctly seen from Maresfield less than three months ago.

There will be no moon for the next few days, it having been appropriated by Mr. H. G. Wells for research purposes.

To-day being Wednesday, to-morrow, in all probability, will be Thursday. If not, you get your money back.

There are no prizes.

BARLEUX.

SPORTS NEWS.

Football.

Notes.

We are very pleased to see that our team has started the New Year well, and up to the time of penning these lines, we have two victories to our credit —one an away fixture at Shoreham in the County League, and the other in the second round of the Sussex Senior Cup. We sincerely hope that this form can be kept up.

We have managed to get into the third round of the Senior Cup, and now meet Hastings and St. Leonards at Maresfield. Up to the present we hold an unbeaten certificate on our own pitch, and we look forward to the match against Hastings with confidence in our ability to win. The visitors have indeed a fine record, and gave us a severe thrashing at Hastings; but I think we can rely on our boys to go all out in returning the compliment.

We are glad to see Shenton has found his form again, and since the New Year has registered three goals out of five. We earnestly hope he will be able to keep it up.

Baines registered his usual cup tie goal in the second round of the Sussex Cup, and we hope he will keep on repeating the offence!

Corps Goal-Scorers.

It might be interesting to see who are goal scorers since the beginning of the season. Shenton, of course, leads, but Baines (who only made his appearance in the middle of October) is rapidly overhauling him. Here is the record: Shenton 14; Baines 8; Withers 3; Gresham 2; Carter 1; Welch 1; McGregor 1.

The Signals should have played their Sussex Cup Tie on December 17th, but owing to a mishap the visitors arrived late, and the following is an extract from the newspaper:—

SPORTING SIGNALS.

The Royal Corps of Signals are to be complimented on a sporting action. Brighton and Hove Amateurs, with whom they had a senior cup fixture, failed to turn up at the appointed hour, and Mr. Referee H. A. Ayling was about to give the Signals the opportunity of scoring a goal and thus winning the game in the absence of their opponents, when the Amateurs arrived —nearly an hour late. It was impossible to play the tie to a conclusion, and the Signals would have been perfectly justified in claiming the match; but they decided otherwise, and the game is to be played out. To save the "gate," an enjoyable one-hour friendly match was played, and resulted in a close win for the Signals (2—1) after a fine display of football, marred only by the wind. Gresham, Baines (who scored the goals), and Carter were prominent in the forward line, and Barby was as good as ever at back. White in goal justified his return to that position.

The following letter was also received from the secretary of the Brighton and Hove Amateurs F.C. :—

December 20th, 1921.

My dear White,—At our committee meeting last evening, it was decided to place on record our appreciation of the sporting action of the management of the Royal Corps of Signals F.C. on the occasion of the unfortunate breakdown of our conveyance last Saturday, and I was instructed to write you to this effect. Would you, therefore, kindly convey these sentiments to your committee, with our sincere thanks.

Yours sincerely,

H. A. KING.

Our record at present (including "friendlies") is as follows: Played 16; won 9; lost 3; drawn 4; goals for: 30; against 20.

Herewith all results complete to date:—

Sept. 3rd—Eastbourne R.E. (County League) away; draw 1—1

Sept. 17th—Worthing (C.L.) away; lost 0—1.

Sept. 24th—Southwick (C.L.) home; won 2—0

Oct. 8th—Newhaven (C.L.) home; won 4—2

Oct. 15th—East Grinstead (C.L.) away; draw 1—1

Oct. 22nd—Vernon Athletic (C.L.) away; won 2—1

Oct. 26th—R.E. Depot (Chatham) (Friendly) home; won 3—2

Oct. 29th—Lewes (C.L.) home; won 2—0

Nov. 5th—Chichester (C.L.) away; lost 1—3

Nov. 12th—Eastbourne R.E. (C.L.) home; won 6—0

Nov. 19th—Lewes (C.L.) away; draw 0—0.

Dec. 3rd—Hastings and St. Leonards (C.L.) away; lost 0—6

Dec. 10th—Bournemouth Gas Works (Amateur Cup, 1st Round) away; lost 1—2

Dec. 17th—Brighton and Hove Amateurs (Friendly) home; won 2—1

Jan. 7th—Shoreham (C.L.) away; won 2—0

Jan. 14th—Brighton and Hove Amateurs (Sussex Senior Cup, 2nd Round) home; won 3—0

Sussex Senior Cup (Second Round).

ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS v. BRIGHTON AND HOVE AMATEURS.

At Maresfield, before 500 spectators. A heavy downpour during the morning made the ground greasy and treacherous.

The Signals were without Wooldridge and Hobbs, Shillingford and Duffy deputising. The Amateurs had several men down with the "flu," and played five reserves. Their side gave a game show, and the second half, particularly, produced many thrills.

The Amateurs, winning the toss, set the Signals to kick down the incline. In their first attack the visitors were smartly pulled up by Barby.

The next incident of special note was applause for Wiseman, who was giving a sterling display.

The visitors' backs could not hold the home forwards, and resorted to kicking out, tactics of which the crowd soon shewed its disapproval. Shenton was always a danger, and hit the upright with a hard drive.

For the Amateurs Larner got through, White stopping a hot drive.

The Signals subsequently gained a penalty. Withers shot over the bar, but the kick was ordered to be retaken for an infringement, and this time Wiseman stopped the ball, which rolled along the goal line. Thinking it had gone over the line, the referee pointed to the centre, but a second later reversed his decision and gave a goal kick.

Gresham on the home right got away and swung in a fine centre, which Withers headed past Wiseman, but the goal was disallowed, owing to Shenton getting offside.

THE SIGNALS' THREE GOALS.

A free kick to the Signals was well placed by Bonner. Wiseman misjudged the flight of the ball, and Baines, dashing in, scored with a hard drive. So at the interval the Signals led by 1—0.

Soon after the resumption the Amateurs got down, but Rowe was smartly stopped by Barby.

Later the Signals attacked strongly. Gresham was playing a sterling game for them, and gave his forwards many fine chances by his accurate centreing.

Wiseman cleared a difficult header from Barby, and a minute later was brought to his knees with a hot shot from Shenton.

Eventually, after an excellent solo effort, Gresham swung in a fine cross shot, and Shenton, dashing in, met the ball with his head, and the sphere flashed by Wiseman into the net.

Five minutes later Carter added number three. A fast, clean game ended with the score: Signals 3; Amateurs 0.

SIGNALS—White; Barby and Shillingford; Duffy, Hall and Bonner; Gresham, Baines, Shenton, Withers, and Carter (captain).

AMATEURS—Wiseman; R. J. Reynolds and Austin; A. Simmonds, E. H. Beer and W. E. Reynolds; Hazeldine, Elliott (captain), Larner, Rowe and Goodman.

Referee—Mr. Ayling (Southwick). Linesmen—Sigmn Morris and Mr. R. Mitchell.

DRAW FOR THE THIRD ROUND.

The following fixtures are down for decision in the third round of the Sussex Senior Cup:—

Vernon Athletic v. Chichester.
Horsham v. Worthing.
Lewes v. Eastbourne.
R.C. of Signals v. Hastings and St. Leonards.

LULU

Sussex County League.

SHOREHAM v CORPS OF SIGNALS.

At the Oxen Field, Shoreham, on Saturday, Jan. 7th, before a very poor attendance—the gate receipts only amounting to about 21s. The big attraction at Hove was undoubtedly the cause of such a poor attendance.

The Signals were without the services of Baines, Hobbs and Withers, their places being filled by Duffy, Welch and Hollness. The home team also were without the services of some of their best players, and were compelled to field a weak team. The teams lined up in charge of Mr. H. A. Ayling (Southwick).

Shoreham, winning the toss, had choice of ends, and as play commenced a drizzle started and kept up throughout the game.

Shenton kicked off for the Signals, and at once broke through, but after a sharp mêlée the Shoreham backs cleared their lines.

The Signals kept up the pressure, and the homesters were forced on the defensive. A neat run by Gresham on the Signals' right resulted in a corner being forced. The kick was well placed and went to Shenton, who opened the Signals' account with a hard drive.

Play now livened up, and Shoreham's left got away, but put over the bar when favourably placed.

The Signals returned to the attack, and for a time the home goalie was kept busy stopping all kinds of shots, a particularly hot drive from Shenton being tipped over the bar.

The Signals kept up the pressure, and a corner was forced. Gresham lobbed the ball into the Shoreham goalmouth, and from the mêlée that followed Shenton increased the Signals' lead with a low drive.

Shoreham tried hard to get on level terms, but the visitors' defence broke up all their efforts, and White had very little to do. The shots of the home forwards lacked sting, and although playing well in mid-field, they could not wind up their efforts by scoring.

The Signals kept pegging away, and three more corners were forced, all of which were cleared; and at half-time the score stood: Signals 2; Shoreham 0.

SHOREHAM'S WEAK SHOOTING.

On the resumption, play ruled even for a time. The Signals, however, soon got going, and Welch got through to hit the cross-bar with a hard drive.

Play now went into the Signals' area, and a run on the Shoreham left resulted in a corner being forced, but the ball was put behind. Shoreham now took up the running and pressed hard, but owing to weak shooting White kept his goal intact.

The Signals got away, and Shenton raced through and sent in a terrific drive which temporarily put the home goalie out.

Several raids on the home goal followed, but no further scoring took place, and the final whistle sounded with the score: Signals 2; Shoreham 0.

LULU.

LEAGUE RESULTS.

Compiled up to and including Saturday, Jan. 14th:—

	Played	W.	L.	D.	For	Agst	Pts
Hastings & St. Lnrds (5)	9	9	0	0	30	8	18
Vernon Athletic (2) ...	11	8	2	1	29	16	17
R.C. of Signals (4) ...	12	6	3	3	21	13	15
Worthing (1)	8	6	1	1	24	4	13
Lewes (10)	12	6	5	1	23	21	13
B. and H. Amateurs (3)	10	5	4	1	20	15	11
Chichester (6) ...	10	4	5	1	11	22	9
Southwick (9) ...	12	4	8	0	17	23	8
Newhaven (7)	11	2	7	2	14	23	6
Eastbourne R.E. ...	9	1	5	3	7	22	5
East Grinstead (12) ...	10	1	6	3	10	22	5
Shoreham (8)	10	1	7	2	9	26	4

The figures in parentheses indicate the positions at the end of last year's competition Eastbourne R.E. did not compete.

LULU.

Hockey.

Army Tournament.

1st T.B. R.C.S. (MARESFIELD) v. 2nd T.B. R.C.S. (CROWBOROUGH).

On the Maresfield village ground before a good attendance. The 1st T.B.s fielded a strong team, which included two county players in Major Pinsent and Lieut Pearce. Throughout the first half they had much the better of the play, and the Crowborough men worked hard on the defensive.

Following a short corner, a sharp mêlée in the Crowborough goal area resulted in Major Pinsent scoring with a ground shot.

Play now livened up, and for a time ruled even. Then from another corner which was forced, Lieut Woodbridge sent in a hard drive, Gresham making a desperate attempt to stop the ball, which cannoned off his foot into the net. Half-time thus found the 1st T.B.s leading 2—0.

Resuming, the Crowborough men, setting up a hot pace, got through, and Lacqueray should have scored, but failed in the last moment and the attempt was cleared.

For the homesters Horsecroft went through on his own, to finish up by putting over the bar, missing a glorious chance. Later a combined movement resulted in Horsecroft making amends by scoring a brilliant goal from an awkward angle, and shortly afterwards he scored again from a nice effort.

Undaunted, Crowborough kept pegging away, and Lacqueray got through to score. A fast sporting game thus ended with the result: 1st T.B. R.C.S. 4; 2nd T.B. R.C.S. 1.

Cross Country Running.

Royal Corps of Signals Athletic Club.

The R.C.S.A.C. has just been formed, with headquarters at the Signal Training Centre. The object of the club is to promote cross-country running in the R.C.S., and to encourage amateurism among all ranks.

All regular units can become affiliated on payment of an annual fee of 5s. for units less than 100 strong, and 10s. for units of over that number.

Copies of the rules and regulations of the club are being circulated to all regular units, and any further information can be obtained from the hon. sec., Capt J. A. S. Tillard, R.C.S., C Co., Crowborough Camp, Sussex. In the event of any unit not receiving a copy of the rules, it would be a great assistance if they would communicate with the secretary.

It is hoped to get together a representative Corps team for the following fixtures:—

Cambridge University Hare and Hounds, Feb. 4th.
South of the Thames C.C. Championship, Feb. 11th.
Southern Counties C.C. Championship, Feb. 25th.

Signal Training Centre Athletic Club.

The cross-country running season opened in November with a trial run between Crowborough and Maresfield teams, this being won by the former by a narrow margin.

On December 3rd, the Wycombe Phœnix Harriers held a handicap for their members at Maresfield. This was combined with an inter-club run, in which the visiting club were given first call on their members, and resulted in a win for the S.T.C.A.C. by the very narrow margin of one point. The handicap was won by Sigmn Jones, of D Company.

The fixture was a most enjoyable one, and the thanks of the S.T.C.A.C. are due to the Wycombe Phœnix Harriers for inaugurating what it is hoped may become an annual event.

The universal consideration and kindness shown by all clubs with whom the S.T.C.A.C. has come into contact is a great encouragement to a young club which is just finding its legs.

The Sussex Junior Championships were held at Crawley on December 11th.

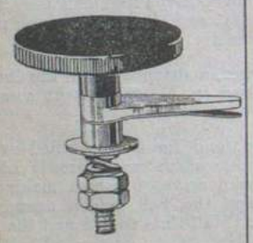
The boys' race (under 18) was won by C Company boys from the Y.M.C.A. by a comfortable margin.

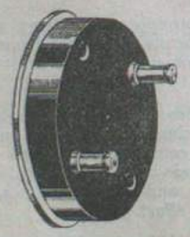
The men's team was third, the Brighton and County Harriers being first and Brighton Railway A.C. second. The team had a certain amount of bad luck, one member being away, and another severely injuring himself during the course of the race, but on the whole the result was quite satisfactory.

Most of last year's team are available for this season, including Signalmen Cotterell, Jones and Cox, and Sergt Noonan; and in addition there is some very promising fresh blood, so there is every reason to hope for a successful season.

J. A. S. TILLARD, Capt R.C.S.,
Hon. Sec. R.C.S.A.C.

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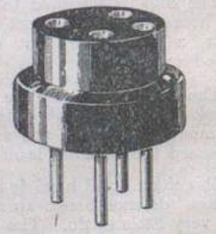


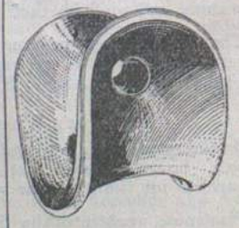
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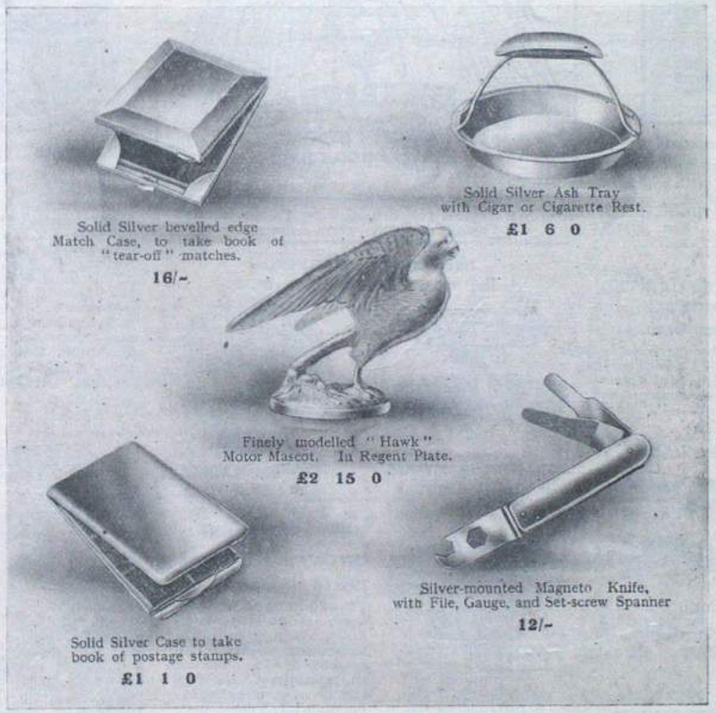




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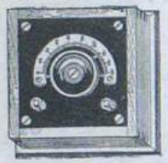
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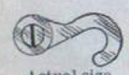
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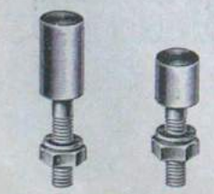
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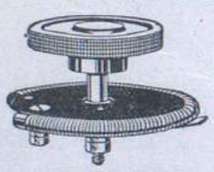
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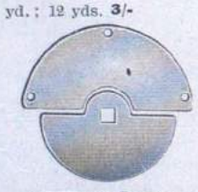
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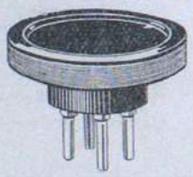
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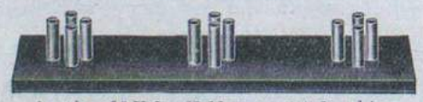
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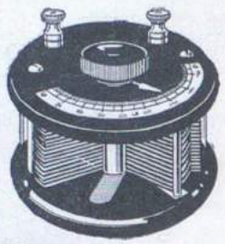
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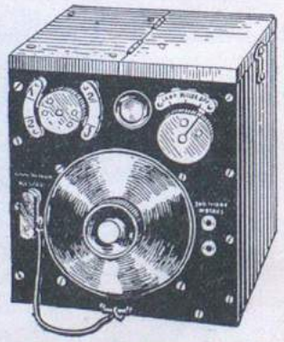


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Editorial Notes.

Now that we have attained the exalted position of FIRST among Regimental Magazines, it behoves us all (especially the serving members of the Corps) to see that that honour is not wrested from us by our contemporaries.

Let our motto for 1922 be "Nulli Secundus," and each and every one do his or her best to increase the circulation, for by that means the Magazine can be improved and new features added.

The success of a Regimental Magazine lies not with the organizing staff, but with the rank and file. Let us, then, see to it, and take our illustrious Prince's advice and "pull together."

The usual monthly feature of "Corps Celebrities," not being to hand at the time of going to press, is not appearing in this issue.

* * *

We are looking forward to some more sketches from the pen of Signalman Drake, and would greatly appreciate one or two for the April number.

* * *

Major R. H. Macdonald, R.C. of S., commanding E Divl. Signals, Peshawar, India, requires copies of THE WIRE for 1920 (Nos. 1 to 10). He is prepared to pay in excess of the face value. Will anyone in possession of same, and desirous of selling, please communicate with him?

G. E. PALIN, Editor.

Maresfield Notes.

Headquarters.

Sergt. G. R. Price, late of this Headquarters, returned a week or so ago from a protracted sojourn in the Royal Herbert Hospital. However, he found Maresfield so dull after the wild times he has been having at Woolwich that he volunteered for draft within a week of his return!

A little bird whispers that yet another member of the office staff is shortly going to launch forth into the troubled sea of matrimony (Lloyd George speaking!) I wonder if he has read a book called "Marriage," by Betta Knott!

A somewhat drastic change in Headquarters organisation is shortly to be effected. Documents office will practically cease to exist. The work hitherto done by that office will in future be distributed among the various Companies. Some of the personnel from Documents office will be posted for duty in the Company offices.

"Barleux" has returned from a "refresher" course, full of technical knowledge which he insists on periodically dispensing to anyone who feels disposed to listen. I am afraid that the course has unhinged him, for some of the queries he raises, I am sure, cannot be found in or solved by consulting "Signal Training." For example, "Barleux" wants to know "Why contours cannot be joined in series with a buried hop pole route," and "Why the terminals of a Fullerphone are absolutely useless as put and take tops?"

The S.T.C. band has recently been strengthened by the transfer of several musicians from the cavalry regiments that have been the first victims of "Geddes' axe."

Heartiest congratulations to Sigmn Cotterell on his really splendid performance in the South of the Thames cross country team championship. He came in first with a lead of 500 yards, there being a field of over 200. Lieut. F. R. Courtenay-Thompson, now at Cambridge, came in seventh. The R.C. of S. team secured second place, Surrey A.C. being first.

We are pleased to see our old friend R.C.B. taking up the pen so soon on behalf of the 4th Divl. Signals.

The author of the following dissertation on the S.T.C. Band begs to announce, for the benefit of possibly infuriated bandsmen, that he is fully insured under *The Daily Mail* insurance scheme.

The S.T.C. Band.

1. Now in a certain place, far removed from the habitation of men, there once existed a numerous host of warriors.

2. And behold, when the wars and rumours of wars had ceased, many of them begat themselves unto the place from whence they came.

3. And a company of musicians that was with them was, in this manner, decimated.

4. And those warriors that had perforce to "soldier on" would fain have dancing.

5. But the musicians that were yet in that place were famed only for the blowing of their own trumpets.

6. And a certain centurion chanced to hear one of these trumpet blowers playing "Mademoiselle from Armentieres," which he mistook for "La Poete Mourant," so that he sayeth unto himself, "There is yet hope."

7. So he gathereth together the players upon the sackbuts and cymbals and glass paper, and sayeth unto them, "Thy comrades would have dancing: they shall!"

8. And so it came to pass that for a season there was dancing in the gymnasium.

9. And lo, the stables being nigh unto the gymnasium, the horses therein were smitten with colic at the sound of the band, so that they departed unto Y-Emmacorkack, where—

10. In spite of the weird dirges they played, damsels came from afar to hear them. For the like of these things have never before been seen in those parts.

11. And, moreover, were they not "buckshee"?

12. From Framwarp to Nutfield, and from Uckborough to Crowfield, come they. And the distance from Uckborough to Crowfield, is it not two leagues?

13. And after a while musicians from strange parts of the Orient came unto that place, so that the officer of the hosts that had formed this band of discordants did say, "Here is leavening for my sorry band."

14. But the last state of that band was worse than the first.

15. And it came to pass that the captain of all the hosts in that place chanced to hear them playing, and he reasoned with himself thus:

16. "They play for dances: why not for a route march?"

17. And there was weeping and wailing, for by the beard of the prophet, THEY DID!!!

E. S. H.

A Company.

After an interval of some months, I take up my pen once more in an endeavour to chronicle the events of our Company.

It is with regret that I have to announce the departure for the Eastern Command Trade School, Hounslow, of 2306347 C.Q.M.S. (Bill) Scott. He left on Monday, 6th February, to start on the first journey towards civilian life. I'm sure that all ranks of the S.T.C. join me in wishing him and Mrs. Scott the very best of luck and health in embarking upon a new career.

By the time these notes appear in print, one semi-final of the Sussex senior cup (S.T.C. v. Worthing) will be decided. Whether for good or bad, remains to be seen.

Whilst on this subject, I should like to add a few words as to what our Company sports committee are doing. I believe a sum of approximately two guineas has been allotted to purchase half a dozen seats in the Company charabancs running to Worthing in connection with the above cup tie. If a man pays for a seat, he is given a ticket for the "draw" for seats, and if he is lucky enough to win, he gets his money refunded. I don't know who originated the scheme, but I consider it rather a good thing, and one which other Companies and units might carry out in any future sports.

On Wednesday, February 1st, we journeyed to Crowborough to play G Company for the fifth and sixth places in the Inter-Company League, and the game resulted in our defeat by 4 goals to 3.

The match was played on the Battalion ground, which resembled a mud pond rather than a pitch upon which one was expected to play the grand winter game. We only turned out a scratch team, and if it had not been the "luck" of one of our own players to score a goal for G Company, I'm sure we should have won, despite the fact that Sergt Hayden (of the gymnasium) and "Jerry" each missed penalties.

On Thursday, February 9th, we played the School of Signals at hockey, and I regret to add that they registered a score of 6—1 against us. As a little bit of instructive criticism does no one any harm, might I suggest that our forward line indulge in a little more attacking and not so much defensive tactics, as was the case in this particular match.

With the approach of summer, and in consequence those long evenings which mean a certain amount of enforced idleness on the part of the boys, may I suggest that the "powers that be" should be approached with a view to re-launching the S.T.C. Cycle Association.

Despite its poor reception last season, which was the cause of its abandonment, I'm sure that the number of applicants this season would more than justify the initial outlay required in the launching process, with the reduction of prices as the great asset.

A boxing tournament has been arranged with the 5th (Cinque Ports) Battalion Royal Sussex Regiment, at the Drill Hall, Uckfield, on February 23rd, under the management of Capt. W. F. Thomas, M.C., commanding C Company Royal Sussex Regiment.

Whilst on the subject of boxing, I think a few words on "Tiger Hallam," who has done great things in arranging the tournament, would not be out of place. Born at All Saints, Derbyshire, in 1893, his whole life has been devoted to this profitable sport, despite the intervention of the war, during which the Sherwood Foresters claimed him for a period of over six years.

An exhibition fight has been arranged between him and "Bob" Morphew, light-weight champion of the Royal Corps of Signals, and I strongly advise all lovers of this sport to go and see this fight. No doubt a certain Signalman from Crowborough will be amongst the audience, exhibiting the "emblem" of good-will.

Might I add a reminder to the Sports Committee at Maresfield (of which Mr. Bishop, of the Y.M.C.A., is the secretary) that the whist drives organised last summer are greatly missed by the boys at the camp and the residents of the vicinity. I'm sure they could allot one night for this purpose, and that the attendances would more than justify it.

CISSIE.

D Company.

Another month gone! so I hasten to pen our usual notes. Nothing of very great importance has happened, except that C.S.M. Butler has departed to the Eastern Command Trade School prior to his return to civil life. Our best wishes follow him wherever he may go.

At last we have a real pukkah and permanent C.S.M.—all our very own. C.S.M. Watson, of Trade Board fame, has taken over, and we already feel as though he has been with us for ages.

We have also to welcome back Baines, who has joined his Trade Company from "Ack." Good old "Geordy!" why did you leave us?

Sergt Campbell has left us to take over duties as C.Q.M.S. of "Ack." They know where to come when a responsible position wants filling, don't they?

I will now give what information I can about our various sports, of which we are very proud.

Football.

In the Company League we had to play "Ack" for second place, at Maresfield. After drawing at 1 all, we managed to win by the substantial margin of 4—0 in the replay. We then met C Company in the final league "placings," and disposed of them to the tune of 5—1. We are not doing so badly, are we?

Since our last match, our team has been very much strengthened by the arrival in the Company of Baines, McBride and McIver.

In the draw for the Company knock-out competition, it has fallen to our lot to meet our old friends "Ack"—the match to be played before February 28th. We hope to field a very strong team, and it should be a very good game. We are out to do our best to win this competition.

By the way, talking of football, some uncertainty seems to exist as to the Company football selection committee. I have been asked to say that it comprises Capt. A. W. Roberts, Lieut. F. Seymour, C.S.M. Watson, Sergt Carter, and Signalmen Bonner and Wooldridge.

Hockey.

We have absolutely nothing to boast of as far as hockey is concerned, being without Major Pinsent and Lieut. Woodbridge (on leave in Switzerland), and several other regular players on the sick list. The School of Signals beat us very soundly, and even F beat us by the odd goal in five. Never mind, though; we can lose as well as we can win. We'll have our revenge later.

Cross Country Running.

Here we *do* shine a little, having secured still another medal on the last Battalion run. Signalman Cotterell has also added another win to his credit, by annexing the South of the Thames championship at Epsom. Our Company supplied three representatives in the Corps team, which got second place. Well done, lads! keep it up, and the running shield is ours.

Our heartiest congratulations also go to Sergeant Bayliss, of Aldershot (late of this Company), on his recent fine performance. By the way, they say that "murder will out." We discovered our long-lost running vest (marked "D") in the recent illustrated papers, being worn by Sergt Bayliss! Our n.c.o. instructors say that they always knew him to be a runner, for besides running off with the shirt, they say that he ran off with all their technical books. This is only "hear say" evidence, though!

Dancing and Orchestra.

These are still flourishing twice weekly in the Y.M.C.A. The orchestra has been strengthened by the addition of a couple of ex-cavalry bandsmen.

Concert Party.

We haven't started one yet—but who knows? What about it, someone?

Signals Benevolent Fund.

I have been asked to thank everybody for their splendid support of the above fund by the "penny per month per man" subscription. We are out to create

another record here. I believe we have already done it, but we will make doubly sure this month.

Our WIRE sales are always at the top. We never sell less than 100!

There is nothing else to write about this month. Keep pegging away, lads; there is not another Company in the Army to be compared with ours!

DON

E Company.

It has just dawned on me that notes for THE WIRE must leave to-day, and here I am with not a thing done. However, there is very little news this month from "Eddy." We are all free once more from "flu," and work in the stables is proceeding merrily.

There has been hardly anything doing in the sports line.

Soccer.

We met X at Crowborough, to see who should relieve "Pip" from the responsibility of looking after the shield for the next year. We won by 3—1, much to the satisfaction of our supporters. Unfortunately the sprint champion of the corps—Driver Cryer—was badly hurt during the game, and has been in hospital ever since. He is progressing favourably, and we all hope that the injury to his leg will not keep him from retaining his title this year.

Rugby.

We have to meet X Company for the shield, as we are top of the Maresfield League. Now then, X, you will have to get your eye down, or the engraver will be getting fed up putting the letter "E" on the various shields, etc.

Hockey.

At the time of writing we have not had a league game owing to the hard state of the ground. We met the S.O.S. in a "friendly," and they managed to see us off to the tune of 6—4. Perhaps the tune will be altered when we meet on the 23rd inst.

Athletics.

We have now formed a Company Games Club, which embraces all manner of sport. Our O.C., ably assisted by Mr. Spencer (of boxing fame) and his satellites, are going to make it hum, always provided, of course, that the boys of the Company take an interest in the club. It is only in its infancy yet, and so I ask the men, through these columns, to muck in and make it *some Games Club.*

We had one representative in the South of the Thames championship—L/Cpl Cayley—and he managed to finish in the good time of 44 minutes. We heartily congratulate Sigmn Cotterell on winning this championship, and the Corps on getting second to Surrey A.C.

Collection.

The sum of £3 0s. 6d. was collected by voluntary subscriptions from the men of the Company for the R.C.S. Benevolent Fund. The boys are thanked for their generosity, and this amount has been forwarded to the proper quarter.

Oddments.

It is said that S. of S. can supply a fair number of hockey referees. Is this so?

So far no musical talent has been discovered in either horses or "roughs." Do they all enjoy it? Ask R.M.

EDDY.

Crowborough Notes.

B Company.

General.

This month, owing to the indisposition of our special correspondent, our notes will be rather brief, but we shall endeavour to illuminate them as much as possible. They are—"maintenant"—"one candle-power."

The outstanding triumph achieved last moon was the erection of the Gypsy Compound at our front door—the brilliant effort of Joe (alias Sergt Gordon). The phosphorescent effect of the liberal issue of whitewash bestowed thereon makes us feel quite at home—it's like the horse lines. Whoa! enough of this hilarity! The fact is, our equilibrium has been disturbed by the excessive zeal of sundry of our numbers to excel in the histrionic art. The able producer at our "Gaiety Theatre," being more truthful than complimentary, has somewhat damped our ardour.

Our sergeants have lately welcomed a new member to their fold—Sergt Bowler, from D Company, and late of India. Sergt Setterfield, late of C Company, is now comfortably settled amongst us as Quarter-bloke. We can now "form fives" on the breakfast parade.

If all goes well, by the time these notes are in print, Sergt James will have emulated his old pals—Sergts Gillin, Gadsby, Currie and Jordan—in taking over the welfare of some Territorial Signal unit.

We have to congratulate C.Q.M.S. Keane on attaining the rank of W.O. Class II. We feel we can "keep our end up" better now with a real live substantive C.S.M.—the first we've had since—oh, since Julius Cæsar got his "Group E," and the Queen of Sheba was serving in the canteen.

Sigmn Copeland has reported from the Rhine Signal Battalion, and is now employed in the mess hut pending his release on 31/3/22.

Ahem! We seem to be *all* "general" this month. However, let's hope they'll be of general interest as well. Still being "general": Coincident with the issue of this month's "issue," we expect to have "issued" Sergt Sandys, Corpl Wade, L/Corpl Ward, Sigmn Wilding, and Sigmn Copeland, with permission to proceed to their homes pending confirmation of discharge. Corpl Batts, we expect, will have gone.

REEB YOC.

C Company.

I hardly know whether we are being "issued" with more months to the year, or whether the celebrated "axe" is cutting out a few days each month; but "notes day" seems to roll round as frequently as "guard."

In the replay with G for second place in the Junior League, we had the misfortune to lose by three goals to one, so that the forecast in last month's WIRE of our position in the league—3rd—was correct.

We drew with D Company in the play-off for positions in the Senior League, and it was then that we felt the effects of the last sort-out of men for draft.

Our "alleged" senior team which went to Maresfield was composed of two seniors and nine juniors, but even then we should not have suffered so severely as we did, had it not been for the acute "wind up" which prevailed in our ranks. As it was, half-time arrived with the score 5—0 against us, and though we settled down in the second half, things had gone too far—and the game ended with the score of 5—2.

We drew with the same Company in the junior match, and the teams were more equally balanced. We were, in fact, unlucky not to win. However, D, we will do our very best to "remove your dripeds" in the replay.

As we have now acquired the services of an accomplished hockey reporter (no names, no "greasy"), I will leave those notes for his mutilation.

Hockey.

On Friday, January 27th, we had as our opponents the famous Flag-waggers. Owing to the absence of five of our regular players, we fielded rather a weak team, and needless to say, we caught it in the neck to the tune of 10—1. Still, this match served a useful purpose, for we found some new blood in L/Corpl Short (there is no money prize for guessing the identity of this young n.c.o.).

L/Corpl Woods (or "Lacqueray," as the Maresfield hockey correspondent calls him) succeeded in hitting our left back on the head with the ball, but I am glad to say he was hors de combat for a matter of a few seconds only.

Our famous goalie, "Jock," played a rattling game, and only reported two teeth and one ear missing at the conclusion.

No doubt the famous "long line" centre forward of our junior soccer eleven could help to score a few hockey goals if he only tried. What about it, "Parson"?

THE PARSON.

P Company.

General.

We are having a very busy time at present, having a draft of 300 proceeding to India on the 18th inst., and several minor drafts for Egypt, Mauritius, Hong Kong, Straits Settlements, Bermuda, Gibraltar, and Malta. By the end of this month we shall be practically "cleared out."

Anent the withdrawal of troops from Ireland, P Company received back numerous old hands, whom, during the past two years, they had the pleasure of despatching there; but as the majority of them are on the Indian draft, they will not be with us very long.

Our sincere congratulations are extended to L/Sergts Daniels and Marshall, on their promotion to full rank, and also to L/Cpls Dempsey and Main.

Football.

We bid goodbye to the football shield, won again by E Company. They have our congratulations. In playing off for "positions," both junior and senior teams met the School of Signals, the juniors winning by 4—0, and the seniors by 6—1. It's a pity we did not possess the same talent during the league season; otherwise I am sure the positions would have been reversed. Anyhow, the knock-out tournament starts in March, and P gets a bye in the first round, and then has to meet the winners of E and the School of Signals. P are liberally "tipped" for this knock-out, and we anticipate a rattling game when this match comes off.

Hockey.

Our recent game with X Company suggests that we have a team which requires some beating. Although we led by 2—1 at the interval, X managed to draw, and it was one of the best games seen here this season. Signalmen Watterton, Gresham, McCormack, and Hallam, were in great form, and completely upset the finer movements of X Company's capital forward line.

Running.

Although we do not possess any talent in this direction, yet we cannot fail to appreciate the fine performance of Sigmn Cotterell in the South of the Thames cross country championship. Our congratulations, Joseph!

Boxing.

Looking through a recent issue, we noticed that a certain Company referred to Viney of C Company as the "crawling champion." We suggest that the Company concerned find someone to take the so-called "crawling championship" away from him. I don't suppose the holder would object to having another "crawl" for their benefit.

MAROON AND BLUE.

Signals G.H.Q., Cairo.

Egypt has at last decided to be represented in the pages of THE WIRE. We have for some time been contemplating this step.

Cairo has settled down again after its Christmas political spasm, and we are once more allowed out independently.

Efforts are being made to form a local branch of the Signals Association. A large number of our personnel are already members, and the roll is growing larger daily.

Our football team this season was not sufficiently strong to enter the First League. We are, however, contented with our position in the second division. At the time of writing we have attained the dizzy height of fifth from the top, having won 6, drawn 3 and lost 4. Unfortunately every boat carries away some of our talent.

It is hoped, by combining our team with that of the Wireless Company, to enter a really strong team for the Sultan's cup.

Our Kantara Section are doing remarkably well, having placed themselves at the top of the Kantara military league. They have also won the six-a-side competition for that area.

Cairo is at the height of its tourist season. Visitors of all nationalities arrive daily, although so far we have not observed many "visitors" from the Signal Training Centre.

It is regretted that our opening contribution is rather on the small side, but we hope next month to have gathered notes which will be more substantial.

We send our best wishes for the New Year to every one at home.

T. R. S.

Types of the Corps: No. 4—"The Switchboard Operator."



In modern warfare, armies are so large, and such careful staff work is necessary, that the telephone has become a very essential part of the inter-communication systems of the army.

Short of a personal interview, no other means yet devised can produce such satisfactory results. To all intents and purposes, questions and answers take place as in ordinary conversation, and questions which would take hours to settle by telegram or correspondence are dealt with at once. For everything which does not require orders in writing, nothing can replace the telephone.

To have individual lines between instruments in the various staff offices, for each one to speak to the other, is obviously an impossibility, and the telephone exchange manned by the S.B.O. fills this gap.

The switchboard operator has to connect one staff which requires to speak to another, and even with a trained staff at either end his stock of patience, courtesy, and tact is constantly tried. His watchwords might be summarised as "patience, courtesy, and speed with accuracy."

During the war the S.B.O always rose to the occasion. With a worried and half-trained staff, the calls upon the telephone service increased to a remarkable extent. Induction on lines, faults due to shell-fire, unavoidable delays—all were often put to the blame of the S.B.O. However, he always managed to do his work cheerfully, and give sound service, probably being the indirect cause of almost half the honours given to the Command staffs and units.

Perhaps, with the introduction in civil practice of automatic exchanges and the wireless telephone, some may think that the knell of the S.B.O. has sounded. The writer is of opinion, however, that the S.B.O. will remain in the army for many a year, particularly the front line operator with his possibly improvised board.

One word in conclusion: the S.B.O., if he is a good man, can do more to assist the staff of his Command than almost any other man.

Next Month—"The Lineman."

Wireless Company, E. & P.

ABBASSIA, CAIRO.

Pillow Slips and Sheets.

No reflection is cast on the work of the Company when it is mentioned that an indent has just been sent in for pillow slips and sheets. In fact, work and play have both been fast and furious.

"C. W."

Capt. Carus-Wilson, of Signals Experimental Establishment, has been staying with us for about a month, and has now left us for Constantinople. During the time he was with us, he amplified nearly everything we have to amplify. There is something singularly appropriate about his initials.

Our O.C.

During last month, the command of the Company has passed into the hands of Major J. P. G. Worlledge, O.B.E., who arrived with Mrs. Worlledge from England. We hope they will enjoy their "tour" abroad.

The Khamsin.

When the dust had subsided from our last khamsin, we found to our surprise that a draft of 23 men had arrived from home. The drivers have since proceeded to Palestine, the others remaining with the Wireless Company. L/Corpl Simmonds, in charge of the draft, has been fortunate in retaining his acting rank.

X-mas.

The unknown quantity "X," in this case proved to be an identity of particularly congenial proportions. The Christmas disturbances were responsible for a few hitches in the arrangements. Barges and tugs were manned, and sausage aerials were as common as sauerkraut in Germany, but still the troops kept up Christmas in the good old style.

Drives, Whist, Company.

A very successful whist drive was held on 26th January. This was the first this winter, but it is hoped to hold another before the warm weather commences. The prize winners were: Sergt Dunthorn and L/Corpls Aslett and Murray, Sigmn Taylor being the proud winner of the "booby."

"N."

The rumour was rife in Cairo (and they are usually rife for at least two hours) that Lord Northcliffe had bought THE WIRE. As a result of special investigations we hear that the owner of the only copy in Egypt declined to part, intending to preserve it with his Cape Colony black triangle.

Football.

In the Cairo Military League our position is as follows: Played 14; won 6; lost 5; drawn 3; Goals for 17; against 14; Points 15. This puts us seventh in the league.

Our last three matches put us in this more favourable position, with a win in each case: R.A.F. 3—2; R.A.M.C. 1—0; R.A.O.C. 1—0.

The first round of the Sultan's cup was played on February 1st. In this competition we are combined with Signals (Egypt and Palestine). Two of our players (Tubbs and Whitehead) were chosen. The game resulted in a win against the Royal Munster Fusiliers by two clear goals. The management of this team is in the hands of Capt. H. Parkes, and we expect to go a long way in the competition.

W.

Signals, Kantara, Egypt.

In the January issue of THE WIRE we notice a challenge from a neighbouring Signal Company as to when they were going to hear from us.

The fact of the matter is, unfortunately, a misunderstanding mainly due to one of our esteemed n.c.o.s (with initials enough for all of us), who, we are told, has not practised what he promised, that he would do the necessary as regards sending news from this side of the globe. It is hoped that no blame is attached to the Company through our seeming slackness. I am glad to relate that we are all "alive and kicking," and making quite a name for ourselves—irrespective of sport, in which I am glad to say we take a bit of "whacking."

Our recent arrivals from the Depot are quite decent fellows, and several good footballers are included among them (cannot think what the Depot was doing to let them leave so early, as they must have been overlooked according to results of the F.A. and Army Cup matches).

By the way, all the remains of the R1 and R.A. draft wish to be remembered to Corpl Kendall, and are pleased to hear that he is keeping the Depot smiling just as he did at Cleopatra, Alexandria. I think it a great pity that the C.C.C.C. doesn't go on tour (we are frightfully in need of a good concert party).

Football.

We have as good as finished as champions of Kantara, our last match being against the R.A.S.C., M.T. Co., in a few days' time, and our present position top, with 22 points, and a slightly better goal average (as well as a game in hand) over the 360th Water Co. R.E.s.

On Boxing day we were treated to a six-a-side football competition, in which three teams were entered from Signals, Kantara. Two of them managed to reach the final, and after an exciting game and extra time, B team (mostly the local lads) proved victors.

In the E.E.F. competition, we easily proved the best team in Kantara by defeating the Water Co. R.E., and thus qualified to play against the 19th Brigade R.F.A. This game proved an attraction, seeing that the R.F.A. beat the 4th Batt. Middlesex (who did such wonders at Gibraltar). In spite of a fierce cross wind and practically a sandstorm, the Signals again pulled through, winning by 1—0.

On 1st February we played against the Royal Munster Fusiliers at Cairo, and again showed the spectators that the Signals weren't exactly a back number in the art of goal scoring by winning 2—0. With reference to a query from Palestine Signals, was the result (3—0) in our favour good enough, or do they require another dose?

Things We Should Like to Know.

What is "Wilfrid's" Signal trade? and is he any relation to "Trotsky"?

Why does "Eddie" go to Ismailia so often? and was his trip "to see the Sultan's cup" a blind?

The result of "Vic's" interview with the M.O.? and were too many questions asked?

Is it necessary for the a/m Wilfrid to sit for his 3rd? Why not give it to him?

SIGNALS.

E Divisional Signals.

Peshawar, N.W.F. Province,
India.

A very cheery Christmas is over, and we have started the New Year. No 2 Company being distributed in the Khyber Pass and with a Section at Nowshera, No. 1 Company, only, was able to sit down to its Christmas dinner in Peshawar. No. 2 Company had its Sections dining at Landikotal, Ali Musjid, Jamrud, and Nowshera. All passed off very happily.

At Peshawar some fifty men had most excellent fare placed before them by the non-commissioned officers of the unit, and congratulations are due to Pte Williams for his excellent cooking.

The same night our warrant and non-commissioned officers' mess, with its usual hospitality, invited a considerable number of ladies to dinner, and some forty warrant and non-commissioned officers and guests continued with a very pleasant evening of dancing, games, and some excellent singing. C.S.M. and Mrs. Watson, Sergt and Mrs. Barnett, and Sergt and Mrs. Hall, were the married members present from the unit.

Another very pleasant evening was spent on New Year's eve, and the New Year duly heralded in.

The weather has been rather against sport during the last month, as there has been an exceptional amount of rain. Despite this, several games of hockey have been played; and regular attendants have been to the nets in preparation for our first round in the Jamasjee cricket cup against the Royal Warwickshire Regiment, to be played next week. C.S.M. Watson and Corpl Joiner are in good form.

In a game versus Peshawar Club, on Saturday and Sunday, 7th and 8th January (which was stopped by rain), Signals made 156 to Peshawar's 172, our chief scorers being Lieut F. J. Matthews (80 not out) and C.S.M. Watson (22). A strong team should be out for the cup match.

Peshawar Vale Hounds.

It is very gratifying to find several n.c.o.s attending meets of the Peshawar Vale hounds. By the courtesy of the hunt, n.c.o.s who are qualified to ride over the difficult country of the Vale are privileged to meet.

Christmas "heads" prevented an attendance on December 26th, but on January 9th, in addition to Major Macdonald and Lieuts Rowbotham and MacSwiney, the following w.o. and n.c.o.s hacked out the seven miles to Khazana Thana on the Shabkadr road: C.S.M. Watson, Sergts Barnett, Strode and Cooper, Corpls McCusker and Cooper, and L/Cpls Wish, Payne and Wheeler.

A field of eighty was out to meet the Master (Major O. S. Fisher). Sugar-cane near the road was drawn blank, but a jackal was quickly found in a khet near by. Scent was good, and our friend, after taking us towards Khazana Thana, turned right handed and was apparently off for the Peach Gardens.

A three mile run southwards, with a slight check, brought the field to Budni, in sight of Budni Bridge. Here there was a check of several minutes, but hounds again hit off the line, this time running practically north-east on the left bank of the stream. Immediately crossing, a rapid run of another three miles up the right bank, in which the field was well strung out, led to another return to the left bank.

After a five-minute check, the Master made a cast across another arm of the stream, where the line was again hit off and hounds away in full cry. A splendid gallop of a mile brought the pack and field to cane near Khankota, where we lost.

By 11 a.m. another "jack" was aroused, which was hunted in cover for several hours, and finally "chopped." Rain having commenced, home was the order, after a very enjoyable morning.

On January 15th, C.S.M. Watson and Sergeants Strode, Campbleton and Willsmore, Corpls McCusker and McDonald, and Signalmen Cardew and Wheeler, were out at the Dilazak meet, at which an unusual incident occurred. The hunted jack made for a village, and entered a building which was found to a "hareem." He was brought out by the inmates and released in the open, and raced to cover, where he made good his escape. Another jack was afterwards hunted and killed.

On January 19th, Sergts Barnett and Campbleton and Corpls McCusker and Searle, only, were out, and had a good run of some ten miles over splendid country.

Postings.

R.Q.M.S. Gilmore from Northern Command Signal School.

Sergt J. Hall from Signal Training Centre and Depot, Jubbulpore.

Sergt H. Campbleton, from B Corps Signals, Rawalpindi.

Sport.

There have been several inter-Company games, and the following outside fixtures:—

Football—Signals (3) v. Royal Air Force (1); Signals (1) v. "A," M.T. Column (4).

Hockey—Signals (1) v. District Headquarters (1); Signals (2) v. 89th Punjabis (1).

Cricket—The first round of the Northern Command cricket championship (Jamasjee cup), played on the 18th and 19th (E Signals v. Royal Warwickshire Regt.) was won by this unit by an innings and 51 runs. This year we are allowed to include R.E.s in the team, but the services of two only were required. Signals won the toss, and opened the batting with Cpls MacDonald and Joiner.

The scores were: L/Cpl Joiner 28, Cpl MacDonald 10, Lieut Jacob 51, Lieut Matthews (captain) 77, Major Whiteman 2, C.S.M. Watson 5, Major Macdonald 8, Capt. Cox 33, Lieut Johnstone 0, Lieut Howard 14, Lieut McSwiney (not out) 5; Total 240.

The Warwicks went in to reply late in the afternoon of the first day, and when stumps were drawn were 2 wickets down for no runs. The side was dismissed before lunch next day for 65 runs, due chiefly to the excellent bowling of Lieut Matthews, Capt. Cox, and L/Corpl Joiner, whose bowling averages read: Lieut Matthews, 4 for 20; Capt. Cox, 4 for 13; L/Cpl Joiner 1 for 0—the balance of the score being byes off Lieut Matthews' lightning bowling. Our captain played for the Lancashire County second eleven last year whilst on leave.

In the Warwicks' second innings, the bowling was left in the able hands of C.S.M. Watson, Corpls MacDonald and Joiner, and Lieut MacSwiney.

The semi-final is to be played versus S. and T. and M.T. on the 25th and 26th inst.

B.A.C. Signal Company, Constantinople.

Christmas Day, 1921.

The old R.E. traditions were observed on Christmas day, when all our officers (headed by Capt. Henderson, in the absence of the O.C., on leave) acted as carvers, and the sergeants as waiters, for the junior n.c.o.s and men's dinner at 13.00 hours.

The O.C., in a few well chosen words, expressed his regret that the parting draft were obliged to embark on the previous day, but pointed out that the occasion presented an excellent opportunity of welcoming the new draft, which had arrived on the "Bahia Castillo" on December 23rd. Capt. Henderson also complimented the assembly on the good work which had been carried out during the past year, especially in the branches which had been under establishment.

The estimates of the messing committee proved ample, and by 14.30 hours the Company dispersed, filled to repletion.

The sergeants' mess dinner, which was held at 19.00 hours, was a triumph for the messing committee. The six-course dinner was served with a regularity which many an hotel might envy. Married members were present in force, and the Christmas tree, provided for the ladies, was voted a huge success, being an innovation in Constantinople.

The Navy and Army afterwards combined in a quiet convivial and musical evening, everyone being more or less anxious to retire early in view of the certainty of late hours on the following night.

The pessimists who anticipated that Christmas day, 1921—falling on a Sunday—would deprive them of a holiday, encountered a severe reverse when A.R.O.s announced that work would cease at 12.00 hours Saturday and recommence on Wednesday morning.

The afternoon before Christmas provided a welcome chance for the various committees to complete their arrangements, and the pleasure of the Boxing night entertainment was agreeably increased by the prevalence of the "Thank goodness, I've not got to get up early to-morrow morning" feeling.

The opening night of "Christmas Pie" at G.H.Q. theatre rendered it necessary to clear out our largest barrack room, and as this is of ample capacity, well warmed and lighted, and provided with an excellent dancing floor, nothing better could be desired.

The evening opened with a whist drive, the attendance at which was somewhat sparse, especially considering the value of the prizes provided. Under the able management of Sergt Deptford it passed off without a hitch, and during the play the constant flow of arrivals made it very obvious that the succeeding dance would certainly not suffer from lack of attendance.

After Capt. Henderson had distributed the prizes to the lucky individuals enumerated below, the capable little Russian orchestra struck up the first dance tune to a comfortably filled floor.

Time precluded any definite arrangements being made for a concert, but several artistes favoured us during the intervals between dances, and we are especially indebted to C.P.O. Fryer, of H.M.S. "Benbow." This gentleman has combined the style of Harry Champion with one of his own, and deservedly carried away the first prize at the recent open singing contest at Harbie. The way in which he convulses civilians, who have not the slightest idea of what he is singing, is sufficient tribute to his art. Festivities continued into the "wee sma' hours," and one and all went to bed with the comfortable feeling of having enjoyed a thoroughly good night, imbued with the real Christmas spirit, which apparently only the Briton possesses.

Whist Drive Prizes.

Ladies: 1st, Sigmn Magnus; 2nd, Sigmn Stevenson; 3rd, Corpl Lindsay. Gentlemen—1st, Sigmn W. A. Smith; 2nd, Sigmn Page; 3rd, Sergt Waterson.

Hidden number: Signalman Diviani.

Consolation: Signalman Gough.

Sergeants' Mess Whist Drive and Smoking Concert.

No account of Christmas festivities in Constantinople could possibly be complete without reference to the whist drive and smoking concert which was held in the sergeants' mess on New Year's eve. No elaborate arrangements were required or attempted. It was just a "pukka" mess night, remarkable chiefly for its sobriety, but nevertheless one which few who were present will readily forget. The occasion gave us the opportunity not only of entertaining friends from neighbouring messes, but of further cementing the friendship which has grown up between us and the C.P.O.s of the "Benbow."

Entertainment.

On the 14th and 15th December an amusing and original entertainment, organised by Col. Welsh, was held in the Army theatre, Harbie.

The novel feature on both evenings was the "unit competition," an experiment which is well worth trying elsewhere. Briefly, the conditions were as follows:—A prize was offered for what was considered the best and second best performances given by individuals or parties representing the different units in the command. Judgment was given on the applause obtained by each of them, by a committee consisting, on the first night, of Major-Gen. T. O. Marden and six other ranks, and on the second night by Lieut.-Gen. Sir Charles Harington and six other ranks.

The theatre was packed on both nights, and great enthusiasm prevailed. On the first night the prizes were awarded as follows:—1st, R.A.M.C.; 2nd, Royal Navy. The R.C.O.S. were third, and only just missed being "placed." The Corps was represented by Sergt Payne, Sigmn Double and Sigmn Wykes.

On the second night the awards were:—1st, Royal Navy; 2nd, 2nd Battn. Essex Regiment.

Football.

Royal Corps of Signals 2; Royal Engineers 0.

This was a most exciting game throughout, the opposing goalie playing one of the most brilliant games ever witnessed in Constantinople. At half time there was no score, with play in favour of Signals. Commencing the second half, Jordan worked his way close in to the goal mouth and scored with a terrific low drive. After this goal the Sappers bucked up enormously and tried hard to equalise, but our defence was far too clever to be penetrated. The second was a sensational goal: Hollis turned the ball from an almost impossible angle, giving the goalie no chance, thus finishing a brilliant game with a still more brilliant goal.

Osmanieh W/T Station 0; Royal Corps of Signals 2.

Similar to a "local Derby," this was a hard game, but owing to the bad condition of the ground (almost

under water) somewhat slow. Bagley drew first blood by scoring a pretty goal, after beating man after man. From then until half-time it was a ding-dong affair. During the second half Bagley almost repeated his performance, but was fouled inside the area. A penalty was given, which was taken by Hollis, who scored with a beautiful low drive.

Royal Corps of Signals 6; Army Headquarters 0.

The Signals forwards were brilliant, Woods playing a particularly fine game with Hollis. The game throughout was all in Signals' favour, as the score indicates. Hollis and Woods each did the hat trick, scoring well thought-out shots. All Signals played a grand game throughout, giving A.H.Q. no chance at all.

Naval Base 5; Royal Corps of Signals 0.

The trooping season is to blame for the above score, as we lost three of our best players, namely, Adams, Hollis and Goodall. The Signals worked hard throughout, but the Jack Tars were easily the best team, as the score indicates.

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766 M.T. Co. 3; Royal Corps of Signals 2.

The Signals were three goals down in the first ten minutes, our defence being all at sea during those fatal minutes, but they pulled themselves together, and from then on played a good game, succeeding in keeping the opposing team away from the goal. The score at half time was 3—0 for the 766th Company.

The Signals succeeded in playing a combination, in which Jordan scored a lovely goal from outside the penalty area. Bagley scored a few minutes afterwards with one of his own special shots. From then onwards to the finish Signals had many attempts, but to no avail, finishing a good sportsmanlike game with the score: 765 M.T. Co. 3; Signals 2.

Junior N.C.O.s Mess.

On Saturday, 4th February, the members of the above mess held a successful dance at the Lesses Riding School, A.H.Q. The hall had been decorated by an energetic band of workers, namely, "defaulters." About 250 people were present and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. We were pleased to see our respected O.C. (Capt. Henderson) and Mrs. Henderson present, and trust that they spent an enjoyable time, and also our numerous friends from the Royal Navy.

A fine programme, including all the latest dances (not to mention several Oriental specialities) was danced through with unflagging zeal until the early hours of the 5th, when the Company—tired, but happy—dispersed. Praise is due to L/Corpls Woodhead and Brudnell for the able manner in which they carried out their respective duties and the numerous details associated with a dance.

W. A. J.

Company Dance.

The executive of the A. in C. Signal Company can justly pride itself on the success of the dances for which it has been responsible this season. The latest was held at Army Headquarters on January 6th, and in spite of the fact that the date corresponded with the orthodox Christmas, thus depriving us of the presence of many of our civilian friends who were occupied with home festivities, a fairly large attendance testified to the popularity of the organisers' efforts.

T. E. D.

"H" Divisional Signals, Meerut.

Here we are again! The old Company is still going strong. Christmas is now over, but alas, the "effects" are not, though we are recovering gradually. Everyone had a good time on the festive day, in fact, too much so in many cases. At our Christmas dinner, some of our chaps apparently invited their pals in the Seaforths and R.F.A. to come; or else they dispensed with the invitations and "rolled" along. for when a dozen or so Jocks came by the Messing Bungalow and saw the crowd inside, they sauntered in, and had the cheek to ask if it was a "garrison affair." There is nothing like a "hard neck," is there? Anyway, it earned them an extra dinner apiece.

We are pleased to hear of the promotion as Major of our commanding officer, Capt. C. J. R. Turner. We wish him every luck.

We are sorry to say that our Company could not enter a team for the all-India football championship. We were expecting A Divl. Signals (Palestine) to have amalgamated with this Company by the time fixed for the eliminating rounds of the championship, and four or five players from that Company would just about see us right to give anyone a run for it, at least. Anyhow, we were "unfruity."

Sport just now is very keen in the Company, especially football. The following is our recent record:—101st Battery R.F.A., lost 3—1; 148th Battery R.F.A., won 3—0; 148th Battery R.F.A., won 3—1; C Battery R.H.A., lost 1—0; C Battery R.H.A., drew 1—1; 11th Hussars (P.A.O.) won 4—1.

The last item was played on our own ground on December 29th. The first half was very fast, but some really good football was witnessed, and we changed over with a goal to our credit. In the second half the Hussars equalised, but we had most of the play after that, and emerged victors to the extent of 4 goals to 1. The scorers were Sergt Cains and L/Corpl Elias.

The dance held in our Corporals' room last Friday was very well arranged, but most unfortunately it clashed with another in the station, and we did not have the crowd we expected. Nevertheless, it was a great success. The band of the Seaforths gave us some fine music.

On the occasion of the entry of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales into the United Provinces district, we were given a day's holiday. A fete was arranged on the race course, and some really clever horsemanship was exhibited by the "Cherry Pickers" and C Battery R.H.A. in their musical ride. In the evening a fine display of fireworks was witnessed.

The Editor, while welcoming the substantial increase in Notes from Units this month, regrets that owing to pressure on space he has been compelled to somewhat condense many of them.

Rhine Signal Company.

Cologne, Feb. 2nd, 1922.

Cheerio, everybody! Here we are again, with all our New Year resolutions broken or breaking, mainly those in regard to "not having more than *one* in the canteen," or not adding to the afflictions of the already harassed Pay Corporal, by too frequently demanding statements of account in relation to the rates of exchange.

We began the year well by receiving a visit from the C.-in-C. Rhine Army, who came on a tour of inspection, causing us to have a premature spring cleaning and a rush on the blanco and polish.

Many were the sighs of relief heard when it became known that he would not have a parade, but would see us as we were at our daily work and common task.

He went through all the barrack rooms, and visited the various messes and workshops, ending at the Wireless station—in which he evinced considerable interest. Our Wireless (may I mention?) is one of the most powerful on the Continent, and was of great importance to the Germans during the war.

To resume, he questioned various n.c.o.s and men as to their service and honours, and then left us apparently well pleased—at least, we hope so; and to judge by the complacent smile on the S.M.'s face, it *must* have been so.

Leave is causing extra demands upon the reliefs working G.H.Q. and different exchanges here—a thing not to be lightly taken when one must sit for hours in a stuffy exchange, for the German personnel simply detest fresh air. It speaks volumes for the tact and skill of our fellows who work side by side with them, and wrestle with their jaw-breaking language and intricate telephone system, that everything goes on so smoothly. The recent frost and snow called out the linemen, and we came across them at all times of the day and night.

With the return of our football team, our sporting activities have recommenced, and our opening match in the Rhine football league was a 2—1 victory over the A.S.C. We are still well in the "placings," and when the two leaders have finished with each other we hope to be nearer.

Our hockey team, as prophesied, are at present doing well, and have passed into the second round for the cup at the expense of the Infantry, after a rather curious encounter.

At our first meeting, we lost in the last minute of the game by a very dubious goal, accepting the referee's decision as final. However, it later transpired that our opponents had not complied with the rules of the competition, and to our joy a replay was ordered. This time we made no mistake, and passed on with a victory of 5—3.

We shall now turn our attentions to the R.A.F., hoping to make 'em crash! Lt Clepham is our shining light, at centre forward, whilst Corpl Dickenson at centre-half is seemingly tireless, due no doubt to his skill as a cross country runner. Our two backs, Major Yates and Capt. Hose, are as safe as houses, and altogether the team works well together, and with reasonable luck should be in the final.

On Wednesday evening, January 25th, the Sergeants' Mess gave a whist drive and dance to their numerous friends, and by the sounds of music and mirth heard they seemed to have had a good time.

To see them emerging at ? a.m. was a sight for the gods, for in the evening it had rained and frozen, and many who cannot dance a step seemed to be doing a "shimmy shake" that would have made an expert "jazzer" green with envy.

We take pride in announcing that C.Q.M.S. Anderson has been awarded the good conduct and long service medal, with gratuity, and we offer our congratulations.

We are also glad to state that at a recent meeting held in connection with Signals Association, over fifty members were enrolled, and we hope to get more; also that the circulation of THE WIRE is increasing.

Cheers! At the time of writing I have heard that we have passed into semi-final of the hockey cup, defeating the Airmen by 2—1; but as details are not to hand, I will tell you all about it next time.

P. B.

Silesian Signal Company.

Divisional Headquarters,
Gross Strehlitz, Upper Silesia,
Feb. 5th, 1922.

I hope these few notes from the Silesian Signal Co. will be of use, as I have heard from several acquaintances that it is very seldom anything is inserted in THE WIRE concerning this Company.

We are having very cold weather here at present, and owing to the bad state of the grounds we have been forced to give up football and hockey; so most of the officers and men have taken to skating, and it's really marvellous to watch the progress of some of the learners who, before coming to Silesia, had never had skates on.

The civil population are very "hot stuff" on skates, and the boys don't like it, and try to "cut them out." Speed seems to be the ambition of every learner. Nine times out of ten this ends up with one skate getting entangled with the other, and then—crash! Of course, this greatly amuses the spectators, who delight in throwing sarcastic remarks to the poor individuals who have had the misfortune to "crash," such as "Did you fall, or were you pushed?" "Have you slipped?" or, "Creep, son."

Lieut Brennen takes the principal part in our dramatic sketches. Up to the present we have had two, "Things we know: or, Seen in the Wireless," and "Doctor Dozie." In the latter he takes the part of "Doctor Dozie," and Lieut Etheridge (Officer i/c Lines) takes that of "Sir Harry's Ghost." Sigmn D. R. Miller takes the part of "Doctor Dozie's Daughter."

Our concert party have been such a great success that they intend travelling round to Brigades at Tarnowitz, Oppeln, and Beuthen, to give them a show.

We have also started dances here, and we hope to give a concert one week and a dance the next, so we can look forward to *some* sort of amusement. There is only one cinema (?) here, but it is small and unhealthy, owing to lack of ventilation.

I think this is all the news this time. Will write a longer letter next month.

L/Corpl GREEN.

2nd Signal Company, Aldershot.

At the time of writing, everybody is in a wonderfully good mood, due probably to our recent cup-tie success, which passed us into the semi-final: or else to the spell of splendid weather we are having. What a wonderful difference success makes—cheery words, smiling faces, n.c.o.s passing the time of day, and heaps of other strange things happen!

Our football team are still leading their league. Our runners are still optimistic and training with their usual zest. The billiard team still "push and take," one point only preventing them from being top of *their* league.

Heartiest congratulations to the following n.c.o.s on their promotion: C.S.M. Harding, Sergts Evelyn, Keevil and Genge.

In conclusion, I would like to relate the following story, which I think is too good to be kept in Aldershot.

A sergeant's wife sent her little girl to a tea party. As the child had a slight touch of toothache, her mother told her that on being offered cake she was to refuse and say, "No, thank you, I'd rather have bread and butter." Her mother also told her to repeat this if asked a second time.

The party over, the little girl returned home, and on being asked what transpired, said, "Oh, mummy, they brought me cake, and I said, 'No, thank you, I'd rather have bread and butter.' They brought me cake a second time, and again I thought of you, and said, 'No, thank you, I'd rather have bread and butter.' But, mummy, they brought me cake a *third* time, and you didn't tell me what to say, so I thought of daddy, and said, 'Take the d—— stuff away!'"

Cross Country Running.

On Tuesday, January 17th, our team turned out in an endeavour to gain places in the group team prior to the Command Group championships. Three of our runners—Sergt Bayliss and Signalmen Dipple and Silk—were chosen, whilst Sergt Hatton and Sigmn Kilford had the misfortune to be one point behind, and in consequence were chosen as first and second reserves respectively.

In the race itself, our Group won comfortably, giving our three representatives the pleasure of annexing three medals—our first during this cross country season.

We still have our usual Monday afternoon spins, which are evidently becoming more popular, judging by the numbers turning out.

Billiards.

As we anticipated in our last contribution, we have more than held our own in the Command senior billiard league, the Signals team having lost only two matches to date—and one of those by one point only.

The team playing in the majority of games is as follows: Lieut Andrews, C.S.M.s Causey and Harding, Sergts Keevil (captain), Genge and Winter.

We regret that Capt. Collins (probably our best player) is not able to help us more often, as his presence would undoubtedly greatly strengthen the team.

Lieut Andrews and Sergt Keevil are deserving of special mention as being the "lucky" ones who invariably get the "tough nuts" of the opposition to crack. The whole team, however, have played good billiards, and thoroughly deserved their successes.

Breaks of note are as follows: C.S.M. Harding, 31; C.S.M. Causey, 29; Lieut Andrews, 27; Sergt Keevil, 28; and Sergt Bale, 25.

The results to date are: Versus A.E.C., won by 567 to 474; C.M.A., won by 583 to 414; R.A.M.C., lost by 506 to 537; R.H.A., won by 592 to 498; 7th Dragoon Guards, won by 537 to 447; R.H.A., won by 590 to 477; R.A.M.C., lost by 531 to 532; R.A.O.C., won by 581 to 448; R.F.A., won by 549 to 494.

Football.

SCOTS GUARDS v. SIGNALS.

On Wednesday, January 25th, we secured a somewhat lucky though well-deserved victory over the Scots Guards.

We were two goals behind shortly after the interval, being pressed into our own half, and, in fact, looking like a badly defeated team. Then came salvation in the shape of a brilliant goal by Vanlint, who scored with a beautiful drive following some clever footwork on the part of Lockhart.

This put new life into the team, and Sergt Bale equalised with a shot which "flabbergasted" the goalie, who first saw the ball when extracting it from the back of the net.

The same player missed by inches shortly after, and it was left to Brunton to score the winning goal after a clever bit of work on the part of Vanlint and Lockhart.

Shortly after this the whistle blew for time, and we left the field a very thankful (if muddy) team.

GRENADIER GUARDS v. SIGNALS.

On Saturday, January 28th, we lost our first game of the season to the Grenadier Guards, a team we have twice previously defeated. We failed, however, at the third time of asking, and lost a very spirited game by one goal to nil—and to make our defeat more tantalising, that goal was scored from a penalty kick.

C.M.A. v. SIGNALS.

On Wednesday, February 8th, we played our return fixture with the Corps of Military Accountants, who at our last meeting ran us to a very close draw, and made us happy to have robbed them of half the points.

On this occasion, however, our boys were in better fettle, and after a fast first half—during which we had a lot of rough luck (mainly due to the brilliant display of the C.M.A.'s goalkeeper)—we embarked on the second half feeling that if *we* didn't soon get a goal somebody else would.

Our feelings were soon eased, however, a shot from Bayliss curling just under the bar. Our second goal came soon after, the same player shooting at the goalkeeper, who fumbled the shot, and before he could recover, Bayliss tapped the ball into the net.

As usual, our defence was very strong, especially our goalkeeper, Handley, who saved several seemingly impossible shots. Our backs also have acquired an excellent understanding with each other.

Shortly after the commencement of the game, Sgt Bale wrenched his knee rather badly. He pluckily, though perhaps unwisely, finished the game, and in consequence has been admitted to hospital, where we sincerely hope his stay will be brief.



Aldershot Corps of Signals F.C., 1921-2.

Back Row: Sigmn Dipple (linesman), L/Cpl. Penfold, Sigmn Lockhart, Sigmn Medhurst, Sigmn Handley (captain), Cpl. Moran, Sigmn Smith, Sigmn Longhurst (vice-captain).

Middle Row: C.S.M. Brown (trainer), Lieut. Straight, M.C., Major Firth, M.C., C.S.M. Causey (sec.), Sergt. Purkiss (treasurer).

Front Row: Sergt. Bayliss, Sigmn Diprose, Cpl. Brunton, Driver Vanlint, Sergt. Bale.

[The above photo was taken by Sigmn Saunders; copies may be had from Sergt. Bayliss.]

SIGNALS v. FARNBOROUGH LEGION.

On Saturday, February 11th, we entertained the Farnborough Legion in the third round of the Aldershot junior cup, and won a very easy game by 11 goals to nil. A description of the game is hardly necessary—the score is sufficient. The goals were scored by Vanlint (5), Woodford (2), Lockhart (2), Medhurst and Bayliss.

56th (1st London) Divisional Signals.

In spite of great adversity this unit is steadily going ahead. Recruiting has been good, and we hope for great things during the new training season which is about to begin. The abyssmal inadequacy of our headquarters is a great handicap both to training and to recreation.

Thanks to the very valuable help given by our permanent staff, the unit is now well provided for in the matter of sport and entertainment.

During the latter part of last year we held three dances, the first of which was poorly attended and a financial failure; the last two, however, were very successful, and everybody who attended seemed to enjoy themselves.

We held a whist drive on the 12th November. The attendance was poor, but those who came spent a pleasant evening. We hope for much better support at our next drive on February 25th.

Perhaps the most enjoyable of all the functions held during the period under review was the "social" which took place at headquarters on December 19th. Signalmen Skipp, Jones and Sandroff, in whose hands the arrangements were left, succeeded in getting up a show the excellence and variety of which was most encouraging. Many thanks to all those who contributed to the programme! We hope they will all come again.

Many of our members are at present down with "flu," but we trust they will soon recover, so that we shall see them back at headquarters again.

JACK.

Aldershot Command Signal Co. (T.A.)

Guildford.

As a unit in its infancy, we have nothing of tremendous importance to report at the moment; but in contradiction to the old saying, "Children should be seen and not heard," we have a great desire to make a noise!

Our strength gradually increases, and no doubt, in time, the most elaborate posters we have exhibited will bear fruit, and our O.C. will be working overtime interviewing the applicants.

Our O.C., Major E. Clifford-Harris, saw considerable service with the R.E. Signals in France, and is ably assisted by C.S.M. Stewart (late Capt. M.G.C.), C.Q.M.S. H. E. Mallowes (well known to many members of R.C.S. as late R.S.M. at Aldershot), and Sergt Hallett (late 97th Infantry Brigade Signals).

Enough for the moment! We desire to make our formation known, and look forward to our continued appearance in this appreciated little journal.

J. H. A. H.

4th Divisional Signal Company.

The majority of our personnel having now returned from their annual furlough, duties are being carried out as usual.

Our Officer Commanding being at present away on the "Continong," Lieut C. A. Bridgland, D.F.C., has assumed command.

Our strength has not yet started to mount. We had hopes, when we heard that the troops were coming home from Ireland, that we should have a finger in the lucky dip. So far, nothing doing!

The members of the signal class that assembled on the 20th January are making good progress, and should at the end of this course be quite equal to the terrors of Maresfield.

We are all wondering when we are going to get an issue of bathing costumes. It has been raining here for the past month. What a treat it would be to see the sun again.

In spite of the inclement weather, sport is being carried on as usual. Our "soccer" men are sticking to the game like the heroes of old. Perhaps the medals, etc., have attractive powers. I hope that Sigmn —— will keep his word with regard to the purchase of a silver watch chain for his medal (if any).

A certain member of this Company has been stricken with a new disease. No, it is *not* "flu."

The worthy in question is a native of the Emerald Isle. On a certain Monday a change in the habits of the patient was noticed. For a start he gave the "hops" a rest (sad to relate, only for a short time).

It was then reported that the patient had been seen "jazzing" in a dance hall known as the Palais de dance (my local readers will understand).

The next symptom was the shewing of a 10s. note on a Thursday—a sight rarely seen by the members of this little army.

A pillow slip that reposes on the virtuous couch of the patient was then found to be spotlessly white instead of the—er—er—usual colour. Numerous visits to the tailors then followed.

After all this we thought it time that the patient saw a doctor, so we forthwith despatched him to the hospital, where the case was diagnosed as "leaveitis." We are granting same, as it is a deserving case.

The n.c.o.s mess here has at last taken to sport. At a recent mess meeting it was suggested that a "shove ha'penny board" be purchased. This suggestion was forthwith carried out. Taff started the board going. Of course, being a champion of the game, this was natural.

Then Ted and "one other"—a probable starter from the Eastern Command Signal Company—joined in the play.

Good progress is being made with the game. But we want to know who is the *real* champion. Some say that Taff is, but we are rather inclined to doubt it.

Anyway, we will give them another month for practice, and then perhaps they will be able to come to some decision.

R. C. B.

2nd (Western) Corps Signals.

Sorry not to have filled up our little space for the last two months, but really everything was very quiet, and needless to say, we were "on leave." Things have started again in earnest, and as soon as the weather holds up, "outdoor exercises" will be the order on Saturdays.

Our annual training will take place early this year, viz., from the 11th to 25th June, in the vicinity of Lancaster, so that very little time remains for members to make themselves efficient as regards drills.

Recruiting has improved considerably during the last month, thanks to some of our members interesting their friends in the work of the unit; and no doubt the splendid series of winter entertainments have induced a few to join us.

All are looking forward to the annual ball, which is to take place in St. George's Hall on 31st March. Our own band will be in attendance, so that we are assured of good music. The floor will accommodate about 1000, and there are plenty of tickets to be had on application.

We have just formed a miniature rifle club, and have hopes of reaching the high standard we held in 1914. Spoon shoots will be held monthly, so hurry up and join. The range is open every drill night, and the slot machine will supply your ammunition requirements.

Our football team turns out every Saturday, but it must be hard work for the selection committee to get a representative team. We hope to obtain a ground for next season nearer headquarters, so that we can get better support as regards spectators.

The junior n.c.o.s and men's billiard team are still going strong.

Congratulations, X, on the result of the football season! Now, what about that cross country running?

WAH WAG.

49th (West Riding) Divl. Signals, Leeds.

Our strength is 13 officers and 232 other ranks. In the above numbers we have a good sprinkling of old hands who have come along to help us in re-forming the Territorial unit and to bring it back to its pre-war state of efficiency.

The commanding officer is Major A. Bray, T.D., who served in Gallipoli, and also commanded G.H.Q. Med. Exped. Force. The second-in-command is Major D. Hey, M.C., T.D., who was in charge of the lines of communication in Egypt. The O.C. Cable Company is Major W. Boyle, O.B.E. (late O.C. Signal Depot, Egypt). O.C. No. 2 Co., Capt. G. Bray, M.C. (i/c Lines 7th Corps Heavy Artillery, France). O.C. No. 3 Co., Capt. H. McLaren, D.S.O., M.C. (late Lieut.-Colonel 21st Corps, E.F.F.).

Next in order of seniority are Capt. W. F. Jackson, M.C. (and bar), late Major commanding 2nd Tank Brigade Signal Co.; Capt. J. Boyle, M.C., late 11th Corps, H.Q., France and Italy; Lieut H. Richardson, 8th Divl. Signals, France; Lieut C. W. Halliday, M.B.E., 4th Corps, H.Q. Wireless (Sparkie); Lieut J. L. Wood, M.C., 31st Divl. Signals; Lieut J. F. C. Park, 31st Infantry Brigade Signals; Lieut T. F. Moody, Wireless, East Africa; and last, but not least, Capt. and Adjutant J. Campbell, M.B.E., 5th Corps, France (Adjutant West Park, Bedford).

It will be seen by the above that all the officers who are now with this unit served with the Signals during the great war, which service (together with the decorations of which they are justly proud) is a great asset in the formation of the new unit.

Among the rank and file there are to be found some of the original members of the Corps, but as it will take too much space to enumerate them all individually, we must suffice to mention an odd one or two who are likely to be recognised by our readers.

First, there is C.Q.M.S. J. Brown (better known as "Jock"), late of the Permanent Staff (R.S.M.). No doubt the president of the mess at Maresfield Park misses his noble voice at the mess meetings.

Then there is a right fat boy, better known as a singer from the concert party at Alexandria during their Cook's tour, by name C.Q.M.S. Tebbs, D.C.M. Then, again, there is the former C.S.M. of Signals at Alexandria, Sergt R. Allen, D.C.M. (our Dick).

Next of note is the famous horsemaster or ladies' escort from the Signal Depot, Egypt, Tommy—no doubt the horses like him owing to his name—viz., Sergt T. Whittaker.

Among the sergeants are Sergt E. Stevenson, T.T. Cable Section; (Tubby) Blakeborough, the famous hero section—if not understood which section it is, I will tell you: the commander was the late R.S.M. Raynor, D.C.M., better known as Tommy; Sergt W. Catherall (Billy), 4th Division; Joynes (Fruity), late 8th Division.

Of the permanent staff there is one Fred. Brown, who is the R.S.M., and has for decorations the D.C.M. and Russian Order of St. George (1st Class); also a sergeant (now a full blown C.Q.M.S. on both arms) whom it is thought the members of "Don" Company will recognise if we tell them that he is exceedingly fond of dancing—but in case they don't, his nickname is Darkie from Guildford; and if he is not known even by that nom de plume, we will let the cat out of the bag and say it's Ansell of that ilk (what cher, Herb. !)

Boxing.

We have started again with our small boxing team. We had the Group contest at the beginning of the month, and were lucky indeed—only two fights, and won both.

Driver Kelly, the fly-weight, had a hard two rounds, but finished off Rifleman Corncross, Leeds Rifles, at the commencement of the third.

The other fight was between Signalman (Ginger) L. Smith and Signalman Kay (both of ours) in the welter weights—Smith proving the winner, although Kay is a coming lad.

Our men are now in training for the Divisional competition which takes place on March 18th. Our representatives will be Driver E. Kelly, fly-weight; Driver Jones, bantam; Sigmn L. Smith, welter; and Sigmn (Nobby) Clarke, light weight. We shall miss Sigmn J. R. Mitchell, but are looking for his name among the boxers of D Company S.S.T.C.

We commence training this month. The first six weeks will be given to musketry, and then we are off to Strensall for three days at Easter.

No. 1 Co. had a meeting last week. Good luck to Sergt (our Dick) Allen, D.C.M., on being promoted C.S.M. of the Cable Company. "If tha does ought for onybody, do it fa tha senn."

The cross country team has commenced training, and hopes to get a position in the Divisional run which will be held towards the end of March. Our youngsters did not manage to bring the team through last year, although Signalman Mason led the field throughout and finished a magnificent first by nearly a quarter of a mile.

TYKE.

THE WORK OF A LEEDS TERRITORIAL SIGNAL CORPS.

There was a large gathering at the Gibraltar Barracks, Leeds, on December 23rd, on the occasion of the annual ball and prize distribution of the 49th (West Riding) Divl. Signals (Royal Corps of Signals).

Several hundred members of the unit and their guests took part in the dancing in the drill hall, which had been tastefully decorated with flags, festoons, and evergreens, and music was provided by the regimental band, under the conductorship of Mr. G. J. Connor, bandmaster.

The whole of the arrangements for the function had been carried out by Captain and Adjutant J. Campbell, assisted by R.S.M. Brown and Q.M.S. Ansell, both of the permanent staff.

Major Arthur Bray, T.D. (Commanding Officer), presided over the gathering, and presented the prizes, and he was accompanied by Col. J. W. H. Brown, T.D., Major D. Hey, M.C., T.D., Major W. Boyle, O.B.E., T.D., Capt. and Adjutant J. Campbell, Capts. H. McLaren, D.S.O., M.C., J. McLaren, G. Bray, M.C., J. Boyle, M.C., and Jackson, M.C., Lieuts Park, Halliday, Richardson, Tasker and Wood, M.C.

Major Bray expressed his pleasure with the work that had been done since the Company was formed, and said it had been a varied year in the way of training. Last year, when they had an emergency call, everybody in the Company responded who could do so.

Referring to the part the Company took in the war, he said that they came out with flying colours, and on

more than one occasion their Divisional General had congratulated him on the work they did, and expressed his pride in the unit.

The unit was smaller in numbers than before the war, and they were not yet up to full strength. He hoped, however, that they would all try to bring it up to full strength next year. "We have the quality," he added, "so let us next year have both the quality *and* the quantity."—*Yorkshire Post*, Dec. 24th, 1921.

3rd (London) Corps Signals Companies.

Company Training.

We are commencing the year with new arrangements to enable our members to maintain efficiency. Officers have now been posted to the Companies, and in future a special night is allotted to the various squads, etc., now running:—Monday, No. 1 Co.; Tuesday, No. 2 Co.; Thursday, No. 3 Co.; Friday, No. 4 Co. O.C.'s parade on Wednesday; riding school, Wednesday; recruits' training, Thursday.

All parades are held at 19.20 hours. Those unable to attend on their own Company night should endeavour to be present at the Wednesday parade.

Counting of Drills.

Members should note that one hour's drill is in future counted as one drill *only*.

Musketry.

Musketry training will this year be held at Purfleet on the following dates: April 29th and 30th; June 10th and 11th; August 5th and 6th; Sept. 16th and 17th; October 28th and 29th.

Camp.

The annual training this year will be at Littlehampton, in either July or August. The definite date will be published later.

Recruits.

Since our re-opening we have sworn in 15 recruits, and others are still arriving. We watch with curiosity the swelling numbers before a certain event and the reduction of same after.

Band.

We are now forming a band for this corps, and have pleasure in stating that Sergt W. J. Senior has accepted the bandmastership, while Sergt A. J. Tourle is the secretary. Both are from the Queen's Westminster Rifles' band, and I hear that others are transferring. The Queen's W.R. band has been called "The Guards' band of the Terriers," so we feel confident that a good band will eventually be running. Bandsmen are wanted, especially in the reed section, and applicants should consult either the bandmaster or secretary, on Wednesdays.

Presentation.

On Wednesday, February 8th, Col. Emley, O.B.E., T.D., R.C.S. (T.) presented to Sapper Hollow his war medals. Hollow is an old member of the now defunct London Army Troops, and we are pleased to see that he is still with us and now a full corporal.

Personal.

Many members will be surprised to hear that Sergt Rawson (Algy) has left us, having joined the R.A.S.C. (Regulars). We have not seen much of him lately, owing to his being at Maresfield for a course. We wish him the best of luck, and trust that he will "follow the band" and not "dilly dally on the wayee."

Change of Reporter.

Owing to my transfer to the 54th Div. E. A. Sigs. I am reluctantly compelled to hand this "good" work over, and have pleasure in stating that future articles will be from the efficient pen of Sergt Moorse.

Before concluding, I must thank one and all for their support in this work, and I offer my heartfelt thanks to our O.C., the Adjutant, the officers, R.S.M. Prescott, and my fellow n.c.o.s. Au revoir!

Sergt. DOBBY (Tiny).

43rd (The Wessex) Divisional Signals.

(Territorial)

Devon Territorial Football Championship.

Well, we lost, but we have the satisfaction of knowing that the winners had "all the way to go" before they annexed the coveted medals.

Our opponents—the gallant 6th Devons—had an advantage in weight, and with the assistance of two "old heads" (Permanent Staff) their defence was considerably strengthened. The comments in the *Exeter Football Express* were as follows:—

"There was plenty of enthusiasm at St. James's Park, on Wednesday, when the 6th Devons (Barnstaple) beat the Wessex Signals (Exeter) in the final of the Territorial Championship of Devon by two clear goals. Considering the terribly heavy going—the referee was glad to wash off his boots under a tap at half-time—the football was exceedingly good.

"The Devons were better together. They were finely served at right back by Gilbert, and their forwards adapted themselves better to the conditions, swinging the ball about in businesslike style.

"But the Signals, whose attack, although not strong at outside-left, was very lively, looked like scoring more than once. Stoneman's sound goalkeeping was quite a feature of the game."

The teams sat down to tea together after the match, and the O.C. Signals, Major W. G. Michelmore, D.S.O., M.C., congratulated the winners in a natty speech, which was replied to by the Devons' Adjutant, who thanked Major Michelmore for the Signals' kindness in entertaining them to tea. Altogether it was one of those bright sporty little affairs which tend to gladden the hearts of those who strive to make the recreational side of the Territorial Army a success.

Congratulations to 2nd Lieuts M. N. Ford and M. H. Shearme on being gazetted to the 43rd (Wessex) Divisional Signals. They both enlisted in the Defence Force last year, and apparently found Signals work to their liking. Having youth on their side, they will, no doubt, prove valuable acquisitions to the recreational side of our affairs.

An officers' course of instruction for the week ending 18th March has been arranged, and will take place at our headquarters.

Our No. 2 Company is to be formed in Southampton, but so far it has not been possible to secure the services of an instructor. Should this catch the eye of anyone who would like such a job, will he please get into touch with the Wessex Signals H.Q., Colleton Crescent, Exeter, for particulars? I think the appointment is for a "pensioner instructor."

OLD SPARK

46th (North Midland) Divisional Signals.

This unit of "The Royal Corps" continues merrily in the path of efficiency. Recruiting is fairly brisk, and the right type of man is rolling in.

The Cable Section have carried out several schemes, and considering the comparatively raw material, it has worked wonderfully well.

We are waiting for the spring, and then we hope training will be even more interesting. Even now the youngsters show a keenness that is really wonderful.

The social side is not forgotten, whist drives and concerts being held periodically.

Our football team, who are in the Derby and District Amateur League, are going fairly well, considering this is their first season.

No. 3 (Nottingham) Co. held their annual dinner at the "Flying Horse Hotel." This was a great success, and was greatly appreciated by everyone.

Last month's notes inadvertently stated that "Capt. Bray had recently undergone an operation." This should have read: "Mr. Jack Bray," *son* of Capt. Bray.

MEREBIMUR.

Glasgow Signal Units.

52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals.

1st (Scottish) Corps Signals.

Entertainments.

A regimental dance was held on 24th January at headquarters, at which practically all the officers and a strong muster of n.c.o.s and men, together with friends, attended. The hall was beautifully decorated with bunting and flags, and the general effect was greatly enhanced by a number of various-coloured electric lamps, for which we are much indebted to the Corporation of Glasgow (Tramways Dept.).

Sergeants' Mess.

The Sergeants' Mess annual dinner was held in Hinshaw's on the evening of the 10th inst. There was a highly satisfactory attendance of serving w.o.s and sergeants, besides some civilian friends. The musical programme greatly added to the evening's pleasure. Col. Murdoch and a number of officers were present, and the former, in his remarks, took the opportunity of paying a tribute to the serving w.o.s and sergeants, expressing the belief that, with the continued active co-operation and assistance of these, the junior officers would quickly acquire all the necessary experience. The usual toasts appropriate to the occasion were drunk.

Boxing.

The Adjutant of Divl. Signals (Capt. R. Lishman) is up to the eyes in work preparing for the boxing tournament which is to be held on the 23rd and 24th, and which promises to be a great success. It will be held in the drill hall of the 5th Cameronians, West Princes's Street.

Casualty.

All members of the units join in congratulating R.S.M. "Jack" Horner on the arrival of a daughter. His friends throughout the country will be pleased to take note of this happy event.

LOWDIVCOR.

53rd (Welch) Divisional Signals (T.A.)

Cardiff.

Our contribution appearing to so much advantage in last month's WIRE, we feel there is only one thing to be done, and that is to continue the good work.

The unit progresses favourably, and with the organisation of the three Companies completed, we are ready to face the strain of the coming training season with the knowledge that no other Territorial Signal unit can be in a better position than we are. [This paragraph will probably bring a storm of abuse upon our devoted heads, but what matter! If *we* don't blow our trumpet, no one else will.]

Training.

Riding drill and outdoor instruction commences early next week; in fact, by the time these notes appear (subject to the kind-heartedness of the Editor), the time-honoured custom of "picking the winners" on Wednesday and Saturday afternoons will have occurred quite frequently, we hope.

Wireless training proceeds apace, and shortly we hope to have the pleasure of conversing with our friends at Liverpool. Attempts to establish this communication were made some time ago, when the Command station was in existence at the barracks, but without any very satisfactory results. We hope to succeed where others have failed!

Flag drill, technical lectures, and harness instruction have long since been a part of our weekly programme, and it is gratifying to note that the attendances at the various classes have shewn a large increase during the past month. May they never grow less!

Sports and Entertainment.

In addition to the training programme, we have enlisted the services of a first class instructor in physical training and boxing, who holds classes on most drill nights.

So keen have some of our younger members become in studying the methods of the "noble art," that we are beginning to regret that a stretcher is not included in our medical equipment. However, it's the *right* spirit, and we mean to encourage it.

The rifle team are still endeavouring to carry all before them, and though meeting with a check in the last match, are still well in the running for some of the various league trophies. Good luck to them!

The new Institute has at last been completed, and is one of the finest in Cardiff. There is a billiard room with a full-sized table, reading tables, and a concert and recreation room—in which, to celebrate its opening, a most successful smoking concert was held on the 8th inst.

A large attendance included the following officers: Capts. Fawcett, Cary and Wall, Lieuts Trice, Biggs and Arnold. A most entertaining programme was thoroughly enjoyed by all present. We regret that "Tim" of Crowborough was not present to give his celebrated rendering of "Gunga Din" (with variations).

R. T. O.

Belfast Signal Company.

Having lost during January the majority of our Company who were stationed in Belfast, and also a good percentage of men on detachments, I hardly know on what subject to write, except that of "Draft." That has been the watchword and pivot on which events have moved during the past month.

As I believe was notified last month, our first shock was an intimation from the Officer i/c Records to the effect that 29 n.c.o.s and men would be required to proceed to Crowborough, "toute de suite," in order to join a draft proceeding to the sunny (sometimes) clime of India.

Of course, this came as a surprise, as everyone thought themselves well "dug in" and quite forgotten by Chatham (except for the notifications of debtor balances which rolled along frequently).

However, after the departure of the afore-mentioned n.c.o.s and men, the remnants of the Company were again settling down, when a fortnight afterwards along came another requisition: this time for four men for Egypt, who departed this (Belfast) life on the 27th ult., and will no doubt (together with the men for India) have sailed for their respective stations by the time THE WIRE is circulated in which I hope these notes will appear. (Of course, I know not what the Editor will decide, for I have lately had a Mk. VII. hair cut, and I believe that my literary powers have departed *avec* same).

But to get on with the story: we are now sweating on reinforcements arriving from the "Free State," which arrival we trust will not be long delayed, as we are at present only 50 strong.

There have also been a great many changes of stations in this Land of Shamrock (and rain) just lately, nearly the whole of the infantry battalions in the area with whom we were in co-operation having left for England, some *en route* for India and other stations; but as they have gone, so others from south and west have arrived to fill the vacant camps.

Mentioning camps, we might say a few words on this subject (am studying for orders: *not* Company orders).

I notice that the correspondent of B Company, Crowborough, has a little grouse on the state of the weather prevailing there, but I can safely say (for I myself happened to be in Crowborough less than a month ago) that it is "home from home" compared with a little bit of "The little bit of heaven" which was christened Ballykinlar—the late "abode of love" of the Sinn Fein prisoners (and their unfortunate guards).

From conversations overheard, it is a likely resting place for a detachment of this Company (in the making), but we will not grumble, as the speeches made in Belfast lately give hopes of a rosier future, all residents in the northern area having been implored to give the troops a welcome. *All*, of course, includes a certain section who have always shewn us a hearty welcome (we don't think)—but, "No names, no pack drill."

Trusting I have not taken too much space, I will proceed to write "Finis," wishing all our old Company the very best of luck, and hoping to hear of their doings in the near future through the valuable medium of THE WIRE.

As a last word, our very best wishes to Lieut Ogden (Queen's Regt.), ordered for draft to Constantinople. We have not had very much time to become well acquainted, but we wish him all the best in his future.

Things We Want to Know.

If "Jock" Harrison is contemplating the happy (?) state of matrimony? and "Did he fall, or was he pushed"?

If another Jock, by name Furrie, had still got the bottle on arrival at Glasgow? and if so, where did he lose the contents?

Things Others Ought to Know.

That the individual named in paragraph 1 above was *not* mentioned in the New Year's Honours List, but has since been awarded the (C.B.) with two bars. (He has to inspect the Guard every half hour *when off duty*).

C. H. T.

SPORTS NEWS.

Cross Country Running.

Since our last notes we have had a very successful period.

On Saturday, the 28th January, we journeyed to Horsham to meet the 5th Battn Royal Sussex Regt. After having put the "wind up" our president by arriving two hours late, owing to a breakdown on the way, we decided to split our runners into two teams—A and B—making seven runners in each, the Terriers having nine.

After a most enjoyable race of about six miles over heavy country, both our teams finished ahead of the Terriers—A team being first with 42 points, B team second with 62 points, and the Terriers finishing with 74 points. As usual, our "Joe" (Sigmn Cotterell) was finished and bathed before we arrived!

We were very dissappointed that our much looked forward to run with the Cambridge University Hare and Hounds Club was scratched owing to so many of the Cambridge pack being down with the "flu." We are promised a match next year with them, as we are too full with fixtures for this season.

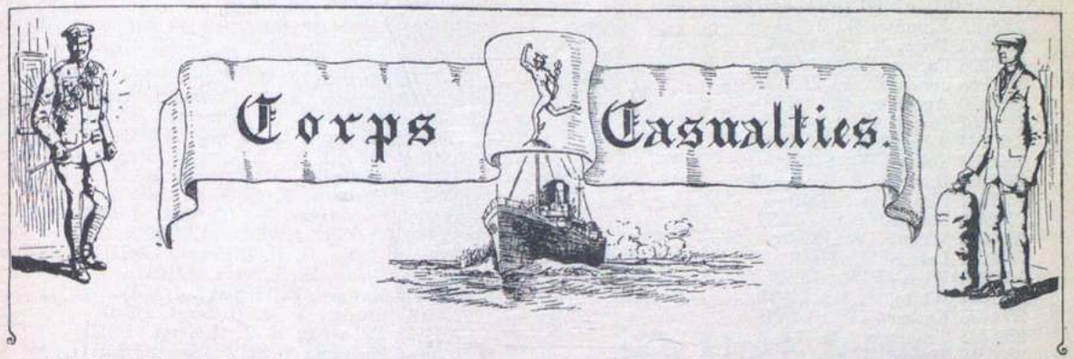
We had a great success in the South of Thames cross country championship, going one better than last year, and finishing second among 23 crack civilian clubs.

We had the honour of providing the first man home in that wonderful runner of ours, Sigmn Joe Cotterell. There is no need to describe how he won, for he simply went ahead at the first half mile and won as he pleased.

We have a right to be proud of Cotterell, for we have brought him up from a novice, and no one could help feeling proud of such a quiet unassuming champion.

The readers of THE WIRE have already read a part of his record, but we hope, when we supply his latest, to be able to add the "National cross country champion of England"—which we have great hopes of his winning on his present form.

Continued on page 67



[It is to be distinctly understood that information given under the headings, "Promotions, Births, Marriages, and Deaths," etc., is altogether unofficial, and is on no account to be quoted in official correspondence.]

ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS PROMOTION ROSTER.

FOREMEN OF SIGNALS.

WARRANT OFFICERS, CLASS I.

Nil.

WARRANT OFFICERS, CLASS II.

QUARTERMASTER-SERGEANTS.

1850253 Marshall, W. J., 11/6/21
1851102 Ramsay, N., 11/6/21
1856172 Shave, H. S., 11/6/21
2306193 McIntosh, R. A., 11/6/21
1853229 Floyd, W. E., 11/6/21

COMPANY QUARTERMASTER-SERGEANTS—

1853539 Heyward, H. G. R., 11/6/21
2306144 Piercy, W. D., 11/6/21

SERGEANTS *(continued)*—

2305202 O'Brien, W. (Sergt. 1/9/21)
2306102 Carter, R. (Sergt. 1/9/21)
2308278 Revell, E. (Acting Sergt. 1/9/21)
2306419 Barrett, A. (Sergt. 1/9/21)
2306122 Squibb, G. (Sergt. 1/9/21)
2306259 Dorrington, A. (Sergt. 1/9/21)
2306263 Hoad, W. (Sergt. 1/9/21)
2311454 Kingstone, G. (Sergt. 1/9/21)
2306256 Grist, G. (Sergt. 1/9/21)
2306363 Keevil, R. (Sergt. 1/9/21)
2306210 Caulfield, C. (Sergt. 1/9/21)
2307021 Simpson, H. (Sergt. 1/9/21)
2308309 Marshall, F. C. (Sergt. 1/9/21)
2307022 Speller, H. (Sergt. 1/9/21)
2306008 Shugrue, F. (Sergt. 1/9/21)
2306358 Harrison, T. W. (Sergt. 1/9/21)
2306707 Pearce, R. V. (Sergt. 1/9/21)
2307916 Genge, J. (Sergt. 1/9/21)
2307726 Doust, F. (Sergt. 1/9/21)
2306386 Hayter, E. (Acting Sergt. 1/9/21)
2307301 Evelyn, G. (Sergt. 1/9/21)
2306871 Gardiner, D. (Sergt. 1/9/21)
2311513 Newstead, T. W. (Acting Sergt. 1/9/21)
2306361 Wood, W. (Sergt. 1/9/21)
2307854 Black, A. (Sergt. 1/9/21)
1850728 Bramley, E. (Sergt. 1/9/21)
2313007 Elkinton, F. J. (Sergt. 1/9/21)

LANCE-SERGEANTS—

2311231 Dann, A., 24/12/16
1850280 Cox, H., 1/2/21
1857135 Stannard, T., 1/2/21
1856195 Ringe, W., 1/2/21
2308258 Courtney, S., 1/2/21
1850359 Wilson, G., 1/2/21
6905262 Chadwick, C., 1/2/21
2311664 Seymour, A. J., 1/2/21
2307174 Coffin, E. G., 1/2/21
2311815 Smith, J. J., 1/2/21
2305876 Wells, R. H., 1/2/21
2305390 Gibson, H., 1/2/21
2306417 Storey, A., 1/2/21
1855759 March, F., 1/2/21
2306214 Conner, F., 1/2/21
2311512 Waterson, A. H., 1/2/21
2306872 Bayliss, G. F., 1/2/21
2306649 Legg, N. E., 1/2/21
2306719 Johnsey, F., 1/2/21
2305295 Harris, G., 1/2/21
1850013 Hall, J., 1/2/21
2305232 Squirrell, J., 1/2/21
2305283 Jefferies, R., 1/2/21
2307300 Dolbear, S., 1/2/21
1851618 Cubbon, J., 1/2/21
2306310 Cundell, P., 1/2/21
1850122 Shenton, A. C., 1/2/21
2306336 Churchill, A., 1/2/21
2306385 Whittle, G., 1/2/21
1853688 Drew, G., 1/2/21
2307242 Kemlo, J., 1/2/21
2305404 Watts, R., 1/2/21
2307323 Copsey, T., 1/2/21
1856911 Laing, A., 1/2/21
2306285 Trott, G., 1/2/21
2311554 Higginbottom, J. G., 1/2/21
2306282 Butcher, E., 1/2/21
1850371 Smith, O. C., 1/2/21
1853325 Martin, E., 1/2/21
2311605 Shepherd, S., 1/2/21
2305235 Smith, J., 1/2/21
2306718 Horner, J., 1/2/21
2306701 Seago, C., 1/2/21
2306291 Hailes, C., 1/2/21
2306274 Bevan, R., 1/2/21

LANCE-SERGEANTS *(continued)*—
2306315 Elsmore, B., 1/2/21
2308041 Prior, F. G., 1/2/21
2307298 Carter, F. T., 1/2/21
1855268 Jones, L., 1/2/21
2306690 Agombar, G., 1/2/21
1850367 Hogan, J., 1/2/21
2311644 Adcock, J. W., 1/2/21
2306280 Tolley, W., 1/2/21
2307909 Dormer, F. G., 1/2/21
2307927 Cleary, A., 1/2/21
2306452 Simmonds, P., 1/2/21
2308050 Winzer, W., 1/2/21
2308001 Latter, H., 1/2/21
1855804 Wensley, M., 1/2/21
2311807 White, J. E., 1/2/21
2306473 Kackson, W., 1/2/21
2306443 Trapmore, A., 1/2/21
2306557 Moore, W. C., 1/2/21
2307747 Bruce, J., 1/2/21
2306284 Pitt, F., 1/2/21
2306421 Willis, A., 1/2/21
2306216 Bishop, J. D., 1/2/21
2306670 Hayes, J., 1/2/21
2306380 Wallis, W., 1/2/21
2306594 Gaffney, W. H., 1/2/21
2307173 Grant, N., 1/2/21
2306470 Freemantle, J., 1/2/21
2313052 Smart, A. E., 1/2/21
1850271 Bew, G., 1/2/21
1860659 Yeo, F. R., 1/2/21
2306290 Brogan, T., 1/2/21
2306309 McGrath, P., 1/2/21
2311695 Payne, L. F., 1/2/21
2307061 Waller, J., 1/2/21
2306301 Daw, H., 1/2/21
1850373 Godfrey, D., 1/2/21
2307987 Marshall, C., 1/2/21
2306447 Nobes, C., 1/2/21
2307210 Roberts, H. G., 1/2/21
2308248 Nash, D., 1/2/21
2306469 Burr, W., 1/2/21
2306487 Rowe, B., 1/2/21
2307579 Spindler, E. H., 1/2/21
2307750 Gordon, J., 1/2/21
2306262 Bartlett, J., 1/2/21
1857089 Gray, H., 1/2/21
2306444 Tilford, V., 1/2/21
2306399 Schwencke, W., 1/2/21
2306543 Hopkinson, H., 1/2/21
2311578 Bareham, G., 1/2/21
2306242 McDonald, F., 1/2/21
2306918 Bull, G., 1/2/21
2306584 Richardson, H., 1/2/21
1856916 Trill, H., 1/2/21
2306275 Hore, W., 1/2/21
2306354 Noonan, W. J., 1/2/21
1851911 Earwaker, T., 1/2/21
1856991 Seabrook, G. R., 1/2/21
2307364 Hope, C. J., 1/2/21
2307493 Burton, M., 1/2/21
2307492 Chapman, A., 1/2/21
2307457 White, W., 1/2/21
2306516 Eyres, A., 1/2/21
2306170 Wilcox, R. F., 14/3/19
1850360 Hales, A., 1/2/21
2311808 Simpson, H., 1/2/21
2306935 Maycox, W., 1/2/21
2306613 Parsons, A., 1/2/21
2306422 Brooks, E. A., 1/2/21
2313055 Cole, T. C., 1/2/21
2306579 Griffin, A., 1/2/21
2306904 Chick, L. E., 1/2/21
1860624 Price, J., 1/2/21
1402768 Lane, H. H., 1/6/21
2306498 Moralee, J. J. (Lance-Sergt. 1/9/21)
2307981 Develin, A. A. (Acting L/Sergt. 1/9/21)
2305408 Matthews, J. (L/Sergt. 1/9/21)
2306502 Williams, B. (L/Sergt. 1/9/21)
2307274 Collard, S. C. (L/Sergt. 1/9/21)
2307857 Crompton, V. (L/Sergt. 1/9/21)
2307828 Gradden, E. (L/Sergt. 1/9/21)
2307178 Shoebridge, G. (L/Sergt. 1/9/21)
2307680 Cowley, J. (L/Sergt. 1/9/21)
2308236 Hobbs, G. H. (L/Sergt. 1/9/21)
2307896 Baker, Z. (L/Sergt. 1/9/21)
2307345 Downer, E. (L/Sergt. 1/9/21)
2307013 Cooper, V. J. (L/Sergt. 1/9/21)
2311628 Tidmarsh, B. J. (L/Sergt. 1/9/21)
2307041 Hartley, A. W. (L/Sergt. 1/9/21)
2307908 Biddulph, J. (L/Sergt. 1/9/21)
2306272 Johns, W. F. (L/Sergt. 1/9/21)
2308169 Ingles, W. H. (L/Sergt. 1/9/21)
2308931 Leckie, W. P. (L/Sergt. 1/9/21)
2306508 Kingman, C. (L/Sergt. 1/9/21)
2306488 Herbert, A. F. (L/Sergt. 1/9/21)
2306326 Tremain, T. W. (L/Sergt. 1/9/21)
2307440 Mitchell, J. (L/Sergt. 1/9/21)
2308157 Chenery, A. J. (Acting L/Sergt. 1/9/21)
2305423 Bale, R. J. (L/Sergt. 1/9/21)
2306985 Lee, A. G. (L/Sergt. 1/9/21)
2307057 Carney, J. (L/Sergt. 1/9/21)
1853137 Burney, F. (L/Sergt. 1/9/21)
2307691 Ford-Stratford, A. (L/Sergt. 1/9/21)
2307855 Peat, W. (L/Sergt. 1/9/21)
2306535 Price, G. R. (L/Sergt. 1/9/21)
2307438 Gardner, R. O. (L/Sergt. 1/9/21)
1850279 Lawson, A. E. (L/Sergt. 1/9/21)
2306007 Stevenson, W. (L/Sergt. 1/9/21)
2306448 Hatcher, J. (L/Sergt. 1/9/21)
2311694 Laing, J. M. (Acting L/Sergt. 1/9/21)
2308262 Skinner, P. (L/Sergt. 1/9/21)
2306394 Linder, J. (L/Sergt. 1/9/21)
1850264 Graham, G. K. (L/Sergt. 1/9/21)
2307801 Goodman, F. C. (L/Sergt. 1/9/21)
2306454 Hopkins, C. E. (L/Sergt. 1/9/21)
2306648 Sherman, B. T. (L/Sergt. 1/9/21)
2306654 Wyatt, E. W. (L/Sergt. 1/9/21)
1855687 Campton, C. E. (L/Sergt. 1/9/21)
1850293 Sheale, R. G. (L/Sergt. 1/9/21)
2307383 Kendall, A. G. (Acting L/Sergt. 1/9/21)
2307196 Dillon, J. (L/Sergt. 1/9/21)
2306165 Warden, F. (L/Sergt. 1/9/21)
2307547 Barby, A. (L/Sergt. 1/9/21)
1850285 Head, A. (L/Sergt. 1/9/21)
2311756 Harrison, F. (L/Sergt. 1/9/21)
2306812 Collins, J. (L/Sergt. 1/9/21)
2306425 King, V. (L/Sergt. 1/9/21)
2311448 Edmunds, D. J. (L/Sergt. 1/9/21)
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1850255 Allen, H. (L/Sergt. 1/9/21)
2306287 Inman, F. G. (L/Sergt. 1/9/21)
2311824 Dakin, F. (L/Sergt. 1/9/21)
2306305 Robertson, W. (L/Sergt. 1/9/21)
2306234 Hart, C. (L/Sergt. 1/9/21)
2311474 Tickle, J. (L/Sergt. 1/9/21)
2308688 Hurn, F. W. (L/Sergt. 1/9/21)

ADDENDUM No. 1—
2311717 C.Q.M.S. Kenyon, A., to C.S.M., 1/9/21
1850356 Sergt. Hepburn, M., to C.Q.M.S., 1/9/21
1852444 L/Sergt. Hocking, S., to Sergeant, 1/9/21

The team as a whole ran finely, sticking to their guns from start to finish, despite the very heavy disappointment that his unit committee (owing to a football tie) would not allow Bayliss to compete.

Lieut Courtenay-Thompson, the Cambridge blue, ran finely for sixth place, as also did Sergt Noonan and Signalmen Jones, Wilcox and Richardson, who completed the counting six.

Vincent ran finely for the first five miles, but then, having a bad time, fell back.

The most pleasing thing was the great reception Cotterell and the remainder of the team received from the crowd. It speaks well for the name the Corps holds among all sportsmen.

The team comprised: Signalman Cotterell, Lieut. Courtenay-Thompson, Sergt Noonan, Signalmen Jones, Wilcox, and Richardson, Corpl Dowie, Signalmen Cayley and McDonald, Sergt Nichol (captain), and Signalmen Vincent and Cox—the names being given in the order of their finishing.

On February 16th we run in the Eastern Command C.C., and on the 25th in the Southern Counties C.C., in each of which we hope to do well.

C. C.

"Football Notes" and other sports news not to hand at time of going to press.—EDITOR.

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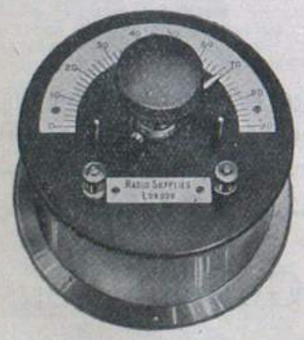
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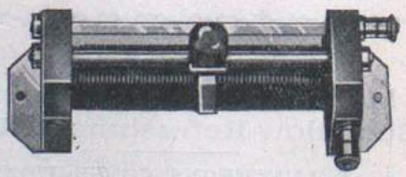
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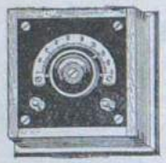
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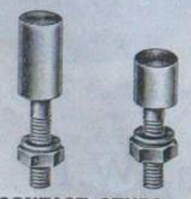
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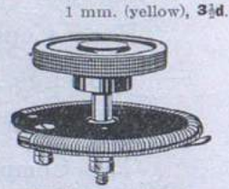
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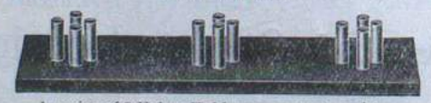
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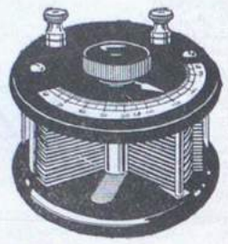
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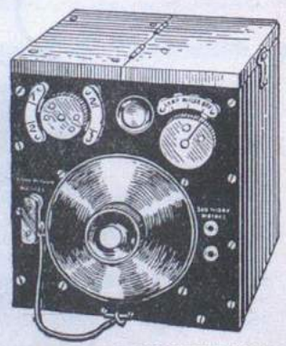


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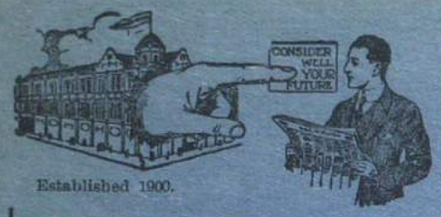
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Editorial Notes.

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Oxford and Cambridge Signalling Competition.

The eighth competition was held at Cambridge on February 25th, 1922. The scores were: Cambridge, 2841; Oxford, 2770. Cambridge has won five times and Oxford three times. The umpires were: Lieut.-Col. O. C. Mordaunt, D.S.O., R.C.O.S., Lieut.-Col. H. Clement Smith, D.S.O., R.C.O.S., Maj. H. C. Howard, M.C., Capt. W. R. H. Tingey, and Capt. D. Hannen.

A Corps "Star."

Congratulations to Sigmn J. Cotterell on his splendid performance in the National Cross Country Championship on March 11th, 1922; also on being selected to represent England in the forthcoming International championship. Bravo! Joe.

G. E. PALIN, Editor.

Correction.

RADIO SUPPLIES.—There was a misprint in this Firm's advertisement on page 68 of our March issue, with reference to Variable Condensers, which should have read: "Capacity .00022 mfds. 35/-, .000022 25/-"

Maresfield and Uckfield.

BY A FELLOW OF THE SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.

In the Stone Age a city once stood where now exists the village of Uckfield (occasionally referred to as a town); and on the present site of Maresfield, now a mere hamlet, a prosperous town flourished. The reason for the decline of these two places is rather obscure, but the reader may be able to trace contributory causes from the ensuing paragraphs relative to the habits and customs, past and present, of the inhabitants.

Uckfield, in olden times, was a noted industrial centre. The chief manufacture was woad, with which the population were wont to besmear themselves. This industry has been entirely superseded by the making of rouge, which is used in almost incredible quantities by maid and matron to this day. At a later period, gibbets, ducking-stools, stocks, pillories, and other essentials of mediæval justice were made here. The Ford taxis now plying for hire between Maresfield and Uckfield, however, produce results equally as nerve-racking as did those ancient instruments of torture.

A tournament and tilting ground once occupied the site of the local cinema. Here mighty warriors, Simon de Montfort, Hubert de Burgh, and the like, were wont to do battle for the smiles of the "fayre and comely ladyes" of the district. En passant, it should be noted that "fayre and comely ladyes," in those times, really existed, which goes to prove how facial features alter in the course of time. This statement is borne out by the comparatively beautiful features of the famous Piltdown skull.

A very marked characteristic of the people of Uckfield is their thrift: for example, the local fire engine bears the inscription, "55 B.C.," it having been presented to the townsfolk by Julius Cæsar in recognition of his appreciation of the local tradesmen's generosity in refusing to charge his legions more than 100 per cent. above the face value of their wares. This peculiar form of generosity is apparently hereditary. Uckfield has few architectural features, but the Town Hall, which on careful investigation will be found behind a noticeboard in the High Street, is worthy of comment. Baby shows, fur and feather exhibitions, public dances, Choral Society renditions, all take place in this hall—another example of municipal economy.

Now let us turn our attention to the hamlet of Maresfield. (N.B.—When conversing with a native, substitute "village" for "hamlet").

I can heartily recommend this charming rural spot to all those in search of a quiet life. The roar of trains, trams, omnibuses, and taxi-cabs has been reduced to vanishing point. Electric lighting, telephones, bathrooms and other modern evils are almost unknown. Such is Maresfield as we know it. The "Chequers," (not the Prime Minister's residence) Wickams, Tester's, five or six houses, and the village place of worship, are the only places worthy of mention. In Roman times it was a camp, and so it is not surprising to find that the place still preserves a military aspect. In fact huts (sometimes called bungalows)may still be observed in advanced stages of disrepair and decay. Whether they are still occupied by soldiers is a doubtful point.

After approaching a native in the usual manner, I was able to glean a good deal of information about Maresfield's history. After the Roman occupation it seems that Harold encamped here before proceeding to Hastings where he was shot in "n'ye with a n'arrow." Here, too, Alfred incurred the righteous wrath of the widow for allowing the "wads" to burn. Much more the local worthy told me, but as the people of Maresfield have such vivid powers of imagination, I decline to run the risk of committing myself further. One thing he told me was that Cæsar did not have an Army Service Corps, and so obtained supplies by a system known as "living on the country." Now the country lives on the troops.

Before bringing this little history to a conclusion, I must mention Maresfield's marvellous mud. This mud has extraordinary adhesive and glutinous properties. "Linguista fruita" flourishes prolifically on this soil.

E. S. H.

Song of the Signals.

In early age of man
Our line began,
That Troglodyte should call his kind at need:
With mounting damp wood smoke,
And bearskin cloak,
He worked a code his keen-eyed mate might read.

Perchance the sunlight's glint
On polished flint
Showed Neolithic mind another way,
And metal-working man
Improved the plan,
Until the heliograph had come to stay.

Life's ever-growing speed
Increased our need—
Nobly our servants strove to meet the strain:
Gallant they faced the brunt—
On battle-front
High-mettled horsemen carried news amain.

Then—from Dame Nature's breast
A secret wrest—
Behold a spark to travel far and fleet!
No human thing to tare,
Unseen a wire
Carries a messenger on wingéd feet.

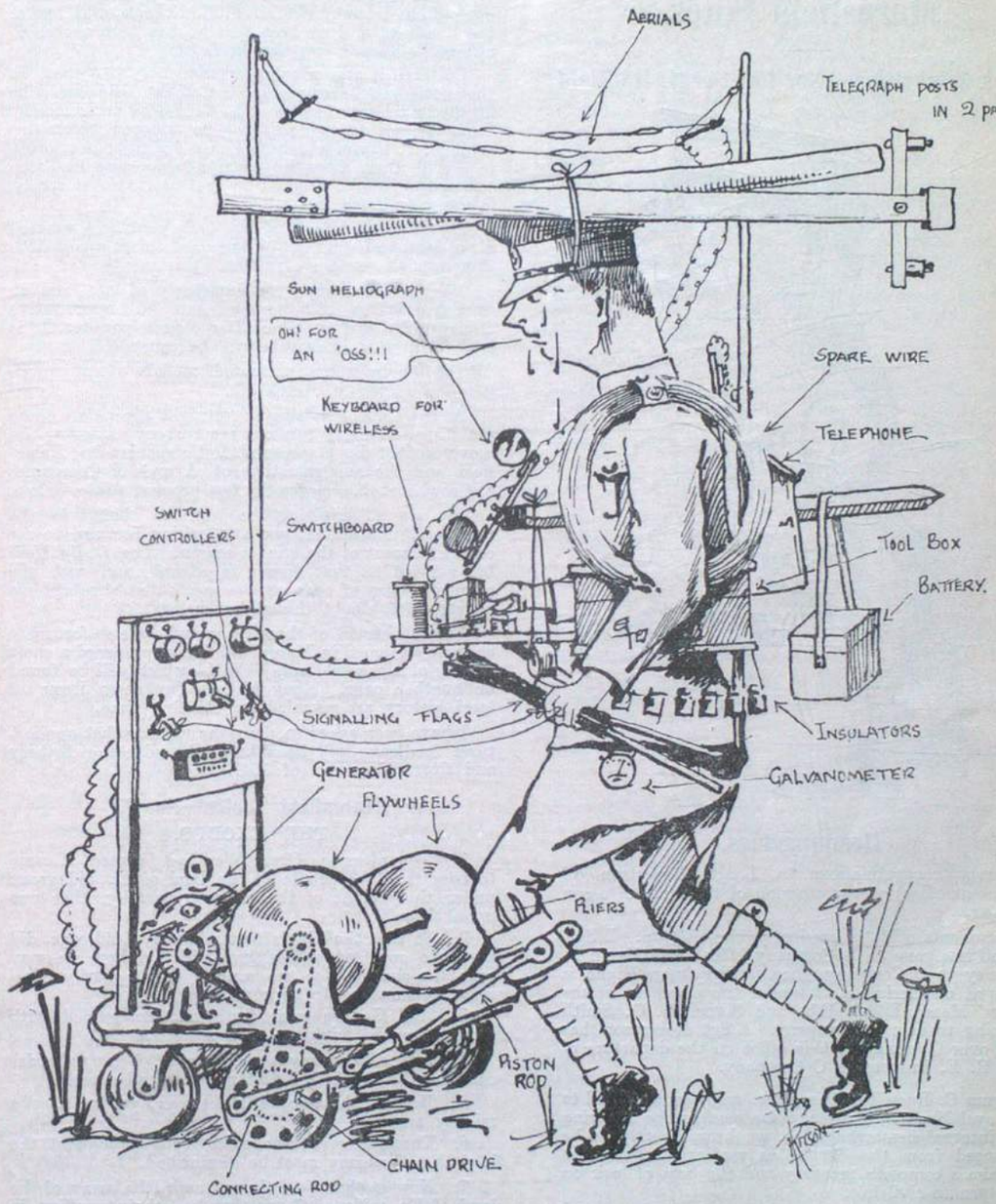
Now on mysterious wings
Our message springs,
Only less swift than light, through trackless air;
Yet, with these wonders bound,
Our need has found
The use for older service still is there.

Watch now our pigeons' flight
Against the light,
Wheeling in peace about the loft they know:
With quill beneath their wings—
Small, dauntless things!—
Homing through storm of shell-fire they will go.

Knowledge may yet produce
A surer use,
To link the daily life of distant lands:
Till thought a channel gain
From brain to brain,
Still is the priceless mission in our hands.

JAY HOO.

March, 1922.



ONE MAN SIGNAL CORPS.

Is this what Sir Eric Geddes meant when he said that the Signals were to "justify their existence"?

Maresfield Notes.

Corps Celebrities—No. 13: Sergt. Hadfield



Headquarters.

Hearty congratulations to L/Sgt. Robertson (of Documents office) on the occasion of the birth of a son and heir.

Documents office is gradually breaking up. L/Sgt. Cundell has gone to F Company office, and Sigmn P. Dunkeley to D Company office. Signalman Higho is employed on clerical work under the president of the Officers' Mess. L/Cpl. Ibbs and Sigmn H. G. Smith are going to new A Company. L/Sgt Robertson has taken over Q branch at this office on the departure of Corpl H. E. Frances to C Company.

Sigmn C. Russell of this office, who was admitted to the Royal Herbert Hospital some months ago suffering from internal hemorrhage, is, we hear, shortly to be discharged from the Service as medically unfit. We wish him a complete recovery and the best of luck on his return to civil life.

Everyone was disappointed at the failure of the Corps football team to retain the Sussex senior cup by losing to Worthing by the only goal scored. The team showed a welcome return to form by beating Shoreham, the following Saturday, by five goals to nil. There should be a very interesting game at Maresfield when the Corps meet Worthing in a league match.

In the Arsenal's cup tie against Preston North End, our old chief clerk, R.S.M. F. R. Roberts, was one of the linesmen, and we hear that he has been chosen to referee the Sussex cup final at Lewes.

Cotterell is still winning cross-country honours. In the national championship match at Hereford, he finished sixth in a field of 220—a splendid performance. It is interesting to note that he finished before his rival H.W. Payne who beat him a fortnight previously in the Southern Counties championship. He has been selected to run for England in the International run at Glasgow on April 1st.

My colleague "Barleux" has been wearing a worried air of late, so I shall not be surprised to see a contribution from the author of "Flies" this month.

The band has improved immensely of late, and on Sunday, March 12th, played to an appreciative audience for half an hour after church parade. It is hoped that this innovation will be continued.

The Commandant presented medals after church parade on Sunday, March 5th.

At the time of writing (a fortnight ago before these notes appear) many rumours are current regarding the movement of B, C, G and P Companies to Maresfield and the amalgamation of A and X Companies at Crowborough. Hence the few prophetic lines below.

We are all enjoying the welcome change in the weather at Maresfield, and are looking forward to the commencement of the cricket season. The *Daily Mail* has assured us that Spring is coming, and with the re-introduction of eggs on the men's diet sheets, I see no reason to doubt this statement.

For the benefit of those troops who are so fortunate as to be stationed in Maresfield, I have prepared a short history of Maresfield and Uckfield which will be found on another page. Many hitherto unknown items of local history are revealed for the first time.

I have been asked to deny the rumour that applications for leave will be submitted under the Bribery and Corruptions Act of 1847.

Maresfield Topics—No. 3.

THE EXODUS.

1. Now after the Great War had finished, it came to pass that the people of the land of En did groan under the weight of the grievous taxation that was upon them.

2. So that the king's first minister, Loidjorge, did say unto one Geddes, go thou and find how we may save the shekels, for the wailing of the *Daily Mail* is an abomination in mine ears.

3. And Geddes went forth and communed with himself how he might do even as he was bid.

4. And after many searchings of heart, Geddes cometh unto the king's first minister and sayeth,

5. Behold, the war, is it not over, yet we keep a mighty army.

6. Therefore went the edict forth throughout the land that the army must be diminished.

7. Now at that time there was in the army of the land of En a Signal Corps that had their dwelling in two camps: at Kroboro and Mayresfeeld were they.

8. And the men with the hats that were of brass did say, Two into one will go.

9. And so it came to pass that the men of Kroboro did come unto Mayresfeeld excepting one small company.

10. And there was much murmuring among the men from Kroboro.

11. For they said, how shall we sing the lover's songs in a strange land?

12. For the distance from Mayresfeeld to Kroboro, is it not two leagues?

13. The maidens of Kroboro were sad at heart, for they said, Who will take us unto the pictures that are moving now that our loved ones are gone from us?

14. And among the men of Mayresfeeld was there murmuring too, for, said they, Will not the maidens of Ukfeeld cast their smiles upon the strangers that have come amongst us?

15. And what are the maidens of Ukfeeld amongst so many?

16. But the sellers of wine in Ukfeeld did rub their hands, for they had visions of the shekels that would roll into their coffers.

17. And among the sellers of wine in Kroboro was there lamentation and gnashing of teeth.

18. Now certain of those at Mayresfeeld that were married and were in quarters did perforce have to journey unto Kroboro, and they did say the one unto the other, what will our women folk say?

19. Yea, verily, what did they not say?

20. And so, there was rejoicing and moaning in both places.

21. Likewise there was much of the "wangling."

22. And then with one accord did they begin to make excuses, saying,

23. I have bought a house and I cannot go, and another sayeth, I am taking unto myself a wife, therefore I cannot go.

24. Nevertheless, the Army Order is like unto the laws of the Medes and Persians that altereth not, so that some came and others went.

Things We Want to Know.

If a more suitable place could not have been found for a certain notice board near the main gate?

And what sort of an impression it is likely to give to visitors to the Camp?

E. S. H.

D Company.

Once again it falls to my lot to pen a few words about our doings during the past month. There is precious little to report, except the weird and wild rumours that are floating round that "B" is coming over from Crowborough to join us. Well, "B," if this is true, we shall be very pleased to welcome you, and could not wish for a better crowd to throw in their lot with us. It was meant to be so anyhow, for our respective sports colours are identical.

Football.

We met "Ack" in the knock-out competition and got pushed out. We were very sorry to lose, but never let it be said that we cannot lose like sportsmen. Well done, "Ack," may you go far, and for goodness sake don't let that band of fire-eaters—"Eddy,"—beat you again. It was hard lines that "Ack" and "Don" were drawn to play each other in the first round, as we think it is agreed that these were the two best teams in the Centre. Never mind—better luck next year.

Whilst on the subject of football, let me give one or two players a word of advice. Keep your tempers always, even though the opposing side may be resorting to tactics that are not encouraged in amateur football. Play a hard, clean game, and for goodness sake don't argue with the referee. That advice could well be taken by many, and not only in the Company team, either.

Hockey.

Last month we rather went through the mill, but now we have Lieut. Woodbridge and Major Pinsent back in our midst, so look out all you sharks who pinched two points from us during the "black month." I understand that we have drawn the School in the first round of the knock-out. We cannot be exactly accused of having the luck of the draw, can we? Never mind, though, the "pros." will not get a walk over, at any rate.

Cross Country Running.

Every month we have to congratulate Signalman Cotterell about something. This month it is for running second in the Southern Counties championship. Stick it, laddy, and may you win the National.

Our Company is still o.k., and we rather fancy ourselves for the shield. We'll see.

Orchestra and Dances.

Still going very well. We had one small breeze, but it soon blew over. With the amalgamation of "B" and "D," we may yet get our concert party!

The Geddes axe has fallen at last, and we are all now eagerly looking for some good spots for setting up in business as bootblacks, etc.

By the way, speaking of economy, listen to this. A class of S.B.O.s had been set some questions to answer on paper.

Question.—A. Explain a simple cell with a diagram.
B. Explain faults and rectification where possible.

Answer.—A simple cell is a glass jar with two pieces of tube: one is zinc and the other is copper, in which you will find that after a while, when the water cannot get through the piping, it will form sulphuric acid.

Who said there was waste in the Army?

DON

E Company.

General.

Here we are again. Another month gone, and by the time these notes appear we shall be dashing around, a sure sign that spring has arrived.

One day early in the month we awoke to find the place fairly overflowing with happy-looking civilians. On enquiries being made, it was ascertained that the said civilians were some of our old friends about to take the plunge into civvy life after their sojourn with us in the army. Our best wishes go with them, for we know that in their ranks were some of the best.

Congratulations to Sigmn Cotterell on his good performance in the Southern Counties ten miles championship, and also on his running in the National on the 11th inst., coming in sixth, and being the first man home for the South of England, getting his revenge on H. W. Payne, the Southern Counties champion. He

is also picked to represent England in the international cross country race at Glasgow. Well done, "Joe." Our representative, L/Cpl Cayley, ran in the National, and finished sixth of our team.

Soccer.

We met "Pip" Company in the second round of the knock-out tournament, and went down by 3—2. This is the only soccer we have had this month.

Hockey.

We played the School of Signals on the 23rd of last month, and as prophesied, we beat them by 4—0.

X Company were the next victims, and on a field that was up to the eyes in "juice," we beat them by 8—2 for the shield. This shield has been in the possession of "Eddy" Company since it was first introduced three seasons ago. However, we make a practice of letting all those interested view it each season before putting it back in the old oak chest.

Rugger.

We journeyed to Crowborough to meet the cracks in the form of X Company in the final for the shield, and were well seen off by 14 points to nil. However, we can put up with a hiding, especially from a better team, but we hope that John will persevere with his youngsters and bring them out again next season.

Marriage.

2308334 L/Corpl W. R. Watts to Grace Montague at St. Annes Church, Tottenham, 25/2/22. We always thought there was some other reason besides *hard work* for going to the Trades School at Hounslow, Wally.

EDDY.

Crowborough Notes.

C Company.

Well, here goes. Something must be written, if only to quieten the numerous individuals who continually roll up with some of the most heart-breaking "jokes" and the remark, "What about this for THE WIRE?"

It was with very sincere and deep regret that we bade farewell to L/Sergt Kingman, who sailed for Egypt last month. There are several whom we could have spared before "old George," and we only hope that he will be as much appreciated in his new home, both at work and sport, as he was at Crowborough.

The latest additions to our happy band are Sgt. Newstead (of whom many ex-boys have fond memories), who joined us from Constantinople, and Corpl Letley, who hails from the Rhine Signal Battalion. We sincerely hope that in "C" Company they will find all which they may desire. If they have any leaning towards "guards" and duties in general, we have not the slightest doubt that they will.

We must congratulate our worthy friend Cpl Winton upon his appointment as L/Sgt, and also Sgt Speller upon his splendid performance in the second round of the Sussex billiard championship, in which he defeated his opponent by 120 points. We wish him every success in his future games.

Jimmy Noonan is doing exceedingly well in the cross country world, his performances in the South of the Thames and the Southern Counties runs being particularly creditable. Good old Jim, you are inspiring the Company with a desire to mop up the ground with the remainder of the Centre in the coming inter-company run.

A.G.K. wishes to inform Kantara Signals that he hopes to be with them next trooping season. And the cencert-loving members of the Camp murmur, "*we* don't."

The pipe epidemic in the Company shows no sign of abating, cigarettes being strictly out of fashion. But hasn't Fairy carried matters a trifle too far? No one objects to a respectable pipe, but we strongly advise him to pension his off! it would be far more useful to the cooks as a swill tub.

Hats off to those merry members of the Company who recently qualified—several of them by service only, we have strong reason to believe—for their first R.A.T.A. medal. But, by the way, who was the senior N.C.O. who invited the local secretary of the Association to an "oil up" to celebrate the award of his six months "gong"? Shouldn't he be severely s-mac-ked?

And whilst I think of it, can any gifted member of the Corps inform us whether or no there are "always invariably" 90 degrees in an "acute right angle," please?

It was with no small feeling of excitement that we watched our Signal office flag as the Princess's wedding day drew near. Would that little flag, the one which fluttered gaily in the wind on the day that our Princess was born, still flutter to commemorate her wedding, or would it give place to something more splendid? No, 'twas evident that glory was to be sacrificed for tradition, for as the dawn of the 28th broke over our silent camp, there hung our little flag—"the flag that braved a thousand years the battle and the breeze."

VIDE ET CREDE.

Hail, little pennant,
Waving free,
Tossed by the winds
Which come from the sea.

Hail, little pennant
That in the wind wags,
(All that's now left
Are two little rags).

Whoa! Just saved the situation. Since scribing the above few lines, the powers that be have sadly let us down by replacing the ribbons of honoured glory with a modern "blue and white."

Poor old tattered flag!
Our eyes you made water.
Poor old waving rags
Daily grow shorter.
Necessity knows no law:
That we be "posh" is essential—
But when we view that new pennant,
Our tears are torrential.

Things We Should Like to Know.

Who was the n.c.o. i/c Guard on March 3rd? Did he post a sentry at the back of the Guard-room? and if so, has he been relieved yet?

Is "C" really the "draft" Company?

Are there no "Corps Celebrities" at Crowborough?

G Company.

General.

Two months have gone by since our last appearance, owing to our last representative, L/Corpl Wattley, going on draft to Egypt. I am sure all ranks will join with me in wishing him every success in his new home. Our sincere congratulations are extended to Sergts Weeks and Fry, on their promotion to C.Q.M.S.

This month we have transferred a few of the old hands to the civilian army. We wish them all the best of health and luck on embarking upon a new career.

Football.

On January 24th, the replay between C and G juniors took place, and after a good and keenly contested game, C Company ran out winners by 4—3. We protested against the playing of a S.T.C. and a Battalion player in their juniors. We won the protest, and the match was again played the following afternoon. Wilson opened the scoring for G Company, and shortly afterwards from a melee in front of goal, Crossland put on number 2. Just before half-time, C Company managed to reduce the lead. The second half was keenly contested, each team having a fair share of the play, until Seymour, who by the way is a "find" for us, put on number 3 with a good shot at about twenty yards out. After this, C Company were out-played, but no further scoring took place, so after meeting for the third time we finished comfortable winners by 3—1.

Two days later we met E Company for third and fourth places in the S.T.C. Junior League. Seymour quickly found the net twice, and a few minutes later put number 3 up, but offside nullified the point. E Company reduced the lead soon after this, and at half-time the scoring was 2—1 in our favour.

In the second half the ground was much more like a mud lake than a football pitch, and the ball refused to travel more than a few yards, so that good football was out of the question. However, E Company equalised, and then got the lead. Our chance to equalise came at last, a penalty being awarded us, but E Company's goalie refused to move from the flight of the ball, and so we lost by 3—2, and must be satisfied with fourth position.

Seniors.

Our senior team, who, by the way, have been having a fairly lazy period, woke up on the break of February to find A Company waiting to entertain them in a mud bath for fifth and sixth positions in the S.T.C. Senior League. Owing to drafts, we had to turn out a few of our juniors, who gave a very good account of themselves, Tidey in particular.

In the first half, Tidey made a good opening for Jackson to beat Sergt Trapmore with a low shot which struck the base of the upright and swerved into the net. A Company equalised soon after with a penalty given for no obvious reason, but "Jacko" soon put us ahead again. A chance was again given A Company with another penalty, but Eason made a lovely save, just tipping it over the bar.

In the second half A Company equalised, and again we were penalised, but Eason managed to save once more. Nearing the end the left back of our opponents put through his own goal following a good run on the right by Tidey. Again A Company equalised, but "Jacko" followed with another for us and decided the game. Not so bad, seniors fifth and juniors fourth positions in the S.T.C. League.

Rugby.

We have been having a quiet time lately. Our last match was to have been with P Company, but they scratched and gave us the points. We are waiting to entertain the School of Signals for third and fourth positions in the S.T.C. League. What about it?

Things We Want to Know.

How should Claude be spelled? Evidently the artist in the Soldiers' Club thinks it should be Cluade.

S. O. S.

The Signal Training Centre.

The Signal Training Centre (hereinafter referred to as the S.T.C.) is situated in charming country in the south of England. There has been a great deal of argument regarding the most appropriate adjective to apply to this particular part of the country, but it was eventually decided that, for the purpose of this article, the word "charming" should be used.

To be brief, it is at Maresfield Park, Sussex. The park was gracefully handed to the Government by a kind-hearted individual whose nationality shall be nameless. It is not thought that any purpose will be served by mentioning that he was a German.

The object of the S.T.C. is to initiate raw recruits into the multifarious mysteries of communication by wireless, telegraphy, telephony, and visual signalling. It must be clearly understood that the S.T.C. is a military organisation, and that the inhabitants may be referred to as soldiers.

For the benefit of those not conversant with military expressions and abbreviations, it would be as well to explain here a few of the most important.

Signalman.—A curious product of the Great War, wears a clean shirt on Mondays, gradually changing to black-and-tan towards the end of the week. Some of these have wavy hair, and are known as bird-chasers. Others have cultivated voices on certain days of the week, and are reported to have run away from home to enlist much against the wishes of their parents, who sit and weep in "stately homes."

Lance-Corporal.—An exalted person in the Sigmn. tribe. A walking encyclopædia of imaginary military law. Said to possess "grey matter."

Sergeant.—Similar to others of this species, but possesses more markings below shoulders. Has a decided aversion to all Sigmn, but is very docile in the presence of officers. A searcher after information. Frequently desires to know "Watcher think you're on?"

Sergeant-Major.—A sweet inoffensive creature, beloved by all. Originally intended by nature for a V.A.D. nurse, but considered unsuitable on account of soft heart. Uses some peculiar expressions such as—"Atorfquimarch riweelalt."

The High Jump.—Contrary to its sound, the high jump is rather lowering. It is, in fact, a decidedly unpleasant interview between a Signalman and his O.C. This usually precedes the order of the C.B.

C.B. (Confinement to Barracks).—The word barracks is used for the sake of appearances. There isn't one, really. A very exciting game, played by a trumpeter, a sergeant of the guard, and an unlimited number of signalmen. Every thirty minutes or so, the trumpeter endeavours to blow the turns out of his trumpet, and the sergt of the guard trips over the step with a pencil in one hand, and a list of names in the other. Recovering himself with a curse, he proceeds to read out the names on his list. If any player fails to shout "Sir" when his name is called, he is unlucky and loses points. There has never been an organized inter-company competition.

Swinging the Lead.—An exercise indulged in by Sigmn previous to going over the high-jump. Excellent training for the C.B.

Clock.—An instrument used by ex-rats and other professional soldiers, which enables them to calculate the number of pints they can strafe in any given time.

Broadly speaking, the inhabitants of the park are a happy-go-lucky crowd. Everything is done for their comfort by those appointed by a kindly Government to do so.

Marching order and drill order parades are arranged weekly, and a large number of men avail themselves of the pleasure derived from these distractions. Posters are displayed in the vicinity of Company offices every Friday evening, bearing exhortations to all and sundry to "attend these parades and endeavour to make them a success, as it is intended to hold further parades of a like nature in the near future!"

The Sigmn species is divided into tribes. The first of these is known as "Ackco," and consists mainly of young larvæ. Their shoulders droop pathetically each morning, probably due to the fact that a long piece of wood and steel, with a hole bored through the centre, rests thereon. They persistently endeavour to wrest the athletic honours of the colony from the other tribes, but with no great success. It should, however, be recorded that they hold no mean position on the C.B. roll of honour. This game (referred to previously) is played chiefly by members of "Ackco."

"Donco" is sometimes called a Company, but it is more often than not referred to as "Those over the way." Members of "Donco" at one time constituted the S.T.C. football club and even now there are quite a few good players left. "Donco" takes first prizes at most athletic meetings, provided that no one is looking.

"Eeco" is a tribe worthy of note, but visitors are advised to exercise a little indulgence should they, during a tour of the colony, overhear rather picturesque language. "Eeco" have a lot to boast of, not the least being the large numbers gifted with the art of expressing themselves readily and concisely. Their principal occupation is instructing horses in the art of allowing recruits to fall off their backs. Their efforts are attended by marked success.

"Effco" consists chiefly of bike-bashers and motor-maulers, and may be seen on certain days of the week giving practical demonstrations on the use of "Triumph" handle-bars as ploughs. They are spread over a vast area, and the question is under discussion as to whether it would be advisable to run excursions from the Quartermaster's stores to the Company office.

There are several other tribes belonging to the S.T.C., but these are situated in a heathen country, and may only be reached after several days' march through dense jungle. Even then one is advised to carry a compass, protractor, microscope, stethoscope, horoscope, or periscope; otherwise the task of locating any particular tribe will be well nigh impossible.

The organization and general plan of the park is admirably adapted to the needs of the large crowd therein. On the right, immediately inside the main entrance, is a moderate sized edifice known as the "Digger." The legend on the door reads "Guard Room," but it is seldom if ever referred to as such. The only thing in the immediate vicinity to mar the beauty of the surroundings is a notice board inscribed, "A stitch in time saves nine," or words to that effect.

After the hour 22.15 it is the custom for a member of "Ackco" to enquire if you are a friend. If you are not a friend, the sentry (as he is called) consults his "A.B. 64" for further instructions. You hold his rifle while he does this, so that you are obliged to remain where you are.

Should you answer "Friend," you are requested to present yourself at the "Digger." If you are in possession of a small red book known as a "Pip Pip," you enter *sans peur*. On the other hand, those not in possession of a "Pip Pip" quake in their silver greys and rack their brains for a good yarn. The chief of the "Digger" wears a frown and three stripes. He is well versed in the art of prevarication himself, and such yarns as "I was run over by a balloon, sir," are utterly useless.

Some three hundred yards further along on the right, is a large building with glass windows and wooden doors. This is Headquarters S.T.C., and is sometimes mistaken for the Houses of Parliament. Visitors passing this building are struck by the deafening sound of rustling papers, scratching pens, clicking typewriters, and buzz of voices. The draught from this structure has been known to blow stripes off the arms of n.c.o.s. Officers have been caught in the path of the mighty gust of wind, and have been wafted to India and Egypt. Hence the word "Draft," a corruption of the word "draught."

The downcast members of the S.T.C. may be observed in a general exodus from the park at about 4.0 or 4.30 p.m. on any week day. They pour out on wheels of various shapes and sizes. These wheels are attached to some of the most weird and wonderful machines in the whole country. It is a spectacle worth seeing. These unfortunates are known as the married fraternity, and have their homes in Christian dwellings in the city. A few hours later they may be seen propelling yet other wheeled vehicles with both hands and a resigned air. The "resigned air" is of course automatically cut out going up hill, and a "fierce determination" takes its place, although both hands remain on the vehicle.

There is little else worth recording *(Laus Deo)* except that those interested should pay particular attention to the original Corps motto, "Nistofisi Perasusio," which (being freely translated) means, "Never Sweat."

B——x.

Types of the Corps: No. 6—"The Lineman."

The duties of a lineman are perhaps more arduous and varied than those of any other tradesman in the Royal Corps of Signals.

Wherever telegraphic or telephonic communication exists, from the first line of trenches (and often in front of them) to G.H.Q., he is seen with his "Don 3" or "Tele. 44," his climbing irons, and a coil of wire slung over his shoulder, pockets bulged out with spare leads, insulating tape, solution, and many other odds and ends known only to linemen.



During the great war, and also the South African war, much good work was done by the Cable Sections, who by their rapid method of laying cable were able to keep up communication between Brigade and Divisional H.Q.'s, and other units whilst on the move. This method greatly facilitated the operations during the retirement and advance at the latter end of the great war. Air Line Detachments, though slower than the Cable Sections, constructed the temporary poled lines in the forward area, by means of which the more delicate instruments used in Corps and Divisional H.Q.s could be operated.

Probably the hardest and most tedious of all line work is the erection of a permanent route. Surveying the country over which the line must pass, dressing and erecting the poles, running and regulating the wires leading into the exchange—all call for considerable skill and patience.

The linemen of a Brigade Section—always cheerful and generally very muddy individuals—have many ways of laying their lines to battalions. These are often laid during the night, through trenches and ditches full of mud and water, under any little bank or ridge, burying them under tracks and duckboards, for protection against traffic and shell-fire. During the great war, linemen's work was a perpetual source of wonderment to all who noticed the great care they took. They knew that many lives depended upon the manner in which their work was carried out. If the line broke, they turned out and repaired it: even though the enemy were still shelling, the line must be maintained. Great honour is due to the many linemen who lost their lives in restoring communication in the recent war.

A lineman has to have a thorough knowledge of all telegraph instruments and telephones and their adjustment. He is very versatile, knows how to use his powers of observation, and must be able to ride and have a knowledge of horses, cycles and motor cycles. In addition, a fair knowledge of map-reading is essential, and when fully trained, he is a very valuable asset to any Signal unit.

Signal Association Notes.

The Westminster branch of this Association held a very successful dance at Headquarters on Saturday, March 11th. The hall, very kindly lent by the Adjutant, 3rd (London) Corps Signal Companies (T.A.), was well filled, and a jolly evening was spent.

The band, under the direction of Sergt. W. Senior, rendered suitable music, and was cordially appreciated.

During the evening, Major G. H. Ranson made an appeal for new members.

All tickets were numbered, and a Lucky Ticket draw was held during the evening.

Corpl C. W. Jones obliged with songs, "Nirvana" and "Somewhere a voice is calling," and received a hearty ovation.

The hon. sec. (Mr. C. Bendel, 24 Iliffe Street, Walworth, S.E.), wishes to thank everybody for their co-operation in what proved to be a really jolly evening, and to invite all those and others to another dance and social of the same kind on Saturday, April 8th, 1922, at Headquarters, Elverton Street, Westminster, S.W.1, at 7 p.m. Tickets, 1s. 6d. each, inclusive.

With "Signals" in Cairo.

Sport.

Since last reporting, the football outlook has altered considerably.

In cup ties we have played three games. For the Sultan's cup, the Signals have a combination of the best players of the three Companies. Against the Munster Fusiliers, in the first round, we had an opportunity of seeing them working together. They did all that was required of them (winning by two goals to nil), but they were never seriously tested, and one cannot but surmise, after watching the game, that they did not at all stretch themselves, and that they have still something much better to serve up.

As for the other two ties—"We'll hear no more about that." The East Surrey Regiment was on both occasions responsible for our being no longer seriously interested in subsequent ties. First of all, they beat Cairo Signals rather luckily in the E.E.F. championship competition by one goal to nil. On the ninety minutes' play they were hardly worth the win, but Signals could not obtain the equaliser which would have made the result a much fairer index of the game.

Against the Kantara Signals in the semi-final of the same competition, the Surreys showed up to much better advantage, and the leaders of the Kantara league, despite the herculean efforts of one or two of the players, and after missing many chances, including a penalty kick, retired beaten by two goals to nil.

Yet again did we pit our strength against the Surreys, this time in the Robert Hughes Cup, and once more did bad luck dog our footsteps. After eighty minutes' play, during which the Signals did everything but find the net, one of our full-backs inadvertently put the ball beyond our goalkeeper's reach. It was extremely galling to be beaten by such a goal after having played much better than our opponents. But "Maleesh."

Kantara Signals, however, have won the championship of the Canal Zone, E.E.F., and have finished top of the Kantara Area League.

Cairo Signals so far stand fourth on a league table of 21 teams, with 16 matches played, of which they have won 8, drawn 4, and lost 4. This is a very creditable achievement, considering the smallness of the unit from which the team is selected.

The Army Athletic Meeting, to be held in Cairo on the 13th April, has become the pivot round which all conversation turns.

By combining the talent of all Signal units in the E.E.L., we shall be able to put forward some really good representatives. Meanwhile, training goes on apace. The local tug-of-war team have hitched themselves to every available holdfast. It is feared that the number of uprooted trees may be the cause of proceedings by the Department of Agriculture. Runners disappear in the grey dawn in the direction of the Pyramids, hurdlers provide a "before-breakfast" entertainment for such as are sufficiently interested to forego half an hour's sleep, whilst in another corner of the Camp two or three optimistic sprinters are at practice, their object being to become adept at "beating the pistol."

Kantara, Bir-Salem and Abbassia are also hard at it.

An athletic meeting, organised by Signals, is to be held here on March 9th. It will be, I believe, the first united Signals' athletic meeting held in this country for several years. At the forthcoming meeting will be selected those who will represent us at the Army athletic meeting.

Immediately following the athletic meeting there will be a meeting to discuss the formation of an Egypt branch of the O.C.A. It is hoped to elect a working committee and so place the branch on a business footing.

General.

Sergt. Copsey has taken up his residence in Palestine, ex Helmieh, to take over the duties of C.Q.M.S. His place has been taken by Sergt Burton.

His Highness the Sultan has appropriated two of our despatch riders (Signalmen Howard and Daynes). They are included in the personnel of his Highness's motor-cycle bodyguard. We wish them all success in their new venture.

Among the promotions which recently filtered through was that of Sergt "Jack" Storey to be substantiated in the above rank. We offer our congratulations.

Rhine Signal Company.

That the preceding month left us with little to enthuse over may be gathered from these notes, though the present one tends to be pretty lively. Lieut.-Col. Trew, O.B.E., has come out from England to take over duties as Chief Signal Officer, vice Major Yates, O.B.E., who assumes command of this Company, and we trust that we give to him the satisfaction we gave to the late C.S.O., with whom we look forward to closer relationship.

Inexorable time continues to take from us men due for discharge, and lately we were sorry to lose Corpl T. Fisher, who was one of our best athletes, and whose running at Coblenz last year made the Yankees climb down a bit. Speaking of Coblenz, I may say that relations between this Company and the American Army are rather strained owing to their having crocked

Andy whilst captaining the Rhine Army Sergeants against them at football, just at the time when we need his services so much, the Rhine league championship now hanging in the balance.

As we hoped, we ousted the R.A.O.C. from second position, and are three points behind the leaders (R.G.A.), with a match in hand. The Artillerymen have to play again the only team that beat them, and if the dose is repeated, we top the league.

"Mac" (Sergt McGregor) is filling the centre-half position splendidly. What there is of him is good, whilst the encouraging words and example of Capt. Hose at left half act like a tonic when extra dash is needed.

During an important match against the Tanks, young Goble at left back scored the winning goal by a mighty kick from his own area. Some kicker, some kick, and some goal, though the Tanks did say sarcastically that we were related to Ticklers.

As to the hockey, history has repeated itself, and after winning through the preliminary rounds we lost in the final to the combined Artillery team. It was a fast hard game, played in the presence of the C.-in-C., and the winners deserved their victory.

Major Cobb came down from Silesia to play for us, and played a sterling game. It was a bitter pill for us to swallow, and we seem fated always to lose the finals, but we can console ourselves that we are always in to the end. To make amends we intend to lift the cricket cup this summer.

We have set out for fresh fields to conquer, this time as skittlers—skittles being to the fore in Rhineland. We are going on like a house on fire, having passed through round 2, and next we tackle the Navy, who are old hands at the game. Those who play speak enthusiastically of the game—those who don't, show callous indifference to its attractions.

Our cross country team has had few chances of showing its paces this season, there being none in the Cologne area worth taking on. We have some very promising novices, who are very keen to show what they can do, and should turn out good.

We offer our congratulations to Sigmn Cotterell and the Corps teams on their show in the South of the Thames cross country championship, and hope they do well in the National run on March 11th.

We all turned up in force at the Central Y.M.C.A., Cologne, to see L/Corpl Hamlin of the Silesian Signal Company battle his way through and win the final in the light weights in the boxing tournament. He gave weight away in each fight, and proved himself to be a clever resourceful boxer. Though lacking a powerful punch, he piles on the points, and in the extra round ordered in the final he outfought his opponent in every way. His was a popular win, well earned, and we want to see more of him.

Socially, our senior n.c.o.s, according to rumour, seem to have had a very lively month. They held their usual smoking concert, whist drive, and dance, and held their own in every way. They also had a games tournament—home and away—with the Ordnance, and again our Mess took away the spoils, even taking command of the Ordnance Mess. One of our members, we understand, would persist in sleeping instead of playing in the games, and suffers under the name of "The Bogey Man."

We have still to be issued with the Corps badge, although it is said the Q.M. fingers them lovingly in hundreds. Some say he disapproves of the nude figure of Mercury, and is writing to issue him with shorts s. d. (on payment).

The recent breath of spring made everyone burst forth into doing something, the despatch riders even cleaning their machines, and the Wireless Section to look if their masts were still there, whilst there are heated arguments in the married quarters for the few—very few—plots of ground to cultivate. It's to be hoped they improve on last year's crops.

We offer our congratulations to C.S.M. Anderson and to C.Q.M.S. Laurence upon their promotion to their present rank.

Things We Want to Know.

Who was the Orderly Room Clerk who sent a man for medical inspection with an ammunition chit?

The Wireless operator who told the *Cologne Post* that press would be late owing to the atmospherics going to earth? (They believed it and published it the following day).

Whether the rumour is correct that the Silesian Detachment since the departure of the Smart-un is being prompted to Hoa-a-d instead of parting with all one's "gold" to Seymour?

N.B.—The above answers to be in Orderly Room by April 1st. Awards and punishments notified later.

P. B.

56th (1st London) Divisional Signals.

There is no doubt that we have succeeded in gaining an excellent following for our monthly series of dances. Indeed, had we a hall of our own, "monthly" would have to become "weekly" to cater for those who are always anxious for "the next, please."

Signalman Wotton's Quadrille Band, which made its debut with us at our last dance on the 28th January, should have no difficulty in obtaining engagements if the music served out to us was their usual standard. Vim is required for dance music, and they have it.

Sergt Lloyd, who caters so well at all our functions, is, I hear, applying for Messrs. Lyons' certificate as a coffee and wad specialist, and hopes to gain their embroidered jam puff medal before the season ends. (He would look nice).

We have to extend our thanks to all those who so ably entertained us at our first concert, and hope that they were as pleased with their reception as we were with their performance, and that their efforts toward a "brighter London," at any rate near King's Cross, will not cease with this little initial effort. Two who deserve mention in connection with the concert are the accompanist, Mr. W. A. McMurray, who made a Woolworth grand sound like a Brinsmead, and Sergt (Jack) Weight, late of the 10th Divn. and the oldest inhabitant of Jamaica—at least, "he says so,"—who proved himself the equal of Mr. De Courville in providing a stage with fittings and lighting equal to the Hippodrome from next to nothing in the way of props.

Sports.

In the Divisional boxing tournament we did quite well, and the sergeants are to be commisserated with on the loss of a "cup" to decorate the mess, for had Sergt Cager, who won his bout in the semi-final, not put his shoulder out in so doing, he would have waltzed

it home. It was hard luck for him that wounds received in the war should have left such a weak spot, Our next best, who is also to be congratulated, was Driver Noakes, who was defeated in the semi-final. H.R.H. Prince Henry was graciously pleased to present the prizes.

At football we are just about holding our own, and it is hoped during the present summer to place the club on a firmer footing and to compete next season in a league, and also make an attempt to adopt any old cups that require a home. Although we haven't won much, we have had representatives in practically every sporting event open to members of the T.A., and the unit deserves praise for the sporting spirit shown. Success must come if we carry on in the same way.

Queries, etc.

Is it true that a grey horse of the riding school sent in its resignation on the ground that a C.S.M. is asking too much when he expects not only to sit on it, but also to be carried?

Does the art of playing "frizzle" consist of knowing when to say, "Next Jack of Hearts buys drinks"?

Someone at the last whist drive at Henry Street, apparently did not realise that he was in the largest room at Headquarters, and remarked that the "entrance hall" to the Sergeants' Mess was quite a nice little place.

Does anyone "vant" any pin-head cloth?

The boys are far more punctual at riding drill than at buzzer work. Perhaps this is excusable at present, as the "hunting season" is nearly over—at any rate in W.C.1—and I understand that anyone seen in Grays Inn Road in hunting costume gets the "bird" after April 1st, so they are making the best of time. But I should really like to mention that one or two n.c.o.s regularly appear for these other drills, and if for no other reason please "buck up" and help them as they will help you.

THE ROBBER.

3rd (London) Corps Signal Companies.

Training.

Now that each Company has its respective night for training, great progress has been made in the general technical efficiency particular to individual Companies.

Recruits, of whom we have a good number, are kept busy on Wednesday evenings with foot and rifle drill, preparatory to being "passed out" for posting to Companies.

Recruits.

It is with regret that a large number of promising young men have been reluctantly refused enrolment in accordance with the official instructions to "Stop Recruiting."

The Royal Wedding.

A party of ten n.c.o.s and men, under the command of Lieut. Manley, assisted in lining the route on the occasion of Princess Mary's wedding on Tuesday, 28th February last. They were situated in Parliament Square, and presented a very smart turn-out.

Dinner.

On Friday, March 3rd last, No. 4 Company held its first annual dinner. Major G. H. Ranson, T.D., O.C. Company, presided, and was ably supported by Capt. G. C. Wickens and Lieut. G. M. Haslem. Major R. G. Williams, M.V.O., Adj. 3rd (London) Corps Signal Companies, was present as the chief guest, and in an after dinner speech gave some very sound advice to the new members of the Company.

Dances.

The fortnightly dances are continuing with great success, and it is noticed that lately quite a number of "old sweats" are being enticed on to the dance floor to learn the fascinating and "fairy"-like art of the waltz and jazz.

Our band, under the bandmastership of Sergt W. J. Senior, is in "action" on these "hop" nights, and is undoubtedly absolutely "1 toc."

EFF—EMMA.

46th (N.M.) Divisional Signals.

Derby.

During the month of February we had a busy time socially and technically.

Our Cable Section and Wireless Section under Capt. R. A. Briggs and Capt. W. L. Bemrose, O.B.E. respectively, worked out several schemes in the surroundings of Derby. Both these Sections are proving that they have greatly benefited by the teaching of their section commanders, and will, when the time comes, if ever it should, prove that their training has been of the greatest value.

Great credit is also due to the drivers, who under the gentle teaching of Capt. Bray are proving themselves most adept horsemen. Mounted on animals that have never seen a cable wagon or even a military set of harness before, they go along the roads without a hitch. In fact, the turn-out of this unit is the talk of all the "natives" who turn up in great numbers to see this "new unit to Derby." Of course, these parades are not lacking in humour. One of the lads has a great love for mud, and is never happy unless rolling in it. Then there are the "flappers," who, of course, are much attracted and show such a keen interest in the work, that sometimes it seems a pity they could not be enlisted.

However, "all work and no play makes Jack (and Tommy) a dull boy." So in order to keep up the social side, this month has been chosen in which to hold the Company annual dinners. As I mentioned in my last notes, No. 3 held theirs at Nottingham. On Feb. 17th, No. 1 held theirs at Kings Cafe, Derby.

Upwards of a hundred did full justice to a most excellent repast, which was followed by an excellent programme, interspersed by speeches.

Responding to the toast of "Our Officers," Major L. J. Worthington, our popular Commanding Officer, remarked that a year ago the annual dinner for the whole unit was held on one night. Now, owing to excellent recruiting, it was necessary for each Company to hold its own dinner separately.

On Feb. 18th, No. 2 Company held their First Annual at Chesterfield, and as with No. 1, a most excellent repast was served and enjoyed by the large number present. This Company has only just got into its stride, but the C.O. remarked during his speech that Capt. R. A. Briggs had taken over command of the Company, and if he made the same success that he had made with the Cable Section, the other Companies will have to look to their laurels.

Our hearty congratulations go to him on his well deserved promotion to Captain, and also to his command of No. 2 Company.

MEREBIMUR.

4th Divisional Signal Company.

General.

Sigmn A. Pryke arrived from J Cable Section on 15/2/22.

Congratulations to "Joe" on his recent successes.

What are the members of the old crowd having to say to the recent posting of "Tich" to this unit?

My advice to "Batchy" is that he makes inquiries as to why his application did not go through the usual channels.



The 4th Divisional Signal Co. Football Team.

A discussion recently arose in the Mess on the following question: "If a man is standing directly on the North Pole, in which direction would he be facing?"

Every round article conceivable, from billiard balls to C.S.M.'s crowns, was brought into action in the attempt to solve the problem, but all to no avail, although the crowns were new ones.

Congratulations to Sergt Iles on his recent appointment. Sad to relate it necessitated his leaving us.

The following was recently heard at one of the exchanges: "A subscriber rang for and got call required. Thinking that the operator might be listening he decided to test him by saying, 'Operator, you are listening in.' The immediate reply was: 'No, I ain't, sir.'" Sorry I cannot give name.

On 27/2/22 a general meeting of the Signals Association (local branch) was held with a view to securing new members. It turned out a great success, practically the whole of the unit joining.

Football.

On March 1st we played the second replay in the semi-final for the Colchester Garrison Cup against the 38th Battery R.F.A.

It was a keenly contested game, both teams being all out on top. At the beginning of the game our team saw red: this may have been due to the fact that "Sticks" was wearing his red socks.

Bad weather prevailed all through the game; this necessitated a digging party at half-time to find our team. No score being registered at the final sounding of the whistle for time, extra time was allowed. The last two minutes of the game saw the scoring of the one and only goal of the match in our favour.

A brilliant pass from Hale gave Sergt Taylor, of the R.E. Services, an opening, and he headed the ball into the net with great force.

Great credit is due to all the players on their splendid show, and I hope that they will live up to the name that they have created in beating the aforesaid battery.

Credit is not wholly claimed by the Signals in this success, owing to the fact that we are ably assisted in all our matches by our brothers of the Royal Engineers.

Great interest was shown in the game by the remainder of the Garrison. Major-Gen. Sir C. D. Shute, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., G.O.C. of the 4th Division, together with his A.D.C., was present, and the Col.-Commandant, C.R.E., and several other heads of departments were noticed among the spectators, who numbered about 300.

Colchester Garrison Football Cup.

4th Divl. Signal Co. and Royal Engineers versus 978th M.T. Company R.A.S.C.

Before 500 spectators at Colchester on March 4th, the Signals and R.E.'s, for the third season, played in the final for the Colchester Garrison football cup.

Bad weather prevailed at the commencement of the game, and the ground being in a very sticky condition, made play very difficult.

The R.A.S.C. saw an opening after ten minutes' play, and were successful in scoring. This acted as a tonic to our men, who broke through immediately, and equalised through Burton. Continued hard pressing by the R.A.S.C. then resulted in one more goal for them. The Signals then pressed hard to equalise, and good play ensued. Sergt Taylor, R.E., seized an opening, and lost no time in scoring. At half-time the score remained at equal goals for each side.

Resuming play our men showed much better form, all the team working well together, and this resulted in some splendid passing. For the next twenty minutes the Signals pressed hard, and were successful, through Taylor's efforts, in scoring two more goals.

The R.A.S.C. then claimed a penalty, from which they scored. At the final sounding of the whistle the Signals and R.E.s stood as winners, with a score of four goals against three.

Col.-Commandant Tindall-Lucas then presented the cup, together with medals, to Lieut C. A. Bridgland, D.F.C., on behalf of the team.

Many thanks are due to Sergt Taylor, R.E. Services, for scoring so many goals for us throughout this competition, he having secured all but two of our total.

Congratulations and thanks to all members of our team for their splendid play throughout the competition.

Birth.

The wife of 2306710 L/Corpl W. J. Thomas, of a son, at Colchester, on 11/2/22.

Wessex Territorials Signals, Exeter.

Our news this month will not cause the Editor much apprehension as to space, for which, no doubt, we shall receive his grateful thanks.

The Topsham Section of our No. 3 Company has held a concert, which was organised by Lieut. Cummings, in aid of their recreation funds, and proved to be a bumping success. The proceeds are to be devoted to the purchase of a billiard table. The boys put their shoulders to the wheel, and are to be congratulated on being able to serve up such a splendid programme, which was so much appreciated by the audience.

It is interesting to note the progress Territorial Signals are making—the notes from the length and breadth of the land indicate tremendous activity, and through the medium of THE WIRE we are enabled to keep in touch. THE WIRE is a great help in this direction, and it is to be hoped that Territorials generally will do all in their power to keep this excellent little periodical on its legs. Familiar names constantly appear in its columns, and there is much interest in knowing how we all are getting on.

OLD SPARK

49th (West Riding) Divl. Signals, Leeds.

Company training has commenced, and now they are all getting their eyes down for their annual musketry tests, which are being held at Strensall Camp on April 15th, 16th and 17th next, and no doubt we shall get a team to represent us at Bisley this year.

Recruits are now coming in fairly well. We had nineteen last month, and all of a very good stamp, and as a result our two P.S. are kept real busy now they both have squads of about twenty each to instruct nightly (excepting Fridays and Saturdays), but even then they are kept on the move with riding drills on Saturdays, and regimental or other schemes on Sundays. But there is one consolation which is very well recognised, *i.e.* (if you could only see our unit), *they can do it.*

There is also a Signalling Course (3b) now being carried on which also tends to make things a bit lively should the P.S. feel in any way dull for want of something to do. Its period is for four weeks, and it is expected that this kind of thing will continue until the camping season commences in August as the results are really very satisfactory, thanks to the very able assistance rendered by Sergt H. Burnett and Corpl W. Rushworth, two very able Territorial soldiers of this unit, who are engaged as temporary assistant instructors for this purpose in lieu of two Permanent Staff Instructors who are still required to complete our establishment.

The billiard cup competition has now run its course with the result that Sergt H. Burnett (who, by the way, is considered to be a crack player of the game) has secured the trophy, having defeated Sergt (Charlie) Wood (another supposedly good crack) by 40, after giving him 150 in 200 up. But then, you see, poor old Charlie's nerves absolutely gave way, and he was one mass of rags from start to finish. It is proposed to run Sergt Burnett in the Leeds professional lists this Spring, and we hope for good results.

By the way, the billiard table has been recently renovated, and it is wondered whether Herb. will be able to take some of his famous strokes with both feet in baulk. If the table is brushed and ironed after every twenty minutes' play, who will attend to the requirements of the members regarding liquid refreshment? because Jack will have to bring his box with him to stand on to do the necessary requirements, which will take fully ten minutes by the time he has finished arguing the point with one or two—if not Herb.—because Jack loves to have a bar at him.

The Divisional boxing contests will have been held before these notes appear in THE WIRE, but not in time for us to give the result. This will appear in the next issue, with comments thereon.

The result of the Divisional cross country running will also be communicated in the next issue. The team as a whole have improved on last year's condition, and we are expecting some good results.

TYKE.

Death.

We regret to announce the death of Betty Ellen, the beloved daughter of R.S.M. F. C. Brown, who departed this life on February 26th, 1922, aged three months.

Glasgow Signal Units.

52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals.

1st (Scottish) Corps Signals.

Football.

Our position on the Scottish League table is sixth from the top, and, to impress this fact, we hasten to add that we are tenth from the bottom. We have played 18 matches, of which we have won 11, lost 6, drawn 1, with a grand total of 52 goals for and 31 against, and 23 points.

Boxing.

The boxing tournament duly took place as announced in last month's WIRE. The Division had over eighty entrants, and we got one man into the semi-final. Unfortunately, our hero went down after a plucky fight, but he is sure he will do better next time.

Running.

The Divisional championship will be held on March 25th. Our numerous entrants are in hard training, and great things are expected of them. It is expected that there will be a great struggle for the trophies, which, of course, incidentally bring fame and fortune (?) to the fortunate individuals.

Entertainments.

The Regimental gathering was held in the lesser Drill Hall on February 27th. It had been expected that there would be a good turn-out, but the actual attendance far surpassed the most sanguine expectations, and seating accommodation was at a premium. Many people had to stand at the rear of the hall and in the side passages, during the whole of the entertainment, but no complaints were heard. Before the concert commenced, the usual salutations and chaffing were exchanged between old friends, and the *esprit de corps* could be freely observed in its most desirable form. The Imperial Scots Concert Party provided the greater part of the entertainment, and the members of this body successfully executed their various roles and provoked incessant bursts of laughter. At the end of the performance all expressed their hearty appreciation of all the individuals who had contributed to their amusement, and, not least, of the committee which had organised the entertainment.

Dont's for those proceeding on a Course to Maresfield from Scotland.

1. Don't travel in fatigue dress only. This is a privilege accorded to "Staff" men, and to "Staff" men only.

2. Don't get out at Carlisle "to stretch your legs," and come back venting fire and flame because you were unable to get anything more invigorating than coffee.

3. Don't wish you were back in Scotland because the London "houses" open at 12 o'clock noon, and because, by a scurvy trick of fate, your train leaves at 11.5 a.m.

4. Don't travel to Maresfield by Ford. Take a copy from the Aberdonian and do the journey by lorry.

5. Don't go to Brighton on a Saturday, and on your return, revile England and all Sassenachs because you took Scottish bank notes with you.

6. Don't, when in Brighton, concentrate all your attention on the opposite sex and try to induce them to believe that the Scottish £1 is worth £1 7s. 6d.

7. Don't visit the "Blue Pigs," or, if you do, please abstain from giving an unsolicited exhibition of the "sword dance" as performed in "Bonnie Scotland."

8. Don't agree to squash your mess bill with the caterer.

If, supposing this fact becomes widely known, and general indignation is thereby aroused, you strenuously try to defend yourself, don't let your native Doric overcome your veneer of English, and thus necessitate the services of an interpreter to explain your voluble expletives.

LOW COR.

Ulster Divisional Signals.

Allow us, the late Belfast Signal Company—now Ulster Divisional Signal Company—to introduce ourselves to the readers of THE WIRE once again.

Most startling events have taken place since the forwarding of my last notes, the most notable being the fact that at last those much talked of reinforcements have arrived, and we begin to recognise ourselves once again as a Company, our strength to date being 129 all ranks.

During the month we have welcomed the arrival of four new officers—Lieuts. Pullan, Wynn, O'Dell, and Rooker—from Dublin, Cork and Curragh Signal Co.s respectively, and also 75 other ranks from the same units.

Owing to lack of time—it now being the 5th of March (Notes to reach Editor by the 3rd)—it will be impossible to give very much information as to the situation of the Company, but our Sections are as follows:

H.Q. Section	...	North Camp, Newtownards.
No. 1 Section	...	North Camp, Newtownards.
No. 2 Section	...	Victoria Barracks, Belfast.
No. 3 Section	...	Ebrington Barracks, Londonderry
No. 4 Section	...	Internment Camp, Ballykinlar.

In addition to the above, we have ten Wireless stations, scattered in the six counties, so, reader, you may guess that we have been kept pretty busy getting things a little shipshape, but by next month it is hoped to obtain notes from each section and station, and also to enlarge our sales of the "little blue book."

We have to record the loss of our "funny man," Ted, who with C.F.H. took his "ticket" and 18s. 6d. in lieu of "army civvies" and left us to beg his bread in civil life. We wish them the very best of luck (and a big crust).

Well, Mr. Editor, we are unable to get the usual flow this month, but will do better next, as we are hoping to hold a Company dance in Camp next week, and then there will be lots to say, also notes on sport, which we have not yet got under way in our new home.

C. G. V. W.

Things We Want to Know.

Who brought a certain n.c.o. 6d. from beneath a plate in a Newtownards dining room, informing him that he had left his change on the table?



[It is to be distinctly understood that information given under the headings, "Promotions, Births, Marriages, and Deaths," etc., is altogether unofficial, and is on no account to be quoted in official correspondence.]

ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS PROMOTION ROSTER.

CORPORALS—

2307281 Read, D., 10/4/17
2307388 Day, W. W., 1/2/21
2308164 Thomas, S., 1/2/21
2306286 Berry, S., 1/2/21
2311700 Dean, W., 1/2/21
2306255 Morel, G., 1/2/21
2306236 Sherwood, J., 1/2/21
2311810 Woodward, A. E., 1/2/21
2311623 Letley, R. D., 1/2/21
1853091 Roberts, C., 1/2/21
2308063 Moran, T., 1/2/21
2307606 Roberts, A. J., 1/2/21
2311622 Mason, A., 1/2/21
2306720 Blackburn, R., 1/2/21
2310810 Lawrenson, G. E., 1/2/21
1856021 Rayson, W. J., 1/2/21
1853142 Nash, E., 1/2/21
1850260 Davies, R., 1/2/21
2308550 Holmes, W., 1/2/21
2307761 Port, W., 1/2/21
1858877 Potter, T. L., 1/2/21
1850290 Lawrence, A. G., 1/2/21
2307755 Goodman, L., 1/2/21
1860329 Donnelly, G. J., 1/2/21
1850284 Moxham, W. S., 1/2/21
1852326 Long, F., 1/2/21
2307953 Money, A., 1/2/21
2307033 Harris, F. C. V., 1/2/21
2310363 Lake, A. F., 1/2/21
1408699 Radford, S. C., 1/2/21
2308932 Lennox, A. A., 1/2/21
2306614 Whelan, M., 1/2/21
2307424 Carmichael, A., 1/2/21
2306505 Bevan, B., 1/2/21
1850272 Rhodes, J., 1/2/21
2311723 Yates, W., 1/2/21
2311537 Deptford, T. E., 1/2/21
1857300 Westwood, F. H., 1/2/21
2306533 Robertson, J. E., 1/2/21
2306265 Heath, W. E., 1/2/21
2307243 Cann, J. F., 1/2/21
2308460 Littlefield, D., 1/2/21
1856927 Weston, H., 1/2/21
2311633 Redman, C. J., 1/2/21
2306592 Nutt, J., 1/2/21
2308054 Fisher, N., 1/2/21
2308838 Dunthorn, G. D., 1/2/21
1850300 Giles, T., 1/2/21
2308256 Lambert, W., 1/2/21
2309002 Turner, C., 1/2/21
2307870 Gardiner, E. D., 1/2/21
2307740 Naughton, M., 22/9/20
2307542 Spencer, J. H., 1/2/21
2307147 Plant, C. E., 1/2/21
1850326 Purseglove, R., 1/2/21
1858890 Spong, H. C., 1/2/21
1858918 Bishop, G. R., 1/2/21
2307893 White, P., 1/2/21
2307840 Baker, W. H., 1/2/21
2309866 Bracken, R. T. O., 1/2/21
2309350 Prime, F. P., 1/2/21
2305293 Francis, H., 1/2/21
2308897 Clarke, J., 1/2/21
2308915 Keogh, J., 1/2/21
2305979 Haseler, J. V., 1/2/21
2312153 Hutley, C. V., 1/2/21
3122938 Sawyer, R. C. J., 1/2/21
2303333 Reeve, W., 1/2/21
2308555 Waghorn, C., 1/2/21
1858887 Wilson, A. C., 1/2/21
2308314 Morgan, F. E. (Corporal 1/9/21)
2307535 Dickinson, G. A. W. (Corporal 1/9/21)
1852766 Hoare, C. (Corporal 1/9/21)
2311687 Bolton, W. A. (Corporal 1/9/21)
2307371 Taylor, M. (Corporal 1/9/21)
2307968 Proost, F. J. (Corporal 1/9/21)
2307727 Oliver, S. E. (Corporal 1/9/21)
2306556 Crockford, A. S. (Corporal 1/9/21)
2308299 Palin, G. E. (Corporal 1/9/21)
2308926 Wade, E. (Corporal 1/9/21)
2306330 Curtis, F. (Corporal 1/9/21)
2306671 Garner, F. C. (Acting Corporal 1/9/21)
2305065 Cockett, H. A. (Corporal 1/9/21)
2307233 Main, W. C. (Corporal 1/9/21)
2309917 Campbell, C. (Corporal 1/9/21)
2307821 Fleming, A. E. (Corporal 1/9/21)
2306479 Dyermond, H. (Corporal 1/9/21)
2307246 Harrow, J. A. (Corporal 1/9/21)
2306530 Strange, F. G. (Corporal 1/9/21)
1850751 Tebby, C. (Acting Corporal 1/9/21)
2307284 Wilmore, W. (Corporal 1/9/21)
2308055 Ward, G. W. (Corporal 1/9/21)
2306919 Mears, L. C. (Corporal 1/9/21)
2307290 Halls, E. J. (Acting Corporal 1/9/21)
2307800 Loton, F. J. (Corporal 1/9/21)
2307082 Newton, F. W. (Corporal 1/9/21)
2306278 Warr, W. (Corporal 1/9/21)
2306414 Dempsey, C. (Corporal 1/9/21)
2309135 Lindsay, A. P. (Acting Corporal 1/9/21)
1855177 Thomas, J. O. (Acting Corporal 1/9/21)
1850298 Mallord, P. J. (Acting Corporal 1/9/21)
1850325 Wilson, E. (Corporal 1/9/21)
1850269 Hackett, C. A. (Corporal 1/9/21)
2308074 Dickerson, C. H. (Corporal 1/9/21)
2308160 Morley, G. (Corporal 1/9/21)
2311590 Donaghy, M. B. (Corporal 1/9/21)
2308371 Farley, J. W. (Acting Corporal 1/9/21)
2308634 Drake, H. A. J. (Acting Corporal 1/9/21)
2308047 Hankinson, J. (Corporal 1/9/21)
2306322 Terrell, W. H. (Corporal 1/9/21)
2308032 Chimes, A. P. (Corporal 1/9/21)
2308997 Tolley, J. (Acting Corporal 1/9/21)
2309214 Goodier, R. (Corporal 1/9/21)
2308618 Sutherland, W. (Corporal 1/9/21)
2309526 Trayner, A. (Corporal 1/9/21)
2311814 Ford, W. C. (Corporal 1/9/21)
2312256 Bishop, A. (Corporal 1/9/21)
2306138 Jefferies, H. J. (Corporal 1/9/21)
2306083 Gurney, A. E. (Corporal 1/9/21)
1854933 McNulty, T. (Corporal 1/9/21)
4525257 Hughes, C. J., 2/9/21
1854109 Cornish, R. H., 16/9/21

A First Trip to India.

BY W. R. C. P.

It is with a certain amount of diffidence that I take up my pen to write of the East, and I hasten to disclaim any intention of posing as an authority on the subject. It would indeed be absurd for one to do so after exactly four months' absence from England.

Not to many of those proceeding to serve in India is given the opportunity of seeing in their first three months more of that country than the average soldier sees in his whole service. It may, therefore, perhaps be of interest to readers of THE WIRE to be given an outline of the thirteen thousand odd miles, including the voyage from England, covered by the writer in the space of approximately four months. In this outline I hope to be able to give some idea of life in Signal units in India, what these units are, where they are, and what they do; and incidentally to interest readers generally with short descriptions of places and scenes visited and witnessed. It may also serve to inculcate a desire to see for themselves, to add to their experience and widen their minds—both being certain effects of a tour of duty abroad.

Every one in the army should spend part of his service abroad. It is the chance of a life-time, and one at which every young soldier should jump when foreign drafts are being prepared, and on proceeding abroad he will understand better what an essential part he is of that immense organisation, the British Empire.

A warning order reached me towards the end of August, and after having interviewed the competent authority at the War Office, and been duly assured that I would not sail before the end of the first week in October, and also that I should proceed as an individual and not with troops, I departed with a light heart to the North of Scotland to make the most of what I then fondly imagined would be at least a month's leave. Vain hope! On the 9th of September, when I was staying in Aberdeenshire, I received orders to sail from Southampton on the 20th, and to pick up "on the way" 150 men of the Somerset Light Infantry from Taunton. Having expressed my feelings briefly but forcibly, I turned to the family for sympathy. None was forthcoming. They were much too occupied in considering an offer of a job in Khartoum, which had arrived by the same post, to give any attention to my woes! I vowed on the spot to catch another salmon before I left, fulfilled my vow the next morning in a manner which perhaps does not bear publication, and caught the south-going mail. After touring the country in a worthy endeavour to bid farewell to cousins, aunts and friends to whom such attention was due, and after an important and protracted interview with Messrs. Cox and Co., I picked up my 10 cwt. of kit from Aldershot, and my 150 men from Taunton, and, assisted by three cavalry subalterns freshly joined from Sandhurst, successfully dumped the lot on board H.M.T. "Huntsend" at Southampton on the afternoon of September 20th.

On the way we had a wait of two hours at Yeovil, and I was quite convinced that I had lost a man or two; at any rate, my efforts at counting were singularly unsuccessful. My sergeant-major (invaluable man that he was) was equally sure that I was wrong. Fortunately, I was. One man lost his helmet, one his great coat, but otherwise all was correct. So I breathed again. Once on board, I knew that losses were unlikely, unless some super-channel swimmer was included in the party. All the same, it did cause a mild flutter in the dovecote when, ten days out, the Adjutant announced that there were ten men less on board than the numbers shown on the returns. We again checked and counter checked—on board ship it is more difficult than anywhere else to produce a full muster parade—and came to the happy conclusion that the discrepancy must lie with one of the fifteen other drafts.

H.M.T. "Huntsend" was a worthy ship of 9000 tons of German origin. Twice torpedoed during the war, and twice salved, she is still usefully employed in the transport service. She carried some 1200 men, and her one drawback was limited deck space. Prior to arrival on board, the men had been detailed to messes—twelve to fourteen each—and on embarkation proceeded straight to the troop deck and stowed one kit bag and their sun helmets in the hold, keeping one kit bag on their own deck. As within the space of six or seven hours roughly 40 officers and 1000 men had been precipitated into a floating barracks of whose geography no one had the faintest idea, with the possible exceptions of the Adjutant and Quartermaster, and one or two others who had come on board the previous day, the confusion, to put it mildly, was colossal. Hammocks, mess utensils, brooms and buckets had to be drawn, and the fact that all instructions were framed in nautical terms and spoke of port and starboard, fo'castle, alley ways, etc., did not tend to help. All that could be done was to appoint an orderly corporal, send out a scouting party, and trust to luck. Gradually order was evolved out of chaos, and after three or four days, when any qualms set up by the Bay of Biscay had subsided, the emergency station signal was responded to with something approaching satisfactory speed. It was many more days, however, before it was possible to persuade all and sundry to keep their tongues still during the same operation!

I have come to the conclusion that three weeks' draft conducting on board ship is about the best introduction to his responsibilities that a raw cadet from Sandhurst can have. There are enormous difficulties to contend with, the strictest of discipline has to be maintained for the sake of safety, and it is very forcibly brought home to him that his first job in life is to look after his men. On board it is extremely difficult to provide occupation and amusement, and it is only when the officer really takes it to heart that it is his responsibility, and his alone, that the difficulties can be overcome.

We started off straight away on an extensive programme of sports, such as boxing, tug of war, cock-fighting, slinging the monkey, etc., all of which filled up time and gave amusement to participants and spectators alike. One game there was on board which many will never want to see, or rather hear, again, and that was the immortal game of "House." I have no moral objection to it, but why do the gentlemen concerned invariably develop that sing-song, irritating, monotonous drawl? I defy anyone not an enthusiastic player of the game to bear with patience three weeks on end of "clickety-click" in the bows, "Kelly's eye" amidships, and "top of the 'ouse" in the stern. Day in, day out, 'twas ever the same. Even on Sundays, gaps in the Padre's sermon were filled with shouts of "'Ouse!" For the passage of the Suez Canal, where silence is essential for the proper navigation of the ship, the game had to be expressly forbidden, and we had a mercifully peaceful twenty-four hours.

My draft of Somersets proved expert in the tug of war, and carried off first and second prizes. There was a naval draft on board, and the enthusiasm was immense when the Somersets defeated their team. They thoroughly deserved all the praise they received, as the seamen must have outweighed them by half-a-stone a man.

We took part in everything afoot, and in one way and another managed to get through the hours fairly successfully and pleasantly.

The dreaded Bay of Biscay let us down very lightly, and except for a certain amount of ocean swell behaved like a perfect gentleman. Twenty-four hours or so elapsed before everyone became quite happy, even in what slight movement there was.

We lost sight of land between Cape Brest and Cape Finisterre, when the north-west coast of Spain, followed by that of Portugal, became visible. Off Portugal bad weather was anticipated, as Lisbon had just been indulging in cyclonic disturbances—meteorological as well as political. We were lucky, and escaped with nothing worse than a drenching.

Cape St. Vincent was rounded early on Saturday, September 24th. It became pleasantly warm, our course was changed to the east, and both coasts could be seen: small picturesque Spanish towns and villages on the one side—Tarifa being prominent amongst them—and the long grim range of the Atlas mountains on the other, relieved by glimpses of Tangiers and Ceuta. At 6 in the evening we passed Gibraltar, and the sight of that solitary towering lump of rock—the Keeper at the Gate—which one knew to be a highly valued, important British possession, gave one to think of the wonderful way in which our Empire was gradually built up, fostered and preserved.

The capture of Gibraltar was an excellent example of the value of amphibious power and the success attendant on surprise. In 1704 Admiral Rooke landed Prince George of Hesse with a small British force, and while the Spaniards were waiting for them on the western or gentle slopes, the English troops swarmed up the eastern side, considered an *impasse*, surmounted the top and took the defenders in the rear. The island, under General Sir George Elliott, was subsequently subjected to a four years' unsuccessful siege by the Spaniards from 1799 to 1803.

Just east of Gibraltar we were reminded that all is not yet peace in the world by passing near a Spanish transport packed to the rails with troops for Morocco.

During those days occupied in passing the Spanish coast on the one hand and the African on the other, many were the questions put to the ship's officers and crew as to the identity of some particular town or point. Never during the whole voyage did I discover any member of the ship's company at a loss for a reply of some sort. Frequently it happened that accuracy was sacrificed to eagerness to preserve a reputation for never being beaten by any conundrum. It was interesting, however, and often amusing, especially when you tried different people with the same question.

Between Gibraltar and Malta we sighted and passed quite close to an island called Pantellaria, an Italian convict settlement. It speaks well of the common sense of the man who conceived the economical and efficient plan of utilising a wide and deep unfriendly sea to take the place of a small army of warders on an island where outside interference and influence would be things unknown!

The ship was not due to put in anywhere between Southampton and Port Said, but a case of appendicitis and two of pneumonia made a call at Malta imperative. Accordingly we entered Valetta harbour at 6 a.m. on September 28th.

A large straggling town of low, square, flat roofed buildings did not give a good impression of Malta as a station. Shade seemed to be singularly lacking, and even at that early hour the glare was distinctly uncomfortable.

Malta was originally handed over in 1534 by Charles V. to the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem, to enable them better to carry on their sworn object of levying war on the Turks. In return the Knights had to pay a rent of one falcon per year! In 1798 Malta was captured by Napoleon Buonaparte, who realised its value in the maritime world, but Nelson retook it two years later. It finally passed into British hands by the treaty of Paris in 1814.

Two cable boats were lying in the harbour, and the remains of a French explosive ship, which was blown up during the war, were just being removed by divers. One or two destroyers in commission, one or two rusty and neglected, and a depot repair ship completed the roll of the inhabitants of the harbour. Maltese boys came out and gave exhibitions of diving for coins, and hawkers tried to sell various goods at treble their value to unresponsive soldiers. By 10 a.m. we were again under way.

Saturday, October 1st, saw us at Port Said, where we dropped anchor at 1.30 p.m. From 2 till 7 officers were allowed ashore. The men had to remain on board, but they lost nothing by doing so, except perhaps the opportunity of buying something not on sale in the ship's canteen. Port Said is an unpleasant town, full of evil smells, and possessing as mixed a crowd for population as can be seen—I nearly said smelt—anywhere. Only by the outer entrance to the canal near the Casino Hotel did one breathe good fresh air, and there the blue of the Mediterranean and the coastline combined to form a pleasing picture.

That evening and night we had our first taste of what really stuffy heat means. Coaling was in progress; no one was allowed to sleep on deck, and all port holes, doors, and windows had to be kept tightly closed. The atmosphere was stifling, and coal dust penetrated everywhere. The coaling itself was well worth watching. Immediately we anchored enormous barges had come alongside, manned by a semi-naked, ugly gang of shouting, fighting, jabbering coolies. They had overseers armed with whips, and when work did start it was all done "at the double." The light of the arc lamps by which the work was carried on after dark lent a weird effect to the scene. The swarm of niggers, all yelling and always running, viewed from above, gave one the mixed impression of the centre of a busy ant heap and a foresight into the infernal regions! Incidentally, orders had to be circulated that nothing of value should be left lying about, as the local gentleman, whether coal coolie or hawker, is notoriously light-fingered and expert at climbing on board unnoticed.

On Sunday morning we started off once more, and spent all day in the Suez Canal.

As one of the engineering wonders of the world, the Suez Canal cannot be passed over without remark.

As you enter Port Said harbour you pass a large bronze statue built on the breakwater to a Frenchman—De Lesseps. He it was who between 1856-1857 carried out the scheme of connecting the Mediterranean with the Red Sea, thus linking East and West and saving ships the long voyage round the Cape. When the French company was floated, four million shares were offered for purchase by foreign powers. Disraeli, then Prime Minister of England, stepped in and bought them all. He was very severely censured at the time, as he did it without consulting Parliament. That his action was fully justified is shown by the facts that the shares are now worth thirty million pounds sterling, and that Great Britain has a very large say in the running of the canal, the strategical value of which from the military and naval points of view is incalculable.

The canal is 87 miles long, 31 feet deep, and averages roughly 100 yards in breadth. It is now being deepened to 36 feet, to enable the largest of modern battleships to make the passage. Ships cannot pass in the canal, and one has to tie up for the other. The order of priority is battleships, oil and explosives ships, mail steamers, transports, cargo boats. The canal dues are 5s. per head for passengers and crew, 5s. per ton of cargo, and 6s. per ton of ship's displacement. So the cost of taking an average sized transport through is approximately £5000.

Navigation is worked by an adaptation of the block system as on home railways. There are signal stations at intervals, and ships are either given the "all clear" or the order to tie up, and any other instructions are shouted out to the French pilot, who comes on board at Port Said, by the "station master."

In the middle of the morning, while service was in progress, we passed Kantara, the base for the armies in Palestine. It lies on the caravan route between Egypt and Syria, and, depending on the ultimate settlement of our policy in Egypt, may again become a centre of civil and military importance. Even now there are three large dumps of war material and debris.

A little further on, at lunch time, we reached Ismailia on the Egypt-Jerusalem road, the road by which the infant Jesus was carried by Joseph and Mary on their flight from Bethlehem. Ismailia, not many years ago, was a death centre on account of fever. Such is modern medical science, however, that not only is it now free from fever, but it even has a special fever sanatorium.

A couple of British aeroplanes from the local aerodrome flew out to greet us, and several officers in sailing boats passed the time of day.

We steamed on slowly to the Bitter Lake, where we were hung up for five hours waiting for a P. and O. mail steamer to pass. Darkness then fell, and a large electric headlamp was rigged up in the bows of the ship to show the pilot the way.

The Bitter Lake is one of the many places given by tradition as the spot where the Israelites crossed the sea, pursued by the Egyptians, who were subsequently caught and drowned.

Suez was reached by 3 a.m. on October 3rd, and we remained at anchor till shortly after 6 o'clock, having to drop the pilot and dismantle the headlamp. Soon after 6 we weighed anchor, and made our way down the Gulf towards the Red Sea. Land was visible on either side, but it consisted of barren and unfriendly serrated ridges of hills, which, apart from providing a picturesque silhouette in the wonderful sunsets which we enjoyed nightly, could easily have been dispensed with from an artistic point of view!

A sunset in Southern waters is remarkable not only for the vivid colourings, but also for the fact that you seem to see the sun actually move as it disappears below the horizon. The days commenced to get warmer, and we began to wonder what the Red Sea had in store for us. All that day we were in the Gulf of Suez and entered the Red Sea at night with a following wind and consequent great heat.

When we woke the next morning no land was in sight. We did our physical training at 7.30 with difficulty, and for the rest of the day, until the sun went down about five, leaned over the side watching the flying fish, schools of porpoises, and occasional sharks, or slept on deck. A whist drive had been arranged for the second and third class passengers, and, of course, it turned out to be the hottest evening of all. I was on duty that night, and the rounds of the ship at 9.30 p.m. clad in blue patrol and overalls, were most unpleasant. All one wanted was a shirt and a pair of shorts. The decks of a crowded transport in hot weather are awkward to navigate. Every available corner is taken up by a sleeping figure. Down below you have to traverse the troop decks bent double to avoid hammocks, and the longer you remain bent the hotter you become.

At night in the Red Sea the whole surface of the water was covered with phosphorescent patches some twelve inches long. The breeze practically disappeared and the sea was like glass sparkling with myriads of small lights.

Early on Friday, 7th, we passed Perim, a desolate spot, one more of Britain's outlying possessions. It was garrisoned by us as a counter move to the occupation of Egypt by the French, from 1799 to 1801, and subsequently annexed in 1857, owing to the building of the Suez Canal. It is largely used as a coaling station. We also saw a curious group of islands, which go by the name of "The Twelve Apostles." The origin of the name is difficult to trace, but they are

said to mark another traditional route taken by the Israelites across the Red Sea in their flight from Pharaoh. Four o'clock saw us exchanging signals at seven miles range with Aden, another important outpost of the Empire. Our possession of this island has a curious history. In 1837 a British ship was wrecked in the vicinity, and the crew were maltreated by the Arabs. The Bombay Government demanded retribution, and the Sultan agreed to sell Aden to the British. A party under a naval officer was despatched to occupy the port, but the Sultan's son turned, and went back on his father's promise. Accordingly, in 1839, a combined naval and military force stormed the town, and we have continued to hold it since, and use it as a coaling station, cable post and small garrisoned locality. Friday night saw us through the Straits of Babel-Mandeb (the gate of tears) which connect the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean. The name was given to the straits by the Arabs on account of the dangers of navigation, and the numbers of ships which have been wrecked there. Thus we entered the last stage of our sea voyage—the crossing of the Indian Ocean. We set to to finish off the finals of the various competitions, straighten out kit, check stores, and see to the many other small details necessary before disembarkation. All was going well, and we were congratulating ourselves on a very calm trip, when on Tuesday, at two hours' notice, we ran straight into a cyclone, and H.M.T. "Huntsend" for twelve hours behaved like a pea on a plate. Speed was reduced to four knots to mitigate the pitching, and everything movable was doubly lashed. I happened to be on duty, and for a period it was merely exhilarating. The great majority found it too much so, and the inhabitants of the ship presented a sorry spectacle. We were lucky enough just to miss the centre of the disturbance, and by next morning peace and calm were restored.

Without further incident we ran into Alexandra Dock, Bombay, at 9 a.m. on Thursday, October 13th, with band playing and troops all on the alert and dressed in their best available.

Thus came to an end a pleasant voyage, full of interest to those undertaking it for the first time, particularly if they are curious, asked questions, and sought information about all they saw.

Disembarkation proceeded apace, but it took all day. The heat was intense: no breeze and a strong sun. There were customs officers to satisfy, money to be changed, kit to be looked after, and many other details, and in the middle of it all my three subalterns were sent off to their own units. I was therefore exceedingly relieved when the last man and the last kit bag of the draft were inside the troop train which was to take us up to the concentration camp at Deolali, 100 miles distant from Bombay.

To add to my troubles, the agents managed temporarily to lose my kit, and despite the fact that it was actually lying inside the store of the Military Forwarding Officer, telegrams had no effect, and I eventually had to return to Bombay and dig it out myself.

Four days I spent at Deolali—luckier than many—and all I will say about it is that if you can possibly do so, avoid the place.

(To be continued).

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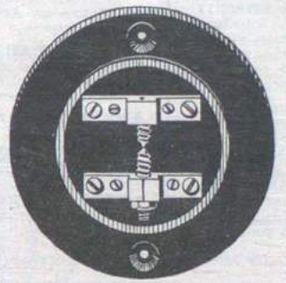
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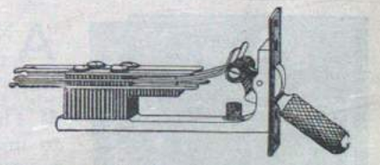
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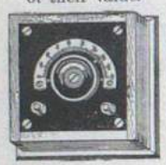
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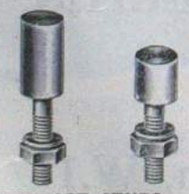




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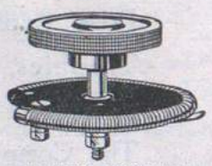


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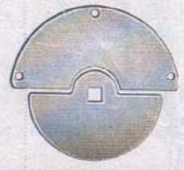


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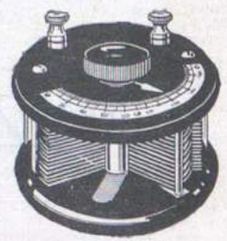


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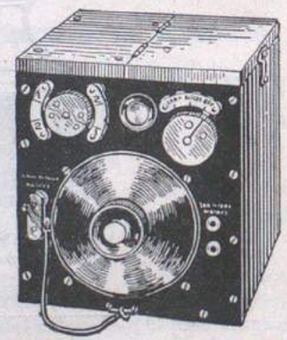
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The Corps Magazine of the Royal Corps of Signals and the Official Organ of the Signals Association.

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Editorial Notes.

It is with much regret that I have to announce the impending retirement of our chief—Col.-Commandant E. G. Godfrey-Faussett, C.B., C.M.G. Those of us who knew of his very strenuous efforts to build up the new Corps to a standard worthy of the very highest traditions of that from which we sprang—the Royal Engineers—will realise best how greatly his presence among us will be missed.

Mrs. Godfrey-Faussett, too, has always taken a keen and active interest in all matters pertaining to the Corps. Her interesting poems, published from time to time in the columns of this magazine under the *nom de plume* of "Jay Hoo," have inspired us all to aim for higher ideals where our moral and public life is concerned. Esprit de corps has always been her "slogan," and few (if any) of us who have read her inspiring contributions have failed to benefit by them.

May we venture to hope that she will continue from time to time, and as opportunities arise, to brighten our pages with her philosophy?

May we also wish her the very best of good fortune in her new surroundings?

* * *

Any member of the Signals Association who is returning to civil life, and wishes to transfer to a real *live* branch, should send his card on to C. Bendel, 24, Iliffe Street, S.E.17, who will be pleased to make him welcome.

G. E. PALIN, Editor.

"Maurice."

We all noticed what a most extraordinary chap Kennevere was, the first day he arrived. From information gathered in the camp, I am able to relate the following with some degree of accuracy—ahem—yes, I think so.

Kennevere's christian name was Maurice—which is a most unsuitable prefix to Kennevere. He had jet black hair—or should I say, raven? Yes, raven, though it sounds more like feathers—and deeply set eyes. He was a tall youth, but rather thin, and wore an habitual grin on his features and a gold ring on the index finger of his left hand. I hope you can picture the sort of chap I mean. There was an indefinable air of "San Fairy Ann" about him, and I doubt if anyone ever put the breeze up him or compelled him to kow-tow. In my opinion, his voice was his greatest possession. It knocked Raymond's into a cocked hat so to speak. For drawl and accent, it was unique. Most people used to make him repeat all his statements for the pleasure of hearing his voice, that is, if they were not in any great hurry.

He drove up from the station in a car, the top of which was loaded with suit cases and trunks, and gave the driver a tip which made even that lofty individual beam good-humouredly. He wore a gold rimmed monocle, but he always had to remove this before speaking on account of the miniature earthquakes that convulsed his features. "I say, young feller," he called to the sentry, "where's the Commandant?" The sentry's name happened to be Erik, and with this affliction, was hood-winked into thinking that Maurice was an officer. "You go and see the sergeant, sir," he said in an undertone—because sentries are not supposed to speak before 22.15 hours.

Maurice stepped into the guard-room and surveyed the scene for about a full minute, taking in all details. His gaze came to rest eventually on the classic features of Tommy Blewitt, the commander of the guard, and he smiled—Maurice, I mean, not Tommy: he couldn't, for he was spell-bound by the dazzling vision before him.

"Hallo, old thing," said Maurice at last, "I suppose you're the head person here, what?" Tommy made a noise like a coffin being dragged along a gravel path, which Maurice rightly understood to be an acceptance of his assumption. "Well, I've come to be a soldier."

"You've come to what a which?" yelled Tommy. "N'ordinary soldier like me and all these blokes?" and he waved his arm round the room in a dazed manner.

"If all you chappies are ordinary soldiers, I suppose I shall have to be like you," said Maurice resignedly. "Huh! Well, come 'ere. What was yer name last birthday?" Maurice filled the Sergeant with information about himself and was sent away up to the Documents Office to repeat the process.

Of course, his huge pile of luggage had to go. He sent that away to an address which remains a secret to this day, although a deputation from the Quartermaster's Union endeavoured to show him "how to do it." I don't think anyone ever discovered who he really was, and there were many who tried to draw him out.

He made an inauspicious start in the recruits' company. The Sergeant-Major spotted him the morning after his arrival, and after rubbing his eyes to make sure he wasn't "seeing things," he called him over. "What's yer name, young feller-me-lad?" "Kennevere, old chap; what's yours?" The Sergeant-Major subsided on to the asphalt, gasped five and a half times, and rolled over unconscious. Maurice dragged him out of the way of passing traffic, and strolled off to the hut. He found the occupants rehearsing for a concert party. One murderous looking individual was rendering a pathetic little song. I think it was called, "Don't come down the ladder, dad, we've taken it away."

Anyway, Maurice joined in the chorus and was happy until he found himself communing with the worms in the garden, whither he had been precipitated by the unfriendly boot of the singer. Meanwhile the Sergeant-Major had recovered, and having fortified himself with a few b. and bs. at Franks, set forth in pursuit of the unfortunate Maurice. He gathered an escort on the way, and within the hour young Kennevere had an opportunity of studying the interior arrangements of the Guard Detention Room. The Officer Commanding the Company having received his monthly draft "in settlement of," etc., was inclined to be lenient and let him off with a caution, but sergeant-majors have long memories, and as soon as Maurice received his khaki, he was put on main guard. This was his undoing, for Kennevere could never be impressed with a sense of his responsibilities nor a respect for officers.

His turn for sentry came round at about 8 p.m., just as it was getting dusk. He couldn't see the fun of walking up and down with a load, so he cast his equipment, and leaned his rifle against the sentry-box. For some considerable time he strolled up and down with his coat collar up and his hands in his pockets, smoking innumerable cigarettes. The few people who passed by never thought of him as a sentry, and if the absence of one occurred to them they regarded it as none of their business, and passed on.

Not so with the Brigade-Major, however, who chanced to come along. He went for Maurice right away. "What are you supposed to be?" he queried. Maurice treated him to an engaging smile. "Hallo, old thing," he said, "I'm a bit of a sentry; what are you?" The B.M recovered his balance quickly, and for some unaccountable reason entered into the humour of the situation. I have never been able to give any satisfactory explanation of this, because it was not even Wednesday, which is guest night at the mess. "Oh, I'm a bit of a major," he replied.

"Really," said Maurice, as though this were the most natural thing in the world. "If you'll hang on, I will get the jolly old gun and give you a bit of a salute."

Lord only knows what happened after that, but Kennevere disappeared from the public gaze for some time, and the next thing I saw concerning him was a paragraph in Part II. of Commandant's Orders which read:—

> DISCHARGES.—The undermentioned is discharged the Service under para 392 King's Regulations (sub para as shewn in parentheses) with effect from 30th May, 1922.
>
> 61198732 Sapper M. Kennevere (IIIa.)

I think if he had been allowed to stay on a little longer we might have made something out of him, but then, as Charles says, fancy *two* guys like that in the camp. I'm not quite sure what he means, but I'm going to ask Raymond one day—he's awfully intelligent.

BARLEUX.

Maresfield Notes.

Headquarters.

We have this month to doubly congratulate our Acting Chief Clerk. First, on the occasion of his becoming a "dada," and then on his appointment to Act./Sergeant. All members of the staff are requested to give any foreign stamps they may have to Sergt Legg, as he is starting a collection for his three weeks' old daughter.

Since writing last, Headquarters Staff and the remainder of the regimentally-employed personnel have once more experienced the doubtful joys of an inter-Company posting. We are now, after a short sojourn with B Company, in P Company, where we are now comfortably settled.

Sigmn Bishop has left us after about a year in the typists' branch, and is now with P Company for duty.

Both our chaplains have been demobilised. The Rev. T. F. Yule and the Rev. W. H. Harding left at the beginning of April, and have been succeeded by the Rev. W. B. Hughes, who has already taken up his duties.

Capt W. F. Wilson, the Veterinary Officer, has also been demobilised, but has returned in a similar capacity as a civilian.

Major and Bt.-Lieut.-Col. J. Day, D.S.O., is shortly leaving the Training Centre, and our active P.R.I. will be greatly missed.

Yet again I have to congratulate Sigmn Cotterell, this time on his wonderful performance in the International Cross Country run at Glasgow. He came in second, Guillemont of France being first, and the next Englishman home sixth. What a pity there are no Olympic games this year.

The Corps team continue their sequence of victories, and we are looking forward to the "home" meeting with Worthing with no little interest.

The movement of the 2nd Battalion from Crowborough is proceeding rapidly, and will soon be completed.

When I mentioned a certain notice board near the main "portal" last month, I had no idea of the strength of feeling in the camp regarding that objectionable and conspicuous object, so that once more I am constrained to ask if a more suitable place cannot be found for it.

The advent of Easter leave is not conducive to the writing of copious notes, and with that "holiday feeling" momentarily increasing I will write "finis" for this month.

Things We Want to Know.

Why did a certain sergeant put his guard report in the stove on St. Patrick's night?

The author of a parody commencing, "Sergeants, only ——sergeants," and ending, "Made to be broken some day"?

The name of the Irishman heard to remark that "It's like putting water on a duck's back—it goes in one ear and out the other"?

What is a "sports suit" and a "sports outfit"?

And has H——y ordered his plus fours yet?

Maresfield Topics—No. 4.

THE TRIAL.

1. Now it came to pass, that in the army of the land of En at Mayresfeeld, there was a certain soldier, one Dwaldron.

2. And Dwaldron had occasion to journey forth unto Krowboro: each evening went he, and returneth each night.

3. And he journeyed on a certain two-wheeled chariot, to wit, a bicycle.

4. Now one evening he tarried with a damsel of surpassing loveliness longer than was his wont, so that when he set forth for Mayresfeeld, darkness was upon the face of the whole earth.

5. Nevertheless he setteth forth, and when he was come nigh unto a place called Fivash, he was accosted by a custodian of the peace, who sayeth unto him—

6. Where is thy light?

7. And there was none.

8. And so the custodian of the peace, who wore sandals of an amazing magnitude, sayeth unto him, Who art thou, and from whence comest thou?

9. And Dwaldron did say, I am Thomson, the son of Thomas, for Dwaldron was an astute man and a cunning.

10. Now the feast of the passover had come nigh, when it came to pass that the constable cometh unto the place where Dwaldron had his dwelling, and accused him of his crime, so that the knees of Dwaldron did tremble, for he did marvel that this thing could be.

11. And the constable haled him before the judge as a common felon, so that the heart of Dwaldron was troubled, for he could not go unto Krowboro.

12. And the judge did say unto him, such and such hast thou done which thou shouldst not have done.

13. Therefore wilt thou have to pay ten pieces of silver, or go unto prison for seven days.

14. And Dwaldron's heart rejoiced when he heard the words of the judge, and he payeth the ten pieces of silver with a smiling countenance, and immediately goeth unto Krowboro, rejoicing.

E. S. H.

C Company.

Like most other Companies in the Centre, I suppose the notes this month will be chiefly compiled from the "go to's" and "come from's" of the many individuals concerned.

We are really sorry to have to say "good-bye" to Sergt Tokely upon his departure to Aldershot to join the 2nd Div. Signal Company. He left in our solo club a hole which will take a lot of filling. Never mind, Joe, we're nothing if we're not cushy, and we hope to meet in the near future. L/Corpl Withers spent a very enjoyable, if very brief, stay with us. We had drawn out a most exciting programme for you for the coming year, Bill, but sad to say, in the words of the poet, "We've had it." What luck!

We have yet to say farewell to Sergt Burgess, who leaves shortly for Colchester to join the 4th Div. Signal Company. We hate to see you go, Dick, old boy, but not a few are looking forward to the novelty of being able to pull out a "large Players" without having to glide off into the woods to do so. Some are born lucky, others have luck thrust upon them. Sergt Hoitt, we

imagine, is a peculiar combination of both. He greases over the side shortly to reappear at Manchester where he is undertaking the strenuous duties of Instructor on the Territorial Staff. We are extremely sorry to lose him, but he carries with him our most sincere wishes for his success on the "Northern Front."

We have to welcome to our colours C.Q.M.S. Weeks and Sergt Marshall from G Company, Corpl Davies from H.Q., and L/Sergt Mitchell and L/Corpl Brett from B Company. Indeed a hefty shuffle.

We offer our heartiest congratulations to Signalman Richmond and Boy Collins upon their splendid performance in the Eastern Command and Army boxing championships. They both did extremely well, and if the boy only keeps off the joys of life he should go a long way.

The inter-Platoon shemozzle for the football cup is in full swing—Douggie Stuart giving 2—1 in favour of H.Q. Platoon. Any of the games we have played would have left the "Spurs' " directors cold, but what a happy hunting ground for Tom Webster!

The inter-Company cross country run took place under anything but ideal conditions, and the Company are to be congratulated upon their fine performance in coming in third. Special mention must be made of Sergt Noonan, who, running strongly all the way, finished third.

The following is an extract from the "Hatched, Matched, and Despatched" column of the local "Swede Gnawer's Gazette":—

HATCHED.—To Hugh Stuart McGregor, of "The Emporium," Crowborough Camp, on the 26th ult., the gift of a pup. "The dearest, sweetest little pup in all the world" has already suffered with everything from distemper and "housemaid's-knees" to "tishyitus" in both pairs of legs, and has an appetite equally as extensive.

THE PARSON.

D Company.

Things have really been moving in the Company during the past month. We have to welcome a new O.C.—Major J. A. F. Mair, M.C., R.C.S., having taken over the Company. Capt. Roberts is remaining with us as second in command, and we are all very glad that he is not being taken away from us altogether.

The rumours concerning B Company have come true, and we now see parties of men "flag-wagging" in all corners of the Camp. We have also sent all our regimentally employed men to join P Company. We have lost a lot of good men in doing that, but have some just as good in return from B Company, and expect to be able to keep the Company sport going as well as ever.

Hockey.

We were rather late getting our hockey team together this season, but managed to come right up to scratch for the Company knock-out competition. With the aid of three members of the Corps Band, since transferred to P Company, we managed to fix up quite a good team. We met the School of Signals in the 1st round and defeated them 6—0, the whole side playing splendidly. In the 2nd round we defeated F Company 7—1. Our defence was a bit shaky in the first half, but managed to do better later. F Company's backs were not able to deal with our forwards, and we had a fairly easy win.

In the final we had a great game with E Company, and beat them 4—2, after playing extra time. Our backs started slowly, and E Company led us 2—0 at the interval, though we had as much of the game as they did. In the second half we got together, and our halves started passing to our forwards instead of to E Company's backs, with the result that we finished 2—2, Lieut Woodbridge and Lieut King scoring. In the extra time we were too good for E Company: Major Pinsent gave us the lead just before we changed ends, and Lieut Woodbridge scored again five minutes from the end. Well done, the hockey team.

Cross Country Running.

We did not do nearly as well as we expected in the inter-Company cross country run, and were only fourth. Sigmn Cotterell was first, as usual. We were a little unlucky in having three of the best of our team away, but some of the others must train a lot harder next year.

Congratulations to Sigmn Cotterell on his very fine performance in the International Cross Country Run.

Ave Atque Vale!

1897—1922.

Time's glass is nearly emptied of its sands!
That glass, by which one watching wistful stands,
Facing the hour to which all ranks must come:
Henceforth this Ballad-monger will be dumb.

For now no more will Signal matters pass
Before these sympathetic eyes—alas!
No more will subjects topical inspire
This vagrant pen: the Rhymer must retire.

Through many varied years of chance and change
Can memory, now grave, now laughing, range;
From all excursions coming back to rest,
At the same centre of its interest.

For always under "Jim's" mercurial sway
There opened out the arbitrary way;
And were it possible the road to claim,
The choice would naturally have been the same.

Though never of the Corps, yet still attached,
The Minstrel many a borrowed ray has snatched
Of glory won in peace and warfare, due
To all the Signals who have carried "through."

So, though withdrawn from active lot and part,
Always the Minstrel will retain at heart
The welfare of the Corps, and wish its name
Unbroken record on the scroll of fame.

Hail! and accept an ardent song of praise
For gifts of ever-memorable days:
Farewell! and may a radiant future cast
Prophetic shadows rivalling the past.

JAY HOO.

April, 1922. (M. G. G.-F.)

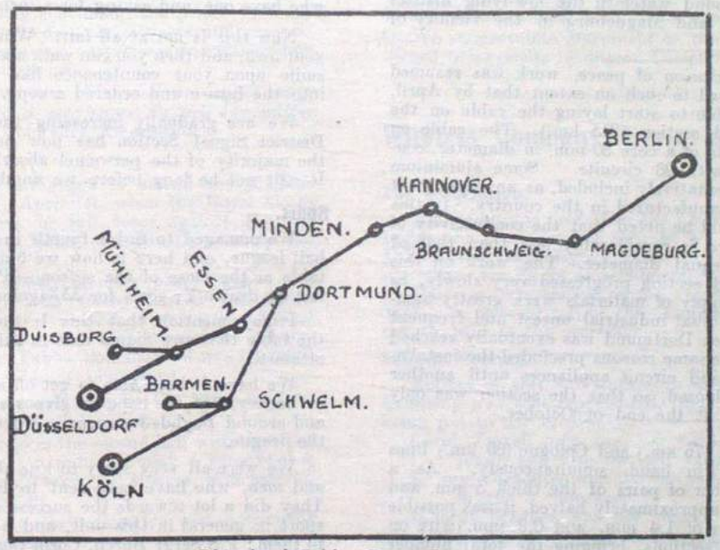
The Rhineland Cable.

From the *Cologne Advertiser (Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger)*,

February 23rd, 1922.

The first German overland telephone cable was completed in November, 1921, and the capital is now connected telephonically with Western Germany by a cable route more than 700 kilometres (440 miles) in length.

The main disadvantage of the ordinary system of overland telegraph routes is, of course, that the heavier and longer the route, the more it is liable to derangement. Its working efficiency lies, in fact, in direct proportion to the prevailing weather conditions. Whole districts may be cut off from communication in bad weather, a state of affairs disastrous in the extreme to the national welfare. Moreover, the development of the overland telegraph system is subject to considerable limitations. The scope of practicable extensions is restricted by the dependance of the system upon existing lines of communication, and the available space grows less as the growth of (high) power routes increases.



Rhineland Cable—Route Diagram.

Nevertheless, the reasons for adhering to the overland system, especially for telephone lines, until quite recently, were principally economic and technical ones. It was easier for the authorities to obtain funds to meet the cost of maintaining and developing the permanent line system than to acquire the large initial sum required for constructing a cable system. For all that, however, the construction of underground lines on a large scale would indeed have been carried out before the war, but for certain technical difficulties which held up this project until the end of the first decade of our present century. Only then was engineering science enabled, through the invention of Pupin, to establish cable routes for long distance telephone traffic.

It was at this period, now twelve years ago, that the Rhineland cable was originally projected. In November, 1909, severe storms destroyed long stretches of telegraph and telephone routes around the German capital. For weeks on end large industrial areas of the Empire were almost entirely cut off from telephonic communication with Berlin and beyond. Especially was this the case in Rhenish Westphalia, for the lines running west from Berlin had suffered most heavily of all. This was the immediate cause of the Telegraphs Department deciding to construct a long-distance cable—later to be known as the "Rheinlandskabel"—from Berlin to the west of the Empire.

Before work could be commenced it was necessary to decide whether it would be better to bury the cable direct into the ground, or whether a special conduit should be constructed to receive it. The Telegraphs Department resolved upon the latter course, in spite of the extra cost; in the first place because with a conduit the cable would be at any place easily accessible for the initial testing-out and subsequent modifications and faulty sections could be easily replaced, and secondly, because the route being such an important one, a subsequent need for extra cables would doubtless have to be reckoned with, if the original one operated successfully. This anticipation has proved correct, and already the work of duplicating the cable between Berlin and Hanover has been put in hand, and is to be extended during the present year.

The route of the cable is from Berlin *via* Potsdam, Brandenburg, Magdeburg and Brunswick to Hanover, thence on through Minden and Bielefeld to Dortmund, where it divides. One line goes *via* Bochum, Essen and Mülheim to Düsseldorf, with a branch from Mülheim to Duisberg. The other is continued through Schwelm (whence a spur-line is taken off to Elberfeld-Barmen) to Cologne. It will thus be seen that the cable taps the chief industrial towns west of Berlin as far as the banks of the Rhine.

The conduit consists throughout, except where local conditions have rendered modifications necessary, of moulded cement in two sections, one on the top of the other. Each of the four passages contained therein has a diameter of 10 cm. Wherever the soldered joints occur, and elsewhere at intervals of 170-200 metres, bricked-in inspection points have been provided, where Pupin loading coils are placed. The total length of the cable, including spur-lines, amounts to 700 km, and the number of inspection or test points, 6300. The work was originally begun, at the Berlin end, in the summer of 1912, and at the outbreak of war had reached a point west of Hanover. In spite of the interruptions caused by the war, the cement conduit was completed in the autumn of 1916. The work had been entrusted to the post office authorities of the various districts through which the route lay, and was let out by them to contractors, under the general supervision of the Imperial Telegraphs Department. Many constructional difficulties were encountered on the route, as for example, underground water in the low-lying district between Potsdam and Magdeburg in the vicinity of the river Havel.

After the conclusion of peace, work was resumed and pushed forward to such an extent that by April, 1920, it was possible to start laying the cable on the Hanover-Dortmund section (213 km.). The cable on this section consists of a core 80 mm. in diameter, containing 71 pairs with 98 circuits. Some aluminium wires have been tentatively included, as an experiment in a metal now manufactured in the country. In this connection it should be noted that the conductivity of an aluminium wire is considerably less than that of a copper one of equal diameter. The work on this Hanover-Dortmund section progressed very slowly, as production and supply of materials were greatly hampered by the continual industrial unrest and frequent strikes. Even when Dortmund was eventually reached in March, 1921, the same reasons precluded the installation of the coils and circuit appliances until another six months had elapsed, so that the section was only opened for traffic at the end of October.

The Düsseldorf (76 km.) and Cologne (89 km.) lines were then taken in hand simultaneously. As a result of the number of pairs of the thick 3 mm. and 2 mm. wire being approximately halved, it was possible to add extra lines of 1.4 mm. and 0.9 mm. wire on each of these two sections, bringing the total number of pairs up to 145. These auxiliary lines are principally used to cope with the increasing local traffic between the chief towns of the Rhenish Westphalian industrial area. Later they may also be used for long distance communication, as the distance over which effective communication can be obtained with the smaller wire can now be increased by the insertion of repeaters at certain points.

The cable was finally completed, as already stated, last November, and telephonic communication over the area which it serves has been thereby rendered both easier and more expeditious. To have brought the work of constructing the Rhineland cable to a successful conclusion in spite of so many obstacles is to have completed a task of which German enterprise may with reason be proud. Recently the overland communication system in the west of the Empire has again suffered much damage from violent storms, and again bitter complaints were received of interruptions in telegraphic and telephonic communication. Now that the new cable is in operation we may hope that such interruptions may not recur. In the future, though the limitations of the capacity of the cable will not unfortunately allow of its taking over the whole of the traffic now dealt with on the overland wires, it will at any rate become the safest route for the more important part of such traffic, and will form a route by means of which information can at all times be successfully communicated, undisturbed by the most adverse of climatic conditions.

Baghdad District Signal Section.

The January number of THE WIRE has at last arrived, after our sweating for the last six mails.

What a rush there was to get them: those who did not order a copy are rushing to those fortunate ones who have one, and asking for a loan of it.

Now this is not at all fair. What about a copy of your own, and then you can walk about with a cherubic smile upon your countenance like those who looked into the future and ordered a copy.

We are gradually increasing these days. Mosul District Signal Section has now been abolished, and the majority of the personnel absorbed into this unit. It will not be long before we number ten score.

Sport.

We managed to finish fourth in the Baghdad football league, and here is how we finished in the league table at the close of the season:—Played 21; won 11; lost 3; drawn 7; goals for 33, against 15; points 29.

I may mention that this is the highest place in the table that any Signal unit in this country has ever attained.

We haven't been able to get off any of our matches at hockey, but we hope to give some of the teams in and around Baghdad a surprise when we meet them in the league.

We were all very sorry to lose the following n.c.o.s and men, who have been sent to India, tour expired. They did a lot towards the success of the football and sport in general in this unit, and we are very grateful to them: F/S/Sergt Burch, Corpl Coates, L/Corpl King, Signalmen Dennis, North and Litster.

We all hope to be leaving for the Depot in India at the end of the forthcoming hot weather, so "roll on."

Things We Want to Know.

Will there be any more "wall building" in the new billet?

Who is really going to be our new O.C.?

Do certain people think that the Section Office is a secret agency? and why they close the doors of the office when they are on telephone duty?

Where "Gassy" gets his information from?

Whether R.T. is now satisfied with the messing?

What induced the "Bom" to go to Baghdad? and what he thought of the midnight walk in the mud along the Bund?

PICKWALLER.

With Signals in Cairo.

The Corps sports mentioned in our last notes took place on Wednesday, March 9th, 1922, at Abbassia. There was a good attendance considering the numerous outlying districts in which the Corps are at present scattered.

Col. Turner kindly consented to act as referee, whilst Major Worlledge acted as starter, the judges being Major Orange Bromehead, Capt. Pritchard, and C.S.M. Carvell, with Capt. Elsdale as time-keeper, Captain Parkes as manager, and C.S.M. Fegan as assistant manager.

The following members of Signal Company, Egypt and Sinai, were successful in carrying away prizes:—

100 yards flat, Sigmn Mitchell, 2nd.
Half mile flat, Sigmn Leal, 2nd.
One mile, Sigmn Leal, 2nd.
Putting the weight, Sigmn Moores, 1st.
Officers' Race—Capt. Parkes, 2nd.

On the events being concluded, the prizes were distributed by Mrs. Worlledge, the winners and runners-up in each event receiving neat commemorative silver medals and a handsome prize.

After the presentation of prizes the opportunity was taken of electing a provisional Branch Committee of the Signals Old Comrades Association.

Football.

Those who were privileged to attend the C.I.S.C. ground on Saturday, April 1st, when the Royal Corps of Signals turned out in full force against the 2nd Battalion Royal Ulster Rifles, undoubtedly received full value for their money.

During the first twenty minutes' play, Signals were continually pressing, and things looked well until Whitehead accidentally fell, and in doing so handled the ball in our penalty area. The subsequent penalty kick was too good for Tubbs, and the ball was returned to the centre with Signals one down.

A sudden break through later by the Rifles brought us to half-time and two goals down.

Signals took the field in the second half with the wind against them. After ten minutes' play a penalty was obtained which was ably taken by Moores, thus making the score 2—1 against us.

It was nearing time when Bromley with a splendid shot equalised the scoring.

Time came, and after a short break the teams lined up again for twenty minutes extra play.

Disaster came quickly: the ball landed on Lannigan's head, took the wrong turning, and finished up in Signals net.

The teams again changed over and the game was resumed. With three minutes to go we were still one down, when Moores saved the situation by a header into the Ulsters' net. The Ulsters tried hard to regain the lead, but were unequal to the situation.

The replay, to say the least of it, was disappointing from the Signals supporters' point of view. The Ulsters made one or two changes in their team, and this may have been the cause of their superiority in combination and nippiness as compared with our team. The sound of the kick-off whistle had scarcely died away before the ball was again being centred with Signals one down.

Twenty-five minutes later came the equaliser from the foot of Edwards. Then the Signals seemed to take heart and gave their supporters ten minutes of beautiful play and hard pressing.

On the resumption the Ulsters again took command of the field, and secured three more goals. Only the superb goal-keeping of Tubbs and the herculean efforts of Whitehead and Chumley prevented five or six goals being registered.

A goal for Signals (the last kick of the game) finished the match, and also the Signals chances of the Sultan's cup.

General.

As we have already taken up much space in sport our general remarks must be cut accordingly.

The manœuvres are keeping everyone busy, C Section in particular. They returned to Camp for a week-end breather and are off again. A detachment has also left Headquarters Section.

The recently arrived draft were quickly split up and despatched to units.

Of the n.c.o.s we succeeded in retaining the services of L/Sergts Collard, Moralee and Kingman, Corporal Whelan, and L/Corpl Mann. To quote all names would, we are afraid, take up too much space.

We congratulate Maresfield on the splendid running record being made by Sigmn Cotterell in home sports.

H. W.

Wireless Company, Egypt and Palestine.

ABBASSIA, CAIRO.

The Association.

A meeting was held after the Corps athletic meeting under the presidency of Col. E. V. Turner, C.M.G., D.S.O., the Chief Signal Officer of the E.E.F., and a committee for Egypt and Palestine was elected. Sergt F. Harrison was chosen as the representative for the W/T. A nominal roll of the Company is being typed out to send to the secretary.

Athletic Meeting.

Notices of this will appear in other columns. The Company was well represented, the following successes being put to our credit:—

Corpl Terrell won the 100 yards (flat), the long jump, and also the 440 yards (flat).
L/Corpl Carpenter won the half mile, and was second in the 3 mile race.
L/Sergt Bracken was the second best in the high jump, and second in putting the weight.
Sigmn Browning came in second in the 120 yards hurdles.
Sigmn Pitt won the mile race.

Departures.

A small draft (Corpl Turner, Corpl Tolley, L/Corpl Watson, Signalmen Green, McClure, James, Batten, Fairclough, Jacques, Raeside, Clifford, and Harris) left for home during the month. We wish them good luck on their return to civil life.

Arrivals.

Capt. T. B. Hains, in charge of a draft of 72 n.c.o.s and men, arrived on March 10th—final destinations at present unknown. Capt. Hains has been posted to the W/T Company.

Football.

The n.c.o.s have played the men on two occasions, and the result has been a draw of two goals each, both times, so they are meeting each other for the third time this week, and a great game is expected.

F. H.

Kantara Signals.

The Signals of Egypt and Sinai were rather taken back, we believe, on seeing the notes in the March issue of THE WIRE on their stunts and behaviour in general. Lots of fellows were looked upon with suspicion as to whether they were the guilty ones in getting the Section talked about, and it is not true the fellows who wore topees before the time for doing so did it to save getting their hair parted. Neither was that the reason one fiery-headed Signalman was absent all night.

Anyway, we were pleased to see our efforts, and also our neighbours', and the bhoys are glad to know we have a place in THE WIRE, as well as under the sun.

We were rather disappointed at G.H.Q.s (Cairo) spasm, though, as *our* would-be correspondent drifted down to that haven of rest. And knowing his poetical inclinations we quite expected to see some of his minor works, if not a masterpiece. How those passionate little stanzas of his stirred one's blood (and any old thing one could lay hands on) when he used to recite his horrible works to the troops. Still, dear Editor, you may be inflicted with some of these arch-poems one day, and we leave it to you to judge for yourself and sue for loss of appetite.

We are afraid there is not much in the sporting line to write home about this month. There were some Corps sports at Abbassia on the 7th inst., and no doubt Wireless will give a detailed account, being on the spot. Of course, several of our noble warriors were present, but didn't want to make a song about it. Freddy Moores "put the weight" a wee bit too far for some people, and got a medal for doing so. "Boy" Mitchell was near enough a dead-heat in the 100 yards, but didn't argue over it, and was content with being second. There were several more runners, including one in the mile and one in the three miles, but owing to the effects of the sun they mis-counted the number of times they had been round the course, and instead of being firsts as they thought, found they had some more to do, and left it for some other time. In the officers' race, our O.C., Capt. Parkes, M.C., came in second after a severe handicap and a false start, owing to smooth socks and dry grass. Still, we think with a *bit* more training these would-be champions of ours may yet equal the famous "Joe" (I don't think).

On April 1st the Sultan's Cup competition will be resumed, this being the third round. Royal Signals having been drawn against the Royal Ulster Rifles, we should like to see the same form shown as when they played the Royal Munster Regiment, which should certainly get them into the fourth round.

A meeting was held at Kantara on the 28th inst. to form a cricket committee, etc., and Capt. Parkes was elected secretary. This season is a doubtful one at present as regards local matches, but with visitors and away matches, we should do well, as we have some good all round players.

Things We Want to Know.

Who were the men who went without their dinner on sports day? And did they fancy their chance in their various entries?

Who was the witness at a G.C.M. who, when asked if he was a private, said, "No, he was promoted from Sapper to Signalman"?

What was the reason of Telephone Company's sudden enthusiasm in the Sultan's Cup? Did they really go to watch the football, or—?

Who are the two individuals known as Pug and Loon, and will they last another "date season"?

Did the dancing expert from Cairo find Kantara to his liking, and did he shoot any pie-hards?

T. F. S.

Palestine News.

We regret we have not yet received news from outstations. One of the most interesting incidents this month is that at last our Peerless is functioning, although she is not quite ready to supply the camp with "juice."

It was quite good to find our Egypt Section football team up here to give some of the fresh teams a shaking up. Although they beat us easily we quite enjoyed the game. The team had a good run of matches, and put up a fine exhibition by playing five, winning 3 and drawing 2. In two of these matches they had to walk three miles to the ground, but they played just as well in spite of it. They did not do so well in the cards and draughts tournaments, as all prizes were won by this Section.

The smoking concert, which was held the night before their departure, went off very well. Browning being the star turn of the evening with his "Music Hall Impersonations" and "Oh what a day to-day."

The Section were very pleased to read of the marriage of Lieut C. C. Atkinson, late O.C. Section. We wish him and his wife the very best of luck.

We also wish to congratulate Sergt and Mrs. O'Connor on the birth of their son, John Edward, on February 13th, 1922.

We were all pleased to see our new Commanding Officer, Major Worlledge, O.B.E., during his tour of inspection.

The weather is rather disastrous at present, and one would imagine that the Quartermaster will pray for the summer if the masts continue falling down.

Our n.c.o.s have made several raids on the Divl. Signals' Mess when whist drives and dances have been held. It is rumoured that the Signals Mess is now nicknamed "Gluepot."

Football.

Having finished all our league matches we find ourselves midway in the league table. We had been rather unfortunate with injuries towards the closing of the league. We have a six-a-side league in progress, which causes great excitement. Our next big match will be in the knock-out competition for the Ludd Area Cup. We do not expect to go very far in this.

Rugger.

Our O.C., Lieut N. Edes, and Sergt O'Connor are our only Rugger enthusiasts, and both play in the "pack" for the Divisional team.

Hockey.

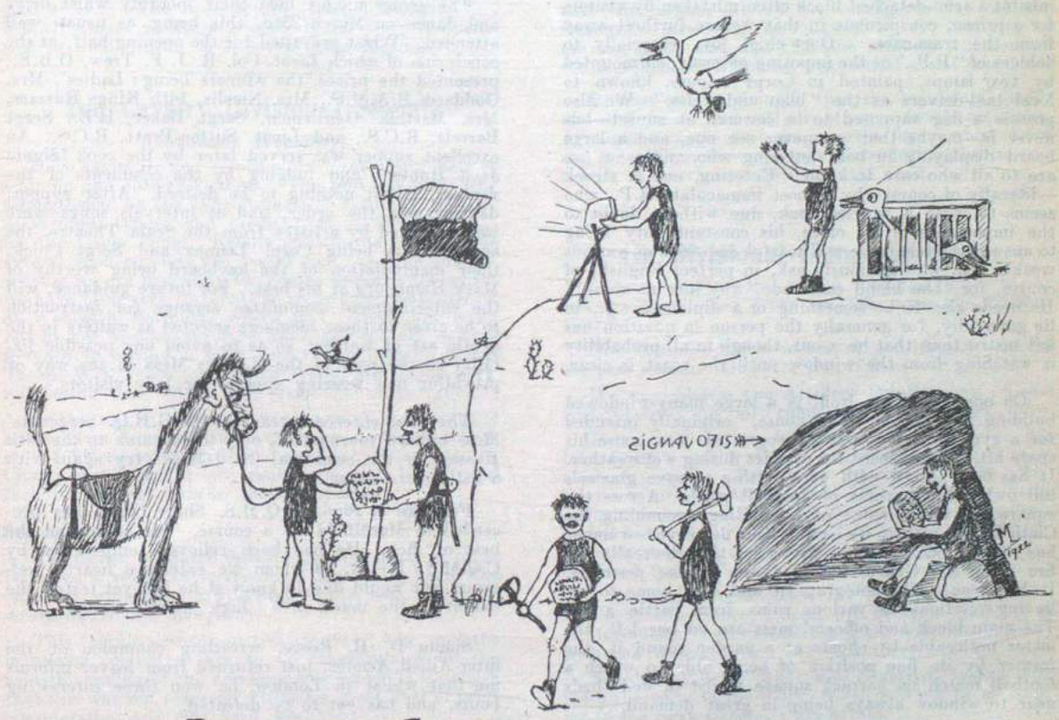
Our funds prevent us from forming a hockey team, but Corpl Terrell and Sigmn Foley play for the Divl. team, and it is to be hoped that before long we shall have a Section team.

Athletics.

There are a few likely runners training for the forthcoming Army athletic meeting, and all are anxious to represent the Corps.

With Signals in Constantinople.

Sports other than boxing have been very quiet here during the last month. We were beaten in the first round of the Armistice cup by the 2nd Essex Regt., who reached the final, so it can be seen that our task was not an easy one; also, three of our best players were away in England on a P.T. course.



PREHISTORIC SIGNALS.

The open boxing took place on the 4th and 5th of April, in which we did exceedingly well. We had four entries, namely, Sergt (Banger) King, Taffy Sheppeard, Sigmn Chambers, and Driver Halligan. Of these we had one winner, one second, and a "good loser's" medal, of which only two were given. Sigmn Sheppeard won the light-weight series easily, beating his man each fight with a knock-out. He is, no doubt, a very clever and plucky little fighter. Sergeant King, who received the "best loser's" prize, got as far as the semi-final middle-weights, and it was the general opinion that he should have received the verdict—the judges were doubtful, as an extra round was asked for. Both Sergt King and his opponent (Sergt Wilding) are ex-champions of India. Sigmn Chambers was unlucky in seemingly being struck rather low in the second round, which seemed to weaken him a good deal. He lost on points after a good hard fight.

Driver Halligan put up a good show against a man almost twice his height, who of course had a great advantage in reach.

One cup and two medals from four entries is a *feather* in our cap, and now we are looking forward to other sports.

Sigmn Saunders, who is reckoned here to be the "Joe Cotterell" of the Black Sea, will no doubt give a good account of himself in the cross country running.

In the near future we are holding a dance in aid of St. Dunstan's Hostel, and hope, for the sake of that deserving institution, that it will be more than a success. A couple of spot dances will be a novelty here, as the Greek and Armenian style of jazzing is infinitely different to our own.

BLAKE.

Rhine Signal Company.

Cologne, April 1st.

A most appropriate day to write these notes—the one that excuses me if I indulge in a little leg-pulling. Spring is here—at least, should be when it ceases snowing—many signs of it being evident by hearing and seeing the numerous birds in the immediate vicinity, feathered and otherwise. The example of "B——x" in last month's issue induces me to write a short description of our residence here. Situated and hidden away behind a most imposing array of barracks, we inhabit a semi-detached block often mistaken by visitors for a prison, conspicuous in that we are furthest away from the tram-cars. Our chief joy, especially to holders of "P.P.," is the imposing gateway, surmounted by two lamps, painted in Corps colours, known to local taxi-drivers as the "blau und weiss." We also possess a flag supposed to be lowered at sunset—but never is—maybe that we never see one, and a large board displaying in bold lettering who and what we are to all who care to know. Entering, one is struck—literally of course—by a most immaculate R.P., who seems to wear a worried look, due without doubt to the importance of his office, his constant duty being to answer the telephone and tearful enquiries of various weaker sex, who anxiously ask, in perfect English, of course, for "the blond camarade, why him no come?" He needs also to be something of a diplomat, *e.g.*, to lie gracefully, for generally the person in question has left instructions that he is out, though in all probability is watching from the window until the coast is clear.

On our immediate front is a large many-windowed building termed the "glass-house," originally intended for a gym until the O.M. appropriated it to house his spare kit, but now used for parades during wet weather. It has been fenced with wire netting to save glazier's bill owing to nearness of football pitch. Across the square are the remains of a building resembling the Cloth Hall, owing to its having been destroyed—rumour has it—by bomb during the war, though really by fire when the Guards occupied our present premises. It has been well photographed and sent home to believing relations as various ruins from battle areas. The main block and officers' mess are on our left, the latter noticeable by efforts at a garden round it, the former by its fine position of being able to watch a football match on barrack square whilst in bed—beds near to window always being in great demand.

The Sergeants' Mess stands aloof from others, being semi-detached with a square to itself, to cross which is a risk, owing to Albion lorries and D.R.s playing hide-and-seek with each other, and stray mules going to drink at the mess—er, the troughs near.

Near here, surrounded by rows of barbed wire and locked gates, is the wireless station, its tall masts of 250 feet dominating the surroundings. During the night of March 14th, a very strong gale caused the band holding the aerial to snap, and the aerial, weighing a ton, fell upon the roof of the operating room, severely putting the wind up the operators and sentry. An emergency one was put into use, and for a period of two days we were the only place in Cologne in touch with the outer world.

There is considerable activity in our vicinity owing to the arrival of new units for Rhine garrison, who patronised our canteen in a most embarrassing way. Some of them, nicknamed the "Koylis," are not so very coy in the beer-shifting line, astonishing even our own ever-thirsty members who fancy themselves no end at the same game. They have brought their bands with them, and well we know it—their cornet and trombone practice sets one's teeth on edge.

Sport at present is absolutely dead, owing to ending up of football league, in which we finished second; also to the vile weather conditions. A knock-out cup competition is now going to start, in which we should make a decent show.

The senior n.c.o.s held their monthly whist drive and dance on March 23rd, this being, as usual, well attended. Whist prevailed for the opening half, at the conclusion of which Lieut.-Col. R. J. F. Trew, O.B.E., presented the prizes, the winners being: Ladies', Mrs. Goddard, R.A.M.C., Mrs. Nicolls, 14th Kings Hussars, Mrs. Martell. Gentlemen, Sergt Baker, R.E., Sergt Barrett, R.C.S., and Lieut. Sutton-Pratt, R.C.S. An excellent supper was served later by the cook (Sigmn Jock Hunter), and judging by the comments of the visitors, it left nothing to be desired. After supper, dancing was the order, and at intervals songs were well rendered by artistes from the Scala Theatre, the accompanists being Corpl Lennox and Sergt Chick, their manipulation of the keyboard being worthy of Mark Hambourg at his best. For future guidance, will the entertainment committee arrange for instruction to be given to those members selected as waiters in the gentle art of waiting, so as to avoid any possible liability on the part of the N.C.O.s Mess in the way of providing new wearing apparel for lady visitors.

The mess entered a team in the G.H.Q. Sergeants' Mess billiard tournament, only to succumb to the 14th Hussars in the semi-final (hard lines! try again with a little more water).

Foreman of Signals, Q.M.S. Share (Stan) has proceeded to Maresfield on a course. We wish him the best of luck. He has been relieved temporarily by C.Q.M.S. Piercy, to whom we extend a hearty welcome, but would like to know if he has yet tested the height of the masts in a "high speed" wind?

Sigmn D. H. Reece, wrestling champion of the inter-Allied Armies, just returned from leave, informs me that whilst in London, he won three interesting bouts, and has yet to be defeated.

We offer our congratulations to Sergt and Mrs. Barrett on the daughter born to them on April 2nd.

———

Things noticed and punned during the month:—

Who had the soap "Eve-r," and was he not too "Andy" in his close "Shaves"? and whether the lot spilt really "Pierc(y)ed" the blouse?

Why go to Wiesbaden for mud baths when we get them in the Company?

The name of the individual who is copying Harry Tate in his motoring sketch and has miraculously built up a "posh" Vauxhall from a few biscuit tins? And whether he has yet been asked "Will it go, papa?"

P. B.

Signals Association Notes.

The Westminster Branch of this Association held another successful dance at Headquarters on Saturday, April 8th. The hall, very kindly lent by the Adjutant 3rd (London) Corps Signal Companies (T.A.), was well filled, and a very jolly evening was spent.

The Band, under the direction of Sergt W. Senior, rendered suitable music, which was cordially appreciated, and Corpl O. W. Coles favoured us with a couple of songs during the interval which were highly appreciated by all.

Mr. Whibble again so kindly and untiringly officiated as M.C. The Hon. Sec. (C. Bendel, 24, Iliffe St., S.E.17) wishes to thank everybody for their co-operation in what proved to be a real jolly evening.

2nd Cavalry Divisional Signals

(Middlesex Yeomanry).

Once again we can record a very successful tour of training and social functions. The unit has now been strengthened by the appointments of Lieut. D. Sinclair as Wireless Officer, and Lieut. J. E. B. Tinker, M.C., for the Cable Troop. Recent enlistments also include several good wireless and visual men. At the time of writing we are preparing for Easter training, for which we have been very fortunate in securing accommodation at Woolwich Barracks, where R.A. horses are being put at our disposal for four days, and we are looking forward to having a good time. One Brigade Signal Troop, W/T Troop, and Cable Troop, are taking part, numbering four officers and about 100 other ranks.

In the way of sport our cross country runners gave an excellent account of themselves by coming in fourth out of fifteen teams in the recent Divl. Cross Country Championship, and it only required a little bit of good luck to put our team in the first place.

E. H. S.

Regimental Dance.

The month of March finished up—for many of us at least—in a round of merriment, March 31st being the date on which the regimental dance took place at Australia House, Kingsway.

This function was a success in every way, and the managing committee are to be congratulated on the smooth running of the arrangements made. It is certain that this was not obtained without a great deal of prior consideration and real hard work.

Among those present were Capt. Broderick (commanding), Lieut Roberts, M.C., and Lieut Tinker, M.C. The other officers were unfortunately unable to attend, owing to absence from London.

One of the most gratifying features of the occasion was the presence of several of the more antique members of the Sergeants' Mess (this term is not used in a disrespectful sense), many of whom were observed to disport themselves on the dancing floor during the course of the evening. Up to the time of writing, no complaints have been received from their dancing partners, neither have any claims been received in respect of damaged shoes or crushed toes. When it is realised that Australia House has no "licence," it will perhaps be better understood what the quality of the entertainment must have been to have tempted these gentlemen. It is even stated that a senior member of the Sergeants' Mess was rescued from a local hostelry and dragged in to join the revelry, he being, like Robin Oakapple in "Ruddigore," "diffident, modest, and shy."

The occasion must not be allowed to pass without making mention of the appearance, I think for the first time in public since the war, of the blue dress uniform of the Middlesex Yeomanry, several members of the regiment taking advantage of the concession recently granted by the Commanding Officer of wearing this uniform at regimental social functions.

After something approaching eight years, during which time the evening dress usually adopted was either the conventional black civilian dress clothes or the drab service khaki, it was a pleasing sight to see a return to something approaching pre-war gaiety in the matter of masculine military attire, and it is to be hoped that the custom set by the courageous few at the regimental dance will be followed by the majority of the regiment, and that the blue uniform will become the accepted dress for all regimental social functions.

It must not be thought that the regimental dance was the be-all and end-all of our social activities. Arrangements are now in progress for a whist drive and a squadron dance to take place during the current month, of which more will be said anon.

A. M.

4th Divisional Signal Company.

I open our notes this month with the return of our Officer Commanding from his trip upon the "Continong."

Our numbers have increased considerably during the past month. However was it done?

We now possess two Artillery Sub-Sections. These Sections are going into camp with the Gunners.

Dancing is now in full swing. A dance club has been formed with a view to assisting those who are in need of practice. Practically the whole of the Company are members of the club. We are not yet lucky enough to have an orchestra of our own, so we have to fall back on our civilian friends to pull us through. A small charge is made at each dance—members being admitted free. This covers the usual costs, etc.

"Marie" has terminated her engagement with us. Her next appearance, I hear, will be with the S. of S. at Maresfield. I am wondering if she will remain nippy with the Winox during her stay there.

Smudger and Co. have also departed, taking with them the name of the game, which will not be so popular in the next station, I am afraid.

We are still slogging away at football. The Colchester Thursday League now requires a lot of attention. Through bad luck we had to lose four points in the above league, but that will make little difference in the final reckoning, I think.

On Thursday, April 6th, we took Braintree by storm, beating them by 10 goals to 1. This match gave us four points, which we very thankfully received.

A sergeant was recently posted to us to do duty as n.c.o. i/c messing. The following has since been overheard (I cannot vouch for the truth):—

Sergeant (to Mess Orderly): "Look here, young man, next time you have 'Spotted Dick' for 'afters,' you just return the cloths."

Mess Orderly: "Lummy, sergeant! Was there cloths on them?"

Before I close my notes I must have another rub at the Exchange.

A certain soldier (not known) was trying to get through the Exchange to "Ealing." After several attempts (we all know what it is) to make the operator understand what he wanted, he suddenly burst forth as follows:—

"Look 'ere; E for 'Erbert; A wot osses eat; L where yer goes to; I wot yer sees wiv; N wot lays eggs; and G for Go'Blimey."

R. C. B.

56th (1st London) Divisional Signals.

The fancy dress dance held on St. Patrick's night was an immense success; the band referred to in my last notes excelled themselves, and so did R.S.M. Lasham—in full ball-room hunting kit. He was justly voted first prize winner, and is to be congratulated on the fine spirit that refused its acceptance by a member of the unit. If only the writer hadn't swallowed a streamer perhaps he would have taken it, but the accident mentioned caused him to go and have "one" at the vital moment.

The dance on March 25th was also well attended, and members of other units, and especially any Maresfield members who happen to be in London, will be sure of a hearty welcome and a good time at any of the unit functions.

Sport has quietened down at present, and things are rather tame in that line; in fact, to quote our old friend the "Situation Report," things are quiet on the Western Front (W.C.1).

The week-end musketry camp at Purfleet was quite an excellent one—the feeding and quartering arrangements have certainly improved, and the service is really excellent, in that one only says the time that meals are required, and they are provided punctually.

The shooting itself was really good, although we could do with a proportion of bayonets so that everyone could be certain of making a hole in the target.

Incidentally, it would be interesting to know who fired the shot that caused all the discs to be shown at once.

THE ROBBER.

55th (West Lancs.) Divl. Signals, T.A.

To the regular readers of THE WIRE, this is doubtless the first intimation they will have received that the above unit has been re-formed. True, in your issue for November, 1921, under "Notes on the History of Signals," there is the brief comment against 55th Territorials "existing:" but although the West Lancs. Signals have not hitherto made their appearance in the columns of your valued paper, training has been proceeding apace at Prescot (the headquarters of the unit) and at Horwich, where No. 2 Company is situated, since the beginning of the year.

The task of re-forming the W.L. Signals was entrusted to Major J. Tennant, D.S.O., a local and popular officer who saw considerable service in the late war. It is mainly due to his enthusiasm that we have made such excellent headway in so short a time. In this work of reorganising the unit he has been ably assisted by his Company Commanders: Capts Aldridge, Bellamy and Buchan. It is with regret we hear that, owing to pressure of business, Capt. Aldridge has had to tender his resignation, but his unselfish service in the early days will ever be remembered. If rumour be true, he will be succeeded in command of No. 1 Company by Lieut. Edmondson, so his mantle will have fallen on worthy shoulders, for the Lieutenant's keenness is proverbial.

The unit is chiefly recruited from the local cable-making and engineering firm (British Insulated and Helsby Cables, Ltd.) at Prescot, and from the Lancs. and Yorks Railway at Horwich. No. 2 Company, at the latter station, is now complete to establishment, but whereas the men who have joined this Company are practically all tradesmen, the Prescot Companies have not obtained as many technical men as they had hoped for originally, though recruiting is still proceeding satisfactorily; and we have no doubt that before the unit goes to camp in July we will have attracted many who are still hesitating.

In passing, we must not forget Capt. J. R. Bean, M.M., our first Adjutant. All ranks appreciate his good work in the past, and send him best wishes for the future.

The ambition of our present worthy Adjutant, Capt R. R. A. Darling, of the Inniskilling Fusiliers, who succeeded Capt. Bean at the beginning of March, is to make the West Lancs. Signals (to use his own words) "not only the best in the T.A. units, but in the whole of the British army." It may sound a tall order, but we believe that, given time, he will accomplish great things, for contrary to popular opinion, an Irishman does know what he wants, and generally gets it.

Of the Permanent Staff: for R.S.M. Cook, late of the R.E.s, time is passing much too quickly. He is not at all anxious to draw the pension to which he will be entitled in August, and whilst not actually wishing for another war, is very annoyed with the W.O. for disbanding so many units recently without first consulting him.

Sergt. Evans (old Ben) sends his kind regards to all old friends at Maresfield. This gallant n.c.o. has become something of an institution here, his cheery countenance (very contagious) acting like a tonic. Not to mention his "Why, what's the matter?" when in curious vein. His motto is certainly "Always merry and bright."

To Sergt James, who has just joined us from the S.T.C., we extend a hearty welcome, and trust he will make himself thoroughly at home with No. 2 Company at Horwich.

W.O's and Sergeants' Mess.

Unfortunately we have not yet been able to acquire a place suitable for a Mess, but the following officers have been appointed, and we hope to be able to report some progress by the June number:—

Treasurer, C.Q.M.S. R. E. Penketh; Secretary, Sgt E. McCarthy; Sports Committee, Sergts J. Roughley, M. Jackson, H. Dean, and P. Hornby.

C.Q.M.S. Hallworth is attending to Mess affairs at Horwich, and the w.o.s and n.c.o.s there are every bit as determined as those at Prescot that they must be independent of everybody when at camp (for everybody interpret A.C.B.s, etc.)

Lectures.

Two useful lectures, given every Monday night, are very well attended and appreciated. Wireless operators are taken by C.S.M. Hearne of the Western Corps Signals, and the n.c.o.s by the R.S.M.

The officers of the unit are keenly anticipating a course of lectures by the Adjutant which he hopes to commence in the near future.

Socials.

A very enjoyable evening was spent on Wednesday the 29th March, when a hot-pot and smoking concert took place in the Works Canteen. The band, under the able conductorship of Bandmaster W. Boots, was the outstanding feature, and we had some talented artistes from Liverpool, including two humorists who kept the house rocking the greater part of the evening. Special thanks are due to Capt. Aldridge, who did all in his power to make the function a success, and to C.Q.M.S. Edwards and the n.c.o.s who assisted him.

Capt. Buchan and the officers of Horwich (No. 2) Co. held a dance in the Mechanics Institute on Saturday, April 1st, when a thoroughly enjoyable evening was spent. Reports which reached Prescot shortly afterwards of the bevy of beauty which attended, give just reason to suspect that Nos. 1 and 3 Companies will avail themselves of the first similar opportunity to descend upon Horwich.

A whist drive and dance, organised by the w.o.s and sergeants, took place at the Drill Hall, Prescot, on April 10th. Sergt Capper, with his string band, knows the public taste well, the selections from popular musical comedies being especially appreciated. It is hoped to hold another dance before the close of the season.

Yes, Mr. Editor, things are moving with West Lancs. Signals.

Having taken up so much of your valuable space, I must postpone further remarks for the June issue.

E. M. C.

42nd Divisional Signals.

The time has now arrived when we must introduce ourselves through the columns of THE WIRE to the remainder of our comrades in the Corps.

Now that we are an individual unit it is up to all of us to make the Corps worthy of the mythological deity "Mercury"—the embodiment of the speedy delivery of messages. Let us pride ourselves on our independence, and be prepared to improve our status.

In this unit we have now, however, the facilities we need. At present we are sharing quarters with the Engineers, and consequently we are very handicapped by the want of space, which no doubt has a detrimental effect on recruiting. Nevertheless, there is a continual flow of men coming forward now, including P.O. men and a considerable number of the old members. All of us are looking forward to the time when we shall have quarters of our own—and if rumour is not a lying jade, that will be soon. I trust we shall then increase our strength and arrange more social activities and sports.

Each section is now rapidly attaining the required efficiency. On March 25th and 26th an Inter-Communication Exercise was organised, in which the W/T, Visual and Cable Sections took part. The week-end was a great success, and I think if one or two more similar stunts could be arranged before the annual training, it would have a great effect on the work at camp. Unfortunately the scheme was not without its misfortune. Signalmen Johnson and Myers were hurt, but I am glad to say they are now both on parade again.

Wireless Section—Lieut. Samuels.

The D.L.O.Y. have kindly loaned to us the use of one of their rooms at Lancaster House. This is a great advantage, inasmuch as we can communicate with our headquarters at Seymour Grove, and gain a considerable amount of practical experience, in addition to the outside stations such as Liverpool, which we try on Wednesday evenings between 21.00 and 21.30 hours. Lieut. Samuels is at present on a course at Maresfield. No doubt the Section will also benefit by the course when Lieut. Samuels, on his return, will acquaint us of interesting facts and tit-bits which he will undoubtedly pick up.

Cable Section—Lieut. S. Yates.

This Section of late has had a considerable amount of practical training, and the attendance has been exceptionally good. I daresay, if it continues to keep up to this standard, mounted sports will be arranged, as in the days of old. This Section was well represented at the annual sports last year, which were held while at camp, but it is a question whether they will be as successful this year, as there are a few likely boys in the Visualites who will be game.

Visual Section—2/Lieut. A. L. Howarth.

The number of this Section has greatly increased, and it is hoped that it will continue to do so. Now that the days are lengthening out, advantage will be taken of outdoor exercise which will, of course, bring better results.

Lt. Grundy, late O.C. this Section, has resigned his commission, and has been awarded the honorary rank of Captain.

Riding School.

Attendance at the school is all that could be desired, and each man is taking not only a keen interest in the course, but is treating it as one of the few pleasures in life, under the auspices of an instructor second to none.

Next month I hope to give further details regarding the personnel of the Company.

Before concluding, just a word to our own men. Now that we have taken our place in the columns of this magazine, it is up to each one of us to support it by ordering a copy each month. The more support, the mroe interesting it will be.

TONY.

43rd (The Wessex) Divisional Signals.

Exeter.

The "Officers' Week" has come and gone, and was voted to be a very successful affair. Ten were able to undertake the course of instruction, which was a most practical and interesting one, embracing visual and wireless, harnessing, cable wagon work, instruments, and traffic work, with a "battle" thrown in at the finish. This latter was a great stunt, and the rival syndicates worked away in deadly earnest to draw up their plans to give the necessary signal communications for a Division in action. At the end of the time allotted, orders, diagrams, etc., had to be placed before the C.O. for dissection. Of course, he didn't agree with *all* we proposed to do, but he had a charming way in revealing our weaknesses to us, and we thoroughly enjoyed the "pow-wow."

Cable work always had its funny little side, especially in the hammer and jumper line. The uninitiated do not find it quite so easy as it looks to circumrotate the weapon commonly known as the hammer, telegraph, sledge, and to accurately direct its position to the head of its partner, the common, or garden jumper. However, grit and determination is bound to triumph, and success came to those who so bravely tried to succeed.

On one occasion we heard a little discussion concerning the necessity on the part of a striker to generate a short sharp sort of a grunt each time the hammer meets the jumper head. Our O.C. Wireless tells us it is done by "smithy-men" in the Royal Navy, but is it the custom at S.S.T.C.?

The cable scheme was also productive of one or two humorous incidents. Once a lightning ladder-man, in his anxiety to accelerate matters, left his tree-climbing partner astride a branch sans ladder! The adroitness of No. 6 in reeling up was much admired—perhaps he had had some private tuition somewhere!

It is with the sincerest regret we announce the death of C.Q.M.S. H. L. Taylor, of our No. 3 Co. He passed away suddenly after finishing a little job at the Topsham Drill Hall. The funeral, which was a military one, took place on Sunday, April 9th, at Topsham. It was a most impressive scene, and a remarkable indication of the esteem in which our colleague was held. For over twenty years he laboured on behalf of the Volunteer and Territorial Forces, and was most keen and enthusiastic in all his work. Topsham Section has lost a good friend.

OLD SPARK

46th (North Midland) Divisional Signals.

Derby.

We wound up our winter programme with a concert in the Institute. This is as it is described in the local Press:—

A very pleasant evening was spent on Thursday by the members of the Signals Club at a smoking concert arranged by the Entertainment Committee of this unit.

The concert, which winds up the winter season and marks the opening of the summer outdoor programme, both for recreation and training, was attended by a good muster of all ranks.

The chair was taken at 7.30 p.m. by Major C. F. Ball, O.C. No. 1 Company, supported by R.S.M. J. Hayburn. A suggestion made by Sgt.-Major Hayburn that a collection should be taken for the kiddies (Derbyshire Children's Hospital) was received enthusiastically by the boys, and the O.C. kindly announced his intention of doubling the amount collected. The sum of ten shillings was soon gathered by our genial S.M., so that the concert was a greater success by virtue of being of some slight benefit to the kiddies who are unable to enjoy Easter in their own homes.

During the interval the C.Q.M.S "came into his own" (to use the O.C.'s expression) and issued the "rations" which were provided by the club funds, and were well received by all.

An excellent programme was rendered by the following artistes: Major C. F. Ball, R.C. of S. (T.), C.S.M. T. Jones, R.C. of S.; C.Q.M.S. G. Barlow, R.C. of S. (T.), Sergt Betts, R.C. of S. (T.), Corpl R. A. Thomas, R.C. of S. (T.), Corpl H. S. Harfield, R.C. of S. (T.), and last, but by no means least, Mr. W. Mullinger, who is always sure of a welcome from the Signals.

The company were much entertained by humorous ditties from the O.C. and C.S.M.; C.Q.M.S. Barlow was right there again with his old concertina; and Sergt Betts was right on top of his war-time form, being recalled several times. Corpl Thomas and Corpl Harfield contributed songs, and the evening went with a swing, in the spirit of comradeship and amity fostered by the popular Major.

A vote of thanks to the artistes was proposed, after a dissertation on the value of comradeship by S.M. Hayburn, who spoke with the weight of twenty-four years' experience behind him.

"The King" brought to a close a most enjoyable and useful evening in the life of the "keenest Territorial unit in this town."

MEREBIMUR.

49th (West Riding) Divl. Signals, Leeds.

All officers and members of this unit congratulate Major D. Hey, M.C., T.D., on his promotion to D.C.S.O. (T.A.) Northern Command. No doubt the accumulators will say good-bye to this unit now, not to mention the valves.

Musketry.

The annual tests are now being held at Strensall—six officers and 150 other ranks being present. Excellent results have been obtained up to the present.

The Companies compete for the cup on Monday afternoon, and results will be published in the next issue.

After the holidays we commence our summer training, kicking off something like this (I would like the programme to be put in with these notes, but owing to the size of it, I am afraid I should want about three pages of THE WIRE):—"Wireless Sections, Care of Primary Batteries and Secondary Batteries," this lecture is being given by Sparky Jock; "Linemen and Visual Operators" (methods of producing electricity), these lectures are taken by 'Erb, of the P.S.; "Line Operators" are taken on dummy key by Owd 'Arry; "Drivers, Care of Harness and Parts, and how it fits," these lectures are given by——. These lectures will last up to camp, which is being held again at Scarborough.

Running.

We ran third in the Divisional championship this year, Sigmn Mason, of this unit, again being first man home. He ran the four-and-a-half miles in 26 min. 5 secs., this being very good time over a gruelling course. All members of this unit wish to congratulate Sigmn Cotterell on his splendid performance in the International championship.

Billiards.

We are keeping a very good position in the billiard league, and now that "Fruity" is once more back with us, we are looking forward to putting up even better performances.

Boxing.

We had very hard luck in the Divl. championships held at Carlton Barracks, Leeds, last month. Two of our best men went into training too strong and lost too much weight, the result being that when they came to weigh in they were too light and were not allowed to fight. Sigmn A. Jones was beaten on points in the final, but he gave an excellent show.

TYKE.

51st (Highland) Divisional Signals, T.A.

Headquarters and No. 1 Company.

Fonthill Barracks, Aberdeen.

These notes are forwarded with a hope that those of the Corps who may have heard of us in the days gone by will not receive too rude a shock in being reminded of our existence. The risk must, however, be taken, as to be out of THE WIRE is worse than being out in the cold.

So far as this unit is concerned, another tie has recently been broken, in that we have severed our connection with the R.E.s by moving to the above address from the R.E. Headquarters, Hardgate. The change is for the better as regards convenience, as we feel the need for expansion, and now have more accommodation and opportunity for training and use of our technical equipment.

By the time these notes are printed, general training will be in full swing, and as we are recruited practically up to establishment, there should be a good attendance at drills. The lectures and drills, etc., which our young officers and n.c.o.s have been undergoing during the past ten weeks should, without doubt, be the means of bringing the unit to a very efficient standard by the time we depart for annual camp, which this year is to be at Montrose.

Sergt G. Adams is to be congratulated on having, by continual hard work and determination, combined with his professional knowledge of music, brought the band to its present state of perfection. In this work he has had the support of our officers, who have always willingly contributed in more than one way towards the success of which the band is now assured. It has just secured an engagement by the Town Council for a series of performances in the public parks. One thing leads to another, and we hope to see them in great demand as they become better known. Judging by the complimentary remarks made to them the other evening by Capt. J. Hamilton Leigh, they should do very well.

Our football team has been going strong through the season, and on Saturday, April 8th, met the R.A.M.C. at the T.A. grounds to play off their drawn tie in the first round for the "Gazette Trophy."

The first twenty minutes of the game shewed a hot struggle between the two teams, both being on top-rate form. Subsequently the Signals came more into view, as their forward line was playing excellently and combining well, Strachan, the centre, leading his line and shewing his abilities in great style. At half time the score was: Signals 2; Medicals 0.

In the second half Signals kept up their form, and the score at the conclusion of the game was: Signals 5; Medicals 0.

On Saturday, April 22nd, we meet A Company, 4th Gordon Highlanders, in the second round.

We look forward to seeing our team finishing in this competition in as good a style as they entered it, and bringing the cup home to Fonthill.

S. H. M.

No. 2 Company.

Our annual smoking concert was held in the Museum Hall, Bridge of Allan, on February 23rd, and turned out (like our annual dance) a great success.

Capt. E. G. McHutchon, O.B.E., O.C., was in the chair, ably supported by the Provost, Mr. Innes, Capt. J. C. Muirhead, secretary T.A. Association, Stirling, Rev. D. R. Henderson, Major F. J. Pullar, Mr. Alex Morrison, Town Clerk, Bridge of Allan, Mr. Smith, postmaster, Stirling, and Lieut R. Turnbull.

About ninety members and friends were present, and after partaking of a very nice supper, the programme of music and singing—hardly to be equalled in a music hall—was carried out, intermixed with some very able speeches from the chairman and gentlemen supporting him. It would have pleased the founders of the Royal Corps of Signals to have listened to the glowing tributes paid to the Corps for the work that had been done, and the steps that were being taken to advance this very useful and interesting branch of the Service. A good many hopes were expressed that when the "axe" fell it would miss this branch of the Service, at any rate in so far as it affected Stirlingshire. After the programme had been got through, the usual votes of thanks were passed, "The King" sung, and everyone went his way very well satisfied.

Since the smoker we have enlisted between fifteen to twenty recruits, so our labours were not in vain. Unhappily we were unable to have our friends of Headquarters and No. 1 Company from Aberdeen with us (not forgetting their "golden kippers" and "one ginger beer between three, please") owing to their moving into new headquarters during that period.

Training is now in full swing, and given some fine weather, will prove very interesting to those of the Company who intend being present on all occasions.

ANDY.

52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals.

1st (Scottish) Corps Signals.

Running.

The International Cross Country Championship was held at Hampden Park, Glasgow, on April 1st. Guillemont (French) was first, and Sigmn Cotterell from Maresfield, second. The form of the latter excited general admiration, and it was perhaps fortunate for him that we did not manage to haul him back to Headquarters after his great exhibition.

The Divisional Cross Country Championship took place at Rouken Glen, Glasgow, on March 25th, at which there was a satisfactory number of entrants. In the team championship, Divl. Signals were second, which was considered by all to be particularly gratifying in view of the intermittent nature of their training. Sigmn Adams, of the Divl. Signals, was third in the individual championship.

We foresee a not very distant day when we shall have quite a number of budding Cotterells.

Football.

The R.C.S. team are competing in the Glasgow Territorial Football League, and are doing extremely well. They are at present putting out top form, and hope to secure signal honours. They have played 25 matches, won 17, lost 7, drawn 1; goals for 76, against 35; points 35. They are now fourth in the league. The team have held together and, seeing it is their first year, are doing extremely well.

LOW COR.

Ulster Divisional Signals.

Headquarters,
Newtownards, Ireland.

Football.

Owing to the present "here to-day" and "gone to-morrow" conditions prevailing throughout the whole Company, *i.e.*, the four Sectional and the H.Q. Companies, we have much difficulty in getting our best talent together to enable us to turn out a really workable eleven.

The two recent visits from the Somersets, of Holywood fame, resulted in two severe defeats. However, with the help of the I.F.S. Army, and the Ulster Specials (not to mention the activities of the extremists in Belfast City) we may remain close relations to regain our laurels next season.

Cricket.

With the persistence of the approaching summer weather (except early mornings) we are impressed with the necessity of the gathering together of the "swinging willow" experts to discover a site clear of obtrusive office windows, and the means to raise enthusiasm to "rolling pitch."

Tennis.

Everyone, of course, is busy shaking out his slacks (or someone's else), many vigorously searching the daily adverts. scheming to drive a harder bargain than any of the sex nature endows with the ability as a birthright, many even approaching the financial department with yarns of belated credits.

With several established clubs in Newtownards, and others so near as Bangor, Comber, and Grey Abbey, many enjoyable tournaments may be arranged. Many of the budding "Tildens" of the Company have already matched with equally budding "Lenglens" for net-tearing encounters.

Entertainment.

The dance given by the Company on the 10th of March turned out the success everyone wished, and many worked for, thanks to the free services of Mr. Dunne at the piano, the violinist, and the untiring zeal of the floor committee, the decorators, and the caterers.

The balance of the proceeds swelled the coffers of the sports fund by £1 13s. 4d. A goodly collection also resulted for the benevolent fund from the patrons of the coffee bar.

It is hoped to continue the dances bi-monthly whilst the season lasts with the kind permission of Major-Gen. A. R. Cameron, C.B., C.M.G., G.O.C. Ulster District.

Good luck from all the proud upholders of Mercury in the Ulster District to our Corps star, Sigmn Cotterell. May he never fear a Pa(y)ne in front.

We note with not a few regrets the exodus from Crowborough—the home-from-home we learnt to love so well, and where once more we hope to "meat" and "Ruffell."

Things We Want to Know.

The correct vocabulary designation applicable to the features of the objectives occasioned by the tactful enquiries *re* re-engagement, as put forth by "Docs" to the unfortunates who have only a few weeks of the "easy life" left to them?

Docs' personal feeling when approaching the objective?

C. G. V. W.

Dear Sir,—

Assuming you are not averse to accepting (always providing space will permit) contributions towards the columns of your monthly journal, THE WIRE, I shall endeavour to entertain, and if possible amuse, your readers by relating one of my experiences during the somewhat brief period I have been employed in the capacity of "Documents Clerk."

Before I proceed further, I should like to state that my duties are not *exclusively* devoted to those articles from which the appointment derives its name. In fact, I have to perform so many others in addition, that I am quite convinced that the name is not only inappropriate, but inadequate, since it does not embrace the whole field of my duties.

I consider it rather pleasant work to carry out the discharges of men who have completed their engagements, or of those who are to be discharged in consequence of some disability contracted as a direct result of service in the field, or otherwise.

Their smiles are simply infectious as they enter the office in anticipation of their proceeding on furlough pending discharge.

Of course, as a preliminary measure, it is my duty to ascertain if any of these "civilian-aspirants" are desirous of extending their service, and I can assure you if their replies are not couched in precisely the same terms or language, then they all, almost invariably, wish to convey the same in substance—decidedly in the negative.

Wandering idly into the dry canteen the other morning with the object of indulging myself with the usual cup of tea and a "wad," I observed sitting at a table by themselves three n.c.o.s who, I knew, were shortly due to depart for the customary 28 days' leave pending discharge.

After disposing of my refreshment, although these men were new arrivals, I took the liberty of sitting myself down on the one vacant chair at their table, and as I did so I propounded the following question: "Excuse me, gentlemen, but are any of you chaps, by any chance, desirous of extending your service?"

The silence that followed could almost be felt.

I was regarded in much the same way as a person might regard a freak who had intruded itself into the domicile by way of the ceiling. At least, I imagined so, judging by the enigmatic looks, mingled with consternation, which "greeted" my question.

Not until I had revealed my identity (as "Docs") did they, or rather one of them, vouchsafe a reply.

"My answer is 'NO,' in block letters, emphatically 'NO.'"

The others replied in a similar strain, and when I found myself, some short time later, outside the canteen, I felt somewhat relieved that I had, at any rate, performed my duty, however unsavoury, in accordance with the requirements of my superior officer.

Alas, I had only walked a few strides when, suddenly turning my head, I observed another "dole-ful" case, who was just returning from a visit to the M.O.

I there and then seized the opportunity of plying him with the same question regarding extension of service, since I knew he was contemplating—with glee—his prospective entry into civilian life.

He, unlike his colleagues aforementioned, did not hesitate, but immediately "bowled me out" by *answering* with the question: "What incentive have you to offer?"

Words failed me.

Mr. Editor, if any of your readers are engaged in the recruiting business, then I do not envy them their lot, especially if it embraces "extensions."

DOCUMENTS.

Londonderry Detachment Notes.

We have not much to relate this, the first month at Derry, but wish to inform all the old Ulsterites that we are still alive and kicking.

Since the departure of the original No. 3 Section personnel, sport has been very slow with us, but as soon as we have sorted ourselves out I hope to have a few items of interest to tell you all.

We understand that things have been moving pretty "Swifty" at Headquarters just lately—dances, football, etc.—but, of course, numbers tell, and we have only 19 R.C.S. men here in Londonderry. But one never knows, and you might be hearing of our exploits in a certain direction very soon, but "mums" the word.

Having exhausted all my ready literary flow, I will close, hoping all "old sparks" are keeping fit in Newtownards.

C. H. T.

53rd (Welch) Divisional Signals, T.A.

We apologise to our readers for the non-appearance of our notes for last month, caused chiefly through our compositors staff being so busily engaged in assisting our songsters in the national Eisteddfod, and also to one of our P.S. cultivating a severe attack of N.Y.D. However, we do not intend to allow our temporary lapse to obstruct this month's effort.

We are very pleased to welcome Sergt.-Instructor P. Hunt to this station, and undoubtedly after he has been introduced to the mysteries of the "Brothers Dai, Lossin and Small Coal," he will feel as perfectly at home in his new surroundings as his pre-arrivals.

Now to business. With the assistance of the lighter and finer evenings (thanks to the Daylight Saving Bill) we are now able to get down to strict training, and our many classes are making great headway.

Riding drill now stands an easy favourite, and the results are hoped to put even Steve Donoghue in the shade; in fact, after a visit to the cinema, many are asking for a local Belchers Brook.

Our buzzer, visual and wireless classes are progressing favourably, and our aim, *i.e.*, "efficiency," is anticipated to be second to none by the time our annual training arrives.

Musketry is also in full swing, and in the words of Paddy, if the target does not always prove to be the centre of gravitation, it has a decidedly uneasy time during the practices.

P.T. is one of our many sidelines, and is very ably administered by our fully-fledged P.T.I., Corpl W. C. Davies.

Sport proceeds apace, and we take this opportunity to congratulate C.S.M. J. Hartree on winning the cup for the best individual shot in the Cardiff and District Rifle League.

A. W. H.

SPORTS NEWS.

Cross Country Running.

The cross country running season was brought to a successful conclusion by the holding of the championship of the Corps of Signals, combined with the S.T.C. Inter-Unit Championship, at Maresfield on April 7th, 144 runners, representing 9 teams, competing over a 6 mile course. The day was unfortunately bad, and the going very heavy, but in spite of this 128 completed the course, and four teams completed their full quota.

The Individual Championship was easily retained by the International runner, Sigmn Cotterell, L/Cpl Cayley running a very good race for second place. The team championship was easily retained by E Company, whose team packed extremely well, and thoroughly deserved their win.

FULL RESULTS.

Individual.—1, Sigmn Cotterell, D Co. 33 min. 44 sec.; 2, L/Cpl Cayley (E), 35 min. 33 sec.; 3, L/Sergt. Noonan (C), 36 min. 15 sec.; 4, Sigmn Bundy (D), 36 min. 19 sec.; 5, Sigmn Miles (X), 36 min. 33 sec.; 6, Sigmn Buton (X), 37 min. 12 sec.; 7, L/Corpl Dowie (X), 37 min. 16 sec.; 8, Sigmn Richardson (E), 37 min. 29 sec.; 9, Sigmn Cant (B), 37 min. 34 sec.; 10, L/Sergt Gaffney (X), 37 min. 37 sec.

Team.—1, E Company, 292 points; 2, X Co. 429 pts.; 3, C Co. 459 pts.; 4, D Co. 628 pts.; 5, F Co. 676 pts.; 6, S. of S. 786 pts.; 7, A Co. 897 pts.; 8, G Co. 941 pts. B Company did not close in.

At the conclusion of the race Mrs. Godfrey-Faussett very kindly presented the prizes, and the Commandant made a short speech reviewing the results of the season, and referring especially to the splendid performances of Sigmn Cotterell and Lieut. Courtenay-Thompson.

As some of the results have never been published in THE WIRE, it may be a good opportunity of reviewing the season:—

Royal Corps of Signals A.C.

The R.C.S.A.C. has fully justified its first season, and, owing to the untiring efforts of the captain, Sergt Nichol, who has given up his entire spare time to the work, it has already made a name for itself in both civilian and army circles. The result is that the team is assured of a welcome wherever it goes, and as it is the only Army team to compete in civilian events, the Corps is already reaping a reward in the recruiting line. It is hoped that next year many more units will become affiliated, so that the Corps team can be assured of the pick of the runners in the R.C.S.

Sussex Youths' Race—C Co. boys' team, 1st.

Sussex Junior Race—S.T.C. team, 3rd.

South of Thames C.C.C.—R.C.S. team, 2nd.

Southern Counties C.C.C.—R.C.S. team, 12th.

National C.C.C.—R.C.S. team, 18th.

Friendlies—Won 2; lost 1.

Army Events.

The S.T.C. created what must be nearly a record in the Eastern Command C.C.C.: the 1st and 2nd T.B. tieing for first place with 243 points. The School of Signals (strength 80) also entered a team in a most sporting manner, and finished ninth.

In the Army C.C.C. the hopes of the Corps were rather dashed by the surprise win of the 1st Wilts. We were, however, beaten by a better team, and cannot complain, but must wait for our revenge till next year. The 1st T.B. were second, and the 2nd T.B. sixth.

Three members of the teams were picked to represent the Army in the Inter-Services C.C.C., namely, Sigmn Cotterell, Sigmn Cox, and Sigmn Bundy (reserve).

Members of the R.C.S. Team.

Sergt Nichol (captain) S. of S. 1919/20, 1920/21, 1921/22
L/Sergt Gaffney (vice-captain), X Co. 1920/21, 1921/22
Sigmn Cotterell, J Co 1920/21, 1921/22
Lieut. Courtenay-Thompson, B Co. 1920/21, 1921/22
Sergt Bayliss, 2nd Signal Co. 1921/22
Sigmn Cox, B Co. 1920/21, 1921/22
Sigmn Jones, D Co. 1919/20, 1920/21, 1921/22
L/Sergt Noonan, C Co. 1920/21, 1921/22
Sigmn Vincent, D Co. 1921/22
Sigmn Richardson, G Co. 1920/21, 1921/22
Sigmn Wilcox, G Co. 1921/22
Sigmn McDonald, S. of S. 1921/22
L/Corpl Dowie, X Co. 1920/21, 1921/22
L/Corpl Cayley, E Co. 1920/21, 1921/22
Sigmn Cant, B Co. 1921/22
Sigmn H. W. Smith, E Co. 1921/22
Sigmn Bundy, A Co. 1920/21, 1921/22

These notes must not be closed without further reference to the two outstanding lights of the Corps: Sigmn Cotterell and Lieut Courtenay-Thompson. Both of them have brought great honour to the Corps, and we are rightly proud of them, as it is largely due to their prowess that the R.C.S.A.C. has achieved its reputation. The way in which Sigmn Cotterell has come out is little short of miraculous.

In 1919-20 his record was:—
3rd in 3 miles S.T.C. sports.
2nd in 3 miles Eastern Command sports.
4th in 3 miles Army championship.
Cross country, nil.

In 1920/21 we have:—
3 miles Champion of Eastern Command.
3 miles Champion of Army.
Winner of South of Thames C.C.C.
Fourth in Southern Counties C.C.C.
Winner of Eastern Command C.C.C.
Winner of S.T.C. championship
Winner of Oxford, Berks and Bucks C.C.C.
Winner of Sussex Junior C.C.C.

Finally, in 1921/22:—
Winner of R.C.S. C.C.C.
Winner of Eastern Command C.C.C.
Winner of Army C.C.C.
Winner of Inter-Services C.C.C.
Winner of South of Thames C.C.C.
Second in Southern Counties C.C.C.
Seventh in National C.C.C.

Chosen to represent England in the International C.C.C. at Glasgow on April 1st, and came in second to Guillemont (France), beating all other competitors from the British Isles by over a minute.

Lieut. Courtenay-Thompson in the course of his two years at Cambridge University has achieved the following:—
1920/21 Half Blue at cross country.
1921/22 Half Blue at cross country.
1921/22 Half Blue for 3 miles.
1921, second in 1 mile Eastern Command sports.
1921, second in 3 miles Eastern Command sports.
1921, second in 1 mile Army championship.
1922, second in 3 miles Cambridge Univ. sports.
1922, second in 3 miles Inter-University sports.

I am sure all members of the R.C. of S. will join in wishing these two fine runners all future success.

Cricket.

Corps and S.T.C. Fixtures, 1922.

MAY—
Saturday 20th—United Services, Portsmouth, home.
Fri. & Sat. 26th & 27th—*Royal Artillery, home.

JUNE—
Fri. & Sat. 2nd, 3rd—*Royal Army Ord. Corps, away
Fri. & Sat. 9th, 10th—*Royal Engineers, home.
Tuesday 13th—Cox and Co., away.
Saturday 17th—F. H. Gresson's XI., away.
Mon. & Tues. 26th, 27th—*Army Education Corps, home
Fri.30th and Sat. July 1st—*Free Foresters, home.

JULY—
Thurs. & Fri. 6th & 7th—*O.U.A.C.C., home.
Mon. & Tues. 10th & 11th—*M.C.C., home.
Tues. & Wed. 18th & 19th—*Cryptics C.C., home.
Fri. & Sat. 21st & 22nd—*Incognito C.C., home.
Monday 24th—Haywards Heath, away.

AUGUST—
Wednesday 2nd—F. H. Gresson's XI., home.

SEPTEMBER—
Fri. & Sat. 1st & 2nd—Sussex Martlets, home.

Corps Matches are shown thus *

A First Trip to India.

By W. R. C. P.

[*Continued from April Number.*]

Tuesday, Oct. 18th, saw me finally off to Simla, a journey of 915 miles, which took just under 48 hours. The last 60 miles from Kalka to Simla are done on a narrow gauge line up into the Himalayas. The motion is somewhat unpleasant owing to swinging and swaying, but during the summer they run a rail motor which is a small charabanc on bogeys instead of wheels. It is faster and altogether a great improvement on the train. The line climbs steeply some 6000 feet, and in several places you can see two or three tiers of rails below you zig-zagging down the hillside.

I was greeted in Simla by the news that I had just 48 hours to unpack, present myself, and repack for a two months' tour with the Signal Officer in Chief. My bearer, Puran by name, proved up to the occasion, and Saturday evening saw our party, consisting of Col. and Mrs. Earle and myself, going down the hill—rather more unpleasant than coming up—en route for Rawalpindi.

(*Continued on page* 114).



[It is to be distinctly understood that information given under the headings, "Promotions, Births, Marriages, and Deaths," etc., is altogether unofficial, and is on no account to be quoted in official correspondence.]

ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS PROMOTION ROSTER.

LANCE CORPORALS

2306652 Gambrill, S. J. 1/2/21
2307287 Hall, G., 1/2/21
2307216 McGuinn, M., 1/2/21
1856116 Bond, W. S., 1/2/21
2313002 McPhee, D., 1/2/21
2311458 Young, R., 1/2/21
2306464 Batchelor, J., 1/2/21
2307359 Hopcroft, W., 1/2/21
2306276 Frost, H., 1/2/21
2308024 Parkinson, J. W., 1/2/21
2307302 Martin, S. W., 1/2/21
2308034 Evans, J. A., 1/2/21
2306481 Robertson, C. R., 1/2/21
2307993 Betteridge, F., 1/2/21
2307341 Bollard, F., 1/2/21
2306548 Winkle, J., 1/2/21
2307138 Bullen, F., 1/2/21
1854124 Lawrence, W., 1/2/21
2307689 Barltrop, G., 1/2/21
2306140 Bellew, H., 1/2/21
2307795 Cudmore, F., 1/2/21
2306639 Ingram, H., 1/2/21
2306948 McWilliams, H., 1/2/21
2306593 Frost, L. F. G., 1/2/21
2306544 Bendry, F., 1/2/21
2306124 Giles, A. E., 1/2/21
2307879 Grace, C. B., 1/2/21
2306264 Kirby, H., 1/2/21
2306442 Probert, T., 1/2/21
2306455 Gowing, E., 1/2/21
2306474 Battersby, W., 1/2/21
2307773 Pollard, C., 1/2/21
2306738 Harrison, B. T., 1/2/21
2311356 Grainger, A., 1/2/21
2305756 Young, C., 1/2/21
2306715 Smith, C. V., 1/2/21
2308691 Collins, W. G., 1/2/21
2306349 Malinn, J., 1/2/21
2307930 Berry, W. D., 1/2/21
2310194 Filbey, A. C., 1/2/21
2306493 Smith, A., 1/2/21
2305598 Bunney, C., 1/2/21
2306737 Spreadborough, S. J., 1/2/21
2308916 Sanders, R., 1/2/21
2306960 McNeill, W., 1/2/21
2308726 Tolley, C. H. J., 1/2/21
2308123 Howard, C., 1/2/21
2307980 Patrick, C. H., 1/2/21
2307322 Brunning, A. H. T., 1/2/21
2308708 Featherstone, A., 1/2/21
2309489 Rankoom, V. A. F., 1/2/21
2305826 Thompson, G., 1/2/21
2307365 Shipcott, P., 1/2/21
2308114 Dowie, F. J., 1/2/21
2308572 New, H., 1/2/21
2308798 White, F. R., 1/2/21
2305266 Cooper, E. F., 1/2/21
2310354 Mann, C. D., 1/2/21
2310348 O'Neill, A. E., 1/2/21
2310137 Carter, W. G., 1/2/21
2308695 Wilcox, S. A., 1/2/21
2308043 Clarke, P. J., 1/2/21
2306239 Foot, C., 1/2/21
2306440 Dixon, A., 1/2/21
2306486 Stone, G. E., 1/2/21
2306692 Alderton, A. L. A., 1/2/21
2306739 Nicks, W. J. H., 1/2/21
2308836 Salisbury, J. R., 1/2/21
2309685 Tracey, J., 1/2/21
2308849 Watley, H. V., 1/2/21
2310361 Smith, A., 1/2/21
2310042 Dempsey, C., 1/2/21
2310390 Dickie, R. B., 1/2/21
2309551 Woods, L., 1/2/21
2307509 Ward, H. G., 1/2/21
2308334 Watts, W., 1/2/21
2306773 Kightley, A. J., 1/2/21
2306807 Field, C. E., 1/2/21
2308519 Newman, R. B., 1/2/21
2307952 Foxley, H. A., 1/2/21
2308331 Caulfield, J., 1/2/21
2308483 Lee, J. L., 1/2/21
2308260 Linsell, A. R. J., 1/2/21
2305760 Cobb, T. E., 1/2/21
2306847 Sweeney, G., 1/2/21
2311502 Cole, C. V., 1/2/21
2307491 Pennicott, A., 1/2/21
2311556 French, A. E., 1/2/21
2308414 Rendall, W. H., 1/2/21
2308297 Carvill, T. W., 1/2/21
2308161 Shand, S. C., 1/2/21
2306706 Hall, G., 1/2/21

2306767 Renecle, R. S., 1/2/21
2310403 Powell, T., 1/2/21
2311640 Phillips, L., 1/2/21
2308842 Fields, J., 1/2/21
2309952 Burton, R. F., 1/2/21
2308046 Knights, W., 1/2/21
2311422 Buttle, W. H., 1/2/21
2309201 Adams, E., 1/2/21
2313043 Hickson, W. H., 1/2/21
2307490 Symes, F., 1/2/21
2308978 Briddon, G., 1/2/21
1852454 Monk, A. S., 1/2/21
2311817 Wicketts, W. H., 1/2/21
2311821 Burke, W., 1/2/21
2311822 Clark, W. H., 1/2/21
2310320 New, F. H., 1/2/21
2308737 Logan, R., 1/2/21
2307604 Kelly, O., 1/2/21
2308518 Norcross, N., 1/2/21
1850327 Wilcox, E. G., 1/2/21
2308313 Course, P., 1/2/21
2308332 Vine, J., 1/2/21
2309356 Potter, R. R., 1/2/21
2311582 Potts, W. H., 1/2/21
2311583 Lowrie, J. R., 1/2/21
2311587 Hamlin, H. R., 1/2/21
2308542 Limb, F., 1/2/21
2311085 Rankin, G. S., 1/2/21
2307135 Lallam, G. T., 1/2/21
2309256 Bloxham, P., 1/2/21
2307117 Douch, A. E., 1/2/21
2310739 Allan, H. J. T., 1/2/21
2309925 Richards, G. A., 1/2/21
2311575 Baker, W. J., 1/2/21
2310446 Bradbury, E., 1/2/21
2309959 Serls, G. W., 1/2/21
2307320 Briancourt, A. G., 1/2/21
2307185 Hudson, H. J., 1/2/21
2307526 Bawden, A. E., 1/2/21
2309851 Minns, C. B., 1/2/21
2303470 Withers, W. G., 1/2/21
4457300 Davies, R., 7/3/21
5486046 Goodall, W., 7/3/21

Birth.

To the wife of 2309340 Sigmn R. C. Barrett—a son, at Halstead, on 14/4/22

A First Trip to India.

(Continued from page 112).

Travelling in India is a mixture of good and bad. Each compartment—except, of course, coupés—is fitted with four berths and has a couple of arm chairs. The berths are quite comfortable and you can have a good journey so far as sleeping is concerned. Everything is exceedingly dirty, and if the weather is hot and you are passing through a dusty part or desert country, sand and dust cover everything, the carriages become very stuffy, and the more windows you open, the more smuts and dirt you collect. Fans are provided in all trains; you can always get soda water and usually ice. As regards meals, in some cases you can feed quite well in restaurant car or at stations en route. If there is no car on the train, time for meals is allowed at definite places. Personally I prefer providing my own food. It's a nuisance in some ways, but as a rule you have plenty of time to spare on opening tins, etc. You can then eat where and how you like. Railway provided meals are usually hurried, large, of the wrong kind, and when all is said and done, if you are spending a couple of idle days in a train you want rather to reduce your "oats" and not feed to order. I found that to be really comfortable you want a coupé to yourself. You can then take the whole of your luggage in the carriage with you and have plenty of room. As a rule you have to book heavy kit through. Excess luggage is very expensive, and the more you can stow away in your compartment the less you have to pay.

A good bearer is invaluable when travelling. You can leave him to look after all you have got, arrange coolies and transport, argue with the luggage clerk, buy your ticket—in fact you are inclined to get confoundedly lazy yourself!

We changed at Kalka and Lahore and reached Pindi at tea time on Sunday. A Signal lorry and Indian fatigue party gathered our traps and we proceeded to our respective bungalows.

Pindi in itself is not interesting. It is the home of G Divisional Signals, B Corps Signals, comprising a line and a wireless company, a Cavalry Brigade, Signal Troop, a Wireless Workshop Section and a Signal Park, so there are plenty of blue and white arm bands about.

Some fifteen officers live in the combined Signals mess, and I met several amongst them who had been through courses at Maresfield at various times.

The Pindi units were all employed on reorganization and training. Each company now has a definite caste composition, and the work of distributing the Indian troops accordingly involves a good many moves and consequent temporary dislocation. The Signal Officer-in-chief inspected all the sections on parade and at work, and after five days we went on to Peshawar.

I nearly forgot to mention meeting an old friend in Pindi trying to teach Indians to ride—shades of Maresfield and Captain Bray! This was C.S.M. Dixon late of E Company—as large as life, a bit pulled down by a bout of fever, but little changed. I don't know that he is altogether pleased with his voluntary change of scenery or material!

Peshawar is only 100 miles distant from Pindi and we reached it late on Friday, the 28th. We stayed at Government House as guests of Sir John and Lady Maffey, whom I had met whilst stationed at Maresfield, and our 10 days visit proved to be extremely pleasant.

E Divisional Signals are at Peshawar, and are responsible for a certain portion of frontier communications namely, up the Khyber to Landi Khana on the Afghan border, to Malakand, the end of Mason's "Broken Road" (now the Grand Trunk), and back to Nowshera and Rissalpur, infantry and cavalry Brigade stations respectively. The main communication is by permanent line—some field service, some heavier. Wooden poles are things unknown in India. They are too vulnerable to the attacks of white ants and too valuable to the inhabitants as firewood! A jointed tubular metal pole is used of varying weights and strengths. The sealed pattern Field Service airline carries five 40 lb. bronze wires, but practically all over the frontier the gauge has to be much heavier than this. Distances are great, and bronze and copper wire can only be used close to camps or forts where the routes can be watched. Two-hundred pounds of copper makes very nice caps for cartridges and other articles useful to the frontier tribesman—galvanised iron, therefore, has largely to be resorted to, which means that to get efficient speech, still heavier gauge wire has to be put up. Cable, too, has a wondrous knack of disappearing.

On one occasion some miles of it faded into thin air immediately after the passage of a caravan. The caravan was stopped and the men searched. Every one had a coil of cable round his middle! They find it useful—good strong stuff lying apparently aimlessly about—and it is exceedingly difficult to bring home to them the enormity of their crime in interfering with lines. One of the few effective methods is to make villages responsible for sectors, and to fine them if the line is maliciously broken, or if pieces are removed.

The Khyber is one of the main routes to Afghanistan—it is approximately 30 miles long and the scene of many a scrap. It is very rugged and picturesque and the road winds and climbs about in a marvellous manner. The pass is narrow and affords ideal country for good snipers waiting for unwary troops and travellers. It is held by a series of blockhouses in dominant positions, by day patrols and pickets, and by four main camps and forts—Jamrud, Ali Masjid, Landi Khotal and Landi Khana. Caravans are allowed through twice a week, and they form an effective picture winding their way along the bottom of the valley or along the hillside. Military supplies are carried up on an aerial ropeway some 25 miles long, worked by a series of powerful engines. It is a wonderful feat of engineering, and saves the road from an endless stream of lorries. At intervals, owing to the sag in the rope and the configuration of the ground, the truck comes so low that it is not very difficult for a passing native to take a pick at the contents! The standards are of steel frame work, sunk into concrete beds, and some are perched most precariously on the edge of cliffs and other precipitous places.

They have actually started tunnelling, cutting, and embanking for a broad gauge railway. It must be immensely costly, and extremely difficult work. The gradients are so steep that they have to cater for reversing stations.

Visual is worked in a chain from picket to picket, and each important blockhouse has a telephone pair to its supporting camp. The supply of wireless is very limited, so stations are only erected at places of special importance.

After "doing" the Khyber, Colonel Earle and I proceeded by road to Kohat, a distance of 40 miles. Kohat is not connected to Peshawar by wire, as the construction of a permanent route would hurt the feelings of the independent tribes, whose country extends for about 10 miles out of the 40. Near Kohat we passed a tribal rifle factory, where they turn out weapons for some eighty rupees (£6). I suppose we allow the place to carry on as the rifles they make are not of the best, and do not last; and as long as they can get one for 80 rupees the inhabitants will not pay any one 1,000 to steal one of ours.

(To be continued).

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Editorial Notes.

It is with profound regret that we have to announce the death of Major Crauford Victor Monier-Williams, D.S.O., M.C., as the result of a motor accident.

* * *

We are grateful to Major R. H. Macdonald for the very interesting article, "Intercommunication in Mountain Warfare" (Part I.), together with the very excellent photographs illustrating the nature of the country. We are assured that Part II. will follow as soon as pressure of work permits. It will be eagerly anticipated, as well as further articles from the same pen.

* * *

We would again point out for the information of correspondents, both new and old, that the last date for receiving copy is the *16th of each month*. Copy received by the first post of that date will be considered for publication in the current issue. Matter received later will be held over until the following month.

G. E. PALIN, Editor.

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Intercommunication in Mountain Warfare.

By Capt. and Bt.-Major R. H. MACDONALD, O.B.E., Royal Corps of Signals.

PART I.

"Signal Training" (Part VIII. chapter 1) tells us: "The signal communications required in war are so numerous and complicated, and are subject to such frequent and sudden changes, that before the inception of a campaign a general scheme suited to the particular theatre, and based on the principles enunciated below, must be drawn up." Then follow the carefully-enumerated principles of inter-communication in the field.

The particular theatre of war: in what way does this affect the principles of signalling and the Signal plan? The desert fighting of Egypt, Iraq and Arabia, Somaliland, and a score of other places, in Somaliland again and in Kenya Colony bush warfare, as too, in Burma, North-eastern India, and in parts of the Soudan, warfare in the turmoil of hills and mountains of the North-west Frontier of India, will all demand in some particular measure a modification of the Signal plan and a new application of the principles laid down for the encounter operations, position warfare, and deliberate battles of Europe.

Signal Officers there are who can, and doubtless will, write of the application of principles to the desert and the bush. Of these campaigns little more is known by the average Signaller than can be gleaned in conversation with those fortunate officers who have toiled at the provision of communication under novel and difficult conditions. The countries of the Marri in North-eastern India, and the Moplah of the South, will both provide food for thought, and the pens of officers who have been engaged in signals in those expeditions will be doubtless soon set to paper. In the meantime, I venture to write this article in the hope that there may be at least found in it something for constructive criticism, and that further useful development and discussion of the application of principles to novel forms of warfare may be stimulated.

In campaigns against uncivilised peoples, the armament, tactics, and characteristics of the enemy, and the nature of the terrain, demand that the principles of

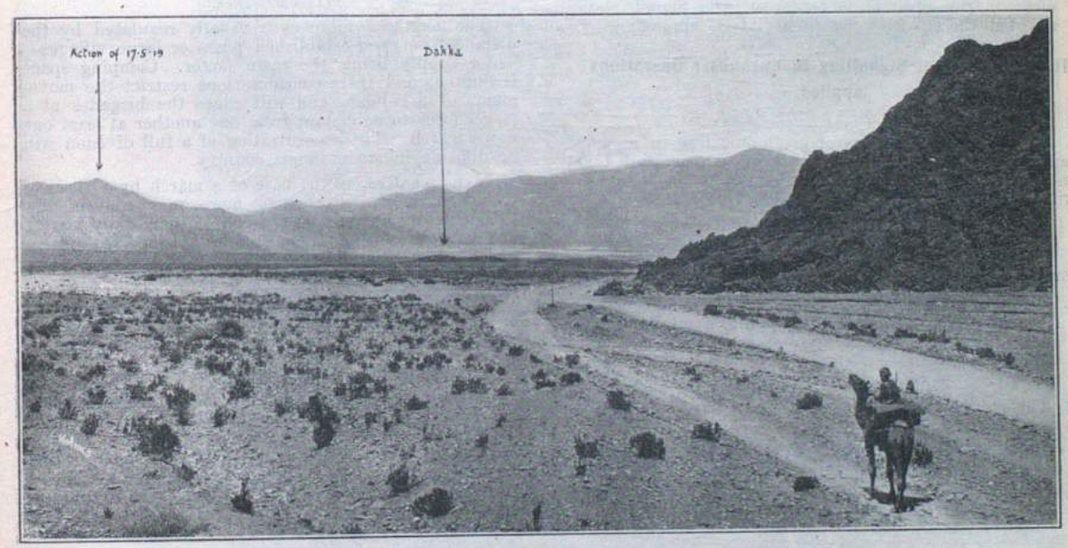


Plate 1—Open Country, N.W. Frontier, India.

Photo by kind permission of [TAKEN AT DAKKA, AFGHANISTAN. [R. B. Holmes & Co., Peshawar

regular warfare be modified, and with them the principles of signalling; but these necessary modifications cannot be appreciated to their full extent, or successfully carried out, unless one and all are conversant with the established and guiding principles of the various signal manuals.

Organisation must always be a powerful aid, but unless officers and n.c.o.s are capable of adapting their action to unexpected conditions, the campaign from a Signal point of view will fall far short of the standard required.

Before an article on Signals in hill-fighting can be appreciated to its full extent, it becomes necessary to study, from the writings of experts in mountain warfare, those general principles which only lifelong experience has produced.

Let us now consider the field of the Signaller.

I.—General Principles.

(1)—The fundamental principles of all warfare apply with no reservations to the trans-border warfare of the Indian frontier; but although the principles are the same, the correct application of them to slightly different conditions, which in themselves are more or less constant, must be carefully thought out when drawing up the Signal plan.

(2)—The principle of the establishment of main Signal centres, connected with each other from front to rear and laterally, is acceptable as a general principle of mountain warfare signalling, but where units are widely dispersed in mountainous country, it may become difficult to group subordinate headquarters to be served by one Signal centre.

(3)—The provision of a system as elaborate as that possible in open warfare will not be possible in mountainous country, but it is essential that where opportunities occur for open warfare and the deployment in the open of large forces, the Signal plan adapted thereto may be immediately applied.

II.—Principles of Signalling in Encounter Operations applied.

See Sig. Trg., Part VIII.

The general principles of communication in mountain warfare are similar to those enumerated for encounter operations, but the methods to be adopted will depend upon

(1)—*The General Plan of Campaign.*

The general plan of campaign may vary in at least three ways:—

(*a*) Minor operations, in the nature of a small mixed force of all arms undertaking punitive measures of short duration at no great distance from, and requiring no elaborate system of communication with, its base.

(*b*) The concentric invasion of a particular locality by small columns.

(*c*) Major operations, such as the advance of large forces by one or more main routes into or through and beyond tribal territory, and maintaining permanent communication with a base or bases in British India.

The strength of the forces employed varying from one or more divisions to a small mixed force of a brigade or less of all arms, the Signal plan will vary.

When the advance is made by large forces over main routes, the construction of adequate semi-permanent and permanent routes on the line of communication becomes possible; but where the operations are in the nature of concentric advances by small columns, or punitive measures of short duration, the communication provided may be confined to a minimum number of circuits on light poles (iron), supplemented by wireless and other means of communication.

The erection, however, of any route whatsoever will depend entirely on the measure of protection afforded to the march of the column. Where the line of communication is not picqueted as a permanent measure in the force, and the force itself is self-contained and carries out its own protection on the march, wireless, together with tribal runners provided by the Political Department, may be the only means of communication available.

When a permanent system is constructed on the line of communication, it is best to concentrate on a minimum number of carefully-controlled routes, in view of the difficulties of erection, maintenance and protection.

(2)—*The Nature of the Country* (see Plates).

The mountainous nature of the country traversed, and the lack of good roads, will confine the advance to a few permanent roads available, or to narrow tracks and river-beds—for the most part through defiles. Little or no lateral communication exists, and the limitations of camping or road space may cause the head of a division to be several marches in advance of its rearmost troops. The system of communication becomes, therefore, considerably extended, and cannot be of an elaborate nature.

III.—Operations in which Principles peculiar to Mountain Warfare are adopted.

(1)—*Marches.*

The length of marches is usually regulated by the distances between established posts or large villages—water supply being the main factor. Camping space is limited, and these considerations restrict the movements of a column, and will cause the brigades of a larger force to be distant from one another at least one day's march. The concentration of a full division will be difficult in mountainous country.

Signal centres, in the case of a march by a force of the strength of a division or more, may conveniently be opened by brigades at the end of their daily march, but only those Signal centres established at places which will become posts on the lines of communication are taken over by successive brigades.

The road space occupied by a large force moving on one line is so great that the rear of the column may be several days' march behind the leading troops.

(2)—*Camps and Bivouacs.*

These occupy half the time spent in trans-border expeditions, and it is essential that communication should be carefully and systematically arranged on a plan which will be thoroughly understood and be constant in its operation. The system adopted is that of establishing an outer line of picquets, placed so as to deny the enemy ground from which he can fire into the camp.

These picquets are usually furnished by the units on whose front they are posted, and must be in visual signalling communication with one another. Picquets may be allowed to communicate direct with the battalion from which they are sent out, but it is generally advisable to establish a central Signal station in the camp, preferably at the report centre for sole communication to all picquets. This is especially necessary where picqueting duties are heavy, and regimental signalling establishments thereby depleted. Where, with a large force, definite sectors are allotted to a brigade, the picquets in the brigade area will normally communicate direct with the brigade report centre.

Telephone communication may be maintained with picquets, but the early establishment of telephone routes will depend upon the degree of permanency of the camp. Where lines are led to picquets they must be poled or buried clear of the perimeter.

The inner line of defence consists of a defensive perimeter clearly defined round the whole encampment. Within this perimeter communication will be by runner, and the early establishment of a system of telephone

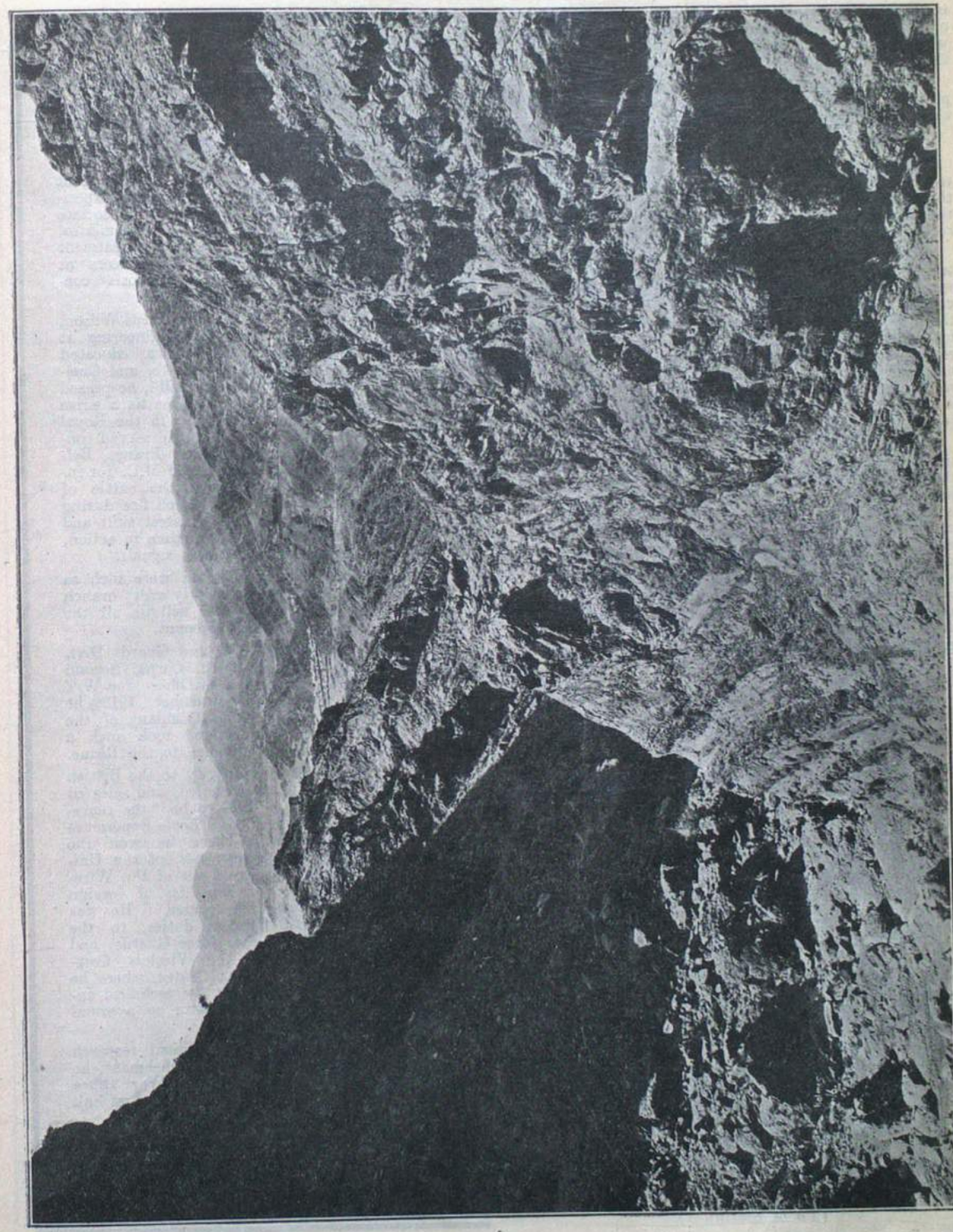


Photo by kind permission of [R. B. Holmes & Co., Peshawar

Plate 2—Enclosed Country, N.W. Frontier, India. The Khyber Pass.

communication, again, will depend on the permanency of the camp. Telephone routes must be metallic, and where not of a semi-permanent nature or poled cable, they should be buried where the ground permits.

Where artillery observation posts are situated in picquets, separate communication must be arranged by the Artillery Signal sections.

(3)—*Foraging Parties.*

These include all enterprises which involve a return to the main camp the same day, such as parties for the destruction of villages, the collection of fodder, the protection of working parties on roads, and for reconnaissance.

Communication from camp will usually be maintained to the report centre of the force sent out by wireless or by cable where possible, supplemented by visual through one or more of the picquets protecting the camp, or through separate transmitting stations, for which additional protection may be required. The report centre should be plentifully supplied with all necessary means of communication, to provide for its rapid expansion in the event of the force being involved in an action preventing its retirement and necessitating reinforcements being sent out from the camp.

In the case of the demolition of a large village, it is an established principle of mountain warfare signalling, that where the report centre is not at the entrance to the village, an advanced report centre with which it is in communication must be established at this spot, in visual communication with separate signal stations established by and at the headquarters of each company carrying out the demolition. These stations will be normally within the village, and situated in towers or on the roofs of buildings. Runners should not be relied upon for communication to the demolition companies, the headquarters of which will be most difficult to find in the intricate windings of a frontier village.

(4)—*Picqueting.*

Flank guards being unable to make their way over the hills, it becomes necessary to adopt a sedentary form of protection for the flanks of the force, consisting of picquets posted along the routes on either side on commanding localities.

These picquets may be either permanent, as will be the case in an advance over a main route by a large force, or formed from the advance guard and withdrawn to the rear-guard of a small force operating at no great distance from its base and for only a short length of time.

In either case they will be of the greatest use in providing visual communication throughout the day's march of the column. Each picquet will have its regimental signallers, who will normally be sufficient for communication, but it may be advantageous to establish one or more main signal centres from the Signal Service at selected picquets or on commanding and protected localities off the line of the main advance, to act as transmitting stations for communication throughout the column.

Corps of Signal personnel must be economised, and where it is necessary to establish signal centres of this nature, they should not be thrown out too early in the day's march of the column, and must in any case be withdrawn to the rear-guard whether the picquets are permanent or otherwise. They will be supplied from the Signal Service detachment accompanying the Advance Guard commander.

(To be continued).

Obituary.

The Late Captain L. C. Carus-Wilson, M.C.

It is with very great regret that we have to record the death, on the 23rd April last, of Capt. Louis Charles Carus-Wilson, M.C., R.C.S., at the early age of 25.

Captain Carus-Wilson (who was Assistant Experimental Officer at the Signals Experimental Establishment, and was an Associate of the Institute of Radio-Engineers of America) was, at the time of his death, under treatment in the Red Cross Hospital for Officers at Brighton, suffering from tuberculosis contracted on service in the Near East.

The second son of Ashley Carus-Wilson, late Professor of Electrical Engineering at McGill University, Montreal, he was educated at Mostyn House School, Parkgate, and Cheltenham College. In February, 1914, he passed into Woolwich second on the list as a prize cadet, receiving his commission in the Royal Engineers in November, 1914. He served continuously throughout the war in France, Belgium, and Italy, and received the M.C. for invaluable services rendered at the battle of Messines, where (under heavy shell fire during seven days) he showed the greatest skill and resource in using, for the first time in action, the latest invention in wireless signals.

His services during the war were such as to afford him experience in nearly every branch of Signal work, and his loss will be all the more keenly felt on this account.

He served with the 6th and Guards Divl. Signal Companies, the 14th Corps, Second Army; G.H.Q., Italy; and as Officer for W/T duties, 15th Corps. In September, 1918, he joined the Divisional Signal Company of the 9th (Scottish) Division, which took such a prominent part in the advance to the Rhine.

After lecturing on electricity to the British troops at Ohligs, he was recalled, and selected by the War Office in 1919 to be "the representative British Officer" at l'Ecole Supérieure d'Electricitè of Paris. There he won the diploma in radio-telegraphy, etc., of the University of Paris, and passed out of the Wireless School first on the long list of foreign officers who completed the course. He was then attached, for Wireless duties, to the Headquarters Staff at the Horse Guards, and subsequently commanded the Wireless Company at the Signal Training Centre, where he was instrumental in putting the technical instruction of the wireless operator on a sound footing.

Later, while engaged in original research at the Signals Experimental Establishment, he was appointed to represent the War Office during the installation at Cairo of the first link of the Imperial Wireless Chain.

By his death the Corps loses one of its most promising and valuable officers, and one whose high technical knowledge and devotion to his profession would, had he lived, have contributed greatly to its future efficiency.

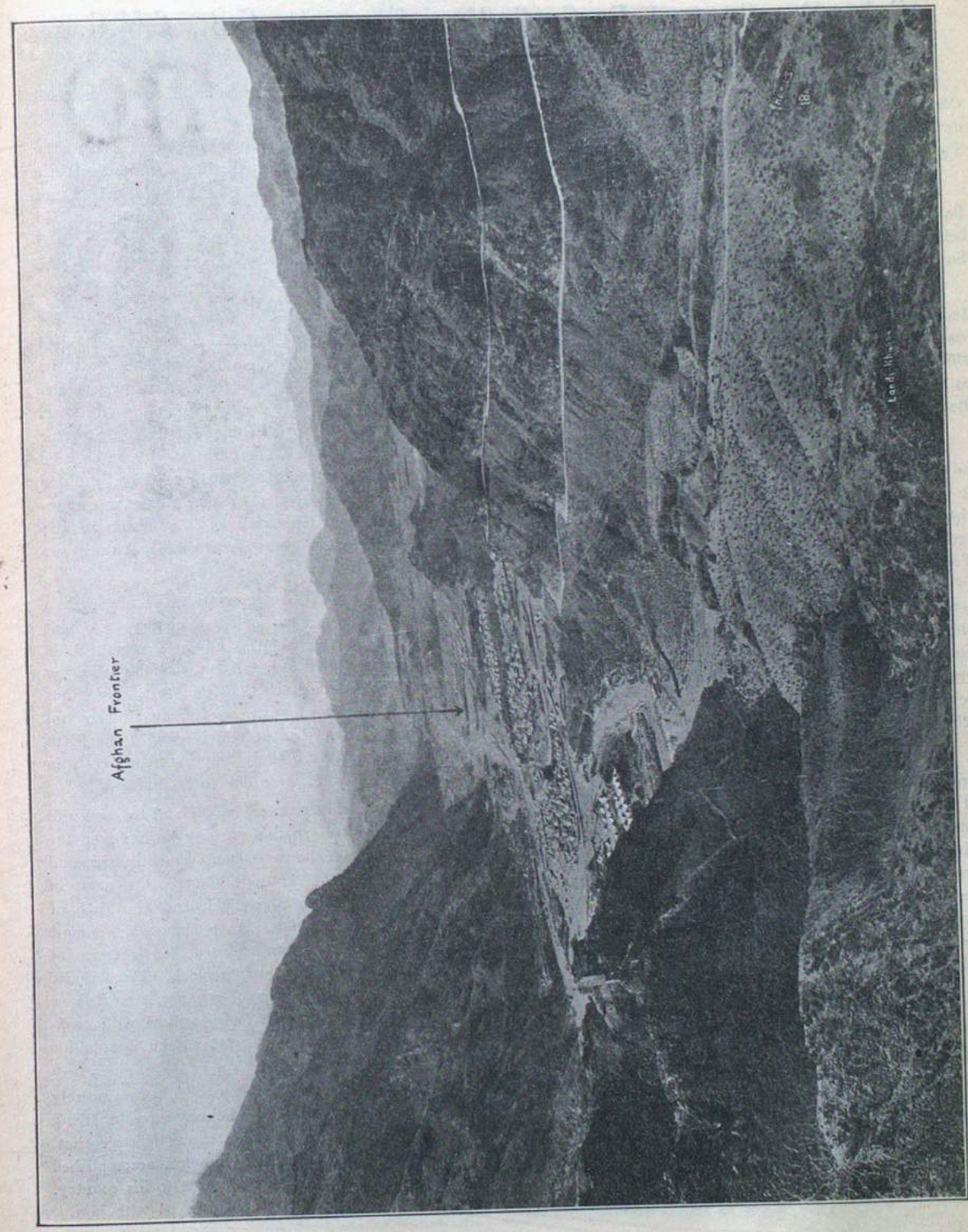


Plate 3—Typical Lines of Communication through and beyond Tribal Territory, N.W. Frontier, India.
TAKEN ON THE AFGHAN FRONTIER.
[R. B. Holmes & Co., Peshawar
Photo by kind permission of.]

Brigadier-General E. G. Godfrey-Faussett, C.B., C.M.G.

By the retirement of Col. Godfrey-Faussett, the Corps loses an officer whose whole service has been devoted to the organisation and development of the Signal Service with the Army.

In 1891, as a subaltern he joined the 1st Telegraph Battalion at Aldershot, among the other subalterns being Major-Gen. Sir H. B. Bruce Williams, Major-Gen. Sir J. S. Fowler, and Col. R. H. H. Boys.

After three years (from 1894 to 1896) in the West Indies, he joined the 2nd Telegraph Battalion, which was employed on permanent line work with the Post Office. He was employed first at New Cross, and then at Basingstoke as subaltern with Major-Gen. M. G. E. Bowman-Manifold.

At the beginning of the South African War in 1899, he mobilised with the 1st Telegraph Battn. as Second-in-Command. The death of the Commanding Officer on the journey out placed him (then a Captain) in the very arduous and responsible position of commanding the Telegraphs in the early stages of the war. He rose to the occasion in a remarkable way, and all who served under him testify to his great energy and ability, and to the good feeling that prevailed under his command. He became Director of Transvaal Telegraphs in 1900, and remained in that post till 1902, being promoted Brevet-Major for his services in South Africa.

The experience gained in the South African War proved the necessity for the centralisation of all means of intercommunication under one command. At the end of the war a committee, of which Sir Archibald Murray was chairman, was formed to consider this re-organisation. Col. Godfrey-Faussett was appointed secretary; and the recommendations of this committee, resulting in the formation of the Divisional Signal Companies, were to a great extent due to his views and recommendations.

From that time Col. Godfrey-Faussett worked unceasingly to improve the organisation of the Signal Service. From 1906 to 1910 he was secretary to the R.E. Committee, which dealt with all new ideas with regard to stores and equipment—and his ideas and influence can be traced to-day in many patterns of stores which are still in use. From 1910 to 1914 he worked untiringly in perfecting the organisation of the Signal Service for war. Thanks very largely to his efforts, the outbreak of war in 1914 found a small but efficient Signal Service.

He started the summer training camps for the Signal Service, and at his instigation combined schemes were carried out with the Staff College, which not only proved a valuable source of training, but laid the foundation of the close co-operation between Staff and Signals which proved so necessary during the Great War.

In the summer of 1914 he was under orders for Ceylon, but the outbreak of the Great War recalled him to the Signal Service, and he mobilised as the Officer Commanding Signals, General Headquarters. He remained in this post during the rest of the year, and then returned to England to act as Chief Instructor at the Training Centre. The depots, as could only be expected, were in a state of great confusion, and for the next six months he worked unceasingly at the re-organisation and improvement of the training. His intimate knowledge of every detail of Signal work was of the greatest value.

In September, 1915, he returned to France with a new Army Signal Company. This Company was sent to Salonika, but Col. Godfrey-Faussett remained in France as D.D. Signals, First Army. In the following May he became D.D. Signals, Fifth Army, when that army was first formed at the beginning of the first Battle of the Somme, and he remained with the Fifth Army till May, 1918. Many improvements both in organisation and stores were due to his influence.

In May, 1918, he returned to England to command the Training Centre. In this capacity he has seen the end of the war, and the consequent demobilisation and re-organisation of the Training Centre, the move of the Training Centre to Maresfield, and the birth of the Royal Corps of Signals. At a time when almost every suggestion has been refused for reasons of national economy, he has had the task, as the senior officer serving with the Corps, of starting it on its new life. The fact that we can look forward with confidence to its future is to a great extent due to his personal efforts.

In bidding him good-bye, therefore, we sincerely hope that any feeling of regret he may have in giving up his task will be tempered by the knowledge that, during his service in the Army, he has accomplished a work of very real and lasting benefit to his country. The good wishes of all in the Corps go with him.



Brigadier-General E. G. Godfrey-Faussett, C.B., C.M.G.

Maresfield Notes.

Corps Celebrities—No. 14: C.S.M. M. Keane



Headquarters.

It would not be fitting to commence these notes without reference to the loss we have sustained by the departure, on his retirement, of Col.-Commandant Godfrey-Faussett. Those of us who have worked under him in this headquarters can testify to his unfailing tact and judgment, which have made office routine run so smoothly; and it is no flattery to the late Commandant, and no small compliment to his successor, to hope and believe that this desirable state of affairs will continue. After a life that has been so far wholly devoted to the advancement of the Signals, we wish him many years of happiness during his well-earned retirement.

Doubtless many past and present members of G Company will have read of the death of Capt. Carus-Wilson, M.C., who was O.C. of that Company from the time of its formation until he was appointed Assistant Experimental Officer at the Signal Experimental Establishment, Woolwich.

Two well known Company officers have recently left the Training Centre, viz., Lieut. T. H. L. Turner of the Buffs, who has gone to Aldershot, and Lieut. R. L. G. Lindsay, R.E., who has been demobilised.

The only other casualty I have to report is the marriage of Sigmn G. Phillips. (Bravo! Phil.—Ed.) This event occurred during Easter time. We wish him and Mrs. Phillips every happiness. The office staff made the newly-wedded pair a present of a dinner service.

We offer our congratulations to R.C.B., of the 4th Divl. Signals (some time Orders Clerk at this headquarters) on his being presented with a son and heir.

I have been informed by the editor that this issue is to be a Spring Number. I have, however, resisted the temptation to break forth into verse on such provocation—for which, no doubt, he and readers will be thankful.

Will readers at Maresfield kindly note: If at any time they are unable to obtain copies of THE WIRE from their usual source of supply, the magazine is now on sale at G branch of this Headquarters.

As the writer is on leave somewhere in the "wilds of Wiltshire," it is regretted that there will be no "Maresfield Topic" this month.

The force with which "Geddes' Axe" has lately fallen has caused some surprise, and it is quite amusing to find so many who were "fed up with the Army," etc., etc., are now wanting to know if they may extend their service.

Congratulations to Capt. H. A. J. Parsons, M.C., of the School of Signals, on his securing third place in the Army Golf Championship Meeting at Deal.

E. S. H.

A Company.

I think, in view of the fact that the late A Company notes towards this bright little journal have been the means of securing numerous readers to THE WIRE, it is only right that I should endeavour to chronicle the final doings of this well-known Company, which by the time these notes appear in print will have ceased to function as a Recruits Company.

The disbandment of the Company was "short and sweet," in the words of the poet, and it speaks volumes for the organisation of the Company Office that over 200 men were posted to Crowborough Camp within twenty-four hours of the necessary authority for the transfer of the bulk of the Companies' strength. A small party (often referred to as A Company Montaguemen), some 30 strong, were left behind to finally wind up, and were taken, *pro tem.*, on the strength of P Company, which is now accommodated in the old A Company lines.

Many well-known faces gradually disappeared, and amongst them two or three lucky ones were posted to Divisional Signal Companies: L/Sergt Grant to Aldershot, and L/Sergts McDonald and Shoebridge to Colchester.

Our respected "skipper," Major Mair, took over command of D Company, whilst Capt. Miller is temporarily officiating as Adjutant of the Battalion. Lieut. Kidd is with P Company, and Lieut. Levett, Royal Sussex Regiment, with X Company at Crowborough.

Lieut. Turner (The Buffs) has been discharged from hospital at Cosham after a long stay, and I believe is now with the Army Signal School at Aldershot.

C.S.M. Boulger and L/Sergt Newbury are now to be found with E Company, amongst our long-eared chums, whilst the writer of these notes is to be found amongst the Despatch Riders and Instrument Makers.

Before closing I should like to add a few remarks with regard to the final of the Inter-Company Soccer Knock-out, A Company versus P Company.

The match was played before a very good attendance of spectators on Martin's Farm Ground, Maresfield, on Tuesday, April 11th, under ideal weather conditions. Our team lined up as follows at 5 p.m.:—Grant; White and Webb; Rood, Pierce and Edge; Butler, Hayden, Shenton, Ibbs and Tinsley.

Losing the toss, we commenced kicking down the hill before a stiff wind. Our team had the best of the play all through the first half of the game, and half-time arrived without P Company scoring an equaliser. L/Sergt Shenton scored the only goal at this period.

The second half proved our undoing, and brought us shoals of bad luck, during which P Company scored twice, thus winning the cup.

I should like to add that although P Company were the winners, I am voicing the opinion of a great percentage of the spectators in saying that A Company were very unlucky in being beaten. Still, we received a medal each—so what odds?

CISSIE.

C Company.

We had almost decided to give THE WIRE notes the "go by" this month, there being little to report beyond the upheaval and removal of the Company to Maresfield, and time for little else but that; but the announcement in Commandant's Orders that THE WIRE is having a field day this month drove all such thoughts out of our head, and (cursing the move to Maresfield, and its consequent demands upon our time, even more volubly than usual) we again turn our attention to the disfigurement of a page of our worthy gazette.

Our heartiest congratulations are extended to Sergt Speller upon his excellent performances in the Eastern Command and Sussex Amateur Billiard Championships.

Winning the final of the S.E. Area on April 10th, he journeyed to Woolwich on the 11th for the Command. Winning this, he sallied off to Brighton, staying there sufficiently long to mop up his opponent and catch the return train to Woolwich, where he won the semi-final but unfortunately lost in the final of the Command on the same day—the 12th. Surely enough for one man!

But no, old Spell is "the goods" when he has his fighting blood up, and with its taste on his lips and his ears well back, he again set his helm for Brighton, leaving the Company to wonder whether he was on a Cook's tour or trying to emulate the performance of the famous C. W. Hart. But it was now that the strain was beginning to tell, and we were all sorry to hear that he lost in the final of the County Championship. It was the rottenest of hard luck!

The directors of the Sussex Motor Yacht Club have kindly given a cup (valued at £5) to Sergt Speller, there being originally no second prize: so he has something of which to be proud beyond his performance.

The management of the cook-house has at last changed hands, L/Corpl Roussean being transferred to X Company, and Corpl Morel being placed i/c that happy hunting-ground for boys. Old "Moggy" has more than fulfilled our expectations, as can quite be realised when one learns that the boys jib at more than a tea and three wads after dinner. The food is all that could be wished for, and we only hope that the same state of affairs exists after the move.

A great landmark in the history of C Company was the taking over of the boys under training on K Company, all of whom are held "on command" from this unit. All n.c.o.s are "eves down" upon the prospects of getting out on one of the stations, but those who are at present filling those happy billets seem to know when they are well off. A rousing cheer from half-a-dozen boys who left for the Company this morning tells its own story of the life led by those lucky individuals. K stands for so much which is nice. (One of our office clerks can supply the whole list).

Our heartiest congratulations to L/Corpl Gowing upon his appointment to A/Corporal. We now possess two of these extremely rare n.c.o.s. Let us hope, Jim, that your promotion to the substantive rank will soon be through.

Everything and everyone are in a state of unrest, the Company being due to leave for Maresfield at the end of the week. After our cushy little stay in Crowborough for over two years, we are extremely sorry to leave, especially as the summer is almost upon us; but if there is a Company which can keep its tail wagging in any clime, that Company is C. And so we sally forth to Maresfield, and as our dear old friend "Kingdoms" used to say, "Themadora."

THE PARSON.

Things We Want to Know.

Who is the Sergeant who got a puncture near the "D" in Duddleswell? And is he married?

Who is the "freebooter" who gives away Wheatstone transmitters? And does he intend paying for them with the money he has saved whilst on the tack?

Who is the individual who has been after a trial for Hants after seeing Woolley in the nets?

D Company.

News this month is very short, for various reasons, but I will try to write a few notes of the Company's doings, or our sales will suffer.

The Sports Committee are hard at work organising Company athletic sports, which will take place on May 16th. We have a large number of entries for all events, and the running off of eliminating heats takes place on Monday, May 15th. We shall have to wait until the July number to report details, as THE WIRE notes have to be in too early to do so this month. We have quite a lot of talent, and are looking forward to a successful day when the S.T.C. sports are held.

Our cricket team is about to commence operations under the leadership of Lieut. Q. E. M. A. King. We should like to take this opportunity of informing all concerned that we still have some open "away" dates. We have quite a useful team, and are hoping that our players will do well.

It might interest the multitude to know that at the end of the past season our football and hockey teams finished as follows: Football, second in the Maresfield League and third in the S.T.C. League; Hockey, winners of the Hockey Shield and third in the League. Not a bad record.

Our Rugger team did not do any good, but hope for a more successful season next year. We have several players from the disbanded B Company to strengthen us.

Our WIRE sales still top the list, in spite of the arrival from Crowborough of Companies who were supposed to be notorious for their enormous sales. It has to be a jolly good Company to beat "Don" at *anything*. Anyone got anything to say about that?

As I have already mentioned, news is absolutely lacking, so will close with best wishes to all from

DON

E Company.

Notes from "Eddy" Company are both brief and late this month, but let's hope that it's a case of "better late than never."

The old Gurk Company has had a bending as regards departures, but we shall endeavour to hold our own as per usual, although we have lost about 200 men in the last month.

We were sorry to see the departure of Lieuts. Lindsay and Kelly. If there was anything doing in the sports line, even though not taking an active part (what about that mad rush down the wing at Rugger?), we could be sure of having their support in everything. The lads (especially the boxers) will miss them, and the feeds supplied by Lin.

Our new Commandant, Col. W. P. E. Newbigging, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., held an inspection of the Company on the 12th inst., and if whitewash had anything to do with getting a favourable report, we can bet our boots that we got one.

We are busy just at present in arranging for our Company sports, which take place on the 16th. "Don" Company are holding theirs on the same day. According to tips and entries, there ought to be a good show. However, more anon.

If ever anyone has a spare half hour, and the inclination, he should walk around to E Company's tennis court, and there see some of the budding Tildens. The Lenglens have not yet put in an appearance, but we live in hopes. The court has been made by men of the Company under our O.C.s supervision, and I think we can boast that it is the only grass court in the camp at the disposal of the troops.

Each afternoon, now, one can see a lot of studious-looking individuals wending their way towards various huts, murmuring, "In every way and every day," or something to that effect. It appears that these brain merchants are attending school under some new scheme or other.

Inside the huts, something like this occurs, I am told. The schoolmaster (or principal) sticks an awful lot of figures on the board, and informs the scholars that he is about to shew them how to work out a problem or something. He then juggles with the figures.

Meanwhile the merchants with the grey matter look interested, and before they are fully asleep they see the master make a clean sweep with the duster. The figures disappear, and they hear a voice in the distance saying something about the subject being too far advanced.

Eyes are open once more, and they realise that there is a wonderful lecture going on, entitled "The History of the Corps of Signals."

We offer our heartiest congratulations to Lieut. H. A. Spencer on winning the Officers' Lightweight Championship of the Imperial Services. It isn't every Corps that can boast of two Imperial Services champions, such as we have in Joe Cotterell and Mr. Spencer.

EDDY.

School of Signals.

Take it steady! It is the Rip Van Winkle of your magazine at last! The compliments paid us in the last issue having warmed our blood, in future we hope to infuse, enthuse, and peruse.

Firstly, may we congratulate the Corps soccer team on its very successful season. It is the more pleasing to us, knowing as we do that our own "Hal" played such a prominent part in it. But for a personal bereavement, he would doubtless have completed the season without missing a match.

King Willow has arrived, and seeing that His Majesty and the School have always been such pals, we are hoping——

Our runners and jumpers, etc., are getting busy. Even "Old Nick" himself swears by them. At present, sport is as a consuming flame. One can almost imagine the conversation of the future. "Can you tell me what allowances I am entitled to?" "Sorry, sir, I am just going to the Badminton semi-final." By the time these lines appear in print (if we are lucky), we shall be in the fray again. May the best team win.

VELLER.

Ye Gods enlighten us as to:—

Why did Tommy do 40 on his "Triumph" on a Monday morning?

Will George's spuds be his second love now that Badminton is the vogue?

Will "Nobby" get his long service this time?

The Royal Engineers' War Memorial.

Erected at the School of Military Engineering, Chatham, to commemorate the late Field-Marshal Earl Kitchener of Khartoum, and the officers, n.c.o.s and men, who fell in the great war, will be

Unveiled at 12 noon on Tuesday, 18th July.

H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught has graciously consented to perform the ceremony.

Tickets of admission will be sent to the following, if application is made before 1st July, stating name and rank of applicant or fallen relative.

(*a*) Past and present officers of the Royal Engineers and Royal Corps of Signals, and up to two guests in addition.

(*b*) Past and present w.o.s, n.c.o.s, and men, and up to two first degree relatives in addition.

(*c*) First degree relatives of fallen officers and other ranks, up to two for each.

(*d*) Subscribers to R.E. Memorial Fund, and their guests, up to two.

The above to apply to Regulars, Territorials, New Armies, and Special Reserve of R.E. and R.C.S. Applications for numbers in excess of the above will be considered if accommodation is available.

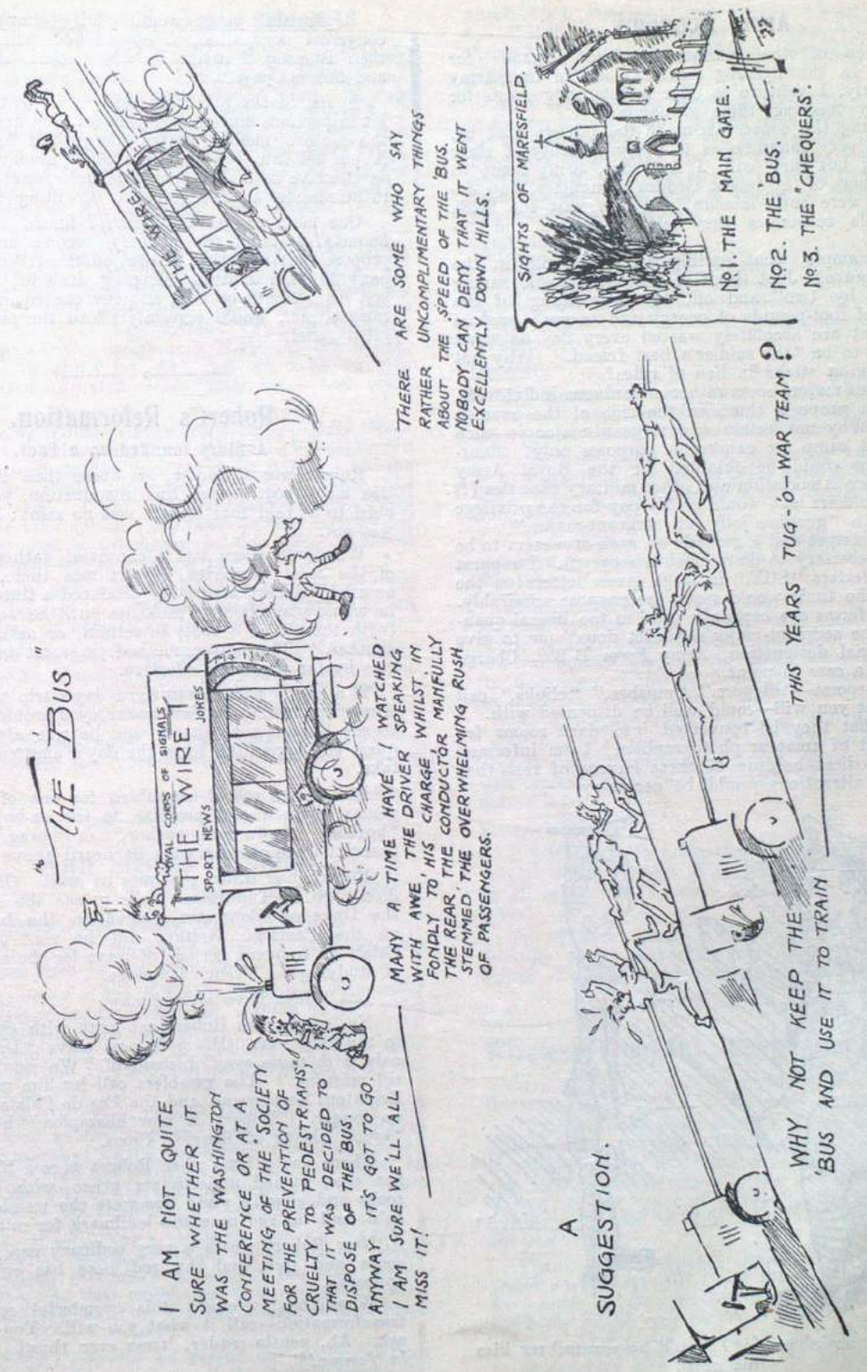
Luncheon will be provided, if tickets are purchased before July 1st, for:—

(*a*) Officers and their friends at 5s. per head.

(*b*) Other ranks and their friends at 2s. each.

Lunch tickets will not be issued for those residing locally, unless accommodation is available after other applications have been met.

Applications for admittance and for lunch (enclosing remittance for lunch tickets) should be made to "The Secretary, Memorial Sub-Committee, Brompton Barracks, Chatham."



Army Economy.

In view of the persistent public demands for economy in the fighting services, and in the Army particularly, I venture to offer a few suggestions for effectively meeting these demands.

Knowing the conservatism of the powers that be, I am not very sanguine as to the probability of their adoption; but they will, I feel sure, bring home to the members of the recent Geddes Committee, how incomplete were their labours, and how vast the fields of possible economies they left unexplored and unexploited.

For example, what earthly use is the rifle in the time of peace? Just think of the incalculable saving in "four by two" and oil, to say nothing of the millions of foot-pounds of energy and as many profane words that are absolutely wasted every day on what is alleged to be "the soldier's best friend." Why not issue walking sticks in lieu of rifles?

Sergeant-majors seem rather superfluous individuals, and often prove a thorn in the side of the average soldier. Why not retain one sergeant-major in each depot and camp for exhibition purposes only? Enormous sums could be obtained for the Royal Army Temperance Association and other military charities (?) from ex-soldiers who would gladly pay for the privilege of seeing a "genuine jolly old sergeant-major."

Three stripes and a grenade on each arm seem to be quite unnecessary to distinguish a sergeant. I suggest that the letters "SGT." in large green letters on the back of the tunic would serve the purpose admirably.

Army forms are certainly used in too liberal quantities. The sergeant-major's "billet doux" (or to give it its official designation, Army Form B 252, Charge Sheet) is a case in point.

Guard-rooms—"diggers," "mushes," "clinks," call them what you will—could well be dispensed with. I suggest that they be converted into dark rooms for the benefit of amateur photographers. I am informed by a periodical habitue of these havens of rest that very few alterations would be necessary.



"Wot yer sir-in' me for? You'll be wantin' ter kiss me next!

Regimental police would gladly change their uncongenial occupation, if approached with a view to their running a casino for the benefit of the troops and the tax-payers.

Spurs, in the R.C.S. at least, seem to be issued for kit inspections and church parades, and are, like rifles, the cause of endless wasted energy and bad language. A pin let into the end of a short stick would prove as effective as a spur for those unfortunates who have to administer motive force to unwilling steeds.

One more suggestion before I finish. Should the financial state of the country become any worse, I propose that the M.O. should administer to each company in turn a strong sleeping draught, sufficient to last for a month or two, and the consequent saving in rations, etc., would certainly afford the poor taxpayer great relief.

E. S. H.

Robert's Reformation.

A Story founded on a Fact.

Robert was a soldier, or worse than that, for he was an ex-boy. After this introduction, you will not need to be told that Robert was no saint: he certainly was not.

Whenever there was a convivial gathering at one of the local hostelries, Robert was there. On these occasions Robert invariably produced a flute, on which he would play classical melodies until he was requested (with the aid of a boot) to refrain, or asked to "have another." This latter method, it must be admitted, was by far the more effective.

If a happy party went for a day's trip to Brighton, Tunbridge Wells, or Eastbourne, you would be certain to see Robert with them; and he was always in request to suggest the form the day's amusement should take.

If a select school assembled for one of the many games common and peculiar to the ex-boy, such as "house," "crown and anchor," or "brag," Robert's cheerful voice could always be heard above the rest.

Robert had other pastimes as well. Oh yes! He didn't go to Tunbridge Wells to see the spot where the Duke of Gloucester slipped on the banana skin on the Pantiles. Neither did he visit the Pas de Calais on frequent periods of leave for the sole purpose of studying the French language.

But things have altered now.

No longer does Robert set forth with cheerful face to the local inns. His flute now plays "Drink to me only with thine eyes" instead of "We won't go home till morning." The gamblers call for him in vain, and Brighton, Eastbourne, and the Pas de Calais know him no longer. Robert is now champion "halma" and "ludo" player of Ringle's Cross.

There was a time when Robert wore a black velour hat that turned undertakers green with envy. His socks and equally vivid ties were the wonder of Uckfield, and his red nose the landmark for miles around.

Now Robert wears a very ordinary cap and sober socks and ties, and the red nose has entirely disappeared.

What has wrought this wonderful reformation, transformation—call it what you will. You may well ask. Ah, gentle reader, 'twas ever thus! "*Cherchez la femme!*"

E. S. H.

With Signals in Constantinople.

The small branch of the Corps here are still holding their own regarding sports. On Easter Monday the annual horse racing was held, the Company having one second home, namely, Dvr. Hatherall, after a hard race. Corpl Steele would undoubtedly have won his race, but his brave little mare refused the water jump, and he refused to sit on her after he went over her head, shaking himself not a little. The only consolation he received was the fact that several of our officers lost money on him.

The Asiatic side of the Corps insisted upon "seeing us off" at hockey. We don't wish to blow them up, but they couldn't play fivestones. We beat them by 2—1, after a jolly good game. There are only three things to note in this match: Capt. Henderson's splendid game, the satisfactory ending of the match, and Corpl Jeremy's fat eye. But we hope to give them a return match when they have had some training.

At boxing we have done wonderfully, Taffy Sheppeard beating all and sundry. Sheppeard is well-known for his boxing abilities and punching powers. (If the Aussi boxer, Cook, could only develop a punch like his, then some of the world's heavy-weights would sit up and take notice). He beat his man (Collier, of the Navy) with a knock-out in the third round—a terrific punch for so small a man.

Our latest draft comprised P.T. instructors and the usual tradesmen of different descriptions, who all seemed very fit after their boat trip.

A dance was held by the Signals in the lesser riding school, for St. Dunstan's, and Sgt Martin, our worthy organiser, managed to scrounge nearly £20 for the good cause; so you see we still flourish.

You will hear more of our sports feats when we have completed the cross-country running and aquatic sports.

BLAKE.

With Signals in Cairo.

Cairo, May 3rd, 1922.

E.E.F. Command Sports and Y.M.C.A. Meeting.

Signals entered the above with the best available talent from each of the three units.

The morning of the E.E.F. meeting saw the weaker of our representatives eliminated, leaving us with three strong favourites, one each in the 440 yards, 880 yards, and one mile flat, whilst in addition our relay team (winners of the Cairo Group preliminaries) were expected to do well.

In the finals, Corpl Terrell (Wireless Company) was placed third in the first-mentioned race, Sigmn Leal (Signal Company, Egypt and Sinai) second in the half mile, and Corpl Carpenter upheld his reputation by showing the way to the tape in the mile. In the team relay race we ran second to the 1st Hampshire Regt.

Easter Monday was a red-letter day for Signals at the Y.M.C.A. Meeting. There our men were irresistible, gaining first place in each of the open events, viz., 440 yards, 880 yards, one mile, and relay race. We were represented by the same team as mentioned above.

To Corpl Carpenter we extend our congratulations on his winning the open mile at the Cairo International Sports Club Meeting (open to the whole of Egypt), the E.E.F. championship at the same distance, and the open event at the Y.M.C.A. Meeting.

Cricket.

At a recent sports meeting, the Company decided to have a cricket team. Funds were voted accordingly for the purchase of gear, and a committee was elected. That was three days ago. If one may judge by the enthusiasm displayed at the nets during the past three days, we should be able to muster a team from our now very small Section.

Swimming.

Prospective candidates for the unit swimming team will perform on Sunday, 7th inst. The backbone of last season's team have unfortunately left us for the U.K., so that there should be plenty of scope for new talent.

General.

The manœuvres party have returned bringing with them dust, technical terms, and arguments relative to the respective merits of the "Red" and "Blue" forces.

It is understood that a sportsman has been enquiring whether these manœuvres come under the heading of "sports" for purposes of the "best all-round unit competition."

C Section have moved bag and baggage to Kantara, and have no doubt settled down in their new abode by this time.

Occasionally members of the Construction Section, working on the "RR" route, arrive in Cairo from Mazar or some such outlandish place for a short spell. We are doubly glad to see them, knowing full well the monotony of this particular job. The melodeon is an asset, so we are told.

Old members of the Company will no doubt be sorry to hear of the departure of the cadre of A Divl. Signals from Bir-Salem for India. The old unit was well known out here. We wish them luck in their native land!

Promotions.

C.S.M. Carvell's promotion arrived shortly after the receipt of that recent W.O. letter now so well known to all w.o.s and n.c.o.s. We tender our congratulations.

In addition, Sergts Cleary and Winzer received Records' acting rank of sergeant under the same W.O. letter. To them, also, our congratulations.

Wireless Company, Egypt and Palestine.

Abbassia, April 17th, 1922.

General.

Last month we preserved the silence of the Sphinx: this month we exhibit the loquacity of the average Egyptian. Every effect has a cause, and the cause of this strange talkativeness in the case of the W/T Co. is that, in the space of a few weeks, we have found ourselves famous in both army and civilian running circles.

Thanks to the untiring efforts of our running team, under the captaincy of Corpl Terrell, the Royal Signals have made a name in this country which any unit of the army might well be proud of.

In the football world we have done as well as is to be expected of a unit of our present strength. We

finished up in the Second Division of the Cairo Military Football League, and hope (like the disciples of M. Coué) to grow better and better every day.

About six weeks ago we were almost crowded out of house and home by a big draft from the S.T.C. There was a large number of faces familiar to old members of the S.T.C., and amongst others I would like to chronicle are Sergts. Morallee, Stevenson, Price, Kingman (what's wrong with "C"?), Corpl Whelan, L Corpls Mann, Allen and New, and the well-known S.T.C. rugger player, "Pat" Ryan, who is now in Palestine. More recent arrivals amongst us are the wives of Sergts. Mitchell and Stevenson.

Boxing.

On April 10th we entered two of our novices in an open competition, and both put up a good show. Sigmn Richards (welter weight) won his first series in fine style, but was outpointed in the semi-final after an extra round. It is to be hoped he will have better luck next time. Sigmn McCarthy gave a fine display in the feather weights. After beating four opponents to get into the final, he was unfortunate in dislocating his thumb, and fought his final with one arm—and even then was unfortunate in losing on points. He has, however, challenged the winner and any feather weight in Egypt. Our boxing team, under the supervision of Sigmn Conwell, are training for the E.E.F. championships.

Athletics.

This is where we *do* shine! Corpl Carpenter, like Sigmn Cotterell, is running away with all the prizes out here. The following are the results at the Royal Corps of Signals Athletic Meeting:—

100 yards—1, Corpl Terrell; 2, Sigmn Mitchell.

120 hurdles—1, Sigmn Grant; 2, Sigmn Browning.

440 yards—1, Corpl Terrell; 2, Corpl Adams.

880 yards—1, Corpl Carpenter; 2, Sigmn Leal.

1 mile—1, Sigmn Pitt; 2, Sigmn Leal.

3 miles—1, Sigmn Caldwell; 2, Corpl Carpenter.

Long Jump—1, Corpl Carpenter; 2, Sigmn Leadbeater.

High Jump—1, Sigmn Grant; 2, Sergt Bracken.

Putting the Shot—1, Sigmn Moores; 2, Sergt Bracken.

In an open mile held at Zeitoun, Corpl Carpenter won an excellent cup. His time was 4 mins. 46 secs.

At an athletic meeting held at the Cairo International Sporting Club, Corpl Carpenter won the 1500 metres; Sigmn Leal coming in third. Corpl Terrell was third in the 400 metres. It must be pointed out that at this meeting, all the Army, Egyptian, Greek and Italian crack runners were competing, and great credit is due to Corpl Carpenter for his excellent time of 4 mins. 32 secs.

At the Tank Corps sports held at Abbassia, the Signals claimed the only open event, which was the 880 yards: 1, Corpl Carpenter; 2, Sigmn Leal; 3, Corpl Terrell.

The E.E.F. Command Championships caused great excitement. The first event was the Group relay team race, when the Corps team came in first. In the final, we were just beaten by the Hampshire Regiment.

Carpenter won the Command championship mile in fine style. Sigmn Leal was second in the half mile, although only two yards behind the winner. In the 440 yards, Terrell came in third, although only six yards separated the first and third.

The team finished the season in an excellent manner. The Y.M.C.A. held an open meeting in April, and the honours came to us as follows:—

440 yards—Terrell, 1st, 53 secs.

880 yards—Leal, 1st, 2 mins. 11 secs.

1 mile—Carpenter, 1st, 4 mins. 50 secs.

Relay Race—Signals, 1st.

The running team throughout the season has been: Carpenter, 880 yards; Terrell, 440 yards; Browning, and Grant, 220 yards. Corpl Terrell will be remembered as one of the old R.E. Bedford runners.

SIMMO.

Kantara Signals.

Thank goodness we have got over the Easter vacation once again. Things have been rather dull here, and a general exodus was made by the "nibs" to Port Said, Ismailia, and Cairo.

Most of the excursionists were content with the allotted time, but some of the "local lads" made it a double event by rolling the cricket pitch for us on their return, thus combining holidays with sport.

In our last notes we spoke about a football match against the Ulster Regiment in the Sultan's Cup competition. 'Nuf sed on our part. We let the Ulsters carry on the good work, as they were a better team than us in the replay—we lost 4—2

As far as football is concerned, the Signals have finished, but we shall make an attempt at water polo and cricket.

"Sarah" and "Pug" are in the water pretty often, so we shall no doubt do something good in the briny. If they get any more medals like they had last season, they will be able to start a copper factory.

Cricket started at Kantara to-day with a couple of local elevens, but it was a very tame show. Perhaps they are lying low until the challenges arrive? We hope so, in case not. It was noticed that the personnel of the Signals were largely in force in this trial match—Capt. Parkes no doubt means to keep his boys in front as regards sport.

Everyone is pleased to hear of the newly-sanctioned Cairo Branch of the O.C.A., and wish it every success.

Things We Should Like to Know.

What was one young laddie doing on the Nile at midnight? And did he need the camera?

Is it necessary to use Sandow's developer and Pulham's P.T. course for fly catching?

Who was "Wilfrid's" teacher in the diving school? Water wings are suggested; he cannot be beaten as a porpoise imitator.

LINEMAN—NEW TYPE.

O.C.: "What is your trade?"

New Arrival: "Quartermaster's lineman, sir."

O.C.: "Quartermaster's lineman? What do you mean?"

New Arrival: "Drawing lines in ledgers, sir."

T. F. S.

Rhine Signal Company.

Ours is a nice house, ours is—so we are made to believe, and really, when we come to cast a reflective eye around, there are not so many weeds growing upon us after all.

The receding season did not rub off any of the lustre from our good name. We entered for everything and generally got into the final; and even though we have came croppers there, we beat more than beat us.

The old saying, "It's a long lane that gathers no moss," should be kept well in mind. We should have taken the hockey cup had the Artillery not been looking, though the medals from the Football League brought consolation.

We have left the "muddied oafs" period behind, beginning upon the other—the click of bat and ball bringing visions of hot sunny days, long evenings, and the centuries yet to be scored.

We are in the premier League, our first victims being the Cavalry, and given decent luck, we should be well amongst the leaders, having the majority of last year's players available, including the Rhine Army players—Lieut. Barry, Lieut. Jennings (whose feats last year are history in Cologne cricket), and Sigmn Saunders. The latter is bowling with increasing excellence each season, and should he not suffer from swollen head he will go far.

The Sports Committee have provided racquets for would-be tennis players, of whom there should be plenty to be had for the digging out, and a team to enter in the forthcoming tournaments is what we want.

Swimming costumes of wonderful style and hectic colouring are being bought and carefully hoarded against the time when Father Rhine subsides a little, his present condition being rather unsuitable.

We have had a visit from General Godley, the new G.O.C. Rhine Army, who made a very keen inspection of everything and everyone. The parade was very smart, though the rain came near to spoiling it. It was really amusing to see the disappointment of various people who had inflated their chests to tunic-bursting point, when the photographer, who hovered in the background, was unable to take a snap of them.

They had their opportunity a few days later when we participated in a parade on Cathedral Square in the heart of Cologne, together with the Navy, Artillery, Cavalry and Infantry, to honour the occasion of a visit by the Belgian War Minister. Our party, under the command of Capt. H. V. V. S. Thorne, was spic and span, gaining the approval of the critical crowd of spectators who gathered to watch.

Owing to the absence of notes from the Sergeants' Mess, we shall have to look round for something to write about. A brief survey of the Company and "who's who" in it might be interesting.

H.Q. Section, comprising the office staff, cooks, special duty men, and the S.M., is chiefly noticeable in that it contains Sigmn Shippey, large of stature and loud of voice, whose laundry ventures are sometimes attended with considerable loss, though not to himself; also Sigmn Webb, who has taken to himself the task of looking after the spiritual welfare of the Company—a truly herculean task.

No. 1 Section, formed wholly of linemen—real ones—have the best knowledge of tramway systems. They may often be seen carrying spare pieces of wire and intelligent looks into out-of-the-way places. They are



Sergeant: "I dunno about 'Awkward Squad'; you look more like the Morse Alphabet."

admired for the way they get on morning check parade after markers have fallen in, and generally rendezvous on the last car.

No. 2 Section, the largest (in numbers), comprises exchange operators, G.H.Q. Signal Office personnel, and D.R.'s. They may always be relied upon to supply defaulters; are always being urged by "Mac" to make the acquaintance of the "frisuer"; and are generally "broke" soon after pay-day.

No. 3 Section, the "Spark-ists," are very clannish owing to the barbed-wire fence; always talk shop; and solve the complication of the new sets by draught problems.

Last, though not least in their own thoughts, is the C.S.O.'s office staff, who work in G.H.Q., and from their lofty position look down upon us. If flattered and asked nicely, they will let you know where you stand on leave roster (if *they* know); can clearly be recognised by their intellectual looks and inky fingers.

Attached to us in a military sense only, are a number of R.A.S.C., who drive the mechanical transport. It does not need a witch-doctor to smell them out, oil and petrol apparently being their chief sustenance.

We have to note the arrival from the S.T.C. of Capt. G. H. H. Henderson, O.B.E., M.C., posted to this unit.

Sigmn. D. Twoomey left us for the S.T.C. for discharge, his numerous friends being disconcerted at his sudden departure. A smart though rather eccentric soldier, he had served in the East for a long period. If anyone meets him at S.T.C., he should ask him to recite his favourite verse, "Like a cannibal I crossed the Alps." It's enough to make Hannibal cross 'em again!

What We Would Know.

Who is responsible for the after-order which says that the wings of the flying-sentry should be well oiled before mounting guard?

If there really was someone in the barracks when the sentry fired?

P. B.

2nd Signal Company, Aldershot.

Owing to scarcity of news, our contribution has been missing from the last two issues of THE WIRE; but with the advent of the "willow" and the commencement of summer sports in general (combined with a large number of new arrivals), we are anticipating some interesting contributions in the course of the next few months.

Football.

We concluded our season's fixtures with a Company six-a-side, each member of the Company eleven being chosen as captain of a "six," and some very enjoyable as well as funny games were witnessed.

The final teams were Sigmn Woodford's and Driver Vanlint's, and after a good game the former won a very popular tournament by 3 points to nil.

Cricket.

A team has been entered for the Command unit cricket competition, and we are eagerly anticipating the first match against the Royal Engineers, which is to be played before the 28th May

Any member of the Company desirous of representing the Corps in the forthcoming season should apply for a trial in some of the practice matches being arranged.

Athletics.

A team has been entered for the Command inter-unit athletic tournament, and in the eliminating heats (decided on 8th and 9th May) the following were chosen to represent the Corps of Signals:—

100 yards—Sergt Bale and Driver Vanlint.
220 yards—Sergt Grant and Sigmn Dawson.
440 yards—Sigmn Wake and Sigmn Witton.
880 yards—Sigmn Newton and Sigmn Dipple.
Mile—Sergt Bayliss and Sigmn McDowell.
3 Miles—Sigmn Heath and Sigmn Silk.
Hurdles—Sigmn James and Sigmn Tidey.
High Jump—Lieut. Manners-Smith, Dvr. Galbraithe.
Long Jump—Sigmn Lomax and Sigmn Hollocks.
Putting the Shot—C.Q.M.S. Gadsby, Sigmn Mackie.

2nd Cavalry Divisional Signals

(Middlesex Yeomanry)

The unit (roughly 100 strong) proceeded to Woolwich for Easter training and carried out a very successful programme. Three Brigade Sections were working in conjunction with the Cable Troop, and the keenness of all ranks was shown by the quality and amount of work carried out.

The Despatch Riders' original scheme was for a run from London to Land's End and back *via* the South Coast. On account of the weather conditions it was decided to alter the programme, making Yeovil the first stop instead of Exeter. Interest was aroused here by the discovery of a wireless station, but all endeavours to get in touch with headquarters, Woolwich, failed. Following this, the Troop proceeded to Torquay, opening up communication here without success. Lyme-Regis was the next stop of interest, and at the latter it was discovered by our star member that a motor cycle ran better with a complete exhaust valve than one broken in two. Everything put in order, the run continued (Sunday) to Dorchester. The rain, hail and sleet being against us, it was decided to cancel church parade. Our relay failed sadly here, but the same details carried through, and in true soldierly spirit arrived at headquarters by 20.00 hrs. on Monday. The members who took part are to be congratulated on their achievement under arduous conditions, and it is hoped that in future runs the Troop will be at full strength.

Our musketry season opened in ideal weather at Rainham on May 6th, a pleasing sight being the number of senior n.c.o.s present and ready to give the younger members advice. The shooting on the whole was satisfactory, but it is well to mention the importance of practice on the miniature range.

In the social world, since my last notes, a whist drive was given by No. 2 Squadron, and a dance held by No. 1 Squadron, both of which were a great success. The visitors from other units formed quite a large proportion of those present. It is proposed to hold flannel dances through the summer season, and it is hoped they will receive more support from the members for whom they are primarily run.

E. H. S. & H. E. G.

56th (1st London) Divisional Signals.

The Easter camp held at Maresfield Park was excellent in every way, and the Depot have our heartiest thanks for the welcome extended to us and for the arrangements made. A few days like that do more good from the "learning" point of view than weeks going round the wagons as they stand in the drill hall; and horses conversant with the routine are a great help.

On parade our members made a good show, not letting the "Terriers" down at all, and it is to be hoped that it will always be a point of honour (especially when in contact with regular troops) to hold one's unit, and to try and make it, second to none.

Maresfield Park holds memories for a good many of this unit who were with the 1st London Signals on the outbreak of war, and were moved from the canvas of Crowborough to the almost equally cold unfinished hutments just before Christmas, 1914.

Our cook that was paid us a visit during Easter to shed a sentimental tear over the spot where his cooking trench used to be; and others went to several hostelries that used to attract, but I'm afraid the barmaids have changed!

Almost as soon as these notes have appeared, we shall be renewing our acquaintance at our Whitsun camp, which is eagerly looked forward to.

The scratch team put out by the Depot for a football match was rather easily beaten by ours—5 to 1 in our favour being the result of our overrunning them in the second half.

The billiard and snooker competition, held in the Sergeants' Mess, had a totally different result. We were overplayed everywhere, one member only (Sergt Weight) holding our end up.

The dance held at Calthrop Street on April 22nd was excellent for the quality and quantity of fancy dress, but not from the point of view of receipts—evidence of the "end of the season" spirit, no doubt. It is hoped to hold one or two "flannel dances" during the summer months.

Notes, Queries, etc.

It is a refreshing sight in these days to see people shedding racial prejudices. An excellent instance of this was seen in this unit. A gentleman of Hebrew persuasion was observed scoffing burgoo and bacon in quite a Scotch and Christian manner, and even asking a gentleman of Scotch extraction for sixpence to tip the waiter. Needless to say, he got it (?)

Elocution classes are to be started at Headquarters. Professor Weight will take measures to instruct budding speakers. The first item on the agenda is a fantasy in blank verse, entitled "Two Gilders."

A marriage was solemnised during Easter between two members of the unit. The registrar made a good show until he got the christening service mixed with the marriage, and turned the contents of a fire extinguisher on the unhappy pair—thus necessitating a double entry in the register.

When is a barrack warden not a barrack warden? All replies to this to be addressed to P.D. at H.Q., who will give a prize (if someone gives *him* one) for the nearest solution sent in.

Any member of the unit who lived in the second hut at camp, and who would like an appointment in a china shop, can obtain a recommendation from the C.Q.M.S.

Is it considered good form to walk past the guard, when mounting, without kissing the officer in charge?

All the pinhead cloth having been made up into suits, costumes, etc., no more applications are invited. A new catalogue will be issued shortly, containing an excellent selection of prizes won at fancy dress dances, which are now for sale.

Anyone with a knowledge of poultry and dog breeding could do a good turn to a member of the Sergeants' Mess, who wishes instruction on the following:—

A hen which was required to become broody refused to do so until kept for three years; and now that it has eggs under it, it has shed every feather. He says he hates to see the bald chicken sitting on eggs that are equally bald, and quite expects a box of safety razor blades as the result.

A dog, which was pushed through the letter box one night when quite a pup, has refused to grow an inch in six months; and although suspected of being an Irish terrier, at present it looks more like a khaki handkerchief, and keeps falling down the sink. The sergeant's wife detests wiping plates with it.

THE ROBBER.

3rd (London) Corps Signals Companies.

Sad News.

On Wednesday, April 26th, our Commanding Officer, Lieut.-Col. M. W. Emley, O.B.E., T.D., imparted the sad news that we were to be disbanded very shortly, in accordance with the decision of the authorities, as a measure of economy in national expenditure, and advised us to apply for transfer to other Territorial Signal units who were in need of men.

It is needless for me to point out that this news has cast a great gloom over the whole unit—a death sentence, as it were—blotting out in one fell blow all the happy anticipations of camp, week-end trainings, and the many sporting and social events already arranged for the future.

Inspection.

On Saturday, April 29th, at 6 p.m., we were inspected and addressed by Lieut.-Col. J. Waley-Cohen, C.M.G., D.S.O., T.D., who informed us with deep regret that we (in common with all other Corps and Command Signals) in all probability would cease to exist as from May 31st. He held out a hope, however, that there might be a chance of our being reformed under another name; but that might not come about—if it did at all—until after our disbandment. If such a position should arise, he thought that in these circumstances we would be granted every facility for rejoining or transferring back to the new unit.

Corps Farewell Dinner.

This was held at our Headquarters immediately after the inspection, under the able chairmanship of Lieut.-Col. M. W. Emley, O.B.E., T.D.

Several guests were invited, among those present being Lieut.-Col. J. Waley-Cohen, Major G. Spittle, D.S.O., Capt. W. Gillon, Capt. A. Farquharson, R.E., the O.C.s 47th and 56th Divl. Signal Companies, Messrs. J. Stoares, R. Holliday and G. Powell, who (with the exception of Lieut.-Col. J. Waley-Cohen, and the O.C.s Divl. Signal Companies) were members

of that famous "crush," the London Army Troops, R.E. (T.F.), of which our present unit is a proud but apparently dying successor.

Letters of regret for absence were read from Capt. H. Carey-Thomas and Mr. W. Kibble.

On the officers' table could be seen a glittering array of thirteen cups—trophies of glorious events of the past—won in different parts of Great Britain by our noble ancestors, the L.A.T.R.E. The tables were invitingly laid out, and about 180 diners "got down to it."

During the first part of the evening several toasts were drunk. In reply to that of "Our Guests," Lieut.-Col. J. Waley-Cohen again referred to the hopes of our being given a different title and formation and thus saved from disbandment.

Lieut.-Col. E. H. Leaf, Commanding Officer of the late L.A.T.R.E., entered the hall as Major Ransom read the letters of "deep regret" received from the Army Council and the Territorial Army Association respecting our approaching end. On being rather noisily requested for a speech, Lieut.-Col. Leaf said, "I arrived here just in time to hear your funeral oration, but I must say that this is the happiest funeral party I have ever attended."

Several other speeches were delivered by various guests and officers of the Corps, dealing chiefly with the glories of the past and the hopes of the future. What hopes for us, though!

After the general speech-making was finished, and an interval of fifteen minutes had been indulged in, a smoking concert was held. A good programme of song and elocution was rendered by members of the Corps, and several selections were played by the Corps orchestra under the bandmastership of Sergt. Senior.

Altogether, a very pleasant and enjoyable evening was spent; and if we as a Corps *are* to "die," we can at least go down to our "graves" with the memory of "that last dinner."

Corps Dances.

We held our last (?) ordinary fortnightly dance on Saturday, May 6th, and are having a farewell ball and supper on the 19th idem.

Is it really "good-byee?" Senior officers are carefully non-committal, but rumour to the contrary is very persistent. We trust that she is, in this instance, no "lying jade."

EFF—EMMA.

4th Divisional Signal Company.

The Spring is here. "Noted"—as my old friend Feather would say.

We now boast of a Company Sergeant-Major, viz., C.S.M. Pickett, who was recently posted from "Don."

We also boast of "umpteen" men. I wonder why?

Both Artillery Sub-Sections mentioned in the last issue have departed for camp on Salisbury Plain with the Gunners. Before their departure they went great guns on training.

The Section Sergeant of No. 2 one day requested a "Visop" to locate the distant station with the aid of a telescope.

This he did by placing the large end of the telescope to his eye, and remarking, "Yes, sergeant, it is a very distant station."

Drivers Beach, Searle and Wakeley have given us a month's notice under the "Axe."

Diggin started diggin' soon after his arrival here, and found another leg for his trouble.

C.S.M. Pickett has started things moving in the cricket line. We are hoping to do things later.

We ended up the football season by winning the Colchester and District Thursday League Championship Cup. The cup was presented by the League Secretary at the Sea Horse Hotel, Colchester, on May 5th, when a smoking concert was held in honour of the occasion. Medals were also presented.

Various artistes from the Garrison obliged at this concert with songs, etc., amongst them being "Tich" of jazz fame. Sad to relate, the morning after the night before, he was not very obliging, but he told a most wonderful tale of his previous night's wandering over the Middlewick Ranges, and how one of the butts sprang up at him.

Can anyone give me a decision on the following: "Are Infantry Machine Gun Sergeants qualified to drink with Farrier Staff-Sergeants of the Signals? If not, why not? And what really is the difference between a Farrier Staff-Sergeant and a C.Q.M.S.?

Before closing my notes, I would like to ask when "Smudger and Co." are going to notify their whereabouts? (Last seen at the School of Signals).

R. C. B.

42nd (East Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

MANCHESTER.

Another month has passed, and no doubt by the time this is published, the unit will be at camp on Salisbury Plain. It is hoped that the weather will be a little more favourable than last year. As usual, a little excitement prevails at present, and needless to say, the attendance is at its best.

The Adjutant and the Orderly Room staff are, to use a familiar phrase, "up to the neck in it." I went into the orderly room for my WIRE, but I couldn't see the R.S.M. for marriage and birth certificates (awful things nowadays).

I note that in C Company (Maresfield) notes of last month they mention Sergt Hoitt and that they were very sorry to lose him, but we are very pleased to welcome him, and he is well amongst us. It was remarked "he likes his fag"—I wonder if it was a "woodie."

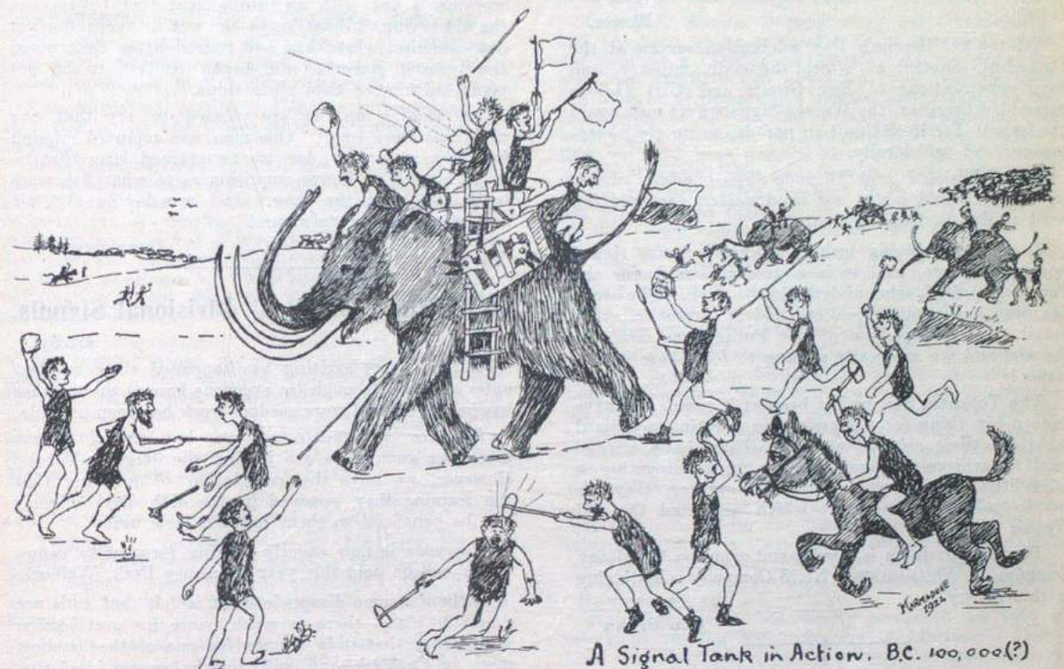
We offer our congratulations on the following promotions and appointments: Corpl Fairbanks to Sergeant; Sigmn Murphy to Corporal; Corpl Worsley to L/Sergeant; L/Corpl Stevens to Corporal; Sigmn Walker to L/Corporal; and Sigmn Kewley to L/Corpl.

On Sunday, April 30th, a party of sixty (under Lieut. Yates) proceeded by char-a-banc to Holcombe Brook rifle range, and a most enjoyable day was spent. On the whole the results were very good.

The Sports Committee held a meeting on Wednesday, March 10th, to complete the final arrangements for the annual sports at camp, which I am informed are such as will appeal to all ranks and sections.

It will be noted that there are several Sections not mentioned this month. In view of the coming event, and owing to heavy duties, the people concerned have had little or no time to put their pen to paper; but

More Prehistoric Signals.



A Signal Tank in Action. B.C. 100,000(?)

C.Q.M.S. Hewitt (Expert Rum Issuer) is telling the tale below regarding the Sergeants' Mess.

Next month, with the kind permission of the editor, we will swell the columns of THE WIRE with camp news, etc.

Wireless Section.

Lieut. Samuels returned from Maresfield on April 8th last.

In the March issue of THE WIRE, R.T.O. of the 53rd (Welsh) stated they hoped to communicate with Liverpool where others had failed. We don't wish to blow our trumpet, but I have the pleasure of stating that we are not amongst those who failed, as we succeeded—and it is regretted that Liverpool have been disbanded just as the wind was in the sails.

Word has been received from Sigmn Patston, who is at present with the G.P.O. on a W/T station at Banbury. The work, he states, is very interesting, and in the ordinary course of a day's routine, he is in touch with Cairo, Rome, and Halifax (Nova Scotia). It is hoped he will be with us at camp, that is, assuming his civil duties will allow.

Sergeants' Mess.

Owing to the fact that we are mere lodgers in these headquarters, the only chance we get to run a Mess of our own is at camp—and we mean to have a real live one this year. C.Q.M.S. Williams (No. 2 Company) has taken on the catering, and he says, "leave it to me"—which is a very good speech, knowing him as we do.

We held a general Mess meeting on April 28th, and elected officers for the ensuing twelve months, as follows: Mess President, C.Q.M.S. Hewitt; Mess Sec., Sergt Tom Taylor; Mess Treasurer, Sergt C. Andrews (honorary).

Glad to say that quite a good sprinkling of the old 42nd ("Go one better") Divl. Signals have come up again, and I daresay many old Gallipoli and Sinai friends in the 52nd, 53rd and 54th Divl. Signals will recognise one or other of the undermentioned "old sweats":—Sgt Cocky Andrews, Sgt-Roughrider (alleged, late I.J.K.L.M.N.O.P., etc., Batteries R.H.A.), Sergt Adlard (Bill of bulldog fame, the tale of which I will tell you one of these days), Sergt Tom Taylor (D/R Sergeant, a good judge of hops), C.Q.M.S. Charley Williams, D.C.M. (Stiffy), Sergt Fairbanks (Wireless), L/Sergt Worsley (another blooming Bill), and Corpl Stephens (of P.E.L. set fame).

Now we have got going again, we hope to get into touch with many old comrades whom we met on various fronts in "the grate fite," and I daresay there are many little recollections of various stunts (enjoyable or otherwise) which, when mentioned in the columns of this paper, will bring back old times.

Before I conclude, I might mention that there is every prospect of this unit going into our new headquarters at a very early date. Cheerio!

TONY.

[CORRECTION.—May Number, page 107, 42nd Divl. Signals, 1st line in third paragraph, for "now," substitute *not*.]

43rd (The Wessex) Divisional Signals.

Exeter.

At the St. George's Day celebration service at the Cathedral, Exeter, at which the civic, military, and local organisations of Boy Scouts and Girl Guides assembled together, the Wessex Signals were once again the largest Territorial unit on parade, so we are "keeping our end up" locally.

Our Divisional and Brigade Signal offices, which have been wired up at our headquarters, are proving most useful in training operators.

It was a fairly big task to get these rooms rigged up as they are, and it is a great triumph for the Permanent Staff who undertook the task. The work has been beautifully executed, and is correct in every detail. The merry hum of the Fullerphone now fills the air, and we are really getting to *love* these instruments!

The Topsham Section has been at it again, and have done a big thing for themselves in securing a billiard table for their recreation room. They have worked hard to achieve success, and having got together a solid little Section who will stick together, they are out to cultivate the spirit which animated the old Wessex Signals.

The next business is a week-end camp on Woodbury Common at Whitsuntide. No. 3 Company is indulging in this luxury.

OLD SPARK

44th (H.C.) Divisional Signals.

No. 2 Company, Brighton.

The Company, following the practice of last year, embarked upon their Easter training camp from April 15th to 17th inclusive. Having spent Good Friday on the rifle range at Portslade, we returned to headquarters in the evening and left Brighton on Saturday morning by train for Haywards Heath.

We then commenced a scheme by bringing the cable waggon into use and laying a line as far as Balcombe, this being the advanced Divisional headquarters. From there a line was run (man pack) to an imaginary artillery brigade on the left flank, visual to the brigade being established on the right flank. Some very good and interesting work was got through, and the scheme in every way was quite a success (wonders never cease!)

Now, of course, we must say a few words about the recreation side of the camp. To begin with, everyone thoroughly enjoyed himself and had a good time. "At least, so they say."

Of course, the two horses that started skating with the cable waggon and finished up by saying their prayers—well, they cannot speak for themselves, so we take it for granted that they also enjoyed the trip.

One member, we heard, arrived at the village tea shop in time to accept a challenge from the local champion dart-thrower, and our member—we are pleased to say—just managed to win by a short head (another laurel for the Company).

The men at the advanced station who slept in a workman's hut with an intermittent roof believed in the old saying, "What keeps the wet in keeps the wet out"—so that when they had retired after their usual few coffees, and the rain began to fall, it did not penetrate further than their skins.

In winding up, we are pleased to say that our casualties were small. One man was reported missing from the rear party, but we ascertained later that he found himself at Lewes enquiring as to what fish were to be caught in the Ouse. And woe betide the fair one who told him "shrimps!"

DONEACKENNE.

46th (North Midland) Divisional Signals.

Derby.

Nothing very exciting has happened since my last notes appeared, though (as everyone knows) the weather has improved, and more outdoor work has been possible.

Recruits continue to roll up, but several of our promising youngsters are joining the Regular Forces. However, we have the consolation of knowing that the training they received in the 46th Divl. Signals will be beneficial to them in their new units.

Everyone is now eagerly looking forward to camp, which will be held this year at Abbey Park, Welbeck.

Although some disappointment is felt that it is not a seaside place, there is much cause for gratification in knowing that it is situated in one of the loveliest spots in England, and will also be among ideal surroundings for training purposes—which is the most important point of an annual camp.

MEREBIMUR.

55th (West Lancs.) Divl. Signals, T.A.

There has been some talk of a redistribution of our Companies. Things, however, are still in a state of uncertainty, so I am unable to communicate anything interesting at the time of writing.

Training is proceeding satisfactorily. W/T lectures have taken on a more practical form. Rifles have at last come to hand, and the annual tests will be fired at Altcar on the 10th inst. In spite of very interesting lectures by Sergts P. S. Evans and Atherton, no real progress has been made in the riding school, as up till now we have only had a rocking horse available. Within two months of camp, it is not unreasonable to expect a few live ones to be making an appearance.

It has now been decided to hold the annual camp at Peel, I.O.M. This is a happy selection as a training area, and I trust all our members are good sailors, as otherwise the voyage may be a little trying. Anyway, they are all looking forward to a good time, and I am given to understand that there is no danger of Douglas being put out of bounds.

We are pleased to welcome Lieuts Cooper, M.C., Mostyn, and Wade, gazetted to West Lancs. Signals during the past month.

E. M. C.

51st (Highland) Divisional Signals, T.A.

Headquarters and No. 1 Company, Aberdeen.

We welcome the notes of our friends the 42nd and 55th Divl. Signals, who (like ourselves) made their initial appearance in the May number of THE WIRE.

Congratulations to R.S.M. Donovan on his promotion to C.Q.M.S. on the Corps roster. Things *must* be moving.

It is regretted that we shall not this year have the pleasure of entertaining our friends of H.M.Y. "Alexandra," and that our band will not again have the opportunity of playing on board. Very pleasant memories are retained of the yacht's visit to Aberdeen last year, and many were the hopes mutually expressed for future meetings; but "man proposes," etc., and our information is that the yacht is out of commission for reasons of economy.

On the disbandment of the R.A.M.C. at the end of the present month, we are to take over their Sergeants' Mess. This will add considerably to our comfort, and afford more opportunities for social life. A Mess meeting was held on the 12th inst., at which Sergt McKinnon was elected secretary, and the following were elected committee members: Sergts Perry, Morgan, Mitchell and L/Sergt Bruce.

We are also to have a junior n.c.o.s and men's recreation room—a much wanted adjunct.

Training is proceeding apace, but may we ask quietly, "Which way is the cat going to jump?" Other Divl. Signal Companies will understand this query, and will, no doubt, be as interested as ourselves to know.

In the second round of the Gazette trophy, we played A Company 4th Gordon Highlanders, and were the victors by 3 goals to 1. Now for the semi-final, in which we are drawn to meet the North Scottish R.G.A.—the match to be played at the T.A. Grounds on Saturday, May 20th. A full report of the match will be sent to THE WIRE for publication, and as many members of this unit as possible are asked to buy a copy.

On the eve of sending these notes, No. 1 Company report that they are recruited up to establishment, and have commenced a "waiting list."

S. H. M.

No. 2 Company.

Since the publication of our last screed we have "flitted" into our new quarters; are now quite comfortably settled, and the feeling that we were in furnished apartments (a not unknown feeling during the present shortage of houses) has entirely passed away. Four nicely fitted-out huts have been erected for us, one of which has been utilised as a recreation hut for the men; the usual stores, offices and lecture hut take up two more; while the fourth is the vehicle shed.

With such spacious apartments, a much larger scale of training can be undertaken and carried out, which is beneficial for everyone in such interesting work.

Considering the "Axe" is falling everywhere, we are congratulating ourselves on our luck. Recruiting is proceeding slowly but surely, and before long we shall have as many as can be trained with comfort and efficiency.

Our notes this month are chiefly confined to training, yet the element of sport is not entirely lacking. As anyone who has studied the mannerisms of Scotsmen knows, the earnest and determined manner in which training is undertaken in each branch developes an amusing and quite unconscious sporting element. Such it is, and the onlooker sees most of the game.

Our W/T Section is progressing very favourably, and has been so far successful as to form part of an audience at a Chelmsford concert. As in everything else, our ambition can never be fully realised, and the thought of obtaining a greater power over the air is ever before us. In this direction our ambition has been partly attained, as information is now to hand that we have been granted more powerful W/T sets. Up to date we have been working with very small masts, yet have made the best of it. If in time we can get masts as high as our ambition, we may yet be able to get into communication with Mars.

Our Visual Section is going strong, especially the two "Macs." Station work will soon be an accomplished fact, and during the long clear nights it is hoped to carry out some useful work. This Section is very keen not to be outdistanced in class.

Our Cable Section deserves a word of commendation. Especial interest is being taken in this branch, and many applications have been received for transfer to the section. We are now doing practical work on the roads, and the mounted numbers attract a deal of attention and amusement by the serious and affectionate manner in which they embrace their horses' necks. This will improve, however, and crook sticks will come into their own. Hammer and jumper drill is taken as preliminary training for the Strathallan games. Yet intelligent interest is there, as is evidenced by the droll reply of a canny Scot who, when asked the question, "What does No. 7 do at a pole crossing?" replied, "He's no' up yit."

The Association has kindly presented us with a couple of rocking horses for riding exercise. These have been duly placed in the nursery, and we hope to combine training with amusement.

May is never a very great month for sport; the football ends, and cricket in Scotland comes in like a lame man. However, during the summer, we hope to be able to compile a fixture card, and perhaps in the natural course of progress we may be able to arrange a full sized sports meeting.

On behalf of No. 2 Company I tender our heartiest congratulations to Sigmn Cotterell on his splendid performance in the recent International cross country race, and wish him future success. One member of the Company was overheard saying, "Can they still say the Signals are to justify their existence?"

M. F.

52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals.

Musketry.

Up to the time of writing only 64 out of all the Companies (including recent transfers from the 1st Scottish Corps Signals) have failed to put in an appearance at the range; seven have not completed all the practices; and 24 have still to do "repetitions." The average scoring has been good, and both attendances and firing are considered eminently satisfactory for a T.F. unit.

Football.

One match only remains to be played by Divl. Signals, and this will be contested with the H.L.I., whom we trust to defeat and thus bring to an end a very satisfactory and successful season. With the advent of summer, one feels glad to take to those games calling for less physical exertion!

LOWDIVCOR.

G.H.Q. Signal Company, Ireland.

As we are now ably supported by the cadres of the Curragh and Dublin Signal Companies, recreation is being resurrected from its inaction during the Spring.

The cricket team bids fair to rival last year's "invincibles" (with several "hopefuls" and "possibles" in training). The tennis court is becoming quite popular, thanks to the efforts of our groundsman.

The spirit of "Jimmie" finds favour in the garage these days, and D.R.s will soon be handing in their mechanical steeds, girding up their loins, and footing it instead. So our efforts would appear to compare favourably with our small numbers.

We suitably celebrated the sequence of truces, etc., at Easter with a dinner, apparently an official precedent, but that did not lessen the gaiety; no casualties.

Business is as usual. The park is budding, but there seems to be a slight dearth of paid stripes—due, no doubt, to the increase in jobs and the modesty in establishment. So there is some small "bleating" in the land of "Irè," but "sweat on,"—c'est la guerre—soon we may sing, "Home, sweet home," or even, "Sweet Training Centre."

Queries.

Is it not a fact that certain members have been deserted by their Dublin damsels in favour of the lads of the "Four Courts" and other I.R.A. wearing brown footwear, formerly only affected by "warrant" ranks?

G. G.

"K" Signal Company.

It is with regret we have to state that the old-established Post Office Company (known to all the Signal Service as K Signal Company, with its headquarters at Aldborough House, Dublin) has now been disbanded, and the remaining w.o.'s and n.c.o.'s have been transferred to various Signal Companies in England and Ireland.

The Company was formed in 1870, and has always been recognised as a highly trained and efficient arm of the Signal Service; and owing to their being in constant touch with the most up-to-date apparatus and methods, as used by the G.P.O., the Company were able to produce fully qualified permanent linemen and operators, a great asset to the Signal Service.

Quite a number of the old K Company sappers are now holding permanent P.O. appointments, including that of superintending engineer, and all grades of skilled workmen, which is no mean achievement in these days of competition.

The above photograph shows the remains of the old Company who were serving in Dublin at the time of disbandment. Owing to the political situation in Ireland they were ordered to wear civilian clothes in order to carry out their duties.

DISCONNECTED.



"All that was left of them"—K Signal Company.

Front Row (left to right)—L/Sergt. H. R. Cooper, Sergt. J. R. Brown, and Sergt. H. Deaves.
Second Row—C.S.M. J. Smeeth, C.Q.M.S. A. E. Lecluse, and C.Q.M.S. A. Hopkins.
Third Row—Sergt. Watts (attached for Instruction), and L/Sergt. H. W. Waters.
Fourth Row—L/Sergt. A. Robertson.

Ulster Divisional Signals.

Headquarters,
Newtownards, Ireland.

General.

Oh! what will this month bring us? No, that is not from the effeminate heart, but a wail of anxious murmuring from the Company Office staff.

Well, you dear friends who interestedly read these jottings from Ould Oireland for news of the doings here or of past acquaintances, I have little enough to tell you, except to expound on the above wail.

The month's casualties include Corpl T. Powell, Corpl W. L. Parsons, Corpl R. B. Dickie, Sigmn A. Irvine, Sigmn W. I. Thompson, Sigmn C. E. Lawes, Sigmn B. G. Kimble, and Sigmn F. C. Phillips, who, having completed their special terms of service, have chosen the prospects of a "money" job with the R.I.(S.)C., who anticipate forming a wireless section. Good luck to all the wireless boys under the able directorship of Lieut Campbell, who is also leaving us to take up a new position under the above régime at the end of this month.

Despite the Company casualties, we learn that several increases have arrived on the "home" stations. We have to congratulate Corpl Dickie on the proud presentation of a son and heir; Corpl Tolley on a daughter; and Sergt Gilbert on a son just come to town. All the Ulsterites will join in hearty congratulations and best wishes to all. May they live long and happily.

Sports are generally at a premium during our present lamentable position as workers. Handing-over certificates are bountiful, and little useful sport can be attempted under the changing heads of Sections. It is hoped to give a farewell dance to Capt W. T. Howe, O.B.E., on Friday, 19th inst., prior to his relinquishing command of the Company to Major C. L. Day.

We hope our friends now in the East will give us a thought between whiles and send us word of their new conditions in the "hot place!"

C. G. V. W.

Things We Want to Know.

The name of the man who suggested diverting the Gulf Stream around to Stranford Lough.

If the Crossley tender departed as per detail, and the length of hose carried?

What the C.Q.M.S. thought when the C.S.M. could not answer the phone because the "Wires" were out?

No. 2 Section.

Belfast.

There is a dearth of news items in Belfast in these days of our "departed glory."

Ours is merely a tale of work—and work, even when it is well done, is an unimaginative and unproductive thing on which to base notes.

Sporting events are "non est," the only pastimes practised here with any fervour being the ancient ones of "glass tilting" and "bird chasing." We, however, take no credit for our skill in these directions, since they have been practised with equal assiduity by all armies during all ages.

Our old friends and neighbours, the Fortress Company R.E., held a very successful dance on Friday, 28th April. Signals did not take advantage of it as they might have done, thereby missing a very entertaining night's distraction. It will be generally agreed, though, that Corpl "Tubby" was no mean representative, and made up in bulk what was lacking in numbers.

Otherwise, "nothing doing" sums up our condition. We are hopeful that the summer sports will find us more lively, and that I may have something real and noteworthy to write for future WIRES.

What We Hear.

A certain signalman returned one evening after seeing a friend off on a "month's pending," and proceeded to undress on the wrong bed. On being remonstrated with, he re-dressed, then walked round to his own bed, and again undressed.

No. 3 Section.

Londonderry.

May we first inform you that our Section strength has been reduced by ten—that being the cause of small sales of THE WIRE.

We have said "good-bye" to eight of our old "mucking-in pals," who got fed up with the "one colour scheme," and decided to have a cut at civil life. These are: L/Corpl F. P. Day, L/Corpl W. F. Seddon, and Signalmen W. Bradbury, H. S. Carter, F. R. Green, T. Lever, A. T. Sage, and R. Shelley.

The good wishes of No. 3 Section, and I think I may say of the whole Company, go with them on their exit from Erin.

Of course, we are feeling rather lonely now, but if there are still "Signals" in Maresfield Camp, as we are led to believe by THE WIRE, we shall surely have reinforcements dispatched to us. If not, well, we shall be forced to carry on as per 1921.

Since my last notes we have taken into the fold Sergt Latter and L/Corpl Cattell, from Curragh Signal Company and Ballykinlar Camp respectively, and it is thought that they enjoy themselves. At least, we heard of an incident which took place in the "Derry Empire" some few weeks ago, but "nuff said."

We cannot say anything of sports, for we have not done anything independently, as the one or two athletes we had (haven't got them now) attached themselves to the R.A.S.C. and local clubs for football; but who knows what will happen should we get more "Sparkers"?

A certain individual of this Section suggests that a correspondents' column for locating old chums of the R.C.S. should be started in THE WIRE, and to open things up, he inquires if one Sigmn H. Noakes (last heard of at Cologne, Germany)—should he chance to read this—will communicate with his cycling half-section from Bedford B Signal Depot to Holloway, London, one memorable Sunday in 1917.

Things We Want to Know.

Did "Hoppy" catch that 2.50 train to Newtownards?

Athletic Notes.

Heartiest congratulations to Joe from Nobby on his wonderful achievements in the running line (may he even go one better next season); also to the great Cammo, Gaff, Dowie, Jimmy Noonan, and Richardson.

I notice there has been no new talent to extend the old ones; but, Cammo, how did you get up second to Joe in the individual? I can guess it: plenty of spearmint, and rubbing the feet well on the ground before

the start so that everyone notices you. You are an object lesson to your married brussers.

Nobbinus is going fairly strong on the track here, getting 1st in the half mile and mile at Bangor on Easter Tuesday against the Irish fliers, and 1st in the half mile in the Ulster Athletic League on May 3rd.

This league is a great boon. It is, I think, the first of its kind run on almost the same lines as football leagues, with athletics in place of the ball: two men to each event; losing side supplies winners with bronze medals; and at the end of the season, gold medals and a cup for the winning team.

I am looking forward to a big season's work; and with swimming facilities, tennis and cricket, starting by the Signals here, we will have abundance of sport to chirp about—and we hope to crow a little! Good luck to all my old confrères and the few new lights.

Yours sincerely,

NOBBINUS.

[LATE NEWS.]

49th (West Riding) Divl. Signals, Leeds.

Musketry.

With reference to my notes in the last issue, the results of the firing for the three days was very good. The cup was won by the Headquarters Section, 3rd Signal Company being a good second, 1st Signal Company third, and 2nd Signal Company fourth.

Training.

Now we are in full swing with our standard programme, and all the members are very keen. The attendance at the lectures is very good, and by the time we go to camp I think we shall be "it" again—that is, if the Geddes axe does not come our way: which we hope not.

We had two regimental exercises last month, round the vicinity of Thorner—that is, about ten miles from Leeds: two wireless stations under the care of the "Sparky Jock," one cable detachment, one telephone detachment, and about 40 signallers.

A small traffic scheme was held from 11.15 to 12.30 hours, and the result was just what the officers expected, so the stations were allowed to close down until 14.00 hours, when another scheme began. The same efficiency was again obtained, and the order was sent to pack up and return to the base; and we got back to Headquarters about 17.15 hours.

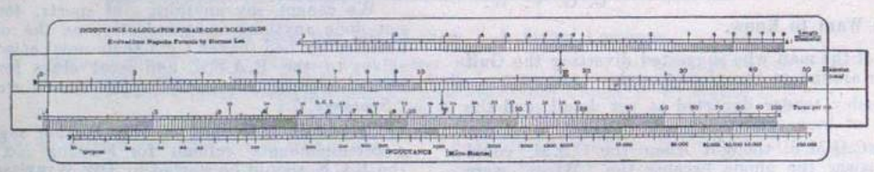
Billiards.

The billiards have finished now, but the results are not yet known. I am told that a smoker is being held in the Rifles' Mess on the 2nd of next month, when the cup will be presented to the winners.

Permanent Staff.

L/Sergt F. W. Hurn has joined us from J Cable Section, and we all wish him the best of luck, and hope he will like his new job. He will find that the hours here are longer than where he was, but there is no early parade to think about.

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Types of the Corps: No. 7—The "Roughrider."



Although "roughrider" is not a Signal trade, this work is of so great importance that this "additional qualification" deserves to be mentioned in this series.

His work is so little in the limelight, that he is apt to be forgotten—except, of course, by those men who have made his acquaintance in the riding school. I think it is safe to say that his efforts to turn out men who can "sit a horse" under practically any circumstances are seldom appreciated at the time of instruction.

I say "at the time," for it is later that one begins to feel grateful to the man who sits placidly on a beautiful horse in the centre of the school, and blithely hurls ridicule and sarcasm at us, while we wonder why a trotting horse feels so much like a travelling earthquake. It is only when we rise at a stiff hedge, without sliding over our mount's tail, and gently land on the far side without converting our legs into a neck-wrap for him, that we realise how essential and beneficial were all those hours spent mainly in trying to look comfortable whilst trotting round the school with "quit-stirrups" and, perhaps, folded arms into the bargain.

But instructing recruits how to ride is only part of a roughrider's job. A thorough knowledge of the many ailments to which horses are subject, and of the hundred-and-one trifling mishaps which, if not looked after, so readily turn into serious disabilities, are other essentials of a roughrider.

As "watchwords" have been found in these columns for all other "Types of the Corps," I have no difficulty in finding *two* for this one. From my personal experience of these gentlemen, I think the most appropriate watchwords are "Courage" and "Patience."

Lacking these qualities, a man need not aspire to wear the "spur." During the recent war—(sorry to dig it up again)—when horses were being bowled over by the score, it was the roughrider whose task it was to break in and train fresh ones. And considering that many of those horses had not even been "saddle-backed," and were almost wild, it will be easily understood that the job was not an easy one. Only a great love for horses, and a complete understanding of all their little whims and ways, enabled the roughrider to succeed.

And when we next limp away from the riding school and wonder ruefully when we shall again be able to sit in comfort, don't let us curse the "rough," but ponder over the fact that he is only "getting his own back."

He had a much worse time of it when he qualified for his spur; got far more sarcasm, far more hard work, and far less time between.

If you don't think so, perhaps an obliging "rough" will introduce you to a few of the stunts *he* had to perform on his three or six months' course. But be careful to get insured in the "*Daily Hail*" before trying them.

A First Trip to India.

By W. R. C. P.

[Continued from May Number.]

Kohat is the headquarters of another section of the frontier, namely the Kurram and Tochi valleys. D Divisional Signals provide communication with headquarters section in Kohat, and small parties and other sections scattered about the area. This area is colossal. The main permanent routes are two; one up the Kurram *via* Hangu and Thal to Parachinar—a distance of 120 miles and consisting of 600 lbs. G.I. wire—and the other *via* Bannu to Dardoni, roughly the same distance, also of very heavy gauge wire. In addition there are Brigade camps which have to have signal sections, locality exchanges to be manned, a chain of visual to be worked, a wireless scheme to be kept going, and despatch riders and pigeons to be provided—not to mention that the unit must always be prepared to supply at a moment's notice a communication section for any independent column which may be sent out. That this is a largish job for a divisional signal unit on peace establishment, and commanded by a Captain, will not be denied by anyone; particularly at a time when British personnel is short, Indian ranks not very clever, the officer question still unsettled, and in some cases barrack accommodation poor, owing to lack of funds. The Divisional Signal unit in India consists of headquarters and two Companies. No. 1 Company provides all divisional headquarters operators, line, visual and wireless, cable sections and R.A. Headquarters detachment; and No. 2 Company is the Infantry and R. A. Brigade section company. The three-Company organization has been universally condemned.

We motored up the Kurram to Parachinar, breakfasting at Hangu and lunching at Alizai. The maintenance of the telephone route is carried out by linemen stationed at Government telegraph offices along the road. These men are mainly enlisted in the neighbourhood, and never wear uniform, so they are seldom molested. We reached Parachinar—120 miles from Kohat—at tea time and inspected the signal office and wireless station (Wagon Marconi set). It is a lovely place in early winter. Trees just turning to autumnal tints, gardens full of gorgeous chrysanthemums; just behind, the mountains rise to 10,000 feet, well above the snow line. It was very cold, and we were exceedingly glad of a large fire after dinner.

Parachinar is the headquarters of the Kurram militia, an irregular body of local troops some 1,800 strong, comprising infantry,mounted infantry and guns. They have five specially selected British officers. They are an extraordinarily fine lot of men, and look after the safety and protection of the whole valley. They work under the political branch, and not under the military. Their founder was Sir George Roos Keppel, who has just died leaving behind a name and personality long to be remembered on the Frontier. Ten miles beyond Parachinar is the Piewar Pass into Afghanistan, Lord Roberts' route to Kandahar in 1879.

Down the centre of the Kurram runs a very fishable-looking river, and we were told that good catches of snow trout and mahseer are frequently made. Near the river the soil is very fertile, and thousands of cattle, sheep, and goats thrive, and large fields of rice yield good crops. The inhabitants of the valley go by the name of "Touris."

While we were there the road was packed with tribes-people, chiefly Afridis, coming down from over the frontier to winter in the plains. With them they carried all their goods and chattels, and they use every form of transport animal—small and large asses, mules, ponies, oxen and camels. When the car approached most of the beasts careered wildly off the road—a car not being an every-day affair. The camels were particularly amusing, as they are thoroughly foolish-looking at the best of times. They usually had an enormous load on either side, and perchel on top, a small child and half a dozen hens. When the old camel sloped off at a swinging trot there was much excitement, cackling, screaming and fluttering of wings!

We spent a night at Alizai on the way down. The pickets are withdrawn and the road closed at a certain hour every day, and we were caught. We were very comfortable in the dak bungalow—guest house—maintained by the Civil and used by travellers. On the way we looked in at one or two of the civil telegraph offices. It speaks well of the G.T.D. sounder that it continues to work amid the dirt to be found in some of these places!

Another night was passed at Kohat and we returned to Peshawar on Saturday, November 5th.

Peshawar keeps a very good grass golf course, and also has an excellent riding country around. There is a pack of hounds which hunt the jackal, and give good sport. In our leisure hours we found plenty to do. Amongst other things, we visited the native city—very dirty and smelly, crowded and full of flies, but exceedingly interesting. As the Indian end of a large caravan route Peshawar can show a wonderful collection of rugs, carpets, Bokhara silks and other trans-frontier productions.

Sunday morning was spent in the Zoo, which is small but possesses many fine animals and birds.

On the 7th we motored out to Nowshera and Rissalpur, inspecting a Cavalry Brigade Signal troop at the latter place, and an Infantry Brigade section and two Artillery Brigade sub-sections at the former. In almost all these places I came across some officer I had met while on a course at Maresfield.

The Cavalry Brigade Signal troop was a fine show, really good to look on. Well turned out—physically fit men, British and Indian, and horses showed up excellently. There are no Cavalry Divisions in India; the regiments are formed into independent Brigades, and so similarly with Signals there are no Signal squadrons but only independent troops.

This finished the list of units to be inspected from Peshawar.

(To be continued).

SPORTS NEWS.

Football.

The Season's Record.

The record of the Royal Corps of Signals is by no means bad, as the following figures will show. These include all cup-tie fixtures, except those for the Army Cup:—

Sept. 3rd—Eastbourne R.E. (County League) away; draw 1—1; goal scored by Shenton.
Sept. 17th—Worthing (C.L.) away; lost 0—1.
Sept. 24th—Southwick (C.L.) home; won 2—0; goals by Shenton and Welch.
Oct. 8th—Newhaven (C.L.) home; won 4—2; goals by Shenton (3) and McGregor.
Oct. 15th—East Grinstead (C.L.) away; draw 1—1; goal by Gresham.
Oct. 22nd—Vernon Athletic (C.L.) away; won 2—1; goals by Shenton and Baines.
Oct. 26th—R.E. Chatham (annual friendly) home; won 3—2; goals by Shenton (3).
Oct. 29th—Lewes (C.L.) home; won 2—0; goals by Baines (2).
Nov. 5th—Chichester (C.L.) away; lost 1—3; goal by Baines.
Nov. 12th—Eastbourne R.E. (C.L.) home; won 6—0; goals by Shenton (2), Withers (2), Gresham and Baines.
Nov. 19th—Lewes (C.L.) away; draw 0—0.
Dec. 3rd—Hastings and St. Leonards (C.L.) away; lost 0—6
Dec. 10th—Bournemouth Gas Works (Amateur Cup, 1st Round proper) away; lost 1—2; goal by Withers.
Dec. 17th—Brighton and Hove Amateurs (Friendly) home; won 2—1; goals by Baines (2).
Jan. 7th—Shoreham (C.L.) away; won 2—0; goals by Shenton (2).
Jan. 14th—Brighton and Hove Amateurs (Sussex Senior Cup, 2nd Round) home; won 3—0; goals by Shenton, Baines and Carter.
Jan. 21st—Hastings (Sussex Senior Cup, 3rd Round) home; won 4—0; goals by Shenton (2), Withers and Barby.
Feb. 11th—Brighton and Hove Amateurs (C.L.) away; won 2—1; goals by Withers and Shenton.
Feb. 18th—Vernon Athletic (C.L.) home; won 5—0; goals by Baines (4) and Duffy.
March 4th—Worthing (Sussex Senior Cup, semi-final), away; lost 0—1.
March 11th—Shoreham (C.L.) home; won 5—0; goals by Baines (3), Gresham and Carter.
March 18th—Brighton & Hove Amateurs (C.L.) home; won 6—1; goals by Baines (3) and Hayden (3).
March 25th—Chichester (C.L.) home; won 9—1; goals by Hayden (4), Baines (2), and Withers (3).
April 1st—Southwick (C.L.) away; draw 0—0.
April 8th—East Grinstead (C.L.) home; won 3—0; goals by Shenton (2) and Baines.
April 15th—Newhaven (C.L.) away; lost 3—4; goals by Baines (2) and Withers.
April 22nd—Worthing (C.L.) home; won 4—0; goals by Withers, Shenton, Baines and Hall.
April 29th—Hastings (C.L.) home; won 8—0; goals by Shenton (4), Hayden (3), and Bonner.
May 16th—Hastings (semi-final Royal Irish Rifles Cup) away; won 3—2; goals by Baines (2) and Shenton.

We have had a fairly successful season, as the following will show:—Played 29; won 19; lost 6; drawn 4; goals for 82; against 30.

The team has been remarkably consistent on our own enclosure at Maresfield, and every team which has met us there has been soundly defeated, as the following figures show:—Matches played 15; won 15; lost 0; drawn 0; goals for 66; against 7.

It is indeed a pity that such form could not have been maintained on strange grounds. All the same, we cannot grumble, but we look forward to going one better next year. We congratulate the team on their season's work, and wish them every success in the future.

Although we were unlucky to lose the Sussex Senior Cup this season by an odd goal, our team can atone for that defeat by winning the Irish Rifles Cup. The match takes place next Saturday, and we hope to bring the cup back to Maresfield with us.

Sussex County League.

The fixtures in the Sussex County League having been completed, we find ourselves in the third position—a slight improvement on last season, when we finished up fifth. The final table is as follows:—

	Played	W.	L.	D.	For	Agst	Pts
Worthing	22	19	2	1	52	13	39
Hastings and St. Leonards	22	16	5	1	64	26	33
Royal Corps of Signals ...	22	14	4	4	66	20	32
Vernon Athletic	22	13	7	2	47	35	28
Eastbourne R.E.	22	10	8	4	60	39	24
Lewes	22	11	9	2	46	41	24
Brighton & HoveAmateurs	22	8	11	3	32	37	19
Chichester	22	8	13	1	28	61	17
Southwick	22	7	13	2	33	46	16
Newhaven	22	5	13	4	26	53	14
East Grinstead	22	2	14	6	25	56	10
Shoreham	22	3	17	2	16	54	8

League Matches.

CORPS OF SIGNALS v. VERNON ATHLETIC.

This interesting County League fixture took place at Maresfield on Saturday, February 18th, before a good attendance. The Signals (who had an unbeaten home record) fielded a strong team, and at 3 p.m. the sides lined up as follows:—

SIGNALS—White; Barby, Shillingford; Duffy, Hall, Bonner; Gresham, Baines, Shenton, Withers and Carter.

VERNON ATHLETIC—Cruttenden; Divell, Franklin; Picknell, Burt, James; Whittingham, Wheatland, Harriett, Harvey, Sulston.

Referee: Mr. Lindup.

The ground was on the soft side, but the weather was ideal. Carter, winning the toss for the Signals, perplexed the home supporters by electing to kick up

the incline, and giving the visitors the advantage of a fairly strong wind.

Down swept Vernon, a centre from their right being cleared by Shillingford, and Wheatland later heading wide when well placed. The home left got away, and Carter beating Divell cut in to goal, but finished up by shooting wide. From a centre by Withers, Baines, with a header, flashed the ball by the far post, while a minute later Cruttenden knocked down and cleared a hot shot from Shenton. Bonner was playing a great game, and time and again he broke up Vernon attacks. A free kick to Vernon saw Harvey head over the bar. Wheatland got through, but was smartly pulled up by Shillingford when in the act of shooting. A minute later Harris missed an open goal by shooting wide, White being away from his charge. Thanks to splendid goal-keeping by Cruttenden, half-time arrived goalless.

On the resumption the Signals went all out for the points, and Vernon were completely outplayed. First a corner was well placed by Gresham, and from the mêlée that followed, the ball rolled out to Duffy, who shot hard into the net. Then three minutes later Baines scored from a centre by Carter. A raid on the Vernon goal saw Baines secure the third goal with another header. With the fourth goal, Baines completed his "hat trick," and not content with this he added a fifth. It was indeed Baines' day out. In the second half White was only once called upon to save. Result: Signals 5; Vernon Athletic 0.

After the match Vernon were entertained to tea by the Signals.

SOUTHWICK v. CORPS OF SIGNALS.

SOUTHWICK—A. Sturmey; J. Upton, P. Gillam; C. M. Ayling, P. S. Clarke, J. M. James; F. Golds, E. D. Wilburn, G. W. Woolgar, J. Pratt, and F. Smart.

CORPS OF SIGNALS—White; Watts, Wooldridge; Duffy, Hall, Bonner; Gresham, Hobbs, Hayden, Hollness and Carter.

Corps of Signals did not send their strongest team to the Croft Meadow on Saturday, April 1st, and the result (a goalless draw) was probably a true reflex of the play.

Southwick in the first half had the worst of a strong wind which blew transversely across the arena, but this had considerably moderated ere the soldiers had to cope with it.

The home defence in the opening moiety was great, Upton (right back) and Clark (centre half) being notably successful. Hobbs, at inside right, and Carter, on the extreme left, were conspicuous in the visitors' vanguard, the latter's work being energetic and well executed. Sturmey, in the Southwick goal, saved some rather teasing long rangers, but the soldiers' marksmanship was faulty. The home men did not exhibit the ball control necessary to make way against the wind, and also did too much "ballooning." Pratt was frequently prominent at inside left, and with the last kick of the first half Woolgar hit the Signallers' timber.

In the second half the soldiers controlled the ball admirably, and the headwork of their defence was very strong in stemming the Southwick advance. Both goalkeepers had difficult shots to deal with, Sturmey one in particular. The home team lacked the combination of the visitors and this was probably the reason why a point was lost to them. It was a strenuous game, fought in the best of spirit. Result: Southwick 0; Corps of Signals 0.

ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS v. WORTHING.

The above interesting County League fixture with the County League leaders took place at Martin's Farm, Maresfield, on Saturday, April 22nd. A much larger attendance was expected, but weather conditions spoiled a big gate.

The Signals were all out to avenge the defeat previously sustained at Worthing, and had the satisfaction of handing out to their opponents their biggest defeat of the season.

The Signals made two changes, Carter crossing over from left to right wing, and Lieut. Stoddart making his first appearance in the Signals side. The visitors were without Foreman and Langmaid. At 3.45 p.m. the teams lined up as follows:—

SIGNALS—White; Barby, Wooldridge; Duffy, Hall, Bonner; Carter, Baines, Shenton, Withers, and Stoddart.

WORTHING—Lawrence; Fruin, Clarke; Hills, Harris, Scrase; Norgett, Cooper, Wright, Hanmore and O'Leary.

Referee: Mr. Gentry, Brighton.

Carter, winning the toss for the Signals, elected to kick up the incline. Wright kicked off and Worthing got down on the left, O'Leary being smartly pulled up by Barby. The Signals made several promising movements, but each time were driven back; and Worthing, attacking strongly, gave the home defence plenty to do, though bad shooting nullified all their efforts.

The Signals got away, and Lawrence was called upon to save, but got the ball away. A run on the visitors' right followed, but a pass from Norgett to Cooper was intercepted, and the venue changed. A run on the home left and a nice centre from Stoddart resulted in a misunderstanding between Lawrence and Clarke, and the ball rolled to Withers, who shot into the net, thus giving the Signals the lead.

Both sides were playing strongly, and play ruled fast, both goalkeepers saving stiff shots. Worthing got down and Wright sent in a hard shot, forcing White to concede a corner. This was cleared by Duffy, who sent the home forwards away. Shenton got through and hit the upright with a hard drive. Play then ruled even for a time, and both goals had many narrow escapes. Half time arrived with the score: Signals 1; Worthing 0.

On resuming the Signals had the advantage of the incline, and a fairly strong wind which had been blowing throughout the game. Play opened briskly, and the Signals, settling down, gave the visitors a warm time. Three minutes had passed when Shenton raced through and screwed the ball past Lawrence into the net.

Worthing were now playing on the defensive, and very seldom crossed the halfway line. The Corps were going strong, and Baines went through to add the Signals' third goal.

Worthing tried hard to break away, but their efforts proved fruitless, and they adopted kicking-out tactics, of which the crowd did not approve.

Shenton again got through, and for the second time hit the crossbar with a terrific drive. Five minutes later Baines came near with a header which Lawrence just managed to tip over the bar. Two corners to the Signals followed, and from the second one, Hall shot past Lawrence, thus adding the Signals' fourth goal.

The visitors were now completely outplayed, and when the final whistle sounded they were hotly defending their goal. Result: Signals 4; Worthing 0.

SIGNALS v. HASTINGS AND ST. LEONARDS.

SIGNALS—White; Barby, Wooldridge; Hobbs, Duffy, Bonner; Carter, Hayden, Shenton, Holness and Withers.

HASTINGS—Harman; Hughes, Barrett; Askey, Champion, Smith; Lawes, Stentiford, Swaine, Pattenden, Jefferies.

Referee: Mr. Stone, Worthing.

At Maresfield on Saturday, April 29th, the Signals concluded their County League fixtures before 400 spectators.

The homesters were all out to wipe out the memory of the heavy defeat which they sustained at Hastings in the earlier part of the season—and Hastings, as a result, suffered their heaviest defeat of the season.

During the first half the Signals, kicking up the incline, had easily the best of matters. Shenton gave them the lead early on, and in succession Shenton, Hayden, and Bonner increased their score—Shenton, moreover, completing his hat trick, so that at half-time the Signals led by 5—0.

On the resumption Hastings tried hard to get through, but the home defence was too strong, and the Signals were soon on top again. Shenton added his fourth goal with a hard drive, and Hayden put on two more, thus also accomplishing the hat trick.

Hastings were always trying, but could do nothing right, and a clean fast game ended with the score: Signals 8; Hastings 0.

Irish Rifles Cup.

Semi-Final.

HASTINGS v. CORPS OF SIGNALS.

HASTINGS—Harman; Hughes, Barrett; Askey, Champion, Swaine; Shearer, Payne, Stentiford, Jefferies and Pattenden.

SIGNALS—White; Barby, Wooldridge; Duffy, Hall, Bonner; Carter, Baines, Shenton, Withers, and Stoddart.

Referee: Mr. Jenner, Eastbourne.

This attractive fixture, the semi-final of the Royal Ulster Rifles Cup, was favoured with glorious weather, and drew 1000 spectators to the Pilot Field, Hastings, on Saturday, May 5th. Both sides fielded a strong eleven. Traylen was absent from the home side, and Price came into the half line for Payne, the latter going up among the forwards.

Lord Eustace Percy, the Borough Member, kicked off. Each end was quickly visited in turn, Philcox clearing well at the top end, while a mis-kick by Barby nearly let in Stentiford. The Signals backs were allowed too much breathing room, and several attacks were not pressed home as they might have been. The Signals were the first to score, Baines cleverly putting Carter in possession, the latter's centre seeing Shenton unmarked. He left Harman helpless with a low drive into the far corner of the net.

Hastings were quickly on the aggressive, but a corner was cleared. Harman at this stage had to leave the field, having previously collided with Hughes in attempting to clear, and Payne went into goal. Stoddart followed a solo effort by missing by inches with a drive. Hughes was noticeable for some excellent defence, while Swaine was a hard worker. The home forwards, as a line, were almost a negative quantity, Pattenden was applauded for a thrilling run down the left, ending it with a shot which went over.

Baines and Stoddart were proving a rare thorn to the home defence, and they got the defenders into many a tangle, for Philcox was proving very unsteady and the home area was the scene of some critical struggles. At this juncture Harman returned, and Payne signalled his re-appearance among the forwards by netting, but he was ruled offside.

The home side were now putting much more vim into their efforts, and the Signals goal had a narrow escape—Payne driving for goal, and the leather striking Wooldridge on the arm, a clear case of hands. The referee did not see it, and after a quick struggle around the goal Barby kicked away. The scores were levelled amid tremendous enthusiasm. Shearer shot across the goal area to the further wing, and Pattenden securing left White helpless with a red-hot drive. A few minutes later, and half-time was signalled with the score one all.

On resuming the Signals had the advantage of the slope, and made good use of it. They adopted storming tactics, and after ten minutes Carter put in a fine centre which was accepted and Baines banged the ball into the net—and again the Signals were ahead.

At the top end the Signals goal had a narrow escape following a mêlée, Swaine skimming the bar with a hot drive. The Signals attacked strongly, and Shenton netted, but the whistle had gone for "offside."

Hastings now took up the attack, and Payne swung the ball out to Pattenden, who made the scores once more level with a hard drive which had White completely beaten.

The whistle blew and extra time was ordered. Carter won the toss and elected to kick up the incline. Hastings attacked strongly and gave the Signals defence a warm time, but they successfully held out, and the teams changed over still level. The Signals now had the advantage of the slope, and this time made no mistake; they went all out, and the Hastings defence cracked under the pressure. Baines accepted a pass, and again beat Harman, thus giving his side the lead once more.

The Signals kept pegging away until the final whistle sounded, and a fast clean game ended with the score: Signals 3; Hastings 2.

The Final Tie.

Vernon Athletic defeated Worthing by 2—1. The Signals therefore meet Vernon Athletic on the Newhaven Ground on Saturday, May 20th. A full report of this game will appear in next month's issue.

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Editorial Notes.

The comments of many readers on the excellence of the June number are much appreciated; but I cannot let this opportunity pass without a few remarks on another type of individual who invariably criticises the "price," and has no regard for "quality"—neither has he yet learnt the real meaning of "esprit de corps."

As regimental magazines go, THE WIRE compares very favourably where price is concerned, and ranks amongst the cheapest; but for "quality," "tone," and "features," it is indisputably an "easy" first.

It is for this reason that Signalmen should be proud of their regimental magazine, and do all in their power to further its aims and activities. I might also add that *if every man in the Corps purchased a copy monthly, the price could (and would undoubtedly) be reduced to threepence*, for I am certain of the feelings of the Publications Committee in this respect; but until this desirable end is achieved, no reduction can be made whilst the cost of printing remains what it is.

May I draw the attention of all regular readers (and others) to paragraphs 2, 3 and 4 of "Don" Company's notes on page 154. This correspondent undoubtedly realises the true significance of "esprit de corps," and if all others were of similar mind, the Corps magazine would very soon be on the way to success.

⁂ ⁂ ⁂

A hearty welcome is accorded to those new contributors who make their *debut* this month. We wish them strength to their pen.

⁂ ⁂ ⁂

For the information of agents and representatives, may I point out that *all accounts are due monthly*, and that on receipt of any issue, a remittance covering proceeds of sale of the previous issue should be sent to this office.

G. E. PALIN, Editor.

Our Contemporaries.

The following regimental publications have been received: The Sapper; The Tiger and Rose; The Gunner; The Sprig of Shillelagh; The Snapper; The British Legion; Royal Ordnance Gazette.

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A First Trip to India.

BY W. R. C. P.

(Continued from June Number).

Excuse for further prolonging our stay at Peshawar not being forthcoming, the 9th saw us take train for Delhi at the uncongenial hour of 7 a.m. Even the hour had its advantage, however, in that it meant reaching Delhi at breakfast time the next day, and having no second night in the train to contemplate. On the journey we passed two places of outstanding interest—there must really be hundreds more, but one cannot find out everything in a limited time!—the first being Taxila, just south of the hills. Near here archæologists under Sir George Marshall have been busy on excavations for some time past. Success has attended their efforts, and they have uncovered buildings in three layers, each layer having a different history and belonging to a different period. The lowest layer, *i.e.* the oldest, goes back to an age prior to the invasion of Alexander the Great; and the next shows in its architecture, distinct evidence of Greek influence. It appears that Taxila was the capital of Northern India from approximately 500 B.C. to 100 A.D. which included the period after the passage of Alexander and his armies in about 325. Alexander captured Taxila, which was then a flourishing town, and handed it over to one Onephis, a local ally. The uppermost layer represents a much later period when Greek influence had disappeared, and Eastern architecture had taken on characteristics of its own.

For the excavator such discoveries must provide unique interest and thrills, while to the man in the street they afford ground for much thought and curiosity as to the history of the past.

The second place I referred to holds an interest of a different kind, almost entirely modern. It is the Attock bridge, which bestrides the Indus, and is the only railway bridge giving access to the north-west frontier, and hence of enormous strategical importance. The Indus is no mean river, and at this particular place swirls and eddies through a rocky ravine, with the picturesque village and fort of Attock overlooking the gorge, and keeping a watchful eye on the crossing.

And so we came to Delhi. Delhi—at once the seat of government, and a hotbed of non-co-operation and reactionary feeling. The ancient home of kings, and the scene of memorable fights in the great Indian Mutiny. A mixture of beauty and squalor, of wealth and poverty, crammed full of historical associations—it would take months to know Delhi, its many aspects, its ancient palaces and its inner working. The ruins of old Delhi alone stretch for many miles.

Four days only had we to spend there, and they were just sufficient to give us a taste of what was to be sought for and found. From the historic Ridge on the north-west side you look down on a tree-covered view of the city and cantonments. On the left are the council chamber and Government offices, where the Princes of India hold their periodical legislative assemblies. A picturesque building, dead white, built low and long with corner mosque-like structures and minarets, it is only the temporory seat of Government until the new Delhi at Raesina, four miles away, is finished. Straight ahead is the outline of the native city, with the Jama Masjid or Great Mosque showing up prominently, and glimpses of the ancient imperial palaces of Akbar and Shah Jehan, rulers of the Mughal Empire, to the left. For the rest just bungalows and buildings set in luxuriant tree-life.

From the Ridge you pass down oil-sprinkled roads to the Kashmir Gate, the original entrance, whence the old fort walls run away to right and left. Here Mutiny heroes won fame. On another mile through the English part of the town, you reach what is now called the Fort, but what is properly the remains of the palaces of the Mughal Emperors. When the palaces were built the river Jumna skirted the southern wall. Now the river has changed its course, and is half a mile away, with a tendency to recede still further. Inside the walls through a magnificent gateway lies the public audience chamber, built of red sandstone, with inlaid marble surrounding the throne. To the left are the private audience chambers, the Pearl Mosque, the harem quarters and baths, all of wonderful workmanship—chiefly of marble marvellously carved, and heavily inlaid with gold and jewels. Alas, most of the stones have been picked out at different times by marauding Persians or Mahrattas. So also vanished the Peacock throne—a huge slab of black marble said to be worth a fortune.

Most of the marble used in the building of the palace was brought from Arabia, a good illustration of the enormous trouble taken and money spent on such works.

Northwards from the Fort to the Lahore Gate runs the Chandni Chowk, or Silver Street,the main thoroughfare of the native city. Here are shops selling, amongst ordinary every-day requirements, local products such as delicately worked jewellery; and most fascinating of all, inside the Ivory Palace, marvellously carved ivory of every design and shape. It is difficult to believe that out of that exceedingly hard material it is possible for anyone to produce such minute detail of figure and design. You see the men actually at work, and can watch the evolution from the tusk to the finished article. What one really wanted was a couple of hundred pounds spare in one's pocket; there were also quantities of beaten silver and copper ware, and fine wood carving, all done in the locality.

That was the extent to which our short stay permitted us to look round. One could spend a week in the fort alone.

It was distinctly warm in Delhi, and I commenced my Christmas letters sitting sweltering in an E.P. tent with as little on in the way of clothing as possible.

Our Delhi Sunday was spent shooting at Ghari Hasaru, 35 miles away. We walked six miles from the station to a jheel, where we shot off a large number of cartridges at a correspondingly large number of snipe, and seven couples fell to our two guns. Thus passed the morning. In the afternoon we walked the surrounding country for partridge, of which 2½ brace came our way. We should have got more but the beggars run so much that without a host of beaters you cannot put them up. We also saw some sand grouse, quail, hare and blackbuck, but all out of range. We finished walking and got back to our hotel in Delhi just in time for, and with just enough strength left to eat, some dinner and fall into bed. I had been wearing shorts and puttees—not altogether advisable, as much of the country is covered with two-foot thorn bushes. How the coolies with their bare feet and legs ever kept up was a mystery. Their skins must be like leather.

On November 15th we started off once more for the north-west, this time making for Baluchistan, a 48 hours journey involving a portion of the Sind desert. In one place where the railway crosses a range of hills the gradient proved too steep for our train, despite an extra engine, and after a couple of failures we were forced to drop the luggage van to enable us to get on at all.

Quetta was reached on the evening of the 17th, and at once the difference in temperature was apparent. It was very cold. Representatives of C Divisional Signals met us, and took Colonel and Mrs. Earle to the local hotel and myself to the mess.

The Colonel inspected the unit on parade the following day. I was unable to attend, as all my uniform was in the luggage van reposing down the hill.

In the afternoon I played golf. The course is on what would be called waste land in England, and is completely innocent of grass. The "browns"—taking the place of "greens"—are of fine sand oiled and rolled hard, and give quite a good putting surface.

The course provided a good game, but we discovered that it played differently from day to day, according to whether it had become drier or not, with much greater contrast than in the case of turf. On the first day we had to abandon the last three holes owing to the menacing attitude of a dust storm. Eventually we had to take to our heels, and we just reached our tonga as the storm burst in full fury.

Preceded by flocks of unwilling but helpless birds the cloud of dust swirled round us, shutting out all day light. We persuaded our pair of mules to gallop, missed a man on a motor cycle by inches, and reached the mess with dust in our clothes, eyes, hair, ears and mouths. A most unpleasant experience. After the dust came rain, good and heavy.

On Saturday we set off in Ford cars at 6.30 a.m. for Chaman, 80 miles away on the Afghan border. The cold was intense, and we appeared wrapped up as for the North Pole, and not unreasonably so. It was a dull, unexciting drive. The country was the most barren and uninviting we had yet seen. Perhaps you will understand what I mean if I compare it to a cross between a putty relief map and a very old print of mountains. The only saving grace was in the colourings of some of the smaller hills—vivid greens and reds.

The road was interesting only on the Kojak Pass, which entailed a very steep ascent and descent. It was another of Lord Roberts' routes to Kandahar, and we saw the platform whence he let his guns down over the khud on ropes. Descending the Chaman side and looking over towards Afghanistan, the intervening desert looked for all the world like a great ocean, with here and there an island where some isolated hill rose up. In the distance were the Kandahar mountains, and in the foreground the most forward of the Afghan posts. A couple of hours sufficed to see what had to be seen in Chaman, and back over the same weary road we came. Quetta loomed in sight about six o'clock, and very thankful we were to see it.

Another three days were spent in Quetta watching the signal unit out at work on schemes and on training. Cable sections, pack and horse, headquarters detachment and brigade sections, all took part in a practice divisional advance—the same the world over (*vide* Signal Training, part viii.).

(To be continued).

"Feu De Joie."

In choosing the above as a topic, I am afraid that I have lighted on what is to many a painful subject; but still, after having endured the pain so recently, I feel certain that some explanation of the origin of this ancient custom will not be entirely without interest.

I must first mention that "feu de joie" is the French for "fire of joy," and so, knowing what peculiar forms of expressing their pleasure our late Allies are wont to indulge in, we can the more readily forgive them for this obvious misnomer.

The ceremony or ritual of feu de joie is always performed on the birthday of the reigning sovereign. What monarch was responsible for the inauguration of this celebration is by no means certain. Some authorities hint that Nero had something to do with it. Nero, I admit, had his eccentricities, but I hesitate to attribute the invention of so diabolical a torture even to the man who is said to have fiddled while Rome was burning.

The feu de joie is, briefly, the saluting of the king or his representative, followed by some act that is supposed to convey the impression of extreme joy.

The warriors of old, on such occasions, shrieked their war crys, clashed their swords on shields, discharged arquebuses, muskets, peashooters, catapults, mortars, or whatever weapon happened to be in vogue at that particular period. This was done at random, so that many a poor unfortunate received a permanent souvenir of his Sovereign's natal day in the form of an arrow or a pound of grape shot in his person. These minor accidents naturally reduced the fighting strength of the army, so it was decided to execute this ceremony in a "smart and soldier-like manner" (à la drill book). Hence the unique form of denoting joy as we now know it.

This consists of various drill movements—marching past "en masse" (more French, but this time aptly applied), or in "a mess," in close column, and so forth. Then comes the feu de joie proper. The troops, being formed in a double rank on three sides of a square, proceed to load their "best friends" (their rifles, not their neighbours) with a round of blank. When the command "Present" is given, the rifle is held at an acute angle which is suitable practice for aiming at hostile aircraft. Each man then fires in turn, from the right of the front rank along to the left, and back through the length of the rear rank.

So that the abnormal strain of holding a (t)rifle of 9½ lbs. in this position may not become too severe, the band, if not already exhausted itself, will play a selection. This is repeated three times.

If by any chance some unlucky individual fires out of his turn, he is in army language "for it," so that I can quite understand the remark of one who was so unfortunate, when he said that it was a sanguinary good job that the birthday of every sergeant-major in the Centre was not celebrated in similar fashion!

E. S. H.

Maresfield Notes.

Corps Celebrities—No. 15: Sergt. Norton.



Headquarters.

It was with surprise and deep regret that we heard of the death of Sergt "Tommy" Tomlinson, as the result of an operation. Prior to his demobilisation a few months ago he had been employed in this Headquarters and in the Battalion Office. He will be remembered as the capable organist at the Garrison Church for many months. He was also the pianist at at the Camp Cinema for a considerable time.

Congratulations to "Feather" on obtaining his second stripe. We have all missed him very much during the last week or so, as he has been admitted to hospital suffering from pneumonia. We wish him a speedy recovery, as H.Q. seems very strange without him.

The Geddes Axe has been responsible for still further losses to our staff: Signalmen Walker, Murcutt, and Fielding have left us during the past few weeks. However, in spite of our sadly depleted staff, "feu de joie," musketry practices, the heat wave, and other inconveniences, we still manage to carry on.

"Sigtrain," the abbreviated telegraphic address of this Training Centre, was the cause of some misunderstanding recently. An orderly from the Post Office, bearing a telegram so addressed, enquired if there was a "Signalman Train" at this office.

Maresfield Topics—No. 5.

1. Now it was the custom, in the good times that are of old, to pay unto the men-at-arms their dues during the time in which, upon ordinary days, they were accustomed to labour.

2. But evil times fell upon the soldiers, for laws, orders, statutes, and ordinances were made so that it came to pass that they had to receive the fruits of their toil in the time that was their own.

3. And behold, divers times were appointed for the payment of the warriors.

4. For one officer of a host would reason with himself thus:

5. When night approacheth, do not my warriors sally forth on diver missions and to divers places of amusement? Therefore

6. Shall they receive their shekels in the morning when the sun is at its highest, for he said:

7. It is the hour of the midday meal, and if at that hour they are receiving their "dole of dough," how can they then partake of the frugal repast that is before them accustomed to be spread?

8. For Geddes, he said, will be pleased, therefore is this thing good in my sight.

9. And he spake, and it was done.

10. And another communed within himself in this manner:

11. It is not meet that my legionaries should journey forth *every* evening unto the sink of iniquity which is Ukfeeld, where they spend their money in riotous living.

12. Therefore did they receive their payment in the evening.

13. And yet another reasoneth in this fashion:

14. When the trumpet has sounded in the hours that are "wee and sma'," do my soldiers "jump to it" and "wakeee wakeee" in the way they ought?

15. And he answered himself, they do not.

16. Therefore, early in the morning, while there is yet dew upon the grass, then shall they receive their just dues (if they are lucky!)

17. For he sayeth: If they arise not to receive their money, nothing on earth, or in the heaven above, or in the waters beneath, will move them.

18. No, not even Samuse the riser himself!

E. S. H.

B Company.

"Pip" Company is dead! Long live "Beer" Company!

Yes, P Company has ceased to exist, but although our name has changed, we mean to maintain and even enhance our old reputation and records.

We have to deplore the loss sustained by the departure, on his demobilisation, of Capt. N. S. Linton, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. Capt. Linton has been our O.C. since June, 1921. Our best wishes for his future welfare go with him on his return to civilian life.

The annual Company sports, held on Empire Day in glorious weather, were an undoubted success. Thanks are due to the committee, the band, and all those who contributed to make it so. The entries,

achievements, attendance, etc., compared very favourably with those held by other Companies. Sergeant Carter had a happy afternoon, and added considerably to his worldly goods. Mrs. Linton very kindly presented the prizes, which were, by the way, well worth winning. Some very good performances were recorded, so that we look forward with confidence to the success of the Company's competitors in the S.T.C. sports.

The Company cricket team has not yet commenced its programme, but the talent at our disposal seems to point to the fact that we certainly need not expect to finish at the bottom of the Company League table.

Now that the terrors of "feu de joie" have passed for another year, we are in the midst of preliminary training for the annual musketry course. We have heard of one individual (not in B Company) who fell out with those who had fired before, on the assumption that his having participated in the "feu de joie" entitled him to do so!

BLANCOANE.S.H.

D Company.

Before recording the doings of our own Company during the past month, we should like to say how pleased we are to see notes from other Companies in Maresfield in the June number. We are still waiting to hear from B, F and G Companies, though. They should have plenty to report nowadays.

The much-advertised and "bummed-up" Spring Number duly arrived in June, and we must say that it was a jolly good number. The tone of our regimental journal is certainly getting higher every month, and the pictures were much appreciated.

We understand from the chief salesman of Maresfield that the sales of this issue were the smallest on record, and we cannot understand the reason, unless it was the price. After all, why should men mind paying 9d. for so deserving a cause. They do not seem to realise that the profits go to swell the Corps Benevolent Fund coffers, and that some day any of us may be only too pleased to receive help from them.

Before the war, corps and regimental journals in many cases cost 1s. monthly, and the sales were much higher in comparison; and in those days, the soldier only drew his "bob a day." Now, lads, come along and support your Corps journal up to the hilt.

We held our Company sports on May 16th in conjunction with "Eddie," and a very enjoyable and interesting day was spent. Much credit is due to the organisers, especially Lieut. Woodbridge. The only hitch was that just a little too much time was allowed for each event. Anyhow, that was nobody's fault, and other Companies profited by our experience.

The Platoon Tug-o'-war was very evenly contested, and resulted in rather a fine win for No. 1 Platoon (Linemen under training).

The chief events and winners were as follows:—

220 Yards—1 Sigmn Barnett; 2 Driver Cutler; 3 Dvr. Dilworth.

1 Mile—1 Sigmn Cotterell; 2 Sigmn Cox; 3 Sigmn Cant.

½ Mile—1 Sigmn Cotterell; 2 Sigmn Cox; 3 Sigmn Jones.

100 Yards—1 Sigmn Barnett; 2 Lieut King; 3 Driver Cutler.

Tug-o'-War—No. 1 Platoon beat No. 3 Platoon.

High Jump—1 Lieut King (4 ft. 7 in.); 2 Sigmn Morris (4 ft. 6 in.); 3 Sigmn Bramwell (4 ft. 5½ in.)

Long Jump—1 Sigmn Challenger (16 ft. 8 in.); 2 Sigmn Bramwell (15 ft. 8 in.); 3 Sigmn Robertson (15 ft. 5 in.)

Ladies' Race—1 Miss Smith; 2 Miss Ebsworth; 3 Miss Hussey.

Open 220 Yards—1 Lieut Pearce; 2 L/Corpl Nix; 3 L/Corpl Spreadborough.

Hurdles—1 Lieut King; 2 Sigmn Morris · 3 Sigmn. Gordon.

3 Miles—1 Sigmn Cotterell; 2 Driver Bundey; 3 Sigmn Cant.

Putting the Shot—1 L/Sergt Griffin (33 ft. 9 in.); 2 Lieut. King ((33 ft.); 3 L/Corpl McIver (32 ft. 4 in.)

440 Yards—1 Sigmn Cotterell; 2 Sigmn Jones; 3, Dvr. Dilworth.

Our cricket team has made a good start, and we hope that they will continue their good work. They played an away match with Isfield, and fairly put it "acrost 'em." They put Isfield to bat first and "removed" them for 43. Our side commenced to bat, but declared when they were 73 for 1 wicket. Isfield then had another shot, but this time they were equally unsuccessful, and were "skittled" out for 33.

On June 6th we met our old rivals "Eddie," and again repeated the dose. "Eddie" got 152, and "Don" made 163 for 4 wickets—Lieut. King making 103 not out. We have always said that it is better to be born lucky than rich, Lieut. King being missed once before he had got 10, and several times afterwards. Well done, sir; may your voice never grow less!

On June 8th we played C Company. We got 118, which was "not so good," but Major Pinsent had his bowling eye in, taking 7 wickets for 33 runs. We removed C for 58.

Our boxing team seems to be a little shy lately, although they put up a creditable performance in the last regimental show. Sergt Horner very ably carries on this branch. We would like to remind our fellows that a conqueror for Beckett is still being eagerly sought after. We provided an international cross-country runner, so why shouldn't we now discover something in the boxing line?

Next month we shall be able to report our successes and failures in the S.T.C. sports, which take place on the 14th inst.

Best wishes to all from

DON

E Company.

We are here again, but as usual haven't much news this month. We held our Company sports as arranged last month, the results being shown below.

The Corps sports are over, and I'm afraid we didn't shine much. The heavies gave quite a good account of themselves in the final of the tug-of-war, and that's all we can say. Perhaps it was the weather; and then again, perhaps it was the fact that Cotterell and a few others belonged to other Companies.

Cricket.

Up to date we have had two games at cricket. We met "Don" on the Lake Ground on the 6th, and we caught an awful cold. We could not seem to get our eye down, either batting or bowling. We batted first and made the nice little score of 152 (C.S.M. Boulger 42 not out, and L/Sergt Barby 39, including 7 fours). Things were looking rosy enough, but Bellew, the hot-stuff bat, got a "duck," and our tail refused to wag.

Then "Don" got the pads on, and before we knew what had really happened, Mr. Stewart was out for a "duck," and Major Pinsent dismissed for four, and we began to smile. We evidently forgot Mr. King, for he remained to knock up 103 not out, after being missed a few times. "Don" finished with the score 163 for four wickets.

Our next match was with "Ack" at Crowborough. We managed to win this by two wickets. Ack batted first and scored 64, and we were 57 for eight. Things were getting exciting when Barby smartened the parade up with a six and a four. Barby was again to the fore with a nice little score of 29 not out. The bowling honours went to Sergt Hayes of "Ack," who took 6 wickets for 27 runs.

Sports.

100 Yards—1 Lieut. H. A. Spencer; 2 L/Corpl Cayley and Driver Davis, dead heat.

220 Yards—1 Lieut. H. A. Spencer; 2 Driver C. Davis; 3 Driver C. Blundred.

440 Yards—1 Lieut. H. A. Spencer; 2 L/Corpl Cayley; 3 Driver C. Davis.

880 Yards—1 L/Corpl Cayley; 2 Driver W. A. Richardson; 3 Driver L. Massey.

One Mile—1 L/Cpl Cayley; 2 Driver W. A. Richardson; 3 Driver L. Massey.

Three Miles—1 Driver W. A. Richardson; 2 Driver H. W. With; 3 Driver C. R. Bradbury.

Putting the Shot—1 L/Sergt A. A. Barby; 2 Lieut. H. A. Spencer; 3 Major L. G. Phillips.

Long Jump—1 Lieut. H. A. Spencer; 2 Corpl H. Kirby

High Jump—1 Drvr C. Davis; 2 Drvr D. S. Marshall.

Hurdles—1 Lieut H. A. Spencer; 2 Driver C. Davis; 3 Driver G. Blundred.

Open 220 Yards—1 Lieut. Pearce; 2 L/Corpl Nix; 3 Corpl Spreadborough.

I Have Heard It Said That

The price of tar per foot run is not so dear as whitewash if used in a horizontal position. Still, we like the former best.

Even Quarterblokes can put their spurs on the wrong feet. How many more Sundays, Bangor?

Baby thinks his son and heir will make a "rough" in time.

Birth.

To 2306820 L/Corpl C. Boyt, a son, born at Potten, Beds., 30/5/22.

EDDY.

School of Signals.

Congratulations to you, Mr. Editor, on the splendiciousness of your June issue. It was certainly a bumper.

At the time of going to press we are in the midst of an upheaval. Samuel has climbed another rung, and "Hal" has become an immortal. Filby has left us for the aristocrats at Hampstead, whilst Slash has gone to build flats. May they earn as good an opinion outside as they did in the Company.

School of Signals Celebrities—No. 1: "Bill."



By the time these lines appear, Lovall Nutley will be a partner in a limited (?) company. We all wish him the best, and trust that the matrimonial barque will sail smoothly. Heartiest congratulations to "Eno" on becoming a dad. You'll have to keep those medals polished now, Will!

There are moments that leave an indelible impression on one's mind. Such a moment have we experienced at the School. There was an air of expectancy: mysterious whisperings: gurglings and exclamations of surprise. The suspense for those who had no inkling of the truth was awful. At last, amid a breathless silence broken by cries of envy and wonder, the truth was told—"George's first tomato had arisen." Such is fame when one lives the life.

Sports.

In weather more befitting a football match, the S.T.C. sports were held on June 14th. Our runners made a splendid fight to retain the shield, but lack of entries in one or two field events told the tale. However, though we congratulate A Company on their fine performance, we trust that the shield is only on loan, and that the empty niche on our shelf will be filled next year.

The School sports were held in conjunction with C Company on May 25th, and voted by all a great success. As expected, Hall and Spreadborough wore the grass away in front of the prize table, and enough suit cases were flying about to hold "Mallaby-Deeley's" for the whole Company. There was a great fight at the tea table, but in the end the "wads" retired before superior numbers.

Ye Gods enlighten us as to:—

Was there ever such a cheap shilling's worth as the Derby sweep?

And was there anyone without a horse when it was finally drawn?

Did Everretty really forget he was on leave?

Whether our Jimmy White did so very badly on the Derby?

Whether "Curly" really expects us to believe that he walked through Shaftesbury Avenue at two in the morning without stopping?

And whether it was exactly a "Pilgrim's Progress"?

Whether "Rymer" would really like a "Tin" as often as he says?

Does a "King Edward" bloom red or white?

Is not the Champion a good trier at the Wells?

And didn't Johnny's advice bring it nearer?

VELLER.

With Signals in Cairo.

Cairo, June 5th, 1922.

Though now reduced to about 40 strong, Cairo Signals are doing their best to continue sport on the same generous lines as when they were twice as numerous. No doubt the fact that they finished fifth in the E.E.F. "best all-round unit" competition has more than a little to do with this enthusiasm.

So far as sport is concerned, this is practically the close season. Of course, there is weekly racing at Alexandria, and nightly balloon shoots at the Tir au Balons in Emad-el-Dine. Consideration for the moral welfare of my readers, and an unhealthy dread of the editor's blue pencil, are the only deterrents to my publishing a list of "dead certs" at Alexandria or "long-priced" probables at the balloon shoots.

Water Polo.

This sport is the one most keenly followed. Last season we lost the championship of the E.E.F. by one point, but one by one our players have left us, so that our team this season is but a shadow of last year's. Three friendly matches, more or less for talent-spotting purposes, have so far been played. Of these we have won two—2nd Field Co. R.E. and Headquarters Middle East R.A.F., the scores being 1-0 and 2-0 respectively. In the remaining match, the 2nd Field Co. beat us by the only goal of the match.

Cricket.

Naturally we find it extremely difficult to field an eleven, but what we lack in skill and numbers we make up for in enthusiasm. So far we have been beaten in the three matches we have played, but with the amount of practice being put in this cannot continue. In the last match, against the 2nd Field Company, our weakness in fielding lost the match after our batting had left us in a very strong position.

General.

Our Officer Commanding is at present in "Blighty" enjoying a spell of leave.

Despite the temptation to record a few of the titbits brought to light during the junior n.c.o.s course of general instruction, I refrain from so doing. A boomerang is an unhealthy weapon at the best of times.

Already we have begun to look forward to our annual short leave to Alexandria, where we have an almost perfect replica of an English watering-place at the height of its season. And despite the much-talked-of charm of the East, the number of people who look forward to this as the nearest approach to a visit to "Blighty" is remarkable.

Sergt Burton is again occupying the vacant chair in the Quartermaster's stores after a short spell at Kantara.

The adventurous Signalman Salvatoria has left us, and is under the protecting wings of the Italian Consul pending his return to Italy as an Italian subject, he being eligible for military service in that country.

A recent mail brought the following appointments: L/Corpl W. J. Wilson and L/Corpl J. Archbold, to be Acting Corporals under W.O. Letter 31st March. We offer our congratulations.

Applications for permission to re-engage have been plentiful of late, due no doubt to a fervid desire on the part of the applicants to escape the Geddes Axe.

Kantara Signals.

Except for about half-a-dozen men of the R.E.s and forty K.O.S.B.s, and, of course, the Signals, Kantara may without doubt be termed "no man's land," for things are getting worse every day. Still, the remaining inhabitants of Kantara have scraped together a cricket team, and have given us two or three good games—beating us in one match by the narrow margin of 12 runs only.

On Saturday and Sunday, the 27th and 28th inst., we are to play a combined team of the Signals in Egypt and Palestine. This should be a game worth watching, seeing that the Signals Kantara XI. can boast of a few really good players (followers of the *Egyptian Gazette* may agree (?).

From these two teams, one will be selected to represent the Corps out here, and it should be able to uphold the prestige of Signals as regards cricket.

With reference to our team here, up to the present it has shown itself to be a pretty useful side. They know how to field when they feel like it, but lately—probably on account of the fierceness of the sun—one or two taps have found their way to the boundary which might easily have been held. The side is ably led by our O.C. (Capt. H. Parkes, M.C., R.E.)—who has shown himself to be a good steady batsman and a reliable bowler, while his placing of the field leaves nothing to be desired.

Our latest arrival—Sigmn Harvey, who caught the eye of the Depot selectors—has already given us an idea of his abilities as a batsman and bowler, and we expect great deeds from him later on.

Sigmn French, late East Surrey Regiment, is another aspirant to Corps honours, his bowling up to date being quite satisfactory.

On Monday last, 21st inst., we held a whist drive in the men's mess-hut, this being the first of its kind at this camp. It passed off fairly successfully, and in future drives will be held on Saturday evenings. The winner—L/Corpl Mann—no doubt felt terribly popular, seeing that he was immediately surrounded after the presentation and escorted to the mess, where his prize rapidly diminished in cocktails and bomonti's.

T. F. S. (SMUDGER).

With Signals in Constantinople.

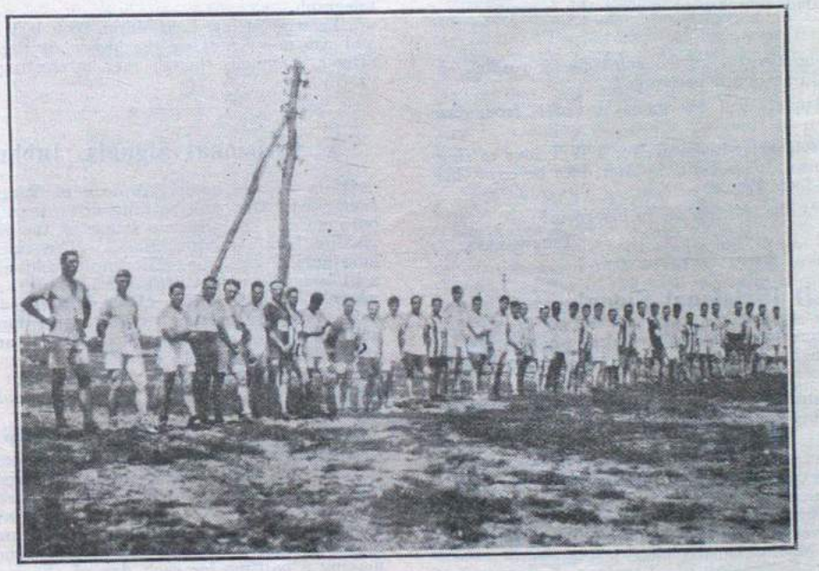
Cross Country Running.

An innovation in this branch of sport took place on May 10th, on the occasion of the first of the annual cross-country championships. Promoted by Colonel Barker, Major Nixon and the officers of this Company, it was an emphatic success.

The officers presented a challenge cup to the winning team, and a silver medal to the first man home in each team. The cup is to be competed for annually.

The Company was divided into the following teams: 1, linemen, despatch riders and drivers; 2, indoor tradesmen; 3, out stations.

It was an ideal day for the sports. The course was three miles over the Mashlak district. This is a splendid course for cross-country running, presenting fine natural obstacles and bringing out the very best efforts of the competitors.



Start of the Company Cross-Country Run, Constantinople, May 10th, 1922.

The C.S.O. started the race at 3 p.m., and at 3.16½ the first man passed the tapes—Sigmn Saunders, from whom we expect great things during the coming season. Sigmn Ursell and Driver Vellows were 2nd and 3rd respectively.

The final placings of the teams were: 1st, Outdoor Tradesmen, 23.3 points; 2nd, Indoor Tradesmen, 17.7; 3rd, Out Stations, 16.4.

After the race the C.S.O. complimented the runners on their fine performance, and encouraged them to further efforts, not only for themselves but for the good of the Corps.

Mrs. Barker kindly presented the prizes, and so terminated a very pleasant afternoon's sport.

Our thanks are given to all the officers who have taken such a great interest in this sport, and to Capt. Henderson for the admirable way in which he carried out the course arrangements.

The Irish Guards having just arrived, the Army C.C.C. has been postponed, but we are in strict training for this event, and hope to uphold the traditions of the Royal Corps of Signals when it takes place.

We all wish Sergt Dobson and Sergt Roberts success on their return to civil life after completing their "21."

Things We Want to Know.

Who squared the fire brigade to water the garden?

Who cooked the chicken with its inside left in?

The reason for the epidemic of tack-wallahs?

The n.c.o. who is thrice times engaged to be married? And why he never gets rumbled?

The new jazz step the trumpeter sounds at reveille?

What is the attraction at Kadi Keuy?

BLAKE.

Baghdad District Signal Section.

April 23rd, 1922.

Our O.C., Lieut P. R. Antrobus, M.C., R.E., left us for U.K. on April 18th, and our combined best wishes follow him.

We are once more settled down in another new billet, but how long we shall retain it remains to be seen. During the settling down, it would appear that the Section had developed a craze for painting, and I'm sure, had we gone on, we would soon have had a Sargent or a Velasquez.

Anyhow, the painting is finished now, and we start training "pukka" in a few days. This means quite

a lot to the majority of the Section, as owing to the exigencies of moves, etc., they have not been able to pass out for their rating. Even now, one sees signs of swotting in the number of technical books lying about, so evidently we shall be a very competent Section in the near future.

G.H.Q. Wireless Signal Troop were disbanded during the month, so that we and No. 4 W/T Section received some reinforcements. We are now nearing the hot weather, and we will soon be melting in the hot rays of the Iraq sun.

Sport.

Sport has been been scarce this month owing to the move, but plenty of practice games are run, the chief instigator being "Jock" Gardiner.

Tennis, too, has been running gradually towards champion form, and we hope to enter a strong team in the Baghdad tournament during the season.

Enquiries.

Do the boys on Central have much time for reading on their 200-line board exchange?

Whether "Apple" had his money's worth from the Dhoby?

Why does the Quarter-bloke of No. 4 W/T love to sing "It's a bear, it's a bear"? And does he enjoy his copy of THE WIRE?

Does Corpl P. like the fan on in his room?

PICEWALLER.

D Divisional Signals.

It may interest readers to have a note on the doings of D Divisional Signals while they were in the Kohat-Kurram area.

We went up to Kohat early in May, 1919, when the Afghan war began, and have just been relieved by G Signals.

At first our main work extended from Kohat to Thal (61 miles), and from Thal to Parachinar (56 miles). Permanent telegraph lines existed, but there was no telephone. There was also a telegraph from Hangu (midway between Kohat and Thal) to Fort Lockhart and Gulistan on the Samana (6600 feet high).

Our first business was to get telephone communication installed, but this was delayed owing to the siege of Thal at the end of May. However, after the relief of that place, and when the lines had been repaired—no light job, with 600 lb. wires on enormous bays, in the middle of the hot weather—telephone communication was established.

Owing to the looting propensities of the tribesmen, copper wire could not be used, and over long distances iron wire naturally did not give really good results. It is worth noting that from Kohat to Parachinar the line is never more than ten miles from the frontier, and in places only two.

In the winter, owing to demobilisation, we were reduced to two officers and fourteen British ranks, but the Indian ranks did very well indeed, and no trouble arose. At the end of the year a good many extra spurs had been built to police, militia, and constabulary posts.

In August, 1919, we recruited a lot of Pathans, who trained up very rapidly and were most useful for the outlying posts and line patrols. Our linemen now always go out unarmed and in mufti, to save escorts, and only once has a man been chased.

In May, 1921, we had to take over the Tochi area communications as well. This meant 80 miles to Bannu, and thence 40 miles on to Dardoni. As we had four Brigades in the area, a Brigade Section from G Signals came up to help, and went to Bannu.

In November, 1921, an expedition went out from Dardoni to re-occupy Datta Khel—another 28 miles on up the Tochi valley. We had field service line for 16 miles to Mohammed Khel, and thence cable over the Spinchilla Pass to Datta Khel, wireless sets being installed at Dardoni, Mohammed Khel, and Datta Khel. There was a lot of line cutting, and visual was used a great deal.

Our most important visual station was Fort Lockhart. From there we worked Kohat (28 miles), Thal (30 miles), Spinchilla (78 miles), and Idak (58 miles). The visual line worked well, and V/T messages from Datta Khel to Kohat *via* Spinchilla often beat the telegraph.

We were relieved on March 25th last by G Signals, and are now enjoying the peace of the Murree hills after a strenuous though very interesting three years.

D SIGS.

F Divisional Signals, Jubbulpore.

Here we are again. A dose of frontier scrapping completed. Our unit settling down in a peace station once more. The pleasant doings of the past few years making happy reminiscences. The unpleasant ones long buried, we hope. Glorious sunshine, occasionally a little hot. A neat little third-rate hill station somewhere in Central India. Work of a Signal unit in full swing, with its refitting, technical, signalling, musketry, and every sort of training. Lectures, and plenty of studies and schemes to be got through. Sometimes a General's inspection with its subsequent top-hole report. Attractions for all after work such as troops do make and enjoy.

Such is the life in which all now find themselves—the change to this clime making improvements all round. The good name of the distinguished F Divl. Signals is as high as ever, thanks to the exertions of all ranks.

Hockey, football, cricket, tennis, badminton, shooting, and a garry ride are possible throughout the year, making a pastime for each day of the week for those inclined, even if lamps do interfere now and then.

At hockey we have done quite well. The goals scored by Major Drayson, our thorough and energetic C.O., as centre forward, are too many to describe in detail; his average is really fine. The new element which is being introduced will no doubt enable us to pull off during the next few months some even better results than heretofore.

If we were to tell you, gentle reader, about our football team guided by Capt. Pavey, of No. 1 Co., the fine play of Sergt Lewis, C.Q.M.S. Smithies, Sapper Fellows, "Dairyman" Windras, and Sapper Wallace as goalkeeper, and their victories over teams from the Signal Depot and others, it would take up more space than we can claim in THE WIRE. However, I am looking forward to serving up a few remarks about them and the hockeyites on some other occasion. I would like the help of a live pen of some enthusiastic person for this purpose.

At cricket, practice is only possible at present. A few at the nets can be seen some evenings, preparing for the big battles which we look forward to next "cold season."

We wish to welcome to our unit: Capt. G. C. Oswell, Lieut E. J. Murphy, Lieut Morgan (with R.A. Signal Sections), Sergts Gilbert, Smith (O.R. fame), Whelan (A.I. expert), and the many others who have joined us since our arrival in Jubbulpore. We hope they will have a pleasant sojourn in this, one of the finest Signal units under the Union Jack, and that the bite of the East will ever keep green the memory of the jolly good times spent in these distant lands.

We wish to congratulate all recipients of medals, among which we note C.S.M. John Haines (the long service and good conduct medal). May he live many years to wear it.

Lieut Disney, Sergts Clarke, Clarkson, Cains and Neal, have proceeded to U.K. for leave. We hope they will have a jolly fine holiday, and return much benefited in health and full of all the latest devices and tips in their line of work.

C.S.M. Hepburn recently went to Bombay to meet a certain ship from Blighty. Suffice to say he is now on the married roll. Congratulations, old man.

I must not conclude without giving the following extract from despatches by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief in India, on the operations in Waziristan for the period 8th May, 1920, to 31st March, 1921, in which we were so much concerned. Our Commanding Officer stated that he considers this report reflects great credit on all ranks, and thanked everyone whose work has augmented the name of the Royal Corps of Signals. Good old Signals!

The report reads: "The daily work of the Signal personnel throughout the various long lines of communication has been continuously difficult and dangerous. In spite of the constant cutting of wires and wilful damage to airlines, Force Headquarters has never been out of touch with its furthest posts, except for very brief intervals. This is a very high standard to have attained, and has meant great devotion to duty throughout the Army Signal Service."

Heard on the Range at Jubbulpore.

Sergeant to Bad Shot (who is missing the target): "Have you fired before?"
Bad Shot: "Yes, Sergeant."
Sergeant (doubtfully): "Where?"
Bad Shot: "At a funeral, Sergeant."

G Divisional Signals, Kohat.

Presuming that our comrades are ever ready to learn of the doings and movements of those stationed in far-off climes and on our outposts of Empire, we give some facts and recent movements of this unit and an insight into its present surroundings.

Some eighteen months have passed since leaving the Frontier, and during this period—in which we were located at Rawalpindi—a re-organisation has taken place.

A recent move has brought us once again to the Frontier regions, and we are now located in the Kohat-Kurram-Tochi valley area, with headquarters at Kohat. The advance party moved up from Rawalpindi about the middle of March, and was almost immediately split up into several small detachments for station duties along the outpost line. The main body arrived in two special trains on the night of 25th/26th March, and even this has since been divided up.

Owing to such division having taken place, from sheer necessity things are likely to be a trifle irksome, and of a more or less dismal nature, especially with the smaller detachments. We are nevertheless making the best of a bad job, and considering that it is recognised as a soldier's privilege to be continually grousing, it is extremely gratifying to state that everyone seems to be more or less content.

Headquarters are to remain at Kohat for the hot weather season, but furloughs will be taken by all where possible.

The frontiers of India must always be considered interesting, as much for the varying aspects in the past as for the part they have to play in the future. The territory falls into three main geographical divisions—the Cis-Indus district of Hazara; the comparatively narrow strip between the hills and the river Indus constituting the districts of Peshawar, Kohat, Bannu, and Dera Ismail Khan; and the rugged mountainous regions on the north and west between those districts and the borders of Afghanistan.

Kohat may be described as a more or less rugged table-land broken by low ranges of hills. It lies to the south of Peshawar, being separated from the latter by the Jowaki Range, and is reached by means of the Kohat Pass (which is not unlike the Khyber), descending to the plain where is to be found the military station of Kohat in which we are at present situate. This is a fitting description of perhaps pre-war days, but it is an understood fact that the latter pass has altered somewhat during recent years.

Continuing our journey southward, the next military station of any importance is Bannu, lying in the broad basin of the Kurram river, some 80 miles distant. In itself it is a large open plain, but in the distance are to be seen low ranges of hills, which completely surround it. Prior to the war, to arrive at this spot, one had to undergo a whole day's weary tonga journey, but now it can be reached by either car or rail.

The railway might be considered a source of bewilderment to an unwary traveller, who more likely than not would find himself where he had no intention of going. The train journey affords many surprises and unusual scenes. On departing from Campbellpore hilly tracts are encountered, and the spirit of the Frontier seems to breathe in the fortified posts to be seen dotted along the line and in the surrounding wild country.

From Jand Junction the lines separate, one going to Bannu and the other to Kohat and Rawalpindi in diverse directions. Experiences of a night halt at this station make it a place to be dreaded and looked upon as uncomfortable. En route to Bannu a lengthy journey breaks at Daud Khel, where is to be found a salt range.

Travelling a little further, the Indus is crossed by steam ferry, and on the far side the line continues through unfertile regions until Bannu is eventually reached. It may be possible to cross the river by rail, but this I cannot say for certain.

The cantonment is seemingly peaceful enough, but there exists a peculiar habit of associating it with hidden knives, loaded revolvers, and confinement to bungalows after darkness sets in. History tells that it was here that a certain Dr. Pennel captivated the hearts of the wild trans-border folk with his missionary work.

From Bannu the distant hills may be seen rising abruptly in almost every tone of red, with villages lying in tiers and lining the lower slopes, with the river passing smoothly from an open tract on the one side into barren ranges on the other.

If by chance one has the misfortune to have to remain for any length of time, the wait has to be made in what is known as the dak bungalow, or rest house.

Such waits as these usually come at night, and the following morning sees the continuance of the journey to Miranshah by road. On entering the hills the gaze dwells upon a strange conglomeration of colours, included in which are to be seen reds, yellows, blacks, whites, and blues.

The residents hereabouts are "largely built" as far as the men-folk go. They are rather handsome looking, but of a villainous nature. They possess coal-black locks which fall in slight curls about the neck, their eye-brows are black and regular, setting off round faces with pleasing features. The youths might be said to be of almost effeminate beauty. The women-folk are good-looking, and usually adorn themselves with numerous ornaments and coins, which are suspended from the neck. The majority of these people when travelling are fully armed, and carry waist and cross-belts loaded with cartridges, and very often extra belts on the arm.

Passing on still further we proceed through the Tochi valley, with its fertile plains and light clay-built watch-towered villages standing out against the delicate aerial tones of distant ranges, until at last Miranshah is reached. Here are to be found the headquarters of the Waziristan Militia, serving under British officers, the men for the Corps being recruited from the surrounding tribesmen.

It has been hinted that we must not pass on without at least mentioning sport. The sporting instinct of the unit is undoubtedly good. The games mostly indulged in are football and hockey, and at both of these I may say the unit is certainly good.

Prior to our departure from Rawalpindi the repretative teams were fairly successful, they having a fair share of wins and not too many losses. The games witnessed were certainly pretty to watch.

Like most units, we find our soccer players are mostly hockeyites as well, and it is to both the team's and the unit's advantage that such is the case. We have amongst us quite a few budding enthusiastic recruits at both games, and it is hoped they will some day emerge from their shells to replace those whom we shall be losing shortly.

There are whisperings of the introduction of rugby, but I am afraid this is not to be for some time to come yet. Notwithstanding the fact that we are divided, sport at headquarters still goes on, although the majority of the better players are away on detachment in a more salubrious climate.

There is shortly to take place a boxing tournament in the hill station of Parachinar, and we are hoping to send a few competitors for it.

It is probable that a team will be sent to the Murree hills to compete in the Murree hockey tournament in the late summer or early autumn, and with the required training this team should go a long way in the tournament.

Owing to the obvious necessity for exercise, efforts are to be made to introduce running as a sport, this being recognised as a good healthy recreation; and I feel sure that should it be taken up seriously it will be to the material advantage of all who participate.

H. D.

Rhine Signal Company.

We have not very much to say about our activities this month, the present spell of hot weather being the only thing we can enthuse over.

Cricket, tennis, and swimming, are being freely indulged in, and in the former we are doing extremely well. Up to date we have played eight matches, won six, drawn one, and lost one, and are leaders of the premier league—with great hopes of sticking there.

In one of our games, against the Artillery, we just managed to snatch victory by two runs amidst tense excitement. Sergt Eves and Sigmn Williams were last men in with 5 runs to get, and when Williams with a mighty swipe got the winning hit, various people in their exuberance nearly fell out of the barrack-room windows.

Our barrack square is looking awfully well now, having been fenced round with white posts and wired, and is now nearly covered with grass, giving it quite a lawn-like effect, the credit being due to L/Corpl Baker and his crowd of merry (fatigue) men. The G.O.C., who was down here the other week, cast an appraising eye upon it; and someone said he wanted it for a polo playing field. We understand, though, he was only trying to find out if the neighbouring vicinity was suitable for a horse show.

On May 20th most of the Company attended the military race meeting in hopes of seeing Major Cobb's horses "Pleiades" and "Merry Dance" win their respective races, and incidentally to make a few marks. We were disappointed, for Pleiades was beaten by a short head after a gallant struggle, though we believe he carried as much weight as all the other horses together—due, no doubt, to his victory at the first meeting here, when he won his race, weighed in, and was back in his stable before the second horse passed the post. There is to be another race meeting on June 10th, and we shall be there.

We must offer our congratulations to Sigmn Simpson on his winning the bantam-weight boxing championship of the Rhine at the first attempt, and to Sigmn Noakes on his fine fight, which we and nearly the whole of the audience thought he had won. Never mind, A.B., wait until we get some new boxing gloves.

We hear rumours frequently which say that the Silesian detachment will soon be back with us again, in which case we shall make things hum for the various units here, for we are few now, so very few—due, in a way, to Herr Geddes, and as they always say, numbers do tell.

It was with regret that we noticed the departure to S.T.C. of Capt. Hose of this Company. He was always to the fore in all sports, and we miss him very much, though it is a consolation to know that our loss is F Company's gain.

We have no news from the sergeants' mess as to their social doings, though at the indignation meeting hastily held over someone seen playing on their tennis court, it was decided that applications to play there should be forwarded by parties concerned in triplicate to the sergeants' mess on the 1st of each month for due consideration.

On the occasion of our league cricket match against the G.H.Q. sergeants, they entertained the married folk of the Company and visitors to lunch and tea. There was quite a crowd, and a sunny day made it all the more enjoyable, though leather hunting and the heat tended to make one thirsty, the bar being a very welcome innovation.

We sent a party on June 4th to take part in the King's birthday parade in Cologne, under the command of Capt. Thorne and Lieut Sutton-Pratt. The parade, besides being one of the biggest yet held, was a brilliant turnout.

We hope that our decreasing numbers will have no effect upon our sales of THE WIRE, and with the return of the Silesian Section we shall look forward confidently to further increases.

P. B.

Intercommunication in Mountain Warfare.

By Capt. and Bt.-Major R. H. MACDONALD, O.B.E., Royal Corps of Signals.

PART II.

In the previous article an attempt was made to outline some of the conditions which affect the application of the Signal plan in mountain warfare. In all cases every available means of communication must be exploited to the full—this goes without saying; but only those means which have seemed to require fuller consideration in particular cases have been discussed.

Picquet communication (para. III. (d)) forms part only of the communication required in the advance of a column through picquets thrown out by itself, or along an established line of communication through permanent protective picquets. Further consideration is now given to the initial advance and to advanced and rearguards.

IV.—The Advance.

Cable detachments may normally be found to march in the space between the advanced guard and the main body of the leading brigade, and will lay two main routes along the line of march. One route will form the main line throughout the division to the head of the corps airline; the second, a local line between defensive posts established on the line of communication. Where the column headquarters accompanies the leading brigade, the cable detachment laying the main route will march with this headquarters and the line allotted to it. Where, through the nature of the route traversed, cable wagons cannot be used, well-trained foot cable parties may be expected to lay sufficiently fast to accompany the consequently slower-moving headquarters to which they are detailed. The daily march on the frontier averages some twelve miles, and the length of cable to be laid falls within the power of endurance of an energetic pack cable section.

During the march the cable routes will be taken over by corps Signals in the ordinary manner, and converted into light field airline on bamboo poles and to semi-permanent and permanent routes (iron poles) at the earliest possible opportunity.

The cable of the main line will be recovered by corps Signals and sent forward as early as possible; the local line being left down as an alternate route until semi-permanent or permanent line is erected, when it, too, will be recovered. When, through the long distances involved and the difficulties of erection to be faced, the construction parties are unable to keep pace with the advance, the cable routes may be down for some considerable time. It may then become advisable to take both lines into picquets conveniently situated near the line of advance, to provide test points between posts on the line of communication. Linemen should be left at these points, whether regimental or from the Corps of Signals, and arrangements made for the patrol, testing, and early repair of the cable routes.

All other means of communication will be employed in the formation of the main route of communication from front to rear, full use being made of the valuable auxiliary method of visual communication through picquets.

V.—Advanced and Rear-Guards.

(*a*) With a force advancing or retiring through an established system of protective picquets and along a communication system.

(*b*) With a force providing its own protection over a fresh line of advance.

(*a*) Communication between the main body and its advanced and rearguard does not call for any special comment, except possibly that a well-organised system

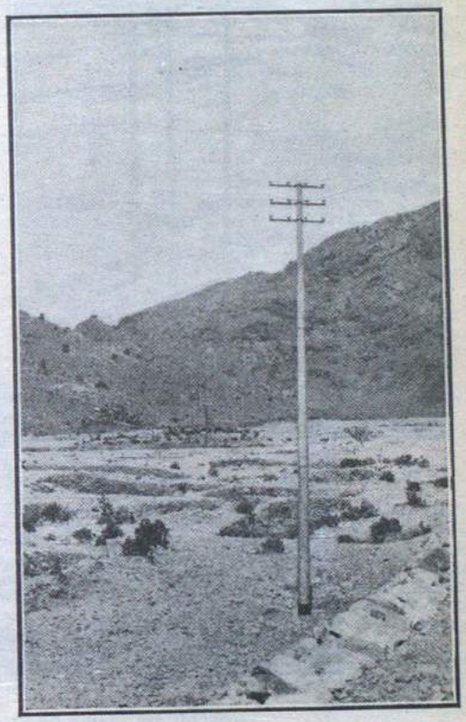


Plate 4—Telephone Routes from a Division to two Brigades through easy country.

of despatch riders, mounted orderlies, and runners should back up other means of communication. Cable should be husbanded and not laid where other means are sufficient. Once again the picquet system, with its establishment of regimental signallers in each picquet, provides an excellent stand-by for communication throughout the column.

(*b*) The chief point of note in this particular operation will be the throwing out of picquets from the advanced guard and, when the force is operating independently (para. 2 (1)), the withdrawal of these picquets to the rearguard. The utmost regard must be given to communication with these picquets from the Signal detachments accompanying the advanced and rearguards, to protect the commander of the advanced guard against a failure to perceive that picquets are

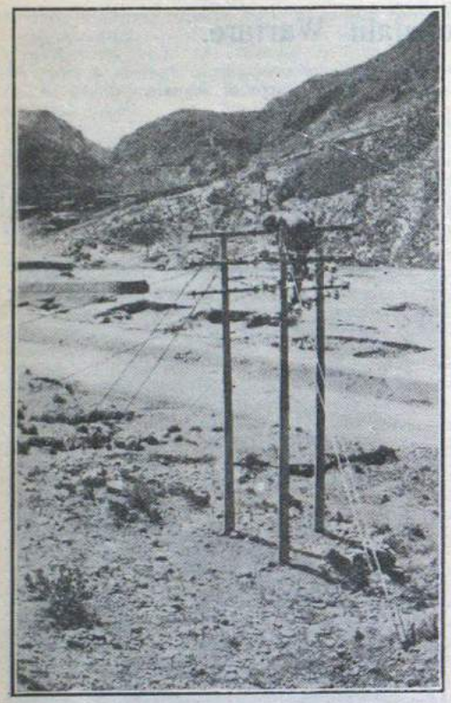


Plate 5—An angle ending lengthy bays.

Corps of Signals, in frontier campaigns is at present so limited, from various reasons which it is not necessary to enter into here, that it is inadvisable, and not even possible, to utilise it in subsidiary communication off the main route, *i.e.*, to picquets, small detached posts, etc. Its chief value will be found in its employment between subordinate and higher headquarters, to detached posts of considerable size, between artillery and aircraft, and on the main line of communication. It is of such value in linking subordinate and other headquarters that it should be mainly devoted to no headquarters less than that of a brigade of any arm.

Frontier tribes being without modern communication and relying on a relay system of runners only, the interception of wireless messages is not fraught with the same difficulty as in a deliberate war against a civilised enemy. Where, however, operations are undertaken through tribal territory and against a civilised army, the disadvantages inherent to it (Signal Training, part 8, chap. 2) must receive due weight.

Especially by night partial or entire dislocation of all land lines may result, and wireless, with visual telegraph, be the only means of communication.

(B) TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH BY OPEN WIRE ROUTES

This forms one of the most important classes of communication, but is open to many difficulties.

Light field airline on bamboo poles is speedy of erection over even distressingly bad country, but, apart in position, thereby delaying the main body, and to assist the rearguard commander in recalling picquets. Visual telegraphy is the only method employable, wireless (which will be considered later) being too sparsely available to assist in communication to picquets. Visual will call for careful control on the part of those responsible for its use, and the detachments must be in complete accord with the system of picqueting undertaken. Communication between the main body and its advanced and rearguards will be as usual by every method available.

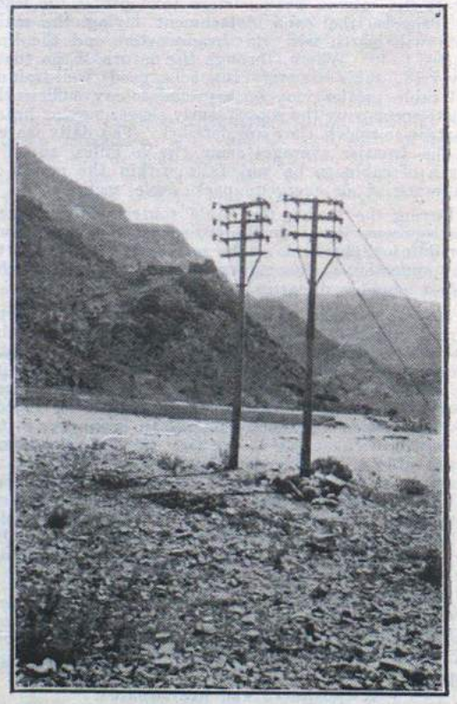


Plate 6—A sharp change of alignment in easy country.

Space does not permit of a full review of the communication required in an action involving the deployment of troops; but the guiding principles of the manuals apply in the ordinary manner, having regard to the fact that communication cannot be of an elaborate nature, and that, where attacking troops become much dispersed in mountainous country, cable will be difficult to throw out, and wireless, visual and message carrying agencies be chiefly relied upon. When the country is suitable and large forces are deployed in the open, the normal signal plan adapted thereto must be immediately applied (*see* Signal Training, part 8, 1920).

A brief discussion of the means of communication available, and their values and restrictions, might next receive attention.

(A) WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY.

Wireless is of the greatest value, but must be economically employed. Its provision, even in the

from enemy interference, is liable to damage by straying camels and mules, and, where erected near roads, by carelessly-driven mule carts and other transport.

To discuss at any length communication by open wire routes might form a manual of its own, and of semi-permanent and permanent routes as used on the frontier little is taught to Signals outside India. Wooden poles are unknown; and portable poles (sectional), brackets, etc., all of galvanised iron, are entirely used in varying sizes. These are less conspicuous and are free from the ravages of white ants and other insects, and from other effects of tropical causes from which the wooden poles would suffer.

Briefly: open wire routes are subject to certain difficulties under the three main headings of—

(1) Erection;

(2) Protection; and

(3) Maintenance, which is dependent on the question of protection.

(1) The rate of construction must depend upon the nature of the country, the weight of the material used, the strength and efficiency of the working party, and upon the transport available.

Where routes traverse plains and flat country, the problem is comparatively easy, but where lines are sited through rocky and mountainous country, up stony nullah beds, and across yawning ravines, work cannot proceed at any great pace. Not only do bays become extended to their utmost length, requiring first class ability and ingenuity on the part of the construction sections, but the digging of holes for the poles themselves becomes a laborious task. In rock it will be found advantageous to build a cairn of stones round the pole to a height of not less than three feet. The crowbar will be found to be the most useful tool in the hands of energetic and well-trained men.

A reference to the Plates provided will make the problem of erection more apparent.

(2) Open wire routes running, as they do, over plains, across mountainous country—now up a ravine, now in a nullah bed—and the picquets protecting the line of communication being far removed from, and in most cases much higher than the communication system, and their garrisons being confined within the perimeters at night, observation of the nullahs and ravines below becomes difficult if not impossible, and opportunities for line destruction by tribesmen are very great.

Even iron wire is at a premium for tribal bullets; bronze is impossible to maintain; posts form excellent lintels and water conduits in villages; and these considerations, rather than a desire to dislocate communication, form in the main the causes of raids. These routes are therefore unreliable by night, and communication is usually dislocated shortly after the hours of darkness set in, and cannot be restored until next day.



Plate 7—Difficult country in which lengthy bays are frequent.

(3) Added to the above considerations is that of maintenance. In bad country, and where lorries and wheeled transport are unable to proceed, camels and pack mules provide the only solution. Line stores and poles are specially designed for pack carriage, and a careful distribution of transport to working parties becomes essential.

The dislocation of lines at night is so great in frontier campaigns—in my experience, of nightly occurrence. To quote one night: "Linemen report lines north of Haft Chah post in great disorder, 300 yards of semi-permanent routes wrecked, poles and wire removed, 500 yards of cable removed;" and the following night, "Lines north of Haft Chah and south of same for 300 yards each way lifted." That heavy repair work has to be undertaken each morning, and a very definite and clear "bandobast" made to cope with the complete destruction and removal of very many bays of wire with poles. Linemen are unable to move at night, and

though "chapaos" (ambushes) are often arranged, except during the period of moonlight little can be effected in the pursuit and capture of raiding parties.

Adequate arrangements must be made for a distribution of linemen and repair parties, especially in unfortunate sectors. Lines should be terminated at the end of a moderate number of bays, to provide against their being strained and thrown out of alignment for considerable distances on either side of route destruction.

The advantages of these routes, when "through," in the disposal of message traffic far outweigh the difficulties to be encountered, and they are (and must be) utilised to their fullest extent. Lateral telegraph and telephone communication can seldom be provided, and on main routes the difficulty of erection, maintenance, and protection, premises that a minimum number of well-constructed routes should be concentrated upon, and phantom and super-imposed circuits be utilised to their fullest extent.

(To be continued).

The Royal Engineers' War Memorial.

Unveiling Ceremony, July 19th.

1. Arrangements for Special Train:—

A special train with 1st and 3rd Class carriages at reduced fares will be run as follows:—

Outward journey—Victoria (S.E. and C.R.) dep. 10 a.m.; Chatham, arrive 10.52 a.m.

Return Journey—Chatham, depart 4.20 p.m.; Victoria, arrive 5.15 p.m.

Special buses will run between Chatham Station and the site of the ceremony in connection with these trains.

Only return tickets can be issued and these are available on the special return train only, and not on any ordinary train.

The tickets are obtainable on application (enclosing remittance) to the Secretary, Memorial Sub-Committee, Brompton Barracks, Chatham, and will not be issued from the Railway Company's Booking Offices.

The prices of tickets are as under (which includes the return bus fare): 1st Class, Adults, 10s. 2d.; Children under 12, 5s. 4d. 3rd Class Adults, 5s. 4d.; Children under 12, 2s. 8d.

It is requested that those desiring tickets should apply for them as early as possible.

2. Dress to be worn by officers and other ranks, past and present, attending the ceremony will be as under—

Officers on the Active List of their Corps or Regiment—Service Dress. If parading with troops, medals will be worn. If not, medal ribands only (in accordance with A.C.I. 437 of 1919).

Serving officers not on the Active List of their Corps or Regiment—Service Dress (medal and ribands only).

Officers not on the Active List—Service Dress (if in possession). Medal ribands only. If not in possession of Service Dress, plain clothes; but for Colonels Commandant, R.E., either full dress (with medals), or plain clothes. Officers attending in plain clothes are requested to wear their medals.

Other ranks (serving)—As for officers on the Active List.

Other ranks (not serving)—Plain clothes (with medals).

Swords should be worn by all serving officers and by others who are in possession of them.

3. Luncheon will be provided, if tickets are purchased befort 1st July, for—

(A) Officers and their friends, at 5s. per head, in the Gymnasium.

(B) Other ranks and their friends, at 2s. per head, in the Drill Shed.

Tickets will not be issued for those residing locally, unless accommodation is available after other applications have been met, but local residents desiring tickets are requested to apply for same as soon as possible.

4. There will also be a special luncheon in the Headquarters Mess, Brompton Barracks, at which H.R.H. The Duke of Connaught has graciously consented to be present, and at which there will be certain other distinguished guests.

Past and present regular officers who desire to attend this luncheon are invited to apply for tickets, and seats will be allotted on July 1st in order of seniority (by date of substantive rank). The cost of this luncheon will not exceed 5s. per head, excluding wine, and will be collected by Mess Bills from those who attend. Those applicants for whom accommodation cannot be found will be assumed to require 5s. tickets for the luncheon in the Gymnasium, and these will be forwarded unless they state otherwise.

5. The Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Messes of the Training and Depot Battalions are providing luncheon and tea for ex-R.E. members of these Messes (Old and New Armies) who do not reside locally.

Those desiring tickets of invitation should write direct to the President, Headquarters W.O.'s and Sergeants' Mess, R.E., Chatham, before 1st July, giving No., Rank and Name.

6. All applications should be made to: Secretary, Memorial Sub-Committee, Brompton Barracks, Chatham, for admittance, luncheon, and train tickets.

2nd Signal Company, Aldershot.

Training is now in full swing, and the numerous new arrivals from the depot have quickly been switched into harness.

Our cricket team did not meet with much success in our first match with the Royal Engineers in the Command knockout. However, we feel sure that with the aid of some of our numerous arrivals, our various teams will put up some good shows in the future.

Muting Bowe has departed, some say for Ireland, but personally I don't think he'll ever get there: Paddy needs a drink at least every half-hour when travelling.

We welcome the arrival of Capt. Tillard and sincerely hope he will find a team in Aldershot that will bring credit to the Corps, as his last team did.

Lieut. Andrews and his N.U.T. have departed for leave pending discharge.

A Char-a-banc Club has been formed, but its success depends entirely on the Company's support. Full particulars may be had from Corpls Main and Diprose.

Athletics.

Our team failed to qualify for the Command championship in the inter-unit athletic tournament, but we have the satisfaction of knowing that the Camerons (who topped our group) easily annexed the premier honours in the Command finals. Our luck was certainly not in by any means, as several of our men were only just beaten, while thirds and fourths were quite the order of the day.

Our only win was in the mile, which was taken by Sergt Bayliss, fifteen yards from Sergt McBeath—who eventually won the Command final. However, we are looking forward to the time when we will have a well trained team to represent us.

The Royal Engineers held their sports on May 27th. The Corps of Signals were not allowed to compete, except in the open events, in which we secured two seconds—Sergt. Bayliss in the open mile, and our tent-pegging team in the open section tent-pegging (a splendid performance, considering the competing teams). The team comprised Sergt-Major Harding, Sgt Hatton, Corpls Penfold and Diprose.

The same team went even one better on Whit Monday, and after a rattling performance, annexed the cup and medals at the Aldershot Gymkhana. The wins were as follows: 1st Run, 3 carries and 1 draw: 22 points; 2nd Run, 4 carries: 24 points. Total 46 (possible 48). Truly a wonderful performance.

Keep it up, "Phil"! The Sports Fund will have to pay your fare to Olympia one of these days.

DIN.

4th Divisional Signal Company.

There has been no excitement at Colchester during the past month.

The Company is engaged daily on various refresher and training duties. We are shortly to commence a preliminary musketry course, in preparation for the annual firing.

The majority of the Company were lucky enough to get home for Whitsuntide.

Cricket is now in full swing, and we are doing well. We have sufficient fixtures to carry us far into the season.

No. 6 Preliminary Course has assembled. The candidates attending show signs of doing well. No "Maries" came for this course. I am thinking that "Marie" would find a great difference should she by chance return. By the way, writing of Courses reminds me that "Smudger and Co." have not yet advised their whereabouts.

We now possess a miniature Fire Brgiade, "Joe" of D.R. fame being the star turn. It is quite amusing to watch him travelling around the camp, on top, with his various appliances.

"Brawn" for some time past has been the subject of much discussion in this unit. The question could not be settled as to whether any part of the pig was used in its manufacture, but it has now been definitely settled—several men having found "nose rings" in the last issue.

No. 1 Artillery Signal Sub-Section has returned from camp with the Gunners. The camp, by all accounts, was a great success.

An old friend, Corpl McPhee, recently joined us from Maresfield.

R. C. B.

G.H.Q. Signal Company, Ireland.

There is no definite news to report regarding the total disintegration of this Company, but in order to avoid any possibility of the personnel suffering from *ennui*, the powers-that-be have decided to conduct one of our periodical reorganisations. This will, no doubt, have been completed before these notes appear, and henceforth we shall be known as the Dublin District Signal Company.

The personnel will be divided into two Sections, under the command of our present O.C. and Lieut. Barton (late Curragh Signal Company) respectively, the command of the new Company devolving on Captain Barker, who commanded the recently-disbanded Curragh Signal Company.

Departures.

We are all very sorry to lose our Acting C.S.M. (Sergt Le Quelenec), who has been transferred to the 4th Divl. Signals at Colchester. We wish him the best of luck in his new post, and at the same time welcome his successor (Acting C.S.M. Hall).

It is feared that the practice of "semaphore" will suffer greatly by the departure of Sergt Le Quelenec. The senior n.c.o.s held a smoking concert on June 1st to bid him farewell, and a very enjoyable evening was spent by a company of about fifty, including four of our officers.

We have also lost a few men under the operations of Eric's Axe, and a few more on completion of engagement.

Sports.

News in the sporting world is necessarily scarce, as our numbers are not very large. Several friendly tennis matches have been played by the n.c.o.s' mess against other messes, and although we cannot record having won a match yet, we hope to have better luck

in future. Several enjoyable evenings have been occupied in this way, and some interesting games have been played.

Cricket practice proceeds merrily each evening in Phœnix Park, and we have played four matches without winning one; but it is confidently expected that the team will do better in future, especially as the management is now in the hands of C.Q.M.S. Cadwell, a keen and efficient cricketer.

A shooting match between two teams of three men was held on June 3rd, when some very good scores were put up, the only surprise being that the individual expected to be at the top of the list unaccountably appeared at the bottom! Up to date no explanation is forthcoming.

SPARKS.

2nd Cavalry Divisional Signals

(Middlesex Yeomanry)

Opening up from one success to another, it would be very hard to find a T.A. unit who spent a more enjoyable time at Whitsuntide than the above. All arrangements being previously made, members attending training were asked to report in time for tea at the Royal Horse Guards barracks on Saturday. By 17.00 hours half the unit had reported, and great relief was felt when our Pigeon and Dispatch Troop Sergeant rolled up in his state coach.

On Sunday morning everybody got ready for real business, and by 10.00 hours three visual stations, the wireless station, and Cable Troop terminals were in full swing. Only those who know Windsor and the surrounding district can appreciate the call of the country, especially at this time of the year.

On Monday everyone was given an opportunity of getting astride some of the finest cattle in the army. A reconnaissance scheme was on the programme, combined with squadron drill. Having manœuvred through Windsor Great Park we made for Egham, where breakfast awaited us; and after an hour in the saddle, needless to say everyone enjoyed the meal. The run was then continued along the Sunningdale road, turning into the park again south of Virginia Water, and up to Norfolk Farm. From the farm to Bishop's Gate was one of the prettiest rides one could wish for. Royal Lodge and Snow Hill were our next stops of interest. We finished the scheme by 12.00 hours at the Copper Horse.

The afternoon was spent by most of the younger members on the river, while the older hands were having a very enjoyable time at the mess, and it is rumoured that some of them could not be enticed to leave till Tuesday.

Before closing, I must add that we received a visit from the Chief Signal Officer, London District and Eastern Command T.A., and we have reasons to believe he was very satisfied with the working of the unit and the arrangements made.

It is hoped that our gallant D.R. sergeant will receive some recognition for the able manner in which he conducted the staff, and for his record run to the station, collecting tickets, and finding times of trains.

One point of information is required: Who was responsible for the portable telephone D. Mark iii. being placed under close arrest?

E. H. S.

56th (1st London) Divisional Signals.

News and notes are both rather scarce this month, for though events are pending, nothing of note has actually occurred.

The Whitsuntide camp, which (as at Easter) was spent at Maresfield S.T.C., was again a success, although a little tent pitching could be practised with advantage: for some were good, some like the curate's egg (good in parts), and some (the majority) wholly bad.

As there were only fifteen, it will be seen that not many were good. However, a good deal of practice will probably be available at camp this year.

Something is evidently being learned in the care of camp equipment, for damages were small (dare I hint at stoppages?)

The next notes will be published whilst we are at annual training. There is every prospect of a good attendance, as the majority of the forms sent in are for the full period, although that is short enough for a mounted unit.

Recruiting is going along very nicely, and we are in a position to exercise a little more discrimination in our choice of recruits, which will be to the benefit of the unit eventually.

THE ROBBER.

43rd (The Wessex) Divisional Signals.

Exeter.

Our No. 2 Company, which was recently launched at Southampton, is going strong and has already roped in 22 recruits. They are, unfortunately, too far from Headquarters for us to meet them often, but we are looking forward to our annual camp at Saltford, Bristol, when we hope to have a long pull together.

No. 1 Company have been busy lately with Saturday afternoon long drills, and have arranged for their week-end camp to take place at Starcross at the end of this month.

No. 3 Company have got over their "week-ender," which was held under ideal conditions at Woodbury Common—a delightful spot—during Whitsuntide. Our ground scouts report that all went well, especially in the feeding line. If the boys were pleased with their little expedition, and are eager to go again under similar conditions, well, those responsible for making the arrangements are repaid for their labours. A good programme of work was got through, and was carried out in a cheerful spirit.

Through the kindness of the Vicar of the parish in which our camp was situated we were enabled to rejoice in a short service in the camp on Whit Sunday morning.

But where were the "Topsham Warblers?" It was to them we looked for the lead in singing. Was it coyness that stifled the amplitude of their note? Our musician was unfortunately placed at some disadvantage—the seating accommodation available added nothing to his comfort, and the unevenness of the ground caused the instrument—a collapsible "johanna"—to oscillate violently. His imperturbability, however, was greatly to be admired—as gentle as a lamb and as patient as Job—always!

Congratulations to C.Q.M.S. Coswav. Sergts Baker and Hockarlay, and Corpl Steer on their promotion.

OLD SPARK

44th (H.C.) Divisional Signals.

Nos. 1 and 3 Companies, Stamford Brook.

At long last a branch of the Signals Association has been started under the heading of "The Chiswick and District Branch." At present it cannot be boasted that the percentage of members is anything in the nature of a record, but we are hoping to report more favourably next month. A meeting of members will be held, as soon as it can be arranged, to elect the usual officers.

Should there be any ex-Signals living in the vicinity, they are invited to look in at the Drill Hall, Stamford Brook, at any time, or communicate with the hon. branch secretary at the same address.

The Corps Association applies equally to ex-members of the Signal Service as to those at present serving, and we should be pleased to keep in social touch with all old friends.

Unit notes will appear under this heading each month, and it is hoped that all concerned will support our Association activities, not only by becoming members, but also by purchasing their copy of THE WIRE regularly.

Incidentally, if any unemployed member of the Association will communicate with this office, with a view to having his name, qualifications, etc., included on the unemployed register, every effort will be made to secure a situation for him.

A little picnic (?) in the shape of a Signal Exercise was carried out at South Harrow and district during the Whitsun holidays. The scheme was quite a success.

The weather clerk did his best for us, and we arrived back at Stamford Brook looking as though we had been to the seaside for a week.

On Sunday, June 11th, the first party of officers and other ranks proceeded to Bisley by bus for annual musketry practice (another picnic!) Who wouldn't be a Terrier?

Prizes were given for the best aggregates. L/Sergt Ambrose walked off with the n.c.o.s prize, and Sigmn Reilly and Dr. Pateman tied for the men's prize.

It is hoped to get a really good shooting team together this year.

Things We Should Like to Know.

Why the civvies *will* ask, when they see us mounted, "Is there another war on?"

Mac's real opinion of the 30-watt C.W. set?

Whether Smudger's hat put him off the bull?

Whether a certain slightly bald middle aged gentleman is any relation to Tickler?

WATT.

46th (North Midland) Divisional Signals.

Derby.

Since my last notes, nothing greatly exciting has happened. I think the hot weather is responsible for a great deal, although we get some real good musters at times, and the recruits are showing a great keenness in their work, both technical and riding drill. This is all done on the open field now, as the so-called tan is so dry and dusty that it takes about umpteen pints of water (?) to clear the Instructor's throat afterwards.

Our waggons are proceeding to camp by road, so that given fine weather the march will no doubt be greatly enjoyed by the drivers, who are showing now the results of the excellent tuition they had as recruits.

Our Institute continues to prosper. The billiard table is never unoccupied, and we have Dick Hart over from Notts occasionally to show us a few of his new strokes; and after the "toils of the long day are o'er," a few games are keenly contested between the Adjutant, the S.M., and himself, whilst Tommy Jones (of Yeomanry fame) shows he knows where the pockets are—but no flukes! oh no!

We had our usual monthly concert on Empire Day, and it was voted our greatest success. Capt. Briggs with his banjo was to the fore among other artistes of local fame, and all the lads are looking forward for the next concert, which will be the last before camp.

MEREBIMUR.

49th (West Riding) Divl. Signals.

Leeds.

Preparations for camp are in full swing, and by the 30th prox. every convenience and comfort for the men should have been considered.

The hours of training have not yet been decided, but it is thought that no one will have cause to complain of over-work. Wireless will fill a large part of the programme in this year's training, and the youths who hope to gain any entertainment should therefore polish up their operating.

Recreation will not be forgotten—tennis, cricket, and football will fill the programme.

A full day's sports are being arranged for Bank Holiday. The open events are expected to be well patronised, and the unit's sprinters and long-distance men must look to their laurels.

The cricket season is in full swing. They have fixtures up to the end of the season, so I think they should have a good time.

55th (West Lancs.) Divl. Signals, T.A.

Prescot.

There has so far been no change in the composition of this unit, but we (in common with our friends of the 42nd Div.) are anxious to know which way the cat is going to jump, and when.

We send best wishes to R.S.M. Cook, who has proceeded to Aldershot pending discharge on termination of his engagement. To his successor, R.S.M. Evans (from Western Corps Signals) we extend a hearty welcome, and trust he will not regard us too critically on taking charge of our baby unit, after having had the care of such a mature and distinguished one as the late 2nd Western Corps of Signals.

C.S.M. Hearne has now joined us permanently, but he is an old friend, whose wireless lectures during the past few months have been keenly appreciated. In his case no introduction is necessary.

There was a very good muster of Nos. 1 and 3 Companies at Knowsley Park on Wednesday, June 7th, for an inspection by the C.O.

Practically all our trained men and a number of recruits completed their musketry course at Altcar on Saturday, June 10th, when a thoroughly enjoyable day was spent. It is hoped to hold tests for the remaining members of the unit about the second week in September.

It is unfortunate that it has not been possible to carry out any trade grouping tests, but we have no doubt that this question is receiving the attention of our worthy Adjutant, and that everything will be all right by the end of the present month in readiness for camp, which we now hear has been changed to Ramsey.

E. M. C.

51st (Highland) Divisional Signals, T.A.

Headquarters and No. 1 Company, Aberdeen.

We are in the midst of a busy period before setting off for camp at Montrose on July 15th. The Cable, Wireless, and Visual Sections are holding a series of bi-weekly schemes, which prove much more attractive and interesting than the necessary ground work which had to be done in the shadow of the barracks and in the lecture rooms.

Sergt J. Horner has joined us from Glasgow, en route for No. 3 Company about to be formed at Kirkcaldy. We are very pleased to welcome him to the Highland Div. Signals, and hope his stay with the unit will be a pleasant one.

We have to acknowledge defeat in the final of the *Gazette* trophy, and feel it hard lines to have lost the cup by a margin of one goal (scored in the last minute of an extra half-hour's play.) The keenness of the team is increased by this defeat, and in congratulating the winners, the Highland Field Company, R.E., we hope to meet them in as good a final game next season. The teams were as follows:—

Highland Field Co., R.E.—Coutts (captain); Duncan and W. Christie; G. Annand, Donald Shearer and Fyvie; Dow, Fiddes, W. Annand and A. Annand.

Royal Corps of Signals.—Gregor; Forrest and Ingram; Crawford, D. Stephen and Bruce; Jeffrey, Bent, Strachan, Wheeler and C. Stephen.

In the first half the R.E. opened strongly, and so great was the pressure that it seemed as if they would win easily. The Signals, however, settled down later on, and more than held their own until the interval, before which both goals narrowly escaped.

In the second half, when playing against the wind, the Signals opened the scoring through Strachan. A few minutes later the Engineers equalised through W. Annand. No further scoring took place, and an extra half hour, during which corners were to count, had to be played.

The play during this extra time was even more keen. Both teams were desperate to get the lead, and with about three or four minutes left the teams were even with corners. It seemed that another half hour would have to be played, when in practically the last minute Fyvie scored a goal for the Engineers, who thus won a game very keenly contested throughout.

At the finish the *Evening Gazette* trophy and the medals were presented by Lord Provost Meff, who announced that, as the trophy was not to be competed for in future—the R.E.s having won it outright—he would be pleased to present a cup next year. He thanked ex-Lord Provost Wilson and Major Forsyth (R.C.S.) for their gift of the medals just presented.

The players were entertained at a smoking concert in the evening at the R.E. Drill Hall, 80 Hardgate. There was a company of about 60. The chairman was Major Alexander, and among those present were Col. T. Gordon (secretary, City of Aberdeen T.A.A.), Major Pratt (Divl. Engineers), Major Forsyth (Divl. Signals), Commander Nelson, R.N., Major H. S. Tawse, R.E., Capt. Allan, R.E., Lieut. McLaren, R.E., Lieutenants Murray and Webster (R.C.S.), and Mr. P. Craigmyle (the referee).

Songs were rendered and the R.C.S. orchestra played several selections during the evening.

The chairman spoke on the clean and sportsmanlike manner in which the game had been played, and congratulated the winners on being the proud possessors of a very handsome trophy. He hoped that this would be the beginning of many such contests, and that the losers this year might be the winners of the next year's cup.

Major R. E. B. Pratt also congratulated the winners, but said that he was sorry it was his lifelong "pals" the Signals whom the Engineers had knocked out.

Major Forysth suitably replied, and hoped the Signals would have better luck next year.

A most enjoyable evening was brought to a close with the singing of the National Anthem.

The following is an extract from *The Aberdeen Free Press*:—"The band of the 51st (Highland) Divisional Signals gave their first public performance under Bandmaster G. Adams, in the Westburn Park on Monday night, June 5th. The musicians had a cordial reception and gave a popular programme of selections. The task of raising a military band in this Territorial unit has been a big one, and great credit is due to the bandmaster, and also to Major F. R. G. Forsyth, M.C., (adjutant of the unit), and fellow officers, who have given the bandmaster every support and encouragement. The band has been able to secure a good number of engagements during the summer season in Aberdeenshire, and also some in Forfarshire during July."

S. H. M.

No. 2 Company.

In opening this chapter we hasten to welcome to our fold 2nd/Lieuts Sadler and Morrison, and to congratulate them on attaining their commissions in a corps which, although linked with a brilliant past, has yet a more brilliant future to attain. We can still remember when our first stripe was placed on our tunic, how we developed a sort of strained posture of the head by glancing down the right sleeve to see if it was in position, and how nothing but the lapse of time cured the strain. We mention this as a "tip" to our young officers in case they should develop this strain. Our heartfelt wishes are extended for their welfare and success; and we trust that the "pip" now planted will bear abundantly.

In congratulating Sergt Devlin on assuming double harness, we offer to his partner and himself our warm wishes for their future; and as the prospect is golden, may the realisation prove the same. In the time-worn saying, "May all their troubles be little ones"—but not too many.

The Scottish Spa, in which we are fortunate to reside, is looking its best, and we are hoping that the week-end camp, to be held this month in the surrounding district, will not break the spell of good weather. Everyone is eager to participate in the outing, and in view of the present financial stringency we consider ourselves lucky in having been granted by the powers-that-be a sum of money sufficient to meet our wants. The scarcity of "bawbees" is a governing factor; and for the benefit of our English comrades, we would point out that a "bawbee" is a coin of Scottish extraction invented to enable a Scotchman to contribute to the Church Fund on the Sabbath.

Our Commanding Officer was pleased to inspect us last month, and we trust that our turnout was entirely suitable for the occasion. Those of us who were being inspected for the first time had that tinge of excitement which is usually associated with C.O.'s inspections, but which old soldiers call by a different name.

52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals.

Glasgow.

Musketry.

The final standard test for all Companies will be held on June 24th at Dechmont range. As noted previously, the attendances and the average of firing were very high, and it is anticipated that the last day will prove as satisfactory as the preceding occasions.

Casualty.

R.S.M. Horner leaves the unit on Wednesday, 14th June, to proceed to Aberdeen, where he will be transferred to the 51st (The Highland) Divisional Signals. He stays at the "Silver City" for a week, and afterwards goes to Kirkcaldy, the "lang toon."

It is expected that during his sojourn there, he will make himself acquainted with those delightful (?) haunts, Nairns' Mill, the Skating Rink, and Adam Smith's Hall. If the writer's experience can be taken as an example, environment and ennui might conceivably have the effect of driving the Major to a study of the exemplary life of Adam Smith and his world-famous "Wealth of Nations," without which no library of a student of political or civic economy would be complete.

However, in speculating thus on his future occupations, I am guilty of digression. R.S.M. Horner leaves us to our universal regret, and henceforth we can only treasure the memory of a singularly good-natured and courteous warrant officer. We trust to hear about him occasionally through the columns of THE WIRE.

1st Scottish Corps Signals.

The disbandment of this unit is practically complete, and as a direct result the strength of Divl. Signals has been greatly increased.

Camp.

We are making strenuous preparations to make this year's camp an ideal Territorial camp, both from the point of view of training and of sport. We are doing everything possible to make the mounted sports as spectacular as last year, although this will be a matter of some difficulty. The clerical work is proceeding apace, and it won't be the fault of the officers, w.o.s and n.c.o.s if everything does not go well.

Sports.

We learn with pleasure that Sigmn Joe Cotterell is still lifting cups (we refer to his winning the Sussex Championship), and we follow his sporting career with keenest interest.

LOWDIVCOR.

53rd (Welch) Divisional Signals, T.A.

Cardiff.

Since the appearance of our last notes we have taken a further stage in training.

The Companies turned out in good strength for the week-end course held on Saturday and Sunday, April 29th and 30th.

Rumour has it that this course was organised with a view to endow the powers-that-be with the instinct of immediate identification without the aid of a Bradshaw or a Who's Who.

Saturday was spent at Headquarters, the instruction being a preliminary canter to the big event on Sunday, when the unit moved off in great style to our local "camp hill," where trenches were won and lost at random. The Divisional Signal office was quickly established, and line soon through to the infantry brigades, divisional artillery, corps and canteen, the last named only being effective after the persistent efforts of our well known D.R. Sergeant and one of our P.S. who shall be nameless.

The efforts of the day were very satisfactory, and many fine equestrian feats were witnessed, much to the admiration of the fair sex and to the amusement of the juveniles. Our stable expert informs me that this was due to our long-faced pals being temporarily unbalanced, a fault which he attributes to the following causes: Reading the helio (new procedure); treading on the earth mat; and eating the Signal Office register and the office diagram.

Our Signalmen proved once again that unity is strength, especially when being hitched to the telephone wagon.

However, after a very interesting and strenuous day our forces returned to the fastness of Park Street, where all casualties were noted and gratuities quickly dispensed. All ranks soon became the guests of the genial host of our local retreat, "The Dun Robin." (We doubt his word). Thus ended one more of those gallant episodes which on this occasion shall not pass unrecorded.

The approach of camp is having its usual good effect on attendances at the Drill Hall, but by far the most satisfactory sign is the extra drilling of those who have already completed the necessary number.

That keenness exists in the unit is proved by the fact that at the time of writing an officer and four sergeants are undergoing a voluntary tour of duty at the S.T.C., Maresfield.

R. T. O.

SPORTS NEWS.

Football.

End of the Season, 1921-2.

Royal Ulster Rifles' Cup.

On the Newhaven Recreation Ground, on Saturday, May 20th, Vernon Athletic met the Corps of Signals, R.E. (Maresfield) in the Royal Ulster Rifles' Cup final, before a good gate.

CORPS OF SIGNALS—White; Barby and Wooldridge; Hobbs, Hall and Bonner; Hayden, Baines, Duffy, Withers and Carter.

VERNON ATHLETIC—A. C. Cruttenden; G. J. Back and J. F. Franklin; A. Dwell, J. Burt and A. Reed; A. Herriott, O. Budd, G. Harvey, A. Edmonds, and H. V. Channon.

Referee: Mr. A. F. Long (Shoreham). Linesmen: Sergt.-Major Downes (Seaford) and Mr. R. J. Ketchell (Lewes).

Vernon got away finely, but the soldiers quickly returned and within five minutes Duffy sent the ball just inside the Vernon upright.

Speedily Vernon retaliated, and despite effective work by White and his backs, Budd equalised, half-time arriving with no further score.

From the restart the game became very fast, and from a penalty against the soldiers for "hands," Budd secured the lead for Vernon by following up his first shot which White had only partly cleared.

A centre from the right enabled Edmonds to score the third goal, and Harvey brought the Vernon's total to four from a splendid pass by Channon. Result: Vernon Athletic 4; Corps of Signals 1.

Presentation of the Cup.

Mr. E. A. Newman, of Eastbourne, presented the cup to the Vernon captain (J. Burt), whose team, he said, were most worthy winners of a very fine game.

Vernon Athletic Football Club had a good and clean record throughout the county, and although they were not so successful with regard to the Sussex Senior Cup they were always a good "sporty" team, and he hoped they would win the latter next year.

He regretted that Lieut.-Col. Chorley, O.C. Royal Ulster Rifles, was not able to be present, but that gentleman (the only officer now attached to the regiment who was with them when they gave the cup in 1896) had sent a letter from the Isle of Wight conveying his good wishes.

Mr. Burt briefly replied, and called for cheers for the losing team.

LULU.

Cricket.

Rest of the Signals (Egypt and Palestine) v. Signals, Kantara.

This match was played at Kantara on Saturday and Sunday, May 27th and 28th, with a view to selecting a team to represent the Corps in the E.E.F. championship.

Major Worlledge won the toss for the Rest, who batted first. Runs came very slowly at the beginning, and with 7 wickets down for 57, it looked as if their total score would not be very high. Corpl Minns, of the Wireless, made a fine stand here, and the eighth wicket went down at 101. The others fell easily, and all were out for 114.

Kantara started off very badly, and had scored only 47 for 6 wickets when Sigmn Harvey came to the rescue with a brilliant 56, which included eleven 4's, before he was unfortunate in being "run out." Their total score was 125, this finishing the first day's play.

Play recommenced at 11.30 on Sunday, and the Rest showed much better form. The collapse of the last three wickets, however, made a bad ending, and they were all out for 108.

Kantara made a very poor show in their second innings, being all out for 77—Sigmn Harvey again being run out after making top score of 33.

The game on the whole was very good, especially on the first day, when Kantara showed some fine fielding. The bowlers were too good for the batsmen on both sides.

THE REST.

1st Innings

Lieut Fielder not out	15
Corpl Carpenter b Harvey	10
Lieut Edes c Mitchell b French	22
Sigmn Ryan b French	5
Corpl Dempsey b Harvey	0
Major Worlledge c Mitchell b Harvey	3
Corpl Minns c King b Downer	31
Sigmn Walker c Moores b Parkes	7
Sergt Yates c Coope b Harvey	9
Corps Mills c Coope b Downer	0
Sergt Kingman b Harvey	0
Extras	12
Total	114

2nd Innings.

Lieut Fielder c Harvey b Parkes	32
Corpl Carpenter hit wicket b French	22
Lieut Edes c Coope b French	5
Sigmn Ryan c and b Harvey	14
Corpl Dempsey c Parkes b Harvey	0
Major Worlledge b Moores	16
Corpl Minns c Harvey b Moores	1
Sigmn Walker not out	8
Sergt Yates lbw b Moores	8
Corpl Mills c Coope b Harvey	0
Sergt Kingman b Harvey	0
Extras	2
Total	108

Bowling Analysis—1st Innings: Harvey 5 for 37; French 2 for 37; Downer 2 for 15; Parkes 1 for 13. 2nd Innings: Moores 3 for 35; Coton 0 for 10; Harvey 4 for 26; French 1 for 11; Parkes 1 for 15; Downer 0 for 9.

SIGNALS, KANTARA.

1st Innings

Sergt King b Dempsey	3
Capt. Parkes b Dempsey	4
Sigmn Coope c Ryan b Dempsey	5
Sigmn Downer c Minns b Walker	3
Sigmn Harvey run out	56
Sigmn Lannigan b Carpenter	10
Sigmn Mitchell b Dempsey	1
Sigmn Moores b Kingman	12
Sigmn French st Ryan b Edes	16
Sigmn Bate not out	9
Sigmn Coton st Ryan b Edes	1
Extras	6
Total	125

2nd Innings.

Sergt King c Edes b Dempsey	2
Capt Parkes c Ryan b Dempsey	13
Sigmn Coope b Fielder	1
Sigmn Downer c Kingman b Fielder	9
Sigmn Harvey run out	35
Sigmn Lannigan c Kingman b Fielder	5
Sigmn Mitchell b Fielder	0
Sigmn Moores c Carpenter b Dempsey	0
Sigmn French c and b Kingman	7
Sigmn Bate hit wicket b Edes	0
Sigmn Coton not out	0
Extras	4
Total	77

Bowling Analysis—1st Innings: Dempsey 4 for 54; Walker 1 for 15; Carpenter 1 for 34; Kingman 1 for 18; Edes 2 for 15. 2nd Innings: Dempsey 3 for 45; Fielder 4 for 23; Kingman 1 for 5; Edes 1 for 0.

T. F. S.

R.C.S. v. R.A.O.C.

Played at Portsmouth on June 2nd and 3rd, the Royal Corps of Signals winning by 85 runs.

ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS.

1st Innings

Major G. G. Rawson b Davies	1
Capt. H. A. J. Parsons b Love	5
Capt. R. E. Vyvyan c Clarke b Davies	2
Lieut L. C. Boyd b Symmons	33
Lieut Q. King c Hoare b Love	0
Lieut.-Col. O. C. Mordaunt b Fernyhough	19
Major F. A. Heymann b Love	18
Major J. R. Pinsent c Hoare b Davies	0
Major L. G. Phillips b Davies	14
Sergt Downer not out	6
Lieut. A. G. Kekewich c Skinner b Symmons	1
Extras	11
Total	110

2nd Innings.

Major G. G. Rawson b Crundell	70
Capt. H. A. J. Parsons c Love b Davies	7
Capt. R. E. Vyvyan b Clarke	20
Lieut L. C. Boyd lbw b Love	6
Lieut Q. King c Skinner b Symmons	11
Lieut.-Col. O. C. Mordaunt b Crundell	0
Major F. A. Heymann c Hoare b Love	47
Major J. R. Pinsent b Crundell	9
Major L. G. Phillips b Love	8
Sergt Downer b Crundell	16
Lieut A. G. Kekewich not out	1
Extras	18
Total	213

ROYAL ARMY ORDNANCE CORPS.

1st Innings

Lieut.-Col. L. L. Hoare c King b Phillips	8
Capt. G. W. Palmer b Mordaunt	4
Capt. J. H. Sheppard b Mordaunt	6
Col. H. C. Fernyhough b Phillips	1
Capt. G. R. S. Love b Kekewich	8
Lieut.-Col. H. L. Wethered c Parsons b Kekewich	6
Capt. A. R. Skinner b Kekewich	9
Lieut. Clarke not out	28
S.Q.M.S. S. Crundell c Rawson b Mordaunt	0
S/Sergt T. G. Davies c and b Phillips	15
Lieut. C. W. S. Symmons b Phillips	0
Extras	0
Total	85

2nd Innings.

Lieut.-Col. L. L. Hoare c Downer b Phillips	0
Capt. G. W. Palmer b Mordaunt	0
Capt. J. H. Sheppard run out	21
Col. H. C. Fernyhough b Mordaunt	36
Capt. G. R. S. Love c Pinsent b Phillips	21
Lieut.-Col. H. L. Wethered c Kekewich b Mordaunt	0
Capt. A. R. Skinner b Phillips	22
Lieut. Clarke b Phillips	16
S.Q.M.S. S. Crundell b Phillips	6
S/Sergt T. G. Davies c Rawson b Phillips	19
Lieut. C. W. S. Symmons not out	3
Extras	9
Total	153

Boxing.

Competitions at Maresfield Park.

The annual inter-company novices' boxing competition in connection with the Royal Corps of Signals was held at Maresfield Park Camp on May 17th, 18th and 19th, before good attendances.

The referees and judges were: Capt. Greenhough, M.C. (Eastern Command H.Q.), Capt. J. C. Crowley, M.C. (E Co. S.T.C.), Lieuts. Bullock, Carstairs, Kennett, Levett and P. H. Owen. M.C., Sergt-Major Waterhouse (X Co.), and the timekeeper, Sergt Kelly (X Co.), while Staff-Sergt Hayden (Army Physical Training Staff) was in charge of the ring arrangements.

The results were as follows, each contest consisting of three two-minute rounds with one-minute intervals:

FLY-WEIGHTS.

First Round.

Driver Broadhead (E) knocked out L/Corpl Salisbury (G) in the second round.

Boy Southwell (C) beat Sigmn Taylor (S. of S.) on points in the third round.

Sigmn Burns (X) knocked out Sigmn Ledsham (E) in the first round.

Sigmn Turner (S. of S.) beat Sigmn Jones (G) on points.

Semi-Final.

Boy Southwell (C) beat Driver Broadhead (E).

Sigmn Burns (X) beat Sigmn Turner (S. of S.).

Final.

Boy Southwell (C) beat Sigmn Burns (X).

BANTAMS.

First Round.

Driver Gervey (E) beat Sigmn Wiggins (D) on points.

Sigmn Williams (X) beat Sigmn Westmore (F) on points.

Driver Champion (S. of S.) v. Sigmn Albon (X): Sigmn Albon awarded the fight owing to the non-appearance of Champion.

Driver Jennings (S. of S.) knocked out Sigmn Harrington (D) in the first round.

Semi-Final.
Sigmn Williams (X) beat Driver Gervey (E).
Sigmn Albon (X) beat Driver Jennings (S. of S.).

Final.
Sigmn Albon (X) beat Sigmn Williams (X).

FEATHER-WEIGHTS.
First Round.
Boy Langley (C Company) knocked out Sigmn Boyle (D Company) in the second round.
Driver Joy (E) beat Sigmn Rhodes (F) in the third round.
Sigmn Fields (F) knocked out Driver Blaze (E) in the first round.
Sigmn Doherty (S. of S.) knocked out Sigmn Green (X) in the first round.
Sigmn Jones (G) beat Boy Lowrie (C) in the third round on points. The loser was heartily cheered for his plucky fight.
Byes: Sigmn Malgrain (D), Sigmn Jones (G), and Sigmn George (X).

Second Round.
Boy Langley knocked out Driver Joy (E) in the first round.
Sigmn Jones (G) beat Sigmn Malgrain (D) on points.
Sigmn George (X) beat Sigmn Jones (G) on points.
Sigmn Fields (F) knocked out Sigmn Doherty (S. of S.) in the first round.

Semi-Final.
Sigmn George (X) beat Sigmn Jones (G) on points in the third round.
Boy Langley (C) beat Sigmn Fields (F).

Final.
Boy Langley (C) beat Sigmn George (X).

LIGHT-WEIGHTS.
First Round.
Sigmn Polyblank (X) won on a foul, Sigmn Peachy (S. of S.) being disqualified for hitting low.
Sigmn Johnson (F) knocked out Sigmn Gregory (D) in the first round.
Sigmn Carpenter walked over, his opponent, Sigmn Dibbs, not appearing, owing to instructions from the Medical Officer.
Sigmn Abbott (X) beat Sigmn Parrish (D) in the third round on points.
Byes: Driver Gibson, Driver McGregor, Sigmn Rowson, Sigmn Mitchell, and Sigmn Hancock.

Second Round.
Sigmn Polyblank (X) knocked out Sigmn Johnson (F) in the second round.
Sigmn Abbott (X) beat Driver Carpenter (E) who retired at end of first round.
Sigmn Jenner (G) beat Boy Collins (C) who was disqualified in the third round for hitting low.
Driver Field (E) knocked out Sigmn Groom (G) in the first round.

Semi-Final.
Sigmn Abbott was awarded the fight against Sigmn Polyblank.
Driver Field (E) knocked out Sigmn Jenner (G) in the first round.

Final.
Driver Field (E) beat Sigmn Abbott (X).

WELTER-WEIGHTS.
First Round.
Sigmn Hinks (F) v. Sigmn Hall (G); Sigmn Hinks disqualified for continuously using open gloves.
Sigmn Darvill (X) knocked out Sigmn Hayes (D) in the third round.
Sigmn Cormack (S. of S.) knocked out Sigmn Bremner (G) in the second round.

Second Round.
Sigmn Cormack (S. of S.) knocked out Driver Gibson (E) in the first round.
Sigmn Darvill (X) awarded fight against Sigmn Hall (G) whom the medical officer instructed not to fight.
Sigmn Rowson (F) knocked out Driver McGregor (E) in the first round.
Sigmn Mitchell (D) beat Sigmn Hancock (X) in the third round on points.

Semi-Final.
Sigmn Cormack (S. of S.) beat Sigmn Darvill (X).
Sigmn Mitchell (D) beat Sigmn Rowson (F).

Final.
Sigmn Cormack (S. of S.) beat Sigmn Mitchell (D.)

MIDDLE-WEIGHTS.
First Round.
Sigmn Turner (G) knocked out Sigmn McKay (D) in the second round.
Sigmn Gunner (D) beat Sigmn Stenning (F) in the third round on points.
Byes: Boy Beamiss, Sigmn Rutherford, Driver Searle, Sigmn Davies, Sigmn Aylett, and L/Corpl Rutherford.

Second Round.
Sigmn Turner (G) knocked out Sigmn Gunner (D) in the third round.
Boy Beamiss (C) knocked out Driver Searle (E) in the first round.
L/Corpl Wheeler (X) beat Sigmn Davies (F) on points in the third round.
Sigmn Aylett (X) knocked out Sigmn Rutherford (G) in the first round.

Semi-Final.
Boy Beamiss (C) beat Sigmn Turner (G).
L/Corpl Wheeler (X) beat Sigmn Aylett (X).

Final.
L/Corpl Wheeler (X) beat Boy Beamiss (C).

LIGHT HEAVY-WEIGHTS.
First Round.
Driver Smith (E) knocked out Sigmn Bristowe (D) in the first round.
Sigmn Joyce (D) a bye.

Final.
Driver Smith (E) beat Sigmn Joyce (D).

HEAVY WEIGHTS.
Sergt Hailes (X) a walk-over.

TEAM COMPETITION.
4th Battalion Royal Sussex Regiment (T.A.)
versus
Training Battalion Royal Corps of Signals.
Middle Weights—Driver Emblem beat Pte Moisey (Worthing).
Welter-Weights—Sergt Baker beat Sergt Sageman.
Light-Weights—Sigmn Richmond beat Corpl Mathews (Hurstpierpoint).
Feather-Weights—Sigmn Hughes beat Pte Brittain (Bognor).
Bantam-Weights—Sigmn Richardson beat Pte Greenfield (Worthing).
Fly-Weights—Boy Collins beat Pte Saxton (Chichester).

The presentation of cups, medals and novices' trophy was made by Col. W. P. E. Newbigging, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., Commandant S.T.C.

THE WIRE

The Corps Magazine of the Royal Corps of Signals and the Official Organ of the Signals Association.

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Crowborough: Capt. A. Beatson Bell.
Ulster.—L/Corpl C. V. G. Wheeler, North Camp, Newtownards.

Editorial Notes.

We publish this month an interesting article by Lieut. P. Jennings on Signal work at Salisbury Plain. Features of this nature are a welcome addition and tend to create greater interest among all ranks. We would be glad to receive like matter from other sources also.

* * *

Agents are reminded that *all accounts are monthly*, and settlement should be made for the previous month upon receipt of issue for current month.

* * *

A prize of £2 10s. is offered on page 177 for a design suitable for the Corps Christmas Cards, 1922. It is hoped that a considerable number of our artists and draughtsmen will compete.

G. E. PALIN, Editor.

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Signal Work on the Artillery Ranges at Larkhill.

By Lieutenant P. JENNINGS, M.C., Royal Corps of Signals.

I have often thought that perhaps a little account in THE WIRE of the Signal work that is being carried out on the artillery ranges at Larkhill may be found interesting to some of our readers.

I must first of all explain that this account is quite "unofficial" and I really intend to convey to those who know these very extensive artillery ranges, the general lines upon which this work is carried out, and also to give some idea of the personnel employed.

In the photographic group below it will be noticed that the personnel is mixed, *i.e.*, military and civilian. This was necessary owing to the shortage of trained men available. The names, from left to right, are:—



Back Row—Dr. Griffiths' (R.F.A.) orderly, Mr. Bailey, Mr. Meacham, Mr. Tankins.

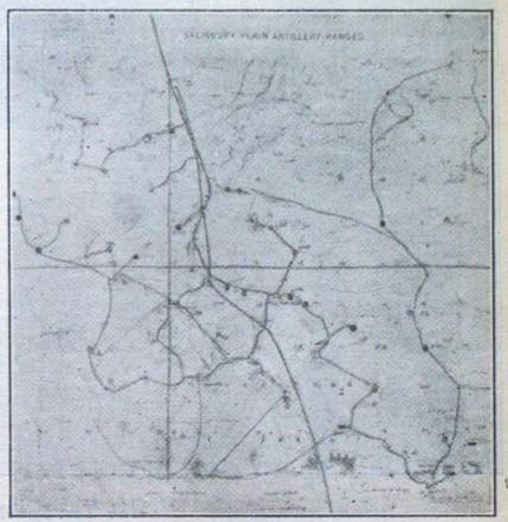
Front Row—L/Sergt G. Culley, R.C.S., the Officer in charge of the work, Corpl Cockett, R.C.S.

Mr. Meachem served in No. 24 Air Line Section, R.E. Signals (Palestine and Egypt), Mr. Tankins as a signaller in the 2/5th Norfolks, and Mr. Bailey in the Cavalry Corps Signals (France). I am pleased to say that all the men who are eligible, are members of the Signals Old Comrades Association, and still take a considerable interest in the work and sport of the Corps.

On taking over this work in June, 1921, from an officer who is well known at Maresfield, I realised that he had not had the necessary time to do all that he would have liked, owing to the fact that his Section were urgently required to return to the Signal Training Centre for demonstration purposes, prior to the completion of the work.

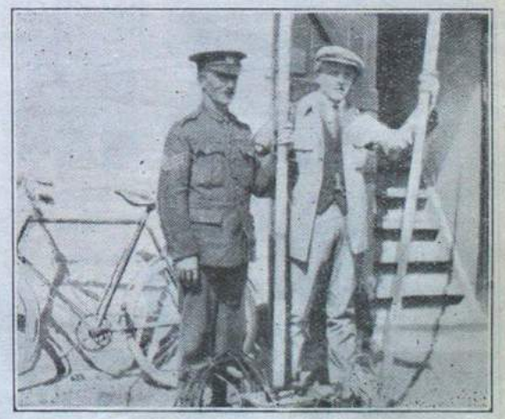
Before going any further, I should like to give some idea of the length of the routes.

To avoid any unnecessary and long descriptions, I have been able to give, with the very valuable assistance of Lieut. A. S. Croft-Hill (of the Survey Company's R.A. Photographic Section) a photographic map showing the whole system now in use by the School of Artillery (scale 1/20,000).

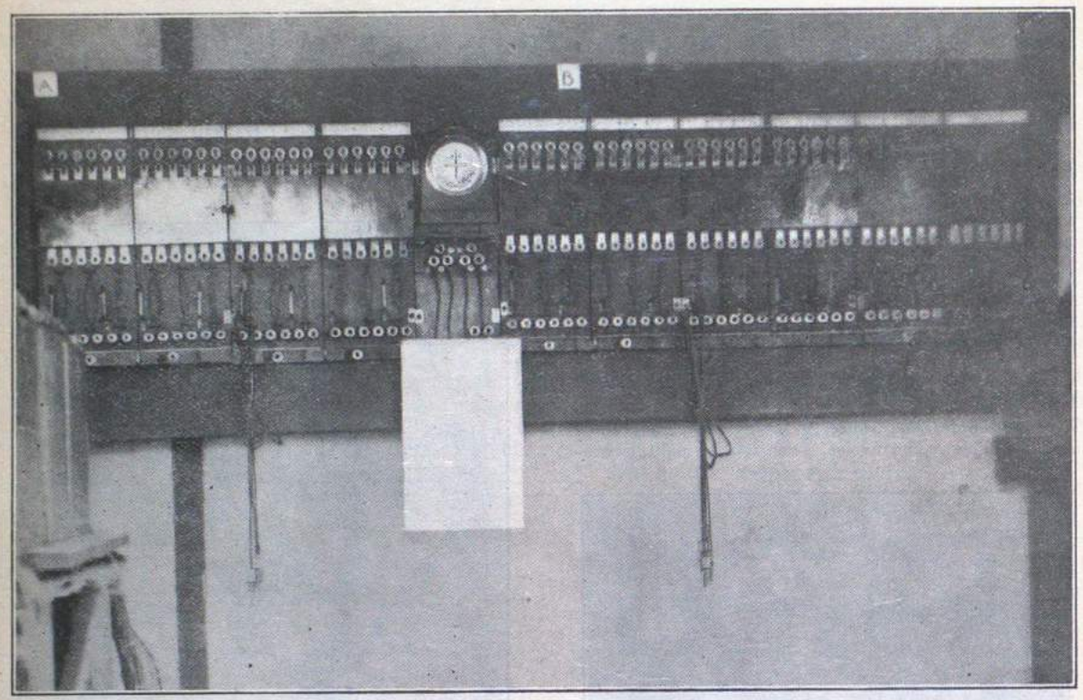


It will be noticed that certain routes are over 8000 yards in length, with altogether five Field Exchanges installed.

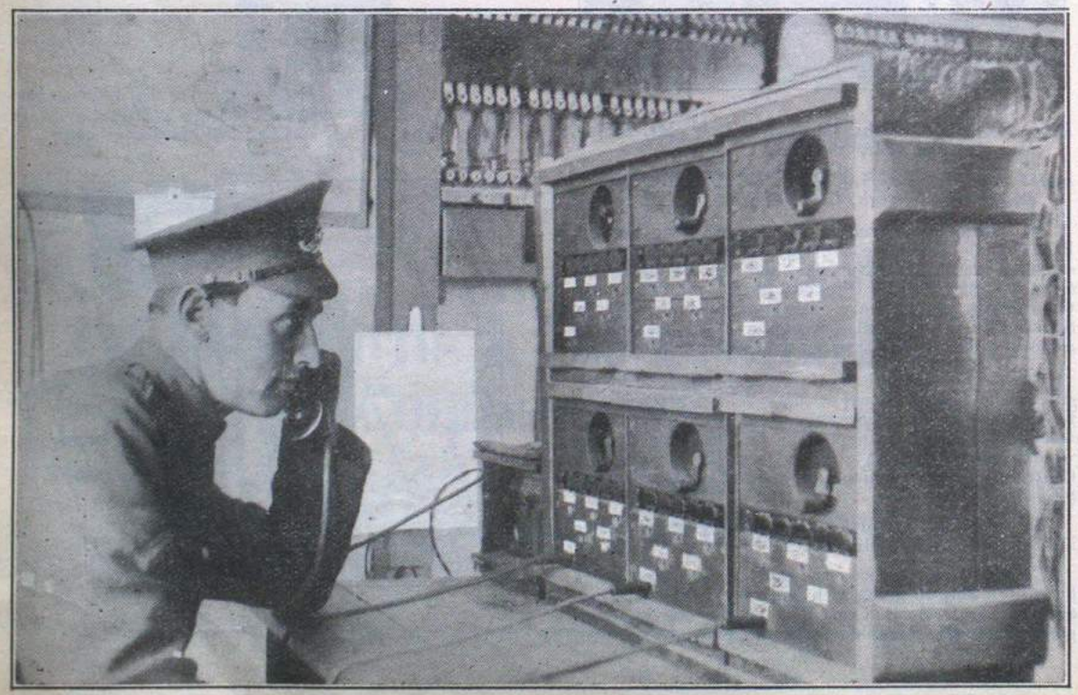
The black line across the map is the dividing line between the two Area Maintenance Parties: (a) West Down Range party, and (b) Larkhill Range party.



West Down Maintenance Party.



The Test Panel in No. 1 Exchange.



Operating Magneto Exchange—No. 1 Field Exchange.

The first job we were faced with was getting the cables properly numbered out, and a "record" placed in every O.P. and Battery Position.

Although this is, of course, always necessary, in this case it was absolutely essential, the reason being that nearly the whole artillery personnel operating the lines were mostly "untrained," and those of us who have had any experience in buried cable work in France during the late war, will readily realise the damage that can be done in the space of a few minutes by men who have not had previous experience of buried cables and how to use them.

With the assistance of the Officer i/c Ranges, linemen's classes were held, and very soon that difficulty was overcome.



Larkhill Maintenance Party.

Our next job was an "accurate circuit and route diagram." This was printed by the War Office, a copy being placed next to the line record in every O.P., Splinterproof, and Battery Position, throughout the two ranges.

In conclusion, I should just like to say a word about the "joints." I know people have their own ideas on the subject, but in this case most of our trouble has been caused through the joints going faulty. In the case of the right hand route, they have had to be entirely re-made. I think one can do well, in carrying out work of this nature, to refer to "Signal Training" (Part IV., March, 1922, chapter iv., para. 105, 2 (c), on page 119) for guidance, as it certainly overcomes four-fifths of the trouble. Almost daily, contacts, earths, etc., come on to the main lines, and in practically every case the trouble can be traced to a buried joint, generally insufficiently protected.



At work on a Joint.

It is hardly the time to give a long and detailed account of buried cable work, as we are all learning that lines of this description are obsolescent, and will not be heard of in future wars. I will therefore close, hoping that perhaps some old war-time comrades-in-arms may be recognised.

School of Artillery, Larkhill,
Salisbury Plain,
June 21st, 1922.

CHRISTMAS CARDS.

IT has been decided to get the matter of Corps Christmas Cards in hand for the forthcoming season. The idea is to publish a folding card, tied with the Corps ribbon in such a manner as to allow the insertion of spare leaves to suit the convenience of units. The design is to be offered for competition, and a prize of £2 : 10 : 0 will be awarded to the sender of the accepted design.

All designs must reach the Editor not later than September 12th, 1922.

Intercommunication in Mountain Warfare.

By Capt. and Bt.-Major R. H. MACDONALD, O.B.E., Royal Corps of Signals.

PART III.

(C) CABLE.

The laying of heavy cable from cable wagons is restricted to open country, and to roads where they exist. The flinty roads and stony nature of most of the country provides bad earths for wagons on the move; and at the halt this must be carefully considered, additional earths provided, and water poured under the wagon wheels. Experiments in this direction are being proceeded with.

To cope with the mountainous country, pack cable sections (with cable and stores carried on mules and laid by hand therefrom or from barrows and suitable carriers) provide the means by which cable communication is maintained; but this requires a high standard of training and considerable endurance on the part of the sections. Light cable can be laid over practically any country.

Cable routes generally are not subject to much cutting at night, being difficult of location, and are known to stand where open wire routes are disastrously raided. Cable provides to the tribesman an excellent means of tying his loads on to the little country mules used for his transport, and when removed it is usually carried wrapped round the waist. The innocent woodcutter may often be found with an extraordinary quantity of cable concealed in this manner underneath his clothing.

Cable to picquets is possible where they are of a permanent protective nature, but it is difficult to lay and maintain on rocky khud sides.

(D) VISUAL TELEGRAPHY.

Visual telegraphy must be accepted as a valuable asset in frontier communication. The feeling is abroad that the frontier signalman is an expert in visual and in nothing else, and that he is prone to have an undue leaning towards a form of communication which does not touch the heart of those engaged in position or mobile warfare under European conditions. This is not so; but the occasions are so numerous in which visual, with wireless and message carrying agencies, is the only means of communication, that it has attained a high place in frontier warfare, and has consequently reached a standard of speed and accuracy which can hardly be credited. Signal communication between picquets perched high up on almost inaccessible crags, and from picquets to the central signal station of a post, or the report centre of a subordinate headquarters from which they are thrown out, will be normally entirely visual; and long chains of visual communication on the line of communication, operated mainly by regimental signallers in picquets, become available as a ready stand-by in case of necessity.

Atmospheric and climatic conditions are such that occasions will seldom occur, even in cold weather, in which excellent visual routes are not possible. The sun being normally little obscured throughout the year, the helio becomes the main instrument in its various sizes. The clearness of the atmosphere assists the reading of a flag at extreme ranges, but the present daylight lamp is adversely affected by the power of the sun during the middle of the day and early afternoon, and it becomes at times difficult to use it over other than relatively short distances.

Careful sighting of lamps by daylight for use at night is rendered essential, with the provision of adequate protection for them by well designed loop-holes.

(E) MESSAGE-CARRYING AGENCIES.

(1) *Motor Cyclist Despatch Riders.*

Where roads are good, the D.R. is of as much value as on any other front. The distance, however, over which he must travel renders it often necessary to despatch D.R.s in pairs, both for protection by day and for assistance in road-side repairs to machines, to prevent riders being "nighted" and probably despatched by tribesmen. D.R.L.S. must be economised and restricted to its minimum owing to the bad state of most roads, the strain to the rider through heat, dust and general discomfiture, and the fact that it cannot be used at night. A careful control of D.R.L.S. traffic, therefore, becomes essential, and runs should not be held to the same time-table daily, the tribesmen being quick to appreciate and eager to ambush a regular system of D.R.

(2) *Mounted Orderlies.*

Where roads are bad or do not exist at all, mounted orderlies may be required. These are drawn from the cavalry of the force and attached to Signal units to supplement the establishment. Though the distances they may be expected to travel will be great, and horses are liable to damage by the stony nature of the country, they are of the greatest assistance. Rifles being of extreme value to the tribesmen, and not easy to replace in a frontier campaign, a standing order must exist in every unit that men shall, when dismounted, remove their rifles from the rifle buckets to prevent the possibility of a loose horse carrying off a rifle.

(3) *Runners.*

These are normally employed for inter-communication within units only, and must be extremely agile, carefully selected, and well-trained men, picked for their powers of endurance in heat and excellence in "khud climbing." This means of communication becomes very slow in mountainous country, and should be used as a last resource only.

(4) *Tribal Runners.*

The Political Department will arrange for runners selected from friendly tribes. These men are athletic and of great endurance, and will carry messages for a long distances (30 to 40 miles a day) by individual effort, or by their own system of relays, at almost incredible speed. They form a great asset to signals, but must be carefully controlled and provided with means of identification. They cannot be fully relied upon as, although "friendly," their actions are uncertain. I hope to be able to provide later an interesting graph of times and distances from the next Chitral relief, in which wireless and these runners can provide the only means of communication.

(5) *Pigeons.*

Pigeons are of questionable value on the frontier, and cannot be expected to "home" during the heat of the day. In addition, a very real difficulty to be faced is the number of pigeons killed by the watchful hawks, who swoop down upon them from lofty pinnacles or from hundreds of feet in the sky above. Many birds which escape come back cruelly torn.

They may be used to advantage over short distances from isolated picquets to the posts from which the picquets are thrown out, or from a column operating at no great distance from its base. Country-bred birds show less signs of distress than birds direct from English lofts, but country breeding should not be persisted in without the introduction of fresh strain, or the flying capacity and size of the birds will suffer. Mobile pigeon lofts are utilised in the ordinary way, and most frontier posts of any size are equipped with stationary lofts.

Much remains for further discussion, but no hasty article on frontier signalling can hope to cover all the ground which this most interesting and vital branch of communication provides for study and discussion. The many ideas which come up for review will doubtless be combined in an official publication on mountain warfare signals and its fellow subjects—the bush and the desert. When all is said and done, the book tells us that "it is neither possible nor desirable to lay down in detail the signal communications to be established..." And this article must be reviewed in the light only of an endeavour to draw from others more adequate representation of a subject which provides Indian Signals with active service conditions throughout a sojourn on the frontier, and keeps them in touch with the turbulent and magnificent tribes who, for generations to come, doubtless will produce among their younger members a fighting class ready to seize and quick to appreciate the opportunities of war.

CORRESPONDENCE.

R.E. Mess, Bulford Camp,
July 8th, 1922.

To the Editor of THE WIRE.

Dear Sir,—I have much pleasure in enclosing two small contributions for the consideration of the Publications Committee of THE WIRE.

The first concerns the current monthly notes of our Company, which from now onwards I hope to forward regularly.

The second is rather of a different character, as it concerns the work that is being carried out by part of the 3rd Divl. Signals on the artillery ranges at Larkhill. In sending it along for your consideration, I would suggest that if more unofficial illustrated articles, and others of a less technical nature generally suitable for all types of subscribers, could be published, it would further help the sales of our Corps magazine.

Writing purely from my own personal experience, I find that what is really liked by the men of the Royal Corps of Signals (both past and present), is to see or hear of their comrades in other units or demobilized, through the medium of THE WIRE. I venture, therefore, to repeat that I think, if you would print such articles from contributors from time to time, our magazine would be more generally read by all ranks in the Corps, and the sales would materially increase.

In conclusion, I wish to add (having in mind the editorial notes in the July number), as far as my own experience goes, the price at which our magazine is sold may be considered in every way very reasonable.

Yours, etc.,

P. JENNINGS, Lieut. R.C.S.

A Boy Wireless Pioneer.

The announcement made in *The Daily Mail* that a Devonshire schoolboy had set up wireless apparatus largely constructed by himself, recalls the fact that several years ago, a schoolboy of only 12—Gibson Ferrier Steven, son of Major Alexander Steven, editor of *The Berwick Journal* and *The Berwickshire News*, made and used his own wireless apparatus, and is to-day one of the senior and most experienced wireless experts in Northumberland.

The *Daily Mail* says the Devonshire youth is the "boy wireless pioneer." This is not so: Berwick-upon-Tweed had made a start at least ten years before the case now brought to the notice of the public.

As far back as 1912, this Berwick boy used and demonstrated his own home-made wireless in the Border Boy Scouts' camps at Wooler in the Cheviot Hills, and at Yetholm near Kelso, receiving each day the time signals from Eiffel Tower for the benefit of the camp.

On the night of our declaration of war (August 4th, 1914), young Steven was in camp at Yetholm, and picked up by means of his own wireless the news that we had declared war. This was communicated to the Camp Commandant, and there was a great rush to Yetholm in the morning for the papers which confirmed the news.

When the world war began, young Steven left school, joined up as a private in the 4th Royal Scots, became a signaller, and afterwards received his commission in the 7th Northumberland Fusiliers (his father's old battalion), being appointed Signal Officer. Later on he proceeded to the Army Wireless School at Worcester, soon passed out with success, and was sent to France as Wireless Officer (Royal Engineers). He had vast experience in many of the big stunts on the Western Front, notably in the great Cambrai advance and retreat, in which awful affair our army was ultimately solely dependent on wireless to maintain communications, all other methods failing. Capt. Gibson Ferrier Steven was able to emerge from the terrible ordeal with the fact to his credit that right through it all he was able to maintain his communications intact, and helped largely to save a most critical situation.

Capt. Steven is now a director of Chase Motors, Ltd. Barras Bridge, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and has control of the wireless department. Some time ago he personally installed wireless at Barras Bridge, and has been able to receive concerts transmitted in this country and abroad, and to amplify the sound so that they were audible to large crowds standing outside the Barras Bridge premises.

Capt. Steven has applied for a Government permit to receive and broadcast radio news, Newcastle being the centre of one of the areas for establishment of radio-telephone broadcasting stations.

What would YOU design for the Corps Christmas Card ?

See announcement on page 177

and annex that prize !

Maresfield Notes.

Corps Celebrities—No. 16: C.S.M. Williams



Headquarters.

Heartiest congratulations to Claims on his appointment as Lance-Corporal (paid).

We have also to extend our best wishes to Signalman Blackwell on his marriage, which he managed to keep quite a secret. However, "truth will out!"

By the time these notes appear we hope that Corpl Featherstone will be back again. At the time of writing, we hear that he is convalescing in the spacious grounds of Crowborough Hospital.

The following officers, all of whom are well known at the Training Centre, have been demobilised as from June 30th: Captains J. L. Low, O.B.E., D.C.M., and F. Grundy; Lieuts. A. G. B. Chaldecott, R. Bruce, G. G. Cochran, W. A. Kemp, G. S. Jackson, P. H. Owen, F. Seymour, and J. Williams.

The S.T.C. sports (details of which "Lulu" and Company chroniclers will no doubt give) were marred by unfavourable weather, but it is hoped that Jupiter Pluvius will be conspicuous by his absence on Gymkhana Day.

Vague but disturbing rumours of the impending Commandant's Inspection, coupled with the additional strain of a musketry course, have interrupted both the flow of my brain and of the ink in my hitherto trusty "Swan," so that my "Headquarter Notes" are this month somewhat brief.

E. S. H.

Maresfield Topics—No. 6.

Musketry.

1. Now in the month of June, it came even to pass that a certain captain of a host did inspect the rifles of his command.

2. And behold, the barrel of one was unclean, rusty and corroded, for oil and pull-through it had not seen for many a season.

3. And the possessor thereof was a Company cook.

4. So therefore the captain was much displeased at this thing, and communed with himself how the barrel thereof should be made clean.

5. And he sayeth, Peradventure, there may be yet other rifles in like state.

6. And it was even as he had said.

7. Therefore sayeth the captain, Secure me munitions of war, unto every man his issue.

8. And each man shall fire his issue at a piece of paper, and on the paper there shall be the eye of a bullock.

9. And when the edict went forth there was much murmuring, for one sayeth—

10. Did not I slay Huns in '14 in this manner?

11. Nevertheless, for forty days the soldiers were instructed in what manner they should hold the weapons that they had borne even from their youth up.

12. And when the forty days were done, the papers were set up at twenty cubits distance.

13. Notwithstanding, there were many who hit not the papers.

14. Therefore received they not cigars or nuts (or chips!)

15. And behold, when the firing was done, the captain saw that the rifles were clean, even as a pin that is new.

16. And he sayeth, It is good.

E. S. H.

B Company.

Contrary to expectations, our late O.C., Capt. N. S. Linton, has not been demobilised, but has proceeded to Headquarters Northern Command for duty. He has been joined at York by Lieut J. M. Kidd, so that we now find ourselves lamentably short of officers.

Sergt Jones, late Orderly Room Sergeant, has also taken unto himself wings (extra large) and flitted to Aldershot, where we hear that he is initiating embryo wireless operators into the mysteries of the electron theory, etc.

Fortunately the re-appearance of our notes last month coincided with D Company's reminder, but we certainly agree that all Companies should consider it a point of honour to contribute regularly to THE WIRE.

The hopes we entertained of distinguishing ourselves at the S.T.C. sports were not realised. We gained fewer points than any other Company. The tug-of-war team alone made a noble attempt, but in vain. What a pity it is that a Draft Company cannot make "specially employed personnel" of the athletes that pass through it!

The cricket team have started very well, defeating C and G Companies in their first two matches.

Musketry and Monday evening parades (both intended for the ultimate destruction of enemies) still give our married establishment a good deal of worry. For the former they must needs forego their breakfasts, and for the latter their teas are delayed and their gardens are neglected.

The following is an extract from the *Wiltshire Gazette*, dated June 29th, 1922 (Sergt Swanborough is a B Company n.c.o.): "At Maresfield Park, Sussex, depot of the Royal Corps of Signals, last week, a presentation parade was held at which Sergt Swanborough, the son of Mr. and Mrs. S. Swanborough,



of Etchilhampton (Devizes), received a handsome cheque sent by the Government of India, in recognition of valuable work done with the British Mission in Kabul. Before making the presentation the following extract of a letter received from India was read: 'Sgt Swanborough was in charge of the Wireless Station at Kabul. He contended with astonishing success with the many difficulties which beset him, and was absolutely untiring. He seemed hardly ever to sleep, and extorted the admiration of the Afghans by constantly furnishing them with copies of telegrams addressed to them by representatives in Russian territories which the Russian operators at Kabul had themselves been unable to pick up. The Afghan Minister once said to me of him: "This superiority is an example of the difference between the two nations." The telegraphic work with which Sergt Swanborough had to deal was very important and heavy, and was made more difficult by constant atmospheric disturbances.'"

Queries.

Why the office cat is fed on Nestle's?—and whether Glaxo would not be more suitable?
Whether "Nina" has had occasion to purchase any Blanco at Aldershot yet?
Who is "Mabs"?
When is there going to be a S.T.C. Second Cricket XI.?
The name of the individual who keeps a linnet in a "Vim" packing case?—and whether it is symbolical of his interest in "birds"?

E. S. H.

G Company.

General.

It is with sincere regret that we have to report the death of No. 2313808 Sigmn W. H. Eckersley, who was accidentally drowned in the lake whilst the Company sports were taking place on the Lake Ground, Maresfield Park, on May 22nd. Our deepest sympathy is extended to his family. Our sympathy is also extended to Corpl and Mrs. Keogh on their recent sad bereavement in losing their son and heir.

It is with regret, too, that we have to announce the departure of an officer and a friend, Lieut. P. H. Owen, who left us on June 30th to return to *work* in civil life. He was greatly appreciated by all who passed through his hands for instruction in wireless training; he was "all out" for the comfort of his men. The many successes the Company has achieved in boxing were mainly due to his painstaking methods and tact.

Through Capt A. L. Harris we thank him most heartily for all he has done and wish him the best of luck and every good thing in the future.

We have just had another change, our C.S.M. having left us to prepare for civil life, and we regret his loss. Although he has been with us scarcely long enough for

us to know him thoroughly, we thank him for the work he has done and wish him the best of luck.

His place is being taken by C.S.M. T. J. Fry, who has been with the Company since its birth. So we have now someone we all know, and who can and will help in running the Company with the very best results both in sport and training. We congratulate him on his rapid promotion, which is due to hard work and capability.

Boxing.

We have much pleasure this month in drawing attention to the success of G Company in the competition for the Inter-Company Boxing Shield and the R.C.S. Championships, which were held last month.

A splendid show was put up all round, and our team is to be congratulated on drawing with C Company for first place. We further extend our congratulations to Sigmn Richardson and Driver Emblem on winning the championships of the R.C.S. at their respective weights.

We express the deepest regret for the ill-luck which dogged Sergt Baker throughout the competition. He was extremely unfortunate in breaking his arm when winning the welter-weight championship of the Corps, and we trust that this misfortune will not compel him to retire from the game.

As regards the attitude of several so-called "sportsmen" over the decisions given in the earlier fights—well, they were only too ready to cheer when he upheld the honour of the Corps against the Sussex Regiment.

Cricket.

Our first and only league match was played against B Company on the Lake Ground on June 13th. The least said about the result the better, as we were up against a better side.

Our next match was with C Company—a "friendly"—just to show them what we will do with them in the league (nothing like hopes). After two showers of rain whilst C were batting, we got them out for 93.

We then "harnessed the willow," and made 99 for six wickets. Out of this, "our Bob" made 57, and earned two packets of "Players" (thanks to Signalmen Eason and Gildersleve).

"Ye Gods enlighten us."

The following are answers received to the questions mentioned below:—

Q.—What do you understand by (*a*) static electricity, and (*b*) current electricity?

A.—You take a charge of electricity and place in the centre of a magnetic field. If it stops there, it is static; if it don't, it's current.

Q.—What is the difference between a primary cell and a secondary cell?

A.—There is no such thing as a primary cell, neither is there any such thing as a secondary cell; therefore, there *can* be no difference.

WAVELENGTH.

School of Signals.



School of Signals Celebrities—No. 2.

Mr. Editor—In your notes of last month, you wished more power to the pen of new contributors. Unfortunately, when news is scarce, the power is useless.

This has been a dull month from the contributor's point of view. I believe the most exciting event has been the bursting of an orange outside the canteen door. Possibly this is due to the very depressing weather which we have experienced lately. Surely "flaming" as a prefix for July should now be substituted by a warmer one.

Oh, I forgot! There *has* been an occurrence here. On Saturday, July 1st, the Fresh Air Club proceeded to Hastings on its maiden outing. All the members voted it a great success, and incidentally the sex feminine there received a fillip to their belief that there is nothing like khaki.

The view of one of the members is rather interesting. He considers that there is nothing in this world more boring than striking matches in front of sign posts in the wee sma' hours. More especially when the "juice" threatens to run out.

Yet another of the Company is to walk the aisle. This sudden rush to the vestry seems to be a source of wonderment, and yet it shouldn't be, for a soldier's life has always been considered a perilous one.

Here's wishing you the best, Jazz; and may you waltz to the tune of happiness to the end of the programme. By the way, there is no confirmation of the rumour that the bride's bouquet is to be of "jazz-mine," or that the wedding march is to be the "Boston two-step." As to the "Wyoming Lullaby,"——?

Athletics.

There is very little to report this month, except that Darky has again won the crib tourney, and Ben still holds the blue riband of knock-out. Ludo practice has not yet commenced.

Notes on Admin. 'Change.

Oranges again ap-peeled at 1½d., while toward the latter end of each week Wads sunk low, due no doubt to the flood of new Currant-cy.

Sensational deals are reported in Tunics, owing to the rumour of a likely drop in C.A.

Jelly was again very shaky, but the demand for Marching Order from one quarter was well sustained.

C.B.'s tendency to rise was reflected in a marked aversion to Orderly Room.

A striking feature was the brisk business in Cereals at Nutley Church, where Old Boots caused some excitement, but bumped heavily.

Ye Gods enlighten us as to:—

What did the bride say when she sat on the taxi seat?

Is "custard" really nice with salmon?

Is not a soup spoon blunt for lamb?

Has Alphonse the waiter ever heard such an expression as "Blimey, 'ere's cheese!"?

Is there anything so incongruous as Joe with a serviette?

Was it not a rum go for Sunbeam?

Where will the camp move to next month?

Ties.

Harold Ernest Lovell to Alice Easley, on June 26th, at Nutley Church.

Jack Sidney Allan to Margaret Mary Marchant, on July 19th, at Nutley Church.

Presentations.

To Driver A. Fyles, on June 16th—a son.

To Driver G. King, on July 4th—a son.

VELLER.

Kantara Signals.

Cricket.

We are in the middle of our cricket season now, and doing very well, so far being unbeaten.

On Monday, June 27th, the Corps team were drawn against the 9th Lancers for the first round of the E.E.F. Competition. Seven of our players were picked: Capt. Parkes, Sergt. King, Signalmen Harvey, Coope, French Moores and Lannigan. Palestine were represented by Lieut. Fielder and Sergt. Yates, and W/T (Abbassia) by Corpls Carpenter and Dempsey.

The Lancers won the toss and batted first. Boundaries were hard to get, and they only succeeded in getting four. Several "lives" were given owing to the sun, but otherwise the fielding was perfect. The stumping of Sergt Hunt by Harvey, and the catch made by French, were very smart.

Sergt King and Corpl Carpenter opened up for the Corps, but after a good leg hit to the boundary, Carpenter was cleaned bowled. Capt. Parkes followed, and soon settled down. Sergt King was caught at the wicket after scoring 21. Next in was Sergt Yates, who was the cause of much amusement by his "prancing" about the mat. Capt. Parkes was just two short of his fifty when he was given out l.b.w. We now wanted 28 to win, and there were only twenty minutes to go. So Corpl Dempsey was sent in, and—Sergt Yates being bowled—was partnered by Lannigan. This pair did the necessary in 7 minutes, and we won the first round. The scores are appended:—

9th Lancers, Kantara.—Lieut Aird c King b Harvey 22; Lieut. Erskine c King b French 14; Capt. Grisborne c French b Harvey 2; Sergt Hunt run out 0; Capt. Norman b Harvey 5; Corpl Asplin b Dempsey 32; Lieut Breitmeyer c Harvey b French 2; Corporal Mackay b Harvey 2; Private Maynard c Harvey b Dempsey 14; Pte Kimber b Dempsey 3; Pte Williams not out 14; extras 8; Total 118.

Royal Corps of Signals, Kantara—Sergt King c Asplin b Norman 21; Corpl Carpenter b Kimber 4; Capt Parkes l.b.w. b Hunt 48; Sergt Yates c Erskine b Hunt 10; Corpl Dempsey not out 19; Sigmn Lannigan not out 9; extras 9; Total (for 4 wickets) 120. Sigmn Harvey, Lieut. Fielder, Signalmen French, Moores and Coope did not bat.

Polo.

W/T and G.H.Q. have each a team in the Cairo League, and are doing very well to date. No doubt the Corporals-in-chief will tell us more about this subject when they have finished "bullying" each other.

New Arrivals.

Sergts Coffin and Seabrook and 22 other ranks have arrived from Palestine Signals. Amongst this party was Tiny Dysart, who keeps knocking our dining hut about with his topee.

C.S.M. Carvell is also here on a short visit. On parade is not the *only* place where we have heard his voice, and his rendering of "Asleep in the deep" was very touching!

Things We Want to Know.

Who is the late member of the Signals (E and P) football team who carries cuttings from the "Gazette" relating to certain matches in which he "starred"? Why doesn't he have them framed? And does he do the same with the cricket reports?

Who was the sergeant who went to the Pyramids in a taxi?—and did he get his money's worth?

T. F. S.

Wireless Company, Egypt and Palestine.

Abbassia.

Sports News.

Both water polo and cricket teams are progressing favourably. Although we have only played one Company match this month our Section League is going strong. All eyes are fixed on the Corps teams for the Command Championship. The cricket team have already started by knocking out one of the best teams in the first round. The swimming and water polo teams are training hard, and waiting patiently to knock someone out of the first round. The draw has not yet taken place, so we do not know who will be our opponents.

Cricket.

With a view to selecting a team to represent the Corps in the forthcoming Command Championships, a team selected from Egypt and Palestine played Kantara Signals in a two-day match. This proved very interesting, as both sides were about equal, and one could see that it will be no easy task to select the Corps team. The respective teams were:—

Egypt and Palestine—Major Worlledge, Lieuts. Edes and Fielder, Sergts Kingman and Yates, Corpls Carpenter, Dempsey and Minns, L/Corpl Mills, Signalmen Ryan and Walker.

Kantara Signals—Capt. Parkes, Sergt King, Signalmen Coope, Downer, Harvey, Lannigan, Mitchell, Moores, French, Bate and Cotton.

[Our correspondent has forgotten to give the result of this match.—Editor.]

The best match of the season was played at Abbassia against the 9th Lancers, in the first round of the Command Championships. The Lancers were all out for 118 runs, and we managed to get 120 runs for 4 wickets. Everyone thought it was going to be a drawn game, as time was drawing near, when Capt. Parkes put Dempsey in—and his tremendous swipes soon put the score up. One might have thought that the Prince of Wales had come back again had they heard the rousing cheers. The heroes of the match were Capt. Parkes, Corpl Dempsey and Sigmn Harvey.

An Inter-Section Cricket League is now running, which causes great excitement. Everyone seems anxious to get No. 1 Section down, as they have five of the Company players in their team. As a matter of fact, it is rumoured that when anyone comes in from an out-station, he is asked if he is a cricketer. If so, he is put in the Headquarters Section (which happens to be No. 1). The results of the League are as follows:—

No. 5 Section, played 4; won 4; lost 0; points 8.
No. 1 Section, played 5; won 4; lost 1; points 8.
No. 3 Section, played 5; won 3; lost 2; points 6.
No. 4 Section, played 5; won 1; lost 4; points 2.
No. 2 Section, played 5; won 0; lost 5; points 0.

Batting Averages:—

Corpl Carpenter, 4 innings; 159 runs (highest score 70); average 53. Corpl Dempsey 5; 195 (59 not out); 49. Sigmn Ryan 4; 91 (45); 22.75. Sigmn Ratchford 4; 81 (58); 20.25.

On June 3rd we played a friendly with the R.A.M.C. and won by 26 runs. Corpl Dempsey took 6 wickets for 13 runs and Corpl Carpenter 5 for 20.

Other friendlies have been played, of which we won two and lost three: C.M.A. 81—Wireless Co. 68; Wireless Co. 56—Signal Co. 24; Wireless Co. 124—Army Educational Corps 84; C.M.A. 115—Wireless Co. 99; 2nd Field Co. 90—Wireless Co. 52.

Water Polo.

We expect to go as far this year as we did last, although there are better teams competing. So far, we have played six matches, won five, and drawn one; but unfortunately only two of these are League matches. We are looking forward to meeting our last year's opponents, the East Surrey Regiment, in the League next week.

We are holding a Company gala next week, and hope to find a few candidates for the Corps team. All particulars will be in next month's notes.

JOCK.

Cairo.

A golden witch, she sways a sceptre regally
On cornelian throne, opal and ivory encrusted,
And filters gold dust through her taper fingers,
Which all around her scintillates and lingers.

Tall palms wave o'er her head,
And through them jewelled birds flutter,
And at her feet a golden carpet spreads,
With many a jewel sewn in the threads.

Her sandals banded on with emeralds,
Her mantle woven in a far off clime,
And round the fairest form the world has seen,
A silver girdle, clouded o'er with Nile's own tender green.

Her white arms rest on carven Sphinx,
Her footstool is an ancient Pyramid,
Your very soul her eyes will sear and burn,
And gaze you once, you sure will yet return.

A maiden is she, young and very fair,
A woman, grim, old, and very terrible,
All things in one, fickle and false as hell,
As many a poor lost wandering soul can tell.

Gaze on her, grow to love her well,
The more you learn of her
The less in learning do you know,
And all you gain, forget—you love her so.

M. A. C. A.

Constantinople Signal Company.

July 6th, 1922.

On Sunday, June 11th, the Company had its first boat trip on the launch "Waterwitch." We started about 10.30 a.m., the band playing a march as we put off. As we passed up the Bosphorus, which was at its best, we passed battle and merchant ships of all nations. The C.S.O., Major Nixon, Capt Henderson, and all officers and wives were present, with nearly all the boys and *their* friends (not men friends, either), and high times were held when the dancing commenced about noon.

Sergt.-Major Churchill, Sergt Martin, and several willing helpers, are to be congratulated on the splendid way in which they carried out the arrangements for refreshments.

After calling at Moda to pick up some of the boys from out-stations, we sailed merrily on to our destination. One very interesting feature was the passing of Halki Island, on which General Townshend was imprisoned after his capture.

After swimming, some in the water and some on land (in bottles), we started for home, arriving back in Constantinople about 8 p.m.—everyone having had a jolly and most enjoyable day.

Our O.C., Major Nixon, was married on Monday, the 26th, at the Embassy, Constantinople, and on leaving the church the bride and bridegroom went through an archway of flags (signalling, small, 3 in. by 3 in.), and also "through the mill" with a barrage of rice.

The O.C. afterwards thanked the whole Company for their combined support and turnout for the wedding. We all wish him and his wife a very successful and happy future.

We have good prospects in the near future regarding sports. All our respective entrants are in strict training, i.e., swimmers, runners, cricketers, and dart players. Of the latter we all look to "Old Bill," as he has won several "wets"—I should say, games—recently. I hope in my next notes to send you the names of several champions.

On the 25th we played the Wireless Station, Osmanie, at cricket, and as was expected, they were "seen off" severely—but we will give them a chance to turn the tables in the near future. Capt. Henderson knocked up a splendid 68, and some good bowling was observed, Corpl Tomlinson bringing down 5 for 20 runs, and Corpl Goodall, 7 for 28.

The Company team played at home on July 5th, meeting E Supplies, R.A.S.C. Ideal weather prevailed right throughout the game, but this in no way encouraged the home team, the R.A.S.C. beating them by an innings and 25 runs (119 against 45 and 49). The losers played quite a good game, but were hopelessly outclassed. [Perhaps a better result will be secured on Sunday next, when we meet the R.A.O.C.]

Sergt (Banger) King played a splendid all-round game, finishing with a bowling average of 7 wickets for 13 runs, which fortunately made up for Goodall's weakness, and so saved us from a bigger defeat.

The team possesses a good bowler in Corpl (Darkie) Goodall, but unfortunately he was off form this afternoon. Furthermore, speed in the field is badly required, and more practice must be put in at this. Sigmn Kemp has proved himself a good man with the willow, but is a slow runner. Our wicket keeper (Sgt Jock Laing) is, however, absolutely "the goods."

Tea was provided during the match, and a generous canteen steward left some minerals and spearmint lying about, which were well looked after by both teams.

Attached is an actual replica of a composition by an O.R. who is shortly leaving us for the School of Education as senior instructor:—

My Army Occuption in England as a driver in the Royal Core of Signals after passing out Rifle Drill on the Square went though a course of riding and driving and then Remain at the 1st Training Battalion Mares Field Camp as a Driver in the furtigues Stables for Three Months and then I was transfered to the 2nd Training Battalion for twenty-one days draft leave for Constantinople and while I were on my leave I were called back to my unit and while I were on my way back I got lost in the fog and I were an hour absence and on the next morning I were worned for the Company office and I got 3 days C.B. and that was a bad start after my twenty-one days leave but it was a bit of bad luck. I dident mind the three days I got because they were very cussy the easiest time since I left Maresfield.

British Corps of Occupation, Constantinople.

Signal Service Dinner.

At the same time as the annual dinner to the Corps was being held in London, a similar reunion was taking place in Constantinople, with Major-Gen. Sir Graham Bowman-Manifold in the chair.

The following officers met at dinner in the Signals Mess overlooking the Bosphorus: Lieut.-Col. Barker, Major Perkins (late 28th Divl. Signal Co.), Capt. Ritchie (late 21st Divl. Signal Co.), Capt. Henderson, Capt. Hayes, Capt. Lycett, Lieut. Kernich (late 28th Divl. Signal Co.), Lieut. Cunynghame, Lieut. Morgan, Lieut. Duvivier, Lieut. Davey, Lieut. Ogden, and Lieut Tozer.

After the toast of "The King" had been honoured, Major-Gen. Sir Graham Bowman-Manifold said:—"It is a great pleasure to have the privilege again of presiding at an annual dinner of the Royal Corps of Signals, and to propose the health of our Corps.

"At this moment the principal gathering of the Corps is at dinner in London. Last year, when I was presiding at that dinner, we received a telegram of good wishes from Signals at Constantinople; and Col. Barker has sent off a similar message to-day, which I have no doubt will be received in good time again and with enthusiasm by our comrades in London.

"I would like to touch on some events affecting the Royal Corps of Signals since our last gathering. We have to lament the loss of Major-Gen. Sir Reginald Curtis, a very good friend to the Corps. I knew him well.

"He returned from service in the Soudan, and was appointed Captain of the 1st Division Telegraph Battalion at Aldershot just as I joined that unit early in 1893. He did admirable work in developing Telegraphs and in carrying on the traditions on which the Signal Corps is founded.

"Then, in 1895, Capt. Curtis went to Ashanti, and was Director of Telegraphs of the Expeditionary Force, and received a well-earned brevet.

"Afterwards he went out to the South African War as Staff Officer to Sir Elliot Wood, the Engineer-in-Chief, but before long he was called back to telegraph work, to be Assistant Director to Col. Hippisley, the Director of Army Telegraphs throughout that campaign. Col. Curtis then made a great name as Chief of the South African Constabulary.

"When he returned from South Africa, he took a large part in the foundation of the Signal Service as we all knew it in the war. He was the first Commandant of the reorganised School of Signalling at Aldershot, and he relinquished that appointment to Col. Fowler shortly before the Great War, when he went as A.A.G., R.E., to the War Office.

"Col. Curtis' next arduous period of work was passed in the War Office, and the Royal Engineers and the Signal Service are deeply indebted to him for his foresight and organising skill. Under his direction the Corps was expanded beyond all expectations, in spite of immense difficulties. He left the War Office in 1917, and then served as Major-General of Administration, Aldershot Command. General Curtis took great pride in Signals, as well he might.

"Last October he was to have presided at the Corps dinner in London, but sad to say his health became so precarious that he could not attend. We have lost a fine soldier and a firm friend.

"Another event this year has been the retirement of Brig.-General Godfrey-Faussett, lately Commandant at Maresfield, and so well known to us all: the Royal Corps of Signals has much cause to be grateful to him.

"He was a senior subaltern in the Telegraph Battalion when I joined at Aldershot some thirty odd years ago. Anything I know about Signals I learned from him.

"He did stupendous work in the South African Campaign, and then returned to Aldershot and began to work upon the lessons of that war as regards Army Communications. Major Godfrey-Faussett was the secretary to Col. Archibald Murray's Committee, which developed the organisation of Signal units and of the Signal Service which stood the test of the Great War.

"After a spell at the War Office, he returned to Aldershot to command "A" Signal Company, the parent unit for most of the Signals of the 1914 Expeditionary Force.

"Five years of war, and the duties of Commandant of Maresfield during the transition period of the formation of the Royal Corps of Signals, deserve a good holiday—and we will all wish him good luck and happy times.

"Col. Newbigging, Chief Signal Officer of the Aldershot Command, has taken over as Commandant at Maresfield. He is well known to many of you, besides those who served with the Third Army. I have no doubt that under his direction Maresfield will prosper and progress.

"I hear that the Signal vacancy in the Staff College entrance examination has been secured by Major Wemyss, who will certainly keep up the credit of the Corps at Camberley.

"As a junior subaltern in 1914, Wemyss commanded the Signal Section of the 4th Guards Brigade in the first Battle of Ypres (when his Brigade Commander was Lord Cavan, now C.I.G.S.). He served in the Dardanelles (Suvla landing) with the 10th Division, and at Salonica, and as my Staff Officer in Palestine and Syria.

"I remember that a feature of the Corps meeting last year was the work of the Signals Association. The Signals Association exercises most valuable functions in keeping touch between all ranks, past and present, through the Old Comrades Association, and in helping those formerly in the Corps who may be temporarily in difficulties. Its work in the past year (when there has been such a slump in trade), although arduous, has been effective. The Association also serves to build up the sport and recreation of our Corps. I commend it cordially to you all as deserving of every support.

"I think the Royal Corps of Signals is greatly to be congratulated on having such a good station as Constantinople. You have here space and opportunities to practise—in so-called peace time—under active service conditions and in a good climate and sporting country. I have been most interested in all I have been privileged to see of your work here. Also it was a great pleasure to me to arrive here in time to attend a Signal wedding and to offer my best wishes to Major and Mrs. Nixon.

"I am glad to see some of our temporary officers present here to-night, and to wish them success in their civil employments.

"I greatly appreciated the kindness of Col. Barker and of all of you in asking me to preside at this dinner this evening. It has been a delightful experience, and I thank you all most heartily for it. Gentlemen! I give you the toast of 'The Royal Corps of Signals.'"

Col. Barker then proposed "Our Guests," which was duly honoured.

The roof garden of the Mess lent itself particularly to a gathering of this kind. A very pleasant evening was spent together in discussing old friends and old times.

E Divisional Signals.

Peshawar, May 31st, 1922.

Things have been jogging along, but there has not been very much to report up to date.

Cricket.

The cricket eleven had a complete collapse in the semi-final of the Jamasjee Cup versus the West Yorkshire Regiment, who were themselves defeated at Rawalpindi by the Gunners.

The Hot Weather League Challenge Cup has commenced in Peshawar, one innings matches being played on Thursdays and Sundays from 6 to 8 a.m., and 5.30 to 7.30 p.m. The only match played to date has been E Divl. Signals v. Royal Artillery, this being won by Signals with 160 for 9 wickets (Royal Artillery 95).

Sports.

The District Assault-at-Arms last month was well supported. Our greatest hope was in Sigmn Winstanley, who has turned into a promising miler. He won his heat comfortably, but when running in the



Sigmn Winstanley, E Divisional Signals.

440 yards on the second day he injured his foot through a loose spike in his shoe, and was unable to run in the final of the mile, which he would probably have won. The final results were:—

Tug-of-War, Catch Weights (British)—E Divl. Signals v. No. 8 Mountain Battery (won by the latter)

Tug-of-War, 110 Stone (Indian)—E Divl. Signals v. No. 8 Mountain Battery (won by Signals).

The events caused considerable excitement. The Gunners' British team has an almost unbroken record in India. Our opponents in the heats being British infantry regiments, Signals did well to get through to the finals of the premier event.

120 Yards Hurdles (Open)—1, Maj. R. H. Macdonald.

High Jump—3, Lieut. F. J. Matthews.

In the 100 yards Pte Kelsey put up a good performance, and in the 440 yards Sigmn Munday, but the pace was too hot for both.

Football.

The Murree Brewery Football Cup, which attracts a great number of teams, commences on June 5th. Our team is going to try its luck, and incidentally have ten pleasant days in the cool of the Murree hills amongst a small Signal colony of B Corps Signals and G Divl. Signals, whose hot weather station it is. Our results up to date are:—

March—Beat 7th Armoured Car Co. (4—2 and 1—0), and 23rd Mountain Battery (4—1). Lost to 34th M.T. Co. (0—1).

April—Drew with 7th Armoured Car (2—2), R.A.F. (1—1), and A Co. West Yorks Regt. (1—1). Lost to 34th M.T.Co. (1—2).

May—Drew with "A" M.T. Column (0—0), 7th Armoured Co. (1—1) and R.A.F. (0—0). Lost to Royal Artillery (1—3).

Capt. Harris had the misfortune to break his left leg above the ankle in the match against the Royal Artillery, and this deprives us of a dashing forward. Sigmn W. G. Smith has been playing a good game in goal, and of the backs Brandon possibly stands out most. The forwards are an even lot, but somehow do not seem to get the ball through the goal. The Murree Tournament against well trained teams should be the very best thing for the whole side.

Hockey.

The team is improving, and expects to go up to Murree for the hockey tournament in July, when the footer team comes back. An excellent goal keeper has been found in Gunner Raynor of the R.F.A. Brigade Section in No. 2 Company. Pvte Kelsey (outside left) and L/Corpl Joiner (left half) are combining well on that wing. Sigmn Fawl is playing a steady game at centre half, and now that Lieut. M. C. Howard has taken over the forward line there is much more "zip" in the attack.

We have won 8 games, drawn one, and lost one, as follows:—

March—Beat 98th Punjabis (3—1), R.A.M.C. (4—2), District Headquarters (6—2), and 89th Punjabis (2—0).

April—Beat 26th Cavalry (1—0); drew with 89th Punjabis (1—1); lost to 89th Punjabis (0—2).

May—Beat 2nd Battn. West Yorks Regt. (3—2 and 2—0), and R.A.F. (5—3).

Tennis.

On Tuesday, May 16th, the w.o. and n.c.o.'s mess took on the officers at tennis, and a very pleasant afternoon was spent on their court, four doubles representing each.

Although the honours fell to the officers, there is still the Billiard Tournament to be decided, and it is believed that betting is all the other way this time.

Notes.

R.Q.M.S. Gilmore has gone home on leave, and C.S.M. Craig, M.M., has returned.

Postings: No. 2307802 Sergt H. Hyson, M.M., on the 24/4/22 from Signal Training Centre and Depot.

Later (June 27th, 1922).

We have lately had one or two valuable additions to our hockey and cricket teams, i.e., Capt. J. H. Parsons, M.C., the late Warwickshire cricketer, and Lieut. M. C. Howard, who has dazzled everyone, especially our opponents in the hockey field.

We did very well in the Murree Brewery Football Cup, as we drew a "bye" in the first round, and the team we should have played in the second round "scratched," which brought us into the third round. This, however, went against us, as we lost to the 2nd Battalion the Gloucesters by 2—0. I must say that bad luck followed us throughout the match, and it was only the splendid keeping of the Gloucesters' goalie which gave them the game. Our team was: W. G. Smith; Brandon (captain) and Barker; Murray, James and Barber; G. H. Smith, Wheeler, Kelsey, McCallum and Knowles.

During the last week Major R. H. Macdonald, O.B.E., left for the "home establishment." The unit turned out to wish him "God speed," and "Auld Lang Syne" was sung, but unfortunately it was commenced in the wrong key, and C.S.M. Watson was the only man to get the top note with any degree of certainty.

I wish to thank the members of the unit for the wholehearted manner in which they have become subscribers to THE WIRE. Our annual subscribers now exceed one hundred.

F. J. M.

Rhine Signal Company.

We were anxious to see if the rumour of the return of our Silesian Section would prove true. Happily, it is so, and we are now busy helping them to shake down, and feel at home as it were.

They arrived here with heaps of luggage and hundreds of dogs, early on Sunday morning, July 9th, all sunburned and full of yarns of their experiences "at the front"—regarding those of us who have not been up there with them as something of the nature of "base wallahs," as the padre says.

Now that we are all gathered together, we shall be able to face all comers with greater confidence and show the way in everything—as before—to the Rhine garrison.

We understand the Sergeants' Mess is to give a virtual house-warming to its returned members, whilst we hope to do the same to the lesser ranks, though on a different scale. We will touch upon the subject next month.

We have again to note our regrets at the passing from us for demobilisation of "our Bill," Lieut. E. A.

Barry, the Border Regiment, who has been for so long the mainstay of our sporting activities. An officer much esteemed by all ranks, he is a fine athlete, excelling in every branch of sport. As a member of the Rhine Army cricket eleven he was known throughout the garrison as a brilliant bat and clever bowler. We, of course, miss his services very much, and we offer to him our hopes for his success in the future. Were we prophets we should say his name will soon figure in a county team.

We should like it to be known that we are in an awkward position owing to the depreciation in value of the German mark.

When this Company's first Signals' Association meeting was held, and members enrolled, they paid their subscription when the rate of exchange was 900 to the £; but owing to the rapid downfall of the mark their subscription became about one-third of its value.

We were faced with financial loss; but, however, owing to the touching eloquence of C.S.M. Anderson, our members stumped up the necessary extra money like bricks, and we are glad to say everything is now o.k.

We are hoping that all our Silesian Section will also become members of the Association and subscribers to THE WIRE, and we make this appeal—though we hope to make others—to place this Company on top of the list both in sales and subscriptions. What about it, Silesians! Goin' to show 'em the way to do it? Remember, it only means one wad or one gurgle less at break time, and it's all for the name of the Corps!

Cologne is at present full of people who have come with the idea of "getting rich quick" by manipulating the mark, though the Lord knows who ever told them it *could* be done. Let 'em try it. We have, and we would like to bet "Wallingford" would go broke at it.

Paper marks are as plentiful as leaves in—where is that place?—er, Arcadia or Ambrosia, and about as valueless, that is, when dealing with the Regimental Institute or the N.A.A.F.C., who are always well ahead of the official rate of exchange. Those who think they are "quids in" when being paid in marks should visit one of the above canteens and see!

In our sporting life we are doing very well, in cricket standing second in the premier League, next to those born cricketers, the Middlesex—three points behind, with level matches played.

We are girding up our loins for the time when we meet them, and with the infusion of our Silesian strength we hope to dethrone them. We beat them before, and we can do it again! So that's that!

Tennis has taken a deeper hold, and games between the Sergeants' Mess and lesser ranks have taken place. We are pleased to say the sergeants will have to practise a bit more to win. We should now be able to have some interesting tournaments, bringing forth perhaps some future Tilden or Lenglen in trousers.

P. B.

1st Divisional Signals, Aldershot.

At long last the "First" has come to light, and now makes its bow to readers of THE WIRE. Having passed the last three months in a whirl of organisation, we are now comfortably settled down in our new sphere of activity, and will in future endeavour to contribute "our little mite" to the Corps magazine.

The unit has been almost completely built up by drafts from "the home of iniquity" in Sussex—there being very few of the original members of the First left with us. Training is now in full swing, and route marches and schemes are the order of the day. Lieut Skinner and his band of merry (?) men have gone into camp with the Artillery. One hears rumours of a cushy time at Larkhill.

Amongst the latest arrivals from the Depot we have to welcome such celebrities as Sergt Sharpley (of rough-riding fame), Jonah of P (who carries on his one-man job of Pay and Orderly Room wallah), Vickers, Eynott, and numerous others equally famous in football and "banker."

Athletics.

Owing to the unsettled state of the Company there has not been much time for sport of any kind, but we hope to maintain the reputation of the Corps in the sporting world.

Opening our cricket season with a match against the 7th Dragoons, we fielded a very moderate eleven, our only stars being Capt Kent, Sergt Keevil, and Signalmen Eynott and Watts. Going in first, we put up the tremendous score of 60, the O.C. contributing 19 not out and Vickers 13. Our opponents fared even worse, being all out for 23, due to remarkable bowling by Sergt Keevil and Signalmen Watts and Cooper: their respective averages being 4 for 7, 3 for 1, and 2 for 1. Truly a wonderful performance.

"Soccer" arrangements are now in full swing, and our stars are feverishly awaiting the advent of the football season plus coupons.

Things We Should Like to Know.

Since when have the 2nd become "windy" of meeting the "First" at cricket?

"Bram's" real opinion of our 30 watt sets?

A & B.

2nd Signal Company, Aldershot.

Training is now in full swing, and schemes, sore feet, and late dinners form an important part of our daily routine. Our recent arrivals are settling down, and everything points to a good winter's sports programme.

Horse Show.

Prior to the Aldershot Command Horse Show, a unit competition was held for the best pair and harness. Prizes were kindly presented by Col. Vernon, C.S.O. Aldershot Command, and awarded to (1st) Driver Temlett and (2nd) Driver Vanlint.

Considering the short time taken to prepare for it, our four-horse turnout, driven by Drivers Hart and Christie, did well to be awarded 3rd prize.

Cricket.

Numerous practice matches have been indulged in, and our chief match of late was on July 12th, when we drew with the R.A.O.C. after a good game.

Musketry.

Efforts are being made to raise a team of snipers for the Aldershot Command Meeting, and all who are desirous of representing the Company should see Sergt Robertson, from whom all particulars may be obtained.

Sports Meeting.

At a meeting, presided over by Major Firth, the following Committee was appointed: Football, Driver Vanlint; Rugby, L/Corpl Howell; Boxing, Driver Rance (trainer, Sergt Thomas); Swimming, Signalman Stevenson; Hockey, Sigmn Hartley; Musketry, Sergt Robertson; and Athletics, Sergt Bayliss.

Anyone desirous of joining in any of the above sports should see the branch representative with a view to a trial in forthcoming matches.

It was decided to form an Inter-Company League, as well as a six-a-side tournament at the beginning and end of the season. The last-named proved very popular last year, and some keen matches are assured.

A word of thanks is due to Major Firth for his kindly interest in our sports, and also to Lt. Straight, our sports officer, who is always doing his best for us.

Tent Pegging.

The Corps team—Sergt-Majors Brown and Harding, L/Corpls Diprose and Penfold—put up a splendid performance in getting second out of fifteen teams at Farnham on Saturday, July 15th. They were not so fortunate in the Command Horse Show, and had to be content with fourth place. Had it been decided by the final, and not the aggregate of all the runs, they would have been first, being the only team to make four draws on the last run.

Athletics.

Our only performance of note was at the R.A.M.C. sports on July 6th, when we were fourth in an open relay race, and for once we managed to beat the Camerons.

Sergt Bayliss was second in the Camerons' open mile, and third in the open mile at the R.E. sports at Longmoor.

DIN.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

I am very pleased to say that we hope in future to be able to send a few lines to THE WIRE every month.

Last month brought us along another batch of men from the Signal Training Centre, so we can now almost call ourselves a Company at last, although not at full peace-time strength.

We have been able to send one complete Artillery Signal Section down to the Gunners' Practice Camp at Okehampton in Devonshire, under the command of Lieut. H. H. M. Shurlock, R.E., and from all accounts they are doing very well. I hope to be able to say more about this next month, as I believe our O.C., Major E. N. Fortescue-Hitchens, D.S.O., M.C., R.C.S., is shortly going to visit them with the Chief Signal Officer of the Southern Command.

Our Signals Dance Club really did very well, considering our small numbers here during the last dancing season. We hope, however, to be able to pass all previous records next season, as our numbers have so very recently been greatly augmented.

We have to welcome to the Company our new C.Q.M.S. (A/C.Q.M.S. J. Campbell, R.C.S.), who has arrived from Maresfield.

We started our cricket season by winning a match against the 42nd Division R.E. (T.F.). It has been a little difficult to get any fixtures into the present month, chiefly owing to the fact that many of our cricket enthusiasts are away in the Gunners' Section; but we look forward to some good fixtures in August, and I hope to say more on this subject in our future notes.

With regard to our sports, we all regret that the permanent out-stations, for which personnel is taken from this Company, are so far distant that it is very difficult for us to *liaise* as much as we should like to do. With the exception of a small Buried Cable Maintainence Section stationed at the School of Artillery, Larkhill, under Lieut. P. Jennings, M.C., R.C.S., our out-sections are situated at Portsmouth, the Isle of Wight, Weymouth, and Plymouth. We should like, however, to hear more from them, and should be very pleased to embody in our Company notes anything of interest they may have to report on work or sport.

P. J.

4th Divisional Signal Company.

Colchester.

General.

The Company, in full war paint, was inspected by Major-Gen. Sir C. D. Shute, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., on Friday, July 7th. He warmly congratulated the Company on its splendid appearance and smart turn-out.

Musketry is now in full swing. The preliminary canter is finished and we are on the ranges. The majority are doing well.

One new loading position has been unearthed. The Section Commander's order was, "Lay down, men, and open your guns."

No. 2 Artillery Signal Sub-Section has returned from Larkhill, where they have been in camp with the 13th Brigade, R.F.A. Some amusing tales, as usual, are told.

An Officer was one day riding in company with his groom. Coming to a nice stretch of grassland, he decided to canter. The groom did likewise, and his horse, being somewhat fresh, passed the officer who reined in and shouted, "My man, do you know your place?" The groom immediately replied, "You are only jealous, sir, because you didn't win."

Tennis.

The w.o.s and n.c.o.s mess recently held a tennis tournament. "Taff" was successful in winning a cup (no, it was *not* from the Canteen). He is now seriously thinking of entering for Wimbledon. As long as he only thinks, it will not matter.

Cricket.

An attempt to liven things up in cricket has been made, and a Section (Trade) Cricket Knockout Competition has been organised. Some good play is expected, as several of the men recently visited the County Ground to pick up a few tips from Lancashire.

Boxing.

Congratulations are due to Drivers Stoddart and Brookes, and Sigmn Foster, on their splendid performance at Maresfield, in the R.C.S. Boxing Tournament. What was wrong with the other Signal Companies?

Dancing.

Dancing has again commenced. Sad to relate, the increase in our numbers has not improved the floor.

BOBBIE.

Dublin District Signal Company.

The changes indicated in our last notes have taken place, and we have once more settled down for a while.

The civil (or uncivil) disturbances which have taken place in Dublin during the past few weeks naturally resulted in troops being confined to barracks for part of the time, and to a very limited area of the city for the remainder. This has not been altogether a cause for regret, as sport in various forms has distinctly gained through the necessity of finding some outlet for the pent-up energy of our personnel.

So far as the writer knows, the only people who came in touch with the fighting were certain linemen who received the attention of unknown snipers. Fortunately the accuracy of the snipers was not so apparent as their zeal.

Sports.

The n.c.o.s mess has been busily occupied with shooting matches, and a brief summary of results is appended:—

Won against 33rd Battery R.F.A. 420—414 points; 17th Battery R.F.A. 372—348; 3rd Tank Battalion, 429—396; and Signals Officers, 463—416.

Lost to No. 2 Works Co. R.E. 447—455 & 553—575; and to 17th Brigade R.G.A. 467—497.

The average scores of our best four are: Cpl Oliver 79.2, R.S.M. Ferguson 78, Sergt Johns 76.3, and Cpl White 75.8. (The "possible" was 95).

During the last few weeks our tennis form has improved wonderfully, and the courts are now seldom free. At present the n.c.o.s mess are in the final stages of their singles and doubles handicap, which is proving vastly entertaining and bringing to light entrants who appear to have been lying low for the purpose of "kidding" the handicapping committee. We regret that we are unable this season to send representatives to Queen's Club.

Cricket.

This month we have played three matches—Royal Welch Fusiliers, 3rd Tank Battalion, and a Battery of Artillery—without success, although we managed to give a fairly good account of ourselves. The weather has had a lot to do with the cancelling of several games.

SPARKS.

Ulster Divisional Signal Company.

General News.

Although there is a dearth in general news from the "Orange" quarters, a considerable quantity of juice is likely to be spilt before this goes to press. The 12th—of memorable fame and significance to the Ulsterman—is drawing nigh, and many a brilliant Orange lily will flaunt its loyal colours on that day.

We have had the exceeding happiness of embracing fourteen "parrakeets" from Maresfield since our last publication. These parrakeets are the polite things that "auto" assist in the pleasures of the telephone, procure the required personality at the phone, and keep your conversation to himself, of course.

We have to congratulate Nobbinus on his wonderful achievements in the All-Ireland Meetings, and many of the old school will join in best wishes to our "second Joe." Nobby being a middle-distance man, the two are not likely to clash in the big meetings this season, but will constitute a splendid pair to represent the Signals and carry off more honours for the Corps. Good luck and the devil's own speed to both!

Sports.

Here, our star is surely in the ascendant. Nobbinus exhibited a clean pair of heels to the big field of followers in the open mile at The Queen's Regimental Sports at Clandeboye Camp last month, and ran second to a well known captain of the Green Howard's Regt. in the open 220 yards. Some good men appeared at this meeting, many in the garb of Surrey A.C., Herne Hill, etc. By the way, Nobby runs in the old 2nd T.B. colours. He sends his heartiest congratulations to Joe on his splendid performance at Stamford Bridge.

Nobby continues his sweeping work here too, being well known now in all the North of Ireland athletic circles.

Inquiries.

Nobby would like to hear from any old boys of the 7th Army Observation Group, of Italian fame, who are still serving, or any in Civvy Street who happen to see this. Also news of "Pozzy," located somewhere in Mespot or Constantinople, and Signalmen Halliwell and Shardlow.

No. 3 Section.

I am almost inclined to think that the postings clerk at S.T.C. noticed my wail in the June issue, and thought to himself, "The Ulster wallahs seem very anxious to get men from here: we will send them one or two to keep them quiet for a time." And lo and behold, the deed was done, for we welcomed the arrival of Signalmen McIvor and Ward, switchboard operators, late of Maresfield.

The suggestion regarding the opening up of a correspondent's column seems to be well favoured by the personnel of No. 3 Section. I have been informed that the individual who inquired after a certain person in Germany has heard from him, and he trusts that others in the Corps who are in a similar position may back up this suggestion.

Since last writing we have lost three other ranks (under the axe), namely, Signalmen Hills, Atwell and Stott, and I don't think that they have been "axed" to extend their service.

C. H. T.

42nd (East Lancs.) Divisional Signals, T.A.

MANCHESTER.

We were among the "absent friends" in the July number, our notes being missing by reason of our being away at camp on Salisbury Plain.

During the time we spent there on our annual training, the weather was at its best, and consequently we were all "browned" after a few days.

Whilst at camp we were visited by Col. Dodge and Major Trench, each of whom took great interest in the schemes which were arranged, the efficiency of the unit being favourably commented upon.

The annual sports were held on Friday, June 9th. The Cable Section came out on top, L/Corpl Walker and Sigmn Malone taking most of the prizes. Major Roberts won the officers' race by a "short head" from Capt Monks.

On Sunday, June 11th, many of the Company took advantage of a cheap train to Bournemouth, where a great day was spent.

The Company was photographed before leaving camp, and if the photographer has "played the game," we hope to see our picture in next month's number.

We are now comfortably installed in our new headquarters at Burlington Street, much-to everyone's relief. On Saturday, July 8th, a special parade was held, when we marched in and took formal possession. There was a strong muster, with two cable detachments and also two limbers in full splendour. The R.A.M.C. band played us through the city on the way to the Drill Hall. The parade was followed by a hot-pot supper and a smoking concert, which everyone thoroughly enjoyed.

On Sunday, July 16th, a firing party went to Holcombe Brook rifle range for musketry practice, and as the trip was made by chars-a-banc, the day's outing was more of a picnic than an obligatory duty.

We offer our hearty congratulations to the following:—L/Corpl Barnett, promoted to Corporal; and Signalmen Cairns, Ogden, Shanks, and Thomas, appointed as L/Corporals.

TONY.

43rd (The Wessex) Divisional Signals, T.A.

The Priory, Exeter.

The Great Adventure.

No. 1 Company decided to hold a week-end camp; and, as per schedule, the cavalcade of two cable waggons, a G.S. waggon, and 25 men (including the drivers, etc.) left the Priory Headquarters at 14.45 hrs. on Friday, June 30th. The camp site, at Eastdon Farm, Starcross—a distance of some nine or ten miles from Exeter—was reached at 18.00 hours (the same day, of course) without casualties.

Friday night was spent in pitching camp, and training work began with the first parade on Saturday morning at 06.30 hrs. The horses consented to be taken down to the trough, but—maintaining the aloofness and disdain alleged in the proverb—they could not be *made* to drink. After much scrambling and pushing of heads into the trough (the latter proceeding nearly resulted in the accidental death by drowning of two draught horses and a driver) there was a general feeling that the spirit might be willing, though the (horse) flesh was weak, and attention was turned to breakfast.

At 08.30 hrs. the two cable waggons, with accompanying detachments, disappeared down sundry lanes and byways to prepare cable-traps for the unsuspecting civilian population of the district. The V/T Section in the meanwhile applied themselves to "station work" with flag and lamp in a field suitably adjacent to the canteen—I should say camp.

After lunch, the rain came down in earnest. However, the Cable Detachments decided that they had left undone those things which they ought to have done, and had done those things which they ought not to have done; so, braving the elements (Jupiter Pluvius was at his best by now), they departed in a tumult of harness—and oaths—to see if they could do something about it.

The V/T Section, donning life belts and cork waistcoats, swam off in file to Starcross Pier, where communication (flag and lamp) was established with No. 3 Company's V/T Section stationed at Lympstone, a small fishing town on the banks of the river Exe.

Some enthusiast suggested trying "helio," and proceeded to light a match as a substitute for the cloud-veiled sun. He was gently but firmly conducted to the pier-side, and placed out of harm's way! Messages were exchanged (of an insulting nature and otherwise) until someone complained that he was beginning to get wet. Thereupon the Flag-Lieutenant in charge collected his squad together, and side-stroked back to camp with them.

A further contingent from Exeter arrived in the course of the afternoon, bringing our numbers up to 50 odd (by this time, many of them *were* odd).

Saturday night was spent by all and sundry in trying to keep the wet out. The officers were honoured by the arrival of some "wisitors" (including the esteemed adjutant, the O.C. No. 3 Company, the O.C. Topsham Section, and the genial R.S.M.), and a cheery evening was spent at a convenient hostelry at Starcross, culminating in a ride back to camp ("seven up" in the Major's long-suffering car).

After an excellent breakfast on Sunday (several "coveys" of hen's eggs had apparently descended upon the cook's table during the night, like manna from heaven: I did say the camp site was on a farm, didn't I?) the morning was spent in striking camp.

But the Cable Detachments had misgivings about their handiwork, and went off to make sure that all traces of their traps and pitfalls were not visible to the naked eye.

Not to be outdone by this remarkable show of energy, the V/T Section once more went apart for a space, and resolutely thumped out messages on the Lucas lamp until lunch time.

After lunch, Major Gould, O.C. No. 1 Company, addressed the parade, and a general opinion was expressed that from all points of view (bar the weather, perhaps!) the camp had been a splendid success.

We moved off, at 14.15 hrs., arriving back at the Priory at 17.00 hrs., with ardour still undamped (about the *only* thing that was undamped!) after a most enjoyable week-end's training.

YOUNG SPARK.

[Well done, "Young Spark!"—OLD SPARK.]

44th (H.C.) Divisional Signals.

Nos. 1 and 3 Companies, Stamford Brook.

The Chiswick and District Branch of the Signals Association was formally opened at the Drill Hall, Stamford Brook Avenue, W.6, on Tuesday, July 4th, Major A. S. Angwin, D.S.O., M.C., O.C. 44th (H.C.) Divl. Signals, presiding.

In a few well-chosen words, Major Angwin spoke of the advantages of having such an organisation as the Signals Association, and the necessity of making the Branch a real live concern.

The election of Branch officers was carried out as follows: President, Major A. S. Angwin, D.S.O., M.C.; Vice-President, Capt. and Adjutant P. A. Hitchcock, O.B.E., M.C.; Sec. and Treasurer, Sergt. W. H. Tyler, R.C.S.; Members: L/Sergt W. C. Richardson, Corpl W. F. Puttock, and Sigmn J. A. Speight.

Our numbers are gradually increasing, although not at the rate we should like, but having due regard to the labour situation generally we are not doing badly. We expect to get a move on during the annual camp, when it is hoped our General Secretary will be able to run down and have a talk to the unit on the subject.

The Corps journal, although a *live* WIRE, will not shock you, neither will the price, which compares very favourably with that of other regimental and corps journals. It must be remembered that numbers count, and that the larger the circulation the lower the price. There is always something in it to interest even amateur soldiers, and I am sure that if only the meaning of "esprit de corps" is kept in mind, our sales will increase considerably.

The joy-rides to Bisley for the annual musketry course having come to an end, our thoughts turn to annual camp. It is said that handsome men are slightly sunburnt, so if old King Sol plays the game, some of us ought to come under the above-mentioned category before August 13th.

We hope to start an orchestra very shortly, and if possible, it will be heard at camp. As to whether it will be heard afterwards is subject to the number of casualties sustained at the first attempt.

There is a rumour to the effect that "old soldiers never die, but only fade away." I have now come to the conclusion that the inventor of that phrase must have spotted our S.M. trotting (dismounted) alongside a cable-waggon, meanwhile whispering sweet nothings (?) into the ears of the senior n.c.o.s cable detachment.

On Saturday and Sunday, July 8th and 9th, the senior n.c.o.s departed on a map-reading scheme in the district of Redhill. Everything went off smoothly, especially a certain n.c.o., who, although turning in on a billiard table, found himself with a "full earth" the next morning.

Should there be any budding journalists in the unit who would like to contribute articles for publication in THE WIRE, will they please send or hand same to the Branch Secretary by the 15th of each month.

We should like to see a few remarks from our No. 2 Company, but of course carnivals and the numerous attractions of Brighton may have something to do with their absence.

WATT.

55th (West Lancs.) Divl. Signals, T.A.

Aspinall Street, Prescot.

I must apologise to the 42nd Division for having taken their name in vain in the July number. I should have said "51st Division."

We are now complete to establishment, thanks to the officers and other ranks of the late 2nd Western Corps Signals, who decided to transfer on the break up of the latter unit. This accession of strength is valuable on the eve of camp, and will greatly enhance the efficiency of the unit.

The command of No. 1 Company has passed into the hands of Capt Webster, and our dispositions are now as follows: Headquarters at Prescot, No. 1 Co. at Liverpool, No. 2 Co. at Horwich, and No. 3 Co. at Prescot.

By the time these lines are in print, we shall be under canvas at Ramsey, and having given the Weather Clerk timely notice, we have every reason to expect plenty of sunshine. We have speeded up training by Saturday afternoon schemes.

I appeal to the O.C.s of the various Sections to furnish me with notes of general interest during the annual training. This journal acts as the regimental magazine for all Signal units, and when members realise that they have full access to its columns, they will, we think, appreciate THE WIRE still more, and especially for the interesting and instructive articles by distinguished contributors which appear from time to time.

In conclusion, I cannot do better than quote the Editorial for July: "Signalmen should be proud of their regimental magazine, and do all in their power to further its aims and activities.....if every man in the Corps purchased a copy monthly, the price could (and would undoubtedly) be reduced to threepence." Now, West Lancs. Signals, see what we can do!

E. M. C.

52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals.

Glasgow, July 12th.

Change of Command.

Major G. R. Grange, D.S.O., R.E., has resigned, and the command is being taken over by Major J. Muirhead, D.S.O., M.C., R.E. The total strength is roughly 20 officers and 270 other ranks.

Camp.

The advance party left on Tuesday last to go to Gailes Camp, where they have taken over the huts allotted to them. The 1st Scottish Corps Signals have been disbanded, and approximately 100 of this unit have transferred to Divl. Signals. The remainder chose the R.F.A., and a few have been attracted by the kilt and enlisted in Highland regiments.

We have been fortunate in taking over the stores from the Corps, and have almost completed our new Section, which is being raised of men from the 1st Scottish Corps Signals, to form the 101st (Glasgow) Yeomanry Army Brigade, R.F.A. Lieut. Gow has been appointed to take command, and the Section is now practically complete in personnel and in stores.

Sports.

Sergt Terry has taken up sports very seriously, and a splendid programme has been arranged. Good care has been taken to secure prizes which will invite keen competition. The contests will take place on Saturday, July 22nd, and the Weather Clerk has been duly warned that he will be shot at dawn if he does not provide us with good weather on this auspicious occasion. In the 100 yards, mile, tent-pegging, and mounted jumping, a large list of entries has already been secured.

Wireless.

We are keeping in touch with the new movement of broad-casting, and a light receiving set is being constructed by Lieut. Dickson, which will be fitted in the lecture hall, and by the winter months we hope to have this functioning.

Tentative arrangements are being made to provide concerts during the coming months. Arrangements have also been made that the 51st Division at Aberdeen will open wireless communication on two or three nights weekly during the winter season's training.

LOWDIV.

A First Trip to India.

BY W. R. C. P.

(Continued from July Number).

On Wednesday, November 23rd, we packed our bags, and set off back across the Sind desert to Karachi. This time it was only a twenty-four hours' journey, and as Colonel Hawtrey, Chief Signal Officer, Western Command, had joined us at Quetta, we had a party of four, and were able to pass much of the time playing bridge.

Karachi houses the headquarters of the Western Command, a corps line company and a wireless company. The line and wireless companies are the component parts of a corps signal unit, of which there are two in India—A corps at Karachi, and B corps at Pindi. The unit consists of a headquarters; No. 1 (Line) Company, comprising a motor construction section, 2 draught cable sections, a pack cable section and a medium Artillery Brigade section; and No. 2 (Wireless) Company, made up of such wireless sections as are required or available. The wireless sets in use at present are the 120 watt c.w., the 1½ k.w. wagon, ½ k.w. pack and one or two fixed Marconi sets. There are also some 60 watt c.w. sets in the country, but they are not popular. We are still awaiting the arrival of the 30 watt c.w. set for Divisional wireless. Sets are scarce at present, and are placed where most required under corps company supervision. The Afghan Mission took with them to Kabul a 120 watt c.w. set in a Crossley tender, and it rendered invaluable service working to Peshawar. The majority of the Marconi sets have been in the country since 1911, and the way they keep going is wonderful. They are expensive to maintain, however, and the sooner we have a standard army pattern the better.

The construction section of the line company is equipped with Ford vanettes, carrying 800 lbs. They are useful but small, and an attempt is being made to obtain suitable 30 cwt. lorries.

Medium artillery, viz., 6 inch howitzers, which are the heaviest guns in India—excepting the fixed coast defence weapons—and their signal sections form part of the corps signal units. As a rule these guns are scattered in batches of two, so the tactical employment of the signal sections may be interesting!

The Karachi companies are amongst those suffering from shortage of British ranks. The wireless company has only just been formed as such, and is "emerging from the egg" well. Up-to-date equipment regulations and war establishments have been or are just about to be published, so units can for the time settle down and see what they have and what they haven't got, and rid themselves in some cases of a heterogeneous collection of war debris.

Fullerphone, Buzzer-switch units, D.iii's and D.iv's, Lucas lamps and other modern equipment have been introduced, but the love—nay, passion—for vibrators, commutators, and B.B. lamps is hard to overcome! Of fondness for D.i and D.ii phones, in face of D.iii's, I can accuse no one.

A wreath of laurels awaits the man who will invent a satisfactory pattern of "apparatus, laying cable, telephone, portable." The main specification as far as I can make out is that it should cost nothing! The present Indian pattern is only one worse than the home variety, and it seems that attempts to improve it have been going on since 1907, and the "case" has been left to me as a legacy!

The Karachi companies, being very small, provided little to see, and on the 27th I left the party and went off to Waziristan, arriving at Darya Khan at 1 a.m. on the 29th.

On the way I had a couple of hours to spend at Sher Shah Junction, and a wait at a railway station affords an excellent opportunity of studying certain characteristics of the natives. The Indian appears to love travelling for travelling's sake. He does not seem to worry very much about getting to the other end at any particular time. For instance, a man will come to catch a train, and meeting a friend will remain chatting to him while his train steams quietly out of the station. The next one will suit him just as well, and if by chance he meets another friend then the one after that! And you must remember that the interval between trains is usually 24 hours, and not an hour or so as in England. Indians travel in thousands, and by dint of packing them in carriages like sardines into a tin the railway companies must make a goodly amount of money, despite the lowness of the fares. A third class single ticket from Bombay to Calcutta—a distance of 1347 miles—costs 26 rupees or just under £2; whereas the third class fare from London to Edinburgh (400 miles) is £2 17s. 6d.! It is hardly surprising that there is more travelling in India!

When I arrived at Sher Shah I thought it an excellent opportunity to finish off some Christmas letters, and so told my bearer to put my suit case in the waiting room. On going there myself, I found that I had been forestalled by a delightful-looking old Mohammedan and two young men, who had temporarily taken the place over as a church. They continued with their service till the bell announced the impending departure of the train, when they picked up their mats and resumed their journey.

Fifty yards further up the platform, outside a first class compartment, a prosperous-looking Indian was washing face, hands and feet, with water obsequiously poured out by his bearer from a vessel exactly like a coffee pot. Despite the provision of perfectly good washing facilities on the train he must follow his custom, and use only water from his own bowl!

The travelling native feeds by purchasing from vendors at different stations. The cries of these vendors are infinitely worse that those of the "cigarette and chocolate" boys of, say, a Glasgow station! I took the chance of trying to make out what some of their wares consisted of. I could distinguish squashed dates—a large handful of which I saw sold for a quarter of an anna (about a farthing); sugar cane *au naturel*; various forms of curry; half a dozen kinds of sweetmeats; meal chapattis (flat pancakes); fruit of different varieties; eggs; tea; hot milk; brightly coloured mineral waters—and many others perfectly indistinguishable to the uninitiated. An Indian feeds himself on 4 to 6 rupees a month, which works out between 2d. and 3d. a day!

(To be continued).

Boxing.

The R.C.S. Championships and the S.T.C. Shield.

The annual boxing tournament of the Royal Corps of Signals at Maresfield Park was brought to a close on Wednesday, July 5th, when the finalists in the inter-Company team competitions met the winners of the individual competitions for the Corps championships.

The boxing throughout had been of a high quality. The boys did remarkably well, and secured two championships. Boy Viney (last year's bantam champion) gave the best display, his style and his smart left drawing much applause.

The winners of the S.T.C. Boxing Shield were C and G Companies, each tieing with 48 points. Each will, therefore, hold the shield for six months.

Commandant's Congratulations.

Col. W. P. E. Newbigging, Commandant of the Training Centre, heartily congratulated the winners on their success and the losers on their sportsmanlike display. He also congratulated Lieut Spencer and his committee on the splendid arrangements. He wanted more entries for the Corps championships from Signal units outside, although a few representatives were present that evening. He assured them they would be made welcome in more senses than one (laughter). The prizes (silver cups and Corps knickers) were then awarded to Boy Collins (fly weight), Sigmn Richardson (bantam), Boy Viney (feather), Signalman Richmond (light), Driver Stoddart (welter), Driver Emblem (middle), Driver Smith (light heavy), and Signalman McCafferty (heavy). The runners up were awarded silver medals. The prize for the best loser (medal) was awarded to Sigmn Cooper. The points gained by each Company were: C 48, G 48, A 35, E 32, D 21.

Inter-Company Team Competitions—Finals.

Fly Weight—Boy Collins (C Company) knocked out out Driver Ledsham (E Company) in the second round.
Bantam Weight—Sigmn Richardson (G) beat Driver Joy (E) on points.
Light Weight—Sigmn Richmond (A) beat Sigmn Groom (C) on points.
Feather Weight—Boy Viney (C) knocked out Driver Joy (E) in the first round.
Middle Weight—Driver Emblem (C) knocked out Sigmn Carpenter (C) in the first round.
Light-Heavy Weight—Driver Smith (E) knocked out Sigmn Packman (G) in the first round.
Heavy Weight—Sigmn McCafferty (D) beat Sigmn Theed (G), the referee giving him the award after Theed had been warned for holding.
Welter Weight—Sergt Baker (G) beat Sigmn Rigg (C) on points.

Individual Competitions—Finals.

Fly Weight—Sigmn Turner (School of Signals) was given the fight, Sigmn Jones (B) not appearing.
Light Weight—Sigmn Dibb (F) knocked out Driver Carpenter (E) in the second round.
Feather Weight—Sigmn Etheridge (A) knocked out Sigmn Fendle (A) in the first round.
Welter Weight—Driver Stoddart (4th D.S.C.) beat Sigmn Baines (D) on points.
Middle Weight—L/Corpl Wheeler (B) knocked out Sigmn Foster (4th D.S.C.) in the second round.
Heavy Weight—Sergt Trapmore (A) a walk over.

After the interval, roars of laughter were caused by a comic contest between "Arthur Spearmint" (the American Chewing Gum King) and "Blinder Bill" (19st. champion of the world), which ended in a draw.

The Championships—Finals.

Fly Weight—Boy Collins (C) beat Sigmn Turner (School of Signals).
Bantam Weight—Sigmn Richardson (G) beat Driver Brookes (4th D.S.C.) on points.
Feather Weight—Boy Viney (C) beat Sigmn Etheridge (A) on points.
Light Weight—Sigmn Richmond (A) knocked out Sigmn Dibb (F).
Welter Weight—Driver Stoddart (4th D.S.C.) was awarded the fight, Sergt Baker (C) retiring with an injured shoulder.
Middle Weight—Driver Emblem (G) beat L/Corporal Wheeler (B) on points.
Light-Heavy Weight—Driver Smith (E) was awarded the fight.
Heavy Weight—Sigmn McCafferty (E) was awarded the fight, Sergt Trapmore (A) scratching.

Cricket.

Army Cricket Competition—3rd Round.

1st Training Battn. R.C.S. v. Training Battn. R.E.

TRAINING BATTALION ROYAL ENGINEERS.

1st Innings

Lieut Lucas l.b.w. b King	9
Lieut Patterson c Woodbridge b Phillips	27
Lieut Vezey c Stewart b King	6
Sergt Wright c King b Pinsent	11
Lieut Hancock b King	5
Lieut Millar run out	22
Lieut Forbes c Pinsent b Bellew	0
Lieut Keane c Walsh b Bellew	6
Sergt Rose c Boulger b Bellew	1
Lieut Green not out	2
C.S.M. Lawrence st Downer b Pinsent	2
Extras	1
Total	92

2nd Innings.

Lieut Lucas c Downer b Bellew	2
Lieut Patterson l.b.w. b King	46
Lieut Vezey c Pinsent b Phillips	3
Sergt Wright b Phillips	2
Lieut Hancock b Phillips	5
Lieut Millar b Bellew	10
Lieut Forbes b Phillips	1
Lieut Keane b Phillips	19
Sergt Rose b Phillips	4
Lieut Green b King	0
C.S.M. Lawrence not out	0
Total	92

1st TRAINING BTN. ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS

1st Innings

Major Walsh c Vezey b Green	21
L/Sergt Harris c Keane b Green	1
Lieut King b Hancock	2
C.S.M. Boulger b Green	11
Corpl Bendry b Forbes	19
Major Pinsent b Forbes	11
Major Phillips c Millar b Hancock	8
Lieut Steward run out	0
Corpl Bellew b Green	1
Lieut Woodbridge c Wright b Hancock	13
Sergt Downer not out	4
Extras	10
Total	101

2nd Innings.

Major Walsh c Lucas b Keane	6
Lieut King b Wright	29
C.S.M. Boulger c Hancock b Forbes	1
Corpl Bendry b Keane	0
Major Pinsent not out	23
Major Phillips b Hancock	7
Lieut Woodbridge not out	1
Extras	4
Total (for 4 wkts.)	71

S.T.C. v. Maresfield.

Played at Maresfield on May 13th, the match being left drawn. Scores: S.T.C. 187 for 5 wickets (declared); Maresfield 128 for 6 wickets. For the S.T.C. Capt Parsons (55) and Lieut Boyd (43) were top scorers, while A. E. Cosham and E. Hazelden carried off the honours for Maresfield, each making 43.

S.T.C. v. United Services, Portsmouth.

Played at Maresfield on May 20th, and drawn in favour of the Services. Scores: United Services, 171 (Lieut Colvin 50, Rev. Goudge 31); S.T.C. 73 for 6 wickets (Capt Vyvyan 22).

R.C.S. v. Royal Artillery.

Played at Maresfield on May 26th and 27th. The Artillery were easily vanquished by an innings and 114 runs. Signals 363; R.A. 139 and 110. For the S.T.C. Major Rawson (89), Lieut Howard-Smith (59), Lieut.-Col. Mordaunt (53), Sergt Downer (47), and Lt. King (38) were the chief scorers, while "Mr. Extras" was well in the running with 43. Lieut McNeil (18 and 29 not out) and Lieut Musson (31 and 8) were the only scorers of note for the losers.

R.C.S. v. R.A.O.C.

Played at Hilsea, Portsmouth, on June 2nd and 3rd, the R.C.S. running out the winners by 85 runs. R.C.S. 110 and 213; R.A.O.C. 85 and 153. In the Signals first innings Lieut Boyd topped the scoring list with 33, and in the second attempt his good example was followed by Major Rawson (70) and Major Heymann (47). The best scores for the losers were made by Lieut Clarke (28) in the first innings and by Col. Fernyhough (36) in their second.

R.C.S. v. Royal Engineers.

In this match, played at Maresfield on June 9th and 10th, the home team lost by 128 runs. R.E. 268 and 176; R.C.S. 138 and 178. The brilliant batting of Major Kirke (121 not out) was the outstanding feature of the R.E. first innings, the top score in their second venture being 53 made by W. J. Vezey. For the R.C.S. Major Rawson led the way with 42 in the first innings, while in the second Lieut King went one better with 51.

R.C.S. v. Cox & Co.

Played at Maresfield on June 13th, the visitors being held and defeated by 2 wickets and 79 runs. Signals 204 for 8 wickets; Cox & Co. 125. The top scorers were A. H. Mount (64) for the losers, and Capt Parsons (53) for Signals.

R.C.S. v. Mr. F. H. Gresson's XI.

Played at Crowborough on June 17th, a close game ending in a win by 13 runs for the home team: Mr. Gresson's XI. 223; S.T.C. 210. The 77 of J. Brittain-Jones was the chief contribution to the winners' total. Lieut Steward set out to emulate this opponent's score, and might have succeeded had he batted earlier—his total being 37 not out when the last wicket fell. Lieut-Col. Mordaunt made four more—41—before stopping the ball with his leg.

R.C.S. v. Army Education Corps.

Played at Maresfield on June 26th and 27th, the Army Education Corps winning by 9 wickets.

ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS.

1st Innings

Capt Vyvyan b Kirkwood	1
Capt Parsons c and b Kirkwood	12
Major Walsh st Knott b Kirkwood	2
Lieut King c and b Kirkwood	0
Lieut.-Col. Mordaunt c Knott b Kirkwood	1
Major Heymann c and b Kirkwood	4
Major Pinsent b Wright	0
Lieut Steward c Knott b Wright	0
Major Phillips run out	18
Lieut Woodbridge c Poyntz b Baker	5
Sergt Downer not out	0
Extras	10
Total	53

2nd Innings.

Capt Vyvyan b Parslow	3
Capt Parsons c Knott b Parslow	17
Major Walsh c Knott b Parslow	4
Lieut King c Parslow b Kirkwood	0
Lieut.-Col. Mordaunt c and b Parslow	0
Major Heymann c Kirkwood b Parslow	0
Major Pinsent b Baker	14
Lieut Steward c and b Baker	22
Major Phillips b Parslow	12
Lieut Woodbridge c and b Kirkwood	3
Sergt Downer not out	6
Extras	15
Total	96

ARMY EDUCATION CORPS.

1st Innings

Lieut Knott l.b.w. b Pinsent	0
Lieut Wright c Mordaunt b Pinsent	8
Lieut Kirkwood l.b.w. b Phillips	32
Lieut.-Col. Poyntz c King b Mordaunt	1
Capt Turner run out	2
Capt Baker l.b.w. b Mordaunt	0
Capt Barker c Pinsent b Mordaunt	3
Capt Deakin c Woodbridge b Mordaunt	0
W.O. Parslow b Mordaunt	1
W.O. Murdock c and b Phillips	6
W.O. Bailey not out	0
Extras	2
Total	55

2nd Innings.

Lieut Knott not out	40
Lieut Wright c Vyvyan b Mordaunt	5
Lieut Kirkwood not out	48
Extras	3
Total (for 1 wicket)	96

R.C.S. v. Free Foresters.

Played at Maresfield on June 30th and July 1st, Signals winnings by an innings and 44 runs.

FREE FORESTERS.

1st Innings.

H. L. Wilson l.b.w. b Mordaunt	20
Capt W. Oliver b Phillips	42
Capt M. H. Ravenhill c Parsons b Mordaunt	5
Major G. T. Neville c Downer b Mordaunt	0
Capt T. Mayhew b Phillips	3
Lieut R. D. Edwards c and b Phillips	7
H. M. Martineau c and b Phillips	0
H. Wyndham Green l.b.w. b Phillips	0
A. E. Latham Brown b Mordaunt	14
Lieut.-Col. R. G. Gray not out	8
Col. F. W. Foley c Pinsent b Phillips	8
Total	107

2nd Innings.

H. L. Wilson c Boyd b Mordaunt	15
Capt W. Oliver b Phillips	5
Capt Ravenhill c Boyd b Phillips	7
Major Neville b King	2
Capt Mayhew b Phillips	25
Lieut Edwards b King	17
H. M. Martineau b King	0
H. Wyndham Green b King	5
A. E. Latham Brown not out	0
Lieut.-Col. Gray b King	41
Col. Foley c Phillips b Heymann	0
Extras	5
Total	122

ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS.

Lieut.-Col. Mordaunt c Mayhew b Wilson	19
Capt Parsons c Wilson b Mayhew	44
Major Heymann b Wilson	12
Capt Vyvyan c Ravenhill b Wilson	58
Lieut King run out	70
Lieut Boyd l.b.w. b Mayhew	5
Lieut Howard Smith b Wilson	0
Major Pinsent c Oliver b Martineau	30
Lieut Steward c Neville b Wilson	5
Major Phillips c Oliver b Martineau	17
Sergt Downer not out	0
Extras	13
Total	273

R.C.S. v. Oxford University Authentics.

Played at Maresfield on July 6th and 7th. After a poor start, the Authentics turned the tables on Signals, and eventually won by 12 runs.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY AUTHENTICS.

1st Innings.

W. J. Webster st Methuen b Mordaunt	9
H. B. Pegman c King b Phillips	13
M. Impey c Pinsent b Mordaunt	2
K. G. Blaikie c Howard Smith b Mordaunt	2
Lieut Boyd c Methuen b King	16
E. J. Mordaunt b King	17
M. K. Ravenhill c Vyvyan b King	8
E. K. Stephenson c Methuen b King	0
Lieut A. H. St. Clair c Parsons b King	0
Corpl Bellew not out	8
A. L. Arenhold c King b Mordaunt	1
Extras	1
Total	77

2nd Innings.

Webster c and b King	40
Pegman c Methuen b Mordaunt	11
Impey b King	1
Blaikie b King	0
Lieut Boyd c Parsons b Phillips	32
Mordaunt b King	8
Ravenhill b King	26
Stephenson b Phillips	6
Lieut St. Clair not out	17
Corpl Bellew c and b King	0
Arenhold b King	4
Extras	16
Total	161

ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS.

1st Innings.

Lieut.-Col. Mordaunt c Pegman b Bellew	20
Capt Parsons, c Blaikie b Impey	30
Major Heymann b Arenhold	12
Capt Vyvyan b Bellew	11
Major Firth b Bellew	14
Lieut King b Bellew	7
Lieut Methuen run out	5
Major Pinsent b Arenhold	16
Major Phillips b Arenhold	22
Corpl Bendry not out	21
Lieut Howard-Smith c Pegman b Bellew	5
Extras	6
Total	169

2nd Innings.

Lieut.-Col. Mordaunt c Pegman b Bellew	3
Capt Parsons b Blaikie	6
Major Heymann c Pegman b Bellew	0
Capt Vyvyan b Bellew	2
Major Firth b Bellew	1
Lieut King b Bellew	0
Lieut Methuen b Blaikie	1
Major Pinsent not out	9
Major Phillips c Impey b Bellew	15
Corpl Bendry b Bellew	18
Lieut Howard-Smith b Bellew	0
Extras	2
Total	57

THE WIRE

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Edinburgh.—Maj. A. A. Jayne, O.B.E., D.S.O., M.C. P.O. Telegraphs

Exeter.—C.S.M. C H. Lavers, The Priory, Colleton Crescent.

Glasgow.—Sergt. H. J. Taylor, 21 Jardine Street.

London.—C.S.M. E. H. Smith, 2nd Cav. Div. Signals, Duke of York's Headquarters, Chelsea.
C.S.M. C. J. Sharpe, 54th (E.A.) Div. Sigs., Bay Lodge, The Green, Stratford, E.15.
R.S.M. T. Lasham, 56th (London) Div. Sigs., 3 Henry Street, Gray's Inn Road, W.C.
C.S.M. Wilson, 47th (London) Divl. Signals, Fulham House, Putney Bridge.

Signal Training Centres—
Maresfield: Capt. A. W. Roberts, "D" Company, Maresfield Park.

Crowborough: Capt. A. Beatson Bell.

Ulster.—L/Corpl C. V. G. Wheeler, North Camp, Newtownards.

Editorial Notes.

"Telephone Troubles: and How to Find Them," by W. H. Hyde; 56 pages, with 35 diagrams. 9d. net.

This is the nineteenth edition of a small book which has sold in its thousands throughout Great Britain and the Colonies, as well as in the United States. It has, therefore, proved its value to the wide circle of Telephone Engineers and Linemen for whom it was written.

Very few alterations have been required, and in view of the continued growth of telephony throughout the world, and the forthcoming big programme of the British Post Office, the new edition will doubtless find many readers.

The book may be obtained direct from Messrs. S. Rentell and Co. Ltd., 36 Maiden Lane, London, W.C.2. (see also advertisement on page iii of cover.)

G. E. PALIN, Editor.

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Signals Association Notes.

1—Objects.

(a) To foster esprit de corps amongst all ranks (serving and retired) of the Royal Corps of Signals, or those who have served in the late Signal Service, Royal Engineers.

(b) To organize Branches throughout the Kingdom, the Colonies, and British Stations overseas.

(c) To circulate information regarding the Service amongst members of the Association.

(d) To assist deserving members who are leaving, or who have left the Corps, to obtain civilian employment.

(e) To bring to the notice of the Royal Corps of Signals Benevolent Fund any pensioners or other ex-members of the Corps, their widows or orphan children, who are in necessitous circumstances, and are deserving of assistance.

(f) To ensure, as far as possible, decent interment for any member at death.

(g) To recommend THE CORPS to eligible young men who are desirous of joining the Regular or Territorial Army.

(h) To encourage annual re-unions of members.

2—Policy.

The Association is strictly *non-political and non-sectarian*, and the chief points aimed at are:—

Firstly, "esprit de corps" in its fullest sense.

Secondly, "What can I do to help my brother Signalman or his dependants who are in need of assistance?" and *not* "What can I get out of the Association myself?"

3—Management.

The Association is governed by a Council of Management, and is managed functionally by The Old Comrades Sub-Committee, Benevolent Fund Sub-Committee, and Corps Publications Sub-Committee. Branches are administered by local committees elected by themselves with the approval of the Council of Management.

4—Terms of Membership.

All officers who have been commissioned for, or seconded to, and warrant officers, non-commissioned officers, and men who have been attested for, transferred to, or permanently attached for duty to the Royal Corps of Signals, or the late Signal Service, Royal Engineers (whether past or present), all ranks of the Royal Corps of Signals Special Reserve and Territorial Force, and all ex-members of the W.A.A.C. or Q.M.A.A.C. who served during the late war as telegraphists or telephonists with Signals, are eligible to become members.

5—Rates of Subscriptions.

Life Membership.—Officers, £5; other ranks, 30/-
Annual Membership.—Officers, 5/-; other ranks, 2/- per annum.

Life membership subscriptions for other ranks may be paid in two instalments of 15/-, provided the second and final instalment be paid within twelve months of the first. The life membership card will be issued on payment of the full amount.

Why YOU should Join.

Because, by combined action a world-wide organization can be established for the mutual benefit of all its members, which will also enable everyone, from the last-joined trumpeter upwards, to "do his bit" towards helping the lame dogs of our very large and growing family over their many obstacles.

The Association.

The Association generally is making slow but sure and steady progress. Quite a number of new Branches have already been formed and committees elected, and in some cases a very creditable number of members enrolled.

Cairo especially have been doing remarkably well in a very short time, and are to be congratulated on the splendid response that has been made by local Branch representation.

India, too, are forging ahead. I am in receipt of correspondence from Peshawar which points to a real live Branch in process of formation, and I would take this opportunity of thanking those energetic workers in Association interests who are doing so much to make this movement a success.

The Black Sea Branch at Constantinople are likewise making good headway, and it is a noticeable fact that, if "oversea progress" continues as it has been doing for the past three or four months, they will soon be challenging the Home Branches in point of numbers

May I remind all Branch Secretaries that I should be glad to have their reports in as soon as convenient? Subscriptions for 1923-1923 are now due, and the Council of Management would like to know what progress is being made.

As will be seen by the following list of Branches, there are quite a number of "prospectives," who have not yet officially made a start The Council of Management have already authorised these formations, and whilst extending their best wishes to the founders, would be glad to hear that there is every prospect of good Branches materialising from their efforts. They comprise districts and places in which the Association is badly in need of representation—viz. the Midland and Western Counties—so that when an Association member becomes due for discharge for any reason whatever, and returns to civil life, he will find a Branch of his Association within easy distance, and can keep in touch with all his old pals and interests.

Business in connection with the Benevolent Fund has, I am sorry to say, kept me more than comfortably occupied during the last twelve months. I express regret only because it is distressing to meet so many of our fellows and their dependants in such sad circumstances

At the same time it is more than gratifying to know that one is the medium through whom such deserving cases can be assisted, and it is paying a tribute to all who have so generously subscribed to this fund when I say that over £150 has been distributed during the period mentioned. The Committee elected to deal with these cases would, I am sure, desire me to thank all concerned for helping to make this assistance prompt, practical, and possible.

Information of any description concerning the Corps generally, and the Association in particular, can be obtained from this office. Applications for the forma-

tion of new Branches, or any suggestion concerning the welfare of the Association, will be welcomed at any time.

Before closing these notes, may I add that, whilst asking all ranks to support their Corps Association by becoming members without any further loss of time, I would also recommend their Corps magazine, THE WIRE, for information concerning the doings of Signals generally in any old corner of the globe.

Again thanking all those who have, and are, rendering such valuable assistance to the Association generally.

I remain,
Yours faithfully,
W. BUTLER, *General Secretary.*

Stamford Brook Lodge,
Stamford Brook, London, W. 6.

List of Branches.

[with name and address of Secretaries]

Aldershot—C.Q.M.S. A. L. Winter, 1st Div. Signal Co. Aldershot.
Belfast—Cpl. C. V. G. Wheeler, Signals North Camp, Newtownards, Ireland.
Birmingham—Capt. W. Murray, 85 Highfield Road, Alum Rock, Birmingham.
Cork—Cpl. A. W. Griffiths, Cork Signal Co. Victoria Barracks, Cork.
Crowborough—Capt. A. Beatson Bell, S.T.C. Crowboro' Camp.
Chelsea, S.W.—C.S.M. E. H. Smith, Cav. Div. Signals, Duke of York's H.Q., Chelsea.
Colchester—Cpl. R. G. Barrett, 4th Div. Signal Co. Reed Hall Camp, Colchester
Chiswick, W.—Sergt. Tyler, 44th H. C. Signal Co. Stamford Brook Lodge, Stamford Brook, W.
London, W.C.—R.S.M. T. Lasham, 56th Div. Signals, Henry Street, Grays Inn Road, W.C.
Fulham—C.S.M. Wilson, 47th Div. Signals, Fulham House, Putney Bridge.
Edinburgh—Mr. J. W. Jarvis, 3 Devon Pl. Edinburgh.
Bulford—Lt. P. Jennings, 3rd Div. Signals, Bulford Camp.
Westminster—Mr. C. Bendel, 24 Iliffe St. Walworth, S.E.
Constantinople—Cpl. F. Brudenell, Signals G.H.Q., Constantinople.
Cairo—Sergt. T. R. Slater, Signals G.H.Q., Cairo.
Peshawar, India—C.S.M. F. Craig, E. Div. Signals, Peshawar, India.
S.T.C. Maresfield—Lt. R. G. Woodbridge, D Co. S.T.C., Maresfield Park Camp.
Liverpool—Mr. A. Watson Morris, 38 Mason Street, Liverpool.

Prospective Branches.

[not yet officially formed]

Nottingham—Lt.-Col. D. J. Jardine.
Manchester—Capt. W. Monks.
Exeter—Major W. C. Michelmore, D.S.O. M.C. (T.A.)
Cardiff—Capt. R. T. O. Carey, M.B.E.
Leeds—Capt. J. Campbell, M.B.E.
Derby—Capt. J. C. Bray.
Jubbulpore, India—
Bristol—H. P. Shenwood, Esq.
Rhine Signals—Col. R. J. F. Trew, O.B.E.
Sunderland—Major C. G. Bagnall.

NOTICE.

MEMBERS OF ALL BRANCHES OF THE SIGNALS ASSOCIATION

are reminded that their Annual Subscriptions for 1922–1923 are now due.

To save your Secretary time and postage, you are asked to forward him the same without delay.

Maresfield Notes.

Corps Celebrities—No. 17 : C.S.M. Lane.



Headquarters.

We offer our heartiest congratulations to R. F. Barlow on his appointment as Lance-Corpl. Readers of THE WIRE will no doubt have enjoyed some of his humorous articles under the nom-de-plume of "Barleux."

Corporal Featherstone, after a period of sick leave consequent on his serious illness, has returned, but will shortly be leaving us again, as he will be due for demobilization

Many old friends of Jack Quance will be pleased to hear that he is proprietor of a successful engineering business, and that he is to be married in Uckfield early in September.

Now that the musketry course has finished, we find the trooping season almost here. Already we have to deplore the impending departure to India of Sergt. N. E. Legg. "Jerry" has been acting chief clerk at this headquarters since the departure of R.S.M. F. R. Roberts. We have to welcome Sergt. Forward from the School of Signals, who is taking over Sergt. Legg's duties.

The gymkhana was a great success, being held under favourable weather conditions. The Signal display was a decided improvement on the Red Indian and Cowboy stunt of former years.

The Corps cricket team, we are pleased to see, are doing very well in the army championship. After beating the R.G.A. at Shoeburyness, and so winning the championship of the Eastern Command, they defeated the Royal Horse Guards (the champions of the London district) at Eton on the 11th and 12th of August, and so enter the semi-final.

Congratulations to Sigmn. Cotterell and Lieut. F. R. Courtenay-Thompson on being first and second in the three miles in the Army Championship meeting at Aldershot.

The football season will soon be here. We wish the team the best of luck, and hope that there will be no repetition of the early failures of last year.

Since the appearance of last month's notes, Headquarters Staff have yet again found another home. After a comparatively short sojourn in B Company, we are now with D, to which Company some of us, in the course of our travels, have previously been attached. We hope that they are as glad to have us as we are to return to them.

E. S. H.

Maresfield Topics—No. 7.

The Lost Tribe of Beer-ex-Pip.

1. Now in the seventh month of the year cometh the great assembly when the captain of all the hosts that were in the wilderness, which is the Field of Mare, did inspect the hosts that had their habitation in that place.

2. And behold, when the news of the coming of this thing was noised abroad, there was polishing and burnishing among the men of arms.

3. Excepting only among the tribe of Beer-ex-Pip was there polishing and burnishing.

4. For the men of Beer-ex-Pip were craftsmen, skilled in the arts of peace and trained not in the ways of war.

5. Scribes, disciples of Caxton, keepers of stores, attendants unto officers, toilers by night, and musicians, were they.

6. And it came to pass that when the captain of all the hosts did see the men of Beer-ex-Pip, his countenance was darkened even as the sun is darkened by the passing cloud.

7. For there were of the men of Beer-ex-Pip some that had not weapons of war, others that had not the accoutrements appertaining thereunto, whilst the raiment of some was soiled with the signs of their toil.

8. And when the captain of all the hosts had seen this thing he sayeth—

9. Every night, when the labour of the day it is o'er, shall they assemble until such time as they find favour in my sight.

10. And it was even as he had said.

11. Now when the time of their visitation was at an end, the men of Beer-ex-Pip were scattered abroad throughout the land of the Field which is Mare.

12. For the captain of the hosts did say—

13. When they go forth amongst a strange people, will they not learn the manners and customs of that people?

14. For as the prophet sayeth, Amongst a strange people shall a man learn wisdom and understanding.

15. Then shall their ways be my ways, and no longer will the men of Beer-ex-Pip be an abomination in my sight.

16. And the storesmen departed unto the land of Samuse where there is a perpetual shortage of 'air.

17. The scribes found peace in the tents of Donko, likewise the musicians among the habitations of Seko.

18. And so it came to pass that the name of Beer-ex-Pip was heard no more in the canteens and places where they sing.

E. S. H.

D Company.

Owing to the absence on leave of our Reporter-in-Chief, our Notes were conspicuous by their absence in last month's issue. In any case there was very little to report. This month has been rather eventful, however.

The gymkhana took place on July 20th, and I expect will be reported elsewhere. As far as our Company goes, our men were placed as follows:—

Major J. A. F. Mair, M.C., 2nd in Officers' Tent Pegging.

C.S.M. Watson, 3rd in Hassel Cup and Tent Pegging.

Sergt. Revell, 1st in Ball and Basket Race.

Sigmn. Butler, 3rd in Alarm Race.

Our Commanding Officer very rightly chose Lieut. King to assist him in organizing the "war." For sheer noise production, commend me to the tender care of Mr. King! Anyhow, joking apart—it was a jolly show and much appreciated by everybody, and in our humble opinion might be reproduced at the tournament with great success.

Our other great event of the month was the G.O.C.'s Inspection. *Apropos* inspections, I wonder how many tons of whitewash are used in the army in general, and in the S.T.C. in particular, during the course of a year, and which Company in the S.T.C. consumes the most.

One w.o. when asked how much whitewash his Company were going to use for the inspection, was heard to remark that they were going in for Brunswick black this year!

A brilliant idea has struck a certain famous officer for next year's inspection: that we all take shares in Hall's Distemper, each Company using a different colour.

Our cricket team did wonders against the S.T.C. — sorry! I mean School of Signals team. They beat us by three runs! The School batted first and we removed them for 82, Lieut. Woodbridge being the chief wicket taker. We went in, and with nine wickets down we required 4 to win. L/Corpl Shillingford hit the necessary "four" alright, but Lieut. Methuen, after turning multifarious catherine wheels and somersaults, managed to catch the ball in his shirt pocket! Anyhow it was a very good catch—well done, sir! The teams were as follow:—

School of Signals.—Lieut.-Col. O. C. Mordaunt, Capt. Parsons, Lieut. Methuen, Lieut. Latham Brown, Lieut. Boyd, Lieut. Kekewich, Lieut. Howard-Smith, Lieut. White, Lieut. Stoddard, Lieut. Boyt, L/Corpl Hall.

"D" Company.—Major Pinsent, Lieut. King, Lieut. Woodbridge, Lieut. Steward, Lieut. Welch, C.Q.M.S. Mills, L/Corpl Shillingford, Sigmn Obbard, Sigmn Trudgett, Sigmn Gandy, Sigmn Morris.

By the above it will be seen that our team are to be congratulated on their performance

On Saturday, July 29th, they went to Isfield and got beaten by about 12 runs. As we took several people down for a "try out," it wasn't too bad.

We are looking forward to a successful football season, but the O.i/c Records has just decreed that several of our mainstays are to go to India. We are now on the look-out for some new players.

Best of luck and wishes to everybody from

DON.

School of Signals.

Without doubt the outstanding event since last issue was the gymkhana. Happily the weather was kind and contributed in a large measure to the success of the meeting. The tit-bit of the programme was the mimic battle illustrating Signal work in warfare. It was exceedingly realistic, and many who were there must have thought they were back in the good old days. Incidentally, a piece of Krupps furniture helped to make things go with a bang.

Casualties are numerous this month. We have lost a popular n.c.o. in Sergt Foster, who has left us for the 54th East Anglian Signal Company at Clacton-on-Sea, and our best wishes go with him. Congratulations are due to Gilbert on his marriage. We all hope that he will maintain the position of President in the new establishment. Sergt Forward has left us to take over the job of chief clerk at headquarters, and judging by his work with us, we have no doubt that he will make good. His place as Orderly Room Sergeant is taken by Corporal Spreadborough, while A.J.K. will see to the dibs. We also offer our congratulations to the following on their promotions:—C.Q.M.S. Edwards to C.S.M., and Sergeants Francis, Nichol, Jones, and Harris to C.Q.M.S.

Cricket.

Up to date we have played four inter-Company matches, or rather three, as G Company scratched.

After an exciting struggle we defeated Don by 3 runs. Batting first, the School totalled 82 (Capt. Parsons 26). Don obtained 79, Col. Mordaunt taking 3 wickets for 13, and Lieut. Stoddard, 3 for 6.

A Company were then met, but they could do very little against Col. Mordaunt's bowling, he obtaining 6 wickets for 26. A Company eventually gathered 20. Col. Mordaunt followed up his bowling success with 58 not out, and the School won easily by 7 wickets.

Our next match was with our time-honoured opponents, Eddy. Batting first Corporals Bellew and Bendry put up a capital century before being parted. The School's attack, considerably weakened by the absence of Col Mordaunt, was treated with scant respect by the early Eddy batsmen, and at 206 the innings was declared closed for the loss of 6 wickets. The School's fielding was very poor, missed catches being particularly noticeable. On going in the School batted very well, and on time being called we had scored 148 for 3 wickets, Capt. Parsons knocking up an excellent 62. Thus an even game resulted in a draw.

We have to meet C and F to complete our programme, and are confident that we shall pass through the second season without being defeated.

Athletics.

At the Eastern Command Athletic Championships, we were represented by Lieut Pearse, Corpl Spreadborough, Sigmn Cormack, and R.S.M. Finmore, and from our point of view the meeting was a success. The team waltzed away with the 220 yds relay, and were fourth in the 100 yds relay, while it is rumoured that R.S.M. Finmore was having his tea while his opponents were finishing the half mile. Following these successes, the same team attended the Crowborough Athletic Sports on Bank Holiday, and in addition to winning the relay race, Lieut Pearse won the open 100 yds, and Sigmn Cormack the long jump. A very successful month!

Football.

Practice has commenced, and by the time these lines are in print the season proper will be upon us. Needless to say we hope to do better that last year. More anon!

Old Comrades.

L/Corpl H. F. Hall would be glad to hear from Fred Strange, last known to be in Egypt.

Notes on Admin. Change.

Blanco was in great demand owing to the activity of parades.

A slump in Ox Blood was responsible for a run on Light Tan.

On the 9th, Mess Tins dropped suddenly, but were secure in their old position by the following morning.

Ranks were very steady, while Scabbards were very elusive.

Marriage.

Sigmn G. Brooke to Ethel Wilson at Uckfield, on August 12th, 1922.

VELLER.



School of Signals Office Staff.

Standing (Left to Right)—Dvr. O'Keeffe, Sigmn Stone, R.S.M. Gallagher, L/Corpl Keane, Dvr. Fyles, L/Corpl Hall.

Sitting.—Sigmn Wells, Sigmn Foster, Corpl Spreadborough.

Kantara Signals.

We are here again, but haven't much news this month. Cricket is the chief topic, and the results of the semi-final and final of the E.E.F. Competition (Abbassia Group) are attached.

The final against the R.H.A. proved very exciting, and was more like a football final at the close of the match.

Our next match will be against the R.A.O.C. at Alexandria, which will be the semi-final of the E.E.F. competition proper.

The Kantara section of the team had a very nice week's holiday at Cairo, one of them even extending his stay with a trip to Alexandria, probably to find out a few tips. Nevertheless it was a very enjoyable week, and out of four matches we won two, drew one, and lost one.

The match against the Gezira Sporting Club was a two-days event, and the Corps did remarkably well the first day in scoring 137 and getting the Club out for exactly 100. On the second day we only scored 127, and the first three batsmen of the Club hit up the necessary 165 in a very short space of time. Our team seemed to be over-worked, but all the same did their utmost against the best team in Cairo.

Two of our dashing D.R.s have left us and joined the Egyptian Police Force, and now tear about the streets of Cairo on Indian motor cycles, looking for trouble and other things.

The majority of our Section are at present between here and Rafa on the work of clearing up and getting the various routes in order, ready to hand over to the civilians. We are, however, expecting some more reinforcements from Palestine, their job now being finished.

Twenty-five of our noble lads left for the U.K. in July, and will by now, we expect, be enjoying an English summer leave. Probably the Provost-Sergeant at the Depot will have made friends with some of them by now too!

T. F. S.

E.E.F. Competition, Abbassia Group.

Semi-Final—8th Hussars v. Signals.

The second semi-final of the above group was played on Sunday, July 16th, between the 8th Hussars and Signals. Signals were a much better side, and won easily by 2 wickets and 6 runs.

The Hussars batted first, and the score stood at 21 on the fall of the first wicket. Then 17 runs were added for the second wicket, but on the breaking of the partnership between Clifford and Col. Van de Byle, the rot set in, and no other member of the side was able to do anything against the Signals bowlers. The innings closed at 75.

King and Carpenter commenced for the Signals, but Carpenter soon left, being out l.b.w. to a ball from Kirk. Seven runs only were added for the next wicket. Capt. Parkes was caught by Van de Byle. Minns was out without scoring. Harvey joined King, and between them they added 18. Major Worlledge made a quick 11 before being caught by Clifford. King and Dempsey had carried the score just high enough to beat that of the Hussars when King was caught by Kirk, having scored a useful 40. Dempsey left at 103. French and Lannigan were given a knock until 124 was reached, when the innings was declared closed, leaving the Signals winners.

8th HUSSARS.—Capt. Clifford c Carpenter b French, 17; S.S.F. Herbert c Carpenter b French, 9; Lieut.-Col. Van de Byle, c Harvey, b Dempsey, 23; D. S. Cripps, b Carpenter, 4; Olerton, b Carpenter, 8; Lever, c Coope, b Dempsey, 0; Capt. Staniland, b Carpenter, 1; Sergt Evenden, b Dempsey, 2; Davey, b Carpenter, 5; Kirk, not out 0; Cuppy, c Yates, b Carpenter, 0; Extras 6—Total 75.

SIGNALS.—Sergt King, c Kirk, b Clifford, 40; Corporal Carpenter l.b.w. b Kirk 6; Captain Parkes, c Van de Byle, b Davey, 2; Corpl Minns, b Kirk, 0; Sigmn Harvey, c Lever, b Kirk, 13; Major Worlledge, c Clifford, b Davey, 11; Sergt Yates, b Davey, 0; Corpl Dempsey, c Evenden, b Davey, 15; Sigmn Lannigan, not out 15; Sigmn French not out 14; Extras 8—Total 124.

Final—R.H.A. v. Signals.

The Signals met the 3rd Brigade Royal Horse Artillery in the final of the above competition, and won by 24 runs.

The Gunners won the toss and batted first. The start was very disastrous for them, Ebbels being clean bowled by Harvey without a run having been scored. Capt. Harrison did not cause much trouble. Huttenbach and Holmes scored pretty freely, but after the departure of Holmes the Gunners went to pieces, the innings closing for the moderate score of 86.

Signals commenced much more disastrously than the Gunners, King and Parkes both leaving with only one run scored. Carpenter and Edes played steadily and took the score to 16, when Edes was nicely caught by Wilmore. Carpenter left soon afterwards. At this point things looked very black for Signals with four wickets down for 22 runs. Harvey then proceeded to

show that the bowling was not unplayable, and runs came very quickly. He was caught in the slips by Limeburn after contributing a valuable 40. After some very hard hitting by the remainder of the team, the Signals innings closed at 110.

The honours of the day went easily to Sigmn Harvey, who took 7 wickets for 42, and scored 40 runs.

R.H.A.—Harrison, c Coope, b French, 4; Ebbels, b Harvey, 0; Huttenbach, c and b Harvey, 35; Holmes, b Harvey, 14; Nicholson b Harvey, 1; Stevens, b Harvey, 0; Hyde Smith, c Coope, b Harvey, 1; Limeburn, b Harvey, 1; Donmall, not out 11; Garrett, c Parkes, b Carpenter, 8; Wilmore 5; Extras 6—Total 86.

SIGNALS.—Lieut. Edes c Wilmore b Donmall, 10; Sergt King, c Huttenbach, b Garrett, 0; Capt Parkes, c Ebbels, b Donmall, 1; Major Worlledge, b Garrett, 8; Sigmn Harvey, c Limeburn, b Nicholson, 40; Sergt Yates, b Nicholson, 3; Corpl Dempsey, c Limeburn, b Garrett, 2; Sigmn Lannigan, b Nicholson, 8; Sigmn French, c Wilmore, b Nicholson, 23; Sigmn Coope, not out 5; Corpl Carpenter, b Donmall 8; Extra 1—Total 110.

Constantinople Signal Company.

The following are the results of the fights in which Sigmn "Taffy" Sheppard has proved himself Feather-weight Champion of the Army of the Black Sea.

Although he is only 5ft. 2in. Sheppard has the punch of a heavy weight—at least the results shown below seem to point that way. He modestly admits that he will make a name for himself and his Corps ["The" Corps] when he can prove himself in Blighty.

Novices.—December, 1920, knocked out Lawrence (20th Hussars) in the second round. December, 1920, lost on points to Jones (R.C.S.). January 21st, 1921, beat Jones (R.C.S.) on points.

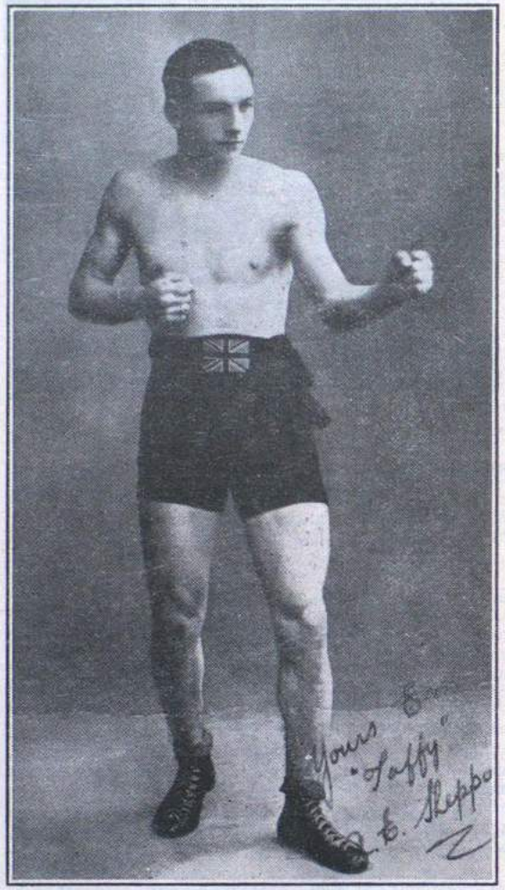
Open Championships (British Corps of Occupation)—April 15th, 1921, knocked out Pearce (20th Hussars) in the first round. April 16th, 1921, knocked out Gilchrist (1st Gordons) in the first round; and beat Jones (R.C.S.) on points. March 19th, 1922, drew with Guillis (Italian Army Champion).

Allied Forces Open Championships.—April 4th, 1922, beat Fleming (Loyals) who retired in the first round. April 5th, 1922, knocked out Ashton (3rd Hussars) in the second round; and walked over against Pte. ?—— (Loyals). May 1st, 1922, knocked out Collier (H.M.S. Cardiff) in the third round. July 4th, 1922, knocked out La Gaspi (U.S.S. Sturtevant) in the fourth round. July 7th, 1922, beat Baker (1st Buffs) who retired in the second round.

R.C.S. v. 780th M.T. Co. R.A.S.C.

This game, resulting in a draw, was played on the English Boys' High School ground at Chichli, and was undoubtedly the finest game we have taken part in this season.

The batting was opened with Lieut Accheson and C.S.M. Chisnall, the former putting up a magnificent 98 before being caught by Lieut Morgan (of ours) from Sigmn Healey. The way this officer hit our bowling (he got seventeen 4s) made our team look a bit sour, but did not take the spirit out of them altogether.



Eventually we got the M.T.s out for 189, and, going in ourselves, secured 66 for the first innings, Lieut. Morgan knocking up 24 and Corpl Goodall 19.

The R.A.S.C. putting us in again, we succeeded in securing 150 for 8 wickets, when time was called and stumps had to be drawn. This score was achieved by Lieut Morgan getting 71 before being bowled, and Corpl Goodall 46 not out. Heartiest congratulations are extended to them on their splendid play on the day, the latter getting an extra cheer for his good bowling against a far superior team—he having secured six wickets for 52 runs.

Scores—R.A.S.C. 189; R.C.S. 66 and 150 for 8 wickets.

On the 20th inst. we play our return match against the G.H.Q. Allied Forces of Occupation, which should be a splendid game. I understand that the G.O.C.-in-Chief, Lieut.-Gen. Sir Charles Harrington, will be playing against us on this occasion, and that he requires some watching when he gets the willow in his hands—but this remains to be seen.

R.C.S. v. G.H.Q., A.F.O.

Since writing my previous notes, we have met and defeated the G.H.Q., A.F.O. team by a single run. The match was played on the Chichli ground, and Signals, winning the toss, elected to go in first. At first things were looking very bad for the home side, two wickets falling when the score was only 8, but the score was eventually brought up to 111, 31 of these being credited to Sergt. Maycox, and 23 to Capt. Henderson.

Our visitors then batted, and their first wicket fell for 3 runs (1 bye and 2 leg-byes), but a good stand was made by Lieut. Young, who succeeded in putting on 49 before being bowled by Corpl Goodall. This brought our visitors' score to 96 for 5, but a dry rot set in, and the whole of their tail end were dismissed for another 14 runs, L/Corpl Cooke securing 13 of these.

Scores—R.C.S. 111; G.H.Q., A.F.O., 110.

We fully expected Lieut.-Gen. Sir. Charles Harrington to play for the A.F.O., but as they had an all-day match against the "Iron Duke" at Beicos, on the Saturday following, he stood down to let one of the younger players have a game, and also to save himself for the big match.

R.C.S. v. R.A.O.C.

A good game was played by the Company team on Sunday, July 9th, against the local R.A.O.C. Depot at Boyadjikeaui, a place situated on the Bosphorus. The day was absolutely ideal, splendid weather prevailing throughout.

Unfortunately for us, we were unable to turn out a full team, Capt. Henderson and Lieut. Duvivier having previously made other arrangements, and our non-commissioned representatives being ordered on board H.M.S. "Benbow" for the day. I say "ordered," because the company of this ship do not invite Signals on board when they are in these waters, but tell you that you *have* to go.

This weakening of the team made things somewhat unpleasant for us, but our novices played up and by good work managed to save us from another crushing defeat—the Ordnance just beating us by 13 runs.

Scores—R.A.O.C. 70 and 38; R.C.S. 45 and 50.

During the afternoon, Major and Mrs. Nixon paid their first visit to a match since their marriage, and we hope it will not be their last. One or two of our "Wompo Kings" were badly disappointed, as beer, etc., were conspicuous by their absence, and they had to resort to lemonade and ice-cream.

B.C.O. Signal Company (R.C.S.) Aquatic Sports.

On Saturday, July 22nd, the Company's annual aquatic sports were held at Touzla, in the Gulf of Ismidt. Ideal weather prevailed, and the Company being excused duty for the day as far as possible, a good gathering attended. H.M.T. "Waterwitch" was chartered for the occasion, and took us from Galata to the scene of the events.

At 14.00 hrs the sport commenced with the 50yards race (any stroke), followed by the half mile and other events.

Cox put up the finest performance, but praise must be given to Sigmn Kiernan for his splendid finish in the half mile, he winning this event by 150yds or so.

Even though these two succeeded in carrying off several prizes, a better show was given by Corpl Overington after all the events were over, and everybody was on board the "Waterwitch" ready to proceed home.

This n.c.o., who was staying at Touzla in charge of the gear, came on board to say farewell to his friends, when (unnoticed by him) both the motor-launches used to take the party ashore set off for Galata, leaving him on board without hat or tunic and with a half-mile swim for home.

Nothing daunted, he immediately dived overboard and started for the break-water, the nearest po'nt of land, eventually succeeding in reaching this as our boat was leaving. I think this is "some" feat, well worthy of note, and I wonder if anybody else in Signals would like to try and beat it. (Distance—a good half-mile; dress, clean fatigue with ammunition boots less cap and tunic).

The G.O.C. British Corps of Occupation, Maj.-Gen. Marden, and Mrs. Marden, were present, the latter very kindly presenting the prizes at the conclusion of the events. A hearty vote of thanks was extended to them for so kindly attending and officiating.

Replying on behalf of Mrs. Marden and himself, the General thanked us for the splendid day's sport they had witnessed, and in words well worth cherishing in the hearts of all Signals: "I must congratulate you on the admirable way in which these sports to-day have been organised and carried through, as all Signals outings invariably are. The swimming was splendid throughout, and I have no doubt the majority of you will be entering for the Army aquatic meeting in a fortnight's time."

A local band, engaged for the occasion, rendered selections throughout the day, and dancing was enjoyed on board on both the outward and return journeys.

Baghdad District Signal Section.

We have to welcome a new O.C., Lieut. G. S. O'N. Power, R.E., having taken over the unit. Training has started "pukka," as I intimated in some previous notes, and a bunch of various tradesmen hope to secure their Class III rates at the next Command trade testing board.

The riding school, under the able tuition of Sergt Mayes, is progressing favourably, and he is to be congratulated on the smart morning turn-outs. Let's hope that Chirby won't take the ride too much to heart, and that he will try a little harder.

A Corporals' Mess has been instituted in the unit, and the remainder of the Section now know where all the musical talent has been hiding.

Most of the Section are now looking forward to the end of their two years in sweltering Iraq, and hope to leave for India as soon as the hot weather abates. Our famous "comique," Sigmn R. G. Taylor, and our oratory expert, Sigmn Gascoigne, have left for the Depot in India, in company with two of our best footballers, Signalmen Jock Gardiner and Youngson. We all wish them the very best in India's sunny clime.

Sport.

Sport of any description has been difficult to carry out, owing to men proceeding to and returning from detachment duty. At present nearly half of the Section are either on command or detachment, but a series of games has been organised by the committee, and so far these have been very successful.

The Section has been divided into four teams, each to compete for the Section Cup, No.'s 1 and 2 teams combining for football, hockey, and cricket against No.'s 3 and 4 teams.

The following matches have been played: No.'s 1 and 2 v. 3 and 4, at football, resulted in a draw; No.'s 1 and 2 v. 3 and 4, at hockey, resulted in a win for the latter by 1 goal to nil.

Previous to the above, we had played the 61st Indian Stationary Hospital at hockey, losing the first match by 4-0 and revenging ourselves by a win of 5-1 in the return match. C.Q.M.S. Stevens has been elected on the committee, the seat being empty owing to Sigmn Gardiner's departure, and we are now looking forward to some more 5-mile cross-country running. Now look out, the slackers! What about it, Whistle?

PICEWALLER.

C Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop.

Sialkot, 20th July, 1922.

Many readers are perhaps unaware of our existence, so may we introduce ourselves? Though of British ranks we have only 24, two-thirds of these are of the R.C.S.—a solitary drop of blue-and-white in a trying part of the Empire.

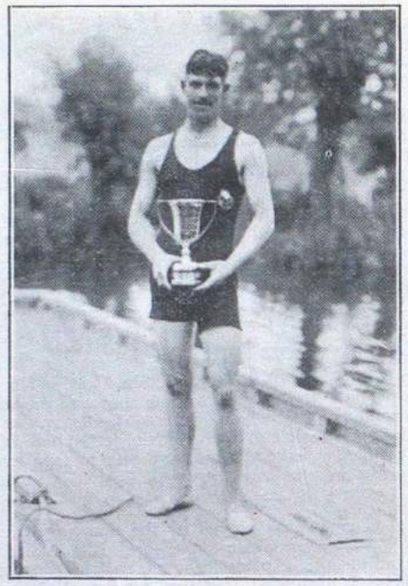
Last cold weather we managed to show the Station (which is largely cavalry) that our show existed, however small. Our Cavalry Brigade commander gave our efforts in the annual Horse Show special commendation, and on ceremonial parades and when the Prince reviewed us, we had a place of honour next to the R.H.A. in line, and leading the Dragoon Guards in the gallop past. Unfortunately an Indian Army Order, which puts Signals after the Sappers, is likely to deprive us of this exalted position in future.

Although, thanks to several causes, we can only muster about fifteen British ranks at present, we are keeping up our end at sport: regular football and hockey, with varying but average success, against the Indian Sappers and Pioneers and British Squadrons and Companies. As for cricket, under the able coaching of our sports officer, Lieut. Simpson, we have got going wonderfully in the past three weeks. We have even taken on the 3rd (P. of W.) Dragoon Guards, though unsuccessfully; but have succeeded easily against their H.Q. Squadron, have just beaten (after a most thrilling match) H Battery of the Horse Gunners, and rather more easily the R.A.M.C. Lieut. Simpson and Blogg have been our chief experts.

Lack of funds, of time, and of opportunity, handicap us greatly, and it is only by pulling together, that it has been possible to achieve so much with a handful of men; but we've managed to get our essential gear, our cricket whites and colours for hockey and football, and are always ready to turn out against anybody at anything—from cricket to chess. It may sound ambitious, or pure cheek, but we've had no cause to regret so far.

But there is too much sunshine here these days, which limits the vital energy, except for raising glasses! It is a lone show, in a bad station, and "out in the blue" as far as the rest of the Corps is concerned, but we're keeping up our own end and the name of the Corps.

"C" CAVSIGS.



1854158 Sergt. L. Morris, R.C.S.

(Sergt.-Instructor at Cambridge University O.T.C.) with the Challenge Cup for the 50 yards Championship of Cambridge, gained by him after an extremely hard race.

Sergt. Morris, it will be remembered, whilst Instructor at Kempston, was also very successful at the Aquatic Sports held at Bedford in 1919.

E Divisional Signals.

Peshawar, July, 1922.

In submitting our notes for the past month, we wish to congratulate Sigmn Joe Cotterell on his two recent three mile performances. May he meet with the same success as last year!

Our work and training are being carried on as usual notwithstanding the summer heat, which at this time of the year is far from comfortable, and on all sides one hears complaints of "prickly heat."

Sport continues with its usual popularity, and matches take place almost every evening. If popularity has aught to do with our efforts, we should see one or two cups coming our way. "Let's hope so, in case not."

Cricket.

The West Yorkshire Regiment having scratched their Cricket League match with us, a friendly game was arranged against the Royal Artillery for Thursday, June 29th, to commence at 06.00hrs.

The Gunners opened the match, but the bowling of Capt. J. H. Parsons and Lieut. F. J. Matthews was too good for them. Wickets fell rapidly: the last with the score at 36.

Capt. Parsons and Mr. Edie opened our innings, and the former scored freely. Mr. Edie was dismissed soon after our opponents' score had been passed. We won by 8 wickets.

Thursday, 13th July, proved an unlucky day for the Signals in their match against M.T. and S. and T. in the Hot Weather League Challenge Cup.

Having won the toss, our opponents elected to bat first, opening their innings at 06.00hrs. Deprived of the services of Lieut. Matthews and Corpl Joiner, who were both away on hot weather furlough, our team took the field rather handicapped. Capt. Parsons, C.S.M. Watson, and Sergt. Hebbard bowled well, the wickets being almost equally divided amongst the three, mostly from catches. Scoring steadily, our opponents' last wicket fell for a total of 105 at 08.00hrs.

Recommencing at 18.00hrs. Signals opened with Capt. Parsons and Mr. G. R. Edie, the latter's wicket falling to a catch from the second ball sent down. Sergt. Hebbard followed him in.

It was a great blow to Signals' supporters when Capt. Parsons had the misfortune to be caught for the modest score of 6, but things assumed a more cheerful aspect when Sergt. Hebbard got going, and our spirits soared, but he fell to a catch by the wicket keeper after batting for nearly half an hour for 13. From then onwards wickets fell with painful regularity, the last falling for a total of 54 a quarter of an hour before time.

Bad luck dogged us throughout the match, but the bowling of our opponents was exceptionally good, and no one begrudges them their victory. When we again come up against them with our team at its full strength, I have no doubt the position will be reversed. We are pretty confident of pulling off the League, but whether or not this confidence is misplaced remains to be seen.

Football.

On July 4th, we drew (1-1) with the 7th Armoured Car Company, and the next day we beat the 34th M.T. Company by 2-1.

On Saturday, July 15th, Signals scored a well deserved victory by three goals to nil over the 7th Armoured Car Company after a rather strenuous game. (Capt. Orr 1 goal, and Sigmn McVicars 2).

Sigmn McVicars, who came to us with a recent draft, has filled a long-felt want at centre-forward, and it is regretted that he did not arrive in time to accompany our team to Murree to play in the Murree Brewery football tournament. The idea here is that had he done so the Gloucesters, who defeated us in the third round, would not have had such an easy victory. Let us hope that he will still be with us next year.

Hockey.

The hockey team is in strict training for the forthcoming Murree hockey tournaments. Great things are expected from it, as no regimental team in the station can show such a record of consistent victories.

Our match with "Pick" of Peshawar, on 8th July, resulted in a win for Peshawar by 5 goals to 2, but we were playing almost a scratch team (no less than four of our best men being absent).

I append a list of other results obtained up to the time of writing:—

26th June—Beat Lancashire Fusiliers by 6-2.
July 3rd—Beat West Yorks by 6-0.
July 15th—Beat West Yorks by 4-2.
July 17th—Beat Departmental Club by 4-2.

Boxing.

Several of our number who are adepts in the noble art have entered into training with a view to taking part in the competition to be held at Cherat in the near future. We hope that they will meet with the same measure of success as attends our other branches of sport.

Running.

Owing to the hot weather it is not possible for much to happen in this line, but with the advent of the cold season we hope to make an even better show than we have done in the past.

W.O. and N.C.Os' Mess.

With our number of ladies ever increasing, members of the mess are looking forward to the forthcoming dance season to improve their abilities in "stepping the light fantastic." Many happy evenings are contemplated. Now then, you limber gunners, get moving and don't be bashful!

Wanted.

A good home for a tame mosquito. Very affectionate and useful in the house. Has been in the same family for several years. Fitted with Brolt self-starter and all accessories. Must have "Coleman's" in its bath.

For Sale.

A thoroughbred Palestine snow-hound. Answers to the name of Tarzan. Would make an excellent shaving brush if treated with kindness. Very affectionate. Has been fed chiefly on egg shells and old socks. Annas 3 or near offer, or would take domesticated camel in part payment.

LONGBOAT.

F Divisional Signals.

Jubbulpore.

It is hoped we shall now be able to have an article about ourselves in every issue of THE WIRE; and as we have just increased our sale by over 100 per cent., and have obtained a large number of new members for the Signals Association, we may be said to be thriving. Since our last notes we have more or less settled down to our new peace station here, the monsoon has broken, and we are duly soaked through each and every day.

The King's Birthday parade was celebrated on the 3rd June, a strong parade of all arms concluding with a file past.

Four members of the unit received their decorations from the hands of the G.O.C. Area:—Sergt Sweeting, military medal and bar, earned in France in 1916; Sergt Feather, the M.S.M., earned in Waziristan; Naik Rup Singh, the I.D.S.M., earned in the capture of Baghdad; and C.S.M. Haines, the L.S. and G.C.M. The account of each act by which the decorations were earned was read out by the G.O.C. and made good reading.

We are going through a strenuous period of individual training, most of us being busy at tests for higher rates. Our musketry is about half finished, and of those who have completed, only four have obtained "marksman," viz. C.S.M. Hepburn, Sergt Andrews, Sigmn Parry, and Havildar Munshi Ram. Though not up to the standard we hoped for, the results have not been too bad considering the state of our rifles after four years on the Frontier—not forgetting our "snipers" rifle with a swerve down the barrel.

We congratulate Corpls Patheyjohns, Hoyland, and Bull, and L/Corpls Spearman and Claber, on being promoted. We also welcome a new draft (our wireless experts) under Corpl Bull, and it is hoped that they will increase our efficiency at games.

Having built a riding school, we are busy using it for the purposes laid down. Anyone crossing our barracks in the early mornings will receive an education lesson: we believe the number of falls in the last ride must have been nearly a record.

Our workshops have built us a sand model—a very efficient one, too—and doubtless many of our n.c.o.'s will hate the sight of it before Christmas.

Another list of Waziristan Force Commander's certificates has been received, which includes:—Sergt Brown, Corpls Conway, Stevens, and Patheyjohns, Signalmen Wallace, Upperdine, and Page. Our best congratulations are due to them on a very well earned award.

Since our arrival here we have more than held our own at football, considering the size of our unit compared with others in the station. We find our friends and rivals across the road, the Training Centre, the hardest nut to crack. The first match we had against them had to be abandoned owing to a sand storm. In the second we had a rain storm—almost a water spout—but we paddled through to the tune of 5-0 (Sigmn Fellows 2, Capt. Pavey 2, and Sigmn Page 1). The Manchesters, though miles away on the Ridge, give us plenty of good fixtures,the last two matches resulting in a draw on our own ground of 2 all (both goals by Sigmn Fellows), and a win away by 2-1 (Signalmen Fellows and Page).

A six-a-side football tournament has just been completed, the winning team consisting of Sergts Brown, Godfrey (known as Dan), Signalmen Wallace, Brooks, Smith and Broughton. Sergt Brown's efforts in goal received much applause, while Dan hadn't taken so much exercise for years! The whole competition was organised by Capt G. P. Pavey, M.B.E., and ably refereed by Lieut E. H. Jones, D.C.M.

The detective abilities of Sergt Whelan have been causing us much concern. Rumour has it that he has recovered a large amount of stolen lead, the property of the unit. He is reported to have stalked the delinquent natives to a hut on the range, rushed it, and broken open the place, only to discover the musketry appliance of the cavalry, our next door neighbours! We have not heard from the cavalry about it yet.

We have to mourn the loss of Farrier-Sergt Punchard, who died on the 12th June, and the sympathies of all ranks of the unit are extended to his wife and family.

G Divisional Signals.

Kohat, June, 1922.

From circulars that have been sent round recently to all Signal units in India, we gather that efforts are being made at home to increase the scope of the Signals Association, and also the circulation of THE WIRE. So thinking it only right that G Divisional Signals should do all in its power to help (General Uniacke called us a "live unit" at his last inspection, and we can't afford to lose our reputation), we held a meeting of B.O.R.'s recently, at which we decided that we would take in one copy of THE WIRE per man in the unit, write to Captain Penny at Simla for particulars about the Association, and appoint correspondents to contribute to THE WIRE. Having thus introduced ourselves, Mr. Editor and readers (always as well to get on the right side of the editor at the start), we will proceed, advance, or get a move on, as you like.

Well, to give you an idea of what we're doing in Kohat and elsewhere, we might mention that we at present run all communications from Kohat forward to Parachinar along the Kurram Valley (130 miles), and to Bannu and Dardoni along the Tochi Valley (120 miles). This is a fairly big job, especially as we have various offices on the two routes (Hangu and Thall are household words with us, and also Fort Lockhart, where District Headquarters have moved for the hot weather).

The men of Divisional Headquarters Detachment run these offices chiefly, and the rest of the show is with No. 2 Company at Parachinar, with a certain number of Headquarters and No. 1 Company at Kohat—as few as we can make it now, with the temperature getting to 110 degrees and more in the shade.

There isn't a great deal doing in Kohat just now. We get a scratch game of hockey about twice a week, the last one being made memorable by the appearance of one of the orderly room clerks as a stop-gap goal. We use the word in a double sense. We *were* short of a goal-keeper, and the gallant substitute did his best to keep his goal stopped-up; but we are afraid his nerve must have been badly shaken by that first five minutes, when the ball crashed against the cross-bar, performed unheard-of evolutions round the goalie's head, and eventually lodged firmly in the net. There is no doubt that a railway warrant in the hand is better than a hockey ball on the head, as the unfortunate victim was heard to mention at half-time.

Zest was also added to the game by Sigmn Ottaway mistaking his name for "Other Way" after half-time, so that he continued to play the same way (excuse a poor joke, but we're only beginners, you know!)

Another joke of the season was perpetrated by a certain wag, who suggested that underneath our new notice-boards, "To the Signal Office," should be added the words, "Under entirely new management," to commemorate our taking over from D Divisional Signals last April (no offence intended; we haven't forgotten they cheered our team in the Murree tournament).

Well, it is time we handed over to No. 2 Company representative at Parachinar, and also left space for a description of our one and only game in the Murree football tournament this year by our special correspondent at Murree, and a description of their journey out from England by one of the new draft whom we were very glad to welcome last week.

Finally we would most heartily congratulate our commanding officer, Major H. P. Radley, M.C., on his forthcoming marriage, and Lieut. V. Dykes on having already secured the knot.

AJAYUU.

Topa, Murree Hills.

Being on leave at present, I am afraid I'm rather out of touch with the unit, and that my notes will be rather scrappy this month.

I enclose a photograph of our leave party here. They all look prosperous and well-fed, don't they?—especially "Bunny," who strolls round looking as though he owned half Murree, and his aunt would die shortly and leave him the other half! I can assure you, though, that 99.5 per cent. of them have the "wind-up" over going back to "Mosquitoville," in other words



Kohat, where the convivial "mossy" wages bold and strong, and pale-faced hollow-eyed wrecks stagger round moaning, "Join the army and see the world!"

I hope "Smudger" Smiff (late of B Company S.T.C.) has not been stung on the lip again yet, although when he *was* his appearance put George Robey in the shade, and he vowed that the next man who told him not to have so much "lip" would die a horrible death—probably he intended to strangle him with that 600-lbs. G.I. of which someone wanted to send three miles by D.R.!

En passant, I should like to thank D Divisional Signals for their hospitality in entertaining us to tea on the night of our match with E Divisional Signals (the scheme of "decorations" included jam tarts and tomatoes!), and to assure them that we will return the compliment when the opportunity offers.

The results of the matches for the Northern Command Signal shield were as follows:—

Semi-Finals.—G Divl. Signals 1; E Divl. Signals nil.—a good clean sportsmanlike game. D Divl. Signals 2; B Corps Signals 3 (after extra time; D played with ten men from 5 minutes after the restart, and were decidedly unlucky to lose by a penalty in the last minute).

Final.—B Corps Signals 2; G Divl. Signals 1. B again won by a penalty.

BRICKY.

Parachinar.

Since we arrived in Parachinar, after marching 126 miles from Kohat in ten days, we have done little but fire a course, and consequently I have little to relate.

Fancy Signals marching 126 miles!—a little further than from London to Bristol. Doesn't it make your feet (and heart) ache to think of it? Maresfield to Uckfield seems a long way, doesn't it?

The only sport I have to mention this month is boxing. We have entered a team for the Brigade boxing tournament which comes off shortly (it would have "happened" sooner, but the roof got blown off the only available building during a blizzard a few days ago).

The team is as follows:—Bantam weight, Sigmn H. Kennedy; feather weight, Sigmn S. Pickard; light weight, L/Corpl S. Foy (probably remembered by many in A Company, Maresfield); welter weight, Sigmn Griffiths; middle weight, Sergt Howard. Probably many at home will recognise familiar names here. I might add that Sigmn "Nobby" Clarke is fighting six rounds with C.S.M. Nash, of the Border Regt. (light heavy weight.)

AITCHKAY.

From Crowborough to Kohat.

The following is a brief account of the journey of the twenty men who arrived at Kohat in the last draft from England.

We embarked on the s.s. "Derbyshire" on February 18th, and enjoyed (?) quite a decent voyage to Bombay, calling at such interesting places as Gibraltar, Port Said and Aden.

Boxing contests and concerts were organised and well patronised aboard, and needless to say the Signals kept up their sporting reputation by winning most competitions.

No one was sorry to step ashore at Bombay after a 22 days' journey, and after a few hours on the train we arrived at Dooali Rest Camp. There we passed a month "scrounging," occasionally varied by route marches, guards, etc.; and swimming in a fast-flowing river proved very popular in the cool of the evening.

However, our stay in this "haven of rest" came to an end at last, and we found ourselves, after a two days' journey by rail, marching into the Hugh Rose Barracks, Jubbulpore. We were immediately posted to B Signal Company, Signals Depot, and like most depots we found "regimentalism" the order of the day. We were in the Depot exactly seven weeks, attending

chief instructor's parades for short courses and tests, and the happy day arrived when we learned that we were posted to G Divisional Signals, Kohat.

Two more days' travelling by train, and we reached Rawalpindi, where we stopped for a hot meal and to wait for the night train to Kohat. It was about seven o'clock next morning when we arrived at the little town, and half-an-hour later found us rather dusty, dilapidated and tired, but heartily glad to reach our destination. We like the Company and are sure it is one of the best in every way in India.

For the benefit of old friends in Blighty, the names of the new draft are:—Signalmen A. E. James, H. Ling, E. Simpson, L. Perrin, W. G. Scarrett, A. Holland, F. Knight, A. Matthews, H. Reed, H. F. Pelling, S. J. Kimber, S. Lovegrove, F. R. Sayers, O. W. Rustin, C. Murphy, C. Harper, F. Moors, E. A. Nobbs, F. Clarke, H. R. Brown.

Sergt Spalding arrived a few days before the draft. Sigmn Langley was left behind in hospital at Jubbulpore, but we hope he will soon join us.

NUDRAFT.

Murree Brewery Football Tournament, June, 1922

1st Round—G Divl. Signals v. 125th Battery R.F.A.

[By our Special Correspondent at Murree]

Played on the Murree footbal ground before about 1,000 spectators (including Lyons' cinema operator), this match was the first of the tournament.

L/Corpl Hinchley, for G Divl. Signals, won the toss and elected to play facing the sun, which rather surprised the experts.

Straight from the kick-off G Signals went away with rare dash, and nearly created a first-minute surprise. Their forwards for the first three minutes played beautiful combined football, and the match appeared to be a "good thing" for them.

The right back of the R.A. cleared well, however, and the "Fives" forwards took up the running. G's backs and half-backs (with the exception of Baverstock) were apparently very nervous and were miskicking horribly—and the Fives nearly scored.

Another forward movement by G resulted in Hinchley breaking through, and he finished with a tremendous shot which the Fives goal-keeper saved in some miraculous fashion—much to the disappointment of the Signals spectators, who, however, were sports-manlike enough to heartily applaud a magnificent save. A few minutes later Hinchley again broke through, only to find the ball was travelling too fast for him to catch, and to see it kicked into touch by the goal-keeper.

The Fives again took up the running, and a fine run down by the outside left resulted in a high centre. The centre forward trapped the ball, but before he could shoot he was charged by Watson, who made the mistake of taking the man before the ball. Earle, the goalkeeper, was unsighted at the time, and the ball curled slowly away to the right and rolled over the goal-line. This was undoubtedly a most fortunate goal for the R.A. It was a case of "a thousand to one" shot coming off, and no one was more surprised than the man who scored. Shortly after this the whistle blew for half-time with the R.F.A. leading by 1-0.

On the resumption G did all the pressing, and everything but score. Castell made a sparkling run down the wing and (beating the half-back and then the back) bored inwards, and finished with a shot that brought the goalkeeper to his knees. Lieut Pearson was at him (the goalkeeper) before he could get the ball away, but the resultant scramble in the goalmouth ended with Hinchley missing by inches with the goalkeeper completely beaten.

The Fives now visited G's goal, and Earle saved in grand style. G now kept up a continuous pressure until the final whistle, but failed to equalise, and they lost by 1-0.

G Divisional Signals team was O. Earle; Shaw and Watson; McDougall, Lemon and Baverstock; Cross, Hinchley, Pearson, D. Earle, and Castell.

Our two best players were L/Corpl Hinchley and Sigmn Baverstock. The former (captain of the team) worked like a Trojan throughout the game, and I heard admiration for his play and commiseration for his bad luck expressed on all sides. Baverstock also played a magnificent game.

The brothers Earle contributed their quota, though D. Earle did not play up to his usual standard. His brother could not be held responsible for the one goal scored. Corpl Shaw improved in the second half, and McDougall played well with his head. Lieut. Pearson played a good bustling game. The rest did not, perhaps,play as well as on other occasions, but one and all played hard, and won for G a reputation as a sporting team which we hope will not soon be lost.

BRICKY.

Rhine Signal Company.

General News.

After the great reshuffling and parcelling out, the Company is now in ship shape order and presents an unusually animated appearance. Each trade has been put into its proper position: operators, linemen, despatch riders, drivers, visual, etc., each are in their own separate sections, under the care of their own n.c.o.'s.

Annual musketry training has commenced, the barrack square being covered with canvas-clad groups listening to the words of wisdom from the wise men.

Many assume most curious attitudes when firing in a recumbent position, whilst their contorted expressions as they peer along the sights indicate pain. To cross before them whilst they are practising snap-shooting is to observe a dozen rifle barrels covering every part of one's body, and we are, in theory, converted into a sieve.

Shortly we shall fire the annual course at Lacham ranges (formerly used by the German Army), about five miles from our quarters; and remembering the previous shoot there, we hope "outer" will not be signalled when a "bull" is actually scored. One n.c.o. who fancied himself as a shot, nearly wept when he saw his final score, the manipulator of the targets meanwhile smiling broadly.

We offer our congratulations to our n.c.o.s, rather too many to mention individually, who have mounted one rung further up the ladder per the Corps roster. May they never slip off!

A recent order allowing senior n.c.o.s to wear a modified "Sam Browne" has resulted in a run upon the saddler, who is working overtime converting linemens' belts into same. Passing shop windows is a favourite exercise of theirs, whilst the startled salutes of German policemen are gravely returned.

The Rhine Army is to give a horse show early in September in our immediate vicinity, the position of our barracks enabling us to have a grand stand view. Our barrack square may be utilised, as the G.O.C. cast covetous eyes upon it when on a recent visit.

The Cable Section is to enter for one or two events, and are optimistic. A tent-pegging competition has received entries from this Company, the competitors displaying great energy in practising every day. The squeals of anguish and sound of galloping hoofs from the adjoining field lead us to infer that they are getting nearer to the peg!

At a recent meeting held to improve the messing conditions, the most starved-looking member of each Section was chosen as its representative, good results being in daily evidence, necessitating visits to the tailor's for tunic alteration.

We don't think, anyway, that when the queue system is done away with, things will have shown great improvement.

We are given to understand that in the near future a few will be renewing acquaintance with old friends at Maresfield, the axe being about to fall.

Cricket.

We are still in the running for the Rhine championship, the issue lying between the 1st Middlesex, 14th Hussars and ourselves.

We gave the Middlesex a jolly good licking when they met us for the first time; we scored 231 for 6, they replying with 123. At our next meeting, they beat us by 20 runs, and we sure *should* have won.

Andy is playing well, and has figured in the Rhine Army team, whilst Lt. Matthews (of the Silesian Section) is playing finely.

We are running inter-section matches which are very popular, some very close games resulting. The Linemen, who seem to have the best balanced side, should figure out on top, though the H.Q.s fancy themselves no end after their startling defeat of the Signal Office by one run.

Football.

A few enthusiasts have already been busy borrowing pumps from the D.R.s to inflate the ball, and have been seen returning to barracks hot, dusty and breathless. We should field a decent team this season: the coming meeting will doubtless unearth new blood.

Social.

The Sergeants' Mess, as notified, held their housewarming to returned members, and the fatted calf was well killed. A whist drive, concert, dinner, and dance, were on the programme. Guests attended from far and near. From what we saw and heard, we should imagine they had a great time: "Tattoo" had been sounded quite a long time before they finished.

Our near neighbours, the K.O.Y.L.I. Regt. celebrated Minden Day on August 1st, and *we* helped 'em, as they seem to prefer our canteen to their own. We wonder what is the attraction?

They performed the trooping of the colour in excellent style, but we hope our C.O. (who was present at the parade) does not intend to have *us* do those intricate drills!

Later in the week their sergeants held their annual ball, and our members descended upon them en masse—but did they return the same? "Quien sabe?"

P. B.

The "S.B.P."

It might interest readers of THE WIRE occasionally to hear about the doings of the Signals Hunt of India (probably up-to-date, the only Corps pack).

The Signals Hunt (the Nerbudda Vale) was organised in October, 1921, and took over the country previously hunted by the Vale of Black Cotton Foxhounds.

The kennels are situated in the stables of the officers' mess at the Signal Training Centre, Jubbulpore, with a staff of three. The pack is composed entirely of long dogs, at present numbering 10½ couples of young and old dogs. With the exception of two or three pure-bred hounds imported from Persia, the dogs are a mixture of rampur and greyhound.

The Hunt Committee consists of Capt.Ralph Rayner, I.A. (master), and Capt. Geoffrey Mansergh, R.C.S., and the Hon. James Best, I.F.S. (whips).

The country in the Central Provinces around Jubbulpore is not by any means ideal riding country, and in some places is virtually honeycombed with holes; but at the same time most of the "bunds" compare favourably with the common Irish bank, and in a fast run afford all the excitement that the average fellow looks for. The long dog of course hunts to view, and runs are therefore short but very fast. The country produces any number of foxes and jackal, and although hunting as pursued here is not exactly on a par with the fox-hunting enjoyed at home, it affords great fun and is very much better than nothing.

In India we meet in the early morning or evening, not only because it is at these times that the fox or jackal wanders abroad, but also because of the heat in the middle of the day. The evening meets are very popular with the ladies, but not with the Master, as it is very easy in the brief Indian twilight to lose a dog, which a day or two later has become the house-dog of a villager or has given an attack of indigestion to a panther. We speak with feeling, as we have lost dogs in this way.

The following are extracts from the Hunt diary during the 1921-22 season.

December 26th (Boxing Day).

The pack met in Raisawan Village on the Patun road. The field was very small owing to many people being away for Christmas. Within five minutes of leaving the road a fox was holloa'd away in a vegetable garden, but went to ground almost immediately.

Trotting on to a tank half a mile from the village the pack quickly had a large jack afoot, who broke away up a sunken footpath and went off at a tremendous pace in the direction of the railway. A very fast twenty-five minutes followed, as the jack turning right-handed ran nearly into Luhari. In a plantation outside this village, Jerry and Peter rolled him over, and we then saw what a really big fellow we were after. They received respectively a badly bitten jaw and a crunched foot, and away went the jack.

A slow hunt with occasional bursts now ensued for about four miles, as the young pack were undoubtedly rather afraid of the powerful jack. Finally, after several more honourable wounds had been received, a very bedraggled jack took to ground its very bedraggled brush in an impenetrable bush near a farm yard.

A halt of twenty minutes or so was made after this most enjoyable run, following which the Master drew several spinneys in the home direction. Nothing turning up, there followed a five-miles trek to the cars and breakfast.

January 18th.

The meet was at the Omti Nulla Bridge, the field again being small. Mr. Walford, who was carrying the horn, rode a complete chukkar round the Chaupna *jhil* before putting up a small jack, which however was lost at the end of five minutes. Better luck followed, for moving off in the direction of Kisia Farm, a small but nippy jack was turned out of a hedge. After a short but sharp run with several jinks, he was pulled down by Nellie and Ugly in a rice field near the farm.

January 22nd.

The meet on this day was in the afternoon, and a large field turned out, including about a dozen ladies. The pack met at Barsagan Lake, which used to be one of the most popular meets of the V.B.H. before the war.

No sooner had the Master moved off in the direction of Kugawan than the pack was halloa'd by one of the whips on to a tawny animal, which sped away into the bushes followed by Jenny and Faithful and several other dogs. Within five minutes the tragedy was completed, and a small wild cat breathed its last!

With muttered curses we moved on to draw a succession of small coverts, but half the pack, who seemed intent on showing their utter contempt for discipline, got away after a troop of langur monkeys, the largest of which was pulled down after a wild rush of about a mile.

Once again, with muttered curses, we got going, and the pack settled down to the work for which they are housed and fed in comfortable kennels. Andhua Spinney was drawn blank, but when we moved into the open fields a huge red jack was seen casually making his way along a bank in the distance.

Jenny and Wilful saw him immediately, and away we went in the direction of Punva. After an all-out gallop of about a mile and a half, however, the leaders were at fault, and on interrogating some villagers working in the fields, it was found that the jack had streaked away into the "blue," going very strong.

Several of our field agreed on this occasion that our quarry was no jackal, but one of the extremely fierce wild red dogs which are to be found in the neighbouring jungles: a fact which reminded us that we were hunting practically the same country as Kipling's "Seone Pack."

After a breather, a fair-sized fox was almost immediately put up in some sugar canes near Purwa Village. Making off in the home direction, he turned at right angles across the Marble Rocks road and made for a small wood about half a mile away, in which he was lost for a few minutes. The run up to here had been of the best. One lady was seen on the top of a razor-like bank, about 12 feet high, evidently wondering what to do. The difficulty was solved by her horse falling off, landing on its fore feet with her still on its back, and galloping after its disappearing colleagues.

After a short scrounge the fox was ejected from the wood, and at the end of another burst he died gamely out in the open. The brush went to Mrs. Archie Todd, who had been well to the fore the whole afternoon.

It was now getting late, and the horses had had more than enough, so a move was made for the main road and the long trek back to the cars began. Much raucous laughter was heard in the bar of the Nerbudda Club when our mixed bag of a cat, a langur, and a fox was discussed.

February 9th.

Meet at the Pindari Road Junction. Almost immediately on leaving the road, a fair-sized jack was put up, which gave a twenty-five minute hunt over some very tricky country, during which several people came to grief. The jack eventually took refuge in some thick bushes, from which he was gallantly hauled out by Fitzgobbles and rolled over by the pack.

The Master then made a large but fruitless chukkar, crossing the railway at Silna and recrossing at the next gate. He had almost decided to make for home when Mr. Walford saw a fox trotting along a bank in the far distance and holloa'd on the pack, which did not actually sight the fox for five minutes or so. A really good gallop over some cheery banks ensued, the fox very considerately making straight for the cars, within 200 yards of which he was killed. This was acknowledged by all to be a very well organised fixture.

The Point-to-Point Meeting.

The S.B.P. Hunt ball, attended by all the best people of the Central Provinces, was held on March 15th, and was a very cheery show.

It was followed on the afternoon of the next day by the point-to-point races. The course marked out for the chases was an excellent one over country about three miles from Jubbulpore, near the Guar River It was particularly well chosen from a spectator's point of view, as the whole course could be viewed from the top of a hillock on which were situated the tea, dressing and weighing-in rooms, and also the totalisator.

The first race, for ponies, was won in a canter by Captain Lucas's Dicky Cobelan; but the second, for a cup presented by the officers of the Prince of Wales' Own Scinde Horse, was hotly contested, several fellows coming to grief and Jackson unfortunately breaking his ankle.

The third race (open horses) was the chase of the day, however, a very large field keeping well together to within a short distance of the finish, the winner being Captain Drennan's Billy, by half a length from Captain Rayner's Rufus. The cup for this race was presented by the Commissioner.

The Archie Todd cup was then keenly competed for by Indian officers of the C.P., and was well and truly won by the P.W.O. Scinde Horse.

Altogether it was a very pleasant and successful meeting, and I personally shall be grateful if the gods allow my presence at the next one.

5/= per annum OFFICERS

2/= per annum OTHER RANKS

See page 199.

COLOURS FOR GAMES!

1. The Official Colours of the Corps have been designed: DARK BLUE, LIGHT BLUE and GREEN.
2. The Designs of Jerseys and Shirts for Football and Hockey are as follows:

   Rugby Football Jersey.
   Large horizontal stripes in Corps Colours the Green and Light Blue being about 2 inches wide.

   Association Football Jersey or Shirt.
   Same as for Rugby, with vertical stripes.

   Hockey Shirt.
   Green and Light Blue halves, with Dark Blue sleeves and collar.
3. The Shirts, etc., described above are only intended for use by teams which can be looked upon as locally representing the Corps. For example—if the Signal Training Centre, or Signals, Aldershot, enter a team for the Army Cup; or if Signals, Constantinople, play R.A. Constantinople, the Corps Design would be appropriate. Unit teams can design their own Colours, which (if embracing the Corps Green, Dark Blue and Light Blue) should be distinct from the Corps Design.
4. **Messrs. FOSTER & COMPY. Outfitters 6 Regent Street . Waterloo Place . S.W.** are prepared to supply Shirts, etc., as described in para. (2) on the following terms:
5. JERSEYS in horizontal or vertical stripes.

	Super Qual.	No. 1 Qual.	No. 2 Qual.
Per 1 doz.	144/-	117/-	105/-
Each ..	12/-	9/9	8/9

SHIRTS (All Wool) in quartering colours or vertical stripes.
200/- per doz. or 16/8 each.

FOOTBALL HOSE. Navy Blue, with Tops of Corps Colours.

	Super Quality	No. 1 Quality
Per doz. pairs	57/-	45/-
Per pair ..	4/9	3/9

These prices are quoted for not less than Two Dozen for first order.

1st Divisional Signals, Aldershot.

There is very little of note to report this month.

Our R.A. Section have at last returned to the fold, looking very fit and sunburnt. Evidently Larkhill Plains agreed with them.

There has been severe wind-up caused by Records' activities in digging out personnel for a draft to India. We regret to say that we lose 44 other ranks. They are now on draft leave. One hears wild rumours from the S.T.C. of a big round up for the same draft. What a meeting there will be!

It's a pity P Company (Crowborough) no longer exists. One wonders what trade will be missed by the "gas chamber" of the sergeants' mess during the draft season.

With reference to the wings (extra large) dedicated to Sergt Jones by our friends of B Company: the same friends would be agreeably surprised if they knew that the said wings were now a size too large, as Aldershot's weight-reducing tendencies have brought down his weight by one stone already. Goodness only knows what will happen in the near future.

We have to welcome L/Sergt Wilcox and Signalmen Marshall, Marchant, Orme, Dodson, Major, Dunbar, Jarvis, McGovern, Porter, Adams, Munson, Smith, Coppard, Sullivan and Putley, and Dvr. Howard. They have already made names for themselves both in cricket and running.

We regret to lose L/Corpl Wall and "our singing cobbler," both on discharge. Our best wishes go with them for a successful future in "civvy street." Blanco's cheery face will be sadly missed.

Sport.

During the past month we have been very successful in the cricket world. Out of the four matches played, we have won three and lost one. F.S.Sergt Brown and Sergt Todd carried the honours for bowling, the latter creating a record for the unit. in taking 4 wickets with four consecutive balls in a maiden over. Capt Kent, Lieut. McDonald, Sergts Keevil and Cutler, and Sigmn White, have added considerably to their batting averages.

Football arrangements are now in full swing. Our unit team has been entered in the Aldershot Junior League and Cup, and a corps team (comprising members of all Signal units in the Command) has been entered in the Senior League and Cup.

The Corps sports for the Command are being held on Friday, 18th inst., and we are looking forward to carrying off a bumper number of shields and cups.

Our heartiest congratulations to Lieut Courtenay-Thompson and Sigmn Cotterell on their wonderful performances in the Army athletic championships.

J. W. A.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

Since our last notes were forwarded, the R.A. Signal Section has returned from Okehampton Practice Camp. I think our O.C. was much impressed by his visit to them in camp, as at the time both men and horses were looking exceedingly fit—and the standard of training which was being carried out was reasonably high, considering the difficulties of inferior cable, etc.

The event of the month is undoubtedly—as far as local news is concerned—the move of the Company to

the vacated lines of the Remount Depot, No. 8 Camp (near Sling Plantation). I know people have a lot of unpleasant things to say about our new quarters; but generally speaking, after the D.O.R.E. has completed his rather swollen list of "jobs to be done," one sees no reason whatever why No. 8 Camp should not be one of the best in Bulford Garrison.

Our Indian draft have proceeded on furlough pending their embarkation in September. The loss of L/Corpl Miles from the R.A. Section, and many others who have been with us in Bulford for some time past, is keenly felt.

Sport is still difficult in the Garrison, the weather being largely responsible for almost every half-holiday being wet for quite a month. A number of the Company, however, have joined in the staff and departmental cricket matches within the Garrison.

We have to welcome back Lieut Solly, of the Rifle Brigade, who will be attached to us for about two months prior to returning to Maresfield.

We have also to congratulate one of the oldest n.c.o.'s of the Company upon his promotion to the rank of full corporal: 2308703 L/Corpl S. Smith, who is well known to many officers and non-coms. who have attended, at various times, the preparation classes prior to proceeding to Maresfield.

In conclusion, the considerable rise in our sales of the present number of the Corps magazine is really most gratifying, fifteen copies being sold at Larkhill and twenty-five at Bulford—they were "cleared out" within a few minutes of their arrival by post. The approximate strength of the Company (at the present time in camp on Salisbury Plain) being 70 other ranks, let us aim at seventy copies next month, and not forty.

P. J.

4th Divisional Signal Company.

Colchester.

General.

We open our notes this month by recording the arriyal of "Corps Celebrity No. 16": C.S.M. Williams, of P and B Company fame. May his stay be long in the land of the "Dandy Fourth."

Musketry is over, and technical training is in full swing. Even the Gurks are finding that there is still very much for them to learn. There are rumours of refresher rides in the air, but as long as the riders do not get there, everything will be O.K.

The trooping season has hit us with a vengeance: 36 O.R.'s leave us in September for India and Ceylon, amongst them being Sergt Freddie Johns, the ardent admirer of Ruth. He will be greatly missed, but we must be content with the knowledge that our loss will be his new unit's gain. Sergeant McDonald also leaves us for those sunny shores. His stay with us was very short, but during that period he did much to help along our cricket.

A great number of men were lucky enough to get away for August leave. Some are still getting away.

Football.

At a recent sports meeting, a Football and Selection Committee was formed. Lieut. C. G. Wheeler (Duke of Wellington's Regiment) was elected as president.

Trial matches are now in progress, and we have hopes this season of possessing the finest team in the Garrison, having now with us Perrett and Jackson, of Crowborough fame.

It has been decided to enter for the Colchester Garrison Cup and the Colchester Thursday League (of which we are last season's winners), the Essex Junior Cup, the Colchester Junior Cup, and the Hospital Thursday Cup.

Hockey.

It is hoped later to be able to get together a hockey team. The one great difficulty is that there are so few teams in the district. E Company will have to come forward for a whacking when we get going.

R. C. B.

Yeomanry Sports at Seaford.

Owing to the intensive training indulged in by the 2nd Cavalry Divisional Signals (Middlesex Yeomanry) during the first week in August—when they carried out an ambitious programme involving late hours each day, and a visit from the Chief Signalling Officer of the Division on Friday, followed by an inspection by Major-General Smythe, V.C. (commanding the Division) on Saturday—the question of Bank Holiday sports had to be left in abeyance. The continuous downpour on Sunday did not inspire much hope, and it was not until Monday morning, when the weather showed promise of being fair, that it was decided to carry on.

Once decided, however, no time was lost, and very soon parties of horsemen, lorries, and limbers loaded with poles and brushwood for the jumps, flags, ropes, etc., began to arrive at Sutton Field (kindly placed at the disposal of the Regiment by Mr. Wyniatt), which being so central, was easily accessible for Seaford people.

In order that the residents might know of the event, despatch riders made a tour of the principal centres of the district and left notices informing all and sundry that sports commenced at 2.30, and that admission was free. The Town Crier was also pressed into service, and the news spread so quickly that before the appointed hour all roads leading to the venue of the sports presented an animated appearance.

The preliminary heats having been previously decided, a start was made with the bending race, which involves riding in and out between fixed poles placed at intervals and is a good test of horsemanship.

The various events and results are given below, and it was gratifying to find that, although the senior non-commissioned officers were conspicuous in numerous events, the officers carried off the tent-pegging, and a driver and a signalman were adjudged the winners of the half-section jumping, while even the motor cycle despatch riders showed they were not unused to horses by winning their heats and running into the final of the wrestling-on-horseback competition.

The Commanding Officer (Captain Brodrick), the Adjutant (Capt Gay) and Major Cherry acted as starters and judges in conjunction with the other officers. Sergeant-Major Field, R.C.S. (attired as a dusky cook) added a touch of humour. A refreshment stall, under the direction of L/Sergt Townson, was provided by the sergeant's mess for the entertainment of friends of the regiment. Everyone voted the gathering a success quite on a par with last year, when much greater preparations were made.

The results were as follows:—

Bending Race—1, L/Sergt Poole; 2, Sigmn Priske.

Saddling Race—1, Sergt Thirkell; 2, Sigmn Beaver; 3, Corpl Mann.

220 Yards—1, Sigmn Challen; 2, Sigmn Hunt.

Boot Race—1, Sigmn Chapple; 2, Sigmn Sumner; 3, L/Corpl Riddle.

440 Yards—1, Sigmn Hunt; 2, Sergt Loyall; 3, Sigmn Challen.

Tent Pegging—1, Major Cherry; 2, Capt Brodrick; 3, S.S.Major Smith.

One Mile—1, Sigmn Hunt; 2, Sigmn Blake; 3, Sigmn Salmon.

Half-Section Jumping—1, Driver Hodge and Sigmn Ollington; 2, Sergt Thirkell and Sergt Challis; 3, Sergt Hayton and Sergt Hope.

V.C. Race—1, Sergt Thirkell; 2, Sigmn Meade.

Inter-Troop Relay Race—1, Visual Telegraph Troop; 2, No. 1 Brigade Troop.

Wrestling on Horseback—1, No. 2 Brigade Troop; 2, Despatch Riders.

Inter-Troop Tug-of-War—1, Despatch Riders Troop.

Inter-Squadron Tug-of-War—1, No 2 Squadron.

Motor Cyclist Slow Race—1, S.S.M. Girdlestone.

No 2 Squadron thus win the regimental sports shield, which will be presented at the distribution of prizes in London later on, and will be held by them for the year.

44th (H.C.) Divisional Signals.

Nos. 1 and 3 Companies, Stamford Brook.

The annual camp for 1922 has passed, and although the weather left a lot to be desired, I think we all enjoyed ourselves. Certainly we were somewhat in the wilds, but as there was a service of char-a-bancs to within a few hundred yards of our camp we had little difficulty in getting to Folkestone and other interesting places in the district.

We were very pleased to meet our No. 2 Company from Brighton, and hope to keep in better touch with them in the future.

Our Editor (acting for the General Secretary) paid us a visit on Wednesday, 9th August, to talk about the Association. The visit bore fruit: we have since added to our numbers, and hope for a further increase before the winter comes. I am sure if those who hesitate could realise the good work done by the Association for all needy ex-members of the Corps, they would hesitate no longer.

As regards the sale of THE WIRE, this month we made quite a jump, due no doubt to the fact that it was easier to advertise it. If we can only keep it up, we shall be able to say we *are* trying!

I remarked in the July number that we hoped to get together a good shooting team, and I am pleased to say we *did*. On Saturday, 5th August, the 44th Divisional Rifle Meeting was held, and the Divisional Signals entered a team for the Divisional team championship.

The bayonet being a weapon Signals are not trusted with (except for use with the loop set), we had to borrow a bunch from our next-door neighbours, the 7th Battn. Middlesex Regt. Proceeding to Hythe ranges by "lorry-a-banc," we commenced to put it across the rest of the 16 teams of the Division and finished up top of the day's shoot with a score of 389 points. Later in the day we learned that the championship had been won two months previously by the 4th Bn. Royal West Kent Regt. with a score of 462, which meant that we were runners-up.

The day of the shoot was not an ideal one, there being a nasty cross-wind, and the general opinion was that, had the winners of the trophy been firing with the remainder of the teams, they would not have led by such a large number of points. Anyway we hope to do better next year. We also shone in the individual championship, having four representatives in the first 20:—3rd, Sergt Forest; 4th, Corpl Bailey; 17th, L/Corpl Wallis; 18th, Capt R. E. Coleman, O.B.E.

The Signals were heartily congratulated by Col. R. J. Kentish, C.M.G., D.S.O., Commandant Middlesex Brigade. The O.C. Signals also had a few nice words to say to the winners.

I am afraid the horses allotted to us for camp were more used to a milk round than to sets of breast harness and saddles (universal) but with the aid of a civvy or two (to lead them out of awkward positions now and then) and a liberal dose of language (parliamentary and old soldiers') we managed to keep the flag flying. On second thoughts I have come to the conclusion that the animals must have belonged to the Footballers Battn. judging from the number of kicks received by the troops.

On Wednesday, 9th August, the members of the Sergeants' Mess were at home to the remainder of the sergeants of the Division and the officers of the unit. The weather being of the uncertain kind, the attendance was not so large as it otherwise would have been, although the caterer and his satellites were kept busy enough.

An excellent programme was arranged, which included the wireless concert broadcasted from Chelmsford—quite a novelty to the majority of our visitors. The ball was kept rolling and the waiters kept trotting until nearly midnight. We have to thank the concert party of the 7th Bat. Middlesex Regt. for much enjoyment. Although they had previously been performing to the troops from 18.00 to 20.00 hrs., there was not a hitch in the programme. We hope to be able to call on R.S.M. Price and his band of merry men at some future date.

During the camp training we were visited by Lieut-Col J. Waley-Cohen, C.M.G., D.S.O., D/C.S.O. Eastern Command, and Major R. Chevenix-Trench, O.B.E., M.C., R.C.S. (late of D Company S.T.C., and now at the War Office). I am sure all old Signals were as pleased to see the Major as he was to see them.

On Friday, 11th August, technical competitions were held for which prizes were given. No. 1 Cable Detachment, under L/Sergt Richardson, won the cable event in fine style. No. 2 Company won the visual event fairly easily, and also the prize for the best turned out driving pair. Corpl Harris, of No. 3 Company, was the best turned-out mounted man.

The question of sports generally is rather difficult owing to the lack of a suitable open space somewhere near headquarters.

I was very pleased to see such a representative body of the Royal Corps of Signals at the unveiling of the Royal Engineer War Memorial. The ceremony was most impressive, and all arrangements excellently carried out, as is only to be expected in anything connected with our mother Corps. Needless to say there was quite a re-union after the ceremony.

Before closing, I should like to mention the march through Folkestone and district by the Middlesex Brigade on Saturday, 12th August.

Signals were asked to send a representative detachment, which we did. This party consisted of two officers and about 50 other ranks.

The Brigade marched from camp and concentrated on the Leas in front of the Grand Hotel, where the massed bands of the Brigade gave selections of music. At 11.30 hrs. the Brigade marched through the main thoroughfares of Folkestone, and returned to camp *via.* Sandgate.

The Col.-Commandant of the Middlesex Brigade spoke in high terms of appreciation of the assistance given by the Divisional Signals.

WATT.

Difficult Questions Requiring Answers.

Whether if one takes two transmitting sets out to one station in lieu of one transmitter and one receiver, it is possible to send to oneself?—and if so, what is the advantage of sending out a distant station at the same time?

47th (2nd London) Divl. Signal Company.

Fulham House, S.W. 6.

Annual training provides a favourable occasion for our first appearance in THE WIRE, so here goes.

We have just completed our 15 days' annual training at Shoreham-by-Sea, Sussex, and despite the disadvantages of a canvas camp and intermittent heavy rain, it has been a very successful time both from the military and social point of view.

It is with regret that we record a serious accident which occurred to our C.O. Major W. F. Bruce, D.S.O., M.C. He dislocated his left collar bone and tore the ligaments and muscles of his shoulder, owing to his horse putting its foot in a rabbit-hole and coming down with him. We wish him a speedy recovery.

Our Cable Detachments, who were only just beginning to feel their feet before camp, have developed enormously, and are thirsting for another war in order to display their prowess!

Visual proceeds apace, and "Signal Training, Part VI." no longer holds the terrors which it did.

The usefulness of the wireless training carried out last winter and spring has been demonstrated by the speed with which the budding W/T Section have got to grips with the loop sets and 120 watt. sets dished out only a day or two before camp. It must be confessed that for the first few days, X 13 and X 14, X 16 and X 18, and other uncomplimentary signals of a like nature, were too much in evidence; but this soon passed, and their place was taken by X 15 and X 36. X 67 bobbed up now and again, despite the herculean labours of the "electrician, wireless," and his tame charging set.

We were glad to see in *The Daily Mail* the other day that 56th (1st London) Div. Signals enjoyed the Hague concert. The piano in our Sergeants' Mess was silent at the time, so we did not hear it.

We had an excellent afternoon of athletic sports against the 47th (2nd London) Div. R.E. and beat them to a frazzle.

Most of us had several cheery evenings in Brighton and Worthing, not to mention Shoreham, which we feel sure the Permanent Staff enjoyed as much as we did!

The 53rd Medium Brigade Signal Section came to camp with us this year, and we all hope to meet them again soon.

49th (West Riding) Divl. Signals.

Leeds.

We are now back again to barrack life after a thrilling fortnight in camp. The Weather Clerk contrived to make us uncomfortable at times, but he never damped our ardour. In fact the sports were carried out without a hitch under conditions that would have done justice at a Scotch grouse moor at its worst. The Lord and Lady Mayoress of Leeds visited us for the sports and remained the whole afternoon, shewing a splendid disregard of awful conditions and encouraging all by their cheeriness.

The training throughout was interesting and most instructive. The first week was spent in getting the various Trade Companies into good working order, and the second was largely given over to tactical exercises, utilising all means of communication available. The wireless cars—truly a magnificent idea and worthy of the originators—were most successful, and future training in this direction holds bright prospects indeed.

On the second Thursday a demonstration was given by the Aeroplane Signal Flight, in which the two infantry brigades participated as well as Signals. On the following Saturday a gratifyingly successful scheme was carried out by the Signal Companies assisted by regimental signallers of the infantry brigades and the Aeroplane Signal Flight.

Visual was very much in the background owing to the absorption of the best operators by the Wireless, but the Sections will blossom forth again with renewed vigour. They are well supplied with valuable officers and n.c.o.s. The Cable Sections did commendable work with horses that were on the whole unsuitable for the purpose. It is hoped that the horses for next camp will be of a more useful stamp.

A visit was paid to the camp by Lieut.-Colonel H. Clementi Smith, D.S.O., who appeared to be pleased with what he saw. He remained for two days.

One very unfortunate accident has to be recorded. L/Corpl Smith, whilst patrolling a line, was seriously injured by his horse falling on him, and his right foot had to be amputated. He was one of the most promising youngsters of the unit and a prime favourite, and the accident caused a gloom throughout the camp.

The results of the sports are as under:—

Best Turn-out, Horses and Harness—1, Dvr Upton, 3rd Sig. Co.; 2, Dvr Bray, 2nd Sig. Co.

Best Turn-out, Horse and Man—1, Tpr Rooke, H.Q.; 2, Sigmn Smith, 2nd Sig. Co.

Cable Competition—1, Sgt Fox's Detachment.

Dismounted Tug-of-War—1, Permanent Staff team; 2, Sgt Burnett's team.

Wrestling on Horseback—1, C.S.M. Catherall's team, 2nd Sig. Co.; 2, Sigmn Baildham's team, 1st Sig. Co.

100 yds. Flat Race—1, Sgt Fox, 1st Sig. Co.; 2, L/Corpl Smith, 2nd Sig. Co.; 3, Tpr Rooke, 1st Sig. Co.

Boot Race, with Cable Pole—1, Sgt Campbell's team; 2, C.Q.M.S. Ansell's team.

Two Mile Flat Race (open)—1, Sigmn Mason; 2, Pte Lupton, Leeds Rifles; 3, Pte McKenna, Leeds Rifles.

Tilting the Bucket—1, Sgt Fox and L/Corpl Gawthorpe; 2, Signalmen Baildham and Hammond.

Band Race—1, Boy Todd; 2, Sigmn Todd, R.E.; 3, Pte Bird, 6th D. of W. Regt.

Relay Race—1, Sgt Campbell's team; 2, Sgt Fox's team.

Tent Pegging (open)—1, Sgt Whittaker; 2, C.Q.M.S. Ansell.

Old Soldiers' Race—1, C.Q.M.S. Ansell; 2, R.S.M. Brown; 3, L/Corpl Malkin.

Officers' Race (prize given by N.C.O.'s Mess)—Capt H. McLaren, D.S.O., M.C., 3rd Sig. Co.

220 yds Race—1, L/Corpl Smith, 2nd Sig. Co.; 2, Sgt Campbell, 2nd Sig. Co.; 3, Sgt Fox, 1st Sig. Co.

Mounted Tug-of-War—1, 2nd Sig. Co.; 2, 1st Sig. Co.

The Lady Mayoress of Leeds presented the prizes at the conclusion of the programme, and our thanks are tendered to her and the Lord Mayor for braving the elements and remaining for that ceremony.

An Old Friend Well Met.

The Lord Mayor of Leeds, I hear, was at Scarborough yesterday and visited the camp out Selby way, where some of the Leeds Territorials are under canvas. I wonder whether he made the acquaintance of Sergeant-Major Brown, of the 49th Divisional Signal Company from Leeds, and heard the story of that soldier's meeting in camp this last week with a brown mare that he rode for something like three years when he was overseas. These things usually happen only in novels.

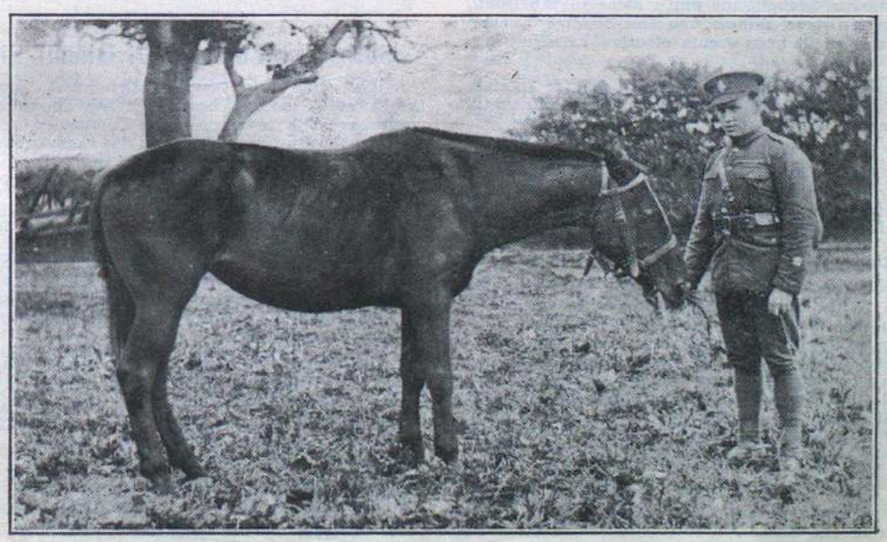
It was curious how the meeting came about. Sergt.-Major Brown has an eye for a horse, and he was struck the other day by something familiar in the appearance of one hired for the period of the present camp. He noticed something peculiar about the way she tossed her head when ridden, and he told the man riding her to pull his reins in a certain way. The mare responded just as Sergt.-Major Brown expected she would, and as she had always done when he rode her.

"I don't know where that mare has been since she was sold out of the Army, but if she's the mare I think she is, there's a number tattooed on her lower gums."



There was. If I have remembered the story accurately, it is "563." Anyhow, that is how Sergt.-Major Brown and his old mount met again.

The Yorkshire Post.



52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals.

Glasgow.

Excerpt from Unit Orders, 27th July, 1922:—

"The Commanding Officer wishes to congratulate the n.c.o.s and men of the unit, on their return to Glasgow, for their good behaviour during camp. The general progress has been remarkably good, and with a little further effort with regard to Morse, the unit would be in a position to mobilise if necessary." This speaks for itself.

Sergeants' Mess.

The Sergeants' Mess at camp was pronounced a huge success by members of other units as well as of the R.C.S. There were two very successful concerts held during the period, at both of which the C.O., Maj. Muirhead, and other officers were present; and at the first we were favoured with the company of Col Kerr, C.S.O., Scottish Command. On these occasions, we had a mock trial and a meeting of the Antediluvian and Honourable Society of Snifty Snifters. Both features were greatly appreciated, and helped to make the concerts an unqualified success. At the first concert, Maj. Muirhead mentioned his indebtedness to the w.o.s and n.c.o.s for their able and willing co-operation towards the steady improvement of the unit.

Annual Company Dinner.

This will be held in November. Details will be issued later.

Sports.

The unit sports, which dominated the off-work period of life in Gailes Camp, were held on Saturday 22nd July. R.C.S. made elaborate arrangements for their events, and were in an excellent position for running the only mounted items in the district. These included jumping, tent-pegging and driving, and attracted entrants from the R.E. camp on Irvine Moor as well as from other units at Gailes. The unit possesses splendid talent in foot-running. Four of its members, Signalmen Adams, McCall and Dickson, and L/Corpl Masson, brought the unit's name to the front at Edinburgh (where Adams won the Scottish Championship) and in the open events of other battalions at Gailes.

At the R.C.S. sports, the following call for special notice.—1 mile and half-mile—1st, Sigmn Adams; 440, 220 and 100 yds.— 1st, L/Corpl Masson.

At the H.L.I. Batt. and the H.L.I. Brigade sports, it is also necessary to mention the undernoted:—9th Batt. H.L.I. (Glasgow Highlanders) Open Mile—1st, Sigmen Adams and Dickson (tie); Open 100yds. 3rd; L/Corpl Masson; Open Relay Race—R.C.S.

Tent-Pegging.

As usual, this attracted a great deal of favourable comment. At the R.E. sports on Irvine Moor, the competitors in the open event were Capt. Findlay, V.C., R.S.M. Coates, R.S.M. O'Leary, Sergts Terry, Haggart, Gosling, etc. The winner was Sergt Haggart, and it is particularly gratifying to remark that he is a Territorial, so that his victory calls for the highest praise. His many war-friends will be pleased to note this proof of his continued efficiency and well-being. At the unit sports, the winner was Sergt Terry.

Jumping.

This was also won by Sergt Terry. There were entrants from the R.A.V.C. and from the R.E.

The prizes were distributed by Gen. Sir F. J. Davies, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., K.C.V.O., A.D.C., G.O.C. Scottish Command.

Accommodation.

This year we were protected from the vagaries of the weather by huts, which was rather to be regretted, as being under canvas is much more desirable. During the period of camp, however, this was a small mercy for which we had to be duly thankful, as "David" was sometimes inclined to "send it down" in full measure.

Situation.

Gailes Camp is situated on the Ayrshire coast between Troon and Irvine, and the beach being favoured with plenty of fine sand, a large number passed a considerable part of their free time in bathing.

Gailes does not lack golf courses, and of course all along the Ayrshire coast there is a multitude of first-class links. Prestwich, the scene of many thrilling competitions, is but a few miles away, so the golf fiends were in their glory.

Ayrshire is rich in historical and literary associations, and consequently those with an intellectual bent had ample opportunities to pay tribute to the "immortal bard," Robert Burns, at Ayr, which he honoured with the statement that it was "famed for honest men and bonnie lasses."

The romantic banks of Doon were also easily accessible, so anyone with poetical inclinations could find plenty of interesting material. (We are glad to add that we have been singularly fortunate in dodging the weird and wonderful first efforts of enthusiasts answering to this description)

However, apart from training, no one could complain of being in a district which lacked interest.

I can't account for it, but this year's camp has not produced the usual crop of funny stories. It is to be supposed, however, that some of our bright specimens will continue to furnish us with alleged humorous tales.

LOWDIV.

56th (1st London) Divisional Signals.

The camp this year, at Lyndhurst, has been a really great success, because it has shewn that it is quite possible to work three Companies as separate units, and also because units of the Company (especially the Wireless Section) have earned praise for their work.

There is of course room for improvement, but the above-mentioned praise will probably help toward that by infusing vim into the men. A word is also due to the rear party who, livened by C.S.M. Perkiss, were told by a member of the Divisional Staff, that the lines were an example to the division. I doubt very much, however, if the party appreciate the C.S.M.'s habit of waking them by doubling round the tent pole on their feet.

The terrific downpour on the second Sunday dampened the ardour of a few members, as it did everything else. To these I would point out that a Terrier should treat all such items as a joke. The *real* Terrier spirit is missing in a good many, and I appeal to them to be "Terriers" in *every* sense.

Notes.

The new Recreation Committee tender thanks to the members of the unit who voted them to office,

but they would like to point out that they must also be *supported*, and they ask as many as possible to make every effort to be present at all football matches, dances, or other functions which are arranged for them.

Patience must be the especial virtue of a certain C.S.M. who stood by his bed after being pushed out, and waited for the other fellow to wake before turning in again.

A very successful concert was held on the last Friday night at camp, as usual enlivened by Sergt Weight's sanguinary tales and turns from our visitors of the many battalions who sent representatives.

Does the R.S.M. know what a bog is? and how much petrol it takes to remove half the soil of Hampshire from a tunic?

This month's notes are quite short, not being written until our return from camp. I hope to enlarge on the deeds and misdeeds of the camping period in our next.

THE ROBBER.

46th (North Midland) Divisional Signals.

Derby.

We have just arrived back from annual training. Everything was satisfactory except the weather, and the Clerk of that department had a few "blessings" and other things heaped upon him.

The men's lines suffered very little, but the officers' and sergeants' messes were swamped out as well as some of the officers' tents.

Trenches were dug in the officers' mess for drainage purposes, and much sport was found in exciting "boat races." The sergeants' mess had no time to dig trenches, and even had they done so they would have been useless, as the bar was soon a miniature lake; but the difficulty was solved by placing tables on the top of forms. Not to be outdone, a "nautical" concert was soon arranged, and despite the fear of submarines and mines everyone was in good spirits.

A concert was held in No. 2 Company's mess tent, the items being ably rendered by the "Full of Fun's" Mk. II. (with apologies to the late Bedford B Troop).

When the rain ceased much disappointment was felt, for unfortunately "rum issues" ceased also.

Of course we took horses to camp, or at least they took us—63 of 'em, all blood stock. Fearing that mounted events in organised sports might be neglected, they seemed to spend most of their time holding impromptu events on their own, much to the annoyance of several budding John Gilpins. The latter, however, were soon assured that horses are not the fearsome quadrupeds they appear to be.

The Cable Section was well to the fore as usual, and did good work despite the antics of the above mentioned quadrupeds. Eighteen miles of D 8 was utilised in establishing permanent communication between the Division and the three Brigades, and this was maintained despite some intelligent (?) individual who spent his spare time in sticking pins between the two wires, evidently curious to know what was meant by a "short circuit."

Splendid efforts were made by the Wireless and Visual Sections, though a team managed to wreck the Wireless tent. However, the driver pluckily stuck to his horses, and fortunately no one was injured, the runaways being stopped before any further damage was done.

We made our presence felt in the Brigade sports, Lieut Baguley being an easy first in the 100yds, and S.M. Hart, D.C.M., a good second in the high jump.

Our heartiest congratulations go to Capt Bemrose, O.B.E., on his marriage to the daughter of Col. Lewis, C.M.G.

MEREBIMUR.

55th (West Lancs.) Divl. Signals, T.A.

No. 1 Company.

Liverpool.

Perhaps the most welcome feature of the camp has been the way in which the two factions of the Company, viz. Prescot and Liverpool, have worked together to their mutual advantage. Now, as the camp draws to a close, we have, instead of two bodies of men who had never met before, a united Company willing to do anything or go anywhere.

The Company has worked well and produced results far beyond what could have been expected before we went to camp. The men have been willing and anxious to learn all they could. There was much work to be done and the hours were sometimes long, but none can complain that he had not enough leisure time.

The first morning was, of course, strenuous, for the lines to Brigades had to be got through with as little delay as possible. Despite the difficulties of teaming fresh unknown horses, and other incidents common to the first day in camp, about eight miles of cable was laid out and through by about 12.30 hours—a very creditable performance.

Only too little technical training was carried out, but the Company acquitted itself well on the Brigade ceremonial, as evinced by the popularity of the post-cards (showing the Company marching past in line) which are selling in Ramsey like hot cakes.

As regards organised sports little has been done, but one member of the Company achieved success by winning a swimming race in Ramsey. We were well represented in the football team which beat the 4th P. of W. Volunteers by 5 goals to 1.

The first camp for a new unit is always fraught with difficulties, but most of these have been easily surmounted by the co-operation and willingness of all ranks. We have learned much this year, and look forward to next, when we hope to put what we have learned into effect.

Many, if not all, will be sorry to return to "civvie" life, but we do it with the knowledge that we have achieved much and with the determination to achieve still more next year. A Company that can work as willingly and unitedly as No. 1 Company must go far and will never look back.

A. M. W.

No. 2 Company.

Horwich.

This Company has worked at a disadvantage in the past through being so far removed from headquarters, but contact with Nos. 1 and 3 Companies has galvanised into activity all our latent enthusiasm.

Although the artillery has not been to camp with us, we did very well in the tactical exercise, and the benefit derived from this camp is considerable.

Further details of this will be given in the next issue.

C. H. B.

No. 3 Company.

Grest Camp, August 16th.

As camp draws to a close, signs are not wanting that, despite the strictness regarding cleanliness of buttons, spurs and boots, etc., which has necessarily prevailed, and also three Brigade ceremonial parades, all ranks devoutly wish that they could have it all over again. Guards and picquets, etc., are certainly irksome, but the men of No. 3 Company have recognised (like sportsmen) that all had to take their turn at these duties, and altogether the ratio of rough to smooth has been about 1 to 100.

No late pass has been refused, and the Company has shewn its appreciation of the consideration in this respect by behaving in an exemplary manner when away from camp.

L/Sergt Hornby, Corpl Pickavance, and 6 other ranks have been away with the Liverpool Infantry Brigade acting as the Brigade Signal Section, and the famous Colonel Campbell, V.C. (Colonel-Commandant of that Brigade) has been perfectly satisfied with their work.

L/Sergt Shaw and Corpl Coleman, with 6 other ranks have been acting in a similar capacity with the North Lancs. Brigade, and so well have they been treated that they would like to have their present job for "keeps." They are under canvas on a little meadow almost on the water's edge at Port Lewaigue; and it has been said that the anxiety of this Section to get C.Q.S.M. Winstanley to send them binoculars and telescopes is less for the purpose of reading visual signals sent by flags and Lucas lamps, than to watch the mixed (very mixed) bathing which goes on within 200 yards of the Brigade signal office. I have no doubt, however, that this is a libel on the Brigade Signal Section concerned.

Our third Brigade Signal Section did not function, as the South Lancs. and Cheshire Infantry Brigade were so close to D.H.Q. that a separate Brigade signal office was unnecessary. L/Sergt Ames, Corporal Burke, and the 6 other ranks who were to have manned the Brigade Signal office, remained with the Company, and upon them and the Acting-C.S.M. (Sergt Dean) has fallen a very large amount of work.

Major J. Tennant, D.S.O. commanding the Divisional Signals, has expressed himself as very pleased with the work of the Company; and General de Lisle personally told the Company Commander that he considered No. 3 a very smart Company.

I will finish with just one anecdote of the officers' mess. On "guest night" a certain guest expressed surprise that we did not have festoons of twisted D8, etc., ornamenting the mess marquee. Captain Lauder, M.C. (Second-in-Command of the Company) replied, "Well, the explanation is that all our cable and wire has been taken by the Wireless Officer to get his messages through." It ought to be added that Capt. Lauder is *not* a relative of the great Sir. Harry!

L. C. F .B.

51st (Highland) Divisional Signals, T.A.

Headquarters and No. 1 Company, Aberdeen.

Notes this time must be exclusively given to the annual training at Montrose, and must be necessarily include all three Companies in one screed.

Since writing our last notes, No. 2 Company (Kirkcaldy) has sprung into existence, being commanded by Capt J. A. Cullen, M.C. (of golf stick fame), ably supported by "Little Jack Horner."

The Companies arrived in camp during Saturday, 15th July, to the great satisfaction of the towns-folk. The greatest excitement of the day was the arrival of No. 3 Company ("Little Jack" and 3 O.R.s) in a taxi, and after strenuous efforts on the part of Jack, they managed to get housed and fed (inside and out). All Companies were met on arrival by the Adjt. who looked as pleased as a little dog with two——bones.

The Clerk of the Weather was on our side the whole time, it only raining for a very hours during the fifteen days in camp.

Training was got on with in rapid fashion, and provided some very fine experience for all ranks. After one or two days spent in getting our hands in, the first important training came on Thursday, 20th July, when three aeroplanes were attached from Bromley for the purpose of demonstrating to the infantry that they can be very plainly seen from the air unless they take every possible care, and also to show how W.T. plays such a very important part in communication with aeroplanes.

I cannot do better at this stage than give an extract from *The Aberdeen Press*:—

"While 'thrills' were provided in the front line and in the air, some smart work was accomplished by the 51st Highland Divisional Signals (R.C.S.) in command of Major A. B. Robertson, D.S.O., T.D., and Major Forsyth, M.C., Adjutant, Aberdeen. The other officers were—O.C. No. 1 Company (Aberdeen), Capt. D. S. P. Douglas, and Lieuts. Anderson, Murray, and Webster; O.C. No. 2 Company (Kirkcaldy), Capt. J. A. Cullen; O.C. No. 3 Company (Bridge of Allan), Capt. M'Cutcheon, and Lieuts. Turnbull, Saddler and Morrison, with R.S.M. Donovan and Bandmaster Adams, both of the Aberdeen Company. There was much to interest the visitor at Divisional H.Q., where the Signals were stationed. Two powerful wireless installations were in operation, while the R.A.F. apparatus was in reserve. According to the Flying Officers, the 51st H.D. Signals is the best unit at this contact work that they have experienced in any of the other Territorial divisions. Divisional H.Q. at Montrose were in constant touch with the outlying battalions by wireless, aeroplanes, despatch riders, etc."

As is usual, amusement crept into the picture, Major Forsyth being the George Robey of the day, despatching a case of beer per aeroplane to be dropped at the headquarters of the 6/7th Black Watch as ammunition.

It appears that the G.O.C. happened to be present when it was dropped. Some time afterwards Major Forsyth enquired as to the whereabouts of the G.O.C., and sent out W.T. messages to all stations asking if he was there. In a very short time a message was received from 6/7th Black Watch as follows:—"Understood beer dropped—General not been seen since."

This same day turned out to be "Waterloo" day, and a parade was held next day for the issue of medals, much to the satisfaction of lads and lassies.

A quiet weekend allowed the Heads to knock together—or shall I say fraternise—and see what they could give us to do during the following week; but "the best-laid plans of mice and men, etc., etc." It happened to be one continual round of inspections from "Heads of departments," and preparation for same.

Our first inspection was by Colonel Clementi Smith and Colonel C. H. Prickett, D.S.O. These two officers also kindly consented to judge the efficiency of the Companies of the unit.

The test took the form of a scheme of administration of a Company's messing and living accommodation, for a shield presented by Dean of Guild Holmes of Aberdeen. No. 1 Company were the winners.

The next inspection was by G.O.C. 51st Highland Div., who also expressed satisfaction at the way communication was maintained (more feathers! we shall soon be like ostriches put out to grass).

Next day the C.O. and Adjutant took the O.C.s and subalterns out under the R.S.M. to give them more points as to how a line should be laid, etc.

It would not be out of place to remind the subalterns that:—

(1) When climbing trees for a tree crossing, it would be just as well to take the wire with them.

(2) Never wear a Sam Browne when doing No. 3: it leads to complications.

(3) Always take plenty of money when staying for lunch at wayside inns (one is bound to be stung).

Next came General Birch, Director of Territorial Army. He saw the troops at play instead of work. A grand day and good entries made the afternoon pass very pleasantly. I need not waste space by giving all the events and winners, but here again No. 1 Company proved to be the victors on points.

Last but not least came the G.O.C.-in-C. Scottish Command, who saw us in the act of striking camp, or at least in packing technical equipment. All officers and n.c.o.s were presented to the General, who chatted pleasantly with each one.

Thus ended a very pleasant and interesting fifteen days' training. Very great credit is due to the C.O., the Adjutant and the officers for making the camp such a success, and we hope that it has given them as much satisfaction as it has done the n.c.o.s and men.

Things We Want to Know.

Why is it necessary to blow in the Receiver to test the working powers of a Telephone D. Mk iii.?

When should a drum of D 8 be tested with a telephone? (notes for the Trade Board).

Why such a decrease in the sale of stone ginger has taken place in the n.c.o.s mess?

Why a certain C.Q.M.S. should be called "Moaner"

What is the riding weight of G.O.C. Permanent Staff?

Why a certain C.Q.M.S. had three "Barrows, G.S." untouched at the end of camp?

Why the Jockeys, after the scheme with the aeroplanes, thought they had wings?

Has a certain n.c.o. learnt to hang on with his knees instead of his spurs, since dismounting without permission?

No. 2 Company.

Our week-end camp has come and gone, and proved a fitting stepping-stone to our annual camp, which will be over by the time these notes appear.

The scheme worked up to all expectations, and gave additional experience to all who took part. The sector of ground chosen is perhaps the finest in a country of grandeur, and the weather kept fine.

Two W.T. stations were sent out, and carried out a working programme through headquarters which proved quite satisfactory, showing that, with very little more touching up, our novices will soon become experienced hands.

A Cable Section was also sent out to a point near Doune, some five miles off, through a stretch of country noted chiefly for braes; and thereby hangs a tale.

The cable wagon was placed under the guidance of a horse which evidently knew the country, for when after trotting along gaily for a couple of miles, a pretty steep hill was reached, the old horse looked at the hill, glanced back at the cable wagon, and then quietly laid down. No amount of coaxing would induce it to move, and the wagon had to be taken to the top of the hill by the Cable Section. The display of "atmospherics" by the Section Officer is very easily forgiven.

Everything is hustle and bustle just now in preparation for the annual camp. We go to the same camping ground as last year, Montrose, which seems to be the favoured camping centre for all technical corps in the Highland Division. *Apropos* of centres, have you heard this one, Mr. Editor?

A railway poster in a station in Glasgow proclaimed to the world, "The finest centre in Great Britain is ——" and here followed the name of a town. Along came a wee chappie with a stump of pencil. Out went the name of the town, and the poster read, "The finest centre in Great Britain is Andy Wilson"! We are not quite sure whether it was the same little chap who poured out his soul's sentiment by chalking on the school gatepost the laconic word "Prison."

A word of praise is due to the "Bobajees" who looked to the inner man while we were at camp, and to the Q.M.S. who supplied the means thereof. You know, we always think that the success of any camping scheme depends a great deal on the stewpot, and a fine morning sight after a cold night on duty is a line of camp kettles and the cook in attendance.

Our O.C. Company is at present attending a course at Maresfield. We trust that our comrades down there will deal lightly with him, and we know that he will return full of sparks. Our best wishes go out to him for a successful course.

With Signals in Palestine.

Consternation may be caused amongst the readers of THE WIRE when I say that a few Signals have survived the Geddes axe in Palestine.

Signal Company, Palestine, expired by the fall of this axe, and all members had visions of seing old faces in Blightv. A few have had their hopes gratified. Others have left the "land flowing with milk and honey" for sandy stretches beside the Suez, being posted to Kantara Signals, and we hope none of them as yet have "fallen asleep in the deep." A small party have had all visions of leaving Bir-Salem's picturesque scenery dispelled, but are awaiting next trooping season, when they hope to have these visions gratified.

It has been willed that we, the unfortunates, should be designated the Palestine Signal Section of the Royal Air Force (more commonly known to the cadre of the Signal Company, Palestine, as the C.R.E., i.e. Col. Reid's Establishment), with an establishment of an officer, a C.S.M., a C.Q.M.S., a sergeant, and 41 other ranks, to maintain the land lines in the new Command.

When memos and minutes were put forward stating that the establishment was insufficient, the Axe said, "I have considered what is necessary for the maintenance of the telephonic and telegraphic communication, and you will carry on"—which we are doing, to uphold the prestige of the Corps.

August 14th saw the cadres of the Signal Company, Palestine, and the W/T Section of the W/T Company, Egypt and Palestine, moving out in single file (a total of 2 officers and 13 other ranks) to entrain for Egypt.

To our O.C., Lieut. Fielder, who is well known in Egypt and Palestine, we wish every success on his new appointment; also to our late C.O., Captain Pritchard, R.E., on his return to civilian life.

Congratulations to Corpl Heath, L/Corpl New, and Signalmen Massey and Weaving, on their appointments to Acting-L/Sergt, Corpl, and L/Corpls respectively.

Sport.

Sport has been scarce this month owing to the unsettled state of the Section, but cricket matches have been indulged in, of which our O.C. is the chief instigator. He is having much success with the leather, while Signalmen Chubb and Richards are shining lights with the willow.

The senior n.c.o.s are putting in a little time with the racket, and are progressing favourably. Hopes of "Mdlle. Long-Longs" in trousers are entertained.

With Signals in Cairo.

Owing to pressure of official work, it is regretted that last month the Cairo Signals column was conspicuous by its absence. The fact that the current contribution is forthcoming need not necessarily (unless by evilly disposed persons) be taken to indicate that the official work has decreased in volume.

Summer is with us—not the spasmodic "Blighty" summer, but a spell of heat that makes one perspire even at the thought of work. Of course I am aware that there are some who "sweat" thus even on a cold wintry day, but my remark referred to the majority who—even now I am not sure that it is not more applicable to the minority. However, we will leave it at that, giving people in general the benefit of the doubt.

To come back to the heat, the temperature is a hundred and umpteen in the shade (why it is always spoken of as "in the shade" is an enigma). Very few places here are really shaded, and very few are privileged to remain in the shade for any appreciable space of time. I cannot say whether there is a thermometer in the "dug-out" of the Club. After all, a small thing like that is easily overlooked; and who goes there to read the thermometer, in any case?

Sport.

It is singularly appropriate that the first points to be gained by the Corps in the "Best All-round Unit" Competition should come from the Headquarters in Egypt. In the tennis tournaments, Colonel Turner (our Chief Signal Officer) and Lieutenant Sylvester (his assistant) gained for us 1½ points towards our total. It behoves us to follow this lead, all the more creditable because Colonel Turner's "tennis arm" caused him quite a lot of trouble, whilst his partner was unlucky enough to break his glasses early in the tournament.

Water Polo.

In this sport, Signals are well-nigh invincible, and their chances in the E.E.F. Championships for both swimming and polo are exceedingly rosy.

Cricket.

Headquarters Section are still enjoying an occasional game, but the chief interest is shown in the doings of the Corps team, which went as far as the semi-final of the E.E.F. Championships. Details are given elsewhere in this issue.

Casualties, Promotions, etc.

Colonel Turner (our Chief Signal Officer) has proceeded on leave to the U.K., his place being temporarily filled by Major J. W. Orange-Bromhead (O.C. Signal Company, Egypt), who himself has just returned from Blighty.

We trust that C.Q.M.S. Stockwell and his family are feeling the benefit of their spell at the summer rest camp.

It is unnecessary for us to "hope" or "trust" that Sergts Storey and Burton are enjoying themselves at Alexandria. They are men who practise making life enjoyable irrespective of locality.

Congratulations to the under-mentioned who have attained Records' acting rank of sergeant: Sergts Burton, Moralee, Collard, Kingman and Slater—and to L/Corpls Douch, Walker, Betts and Fleet, on their appointments.

Signals Benevolent Fund.

Despite the hardness of the times "AAA," the following donations to the fund have been received to date:—Headquarters Section, £4/11/8; Alexandria Section, £2/8/8; Kantara Section, £1/3/3; Total £8/3/7. Bravo, the donors!

A First Trip to India.

By W. R. C. P.

(Continued from August Number)

They have different methods at different stations of giving warning as to when a train is going to get under way. At some it steals out without a sound, apparently trying to leave behind as many of its passengers as possible. At others the engine hoots loudly twice, and the guard blows his whistle. You are probably walking up from the restaurant car, and begin to get anxious. The engine hoots again, the guard once more whistles, and you run hard. Having reached your carriage in a state of exhaustion you find that it's an unintentional practical joke, and the train remains perfectly stationary for another fifteen minutes, then gives a final shriek and moves off.

It is as well to take no risks if you want to remain undivorced from your kit; without kit a long journey in India would be the reverse of agreeable.

Having reached Darya Khan at 1 a.m. I found that I had to spend the rest of the night in a chair on the platform—the waiting rooms being occupied. It was very cold, and I was exceedingly pleased when at 8.30 Major Drayson, the Deputy Chief Signal Officer, Wazirforce, turned up in a car, and prospects of an early breakfast brightened considerably.

During the rains the Indus river is in flood, and most of the 14 miles between Darya Khan and Dera Ismail Khan (called D.I.K. for short) has to be done by steamer. At this time of year they can be negotiated by car, and you only have to cross a series of small streams. The "road" is merely a track across the river bed, covered with straw, and can hardly be said to possess a motoring surface. The 14 miles took an hour, and the uninteresting drive made the appearance of D.I.K., with its green trees and flocks of parrots, doubly welcome.

Wazirforce, whose communications are provided by F Divisional Signals—shortly to be relieved by B from Jubbulpore, and a L. of C. Signal Company—is the last force to be on active service, and as such has outstripped all others in the country by a good many months. Actually, I believe, the last date for the Waziristan clasp of the Frontier medal was December 1st, when the Wana column commenced its withdrawal. Troops still live under active service conditions, and have active service concessions, such as free postage, and they earn them well.

I spent the first two days looking round D.I.K. seeing F Signals who are quartered in the fort, and generally getting the hang of local geography. Here as in the Kurram the area is colossal, and a heavy trunk runs up *via* Manzai, Kirghi, Jandola, Kotkai, and Sorarogha to Ladha. That is the route feeding the front. In addition there are routes leading up to Tank, to Bannu, giving telephonic and telegraphic access to the Tochi valley, south to Dera Ghazi Khan, and east to Darya Khan. There are also innumerable police posts and permanent pickets, all of which are connected up by phone, and their lines require a great deal of maintenance. The L. of C. Company is composed of Government telegraph department personnel, who are given equivalent military rank, commanded by a regular officer. They construct all routes, maintain all that are not actually in a Brigade area, and man local exchanges and offices. The company is 300 strong and is fully employed. I spent five days up the line with Major Drayson. Such a trip has to be carefully worked out beforehand, and a time table prepared, as the road between the different camps is only open to traffic on certain days, calculated out with regard to the question of supplies. Hence it may be open to-day in a back section and closed forward, to-morrow vice versa. Our intention was to reach, on the first day, Sorarogha, the headquarters of a Brigade. Actually we got as far as Jandola, owing to the failure of the vanette carrying our kits. Repairs were not forthcoming, so we had to anticipate a cheerless night in an empty tent without kit. However, one of F Signals officers (an old soldier) was not content with this prospect, and by means of *liaising* with the senior medical officer, arranged for us to be admitted into hospital for the night! So after all we were extremely comfortable with pyjamas, blankets and sheets.

Jandola is the camp from which the two forward routes used to branch, one to Ladha and one to Wana, the latter being now closed owing to the withdrawal of the column. There is a signal office and exchange in the camp, which also acts as a forward base for ordnance—supplies, rations, etc. The signal part is presided over by C.S.M. Hepburn, who is also the local representative of THE WIRE. Up to Jandola supplies come by lorry; forward, they have to go by camel.

We started off the following morning with our recovered kit, as soon as the road protection troops from Kotkai and Jandola had made liaison, that is joined hands without untoward incident. Until they do this no one is allowed on the road. The camel convoy had started before us, and it was a picturesque sight seeing the string of hundreds of these beasts slowly wending their way across the river Takki-Zam and over Palosina Plain to the hills. The last camel carries a red flag, and as soon as the flags of the up and down convoys have crossed the road protection troops break liaison and return to camp.

The troops detailed for road protection hold tactical points near nullahs and tangis (narrow passes), and also provide an escort to accompany the convoys themselves. In addition there are the permanent pickets, which keep watchful eyes on any approaches to the road which might be utilised by hostile inhabitants. Another form of defence is afforded by parties in Ford vanettes who, armed with Lewis guns and rifles, patrol the road.

The metalled road has now reached Kotkai, six miles forward of Jandola, after which you have to take to a track cleared amongst the boulders of the river bed. This means constant work for the Pioneer Battalions, who are out all the time the protective troops are patrolling. The Pioneers work with slung rifles, and every party invariably provides for its own safety. Evil is the fate of anyone who has not learned the lesson that he is primarily responsible for his own protection, despite the presence of other troops in the vicinity. The Mahsud is a clever fighter, and some of his attacks have been described by experts as perfect examples of surprise and shock tactics.

They shoot well, and one of their methods is to keep up a heavy well-directed fire on the party to be attacked, and under cover of this fire and of natural features a horde of swordsmen slowly approach. When near enough they carry out a rush, and overcome their opponents by sheer force of impact. Surprise is what they always aim at, and it requires great vigilance to defeat them at their own game. There are of course particularly bad places in the valleys such as the Ahnai Tangi, where the hills on either side approach to within 20 feet of each other. At such places there have to be strong permanent pickets on both sides. In some cases these pickets have been established only after very severe fighting.

We reached Sorarogha at lunch time, and halted there for two nights. The day we arrived we witnessed two excellent hockey matches between regimental teams. The Indian is very quick, and frequently has a wonderful eye. We saw Sikh gunners matched against Gurkhas, and Gurkhas against Punjabis. One day in the same spot, while a similar game was in progress, sniping started from a near-by bridge, and it was a case of "sauve qui peut." As a matter of fact that particular sniper was spotted by a picket, and proved to have sniped his last.

Sorarogha is a Brigade camp, and the signal section has put up a very good show. They maintain the through routes, keep up telephonic communication to their battalions and permanent pickets, and work a visual chain. For wireless they have a pack set, manned by corps signals personnel. The signal officer—

Continued on page 227.

SPORTS NEWS.

Army Cricket Tournament.

Eastern Command Semi-Final:

1st T.Bn. R.C.S. v. 2nd Bn. Connaught Rangers (Dover).

Played at Maresfield on July 25th. Result: 1st T.Bn. R.C.S won by 3 wickets and 195 runs.

2nd BATTN. CONNAUGHT RANGERS.

1st Innings

Lieut Lynch c Walsh b King	14
Bandsman Winder b Phillips	0
Bandsman Burridge b Phillips	5
Lieut Bagot st Downer b Phillips	1
L/Corpl Allan c Pinsent b Phillips	5
Lieut Gaden c Phillips b King	3
Lieut Baker b Phillips	3
L/Corpl Forrest b King	3
Corpl Kennedy b Phillips	2
C.S.M. Knowles b Phillips	9
Corpl Tarrell not out	0
Extras	5
Total	50

2nd Innings.

Lieut Lynch c and b Bellew	40
Bandsman Winder b Bellew	0
Bandsman Burridge c Pinsent b Bellew	4
Lieut Bagot run out	2
L/Corpl Allan st Downer b Jackson	32
Lieut Gaden st Downer b Bellew	24
Lieut Baker c Steward b Woodbridge	4
L/Corpl Forrest c King b Woodbridge	1
Total (for 8 wkts.)	107

1st T.Bn. ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS.

Major C. H. Walsh l.b.w. b Burridge	3
Sergt Jackson c Knowles b Gaden	41
Lieut Q. M. E. A. King b Burridge	78
Corpl F. Bendry b Gaden	0
Major L. G. Phillips c Bagot b Knowles	29
Major J. R. Pinsent c and b Burridge	61
C.S.M. Boulger b Winder	0
Lieut R. H. R. Steward not out	2
Extras	31
Total (for 7 wkts.) declared	245

Eastern Command Final:

Experimental Establishment R.G.A. (Shoeburyness) v. 1st T.Bn. R.C.S. (Maresfield).

Played at Shoeburyness 3-4th August. Result—Match drawn. Experimental Establishment scratched, and Signals awarded the match.

EXPERIMENTAL ESTABLISHMENT.

Capt F. R. R. Brooke l.b.w. b King	80
G. R. McEvoy b Phillips	75
Capt Rossiter b Bellew	32
B.S.M. Clarke b Jackson	9
Sergt Hills b Bellew	5
Capt Russell c Phillips b Jackson	10
Q.M.S. Newlands b Phillips	4
Bdr. Humphries c and b Phillips	8
Gnr. Sharpley c Bellew b Pinsent	27
Gnr. Rye b Phillips	0
Bdr. Milner not out	0
Extras	19
Total	269

1st TRAINING BATTN. R.C.S.

Major C. H. Walsh b McEvoy	70
Sergt Jackson c Brooke b Clarke	0
Sigmn Obbard c Brooke b Clarke	1
Lieut Q. M. E. A. King l.b.w. b McEvoy	78
C.S.M. Boulger c Humphries b Rye	1
Major L. G. Phillips not out	3
Major J. R. Pinsent not out	2
Extras	6
Total (for 5 wkts)	161

1st Round (Command Stage) Royal Horse Guards (London Command) v. 1st T.Bn. R.C.S., Maresfield (Eastern Command).

Played at Upper Eton Cricket Ground, August 11-12th. Result—Signals won by 84 runs.

ROYAL HORSE GUARDS.

1st Innings

Capt Shennan c Downer b King	0
Lieut Ward-Jackson c Phillips b King	1
Lieut Lancaster c and b Phillips	25
Corpl Skeggs b King	0
Tpr. King c Jackson b King	0
Major Coombe c Jackson b Phillips	2
Major Turner c King b Phillips	2
Lieut Wilson c Bell b Phillips	9
Tpr. Emsley b Bellew	3
Corpl Medhurst c Cox b Bellew	0
Tpr. Hayes ont out	6
Extras	2
Total	50

ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS.

Major C. H. Walsh c Skeggs b Medhurst	7
Lieut Q. M. E. A. King c Hayes b Medhurst	0
Sergt Jackson b Skeggs	59
Major L. G. Phillips run out	2
Lieut R. H. R. Steward c King b Medhurst	6
Corpl Bellew b Hayes	7
Lieut R. C. Woodbridge b Skeggs	18
Corpl Bendry not out	14
Lieut Bell	2
Sergt Downer b Skeggs	0
Boy Cox run out	9
Extras	10
Total	134

Semi-Final.

The 1st Training Battalion will now meet the R.A.M.C. (Aldershot Command) in the semi-final stage of the above tournament. The Signals in the last two matches have had to travel, but this time the luck is with us, and the Medicals will appear at Maresfield during the course of the next few days to decide who shall enter the final stage of the competition. We wish the 1st Battalion the best of luck and hope they will be successful.

R.C.S. v. Cryptics.

Played at Maresfield, July 18-19th. Result—Signals won by 6 wickets.

CRYPTICS.

1st Innings.

L. C. Barber c Pinsent b Mordaunt	17
F. J. Pryce-Jenkins b King	61
R. T. K. Fenton b Mordaunt	3
D. S. Branson b Mordaunt	5
L. B. Wimble b King	0
R. F. Thompson c Welch b King	17
H. J. Gibbon st Downer b Mordaunt	5
E. Waddington b King	2
E. Bankes b King	22
J. P. Morriss c Pinsent b King	11
F. Bendry not cut	5
Extras	12
Total	160

2nd Innings.

L. C. Barber c Methuen b Mordaunt	13
F. J. Pryce-Jenkins c King b Mordaunt	48
R. T. K. Fenton c Welch b Mordaunt	13
D. S. Branson b Mordaunt	0
L. B. Wimble c Parsons b Phillips	11
R. F. Thompson b Phillips	2
H. J. Gibbon c Parsons b King	9
E. Waddington b Phillips	0
E. Bankes c and b Mordaunt	8
J. P. Morriss c Welch b Mordaunt	14
F. Bendry not out	0
Extras	19
Total	137

ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS.

1st Innings.

Lieut.-Col. O. C. Mordaunt c and b Morriss	25
Capt H. A. Parsons c Branson b Jenkins	54
Major F. A. Heyman c Barber b Morriss	26
Lieut Welch b Gibbon	6
Capt R. E. Vyvyan c Gibbon b Morriss	36
Lieut Q. M. E. A. King b Morriss	48
Major J. R. Pinsent c Morriss b Branson	15
Lieut D. C. Metheun c Fenton b Gibbon	16
Major L. G. Phillips not out	1
Lieut R. H. R. Steward b Morriss	0
Sergt Downer c Thompson b Gibbon	4
Extras	18
Total	249

2nd Innings.

Lieut.-Col. O. C. Mordaunt c Branson b Waddington	9
Capt H. A. Parsons not out	27
Major F. A. Heyman c and b Waddington	0
Lieut Welch c Jenkins b Waddington	3
Capt R. E. Vyvyan run out	2
Lieut Q. M. E. A. King not out	1
Extras	10
Total (for 4 wkts.)	52

S.T.C. v. Haywards Heath.

Played at Haywards Heath, July 24th. Result—Haywards Heath won by 147 runs.

S.T.C.

Lieut Welch c Watson b Hollindale	4
Sergt Jackson c Horton b Hollindale	12
Corpl F. Bendry b Hollindale	2
Lieut D. C. Methuen c Stevens b Higgs	24
C.S.M. Boulger c Ford b Higgs	12
Lieut White b Parkes	10
Corpl Bellew b Stevens	0
Sergt Barby c Parkes b Stevens	0
L/Corpl Hall b Higgs	7
Sigmn Gandy c Watson b Parkes	1
Sergt Downer not out	4
Extras	5
Total	81

HAYWARDS HEATH.

E. B. Wollan c Jackson b Bellew	7
C. H. Paine b Bellew	1
D. Watson c Boulger b Bendry	27
R. Hollindale c Jackson b Bellew	46
J. Parkes c Barby b Bendry	80
L. Horton st Downer b Bendry	5
L. Ford c Welch b Bendry	1
R. Cook c Downer b Bellew	0
R. Stevens st Downer b Bendry	15
K. L. Higgs not out	35
Rev. H. M. Williams c Downer b Bellew	7
Extras	4
Total	228

R.C.S. Mounted Sports at Maresfield.

By kind permission of Colonel-Commandant W. P. E. Newbigging, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., the annual gymkhana of the Signal Training Centre, Royal Corps of Signals, took place at Maresfield on Thursday, July 20th, before a large attendance, and proved a huge success. Some splendid jumping was witnessed. This was especially so in the Hassell Cup competition, which was won by Sergt Dorrington. The musical drive by E Company was heartily applauded. The Signal display was perhaps the best event of the day, and a sham battle was very realistic, rockets and even the captured German gun being brought into use. A laughable feature was the capture of a few "Jerrys" who were "brought in."

The aeroplane was also in evidence and dropped messages, after the "cease fire" had been sounded. The pilot thrilled the crowd with a few "stunts," corkscrewing and looping the loop. He then flew just over the heads of the crowd and was cheered heartily for his performance.

The band was in attendance and played selections throughout the afternoon.

At the conclusion of the programme Mrs. Newbigging presented the prizes, this bringing an end to a successful display. The full results in the various events were as follow:—

Alarm Race.—1, Sigmn Cook, B Co.; 2, L/Corpl Boyt, E Co.; 3, Sigmn Crownshaw, D Co.

V.C. Race.—1, Sigmn Cook, B Co.; 2, Dvr. Frost, E Co.; 3, Sigmn Kenneally, School of Signals.

Individual Tent Pegging (open to W.O.'s, N.C.O.'s and men)—1, Corpl Spencer, E Co.; 2, C.S.M. Simnett, E Co.; 3, C.S.M. Watson, D Co.

Officers Mounted Competition.—1, Capt Neale; 2, Lieut Hemming; 3, Lieut Totterdell.

Ball and Basket Race (open to W.O.'s and Sergeants)—1, Sergt Revell, D Co.; 2, C.S.M. Cussens, C Co.; 3, Sergt Wintern, C Co.

Hassell Cup (open to W.O.'s, N.C.O.'s and men).—1, Sergt Dorrington, E Co.; 2, Sergt Dowie, E Co.; 3, C.S.M. Watson, D Co.

Balaclava Melee.—F Company.

Individual Tent Pegging (Officers).—1, Lt. Totterdell; 2, Major Mair; 3, Lieut House.

Open Jumping Competition (Prize:—Cup, presented by S.T.C. Hunt Club)—1, Capt H. A. Parsons; 2, Rev. Mr. Hughes; 3, Mr. Poole.

Section Tent Pegging.—1, A team, Sergeants; 2, A team, Officers.

Pair Jumping (open to Drivers).—1,Dvr Kirwin, E Co.; 2, Dvr Spurway, E Co.; 3, Dvr Crockford, E Co.

Football Season, 1922-23.

Sussex County League.

The League Management Committee of the Sussex County Football League met on Wednesday, August 9th, at the Railway Hotel, Brighton.

Mr. F. C. Winton was reappointed Chairman of the Committee, and hoped the happy family spirit of the Committee would continue. Mr. William Stevens was selected as Vice-Chairman.

Referees were chosen as follow: Messrs. H. A. Ayling, G. C. Burch (Arundel), J. E. Cheesman (Brighton), H. G. Cotterell (Lewes), C. W. Cox (Hastings), J. H. Cox (Eastbourne), Dennett (Crawley), W. R. Falconer (Chichester), C. W. Gentry (Hassocks), H. F. Gentry (Brighton), W. A. Grainger (Brighton), C. Grant (Southwick), W. T. Hawkins (Brighton), A. Jenner (Eastbourne), G. S. Kerswell (Worthing), F. J. Leaney (Hove), W. B. Stone (Worthing), G. E. West (Eastbourne), F. C. Winton (Worthing), Sergeant E. Foster (Signals), F. J. Lindup (Worthing), Balmforth (Hove), W. A. Hopkins (Lewes), and A. Teague (Eastbourne).

Referees for matches were appointed as follow:—

Sept. 2—Eastbourne R.E.'s v. Worthing, C. W. Cox.
Hastings v. Newhaven, A. Jenner.
Southwick v. Vernon, Balmforth.

Sept. 9—Eastbourne v. Signals, J. E. Cheesman.

Sept. 16—Eastbourne v. Hove, W. A. Hopkins.
Newhaven v. Worthing, W. A. Grainger.

Sept. 23—Shoreham v. Hastings, F. J. Leaney.
Lewes v. Chichester, A Teague.

Sept. 30—Hove v. Eastbourne, F. C. Winton.
Newhaven v. Shoreham, H. G. Cotterell.
Signals v. Southwick, A Jenner.

Oct. 7—Newhaven v. Chichester, W. T. Hawkins.
Southwick v. Shoreham, F. C. Winton.
Signals v. Hove, H. A. Ayling
Worthing v. Lewes, W. R. Falconer.

Oct. 14—Southwick v. Eastbourne, H. F. Gentry.
Hove v. Hastings, W. B. Stone.
Vernon v. Shoreham, F. C. Winton.
Lewes v. Signals, F. J. Leaney.

The Secretary, Mr. E. W. Everest, reported the receipt of a letter from Mr. F. C. Wells, Secretary of the Hove Football Club, who said that the Sussex County Cricket Ground had been refused them for the coming season. They asked to be allowed to play in the Marine Park, and this was allowed. The Committee sympathised with the Club.

Maresfield Signals' Notes.

A general meeting of all personnel interested in the Corps football team was held at the Sports Office at Maresfield, when the following officials for the coming season were appointed:—President, Major C. H. Walsh; Secretary, R.Q.M.S. White; Captain, Lieut. Spencer; Vice-Captain, Sergeant Barby; Selection Committee, C.S.M. Cussens, Lieut. Totterdell and Sergeant Grist; Ground Committee, C.S.M. Simnett and C.S.M. Watson; Finance Committee, Corporal White and Corporal Spreadborough; Trainer, S/Sergeant Hayden; Assistant Trainer, Sigmn McVea.

The following competitions were entered for: Sussex County League, Sussex County Cup, English Amateur Cup, and Army Cup.

With the 2nd Battalion now merged in the 1st at Maresfield, no doubt some real talent will be brought to light. To attain this end, and to ensure a strong senior team, trial matches will be played. Three of last season's players (Gresham, Carter and Bonner) will be absent this year, and their places have to be filled.

Sergeant Shenton will again be available to lead the forward line, and the following regular first team players are also at hand:—White, Barby, Wooldridge, Shillingford, Hobbs, Duffy, Baines and Withers. They're all good players who should go far in all the competitions entered for.

The Signals open their season on the 9th September against Eastbourne R.E., on the Lynchmere ground. This season will indeed be a busy one for them, for in addition to the Army Cup rounds, this year they have to play through the qualifying rounds of the Amateur Cup, the draw for which is keenly awaited.

The new captain, Lieut. Spencer, has not appeared before in the first team, but figured a great deal last year in Company matches. We wish him every success. This year should see us going a long way in the Army Cup, for being now only one Battalion we shall be able to field a full Corps team against all comers.

Last season, owing to several players being at Maresfield and others at Crowborough, the team was split up, each player being compelled to play for his own Battalion. This having been now rectified, we are confident of going far.

No junior team will be run this year: so no matter what trophies we are in for, our opponents will be up against a strong combination in our senior team.

LULU.

Hockey Jottings.

By request I jot down these few notes, hoping that some of them may prove useful. First a few remarks on the various places in the field; then some general suggestions.

Goal.—A goalkeeper, to my mind, should have the "offensive" spirit, and be ready to go out and at a forward who dares to dribble through the defence and hopes to push the ball past him. If he does go out, he must go out straight at the oncoming forward; and let him remember that push-shot to *his* left that a forward on the left loves to exploit. Note: When clearing, clear towards touch.

Backs.—The pair must co-operate, and they would do well to play the one-behind-the-other game, so as to foil through passing. It is not necessary always to hit hard (for a well-chosen push shot to a "half" in front may be all that is needed), but it *is* necessary to part with the ball to one of one's forwards. Some backs, such as the international J. H. Bennett, play right up the field, and sit on their opposing insides, so as to get in two tackles—one up the field, and the other when (having been beaten in the first attempt) they nip back after the forward and get in again on the edge of the circle.

Half-Backs.—All three halves must keep up with their vanguard when the latter are attacking. The centre-half cannot do better than use the push shot on almost all occasions: it ensures accuracy of direction, saves time, and is easy to pick up. The wings should remember (1) not to pass out when in the neighbourhood of the opposing "25," but to bang the ball across into the middle, and (2) to mark the outsides, leaving the insides to their backs. The halves should be ready to receive passes from their backs at any time, and in fact to make openings for the same.

Forwards.—Wing forwards should keep well up the field. I have often seen wings come back when a free hit is being taken against their own side. No, let them stay up! the insides must do the donkey work. Let the wings remember also to centre round about the "25" line: an oft-forgotten precept. The insides must keep their places and not bunch, especially near the circle, and let them follow up all shots at goal.

General Suggestions.

Tactics in hockey are as important as in any game. Any side can work out schemes in theory which, put into practice, may lead to their being "one up" instead of "one down" in a match. For example:—

(1) Skilful co-operation between an inside, his half, and his back, in a throw-in, may very likely lead to their getting the ball in seven cases out of ten.

(2) Co-operation between forwards in taking a corner will lead to good results. One forward hitting the ball to another from the corner flag is not the way to look at a corner.

(3) A little thought, and perhaps the working out on paper or with matches, will lead to forwards seeing the advantages of the through pass: a most dangerous shot against backs who play alongside each other, and one beloved of Soccer players.

C. S. W. M.

FUNDS are required to assist deserving Ex-Signalmen. Donations, however small, would be gratefully received by the Treasurer, "Signals" Benevolent Fund, Stamford Brook Lodge, Ravenscourt Park, W.6.

A First Trip to India.

Continued from page 223.

once a sapper—to show that he can lay claim to be something of an engineer, has designed and built a most artistic pigeon loft, from which he sends birds up daily with the convoy troops.

On our second day we were given an escort of Gurkhas and climbed to Flathead picket, a walk taking roughly an hour and a half. It gave one an excellent idea of the siting of these pickets, to cover nullahs and dangerous approaches, and also of the nature of the surrounding country. The garrison of the picket were Gurkhas, and all had their signalling apparatus laid out looking very business-like. Not entirely eye-wash either! Flathead picket is 500 feet above the road or river, the slope being as nearly vertical as possible. Going up and coming down were two vastly different tasks. The native of the hills, the Mahsud, is a marvellous climber, and will beat anyone at going uphill. In descent, however, he has to acknowledge his master in the Gurkha. The latter comes down at a tremendous speed, whatever the slope. He only touches earth here and there. He keeps his ankles perfectly stiff and descends in a series of jumps, and anyone who has tried to retain his balance under such circumstances will know how extremely difficult it is. When a picket or hill position is being evacuated it is always advisable to do so at the double, as hard as you can go, in case there is any enemy sniper waiting for you. When the garrison consists of Gurkhas under a British officer, the latter has-to be given a long start in order not to delay the operation.

We rode back to camp, the horses having been sent down to await us in the valley, and spent the afternoon round the lines and taking one or two interesting photos.

An innovation of great importance was at this time just being introduced, and that was the employment of local tribesmen in aid of the British. It meant the formation of a kind of militia, and the start of what is known as the Kassadar system. The men are paid so much a month and provide their own arms and ammunition. Any of the latter that they expend on our behalf is made up to them in cash. Certain days are Kassadar days *i.e.* the regular troops employed on road protection work are replaced on those days by Kassadars, who escort the convoys and man the necessary day pickets. They are roughly picturesque men—of medium height, with long black hair, of swarthy but not very dark complexion, and of somewhat Jewish cast of countenance. They wear a dirty white baggy robe, with sometimes a khaki jacket, and a special black puggaree fringe issued to them as a distinctive mark as Kassadars. Round the waist or over the shoulder they carry their belt or bandolier, stuffed with ammunition. We examined some of this, and it was of an extraordinarily varied order—service .303, soft nosed 450, split bullets, stuffed bullets, nickel headed bullets, every sort and kind.

The whole system is an experiment, and if successful it will be a tremendous boon to us: you have to consider the result as one giving a double benefit. Not only are these men now to fight on our side, but their numbers must be subtracted from the enemy, as it must be remembered that many of the Kassadars have probably been members of raiding gangs or fighting laskars not long before.

(To be continued).

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CANTEEN PROFITS : More Millions for the U.S.F.

¶ A White Paper, explaining the intentions of the authorities in regard to the disposal of the remaining balance of the Canteen profits, states that the following payments h ve already been made and investments transferred to Lord Byng's Committee and its successors, the United Services Fund.

Cash	£3,029,554	15	10
£1,000,000 Four per cent. Funding Loan taken at the market value at the date of transfer...	700,000	0	0
	£3,729,554	15	10
¶ It is now proposed to hand over in cash the sum of	3,471,000	0	0
making a total of	£7,200,554	15	10

Army Council Instruction No. 396 of 1922 is re-printed for the information of all concerned :

Ribands of Medals and Decorations.

1. When medals and decorations are worn on the breast the riband will be one inch in length, unless the possession of clasps necessitates its being longer. When two or more medals and decorations are worn they will be so arranged that the lower edges (or lowest point of a star) are in line. The lengths of all ribands will be regulated by that of the decoration or medal which, including any clasps, is the longest. These instructions will apply equally to miniature medals and decorations.

2. The necessary amendments to Dress Regulations, 1911, will be made on revision.

0137/9805 (Q.M.G. 7).

THE WIRE

The Corps Magazine of the Royal Corps of Signals and the Official Organ of the Signals Association.

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and if reply is required a stamped and addressed envelope should be enclosed.

Editorial Notes.

We are indebted to the Editor of "St. Martin's le Grand" for the article on "Wireless and Wires," by Lieut.-Colonel C. G. Crawley, R.M.A.

* * *

As we are going to press, the All-British Wireless Exhibition commences at the Horticultural Hall, Westminster. A full report will be published in the November number.

* * *

Messrs. S. Rentell & Co., Ltd., of 36, Maiden Lane, Strand, W.C.2, ask us to announce that the popular scientific weekly journal, "Electricity," will return to its original price of 2d. per copy with the issue of October 6th. Messrs. Rentell would be glad to answer any enquiries *re* annual subscriptions for this journal.

* * *

Will those members of the R.E.O.C.A. who desire to attend the Annual Meeting and Dinner at the Georgian Restaurant, Harrods Ltd., Brompton Road, S.W.1., on Saturday, October 14th, 1922, kindly send their applications for dinner tickets to the Editor, THE WIRE, Stamford Brook Lodge, Ravenscourt Park, London, W.6, as early as possible. Parties can be arranged for if notice is given at the time of ordering the tickets. A remittance of 6/6 per ticket should accompany all applications.

* * *

A letter has been received from ex/Corpl Ibbs of "Docs" fame, who has recently returned to civil life, commenting upon the prolonged absence of A Company notes in THE WIRE. If this should meet the eye of any budding journalist in that Company, perhaps he will endeavour to remove the reproach by making up for lost time.

THE EDITOR.

Signals Association.

RATES OF SUBSCRIPTIONS :—

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,, Annual	5 0
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Signals Association Benevolent Fund.

In the financial statement to be sent by post to all subscribers, showing the result of the recent audit of the various funds administered by the Signals Association, will be found details of the Benevolent Fund account, covering the period April, 1921, to March 31st, 1922.

An examination of this statement will show that the balance creditor of the Fund stood, at the date of audit, at £218. On June 30th, the annual subscriptions having been paid in, the Bank balance stood at £347.

In order to correct any idea that the Benevolent Fund is no longer in need of assistance, should that impression arise in the minds of any members of the Corps, I think that this is a suitable time to explain briefly the policy which controls the administration of this Fund.

The income of the Fund has, up to now, been derived from subscriptions (annual or occasional) and donations from individuals serving, or who have served, in the Corps of Signals, or Signal Service (R.E. or attached), and from Messes, Regimental Institutes, and units of the Corps. All subscriptions are paid into the Benevolent Fund account at Messrs. Lloyds Bank, Limited, 16 St. James's Street, S.W., and are used by the Benevolent Fund Sub-Committee for the immediate relief of distress and for casual payments of various kinds, all of which are directly connected with the work of the Fund. Donations are paid, by the President of the Benevolent Fund, into the Central Funds of the Association for investment in approved trust securities. The income derived from these investments will be devoted solely to Benevolent Fund purposes. To this last-named source of income will also be added the dividends accruing from the annual investment of income in excess of expenditure.

In conformity with this policy, the sum of £250 has now been handed over from the Benevolent Fund current account to the Central Committee for investment by the Trustees of the Association; the remainder of the balance creditor, namely, £97, remaining in the current account to meet working expenses up to April, 1923. In this way it is hoped to build up a source of income, distinct from subscriptions, with which to provide more permanent benefits than mere "doles" or temporary assistance to those who have claims on the Association. Under this heading comes, in the immediate future, the question of "Presentations" at selected Orphanages, a subject which is dealt with in some detail below.

SUBSCRIBERS AND DONORS.

The list of Subscribers and Donors to the Benevolent Fund stood on September 1st, 1922, as follows:—

Annual Subscribers who have given Bankers' Orders.

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"Nemo."
"Three Pals."
"A" Company, S.T.C., Maresfield.
"B" Company, S.T.C., Maresfield.
"C" Company, S.T.C., Maresfield.
"D" Company, S.T.C., Maresfield.
"E" Company, S.T.C., Maresfield.
"F" Company, S.T.C., Maresfield.
"G" Company, S.T.C., Maresfield.
"P" Company, S.T.C., Maresfield.
"X" Company, S.T.C., Maresfield.
"J" Cable Section, S.T.C., Maresfield.
"A" Corps Signal Company, Aldershot.
1st Signal Squadron, Aldershot.
1st Signal Troop, Aldershot.
1st Signal Company, Aldershot.
2nd Signal Company, Aldershot.
4th Signal Company, Colchester.
Eastern Command Signal Company.
Officers' Mess, S.T.C., Maresfield.
Sergeants' Mess, S.T.C., Maresfield.
Sergeants' Mess, S.T.C., Crowborough.
Sergeants' Mess, 3rd (London) Signal Company.
Junior N.C.O.'s Mess, S.T.C., Crowborough.
Cairo Branch, Signals Association.
Colchester Branch, Signals Association.
Crowborough Branch, Signals Association.
P.R.I., S.T.C., Maresfield.
P.R.I., S.T.C., Crowborough.
Officers' Carol Party (1921), S.T.C.
S.T.C. Football Club.
Proceeds of a Dance (1922), S.T.C.

It is hoped that those units and members of the Corps who do not find their names in this list will remedy the omission.

It may not be out of place here to mention again that the Fund exists entirely for the benefit of N.C.O.s and men of the Corps, or R.E. (Signals), who are, or were, subscribers, and their families. No subscription is too small. For instance, serving N.C.O.s and men are asked to subscribe 1d. per month. This sum could not embarrass any man's pocket, but, if all subscribed it, this source alone would produce £350 a year. A number of units do subscribe this amount. One Company, in fact, gives 2d. a month per man. But some units have not adopted the scheme. Will they give it another thought?

I quote here, anonymously, 18 cases of relief given to ex-members of the Corps during the period February, 1921—June, 1922. They illustrate the kind of demand made on the Fund.

(1)—Ex-Signalman (transfer from Cavalry Regiment) offered employment in Canada, and applied for financial assistance to enable him to take his wife and family with him. Hussar Aid Society communicated with, who contributed in proportion to the length of applicant's service with Cavalry, viz. :—

Hussar Aid Society	...	£10	0 0
Signals Association	...	3	10 0

(2)—Ex-Signalman who experienced difficulty in "carrying on" pending settlement of accounts by the Regimental Paymaster. £3 advance, which was repaid immediately applicant received his arrears of pay from Chatham.

(3)—Ex-Signalman offered employment in New Zealand, and unable to take advantage of the offer owing to local financial difficulties. £20 advanced as a loan, repayable by instalments.

(4)—"Mrs. A.," wife of ex-Sergeant R.C. of S., 25s. a week for nine weeks to support herself and child until employment could be found for her husband. Various temporary situations obtained for the latter until recently, when a remunerative post was secured in the Colonies, and a further advance of £26 was made for the purchase of outfit. The whole being treated as a loan and repayable by instalments.

(5)—Ex-Signalman "down and out"—discovered by accident—clothed, fed, and maintained in every way for a period covering approximately three weeks at a cost to the Association of £6, during which time employment was secured for him abroad, the "Overseas Settlement Committee" communicated with, and a free grant obtained for disbursement as follows :—

Steamship passage money	...	£40	0 0
To be handed to applicant on arrival at his destination	...	10	0 0

In addition to this, and entirely due to Signals Association activities, another Charitable Fund forwarded £15 to be handed to this applicant on the day he sailed.

(6)—Ex-Signalman, stranded in London with wife and child. Situation obtained for him and £3 advanced for the purchase of suitable clothing, etc.

(7)—Ex-Sergeant R.C. of S.—wife and two children—destitute. £11 15s. advanced to the wife for maintenance over a period of 8 weeks. Employment subsequently found for the husband under the Crown Agents for the Colonies.

(8)—"Mrs. B.," widow of ex-N.C.O. R.C. of S.—in straightened circumstances—£5 advanced.

(9)—Ex-Signalman—destitute in London—£3 advanced for the purchase of working tools, etc., and employment secured.

(10)—Ex-R.E. Signals N.C.O.—"down and out." Clothed, fed, employment secured, and £5 advanced.

(11)—Ex-Signalman—out of employment through long illness. Employment secured and £9 advanced.

(12)—"Mrs. C.," wife of ex-Sergeant R.C. of S., in very straightened circumstances—30s. a week granted to support herself and three young children until employment can be found for her husband.

(13)—Ex-Signalman—well recommended by worthy people for Association assistance. Employment found, clothing supplied, and £5 advanced.

(14)—Ex-Signalman—destitute in London—employment found and £5 advanced.

(15)—Ex-Signalman—recommended by prominent officials for Association assistance—£7 advanced.

(16)—"Mrs. D.," widow of ex-N.C.O. R.C. of S., in distressed circumstances. £3 advanced.

(17)—Ex-Signalman—offered employment with free passage to Australia—£4 advanced towards outfit, etc.

(18)—Ex-Signalman with wife and three children destitute in South of England. Employment offered in Midlands, and £10 advanced to cover cost of moving his family, etc.

In all, £121 has been paid out in relief or temporary assistance to 21 ex-N.C.O.s and men or their widows, between February, 1921, and 31st March, 1922.

Old Clothing.

With winter approaching, the President of the Fund again appeals for old civilian clothing, underclothing, boots, and greatcoats. Clothing is not only wanted from time to time for men who are "down and out," but also for men for whom employment has been obtained and who stand in need of a decent suit to carry them on until pay day arrives. It happens sometimes that without a decent suit, or respectable boots, a man cannot take up a job which he has been offered. We do not wish to have to buy clothing, though on one occasion we had to buy two sets of cook's white aprons, etc., to enable a man to take up a post he had been offered. Parcels should be addressed to—

The Secretary,
The Signals Association,
Stamford Brook Lodge,
Ravenscourt Park,
London, W.6.

All the clothing sent in response to the last appeal in 1921 has now been used up.

BENEVOLENT FUND "PRESENTATIONS" FOR ORPHANAGES.

For some time past the Committee of the Signals Association has had under consideration the desirability of acquiring, for the benefit of the rank and file of the Corps, some more solid and permanent "benefit" than is afforded by the mere granting of relief and assistance to needy ex-members. There are quite a number of what I will call permanent "benefits" which could be purchased. The controlling factor is of course the funds available. Therefore after making considerable enquiries, it was decided to purchase, as a commencement, two "Presentations," one for a boy and one for a girl, at suitable Homes, for orphans of ex-members who served as N.C.O.s or men in the Royal Corps of Signals or R.E. Signal Service.

The two Orphanages selected, after enquiry and inspection, are :—

"The Homes for Little Boys" at Farningham, Kent.
"The Girls' Orphanage" at Hampton, Middlesex.

"The Homes for Little Boys" at Farningham is an institution, under Royal patronage, where over 300 boys of all denominations are cared for and educated. At the age of 14 years they leave the schools and enter the Trades Departments of the Homes, to be thoroughly trained, both theoretically and practically, in Printing, Carpentry, Bootmaking, Tailoring, Farming and Gardening, Baking, Cooking, Painting, Decorating, and Plumbing, according to their choice.

The children can be received from the earliest age, providing they are old enough to walk, up to the age of 10. One of the very many excellent features of these Homes is that the boys are not massed together in one barrack-like building, but are housed in separate "cottages." Each "cottage" holds from 20 to 30 boys, and each has its own Matron and staff.

Normally the boys remain until they reach the age of 18 years. Many remain longer, and some leave earlier, according to circumstances, but each boy receives a thorough training to enable him to make his own way in the world.

The schools, feeding arrangements, trades departments, laundry, and, generally speaking, all the "domestic" arrangements, are up to date. Games are taught. There is a Boy Scout Section. Those boys who do not go home, or if orphans to guardians or approved friends, for the holidays go to camp in the summer vacation.

The Swanley Home, which is affiliated to the Farningham Homes, is for the special training of boys to become officers in the Mercantile Marine. Boys who so desire, and who are physically and educationally fit, and who are recommended, can be transferred from Farningham to Swanley at about the age of 12 years to undergo their sea training.

"The Girls' Orphan Home" at Hampton (Incorporated).

Girls are admitted to this Orphanage, which is on a smaller scale than the "Little Boys Homes," between the ages of 3 and 13 years. They are educated and then trained for domestic service until the age of 16, when endeavours are made to find suitable situations for them. The religious teaching is undenominational. The Home is controlled by a Committee, and is under the immediate supervision of a resident Matron, who has a staff which includes a governess and two assistants.

The domestic side of this Home, feeding, clothing, and housing, also the school hours and recreation, have been looked into and appear to be entirely satisfactory. The children look well and happy. If a girl admitted to the Home on the Signals Association Presentation shows any marked ability she will, funds permitting, be transferred, at a suitable age, to some other establishment where more advanced educational training can be given. Girls can go home, or to "approved friends," for the holidays. A girl who has been trained in the Home and who has gone out to employment can, when out of a situation, find a temporary home at the Orphanage.

Both of the above Homes have been inspected by myself, and I feel that they in every way meet our requirements.

It will be as well perhaps to mention that both are entirely free from the least suggestion of being "Reformatories." This point has been kept in view from the first.

The annual cost of maintaining two children at these Homes will be a considerable item in the expenditure of the Benevolent Fund. It is estimated at £40 per child. Until the income accruing from invested Funds is sufficient to meet these charges, the balance required will have to be met from the current account of the Fund. If it is found that there are a large number of applications for vacancies for these Homes, the Committee would wish to extend the scheme so as to place four or more children in these, or other, Homes

next year. It is felt that no more practical method of spending the income of the Benevolent Fund investments could be found than that of caring for and giving a "good opportunity" to orphans of our Corps who are placed in dire poverty.

The "destitution" in which some ex-members of the Corps have presented themselves at the Secretary's office may, or may not, be partly or wholly their own fault. But when we see a hungry little child, we can only regard it as an object for unqualified sympathy.

To look at the question from another angle. Money paid out to a man who is in distress may be money well-nigh thrown away. We make all enquiries that time and opportunity allow. But we cannot always be certain that the need is genuine. Only lately we discovered that a man to whom we had paid out £5 in various sums was spending most of it at the public-house. Needless to say his latest demand has been "turned down." But if we spend £40 a year in clothing, feeding, educating, and training a destitute, or well-nigh destitute, child, we *know* that we are doing some real good with our money.

Now, the Success and Expansion of this Scheme depends on YOU.

If it appeals to you and you haven't subscribed to the Benevolent Fund, start subscribing NOW.

PRINCIPLES WHICH WILL GUIDE THE CORPS COMMITTEE IN THE ELECTION OF A CANDIDATE TO EACH OF THE ABOVE HOMES.

(1)—The candidate must be the fatherless child of an N.C.O. or man of the R.C. of S. or R.E. (Signal Service).

(2)—The mother, if alive, or, if she has died, the guardians, of the child, must, if required, be able to produce proof of poverty or other good reason why the child should be admitted to the Home.

(3)—If the mother has married again, her children are ineligible for election. If she re-marries while the child is in the Home, the child will, in all probability, be withdrawn from the Home, though each such case would be considered on its merits.

(4)—Feeble-minded children are ineligible. A medical certificate on a form which will be provided will have to be furnished in support of final election. A second medical inspection will be made in London immediately before admission to the Home.

(5)—The mother, or guardians, of a child to whom election is offered by the Corps Committee will be required to guarantee that she, or they, will not remove the child from the Home without previously satisfying the Corps Committee as to the validity of her, or their, reasons for so doing.

(6)—She, or they, will also agree to accept and abide by the regulations laid down from time to time by the Governing Body of the Home in question.

(7)—**Little Boys' Home.** Candidates must be under the age of 10 years on February 1st, 1923, and, if infants, be able to walk.

(8)—**Girls' Home.** Candidates must be under the age of 13 years, but not younger than 3 years, on February 1st, 1923.

METHOD OF APPLYING FOR A VACANCY AT ONE OF THE ABOVE HOMES.

It is preferred that applications should be received through the medium of an officer or senior N.C.O. of the Corps, or of the R.E., but if this should be impossible, the mother or guardians can send a post-card direct to the Secretary to ask for a form to be sent to her or them.

An officer or N.C.O. on receiving an application from the widow, or guardian, of an orphan of an N.C.O. or man of the R.C. of S., or R.E. (Signal Service), can, by sending a *postcard* to—

The Secretary, Signals Association, Stamford Brook Lodge, Ravenscourt Park, London, W.6,

obtain a form for the widow or guardian to fill in. It will be stated on the postcard if the application is in respect of a boy or girl.

The completed form must be returned to the Secretary of the Signals Association not later than December 16th, 1922, for submission to the Committee.

It is particularly requested that applicants will not, until asked to do so, forward to the Secretary, or any member of the Committee, letters in support of their applications. The form alluded to above will give the Committee all the information necessary for a first review of each case. Any letters sent contrary to this request will be disregarded.

The applicant will be required to state on the application form the names and addresses of three persons who can give reliable and impartial evidence as to the accuracy of the more important claims to consideration. These persons must be Clergymen, Doctors, Magistrates, Officers of the Royal Corps of Signals, or others whom the Committee will be willing to accept as reliable witnesses to essential facts.

Only the names, occupations, and addresses are required with the first application. The signatures of the guarantors will be called for by the Committee, if required, when making the final selection.

As it may well happen that mothers and guardians of children who come under the terms of the rules laid down above may not see THE WIRE, which is the only medium through which this benefit has been announced, and that consequently really deserving cases may not come to the knowledge of the Committee, it is hoped that any officer, N.C.O. or man of the Corps who has knowledge of a *really deserving case*, will take steps to bring the terms of this "presentation" to the notice of the mother or guardians.

In asking members of the Corps to do this, and in asking them also to be the usual medium for forwarding and recommending applications for election, the Committee earnestly ask that only cases believed to be those of genuine need may be forwarded.

It is probable that a considerable number of applications will be received. The Committee do not wish to have to expend time and money in investigating cases which will prove to be ineligible. The task of selecting the two most deserving out of all the really genuine cases will be sufficiently difficult.

A. H. FRENCH, Lieut.-Col.,
President,
Signals Association Benevolent Fund.

SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED.

The President of the Benevolent Fund gratefully acknowledges the sum of £57 1s. 3d. from Major C. L. Day, R.C.S., Officer Commanding Cork Signal Co. This sum represents the balance of funds of the 6th Divisional Telegraph Company, R.E.

Maresfield Notes.

Headquarters.

We have reluctantly said good-bye to Corpl Featherstone on his return to civil life. "Feather" had been at Headquarters since 1919, and he will be sadly missed, but we all wish him every success and happiness in the future.

By the time these notes appear, the S.T.C. Library (situated in Hut 68, behind the German guns) will have opened. A splendid variety of books has been obtained, for which there should be a great demand during the coming winter. All ranks are entitled to join. There is no subscription, a deposit being made when a book is issued and refunded on the return of the book in good condition. Every taste has been catered for, and such recent publications as "If Winter Comes," "This Freedom," "Charles Rex," and "Tell England" appear in the catalogue.

The first draft of the season leaves for India on the 19th September, and our best wishes go with them. Among them is our ex-chief clerk, whom we hope will prosper in whatever billet he finds.

The Corps cricket team failed to win the Army Championship, but it was some solace to find that our conquerors, the R.A.M.C. (Aldershot) were the ultimate winners of the competition.

The Corps soccer team has not yet played in any other than friendly matches, but their form justifies the hope that several trophies will find their way to Maresfield this season.

Persistent rumours of the Camp's migration are still current. To date we hold a list of forty-nine places to which "I have heard we are going." Any suggestions for the half century, please? Brighton seems the most popular location so far.

Old friends will be interested to hear that Sigmn R. G. Smith, formerly a typist at this H.Q., has been having some exciting times during the recent civil war in China.

The re-introduction of reduced railway fares, with effect from October 1st, has given general satisfaction. Our sympathy is extended to a Scotsman whose pass dated from the 30th of September.

E. S. H.

Maresfield Topics—No. 8.

Drafts.

1. Now winter draweth nigh, cometh the breeze, and with the breeze the "draft" and the "wind."

2. Now in the land of Mare which is Field, there was much commotion and searching of hearts when the winter drew nigh.

3. For it came to pass that in the month when the leaves of the trees did fall, there arose such a "draft" that the like of which man remembereth not.

4. For many score warriors were bidden to set sail for lands afar.

5. Some were bidden to set forth unto the Orient, to the land of Ind, others to Constan, some to Mespot which is Iraq, and others to the land of storms which is Ire.

6. And notwithstanding that all the warriors in the wilderness of Mare which is Field had been lamenting the fate that kept them in so sorry a dwelling, they did all with one accord begin to make complaint, one saying,

7. I have taken unto myself a wife, and to her the sight of an Ethiopian, that is black, nay even a sweeper of chimneys, is an abomination in her sight; therefore I cannot go.

8. And another sayeth, For three years have I sought a dwelling-place in this wilderness, and now that my search is rewarded, am I to set forth unto a place that I know not?

9. And one sayeth, I have bought a piece of ground and the time of harvest is nigh. Am I not to reap the fruits of my labours and the just reward that I have earned with the sweat of my brow?

10. And yet another did reason in this manner, Do not I play the game which is football against the rivals of our Corps, and do I not thereby give pleasure unto my comrades? Who will take the place that is mine if I go?

11. And behold, it came to pass that many were called but few chosen, for in those days the art of "wangling" was of an exceeding high order.

12. Nevertheless there were those whose hearts were filled with joy at the tidings of their going.

13. For these were they that had tarried in the wilderness for many years, and whom the net of fate was beginning to encompass.

14. For like Jehu in the time of old, these warriors had "unto every man a damsel or two."

15. And they said, These few damsels that dwell in this wilderness are getting too wise for us, and what are they amongst so many?

16. And amongst the wives of the warriors was there both weeping and rejoicing, but the reason of their joy and the reason for their sorrow is not for a humble scribe to tell, for verily the ways of women passeth all understanding.

E. S. H.

D Company.

We are pleased to welcome our O.C. back to duty from "ambling around the Hamble'" and hope that he feels better for his holiday.

We have to say good-bye to C.Q.M.S. Mills this month, as he is leaving us for India. He was one of our oldest inhabitants, and ever to the fore in all sports. We shall miss him very much, but our loss will be India's gain. Sergt Skinner is his successor. Good luck, "Brusher!" the Company's good wishes and thoughts follow you.

Cricket.

Our cricket fate has been decided, and not too kindly either. F Company accomplished what we failed to do in beating the School of Signals. On 29th August, after a very enjoyable game, they also beat us. Well, we are very disappointed, naturally, but we will be the first to congratulate F on their team's performance this year. All round they are becoming real demons. Their team at the recent S.T.C. Rifle Meeting left everybody else fairly gasping.

Shooting.

Talking of rifle meetings, the first annual S.T.C., Royal Corps of Signals Rifle Meeting, was held at

Oxteddle Bottom, Lewes, on August 14th-20th, and a most enjoyable week was spent. The Company prize winners were as follows:—

Teams—No. 3 (500 yards, 15 rounds rapid), 2nd. Capt. Roberts, Sergt Revell, Sergt Skinner, Corpl McNeil, Sergt Waller, Sigmn Mitchell.

Individual—Class A Sharpshooting.—Corpl McNeil. Class B (200 yards), Sigmn Mitchell.

The pool ball was very popular, and the following (after spending small fortunes) managed to find the spot:—Capt Roberts, Sergt Revell, and Corpl McNeil.

We were very disappointed about the small number of entries by the Company, and cannot understand it. This would be a good opportunity of letting the Company know that with a few more entries we have the making of a good team. We are entering two teams in the Sussex County Rifle Association Prize Meeting at the Mile Oak Range, Portslade, on 29th and 30th September, and we hope to relieve the Machine Gun School, Seaford, of the Sussex Sharpshooting Championship, and "Eddie" Company of the Mhow Challenge Cup. We shall, too, if we only get the necessary support.

Football.

We have played one trial match so far, and we have the making of a fine Company team. We have now enough gear to fit out two complete teams, and every man in the Company will be given opportunity and encouragement to blossom forth as a "Dimmock." It must be thoroughly realised that *everybody* cannot play in the Company team, but everybody can support those who do. A very efficient non-playing selection committee has been formed, and will be stern but just judges. Any suspicion of unduly rough or unsportsmanlike play will be dropped upon with a very heavy hand. It is hoped that this will be unnecessary, though. We always have been a sporting crowd, ever able to lose as well as win, and we intend to keep up that reputation. Good luck to our team during the present season!

Field Events.

Pole jumping, javelin, throwing the hammer, and throwing the discus, will be items in all future Army sports, and Lieut Woodbridge is arranging instruction for anybody who feels inclined to try his hand.

Now let's have plenty of triers. We are good at all other events, and it is up to us to keep our good name afloat.

Hockey.

Lieut Woodbridge has high hopes of our team this season, and some of my remarks about soccer apply to hockey also.

DOX.

Overheard at Uckfield Carnival.—Collector: "Spare a copper, please?" Married N.C.O.: "Can't afford it." Collector: "Can't afford it! Why?" Married N.C.O.: "Just paid my rent in Uckfield."

Man up the pole: "Lend us your pliers, Bill."

Man at foot of pole: "'Aint got none; wait a jiffy, and I'll get some." (Disappears for a few minutes).

Man at foot of pole (returning): "Sorry, mate, they ain't got no 'Pliyers'; will a 'Gold Flake' do?"

School of Signals.



School of Signals Celebrities—No. 3.

"Round the world, sir? Certn'ly, sir!
via Buxwarp, Nutsdown, and the Tech. Stores!"

General.

Not the least pleasing feature of the past month has been the advent of impromptu dances in the club room during the evenings. A few bars, and there are several couples on the move. A fine innovation, and one that we hope will continue.

As a prelude to the gyrations, the members are invariably entertained by Madame Peache Melb and her partner at the piano. Their rendering of "Pomp and Circumstance" will long be remembered by those privileged to hear it (very long remembered). Unfortunately very few waited for the completion, so effectively was it rendered. Whether the Committee will request Tosti's "Good-bye" at 9.25 each evening is a matter for conjecture.

Although few, the casualties this month are interesting. Cormack has left us for the T.B. with a view to being discharged, while the Navy will sail in other waters. We welcome to the School C.Q.M.S. Hewitt as our Quartermaster-Sergeant. Although a newcomer, an introduction is hardly necessary, so 'nuff said. Congratulations to Henno on becoming an immortal. William Evan must be pleased.

Football.

King Willow has handed over to the big ball, and for the next six months we shall be struggling for points, and incidentally doing our best with the short list.

Our first serious match was played on the 7th against "Don," a fast game resulting in a draw, each side scoring four times. Seeing that our left back was limping within ten minutes of the kick-off, we are well satisfied with the result. A feature of the game was a great display of goalkeeping by "Jim," which left us more mystified than ever as to why he has not yet donned a Corps sweater. The result of this match augurs well for the future.

On the same day our juniors very unluckily lost by one goal to nil, a converted penalty being sufficient to give "Don" the points.

Chats on Admin. Change.

Business went with a bang at the end of the month, commotion being caused by the arrival af Ricochets.

Barrels were very dull, due to a sudden rush of 303's, but brightened up considerably when Butt Traps opened out.

Greybacks were very ragged, causing Kits to be viewed with disfavour.

Steel Helmets wobbled, while a rise on the roster was followed by a heavy demand for Crowns.

A staggering feeling of helplessness was caused in one quarter by the downward rush of Hops.

Old Comrades.

Sigmn Peachey, of the School, would like to hear from Sigmn J. G. O'Donnell, last heard of in India. (Reply by THE WIRE).

"The Coming of Pat O'Samson."

Now it came to pass that on the day of Carnival, there came to the city of Brighton one of the tribe of Admin, who was a driver of chariots in the armies of the King. Of comely look and dandy stature, he had long been a bewitcher of damsels and the favourite of pump rooms. By the tribe was he called "Paddy," for did he not come from the Island of Paddies?

Thus did it happen that as he gazed at the revellers in the city of Brighton, the steed of the leader did stagger, wax exceeding weary, and did lie upon the ground. Then did Paddy stretch forth his hand and banish the weariness from the eyes of the steed, and did ride in triumph through the city.

Now on the day that followed, he girded his loins and took him to the city of the Wells, crying unto them, "Hearken unto me, ye damsels of this city, for did I not carry the steed in the city of Brighton?" And they called him Pat O'Samson.

Now there dwelt in the tribe of Admin other drivers of chariots who waxed wroth when the news was brought them. And they did go to the city of the Wells, crying, "Hearken not ye to the trumpet of O'Samson, for his face is wrapped in swandown, and his tongue is of evil." And the maidens of the city cast forth O'Samson, bidding him to take his trumpet to his own tribe.

FUNDS are required to assist deserving Ex-Signalmen. Donations, however small, would be gratefully received by the Treasurer, "Signals" Benevolent Fund, Stamford Brook Lodge, Ravenscourt Park, W.6.

R.E. Old Comrades' Association.

Patron—H.M. THE KING.

The Tenth Annual General Meeting and Sixth Annual Dinner will take place at the Georgian Restaurant, Harrods Ltd., Brompton Road, S.W.1, on Saturday, October 14th, 1922, under the chairmanship of Lieut.-Gen. Sir Ronald C. Maxwell, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., Col.-Commandant Royal Engineers. The Meeting at 3 p.m. and the Dinner at 6 for 6.30 p.m. Tickets for Dinner (exclusive of liquid refreshment), 6s. 6d. each, are obtainable from the Editor, THE WIRE.

A Metamorphosis.

Brown was a recruit who had just joined our Company. The fact that he *was* a recruit was most apparent. A more slovenly, unkempt, and careless specimen had never disgraced us. From the first he displayed a marked aversion to the ordinary canons of cleanliness. His boots and buttons were a disgrace; his tunic and breeches were soiled; his cap was invariably on the back of his head, with the badge in any but its correct position. How he managed to escape perpetual C.B. for not shaving was a mystery. He had one virtue: he was never accused of wasting water—for no one ever saw him wash twice within twenty-four hours.

After a few months with us, in which we had vainly striven to make him reform, a most remarkable change commenced.

It started one morning by Brown combing his hair. It was the talk of the Company for the rest of the day. Before we had recovered from the shock, Brown came in with a bottle of "Poppies and Pansies," with which he plentifully besprinkled his hair. We hardly slept that night, but more was to come. The next evening he was seen in the ablution hut, washing—the second wash that day. Speculation was rife regarding the cause of this proceeding. The theory most generally favoured was that there was a "woman in the case," but this was eventually turned down for the simple reason that he did not leave the camp. The mystery deepened. Shock followed shock in rapid succession. A day or two later he was seen to manicure his fingernails with a jack knife, and the two washes per day continued.

The climax was reached one Thursday, on the occasion of a G.O.C.'s inspection, when Brown's appearance would have satisfied the most fastidious of R.S.M.s. His hair was not too long or too short, his khaki was spotless, his buttons brilliant, his grips well "advanced," his spurs like silver, and his boots a veritable advertisement for "Cherry Blossom." The metamorphosis was complete.

As it was pay-night, we did not notice that Brown was not in the hut that night, and it was not until the following morning that we missed him.

At last the secret was out: Brown had gone on leave!

E. S. H.

With Signals in Cairo.

Headquarters, Egypt.
September 7th, 1922.

The heat has not by any means abated, and its effect is being felt all round despite a liberal supply of electric fans and lots of iced "pop." It has not yet been established whether the contributions printed underneath are the result of prolonged residence in this country, but if this turns out to be the case, one wonders what the Editor's post bag is likely to contain in about four years' time.

Sport.

In the way of sport, there is not so much doing as impending.

The "locals" still continue to carry on with cricket, but most interest centres in the forthcoming football and hockey seasons. Winter sports, despite the fact that the climate of this country is sub-tropical, seem to be more keenly followed.

At Alexandria, in the Command championship swimming competition, the Corps were successful to the extent of being runners-up in the relay race, Lieut Owens and L/Sergt Robertson being the representatives of this Company.

With regard to boxing, the Committee are on the look-out for a team. In this respect we have been fortunate to have Sigmn Conwell, an exponent of the "gentle art," transferred from Wireless Company.

In the "best all-round unit" competition, the Corps at present tie with the R.A.M.C. for second place in the Command with six points (the leaders are two points ahead), arrived at as follows:—Cricket 3, tennis 1½, and swimming 1½ points.

Training.

Intensive musketry training is in progress, and the square resounds with "rapid fire," "load," etc., while in the lecture-room "culminating points," "drift," etc., and the discussions arising therefrom, tend to take away the fed-up feeling that comes from excessive drill movements.

Personal.

Congratulations to L/Sergts Deyermond, Robertson, Whelan, Baker, Strange and Sergeant, and to Corpls. Haynes, Mann, and Briddon, on attaining their respective ranks.

We are about to lose our orderly room sergeant—L/Sergt Dillon. Our good wishes will follow him to India on his transfer to the I.U.L.

The recent general exodus to Alexandria on leave has resulted in a general change in the appearance of the Company on parade, the tan of the holiday-makers contrasting with the comparative paleness of those who have been in Cairo for some time without a holiday.

The Company has been re-inforced by the remains of Signal Company, Palestine, which unit has been disbanded on transfer of Palestine lines of communication to the Royal Air Force administration.

W. R. C.

The Best Method of Rearing Bully.

Report of a meeting held at Old Ismailia Palace Camp to discuss this subject:—

The suggestion of the unconscious humorist to the Messing Committee that bully beef should, in hot climates, be stored in an incubator, has given rise to a lively discussion as to the best methods of rearing bully for use both in the mess and in the hockey field during the forthcoming season.

The meeting was first of all regaled with an excellent exposition of King's English "as she is spoke." Whether the lecturer had been taking an absorbing interest in canteen matters was not revealed, but quoting from Roget's "Thesaurus of English Words and Phrases," "The Alexandria and District Telephone Directory," and Hugo's "English in Three Months without a Master," many new facts came to light. For instance, chickens are reared in an incinerator, and an agitator is a small disc on a telephone switchboard informing the operator that one imbiber wishes to converse with another.

At the request of the chairman, however, the lecturer was persuaded to desist, and the literary part of the discussion postponed "ad referendum."

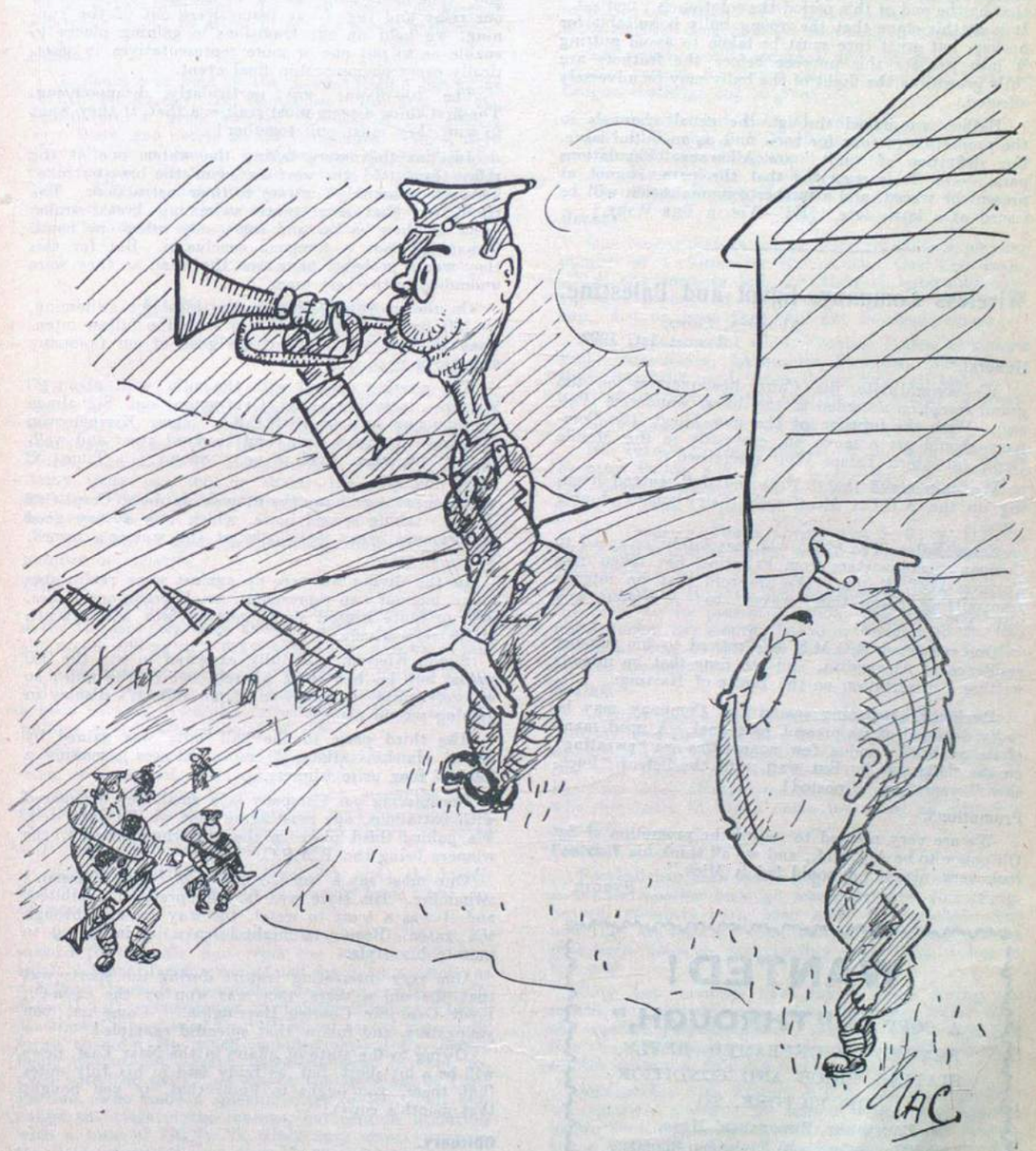
The derivation of the word "bully" was exhaustively treated (both as regards derivation and debaters), and the consensus of opinion among the literary lions was that the word had originally developed from the cynical query of some "venerable other rank"—"Bull, eh?"

The origin of the species bully, known to ancient alchemists as "bullius venerabilites resuscitatus," formed the *piece de resistance* among the 1st class education certificate candidates, whose knowledge of chemistry left their less enlightened colleagues (or should I say confederates?) rather at sea.

The discussion waxed fast and furious, but from a conglomeration of chemical and physical technicalities there finally emerged the astounding knowledge that when microscopic shreds of disintegrated leather are raised to a temperature of 2000°F., and gradually cooled to 500°F. at normal atmospheric pressure, the bully atoms in the leather are caused to flow from east to west instead of from south to north.

For the benefit of the less enlightened, this was explained as a change on the part of the atoms from marching in file to marching in line. A facetious individual, who insisted on being informed of the effect of a "right form," had at this point to be ejected.

However, to come back to the atom. In the cooling process, the substance being cooled combines with minute portions of atmospherics and loose parts of the surface of the crucible to form crystals. These crystals contain the bully embryo. However, the embryo has very little commercial value, and a process of fertilization has to be resorted to before the bully is of value. Placed in a sealed jar containing a weak solution of alcohol (Scotsmen are reminded that a weak solution does not mean 100 parts alcohol to 1 part water), at the end of six days the embryo can plainly be seen to be alive, and an appreciable difference in the level of the solution can be noticed.



Trumpeter, what are you sounding now?

At the end of a further six days the young bully can be liberated, but those O.R.s who contemplate re-mustering as "bully operators" are solemnly warned that by the end of this period the solution is "non est." It is at this stage that the young bully is suitable for hockey, but great care must be taken to avoid putting it into use for this purpose before the feathers are fully grown, as the flight of the bully may be adversely affected.

Bullies are issued through the usual channels in the proportion of four for each unit as an initial issue. For definition of "unit," see Allowance Regulations para. ——. It is regretted that the para. cannot at present be traced, and a further communication will be issued at a later date. [Ed.—*Not* in THE WIRE.]

Wireless Company, Egypt and Palestine.

Abbassia, Cairo,
August 1st, 1922.

General.

We congratulate the Cairo headquarters on the grand reception accorded to the desert wanderers (Palsec). With the infusion of the new blood, the Company should get a move on, especially in the Mobile Dept. (in which Palace W/T specialised.)

We understand that "Mutt and Jeff" intend livening up the N.C.O.s Mess with their famous double turn.

Sergt Yates (Tec Car), who has lately returned to Company headquarters from Palestine, has taken over Polygon W/T Station. We are told that he intends transmitting calibration waves to Arlington and "W. X."

Our respected R.Q.M.S. has retired to his summer residence at Alexandria, and we hear that he intends writing a dissertation on the Battle of Hastings.

During the trooping season the Company may be sadly depleted of its present personnel. A good many of its celebrities and a few nonentities are "sweating" on the "big ship." But wait until the list of "buckshee" year men is posted!

Promotions.

We are very pleased to record the promotion of Sgt O'Connor to be A/C.S.M., and we all think his "civies" look very nice. "A bould lad is Mick."

REGGIE.

WANTED!

A COPY OF **"THROUGH,"**
FRAMED OR UNFRAMED—REPLY,
STATING PRICE AND CONDITION
OF PICTURE, TO
PRESIDENT, SERGEANTS' MESS,
44th (Home Counties) Divisional Signals,
STAMFORD BROOK LODGE,
RAVENSCOURT PARK, LONDON, W.6.

Constantinople Signal Company.

The Army aquatic sports were held on Sept. 1st and 2nd. The heats were run off on the 1st, and although our relay and tug-of-war teams were out of the running, we held up our traditions in gaining places to enable us to put one or more representatives in practically every championship final event.

The tug-of-war was particularly disappointing. The first thing a team must realise is that, if they want to win, they must pull together!

Just as they were taking the water, one of the relay team told the rest to swim the breast stroke. This was absolutely contrary to their instructions. The result was that some were swimming breast-stroke, some on their backs, and some only using one hand. The result was a foregone conclusion. But for this they would probably have won the final, as they were undoubtedly the best team.

On the great day, which was ideal for swimming, we left for Moda (Asia Minor) with the fullest intentions of doing our best for the good of our Company and Corps.

The meeting opened with the mile, with about 20 starters (including Corpl Overington and Signalmen Kiernan and Luther, all R.C.S.). Sigmn Kiernan won this event in grand style, and received great and well-earned applause. Well done, "Snowy." Time, 38 mins., 4/5 secs.

The next event was the fifty yards dash, Corpl Cox (R.C.S.) taking second place, which was a very good performance when one looks at the winner's record. Time: 32 secs.

In the diving we were up against some really star turns, but our two representatives, Kiernan and Jones, put up quite a good show, gaining fifth and seventh places respectively.

Sigmn Kiernan was fully expected to win the 200 yards, but he had tired himself out in the mile; so we were quite contented in Sigmn Effland's display in gaining second place.

The third place in the half mile was gained by Sigmn Hawkins (time, 20 mins. 38 secs.), making a total of four prize winners.

Considering our Company is a small unit compared with battalions, one must agree that we did very well. We gained third place in the unit championship, the winners being the R.A.S.C.

One must say a word in praise of Sigmn Kiernan's swimming. His style was far the prettiest exhibited, and it was a treat to watch the way he cut through the water. Beginners might learn a lot in trying to imitate his style.

One very interesting feature during the sports was that the old soldiers' race was won by the C.-in-C., Lieut.-Gen. Sir Charles Harrington. Come on, you youngsters, and follow that splendid example!

Owing to the state of affairs in the Near East, news will be a bit short, but, as Eddy said in his July notes (but there, you ought to know that, *if* you bought that month's copy).

Obituary.

We regret to announce the death of 2310630 Sigmn J. F. Dickson, late of P Company, Crowborough. Many will remember him as a winger of P Company's team last year, and a good sort he was. He was laid to rest

in the Crimean Cemetery at Haidar Pasha, a town situated near the Gulf of Ismid, Asia. In him we lose a good soldier and a keen sportsman, greatly respected by all officers and men who knew him. The deepest sympathy is felt by all of us for his people at home.

Dance.

A dance was held in the Lesser Riding School at C.H.Q. on Friday, 1st September: the first of the season, and a great success. Several of our officers were there, and nearly all the Companies. Prizes were given in sport dances, including one (special) which could not be obtained brand new in England under 11¾d. All the committee are to be thanked for the splendid way in which arrangements were made to make the dance the success it was.

BLAKC.

E Divisional Signals.

Peshawar, N.W. Frontier Province.
August 23rd, 1922.

In opening our notes of the past month, we should like to say that it is with regret that we have to report the departure to the United Kingdom of Lieut A. S. Johnstone, R.E. (who has left us for the Chatham course) and Lieut C. Howard, 98th Infantry, Indian Army (who has left us under the surplus officers scheme). We wish them health and success in their new spheres.

Our record of sport for the month shows a creditable number of victories.

Cricket.

R.E. and Signals v. R.A. On August 3rd, time saved the Gunners from another defeat at our hands, the match ending in a draw with three wickets to fall.

Capt. Parsons and Lieut. Matthews, batting splendidly, sent our score up by leaps and bounds, and with a good backing from the remainder of the team, our innings closed with a total of 129.

From the opening of our opponents' innings it became obvious that, although they had a good chance of making the runs to win, a draw would be quite satisfactory to them. In spite of repeated efforts on the part of our bowlers, time arrived before we could shift them, their score being 70 for 7.

Against the Medicals on the 17th inst., the match ended in a win for Signals (a minute from time), by 83 runs.

At 06.00 hrs. Capt. Parsons and Lieut Jacob, R.E., opened for Signals, and from the start scoring was brisk. Lieut Jacob's wicket fell for 8, to a catch, as did Capt Harris's, who followed him in. Mr. G. R. Edie (I.T.D.) contributed 21 before retiring. Lieut Matthews, who joined Capt Parsons, batted vigorously for a splendid 39, which included several 6's, before being caught out. Sergt. Hebberd went in, but retired with "no score" not out on the dismissal of Capt Parsons, who made a splendid score of 94. This signalled the close of the innings, our captain declaring with a total of 178 for 5. Only very smart work in the field prevented our score from reaching a much higher figure.

Continuing at 17.30 hrs. in spite of fine bowling, the Medicals' wickets fell but slowly. As time went on it seemed doubtful whether we could win, but a fine effort on the part of our bowlers resulted in the last batsman taking up his position three minutes before stumps were to be drawn—and with a minute to spare, his wicket fell to Lieut Jacob. Corpl Joiner is to heartily congratulated on taking five wickets.

The position now occupied and the points gained by the various teams competing in the Hot Weather League challenge cup is given:—

1. Signals and R.E. 13 points.
2. M.T. and S. & T. 10 points.
3. Medicals, 10 points.
4. West Yorks, 6 points.
5. Royal Artillery 1 point.

Hockey.

Our hockey fixture list to date registers a pleasing number of victories for the month. Our first team, which has recently left for Murree, entertains high hopes of pulling off the Murree cup and the Signals cup. Let us hope they will not be disappointed!

The Departmental Club, Frontier Police, Combined Field Ambulance, Lancashire Fusiliers, West Yorkshire Regiment, and Tank Corps have all lost to us, a silent testimony to our skill in this branch of sport.

Here is the sequence of our victories:—

1st Team—v. Departmental Club, won 4—2; v. Frontier Police, won 2—0; v. C.F.A., won 4—1; v. Lancashire Fusiliers, won 5—1; v. West Yorks, won 3—1; v. Tank Corps, won 3—1.

2nd Team—v. Tanks Corps, won 3—0; v. C.F.A., won 2—1; v. Tanks Corps, won 2—1; v. Tanks Corps, won 2—0.

Lieut M. C. Howard, who has done so much to assist the team to its present position, has been away on leave during the month, but it is understood he will return in time to take his place in the team for the Murree tournaments.

Boxing.

L/Corpls Payne and Murray, and Signalmen Smith, Munday, and Rice, are hard at it training for the forthcoming boxing tournament at Cherat. We hope success will follow their efforts in this direction, as it has done those of other n.c.o.s and men who work so wholeheartedly to win a name for us in all branches of sport.

Football.

Football has been rather neglected lately on account of the hot weather furlough season being in full swing. Several members have been away on furlough, but now they are back we hope football will occupy a more prominent place in our monthly notes than it has in the past.

Only two matches have taken place during the month, and although some of our best men were away, the reserves played up well. To win one match and lose the other by only a small margin, with almost a scratch team out, is not a bad result, is it?

Against the 37th Battery R.F.A. (on their ground) we registered a win to the tune of 4—2. Ten minutes before time the score stood at 2—1 in their favour, but a sparkling effort on the part of our centre-forward, Sigmn McVicar, resulted in the game closing at 4—2 in *our* favour. To score three goals in ten minutes against such a team as the 37th Battery is no small feat, and we heartily congratulate McVicar on an especially fine effort.

On the 4th August, owing to the late arrival of our opponents, the Lancashire Fusiliers, it was only possible to play 20 minutes each way before light failed. From the start play was pretty even, and continued so until close on time, when the Lancs. broke away and scored the only goal in a keenly-contested match.

An open-air concert on the 9th inst., the first ever attempted by this unit, had a splendid reception. Commencing at 21.30, almost all seats were occupied. At 22.00 more seating accommodation was necessary, and later arrivals had to stand, every available chair and form having previously been put into use.

Things went with a swing throughout, the twenty odd performers being accorded a most gratifying reception. A vote of thanks is due to C.Q.M.S. Fitz-Maurice, of the M.T.s, who spared no pains to make the concert a success, and to C.S.M. Craig (of ours) who assisted.

Before concluding these notes we wish to congratulate those members of the Corps at home who were so successful in the Eastern Command sports and Army championships. Truly great and grand results! May success continue to follow us in all our doings, both at work and play.

Jubbulpore Notes.

Jubbulpore.

It must be nearly six months since news from the Depot appeared in THE WIRE. Since then the majority of the drafts from U.K. have been posted to various Companies. C.Q.M.S. Eldridge and Sergt Walsh have gone to Quetta, while L/Sergt Sherman has taken up his residence with D Divl. Signals at Rawalpindi. Sergts Barney, Rowe and Fleckney have joined the band of "Depot Stiffs."

The Depot football team were entered for the I.F.A. shield, but were beaten by 3 goals to nil by the Jute Mills in the first round (played at Calcutta).

Hearty congratulations to Sergt Mack on the arrival of a bonny boy!

Sergt Barber (Old Joe) has just found his way back to the mess from conducting duty to England.

Sergt Jimmy Daw some months ago visited Bombay, and has since appeared in Orders as placed on the married roll!

Jimmy has added another cup to his collection, having boxed in his old style at a recent tournament held by the 2nd Manchesters (1 minute, 1 hit, 1 fall).

Sergeants' Mess.

The officers accepted a challenge from the sergeants to a tennis match, and were beaten by nine games, greatly to the surprise of the sergeants' team. Owing to the monsoon, the return match has not yet been played; but that will no doubt bring a different result.

KI KO.

Turn to page 231 and note what the Corps Benevolent Fund is doing.

F Divisional Signals.

Jubbulpore, Aug. 30th, 1922.

General.

At the beginning of the month a whist drive and dance were held in the sergeants' mess. About 40 couples attended, and a very pleasant evening was spent. Credit is due to Sergts Hales and Sweeting and the committee who made the necessary arrangements.

Among the prize-winners were: Miss Margy (now Mrs. Edwards, Signal T.C. and Depot); Mrs. Diffy (Signal T.C. and Depot); and Sergt Caines.

The recreation and billiard room, and the library, have been opened in another part of the barracks, and now large numbers can be seen there during the evenings. Under the able charge of Sigmn Fellows, with Sigmn Claydon as librarian, we hope the new arrangement will be a complete success.

Another riding school party have commenced to say their prayers, replacing those recently qualified, among whom were Signalmen Cousins, Jones, April, Wigley and Weeks.

The Signal Depot beagles start shortly. A few keen ones are looking forward to accepting the kind invitation to attend.

The weather is now suitable for shooting. Some parties have been out, but the last obtained nothing more than a snake. We hope that party (Sergts Joe Sweeting, Tim Whelan, Jud Neal, Freddie Caines, and Nobby Clarke), will meet with better luck next time.

Lieut E. J. Murphy has proceeded to Maresfield on a long course, and we wish him success. We welcome Farrier-Sergt Huggins, who recently joined us from A Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop.

Football and Hockey.

Apart from inter-unit matches, we have played in seven local football matches since my last notes. Two wins and two draws were obtained, we being losers thrice.

Sergt Lewis and Sigmn Powner as backs, Sigmn Wallace as goalkeeper, and Ball and E. W. Smith, have played very well each time.

The state of the hockey grounds has made play possible on three occasions only. One win was recorded. Several players were absent on leave and duty, and the want of practice was felt. We have a very full fixture list for September, including three football and three hockey matches in the Command tournament.

Cricket.

We have figured in a few cricket matches (on matting wickets), dry weather favouring us each time.

On July 15th we met the Gymkhana Club on their ground at Jubbulpore. We batted first, Major Drayson and Capt Pavey going in at the commencement. Both obtained good scores, the former being eventually bowled for 72, and the latter (on being smartly caught) returning to the pavilion with 52 to his credit. Except for Signalman Ball, who hit up 15, the remainder of our side were easily dismissed.

When the Gymkhana team went in it was apparent that our friends were not the stronger team. Nine wickets fell to the bowling of Major Drayson for but 25 runs. When all were out they had obtained 67, leaving F Divl. Signals the winners by 99 runs.



We were up against a superior team on Aug. 10th, when our opponents were the Artillery Brigade, Jubbulpore. The score of 129 for two wickets in the first part of the game gave the Gunners a good start. When their last wicket fell the board showed their total to be 186. Although scores of 34 by Ball, 32 by Lieut Morgan, 21 by Hepburn, and 19 by E. W. Smith were put up, our total was only 134 runs, and the Gunners had won by 52 runs.

On August 17th we journeyed to the Ridge, Jubbulpore, where we were entertained by the 2nd Manchester Regiment in their compound. Our comrades—and victors as they turned out to be—gave us a fine game, and everybody enjoyed the outing, although it was at times somewhat hot.

Our batting and bowling on this occasion were not good, and as in the match with the Gunners we were without the services of Major Drayson. Our rivals were fortunate in having Lieut Hollins, who obtained over a century.

After taking first innings, we were sent out to field with 116 standing to our name. The other side led after their fifth wicket had fallen, finally totalling 230, and winning by 114 runs. The best batting results on our side were: Capt Pavey, 37; Sigmn Ball, 23; Lieut Morgan, 31; Sigmn Smith, 10. Sigmn Powner took most wickets.

G Divisional Signals.

Kohat.

Here we are again! Still sweating and exercising the military prerogative of grousing! Never mind, I s'pose we'll *all* get on the *first* boat! We're all entitled to, anyway, aren't we, Bramble? It'll have to be rather an out-size in boats, though, built to hold about 12,000, I should imagine.

Things have been very quiet in Kohat during the past month, the main excitement being quinine parade and inoculation. The "powers that be" seem to be under the impression that we positively like being converted into temporary pincushions.

Since writing last we have received a further draft of "heroes" from the Irish and Iraq fronts, and we hear nearly as many conversations commencing, "Well, when *we* were in Meso," etc., etc. (ad nauseum) as previously we heard, "Well, in *my* regiment." However, we extend a hearty welcome to the arrivals (few more for Picquet-Orderly Sergeant) and trust they are now enjoying the bracing air and multitudinous pleasures (?) of Parachinar, whither the majority went after enjoying (?) a few days at Kohat.

Congratulations to Corpls Lee, Swaine and Hinchley on their promotion to that rank, and also to L/Corpls Bramble, McCall, McFarlane, O'Donnell, Baverstock, Clarke, Murphy, Earle, Castell, and Martin, on attaining *that* dizzy height.

During the past month we have lost no less than five officers: Capt C. H. Regan rejoining his unit, Lieuts O. C. Noel and J. W. Hosgood retiring under the surplus officer scheme, and Lieuts W. D. McGregor and R. G. Leonard leaving for a course at Maresfield.

Very little has been done in the way of sport during the past month, except that the Corporals' Mess champion defeated the Sergeants' Mess champion by 2 up and 1 to play at "shuv-appeny," or (to speak in the "bat") push pice. We have, however, had a couple of football matches here, defeating the M.T. and R.A.M.C. (combined) on two occasions, by 6—1 and 3—1; and I hear that the detachment at Parachinar drew with the R.A.F. with 2—2.

Over the results of some of the Kohat hockey matches I think it would be more polite to draw a kindly veil and, as Brer Rabbit says, "lie low and say nuffin." We are hoping, however, to send a warm team to the Murree tournament, which commences on August 21st, and for which certain "scroungers" have wangled "buckshee" leave over and in addition to the regulation month. Now, shut up, ex-storeman!

The Meeting of the Polar Club.

This event, which was to have taken place on Jan. 8th last, when we were going on parade at 04.00 hrs. (roughly) in shorts and shirts, had to be postponed owing to the excessive heat prevailing at the time.

The chair (and the biscuit) was taken at umpteen-umpteen hours by Sir Gee-Smith (the posh admi.), ably supported by Lord Tree-Rat, and among the guests were Mr. and Mrs. Peggy (and all the little Peggies), and a host of friends of the Polar Section of the Signals.

The dinner, which consisted of meat cutlets, salmon cutlets, and many others of the cutlet tribe too numerous to mention (to say nothing of crumb and battered steak), was ably prepared by Messrs. King, No. 1 (The) Only Street, Kohat.

The dinner finished, toasts followed in due course. The President announced the toast, "To our old friend the 'B' File," which was drunk in iced pahni (barafe buck!) amidst tumultuous silence.

The next toast was to our worthy Vice-President, Mr. Gladys Prest. The President in his remarks extolled the recent success of Mr. Gladys Prest for the E.7 rate as "clerk" (alleged) part-worn, unfit for re-issue, modified for India, etc. He said there were not many men in Signals who could come up to the standard of our worthy Vice-President, and keep up for one hour at the rate of fast "tens" on a typewriter, split two's on a buzzer, and 2¾ miles per hour on a 4-mule push-bike.

The Vice-President showed emotion in replying, and said he was sorry he had just returned from leave at Timbuctoo. He was afraid he could not "stick the beer," but recommended everyone to drink his health in "garum pahni," which would be found together with the kidneys and toast for breakfast next morning in the dining room.

After the successful termination of the dinner, the members and friends adjourned to the smoking room, which was tastefully decorated with loops, contacts, earths, and swinging leads, etc., and a musical evening was indulged in. Sergt T—— M—— (no prizes) ably rendered that touching little ditty, beloved by all over the Kohat-Kurram Signal system, entitled, "Give us a dis by Wireless" (for a couple of hours). Signalman Moors in fine tone rendered "Another good girl gone wrong," and Corpl Hinchley rendered "The silent boy" with wonderful effect.

The one and only jigger (having kissed all the local celebrities) gave a demonstration of "necking Murree beer," but the most pathetic affair of the whole evening was Corpl S——'s rendering of "David." The accompaniment was ably given by Miss Maggie Mulley's one-string band, which discoursed horrible noises the whole evening. Unfortunately just then some evilly-disposed person turned off the refrigerating apparatus, and the temperature quickly rose from .00.00 dot to 193 in the bungalow, of 174 in the shade, and the whole congregation was last seen kudum-rucing and ilo-muting in the direction of the Murree Brewery, singing, "There's no place like home"!

SMUDGER & BRICKY.

A Leave to the Hills.

The prospect of a short stay in the hills, under conditions similar to those enjoyed in England, is looked forward to during the hot season by all whose duties keep them down on the plains, and especially those stationed on the North-West Frontier—where there is hardly anything to break the monotony of the long weary hours under a boiling sun, except of course an occasional snap by a mosquito, or a marauder paying his customary visits in the night.

Therefore, having recovered from the shock of going on leave, we hastily gathered together a few belongings and departed for Kohat railway station, where an engine and some rickety-looking carriages were drawn in.

The day had been uncommonly hot, accompanied by a duststorm of no little severity. These storms rise in the space of a few minutes, and are very uncomfortable whilst they last. The train eventually moved out, and after turning on the electric fans, letting down all the windows, sunshades, mosquito frames in the compartment, and fastening up our pockets, we fell asleep from sheer excitement.

Three days' journey saw us at Naini Tal, a mountain lake resort some 7000 feet in the Himalayas. The railway brought us through many interesting places, and across a few large rivers, but once we had left Bareilly and changed on to a narrow-gauge line the country became one dense mass of trees and waving corn, with all the signs of a rich and prosperous land. At Kathgodam the railway comes to an abrupt end, and a fleet of motor cars will take the visitor to his destination for a minimum charge. We chose a char-a-banc which did its best to overtake every vehicle on the road. As the pathway along the mountain sides is about 12 feet wide, with a yawning chasm on the starboard side (now then, you land lubbers!) it will be seen that we were not too anxious to exceed the speed limit, as the turnings which occur every few yards are no doubt a little risky, and we cast nervous looks at the valley lying a thousand or two feet below. However, after a 22 miles run along this precarious road, the car pulled up on the banks of a blue lake, and we alighted to find ourselves breathing the cool air of the mountains instead of the dust of the plains.

We found quite good accommodation at the Y.M.C.A. Hostel, which is situated some 150 feet above and overlooking the lake.

Each day a different programme is arranged, so what with swimming, boating, fishing (not to mention phat tournaments), we were fairly living the life of the idle rich, although I might mention that if the Pay Sergeant had not forwarded an advance we might have made a premature departure.

An excellent concert was provided one night, and I never enjoyed myself so much since the day when I drew my credits five years ago.

The "Amateurs" excelled themselves, quite good talent being shown, although strange to say, flowers were expected instead of applause. The C.I.C. (Lord Rawlinson) came down from Simla and played polo during the week, and as a regatta season had begun we saw a few decent yacht races, a Signal four competing in one race. The start of these was a loud roar from an iron cannon, six inches high, standing outside the boat-house door. The first time I heard one go off I nearly feel in the lake with delight! However, the days passed, during which we explored the many surrounding hills and walked miles along the lovely roads, more or less paths which lead to nowhere in particular, but admirably suited to view the scenery when the hill top has been reached; and of course the snow-clad range of mountains in the far distance is typical of those which the Mount Everest expedition will encounter.

At night time hundreds of lights can be seen dancing on the water, and the shadows of many willow trees falling on the surface give it quite a ghost-like appearance, especially on a moonlight night. A mist would sometimes creep over the hills in advance of a rainstorm, almost obliterating the further bank from view. The lake had a resemblance to the sea, its depth being estimated at 20 fathoms, and on a very still evening the water is so clear that fish can be seen 4 or 5 feet below the surface.

Time passed only too rapidly, and before we had time to telegraph for an extension of leave, it was found that we were due to return the next day. Four weeks just give one an appetite in this part of the country.

The same kind of conveyance was procured for the return trip, which was made in a blinding rainstorm. The storm did not catch us until we had got a few miles along the road, and then it descended in buckets-ful. Presently the plains could be seen laid out like a map below, a long white ribbon denoting a winding river, and a cluster of little dots a native village; but as the weather changed we were lucky to see the edge of the khuds, and consequently we felt a little anxious about the back wheel slipping away near the precipice instead of hugging the rock side.

Monkeys played in the middle of the road, and parrots hung on the telegraph lines, but we were thinking more of getting back to the parade ground than studying the beauties of nature.

So, after spending an interesting time amongst the woodlands and mountains, and having got accustomed to roaming about as we pleased, visiting the pictures, and punting a boat about, we resigned ourselves to our fate, but not without saying (this between you and me), "Roll on, the big boat."

Signal Section, Gibraltar.

We of the "Rock" Section have long been content to "sit tight" and read of other people's doings in THE WIRE, but have just decided to let Signals know of our existence.

Members of "Don" especially must think that a draft coming to Gibraltar is cut off completely from communication with the outside world, as they have seen nothing of our activities in THE WIRE.

At present we have one officer and twenty-seven other ranks to perform many and varied duties, the

greater part of which are connected with the exchange and lines both for the exchange and the R.A. position finders.

Our O.C. is Lieut L. D. Goddard, who is ably assisted by Sergt Laycock, of "Don" Company fame, and Sergt Hocking, a transfer from the R.E.s. Linemen predominate in the Section, and they well earn their place, as many of the routes on the Rock remind one of a switchback railway through the jungle. We have only this month moved into our own barracks, and are quite at home and happy now.

In sport we have not long started, but we mean to make our name known in Gibraltar. We have played seven cricket matches, of which we won four against strong teams from H.M. ships, the R.A.O.C. and R.A.M.C. Our water polo team is quite good, too, but of course we are reserving ourselves for the coming football season. We have one player of outstanding merit, Sigmn "Joe" Gresham, of Signals fame, and, with him, a good all-round team to back him up.

We have lately had to congratulate A/L/Cpl Steele on receiving his long service and good conduct medal, and A/L/Corpl J. Simmonds on being the only man in Gibraltar to obtain the new 1st class certificate of education at the examination held in April last.

We hope to be able next month to include news of many victories on the football field, and more of the Section's doings than have been chronicled in the past.

SCORPION.

Rhine Signal Company.

General News.

Before kicking off with the usual news, we should like to offer to our educational expert, L/Corpl Head, and to Foreman of Signals "Tubby" Floyd (of the Wireless), our congratulations and admiration of their pluck in entering into double harness. Their example could be followed by quite a few whose *mésalliances* might well be turned into alliances. We also tender our sympathy to the official cricket-scorer and a few others who had to reluctantly tear themselves away from the above celebrations to play cricket. We had quite a lot of runs on our score-sheet the same day.

We notice from Company Orders that Capt A. C. Allan, D.S.O., M.C., has proceeded on leave to Italy and Switzerland, and that Major A. St. J. Yates, O.B.E., M.C., R.C.S., has assumed command of this Company. Major Yates was one of the stalwarts of our hockey team last year, and hopes are entertained that he will be the same this season.

Having passed the musketry course, we are now immersed in technical training under Lieut Matthews, M.C., his chief executioners being Sergt Keenan (visual and telephony), Sergt Barratt (lines), and Sergt Adcock (cable drill). It's wonderful what we don't know! The riding school is in continuous use, the classes being under Sergt Smith, Cable Section, who seem to be developing, along with his horses, a resigned expression. It was observed the other day that the regimental policeman affords his prisoners exercise and amusement by bringing them along to watch the rides, also that other people invariably assemble to pick up points against the time when their turn arrives.

A poignant note in our life is that with the issue of the Corps badge and numerals, the blue and white armband has been withdrawn, we being now undistinguishable from the ordinary soldiers, and likely to lose our position in the eyes of the Germans as the "Corps d'elité" of the Rhine Army. It may be that we obtain various advantages by dispensing with it (for instance, the M.P.s will not be able to pick us out so readily); nevertheless, we always had a sneaking regard for the "bleu und weiss." Maybe those who sit in council will afford us some distinction.

Preparations for the Army horse show, mentioned in previous notes, are proceeding apace, our privacy being intruded upon and the fence that enclosed us being ruthlessly torn down to make place for enclosures and places for sightseers. Our pet ruin has also undergone marvellous alterations, workmen and sappers turning it into a grand stand like unto Ascot, for the use of the brass-hats. We shall take keen delight in appropriating it after the show as recompense for the ruin of our pet square, over which we understand the Artillery will perform musical drives. 'Ware defaulters and the roller afterwards.

We had a distinguished visitor the other week, the Chief-of-Staff, Earl Cavan, arriving one peaceful Sunday morning, apparently to see the aforesaid horse show ground, but really (we think) to see *us*, having heard of us, we presume. To see us better, we all being at church, he had a grand ceremonial parade in Cologne Cathedral square, our party under Capt Thorne and Lieut Sutton-Pratt presenting a picture of smartness.

We hear that we are to act as hosts to the other Allies who are competing, our spare stables and rooms being put to their use. Perhaps they will take a turn at doing the extra guard necessary; anyway, we shall have to turn up our "Hugos" and ask 'em.

Another thing noticeable is the large number and extraordinary make of cars to be seen dashing and creeping—mostly creeping—into the barracks every day. Their owners can generally be seen turning the starting handle furiously or peering into the interiors, whilst one little yellow one, "The Creeping Coffin," needs the entire staff to give a push off, or to lift up the back wheels and give a sharp twist round to start her going.

Sporting.

We ended up the cricket season as third in the Rhine Army premier league, next to the 1st Middlesex and K.R.R.C.—not a bad record for a Company team. The Section matches were a great success, everyone evincing keen interest and energy. The Cable Section, under Lt. Matthews, proved to be the winners, with Headquarters making a good second. The R.A.S.C. Section, thanks to the services of Major F. R. Cobb, beat the D.R. Section in the race for the wooden spoon. The latter should take their revenge in the coming footer games.

The goal posts having appeared, we now enter upon the football season, numerous practice games being played to find the new talent. We have entered for the premier league against the regimental and battalion teams, who are reported to have done great things in England; so though we may not top the league, we shall play better football, our reputation and dignity demanding no less.

All of us who line the touch line, though other teams may shriek about what *they* have done, will be calmly confident that our players will make them go all the way.

In the Army athletic meeting, held in early September, we did not enter for many events, technical training preventing us; and our competitors, being untrained, could not do anything. We shall have to buck up to live up to the past, and we hope to make a good show in the cross country championship on October 14th.

Social.

The wretched summer weather has prevented us from holding our annual gymkhana, which we regret very much, last year's being greatly enjoyed.

The Senior N.C.O.s Mess seem to be very quiet, and their reports say, "Nothin' doin'."

Movements.

We notice the migration of L/Sergts Cooper and Tidmarsh to Maresfield on course, and wish them success.

Sergt Shugrove, whose luck at whist drives is phenomenal, has left us for Colchester, and Sergt Johnson for Aldershot.

We regret the departure of C.Q.M.S. Piercy, W/T Section, to Maresfield, *re* Foreman of Signals Shave, whom we hope returns to us.

It is gratifying to announce the following new subscribers to THE WIRE, and their appreciation of it: Signalmen Williams, Eeles, Pinsent, Lovett, Wilcox, Hatcher and Backhouse. Others please copy!

Can anyone tell us

If we really benefitted in the great mark bubble?

P. B.

2nd Divisional Signals, Aldershot.

Our contribution must be very brief this month, owing to the space required for our sports results.

A large number of the Company will have departed on draft by the time this is published, and we wish them all the best in their new climates.

Our football team has started very well, having won their first three matches. Space will not permit of match reports, which will be published later.

Sports at Aldershot.

A very successful sports meeting was held on the Royal Engineers' recreation ground on Friday by the Royal Corps of Signals. There was a lengthy and interesting programme of mounted and dismounted events, and an additional attraction was the excellent music dispensed by the Royal Engineers Voluntary Band, under Sergt-Trumpeter H. J. Tomkinson. A great deal of fun was provided by the clowns, Driver Clark, Sigmn Cox, and Sigmn Matthews.

Sergt Bayliss, who became holder of the trophy for the best individual performance in the dismounted events, won the quarter-mile, half-mile, mile and three miles, was second in the 220 yards, and third in the 100 yards and long jump. Driver Vanlint became holder of the trophy for the mounted events. The Company cup went to No. 1 Co. 2nd Signals, with 65 points; No. 3 Co. 2nd Signals, to which Sergt Bayliss belongs, were runners-up with 47 points; and No. 1 Co. 1st Signals were third with 30 points.

The officials were: Referee, Lt.-Col. H. A. Vernon, D.S.O.; judges, Major C. J. S. Le Cornu, M.C., Capt G. H. Kent, Capt Tillard, Capt St. J. D. Arcedeckne-Butler, Lieut R. H. Mould, Lieut T. H. Lockley Turner, C.S.M.s Brown, Hayward and Harding, C.Q.M.S. Winter, Sergt Keevil, Sergt Lambourne; starters, Major C. W. M. Firth, M.C., and Sergt Evelyn; clerk of the course, C.S.M. Cawsey; timekeeper, Sgt Eyres; stewards, C.Q.M.S. Stevenson, Sergt Thomas, L/Cpls Gibbs and Brown; recorder, Sergt Goldman. The results, as published in *The Aldershot News* of August 25th, were:—

100 Yards—Sigmn Wake (No. 1 Co. 2nd Signals), 1; Sergt Grant (No. 1 Co. 2nd Signals), 2; Sergt Bayliss (No. 3 Co. 2nd Signals), 3. Won by inches. Time, 11 4/5 secs.

220 Yards—Sigmn Wake, 1; Sergt Bayliss, 2; Sergt Grant, 3. Won by 4 yards. Time, 26 2/5 secs.

440 Yards—Sergt Bayliss, 1; Sigmn Wake, 2; Sergt Witton (No. 1 Co. 2nd Signals), 3. Won by 25 yards. Time, 59 secs.

880 Yards—Sergt Bayliss, 1; Sigmn Hutchins (No. 2 Co. 1st Signals), 2; Sigmn Coppard (No. 2 Co. 1st Signals), 3. Won by 30 yards. Time, 2 min. 20 4/5 secs.

One Mile—Sergt Bayliss, 1; Sigmn Coppard, 2; Sigmn Witton, 3. Won easily. Time, 4 min, 54 secs.

Three Miles—Sergt Bayliss, 1; Sigmn Coppard, 2; Sergt Hatton (No. 1 Co. 2nd Signals), 3. Won easily.

High Jump—Sigmn Gunnell (No. 2 Co. 2nd Signals), 4 ft. 6 in., 1; Sigmn James (No. 1 Co. 2nd Signals), 2; Sigmn Lomas (No. 2 Co. 2nd Signals), 3.

Long Jump—Sigmn Lomas, 17 ft. 6½ in., 1; Sigmn James, 2; Sergt Bayliss, 3.

Putting the Shot—C.S.M. Cawsey (No. 1 Co. 1st Sigs.), 33 ft. 4½ in., 1; Sergt Grant, 2; C.Q.M.S. Gadsby (No. 1 Co. 1st Signals), 3.

Tug-of-War—No. 1 Co. 1st Signals, beat No. 1 Co. 2nd Signals, by two pulls to nil. Winning team: C.Q.M.S. Gadsby, Sergts Jones, Genge and Williams, Corpls Butcher and Keightley, Sigmn Reid, and Driver Coe; coach, Sergt Griss.

Officers' Race—Major Le Cornu, 1; Major Firth, 2; Capt Kent, 3.

All Ranks Relay Race (1320 yards, one officer, one sergeant, one corporal, one lance-corporal, one signalman, and one driver)—No. 1 Co. 2nd Signals, 1; No. 3 Co. 2nd Signals, 2; No. 1 Co. 1st Signals, 3. Won by 1 yard. Time, 2 min. 52 secs. Winning team: Major Firth, Sergt Grant, L/Sergt Harris, L/Corpl Diprose, Sigmn Wake, and Dvr. Vanlint.

Band Race—Sapper Hunt, 1; Sapper Lawson, 2; Trumpeter Crewe, 3.

Sack Race—L/Corpl Driver, 1; Sigmn Hardman, 2; Driver Westall, 3.

Old Soldiers' Race—Sergt Grant, 1; Corpl Moran, 2; L/Corpl Driver, 3.

Boys under 12—Cecil Thomas, 1; Raymond Corbett, 2; Cecil Corbett, 3.

Girls under 12—Isobel Hermitage, 1; Irene Hatton, 2; Aileen Armstrong, 3.

Three-legged Race—Sergt Gunnell and L/Corpl Penfold, 1; Sigmn Eastlake and Sigmn Jupp, 2; Corpl Moran and L/Corpl Driver, 3.

MOUNTED EVENTS.

Section Tent-Pegging (open to Aldershot Command)—R.A.S.C., 32 points, 1; 5th Bde. R.H.A., 30 points, 2; R.C. of Signals, 26 points, 3. Winning team: Q.M.S. Charlton, Sergt Barber, D.C.M., Corpl G. C. Smith, and Corpl Kiddle.

Individual Tent-Pegging—L/Corpl Diprose (No. 3 Co. 2nd Signals), 12 points, 1; Sergt Sharpley (No. 2 Co. 1st Signals), 8 points, 2.

Mounted Tug-of-War—No. 1 Co. 1st Signals, beat No. 1 Co. 2nd Signals. Winning team: Drivers McDonald, Mantell, Powell, Mussell, and Honour, and Sigmn Simpson.

Individual Jumping (two runs)—Sergt Diffy (No. 2 Co. 1st Signals), 15 flts., 1; C.S.M. Harding (No. 3 Co. 2nd Signals), 17½flts., 2; L/Corpl Penfold (2nd Co. 2nd Signals), 19½ flts., 3.

Wrestling on Horseback—No. 2 Co. 1st Signals, beat No. 1 Co. 2nd Signals. Winning team: Sergt Keevil, Sergt Wilcox, Drivers Ford, Ward, Doyle, and Davies, Signalmen Wade and Croucher.

V.C. Race—L/Corpl Penfold (No. 2 Co. 2nd Signals), 1; Driver Thornber (No. 1 Co. 1st Signals), 2; Driver Pearce (No. 1 Co. 1st Signals), 3.

Pair-Horse Jumping—Driver Mantle (No. 1 Co. 1st Signals), 1; Driver Vanlint (No. 1 Co. 2nd Signals), 2; Driver Hart (No. 3 Co. 2nd Signals), 3.

Best Single-Horse Turn-out—Sergt Thomas (No. 2 Co. 2nd Signals), 1; Sigmn Clover (No. 3 Co. 1st Sigs.), 2; Driver Rye (No. 3 Co. 2nd Signasl), 3.

Best Pair-Horse Turn-out—Driver Edwards (No. 3 Co. 2nd Signals), 1; Driver Vanlint (No. 1 Co. 2nd Signals), 2; Driver Christy (No. 1 Co. 2nd Sigs.), 3.

DIN.

3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

So many events have taken place since our last notes were forwarded that it would occupy too much space to give a detailed account in these columns. We are now settled down in our new quarters, which, by the way, are making excellent progress towards what we suggested in our last contribution to THE WIRE, viz., one of the best camps in Bulford Garrison. We hope to have the use of our new cookhouse and dining room before the publication of these notes.

Owing to more arrivals from Maresfield a few days after the despatch of our September notes, our O.C. gave orders that the Company was to be formed at once into a peace-time formation. Not being strong enough to form full Companies, we are now organised into three Sections, namely:—

Headquarters Section, under Lieut P. Jennings, M.C., R.C.S.
R.A. Section, under Lieut H. H. M. Shurlock, R.E.
Infantry Section, under Lieut C. D. Hinds, P.G.A.

A very interesting promotion recently gazetted from Records is that of No. 2306383 Sergt (A/C.S.M.) J. D. Boulsbee to be W.O. Class II. and C.S.M. 3rd Divl. Signals. We all congratulate him very heartily on his promotion.

Alas! more men to leave us! We have just been ordered to send an overseas draft to some of the remotest outposts of the British Empire; and twenty men of this unit have in consequence proceeded on furlough before their embarkation in October. Included in the above is the name of No. 2306391 Sigmn J. E. Spreckley, who for the past two years has acted as M.C. at our Company dances, and whom it will be very difficult to replace.

Cricket.

The closing matches of the cricket season were played at Larkhill on August 19th and at Bulford on August 30th. The School of Artillery "did us" extraordinarily well, but in cricket we rather swamped them (dismissing them for 27 runs). The feature of the match, as far as our team was concerned, was some very good batting by Capt Hill, M.C., D.C.M., who is at present attached to us. This officer also took six wickets for sixteen runs.

SCHOOL OF ARTILLERY.

Gunner Parker c Spreckley b Grundy	4
Q.M.S. Taylor b Grundy	0
Gunner Lambert c Jones b Hill	2
Lieut Webkin b Hill	9
Sergt Boden c Hitchins b Hill	6
Gunner Braithwaite b Hill	0
Gunner Jones c Hitchins b Hill	0
Gunner Rigby not out	3
Bombdr. Dickenson b Hill	0
Gunner Lines b Dimmer	3
Gunner Lee b Dimmer	0
Total	27

3rd DIVL. SIGNALS, R.C.S.

Major Hitchins b Jones	2
Sigmn G. R. W. Styles l.b.w.	10
F.S.S. Styles b Rigby	6
Driver Dimmer c Lambert b Rigby	2
Corpl Mears c Jones b Rigby	12
Capt Hill c Lines b Webkin	37
Lieut Shurlock b Webkin	4
Sigmn Jones b Webkin	1
Sigmn Spreckley not out	6
L/Corpl Osborn c Taylor b Jones	3
Driver Sykes b Jones	2
Extras	9
Total	94

The match against the 54th Field Company R.E. at Bulford was unfortunately completely spoilt by the continuous downppur, and the game had to be abandoned.

54th FIELD COMPANY R.E.

Capt Cadell b Grundy	6
Sapper Taylor c Richardson b Grundy	14
Sapper Chappell c Dimmer b Grundy	3
Corpl Archer b Grundy	0
Sapper Eckersley b Grundy	9
Sapper Eldridge b Grundy	0
Sapper Brookarch b Dimmer	5
Sapper Berry b Dimmer	0
Sapper Rooney b Dimmer	0
Sapper Page b Dimmer	21
Sapper Torr not out	2
Extras	7
Total	67

3rd DIVL. SIGNALS, R.C.S.

Major Hitchins not out	7
Sigmn G. R. W. Grundy not out	11
Extras	7
Total (no wicket)	25

In conclusion, we have again to remark upon the satisfactory sales of the Corps magazine in this unit, which we hope will continue. P. J.

4th Divisional Signal Company.

Reed Hall, Colchester,
Sept. 13th, 1922.

General.

The first wave of the trooping season having somewhat subsided, we are again at normal.

Our first draft leaves for India on the 19th inst., and with it our combined wishes for a comfortable journey.

To honour the occasion, a farewell dance and supper was given on Saturday, September 9th.



The first Draft to leave the 4th Divisional Signal Company (Colchester) since its formation.

Dancing is now going strong under the capable hands of Sergt Hullett, the president of our Entertainments Committee.

Lieut R. L. Hansard, R.F.A., has taken up the duties of W/T Officer, and is now busily engaged on organising schemes, etc.

We were all pleased to hear that Lieut A. B. Bushby, R.E., had been transferred to the Royal Corps of Signals, and that he will continue to serve with us.

Yet another old friend has been posted to swell the ranks of the "Dandy Fourth," viz., Lieut D. C. Owen, R.F.A., who was recently posted from the Signal Training Centre for duty. May his stay be long!

Our Artillery Sub-Sections are now very much up to the eyes with riding drill.. Sergt Kneebone, of "Eddy" fame, is acting as riding instructor.

Football.

We have commenced football in earnest, having played and won two matches. A good start! Keep it up, the "Fourth"! The cups won last season must not pass from our hands.

Hockey.

Several trial matches have been played with a view to selecting a hockey team. Good results were forthcoming. All we require now is a ground on which to play, so that we can take to it seriously. Be prepared, "Eddy."

Running.

The 14th Brigade R.F.A. annual sports were held on the Abbey Field, Colchester, on Sept. 8th, 1922. Two of our runners, Signalmen Niblett and Evans, entered for the only open event—the mile race—and were successful in obtaining second and third places respectively.

R. C. B.

44th (H.C.) Divisional Signals.

Nos. 1 and 3 Companies, Stamford Brook.

Now that the war (I mean annual camp) is over, things have quietened down somewhat, and there are rumours to the effect that certain bald heads belonging to the P.S. have started to sprout again.

The new wagon sheds are nearly finished, so we shall be able to have a good square-up and make things a bit posh.

On August 31st a meeting was held to talk about football and sports in general. The meeting was fairly well attended, and it looks as though we are going to have a successful season, judging from the programme arranged. We have entered the Dauntless League, and are hoping to make a good show. In addition to the above-mentioned league there is the Divisional Championship, so altogether there should be enough football to please the most energetic team.

On Saturday, September 16th, we played our first game in the Dauntless League on our ground at South Harrow, our opponents being Aschurch. I am sorry to report that the result was not to our liking, for we

lost 5—3—very nearly a cricket score! The game was fairly even, and four of the goals were in the nature of gifts.

The end of the first half saw us three goals down: rather a big margin. On the resumption, Signals settled down rather better and soon reduced the lead to 3—2, Manning and Ambrose scoring the goals. Aschurch then had a raid on our goal, and after a scrimmage a penalty was given against one of our backs for handling (accidentally) in the penalty area. Shortly afterwards one of our forwards was fouled in the visitors' penalty area, and from the penalty kick Fielder made no mistake. The visitors replied by scoring another goal, and soon after the whistle was blown for time.

On September 14th a meeting was held to discuss the nature of entertainments to be held during the coming winter. If everything takes place as suggested, the Committee are in for a warm time, but I think they will be equal to the task allotted them. We are certainly going to try to make our dances and other attractions the talk of the village!

We should like, if possible, to arrange a few games tournaments with any other units who fancy their chance at such indoor games as whist, cribbage, dominoes, draughts, blind man's buff, tiddley winks, or any other exciting game; so if this notice attracts the eye of any of our neighbours, we may be able to arrange a meeting.

The latest yarn is that we are to have a rocking-horse. Now we shall be able to use our lances!

I hear that quite a number of our old friends are under orders for various health resorts (?), such as Constant, Mespot, India, and Ireland. I am sure those of us left behind wish them the best of luck and a good time until we see them again.

Just now there is a lot of talk about wireless, and nearly every barber's shop (not to mention the gramophone shops) is displaying little bits of junk, fully labelled, so one will not have to guess what they are. Whist out walking a few days ago, our W/T expert was attracted to one such shop, where he saw displayed a pair of phones marked "4000 meg-ohms, 25s." Unless a glutton, one could hardly expect to get much more resistance than that for the money, could he?

As soon as the square-up predicted at the beginning of these notes is finished, we hope to be able to have a few listening-in parties.

I fully realise the meaning of broadcasting since I was present when one navvy accidentally fiit another on the hand with a sledge hammer.

There is a rumour that wireless induces the growth of hair on heads lacking in the decoration named. I know certain gentlemen who are thinking of applying for a twelve months' course. Not that they are short in any way, but one never knows.

R.S.M. Jordan, C.Q.M.S. Lovell, and Sergt Tyler, would like to be remembered to C.Q.M.S. Ansell ('Erb), and wish to say they consider (in the words of David Copperplate) that each day and in every way he gets better looking than ever, judging from the photo in last month's WIRE.



44th (H.C.) Divl Signals Shooting Team, 1922.

Runners-up in the 44th (H.C.) Division Inter-Battalion Championship.

Back Row (left to right)—L/Cpl Dymock, Cpl White, L/Cpl Wallis, L/Sgt Ambrose, L/Sgt Hammett, L/Sgt Richardson, Cpl Bailey.

Centre Row—Sgt Allan, Capt Penfold, Maj Angwin, Capt Hitchcock, Capt Coleman, Sgt Forest.

Bottom Row—Cpl Puttock, Sgmn James, Sgmn Craydon, Sgmn Weller.

Before closing I should like to mention the Signals Association. Since the formation of the Chiswick and District Branch three months ago, four applications for employment have been forwarded to Headquarters, and three of the applicants have been placed. This, I venture to state, knocks spots off the Labour Exchanges and shows that the Association is something *live*, and that every member of the Corps (Regular, Territorial, or Special Reserve) should join, even if he has to save the yearly sub. of 2s. by putting odd coppers into a money-box until the requisite sum has been saved. One may not always be in possession of coppers, even!

Who was it referred to the P.S. as the "Permanent Straff"?

WATT.

56th (1st London) Divisional Signals.

3 Henry Street, W.C.1.

Last month's notes, being penned in a hurry, were rather inadequate for a complete history of camp, so a few more will not be amiss.

I omitted to mention the visit of Col. Waley-Cohen, C.M.G., D.S.O., who called during the monsoons, but expressed himself as quite pleased with what he saw, and with the general bearing of the Company.

A most successful gymkhana was held, competition being keen for the best turn-out; and good sport resulted in the flat races, especially those for men not having had ten riding drills. One descendant of the "Tetrarch" got away as far as the village, and his jockey was very glad when it was "Dunn."

Credit for the organisation and conduct of the gymkhana must be given to Major Lord Basing and our ever-willing P.S. (voices from O.P., "for they are jolly good fellows," etc., etc.).

The agisters of the New Forest, who messed with our sergeants, expressed themselves as very well satisfied, and we should like to give them *our* thanks. A good many n.c.o.s now fancy their chance as M.F.H. because they hunted forest ponies, and sometimes caught them. By the way, did anyone know (prior to camp) what an agister is?

Surely the limit in ringing the changes was reached when *rum* was sanctioned and ordered to be drawn at 23.00 hours, and the C.Q.M.S. came back with a half-dixie of cocoa powder! No person of tender years would have survived the remarks passed.

Dances were commenced on the 23rd of September, and it is intended to hold them fortnightly, so roll up in your hundreds, for they are good. Any visitors who are in London on leave will be welcomed, and we can assure them of a most enjoyable evening. Now we are in partial possession of our new headquarters in Calthrop Street (exactly opposite the G.P.O., Mount Pleasant), we hope to go with a swing and *more* than satisfy those people who were satisfied last year.

Congratulations to C.S.M. Tyrell on his marriage. We hope he has the luck he deserves, and that's a lot.

Recruiting is going along in good style, and we hope to be a full Company before next camp.

With better headquarters we can cater for both entertainment and instruction in a much wider way than has been possible at Henry Street. Already the billiard table is in constant demand, and more men are spending the evening in what we want them to regard as their club. When we are quite fixed up with reading and writing rooms as well, it will certainly appeal more and help recruiting. Bring your friend; perhaps *he'll* join.

Our football season has opened disastrously, a shocking "cricket score" being made against us which I will not disclose. However, that's nothing to what some people will get when *we* start scoring!

THE ROBBER.

43rd (The Wessex) Divl. Signals, T.A.

I was settling down to write a few notes about our camp in August when someone brought in a letter. It was not enclosed in an envelope, and it was evidently intended for the writer's brother serving in a distant land.

Enquiries for the writer proving abortive, I am asking the Editor to publish it, as it gives a lot of camp news, and will save me the labour of dishing up a special article.

OLD SPARK

Exeter, August 22nd.

My dear Tom,—

Thank you for your last long letter describing your life under canvas in the desert.

Talking of camp, we are just back from our annual training camp, which was held this year at Saltford, between Bristol and Bath.

The weather conditions were ideal—or nearly so (I don't think). The sun disappeared as soon as we got into the train at Exeter on Sunday, July 31st, and only came out very occasionally until we got back home again.

But what we lacked in sunshine we made up for in rain. Gee, it came down in buckets, and seemed to come on heavier on the days we had a "scheme" on, or a half-day off.

However, things like that did not worry us—nor did the insects. You speak of the flies and mosquitoes, but, my word, we seem to have had all them and more, including earwigs. I never want to see an earwig again as long as I live. The tent I was in was full of them, and you could shake a bucketful out of your tunic in the morning.

One of our chaps nearly got C.B. for the duration, or something worse, owing to these little blighters. It was a rifle inspection parade, and his Company Commander came to look down the barrel of his rifle. "Miggs," he says, "what the devil's this? It's choked up. Just give it a blow, and push this dust out." So Miggie, with the rifle still at the short port (more or less) gives a puff, and blows out about a quart of the little squigglers in the skipper's face. There wasn't half a row with the boys, especially when the skipper blustered out, "What the —— do you think I am—a goldfish, feeding me with insects? Take his name," etc., etc.

But we did get through a lot of work—and beer, and so on. We had several schemes: all day out in the country, laying cable and flag walloping.

We had two or three concerts, with visitors—real ladies—singing, and some of the chaps sang and recited.

Our No. 2 Company, the Southampton crowd, came to camp with us: it's the first time we'd seen them. They had a trim little lot of n.c.o.s—nice quiet fellows—but so *small!* Their average height must have been about 6 ft. 6 in., and their weight—well, all of 'em ought to have been charged 3d. on the "1d. in the slot" machine.

We had a grand day for the sports. The entries were numerous, and the races (including "comic" ones, such as the boat race) were very good.

Everyone was keen and all out to win the cup which was given by the Adjutant for the Company gaining the biggest number of points. No. 3 Company won it in the end, with No. 1 a short head behind. I hear No. 3 filled it up afterwards with wine!

The whole camp, in spite of weather and kicking horses, etc., was a thundering good show; everybody enjoyed it very much, and felt quite sorry to get home again!

Well, I must stop now. Mother sends love and 5s., also *The Church Times*.

Your affectionate brother,

BILL.

46th (North Midland) Divisional Signals.

Derby, Sept. 16th, 1922.

There is not much doing on the 46th (N.M.) Divl. front. Things have quietened down somewhat since camp. There are riding drills and lectures, but owing to the tropical heat and refreshing showers (?) outdoor work is greatly at a disadvantage.

We are also greatly handicapped by many of our men joining the Regular Forces, but the training they received whilst serving with us is always to their advantage. They find it difficult, however, to join the R.C.S., as they are generally told, "Full up;" but I am pleased to say this is to be seen into and rectified if possible.

Our heartiest congratulations go to C.S.M. Jones on his marriage. The "boys" formed a guard of honour at the church, and gave him a good send-off. Good wishes also to S.M. Hayburn, who has been made the happy father of a bonny son.

MEREBIMUR.

52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals.

Glasgow, Sept. 13th, 1922.

Since last communicating we have received an abundance of W/T stores, our present possessions now comprising two 120-watt sets, eleven 30-watt sets, and twelve 20-watt spark sets, so that our worthy wireless experts are indulging in plenty of useful exercise under the guidance of Sergt T. Senior. Permission has been obtained for communication to be established throughout the winter months with other T.A. units, which will prove of the utmost value from a training point of view.

Major G. R. Grange, D.S.O., M.C., has relinquished command of the unit, having retired, and is succeeded by Major J. S. Muirhead, D.S.O., M.C., who will be well known to many of the readers of this journal, he having during the war commanded the 51st Highland Divisional Signals.

The football season now being in full swing, our team are again entered for the Glasgow Territorial Army League. Match results up to date are: Played and won 2. We are also entered in the Glasgow Football Association Junior Cup.

LOWDIV.

Wireless and Wires.

By LIEUT.-COL. C. G. CRAWLEY, R.M.A.

The general principles of line and of wireless working are very similar. In the former, electric currents are sent along a wire from the sender to the receiver, the energy being transmitted at a speed of about 186,000 miles a second, that is to say, instantaneously, for all practical purposes; and in the latter, electric waves are sent through space from the sender to the receiver at about the same speed.

The first great similarity between line and wireless is, therefore, the speed of travel, the first great dissimilarity, the connection used; in the one, a wire; in the other, space. The advantages of a wire are that the messages can be sent, if desired, to one receiver only, whereas in wireless the messages are sent into space, and can be picked up by receivers other than those for which they are intended. This fact, though obviously useful for transmitting simultaneously to many receivers, looks at first sight to be a very great drawback when secrecy is important, as is so often the case in the business of both Governments and of individuals. The progress of wireless in recent years has, however, improved matters to an extent not yet generally realised.

The chief development which assists materially towards secrecy is that of high speed working. By high speed is meant a speed which is greater than can be sent by hand, and received by ear; in other words, high speed working is such as entails the use of automatic transmitters and receivers. When working is carried out in this way the messages cannot be tapped without considerable difficulty, and the use of expensive apparatus. This gets rid of the casual eavesdropper, but does not prevent any well-equipped station within range from being able to read the messages, though, even then, the use of cipher instead of plain language will make it difficult for the intercepting station to obtain much information. Another development tending towards secrecy is directive transmission; that is to say, stations can now be designed to send messages in one direction better than in any other, so that the electric waves can be concentrated, to a certain extent, towards the receiving station instead of being radiated out into space in all directions. This bogey of secrecy as a disadvantage to wireless is, in fact, usually overdone, and especially is this apparent when comparing wireless with land line working through countries of various nationalities, where the messages pass through many hands. In the case of direct submarine cable communication it is a different matter, and there is no doubt that from the secrecy point of view cables have a distinct advantage over wireless. High speed wireless working has only now reached that stage of development when its use for everyday commercial purposes is becoming practicable, and at the present moment much of the long distance wireless work is still being conducted at hand speed, though it is quite certain that, in a very short time, this will no longer be the case, as working at hand speed over long distances is not a paying proposition. A number of long distance wireless circuits are being worked, under good conditions, at about 50 words a minute, and some medium range ones of a few hundred miles, at about 100 words a minute. But this is only the commencement, and it is on this line of development that wireless may reasonably be expected to compare favourably with cables before very long. At present, the 50 words a minute under *good* conditions for wireless does not compare well with the 50 words a minute which can be obtained by long distance cables under *normal* conditions, and the same may be said, and to a greater extent, of the 100 words a minute for wireless medium range working, comparing with land line working. The Post Office is at present working two medium range wireless circuits with automatic apparatus, one to Berlin, duplex, up to 60 words a minute; the other, simplex, to Cologne, in conjunction with the Army, up to 100 words a minute. Such high signalling speeds, however, are in these services obtained only under good conditions, the average speeds being lower.

Besides secrecy, however, the dissimilarity in the connection between sender and receiver, viz., wires and space, entails other important matters for comparison.

In the case of line working, obvious mechanical difficulties may occur, the greatest being that the wire may break, thus severing all communication for possibly a long period, unless there are alternative routes. Other troubles include, first, leaks of the current to "earth," due to electrical connections occurring between the wire and the ground or sea, and secondly, the currents produced in the wire by atmospheric electrical discharges causing false signals, or, as it is called, "jamming" of the messages. Now wireless is free from these troubles with the exception of jamming by "atmospherics," but this defect in the case of wireless is very serious indeed, and is, in fact, the greatest disadvantage of wireless compared with line working. Wireless messages are transmitted by creating electrical disturbances in space, and are thus easily "jammed" by natural electrical disturbances or discharges, such as occur frequently in warm weather in these latitudes, and very much more frequently and strongly in tropical countries. In extreme cases, as occasionally in some tropical countries, atmospherics are troublesome in line working, but in long distance wireless they are always troublesome, except in temperate climates in the cool weather.

The number of infallible inventions for "eliminating" atmospherics are legion, but the trouble is still, unfortunately, sufficient to foster that suspicion under which long distance wireless working has laboured ever since Mr. Marconi sent the first message across the Atlantic in December, 1901. There is no doubt that the jamming caused by atmospherics has been lessened to a very great extent during the last few years, and that progress in this direction should become even more rapid now that so many high power stations have been completed and are available for experiments.

In this country, at the moment, there are two trans-Atlantic stations owned by the Marconi Company, viz., Carnarvon and Clifden, and one Post Office station at Leafield, near Oxford, which was opened in August last for communicating, mainly, with the similar Post Office station near Cairo in Egypt. It is intended, however, to establish as soon as possible a chain of high power stations for the Empire, in accordance with the recommendations made in 1920 by a Committee appointed by the Government, and the scheme is now being worked out in detail. The recommendations were to the effect that Government high power stations should be erected in England, Egypt, East Africa, South Africa, India, Singapore, Hongkong, Australia, and probably Canada. At present in the United States there are twelve high power stations; in France, five; Germany, three; Canada, Russia, Italy and Japan, two; Norway and Poland, one.

It must be remembered that this is really only the beginning of high power wireless as a world-wide commercial proposition, and that much still remains to be done before long range, or even medium range wireless services can give traffic returns up to the standard of cables or land lines, a standard which has only been attained after many years of experience and experiments under actual working conditions. It is as easy as it is unprofitable to launch off into golden dreams of the future of long distance wireless communications, dreams which, luckily for many of the dreamers, will have been long forgotten before the time can arrive when they will be put to the test. Many of us remember our own dreams when wireless messages were first sent across the Atlantic twenty years ago, and most of us will ask for another year or two, and then—well, perhaps it is better to "wait and see."

So far, we have been thinking of long range telegraph working, but what of the telephone? Here we are on even more uncertain ground, because there are no long range commercial wireless telephone stations at all in operation. Long range land line telephony is now, at last, coming to its own, due to the invention of the same piece of apparatus which has made long range wireless telephony possible. This apparatus, the Thermionic Tube, consists of a tube somewhat similar to an electric light bulb with two, or sometimes three, metallic elements inside it in addition to the filament. This tube, or valve, was invented by Dr. De Forrest, in 1906, in the United States, and has since then naturally undergone many modifications. In wireless, the valves can be used for the transmission of signals or speech over long distances as well as for amplifying the current at the receiving station, that is, increasing the strength of the signals or speech received, in which latter manner they are used also in line telephony. Submarine telephony by cable is not practicable for these long ranges, and for trans-oceanic work and for the broadcasting of messages great developments in wireless telephony may be expected. At present, great use is being made of wireless telephony for communication with aircraft, and nearly all aircraft wireless sets can now be used either for telegraphic or telephonic purposes, as desired. Merchant ships are not yet being fitted to any extent with wireless telephony, and there is, in fact, no commercial service in operation anywhere over even short distances, with the exception of one or two rather experimental services in the United States and on the Continent. The chief drawbacks to wireless telephony in its present stage of development

are that the mutual interference, or jamming, of messages as well as jamming by atmospheric electrical disturbances, are even gretaer than in the case of messages sent by wireless telegraphy, and that the consumption of electrical power is also greater. The first trouble means that jamming by atmospheric disturbances is very serious indeed, and that it is impracticable to have a large number of stations within range of each other in operation at the same time; the second, that the cost is higher than with wireless telegraphy. The Marconi Company have, however, carried out some very promising experiments, in co-operation with the Post Office, with wireless telephony to Holland on short wave-lengths by which the jamming difficulties are much reduced, an advance which augurs much for the future. The notices concerning wireless telephony which appear from time to time in the newspaper press are invariably of the golden dream type, just as they were in the early days of wireless telegraphy; and as the business man finds that no facilities are offered to him for using a wireless telephone, so does he become suspicious as he did years before in the case of wireless telegraphy. He feels that something is wrong, and for want of another scapegoat he turns, as usual, to the everlasting stupidity of the Government of the day.

In looking at this somewhat sombre picture of the attainments of wireless telephony, we must not forget that it is only in its infancy and that it has two attributes of the greatest importance; first, the sender is connected to all receivers by space, which costs nothing; and secondly, there is no voice distortion such as makes long distance submarine telephony impracticable. With these outstanding fundamental advantages it is easy to foresee possibilities for wireless telephony far outdistancing those of line working for long distance trans-oceanic communications, and for "broadcasting" messages, that is, sending the same message simultaneously to a large number of receivers.

For mobile communications, such as for ships and aircraft, there can be no comparison, as wireless has a full blown monopoly, a happy possession, though in this case one which certainly does not yet come within the magic circle of the wealthy industrial monopolies.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the General Secretary, Signals Association.

Dear Sir,—

On behalf of the Chiswick and District Branch of the Signals Association, I should like (through you) to thank the President of the Benevolent Fund for the generous response to an application made for assistance in the case of Sergt. ———.

I am sure the n.c.o. named is very grateful for the assistance, both as regards the money and the employment which was found for him.

Since the formation of this Branch on July 4th, 1922, I have had occasion to forward four applications for employment, and as a result three applicants have been placed in work. I think this is highly creditable, and goes to shew what a great help the Association is to all ex-members of the Corps.

Yours faithfully,
W. H. TYLER, Branch Sec.,
Chiswick and District Branch.

A First Trip to India.

By W. R. C. P.

(Coutinued from September Number)

On the 4th of December (Sunday) we left Sorarogha, and continued our journey up stream. It was a Kassadar day, so no troops were to be seen except for small parties taking water and supplies up to the permanent pickets. We soon passed the up camel convoy, and reached liaison point about 10.30. On the way we went through the Barari Tangi, which is another place where the hills nearly join in the river bed, and where special pickets are necessary. A tower with flagstaff was pointed out to us as we came along as the home of one Bangi-Wallah (an unfortunate name), who is an ex-n.c.o. of an Indian regiment and, remaining loyal, gives us all the information as to raiding parties that he can acquire, and flies a certain coloured flag when danger is in the air.

We stopped at Piazza—the scene of a regrettable incident last year, when the two camel convoys were cut up by the enemy—and visited the signal office. Piazza is a camp for a battalion, a few machine gunners and some sappers and miners, and has a branch office from the Ladha Brigade. It also provides a means of test on the through route.

In front of Piazza we saw a construction party of the L. of C. company at work. Construction is necessarily very slow. The party can only go out and work for the few hours during which liaison is established, and building is done under conditions of great difficulty. The route has to be taken along the hillside to obviate the possibility of its being washed away by river floods. Much has to be done unsurveyed, and enormous bays have to be provided for. Bays of 400 and 500 yards are fairly common, and with 300 lb. G.I. wire and precarious foothold, this involves great care and slow going. Quite recently, after a day's rain, a stay taking the strain of one of these bays pulled out. The brigade section maintenance party from Sorarogha got out just in time to save the whole line from going, but it took eight men with a five-to-one block and tackle to set the pole upright again.

We reached Ladha at lunch time, and had the satisfaction of seeing a really smart British battalion again. Ladha houses a brigade, and is the furthermost point held by us in Waziristan. The country round is greener and less barren than that further south.

The line of the hills is not far away, and all along their edge lie small native villages. To the north-east lies Makin and to the west Kaniguram—large Abdullai towns. Makin (pronounced Mckean) has suffered many times at our hands, and up till recently was frequently shelled by six inch howitzers in position in Ladha camp.

We happened to arrive at Ladha at the same time as an officer of the Kurram militia, who was going out that afternoon with an escort of Kassadars, so we joined him, thus becoming members of the first party to entrust themselves to "our friends the enemy"! The Kassadars came up, halted and saluted in military fashion—many have served in the regular forces—grinning broadly from ear to ear, obviously intrigued by the novelty of the situation. A discussion ensued as to whether we or our escort should lead the way. It was eventually decided that we should do so, as the pickets might open fire when they saw some perfectly good Mahsuds approaching! We visited two pickets,

"Hump" and "Potwela," and had a good look at the surrounding country. The valley opens up considerably, and there are excellently fertile strips of land, known as "kaches," all carefully cultivated. The hills are to a certain extent wooded and in the distance are topped by Pir Ghul, a peak 11,600 feet high, and covered with enormous deodars and other upland deciduous trees. Having taken in as much as we could, and having persuaded our escort to pose for their photo, we returned to camp. Many of the Mahsuds object strongly to photographs, as they are Mahommedans, and as such abhor any form of graven image.

One night only we spent in Ladha as guests of Brigade headquarters, and on Monday we made straight for D.I.K., only stopping at Tank to see the wireless station. Tank has a ½ k.w. pack and a 1½ k.w. stationary Marconi set, and is the wireless headquarters of Wazirforce. The sets and personnel belong to the Karachi wireless company. Weird atmospheric effects are experienced at certain periods of the year, when Tank is completely screened as far as wireless is concerned. Sets on either side can speak to each other but not to Tank in the middle. Attempts have been made to obtain a naval rejecting receiver set, but without success.

Tank was our last port of call, and we reached the bungalow in D.I.K. after a drive of 105 miles, taking in all eight hours.

Five days more I spent at Force headquarters, taking notes of complaints and generally picking up all I could in the way of instruction and information. It is wonderful how much one can learn even in a short tour, and it is essential for anyone fresh from home to take every opportunity to see for himself, and study conditions. He otherwise will prove a nuisance to himself and to all he deals with.

Tennis, golf, and dancing filled our "out of office" hours, and D.I.K. sports a very good little club.

I feel bound to say a word or two about the D.I.K. golf course, especially as it was very largely the product of a "signals" brain! The excellence of golf as a game is exemplified by the manner in which it holds its own despite all difficulties of play, despite undreamed of hazards and obstacles, despite the fact that the chosen locality has not the slightest pretensions to offering facilities or attractions to the "goufer." The effect of the course is not to damp the ardour of the true player but to make him want to do it again, to invent a new method of playing a particular hole, or of avoiding a particular snag.

On the D.I.K. course there are three holes which give an idea of the nature of the course.

(1) A hole where the fairway is cut up, sun-hardened mud, with a road on the right and the polo ground on the left, a well in the centre just calculated to catch a half-hit ball, trees all round the brown, and a ditch behind it. If there is no polo you can play out on to the grass. If a game is in progress you have to hit ahead and risk the well.

(2) A cleek tee shot over a bullock corps lines!

(3) A very long hole cutting the corner of a cavalry manège, in and out amongst their outside jumps, and over ground half waste, half rubbish heap, to say nothing of the probable presence of half a dozen camels, a couple of dozen small boys kicking a soccer ball about, and a small number of interested spectators!

Frequenters of Hoylake and St. Andrews will scoff, but let them come and try it. They will want a second and a third round and then more; if only because they are intrigued by the approach to one special brown. Piltdown isn't in it!

One thing has to be stamped out, which can only be done by "education," and that is the predilection of the native for picking up your ball and bringing it back to you with a grin, as much as to say: "Here you are, Sahib!"

On Sunday, December 11th, I once more took the Indus track to Darya Khan, to pick up a train to Simla. I and the train arrived at the station at the same moment. All would have been done in comfort had we not come upon one of the bridges with the first two bays completely missing. A long detour across country was necessary, and I caught the train by the skin of my teeth.

An uncomfortable journey of 48 hours, involving changes, including one at 4 in the morning, brought me up into the hills again, and I proceeded to settle down in bachelor quarters in the United Service Club.

This club in Simla is a club as it should be, and not a gymkhana, *i.e.*, it is for the male element only, though there are facilities for "mixed" entertaining! It is very comfortable, with outdoor and covered tennis courts, and a squash court, so exercise during the winter months is ensured. It also possesses a good library, both of fiction and of works of reference, and is in other respects well fitted up.

Army headquarters, consisting of two large bewildering buildings, which give the new comer the sensation of being lost in a rabbit warren, lie about a quarter of an hour's walk away, the road going up and down so that neither way is it all climb or all descent. You cannot move 100 yards in Simla without doing one or the other, and of course the preponderating feeling is that you are always climbing. Presumably hills that go up must come down again somewhere, so the feeling must be due to the workings of human nature and not to any scientific phenomenon.

When first I saw Simla I mentally compared it to a town in the Swiss Alps. I have never even visited the latter, but I suppose everyone forms impressions in his own mind of places he has heard described but has not seen, and I immediately linked up narrow gauge railways, houses built chiefly of wood on precipitous slopes and looking as if they would collapse at any moment, roads that are never level, hill ponies with bells that tinkle as they walk along, and distant snow covered mountains, with the picture I carried at the back of my head.

Winter is the slack season in Simla. The Viceroy and Government move to the more congenial atmosphere of Delhi, and the Commander-in-Chief and part of his staff go with them. Most of the larger shops and some of the hotels close down altogether, and those who are left settle themselves in and sit down to save a little money, wherewith to meet the innumerable and varied demands of the coming season.

November and December in Simla usually afford opportunity for a fair amount of skating, but this year, as elsewhere, the clerk of the weather has been completely mixed up, and for five mornings only was skating possible. January, February and March are scheduled to be wet or at any rate to bring snow, which amounts to the same thing.

I only stayed in Simla for a couple of weeks, during which time the J.S.O's. (Junior Staff Officers) entertained each other right royally for Christmas and the New Year, and managed to have a very cheery time.

I woke up on Christmas morning to find my bearer standing behind a tray on which was my tea, a large iced cake suitably inscribed, a box of chocolates, a couple of gaudy Christmas cards, and apples and oranges—the whole resting in a bed of mistletoe. This was his present, and amounted to: "Look what I've brought you. What are you going to produce in return?" My quarters were also a mass of mistletoe—there is no holly—pushed into every conceivable nook and cranny.

On Boxing Day I walked some eight miles—four miles down and four up the hill—and in this way recovered completely from the festivities of the previous evening! Again, three days later, Harris (Staff officer to the Signal Officer-in-chief) and I took the road and struck northwards into the hills for 12 miles. It was very cold and we had to keep going to remain warm. We went along the Tibet road *via* Mashobra and Kufri, and eventually reached a dak bungalow at Fagu where we had a meal of boiled eggs and tea. It was most welcome, but entirely unexpected, and neither of us had a penny. However a signed chit was taken in payment, and we arose refreshed and strengthened for our walk home. It was a dull day, but we had some excellent views of the distant ranges away towards Tibet—all of course covered with snow. In fact the snow had reached almost down to Fagu, and two days later Simla itself was in the thick of it. On New Year's Day, when I left, I had to wade through eight inches of fine white snow to the station. It struck me at the time as rather strange, that to experience a decent fall for the first time for years, one should have to come to India, which exists, in the popular mind, only as a place of great heat. Several relatives had written condoling with me on its being so hot at Christmas time. My replies were couched in terms varying with the degree of cold I was experiencing at the moment!

On January 1st I left Simla for the final visit of my tour; this was to the training centre and depot at Jubbulpore, the Maresfield of India.

Leaving at lunch time we soon passed from snow to rain, and the temperature rose slightly. Breakfast time the following morning saw us at Delhi. Here I joined Colonel Earle, and continued the journey in his reserved compartment. We travelled all that day and night (changing at a place called Itarsi at 3.30 a.m.) and reached Jubbulpore at 10.30 the following morning. I went to the mess and the Colonel with Major Prince to the latter's bungalow. Major Prince is a sapper temporarily commanding the depot.

The training centre in India has to work under somewhat different conditions to those obtaining at home, and organization has to be modified accordingly.

The reasons are mainly these. In India we are dealing with a mixture of Sepoys and British, the former being well in the majority. The Sepoys are dealt with from the raw recruit to the trained signalman, while the British soldier is supposed already to be trained at least to Group E. Also, of course, the detailed administration of British and Indian soldiers, and of the various castes of the latter, is different and involves many modifications. Then again, the numbers are not sufficiently large to allow separate or allied trades to be taught in different companies, as at Maresfield. Training has to be organized on a "school," instead of a "trade company," basis. This means that while men are administered by their company commander in the ordinary way, their training is carried out under a chief instructor and separate staff, who are entirely responsible for turning out trained reinforcements and for instruction generally.

The only "course" as such that exists is a six months "S" course for officers wishing to be seconded to Signals—corresponding to the qualifying course at Maresfield. All regimental courses are carried out separately, at the Army Signal Schools at Poona and Abbottabad.

In one respect Maresfield and Jubbulpore are alike, and that is in their E Company. Each is the respective depot mounted company, and each can produce a turnout to gladden the heart of any man. The Indian depot has an excellent stamp of horse, and much time and care are expended to keep it up.

Colonel Earle inspected all classes at work, and generally dived into current complaints, means of assistance, and the hundred and one small points which invariably await visiting officers of high authority.

One parade of special interest that I attended was the attestation of Indian recruits. After they have passed out in drill and musketry, and are more or less trained soldiers, all recruits have to take the oath.

The depot was drawn up in three sides of a square, and the party—numbering about thirty—to be attested paraded in the centre. On the fourth side of the square flew the Union Jack with the British and Indian quarter guards behind it.

A start was made with the saluting of the flag by the whole depot. The party to be attested then advanced in review order, presented arms and had the oath administered to them according to their creed. There were three sections—Mussulmans, Sikhs, and Hindus. The Mussulman swears on the Koran; the Sikh on the Granth; and the Hindu, having no Bible, by his Durram or faith. The phraseology of the actual oath differs in each case, and each religion has a priest of its own to administer it. The general meaning of the oath is to serve the King Emperor, to obey superior officers, and to carry out all orders although involving risk of life.

After taking the oath the recruits marched round the inside of the square to show themselves to the parade, and then one by one proceeded under crossed swords, held up by two Indian officers, once again to salute the flag, and so marched off.

Our ten days in Jubbulpore sufficed to show us the unofficial as well as the official side of life. In the Depot, company hockey and football leagues are in full swing as at home. Tennis is available. There is a Signals Bobbery Pack, consisting of 4½ couples of "long dogs" and an Airedale, for hunting the jackal; and shooting of different kinds—big and small game—is obtainable at no great distance.

I went out several times with the hounds and enjoyed good runs. In every case except one two kills were brought off, chiefly jackal with an occasional fox. The country is agricultural with dozens of banks of varying height and width. There are no hedges. Every now and then you strike a patch of "Black Cotton Soil" which is to be avoided owing to its propensity for cracking and producing deep holes, in which horses' legs might very easily get broken.

On January 12th we started on our return journey. I was bound for Simla and the Colonel for D.I.K. (Waziristan) whither he was going to witness the handing over of Wazirforce communications from F to B Divisional Signals.

January 14th saw me back in the Simla hills, and so finished my introduction to India in general and Indian Signals in particular.

(To be concluded)

Corps Publications Sub-Committee.

Annual Statement and Balance Sheet, 1921.

Balance Sheet, 31st March, 1922.

LIABILITIES.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Printing—Messrs. Garnett, Mepham & Fisher	64 0 0	
Council of Management—		
Loan *re* "Signals History"	150 0 0	
		£214 0 0

ASSETS.	£ s. d.	£. s. d.
Debtors:		
Advertising	12 12 8	
Company Agents	19 12 0	
		32 4 8
Cash at Bank	33 16 1	
Cash in hand	4 14 1	
		38 10 2
"Signals History"—Amounts paid to:		
Col. F. E. G. Skey	176 8 6	
Major Priestley	11 19 6	
	188 8 0	
Less proportion charged to Revenue	59 14 10	
		128 13 2
Income and Expenditure Account	19 4 9	
Less Balance as at Jan. 1st, 1921	4 12 9	
		14 12 0
		£214 0 0

Income and Expenditure Account for the Fifteen-and-a-half Months ended March 31st, 1922.

December 31st, 1920.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To Printing, Postages and Sundry Expenses	49 3 5	
,, Surplus—transferred to Balance Sheet ...	4 12 9	
		£53 16 2

December 14th, 1920.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
By Cash in hand on taking over THE WIRE, Maresfield:		
Grant from Council of Management	73 9 3	
Less Net Expenditure ...	58 9 7	
		14 19 8
December 31st, 1920		
By Subscriptions		10 6
,, Donations from Council of Management		30 0 0
,, Sales		8 6 0
		£53 16 2

March 31st, 1922.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To Printing and Blocks	564 5 7	
,, "Signals History"—proportion charged to Revenue	59 14 10	
,, Postage	30 7 8	
,, Sundry Expenses	4 1 0	
,, R.E.O.C.A. Calendars	2 5 6	
,, Bank Charges	8 4	
		£661 2 11

March 31st, 1922.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
By Subscriptions		83 5 5
,, Donations		140 5 0
,, Sales—THE WIRE	238 16 1	
,, Sales—"Signals History" ...	59 14 10	
,, Sales—Christmas Cards ...	46 12 0	
		345 2 11
,, Advertisements in THE WIRE...		73 4 10
,, Deficiency for the Fifteen Months		19 4 9
		£661 2 11

SPORTS NEWS.

Boxing Notes.

The Training Battalion fought another team contest against the R.N. at Portsmouth on August 25th. In the first match at Chichester, the T.B., after closely contested fights, had the decisions given against them in every instance. On this occasion, our team won two fights, drew two, and lost seven. Again, in every instance the fights were very closely contested, and one sporting paper reported that at least five decisions should have been given in our favour. The results were :—

LIGHT HEAVY WEIGHTS.

Driver Smith (E Co.) v. A.B. Hives (R.N.).—Driver Smith had the best of the first two rounds, and on two occasions almost knocked his man out with nicely-timed left hooks. The Navy man quickly recovered, and in the last round was more aggressive, being given the decision.

Sigmn McCafferty (D Co.) v. L.S. Firth (R.N.).—Firth was much too strong for McCafferty, and the fight was stopped, the verdict being given accordingly.

MIDDLE WEIGHTS.

Driver Emblem (G Co.) v. L.S. Jones (R.N.).—This was a close fight. Emblem doing good work with left hooks to the jaw. The Navy man eventually received the verdict, though there was not much between them.

Corpl Wheeler (C Co.) v. L.S. Freeland (R.N.).—A capital contest, fought to a draw. Wheeler was the better boxer, but Freeland brought off some very heavy hits which obviously hurt his opponent.

WELTER WEIGHTS.

Sigmn Rigg (C Co.) v. Stoker Gore (R.N.).—Rigg received the verdict after a splendid bout with a very rugged fighter. He was clearly the master of the situation from the opening round.

LIGHT WEIGHTS.

Sigmn Dibbs (F Co.) v. A.B. Tubb (R.N.).—This ended in a draw. Dibbs was puzzled by the naval man's style of swinging rights and lefts, but should greatly improve with more experience and practice. He is to be congratulated on such a good fight at his first attempt.

Sigmn Groome v. L.S. Leggett (R.N.).—A well-fought even fight, in which Leggett was awarded the verdict.

FEATHER WEIGHTS.

Boy Viney v. O.M. Steward Ingram (R.N.).—This splendid fight brought forth applause from the crowd. The four rounds were full of incident, and Viney shewed up as a possible champion. Ingram was given the verdict after a very close contest.

Boy Langley v. A.B. Cockerell (R.N.).—The boy fought very pluckily, but Cockerell was much too strong for him, and the fight was stopped in the latter's favour.

BANTAM WEIGHTS.

Sigmn Hughes v. L.S. Patton (R.N.).—Patton received the verdict in this very even fight, in which, however, Hughes showed very clever and much improved form.

Sigmn Richardson v. A.B. Flowers (R.N.).—Flowers was disqualified for fouling, after being twice warned.

Staff-Sergt Hayden, A.P.T.S., is to be congratulated on the splendid improvement in the form of our team. We are keenly looking forward to our next meeting with the Navy, and we hope the "muscle system" will make it a victory for us.

Army Cricket Tournament.

Semi-Final Stage.

1st Training Battn. R.C.S. v. R.A.M.C. (Aldershot)

Played at Maresfield on August 24th and 25th. Result: R.A.M.C. won by 35 runs.

ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS.

1st Innings

Major C. H. Walsh l.b.w. b Humphries	14
Sergt Jackson c Pank b Mack	3
Lieut Q. M. E. A. King st Gordon b Mack	0
Corpl Bendry b Mack	0
Major L. G. Phillips b Mack	4
Corpl Bellew b Pank	37
Lieut R. H. R. Steward b Pank	6
Lieut R. C. Woodbridge b Mack	0
Sigmn Morphew c Gordon b Foster	6
Boy Cox not out	0
Sergt Downer b Humphries	8
Extras	8
Total	86

2nd Innings

Major Walsh run out	1
Sergt Jackson c Walker b Pank	3
Lieut King b Humphries	14
Corpl Bendry c Humphries b Pank	0
Major Phillips c Gillard b Humphries	34
Corpl Bellew c Mack b Humphries	4
Lieut Steward b Mack	1
Lieut Woodbridge c Prince b Mack	6
Sigmn Morphew b Mack	5
Boy Cox c Humphries b Walker	17
Sergt Downer not out	5
Extras	10
Total	100

R.A.M.C. (ALDERSHOT).

1st Innings.

Major Foster l.b.w. b Phillips	3
Capt Percival b King	9
Capt Pank c Downer b Bellew	29
Q.M.S. Mack b Bellew	42
S/Sergt Prince c Bellew b Phillips	8
Q.M.S. Gordon c Cox b Bellew	32
Capt Masson st Downer b King	8
Sergt Gillard c Jackson b Phillips	8
Sergt Quelch b Bellew	1
Pte Humphries not out	32
Capt Walker c Woodbridge b Bellew	11
Extras	9
Total	182

2nd Innings.

Major Foster not out	0
Capt Percival b Bellew	5
Capt Pank c Walsh b King	4
Q.M.S. Mack c Walsh b King	0
S/Sergt Prince l.b.w. b Phillips	3
Q.M.S. Gordon c Phillips b King	6
Capt Masson c Walsh b Phillips	0
Sergt Gillard b Bellew	3
Sergt Quelch st Downer b Bellew	0
Pte Humphries b Phillips	7
Capt Walker b Bellew	5
Extras	6
Total	39

S.T.C. v. Sussex Martlets.

Played at Maresfield on September 1st and 2nd. Result: Sussex Martlets won by 9 wickets.

S.T.C.

1st Innings

Lieut.-Col O. C. Mordaunt c Bolton b Campbell	2
Major F. A. Heymann b Campbell	0
Sergt Jackson c Thomas b Levien	10
Lieut Q. M. E. A. King c and b Levien	5
Lieut L. C. Boyd b Levien	11
Major L. G. Phillips c Bolton b Campbell	3
Major J. R. Pinsent b Campbell	31
Corpl Bellew c and b Bolton	21
Sigmn Morphew b Bolton	1
Box Cox not out	2
Sergt Downer c Pearce b Bolton	5
Extras	4
Total	95

2nd Innings.

Lieut.-Col. Mordaunt c Thomas b Campbell	4
Major Heymann b Campbell	2
Sergt Jackson c and b Chaplin	0
Lieut King b Chaplin	3
Lieut Boyd c Chaplin b Campbell	21
Major Phillips c Mandant b Campbell	6
Major Pinsent c Trist b Chaplin	4
Corpl Bellew run out	13
Sigmn Morphew b Campbell	0
Boy Cox b Campbell	0
Sergt Downer not out	9
Extra	1
Total	63

SUSSEX MARTLETS.

1st Innings.

H. A. Thomas b Mordaunt	2
Capt Levien c King b Phillips	2
R. G. Helder st Downer b Phillips	4
H. P. Chaplin c Cox b Phillips	2
L. H. Trist run out	45
G. V. Campbell b Phillips	2
F. M. Noad c King b Mordaunt	0
— Pearce c and b Mordaunt	16
G. Bolton not out	7
E. H. Mandant b King	1
C.S.M. Boulger c Boyd b King	4
Extras	4
Total	89

2nd Innings.

Trist, not out	22
Noad, l.b.w. b King	8
Campbell not out	37
Extras	5
Total (for 1 wkt.)	72

Officers S.T.C. v. W.O's and Sergeants S.T.C.

This annual match was played at Maresfield on Friday, September 15th. Result: Sergeants won on first innings by 53 runs.

OFFICERS.

1st Innings.

Lieut King b Cussens	0
Major Phillips c Downer b Boulger	26
Major Tomlin st Downer b Cussens	3
Capt Phayre Mudge c and b Boulger	2
Lieut Totterdell run out	7
Major Mair b Watson	0
Lieut Carnegie c White b Watson	0
Capt Harris b Watson	0
Lieut Galway b Cussens	1
Lieut Wheeler c Boulger b Mills	12
Lieut Bryne not out	6
Extras	15
Total	72

2nd Innings.

Lieut King hit wicket	4
Major Phillips c Downer b White	26
Major Tomlin c Ruffle b White	9
Capt Phayre Mudge c Mills b Cussens	20
Lieut Totterdell c White b Mills	0
Major Mair b White	5
Lieut Carnegie c White b Cussens	5
Capt Harris c Cussens b Norton	9
Lieut Galway c Ruffle b Cussens	0
Lieut Wheeler b Boulger	0
Lieut Bryne not out	1
Extras	3
Total	82

W.O's AND SERGEANTS.

Sergt Norton retired	32
Sergt Downer b Phillips	4
C.S.M. Cussens c Tomlin b Phillips	1
R.Q.M.S. White c King b Phillips	8
R.S.M. Mepham c Carnegie b Mudge	9
Sergt Ruffle c King b Carnegie	10
Q.M.S. Mills b Mudge	14
C.S.M. Boulger st Phillips b King	0
Sergt Skinner retired	15
C.Q.M.S. McWilliams b Mair	16
C.S.M. Watson not out	5
Extras	11
Total	125

5/= per annum OFFICERS
2/= per annum OTHER RANKS

See page 229.

Football Notes.

By the time these lines appear our football season will be in full swing, and we are looking forward to a rather prosperous season. The team this year is undoubtedly a strong one, and although a few old faces will be missed, we are able to fill up the vacancies with good men.

Besides having a strong team, which will no doubt make itself felt in all league games, cup ties, etc., we have several good reserves at hand in case of any accidents.

The fixtures for the current month are as follows: Oct. 7th, Hove (home); 14th, Lewes (away); 28th, Vernon Athletic (away). Not being a tipster, I am going to be optimistic enough to *think* we shall win all these matches! (Hope it keeps fine).

We are waiting now for the Army Cup draw, and if our luck holds we should draw at home. We are able at last to turn out a full Corps team in these matches, and should go much further than the fourth round this year, and without any replays, either.

A full report of the progress of the team will appear in each month's issue of THE WIRE, together with all records as the season progresses.

In the Inter-Company League, two matches have been played, and resulted as follows:—

Seniors.—Sept. 7th, D Co. 4; School of Signals, 4. Sept. 13th, D Co. 1; A Co. 2.

Juniors—Sept. 7th, D Co. 1; S. of S., 0. Sept. 13th, D Co. 0; A Co. 1.

In the first qualifying round of the Amateur Cup, we have drawn "home," and as a result Lewes will appear at Maresfield on September 30th. We hope to enter the next round, if previous records are anything to go by, as visiting teams have not managed to defeat us during the last three seasons. A full report of the match will appear in due course.

LULU.

Hockey.

The Murree Brewery Tournament.

Opening Matches.

Murree, August 22nd.

The Murree Brewery hockey tournament, which began on Monday afternoon, did not open very favourably, for a recent heavy shower left the ground in a very soft condition, and really first class hockey was impossible, the players experiencing much difficulty in keeping their feet.

17th Pack Battery v. G Divisional Signals.

Play favoured the Signals from the start, and the game was not very old before they scored. A little later their opponents, after a fine run up, managed to net the ball, but the goal was disallowed. Exchanges thereafter were even, and half-time found the Signals leading by one goal.

On changing over fortune still favoured them, and they were on the offensive for the greater part of the time, pressing to such good advantage that before the close they managed to net the ball another three times, thus winning the match by four love.

27th Brigade R.F.A. v. E Divisional Signals.

This match saw the Gunners first on the offensive, and play had hardly begun when a good run up gave their right inner a shot for goal, which, however, went wide. Thereafter the Signals got away, pressed for a while, and scored. The Gunners tried to equalise, but half-time came with the Signals one goal to the good.

On the resumption the Gunners lost no time in getting level, and, still aggressive, they missed another chance of scoring. The Signals now pressed and netted the ball a second time before their opponents forced the game to the other end, where after losing a very good opportunity, they drew level once more. The game ended in a draw with two goals to either side.

Twenty minutes' extra play being ordered, the first ten brought some exciting moments during which the Signals scored again, to have their efforts nullified by a goal falling to the enemy almost immediately afterwards. The second ten minutes, though interesting, were productive of no result, and the match ended with the score three all.

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THE WIRE

The Corps Magazine of the Royal Corps of Signals and the Official Organ of the Signals Association.

VOL. III.—No. 33 NOVEMBER, 1922 PRICE—SIXPENCE

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All communications on Signals Association business should be addressed to The Secretary, Signals Association, Stamford Brook Lodge, Ravenscourt Park, W.6.

and if reply is required a stamped and addressed envelope should be enclosed.

Benevolent Fund Notes.

(1)—The following changes have taken place on the Committee of the Benevolent Fund:—

Vice-President—Major R. Chenevix-Trench, O.B.E., M.C., R.C. of S., War Office, *vice* Lieut.-Col. M. W. Emley, O.B.E., T.D., R.C. of S. (T.A.) resigned.

Members—Captain and Bt.-Major L. G. Phillips, M.C., R.C. of S. (S.T.C.), additional; C.S.M. J. Cussens, R.C. of S. (S.T.C.), *vice* C.S.M. W. H. Boulger, M.C., resigned.

(2)—The President gratefully acknowledges receipt of the following:—

Banker's Orders from—
Major H. A. B. Salmond.
Major C. H. Walsh, D.S.O., M.C.
Capt W. M. Miller, M.C.
Lieut D. A. L. Wade, M.C.

Donations from—
Major E. N. F. Hitchins, D.S.O., M.C.
Mr. W. G. Swanborough (late R.C. of S.).

Subscriptions from—
Sergeants' Mess, Maresfield.
Colchester Branch, Signals Association.

(3)—Two complaints have just been received that clothing sent for the use of needy ex-R.C. of S. men has not been acknowledged. Owing to the time which has elapsed between the despatch of the clothing and the receipt of the complaints, enquiry is impossible. In future will anyone who is so kind as to send clothing for Benevolent Fund use, and who does not receive an acknowledgment within four days, please send a p.c. to the Secretary Signals Association giving details of postage.

A. H. FRENCH, Lieut.-Col. R.C. of S.,
President, Benevolent Fund, Signals Association.

Signals Association.

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Maresfield Branch.

A well-attended meeting of the Maresfield Branch of the Signals Association was held in the Gymnasium on Tuesday, October 17th.

Capt. J. J. Bulman, O.B.E., M.C., opened the proceedings with a comprehensive speech, in which he first referred to the need of "gingering up" the activities of the Branch. He then explained the aims and objects of the Association, and gave instances of the good work it is doing among ex-members of the Corps through the medium of the Benevolent Fund.

Continued on page 270

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A First Trip to India.

BY W. R. C. P.

[*Concluded.*]

Although not having gained actual practical experience, I at least felt that I was more or less aware of requirements and of conditions of working—knowledge essential to the proper provision of stores and equipment.

I felt, too, that I had gained in general experience, and had certainly seen many new sights, and new country all full of interest.

India, like many other lands, is going through a period of transition, and the outcome depends on the wisdom and foresight of British rulers and their ability to grasp the good that lies behind the ramping and raging of professional agitators, and not solely to refuse to listen to the cry of a nation because at first their ears are deafened by the execrations of so-called leaders and their uneducated and mis-guided followers. The next few years will be of critical importance to India and to the British Empire as a whole, and will provide problems which should be studied by everybody, particularly soldiers, as the Army has always played such a large part in Indian history, and because in many cases it is more difficult for the purely military mind to appreciate civil change.

I have covered in a sketchy manner a very large tract of country, and can only hope that I have interested some to the extent either of leading them to read up some authoritative work on the Indians as a race, on India as a country and as part of the British Empire, and the effect on the Empire of its possible secession, or of instilling some desire to come and see for themselves and at the same time gain experience and incidentally enjoy themselves. I would ask all to follow current affairs in India as closely as they can, and assure them that for any trouble they may take in so doing they will be amply rewarded by a study of which the full interest and significance will only come with understanding of the problems before the country, a study which in itself will be compensation.

My tour did not include every Indian signal unit, and I have only written of those I actually visited. Perhaps some day I will set myself to write in greater detail of particular units, and in the meantime I hope someone else will try to go one better and keep the ball rolling.

I have compiled a list of mileages which may interest those with a tendency to statistics.

SUMMARY OF MILEAGE VOYAGE.

20/9/21	17 hours		Sailed from Southampton.
21/9/21	noon	192 miles	Off Brest.
22/9/21	„	488 „	N. of Cape Finisterre.
23/9/21	„	796 „	Off Lisbon (passed Burling Islands, Portugal)
24/9/21	„	1068 „	W. of Gibraltar off Tangier. Spanish & Moroccan coasts visible. Tarifa on port side, Anta, Tangier and Atlas mountains on starboard. Passed 18.00 hrs.
25/9/21	„	1348 „	140 miles East of Tangier.
26/9/21	„	1634 „	Due South of Majorca off African coast.
27/9/21	„	1934 „	Off Cape Bon. Saw Tunis.
28/9/21	„	2137 „	Malta 7.10; dropped 3 sick.
29/9/21	„	2439 „	South of Greece. Half way between Sicily and Crete.
30/9/21	„	2750 „	140 miles South of Crete.
1/10/21	„	3044 „	Port Said reached 13.30 hrs. Coaling.
2/10/21	„	3080 „	Kantara. In Suez Canal all day
3/10/21	„	3213 „	In Gulf of Suez.
4/10/21	„	3517 „	In Red Sea. No land visible.
5/10/21	„	3818 „	Red Sea.
6/10/21	„	4117 „	Ditto.
7/10/21	„	4402 „	8.00 hrs. Aden 16.00 hrs. Passed "The Twelve Apostles." 1694 miles to Bombay.
8/10/21	„	4690 „	Indian Ocean.
9/10/21	„	5025 „	Ditto.
10/10/21	„	5325 „	Ditto.
11/10/21	„	5631 „	Cyclonic weather.
12/10/21	„	5886 „	Calm again.
13/10/21	9.0	6096 „	Bombay.

INDIA.

Bombay to Deolali (3 times)	340 Miles.
Deolali to Simla	915 „
Simla to Rawalpindi...	485 „
Pindi to Peshawar	108 „
Peshawar to Khyber (car)	80 „
Peshawar to Kurram (car)	320 „
Peshawar to Rissalpur (car)	80 „
Peshawar to Delhi	598 „
Delhi to Quetta	852 „
Quetta to Chaman (car)	160 „
Quetta to Karachi	548 „
Karachi to D.K.	697 „
D.K. to D.I.K. and back	28 „
D.I.K. to Ladha (car)	210 „
D.K. to Simla	500 „
Simla to Jubbulpore	878 „
Jubbulpore to Simla	878 „
Total by Land	7677 „
„ Sea (as above) ...	6096 „
Grand Total	13773 „

F Divisional Signals.

Jubbulpore, Sept. 28th, 1922.

General.

We are at present in the throes of the area football and hockey tournaments. Games already played provided the usual excitement for large numbers of spectators, as well as much discussion afterwards. The results are given below under respective headings.

A flood of counterfeit nickel coins is being experienced in the local bazaars. It is reported that even the church plate received its share.

A vaulting class for the next assault-at-arms is whispered. No doubt some old-time-like sports days are before us in the coming cold weather which shortly commences. Jolly days!

Interesting lectures were given on two occasions by our officers in the Signal Training Centre Institute to large gatherings of the garrison.

The first lecture, by Major Drayson, on the "First Forty Days of the Great War," was brimful of interest and revealed many facts hitherto very doubtful to the man in the street. The second lecture, by Capt Pavey, on the "Operations of the Derajat Column, 1919-20," showed us some lessons to be learnt in frontier fighting. The considerable knowledge of detail shown by the speaker, together with some amusing incidents, were listened to with rapt attention by all.

We managed to persuade C.S.M. Haines, who is leaving for home this trooping season, to take a few photographs of the unit. With these notes we send along one taken outside the Sergeants' Mess. We are sorry some members were not able to turn up for this picture, but hope they will appear in some future one.

Everyone is acquiring knowledge of the surrounding country, as well as better health, through the weekly dog and stick walks which are being held.

The Indians are having their festivals and holidays just now, and all kinds of music at "tamashas" can be heard both day and night.

Shooting and the like is at a standstill, owing to the sodden nature of the ground, but some enthusiasts will no doubt be providing some copy for THE WIRE very shortly.

We welcome Capt B. D. Willoughby, who has recently joined us. Corpl Patheyjohns has proceeded to Poona on a Signal course; and L/Corpls Claber and Spearman to the same place on a P.T. course. We wish them good luck.

Football.

This month saw the opening of the Porter football and hockey cups, open to all units, battalions, and brigades of the district.

The play-off in both cases was on the American system, each team playing the others once: two points being awarded to the winners, and one for a draw.

Although "Dame Fortune" did not favour us with her smiles, in being beaten we have not been discouraged for future efforts.

In the first match, versus the 2nd Battn. Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment from Kamptee, we were without the assistance of our regular centre-half (C.Q.M.S. Smithies); and although the team played up splendidly, we were beaten by 6—2.

As in the first match, we were without our centre-half against the 2nd Battn. Manchester Regiment, who administered our second defeat, this time by 4—2. This



Photo by] [*C.S.M. Haines*

Standing—L/Sergt. Caines, M.M., Sergt. Andrews, L/Sergt. Neal, L/Sergt. Abraham, L/Sergt. Nicholls, Sergt. Cross, L/Sergt. Lewis, Sergt. Feather.

Sitting—Sergt. Clarkson, Staff/Sergt. Godfrey, Sergt. Sweeting, M.M., C.Q.M.S. Ryder, C.S.M. Hepburn, Sergt. Clarke, Sergt. Saville.



Photo by] The Hockey Team. [*C.S.M. Haines*

Back row—Sigmn Fellows, Sergt. Cross, C.Q.M.S. Smithies, Sigmn Turner.

Middle row—Sigmn Winaras, Lieut. Morgan, Major Drayson, M.C., Lieut. Jones, D.C.M., C.S.M. Hepburn.

Front row—L/Corpl. Gilmour, L/Corpl. Barker.

game to a certain extent was spoiled by the ground, which, after a monsoon storm, was something in the nature of a skating rink. In the defence, Sergt Lewis, Sigmn Ball and Corpl Bull gave a capital display, and of the forwards, Capt Pavey, Signalmen Fellows, Page and E. Smith, repeatedly made praiseworthy attempts to find the net.

In the last match, against the 24th Brigade R.F.A. (the cup holders), a very fine game was witnessed. C.Q.M.S. Smithies re-appeared in the defence, but the forward line had to be re-organised owing to injuries to Sigmn Fellows and Capt Pavey, Sigmn Ball and C.S.M. Hepburn filling the breaches.

The defence triumphed, the R.F.A. forwards being frustrated again and again. Our forwards made repeated attempts at goal, but our opponents as often cleared. The result, a goalless draw, was a very fitting conclusion, and we now take the opportunity of thanking the team appended herewith for their fine display throughout the tournament games: Sigmn Wallace; Sergt Lewis and Sigmn Powner; Cpl Stevens, C.Q.M.S. Smithies, and Corpl Bull (late of Dublin Signal Company fame); Sigmn E. Smith, Capt G. P. Pavey, M.B.E. Sigmn Fellows, Sigmn W. Page and Sigmn G. Winaras.

The next competition—the Wallace football challenge cup—opens next month, and seeing this is only open to companies, batteries, etc., we have commenced looking round for a place to show the cup off to the best advantage. Nuff said.

Hockey.

In the Command hockey eliminating contests we found ourselves drawn against three teams, each much stronger than ourselves, to wit, two infantry battalions and one artillery brigade. Nevertheless, our side put up some good shows, and, although beaten by the infantry we managed to secure a draw in the contest with the Gunners.

We had out our captain and centre forward, fit and fresh, having returned from leave the previous day. In the first few minutes some brilliant passing brought the ball within shooting reach of the Gunners' goal—a lightning-like shot missing by a foot, followed up by lesser attempts, showed our rivals that they had a hard nut to crack. Thereafter, some fine cross work was witnessed, but we could not score. Once the Gunners got away and found the net, making us one down, but undismayed when the half-time whistle sounded.

On the resumption our efforts were more fortunate, and Major Drayson managed to put on two goals in quick time after some neat forward work. The other side again scored after some tricky play, and when time was up the score stood 2—2. All spectators testified that they had enjoyed a very fine game. The G.O.C. Area afterwards complimented our team on their plucky display, and said the team had done well for such a small unit.

Cricket.

On Saturday afternoon, September 23rd, we were out to the local Indian College on our usual cricket ground, the Gymkhana.

Batting first, our opponents made a total of 106, the highest individual score being 30 by Mr. Date, a steady bat, who could do nothing great with our bowling. Major Drayson, going in first for F Divl. Signals, made 46; Capt Pavey 14; Sigmn Ball 33, and Lieut Morgan, 22. When the latter's wicket fell, the board

showed 119 for three wickets. The remaining players did not do very well, adding only three more runs, which was due to the Indians' improved bowling of a slow variety. However, we had won by 16 runs after a good afternoon's outing.

There is certainly no lack of sport in Jubbulpore. As an instance, one member of F Divl. Signals has in five days taken part in two hockey matches, a football match, a cricket match, a day's hunting (on Sunday), concluding with a night's route marching. Can anyone give anything better than that?

Sergt Cross was excused the night march on Sept. 25th, ostensibly to make a coffin for the hockey and football team playing in the Wallace tournament. (Keep smiling, Charlie! This is only a little joke!).

Death.

J. H. Raymond Smithies, son of C.Q.M.S. and Mrs. P. Smithies, at Jubbulpore Families Hospital, on Sept. 8th, 1922, of pernicious anæmia. Aged 15 months.

Wireless Company, Egypt.

Our Notes.

No notes were sent last month, chiefly owing to lack of suitable news, and to a certain extent the overlapping of news from the various units in Egypt and Palestine.

Musketry.

The Company musketry course commenced on the 11th September, but has not yet been completed owing to the Near Eastern crisis. The Company, however, promises to have an average comparable with the best shooting units in the command. We have one particular "dead-eye" in Sergt Stevenson.

Promotions.

Promotions have figured largely during the last month. Q.M.S. Winton to S.M.; L/Sergts Mitchell, Price, and Terrell have been promoted to their ranks on the Corps roster, as have Corpls Grant, Pout and Carpenter.

A Successful Dance.

A very successful dance was held in the main barracks, Abbassia, on September 30th. Among those present were the commanding officer, Major J. P. G. Worlledge, O.B.E., and Mrs. Worlledge, Capt T. B. Haines, and Lieut N. Edes. The arrangements were in the hands of a very able committee, comprising C.S.M. O'Connor, L/Sergts Price and Mitchell.

Departure.

Lieut W. Scott has left us for Constantinople, and we hope it will not be long before he returns to us.

Death.

It is with regret that we record the death of Sigmn Hardman from appendicitis, at Sollum, on Sept. 20th, 1922. We have to thank the 3rd Armoured Car Co. for their great assistance to us in this out of the way place.

Sports.

It is necessary to mention the inter-Section Shield, which is causing keen competition between our six sections. This was initiated by our Commanding Officer, and has given a fillip to sports and kindred subjects.

After a successful swimming and cricket season, we have commenced our football season very well by playing seven matches and only losing one.

In the water polo league, this year, we managed to reach third place from the top. We drew with the winners and beat the runners-up, but we were unfortunate in losing to a very weak team. Our record this year, including friendly matches, is as follows:—Played 27; won 24; drawn 2; lost 1; goals for, 56; against, 18.

Unfortunately we have no cricket league here. We had a very good team, and there would have been much more interest had there been a trophy to win.

All interest at present is in our inter-Section competition, which includes all sports. Having just completed cricket, swimming and water polo, results are as follows:—

Cricket—Nos. 5 and 6 Sections, winners, 4 points; No. 1 Section, runners-up, 2 points.

Swimming—No. 2 Section, winners, 4 points; Nos. 5 and 6 Sections, runners-up, 2 points.

Water Polo—No. 2 Section, winners, 4 points; Nos. 5 and 6 Sections, runners-up, 2 points.

We have still athletics, football, hockey, boxing, cross country running, skill at trades, and education to compete in; so that the Section which wins will assuredly deserve the shield, which is being put up by the officers.

Constantinople Signal Company.

The situation here has, of course, a lot to do with such short notes for this month, as all sports, etc., have been either postponed or cancelled.

By a stroke of luck, the Company try-outs were held on September 9th. Owing to the army sports being altered to take place earlier than was originally given out, several entrants withdrew on account of not having sufficient training. A good motto for those who withdrew is "Nothing ventured, nothing won."

There was a fair attendance, and Col. Barker, the C.S.O., kindly acted as starter, several other officers assisting in general.

The 100 yards was a good opening event, Corpl Goodall finishing in fine style, with Sigmn Jones second, in the first heat. In the final heat, "Darkie" again finished first. The old laundry woman finished second in jolly good style. (Stick it, Michael; you will win that 100 yards yet).

The mile was an easy thing for "our Joe," Tangy Saunders, Sigmn Ursell being second.

The high jump was not up to expectations, but as already quoted, "nothing ventured, nothing won." Sergt Deptford managed to clear 4 ft. 10 in., and he would have done better had those ammunition slippers been sports shoes. Corpl Goodall was second, and Sigmn Worsley third.

The 220 yards was a runaway for Sigmn Victor (our high faluting copper-coloured koon—anyone know him?) He finished in grand style, and deserves a place in his Company's team. A pat on the back is worth two in the bush, Darky. Time, 28 2/5 secs.

The long jump went to Corpl Goodall, Sergt Carney being second. Sigmn Whelan entered for this, but arrived too late. Nothing loth, however, he had a "trhoy at it, bejabers," but having travelled some distance, he no doubt was not exactly full of vim.

440 yards.—The laurels for this event went to Sigmn Ursell. (By the way, congratulations on being made Lance-Scorpion, Archie; we wish you the best of luck). Sigmn Foster was second.

Michael Patrick Whelan (comes from Glasca), gained the laurels for putting the shot, Sergt Payne being second; a very close put, too.

Signalmen Ursell and Healey had a hard race in the half mile, being neck and neck for the last 200 yards. Sigmn Ursell just managed to scrounge (yes, that's the word, scrounge) past Healey at the tape. It was a hard race, and a sporting one. Well done!

The hurdles was a walk-over for Sergt Carney. Yes, he won by exactly 220 yards, but didn't Tommy Rhoder moan when he heard about that. He said he certainly could have got second prize.

The 3 miles went to Sigmn Saunders, who finished up in great style in 16 minutes 17 seconds, Signalmen Brown and Brew being second and third respectively. Great things are expected from Sigmn Saunders in the Near (?) future.

We thank the officers who assisted during the afternoon, and also Sergt Payne and Corpl Overington for their strenuous efforts in arranging the different affairs.

It is interesting to relate that Sigmn Chambers, R.C.S., fought the welter weight champion of Turkey, Mazloumidis, and would have beaten him but for the fact that in the eighth round he was fouled repeatedly. He appealed to the referee, and finally left the ring in disgust, the fight, of course, going to the foreigner.

It was a pity to do this, but no doubt he had just cause for complaint; and certainly he did not receive fair treatment. He had his man beaten to a frazzle; in fact, he simply bashed him when and where he liked—his face after the "do" would bear out that statement. But as the song goes, "There's a good time coming," so keep fit, Jack, and bring another laurel to the Corps.

Signal Section, Singapore.

Rumour has it that a trooper is leaving Blighty sometime this year for the East, and bringing a few more of the corps to join us. Roll on, the day! Then you may receive news from Singapore, as the new arrivals will complete a Section, and we can push out on our own in all the sports of the day—and no doubt give the R.E. a licking or two on our own!

For the benefit of the boys we left behind in Maresfield, the names of the eight "Pilgrims of Telephony" who are struggling along in this burning climate, are: Signalmen No. 2312672 G. W. Robinson; 2312915 P. H. Phillips; 3433463 J. Channon; 730717 A. Elliot; 2312900 H. H. Elford; 2312912 J. Donaldson; 1854563 A. J. A. W. Williams (ex R.E.); and 2313643 L/Corpl W. H. Bowler.

Now then, D Company, you were very conspicuous by your absence in the August issue, and we were all rather disappointed. What about it?

W. H. B.

Signal Training Centre and Depot, Jubbulpore.

As the old war-time communiques were wont to read, there has been a quiet time on the Jubbulpore front lately. Such things as that are attributable to the weather, which is extremely bad at the moment, as we are at the tail end of the monsoon season.

The football team is still in need of some new blood. The matches played this month have resulted in one win and one loss. Depot v F Div. Signals, lost 5—1; 24th Bde. R.F.A. v. Depot, won 2—1.

With reference to B Company (Maresfield) notes in the August WIRE, they might make a practice of starring some of the athletes that the Draft Company lose, as Jubbulpore does not seem to see any.

In the Net.

L/Sergt Cecil Menzies Edwards and Olivia Frances Sheila Collins Leeson Magry.

Sergeants' Mess.

One of our members, Teddy Edwards, has joined the ranks of the married, as above mentioned. Everybody wishes him the best of luck in his venture, and hopes that he will be as happy in twenty years' time as he was on the day of the wedding.

Owing to the monsoon, we have been unable to hold any entertainments.

KYKO.

Rhine Signal Company.

October 13th.

In disregard of the above date we must make a start with our monthly notes.

We read with envy, in last issue, "Cairo's" account of summerlike weather with swimming, tennis and such like, also someone who mentioned, "If winter comes."

Here, we don't doubt that it will; we seem to think it *has*, and should not be surprised if the S.M. doubles us round the square a few times on the early morning check parade, to remove the chilly, dozy feeling. We should imagine reveille later, or extra gunfire, would be a better way.

Having shaken the creases and moths from our great-coats, we have brought to light the frays and tears in them, in the hope that we may stir the stony heart of the Q.M. to exchange them for new ones. Only a very bold or foolish man would dare to beard him behind his voucher entrenchments, and we recently noticed various hardened individuals hurriedly leaving his office with horrified expressions.

With the technical training period ending rather abruptly, we are now completing the annual firing course, and everyone seems to be telling his unbelieving half-section his *real* score.

We noted with interest the remarks upon the drafts proceeding East and elsewhere, though the same did not affect us. The only drafts here to be noticed are those in the vicinity of the Signal Office when the C. in C.'s name is mentioned. Then is there such a signing of ledgers and dockets innumerable, and more grey hairs appear on the counter-clerk's head, whilst the stand-by D.R. and C.-in-C.'s D.R. dash madly to the—er—to their bikes.

On the completion of the firing we are hoping to commence the furlough season, preparations being evident by the enormous number of portmanteaus to be seen.

To those with swollen credits the trip to Blighty will only be of a few hours duration, the Aeroplane Company plying between Cologne and London saying they will take one for a mere ten guineas. As a matter of fact, quite a number are considering week-end passes to London as a matter of course, or a flip over to see the Cambridgeshire, back in time for second half at the Scala, and supper at the Catholic Club or table d'hote from the "Better Ole."

We shall be pleased to welcome anyone from the Depot or elsewhere if they desire a like stunt; though in case the Q.M. reads this, don't forget the unexpired portion!

Sports.

As prophesied we are up against it in the premier football league, and have yet to win our first victory. However, we are being rewarded by the playing of better football, and we are determined to see it through.

Corpl Hall, our left-winger, has represented the Company in the Rhine Army team, doing very well, and seems sure of his regular place.

Section matches are being played with extraordinary keenness, the teams being pretty evenly matched, much credit being due to the organisers and those who suffer such inconvenience when turning out to play.

We are going strong at hockey under the skilful tuition of Major F. R. Cobb, M.C., having defeated the Engineers and the 1st Gloucesters; and in the forthcoming tournament we hope to reach the final again.

Rugby is taking a deeper hold upon us. Lieuts Jennings and Matthews, who are playing members of the Cologne United Services team, are busy teaching fellows the code of that fine game, so we are hoping to get a good XV. together, the nearness and possession of our own playing pitch being all in our favour. It would be a good long feather in our chapeau if we can take on the above team and whack 'em.

The run for the Rhine Army cross-country championship has been postponed, so we hear, giving us a little more time to get ready. We were pleased to observe Sigmn Brattle showing the paces to a couple of novices, noticing they showed promising style. There are lots more who *can* run if they will only turn out, and we shall surely need them.

In the boxing line we have only Sigmn Noakes fighting in the Army contests here on October 14th. Corpl Hamlin and Sigmn Simpson are resting on their laurels, owing to being barred from the same, the contests being only for novices.

Social.

The Sergeants' Mess have had their monthly "At Home," everyone having a pleasant time. Hearing weird noises we investigated, and found their jazz band performing. Mein Gott! what a noise they made—like nothing on earth!

Promotions.

Congratulations to Corpl Shewood on his appointment to L/Sergeant (we all think he deserves it); also to Sigmn Williams on his first one again, and paid, too! "One foot on the ladder," Ginger! you know the rest.

Movements.

L/Corpl Freddy Oakes to Shorncliffe for educational course for three months. We hope he's soon back; we miss him.

P. B.

Maresfield Notes.

Headquarters.

October 14th, 1922.

The Near East crisis has been responsible for several changes in the Training Centre. Drafts left at short notice for Aldershot, and Companies found their numbers very much reduced.

Among the officers who went were Lieuts R. R. R. Steward, M.C., R.C.S., and R. C. Woodbridge, R.F.A., of D Company. Lieut Steward has been adjutant of the Training Battalion for about three years, in which capacity he has been succeeded by Capt W. M. Miller, M.C., R.C.S.

Capts H. G. Henderson, F. A. Sykes (9th Hussars), and Lieuts D. C. Methuen, A. E. L. Brown, D. D. Bannerman, and J. P. Mackenzie were the officers who went from the School of Signals. Lieuts Methuen, Steward, and Woodbridge were all members of the S.T.C. cricket team.

Another officer who has left the Centre is Lieut E. G. Sinnott, who has gone to Devonport.

Lieut F. R. Courtenay-Thompson, the Cambridge running "blue," has rejoined the School of Signals, and will be a valuable addition to the S.T.C. running team.

The Library (Hut 68) is now open, and about 100 members have already been enrolled. Approximately 700 volumes have been purchased, and this number is to be considerably increased. Hours of opening are as follows: Sunday, 12.0—13.0 hrs. Monday to Friday, 11.0—13.0 hrs. and 17.0—18.30 hrs. Saturday, 11.0—12.30 hrs.

I hear that a movement is on foot to organise smoking concerts, etc., during the coming winter, on behalf of the Signal Association, and trust that all Maresfield members will endeavour to support and help in whatever way they are able. Further details will be available after an inaugural meeting has been held.

Congratulations to the Corps soccer team on the successful commencement of the season. Lewes and Hove are the team's first two victims, and we are hoping that Horsham will be the third.

The recent boxing tournaments have been very popular, and it is questionable whether any other Corps could produce so good an all-round show, both as regards organisation and the excellence of the individual bouts.

E. S. J. H.

D Company.

I hasten to chronicle our recent doings ere I am too late.

Owing to the vagaries of Kemal Pasha we have been busy preparing and despatching drafts to "somewhere in the Near East." Altogether we have got rid of 250 to various places. Our best wishes go with them wherever they are.

We have to bid farewell to Lieut R. Woodbridge, who has proceeded to the Near East, and our best wishes go with him. We are very sorry to lose him, as he was our mainstay in all branches of sport. We expect to hear of great doings in the hockey world of the Army in Constantinople in the near future.

I take this opportunity of informing all members of the Signals Association and Old Comrades Association that a general stir-up is about to take place, and it is hoped shortly to hold a meeting of all members of the Association, with a view to instituting regular meetings, smoking concerts, and outings. It is hoped that very many more members will thus be obtained, and some enjoyable evenings spent.

Our Company WIRE sales fell somewhat last month, owing to the large reduction in our numbers, but we still top the list. Our monthly subscription of 1d. per man to the Signals Benevolent Fund last month dropped to practically nothing. Now, lads, that is bad. Let us do better next month.

Football.

Most of our "star" players from whom we expected so much were taken away for the Near East drafts. Nevertheless, we have a fairly strong team. So far we have lost both the matches we played, but only by a narrow margin.

Hockey.

The same remarks about drafts and "star" players apply in the case of hockey, but here we have heaps of promising new blood, with a fair stiffening of veterans. We have not yet played any league matches, but we are sure to give a good account of ourselves when we do start.

Cross-Country Running.

We have had one trial run so far, and found some very promising new runners; and we should do well in this branch this season.

Boxing.

The fistic art does not seem too popular amongst us at present. I wonder why? Sigmn Mitchell treated us to some delightful boxing at the last tournament. Anybody wishing to take up boxing should get into touch with Staff-Sergt Hayden.

Nothing else of much importance has occurred in the past month, so will close with best wishes to all from

DON.

G Company.

Our lack of a contribution to last month's issue of THE WIRE can only be put down to the after-effects of "some" rissoles, which made us wonder if the "Rissole King" was in any way related to Armstrong.

By the time these notes appear we shall have said goodbye to many old friends, notably Lieut B. B. Kennett, C.S.M. Fry, and Sergt Bartlett, who have all left for "furrin parts" with practically all the old members of the club. We wish them the very best of luck and long lives.

In the quarterly boxing competition for the novices' cup which came off last month, we lost second place by one point; but with a full team next time, that little cup will come back to us again.

With the advent of the football season, our soccer, rugger and hockey enthusiasts are preparing to do big things; and although we have just lost some of the shining lights of our teams, we hope to turn out some real good stuff from our new arrivals. We commenced our football matches last month by a friendly game with C Company, and after a keen game we were victorious by 1—nil. Keep it up, "G."

WAVELENGTH.

School of Signals.

Drafts have been responsible for the loss of several good fellows. Signalmen Lucas and Willis have left us for Constantinople, together with that very popular warrant officer, C.S.M. Edwards. Our best wishes go with them.

Dances have again commenced, and their success is assured, judging by the attendance at the first attempt.

Congratulations to Sergts Prior, Flynn and Wyatt on their promotions.

Football.

Our record to date is a creditable one, inasmuch as we have met strong opponents. On September 21st we met F Company and returned losers by three goals to one, after a very clean and sporting game. We congratulate F on getting together such a fine team.

On October 5th we defeated G Company by four goals to one, one of our goals being a very gentle penalty tap by Greaves.

Congratulations to 77 Course on being admitted to the League. Although losing their first match by three goals to nil against A Company on the 12th, we feel certain that the "Babes of the League" will make their presence felt before the last game is played. By the way, this match will be remembered if only for a senseless display of barracking. It was very noticeable that those foremost in tendering advice to "Joe" were men who are not qualified to even criticise a junior match. It is again a case of the noisy minority, so often found, and we hope, for the sake of the School, that it will not happen again. (By the way, "Joe" should play better still, after being given such priceless instructions).

Hockey.

On the 12th we met and defeated "Eddy" by six goals to nil, and in so convincing a manner that there should be no qualms about future matches. Three of the goals were splendid drives by Lieut Gamble. When the side has played together for a few matches it will want a lot of beating.

Rugger.

We are now well into the rugger season, and needless to say we hope to have a successful time this year. The few men who have taken an interest in the game are very keen, and improving rapidly.

We have had a number of practice games, and played a friendly with "George" Company, winning easily, "G" having to reorganise their XV. owing to sending drafts away to the Near East.

On the 12th an S.T.C. XV. provided us with a game, and although we were beaten by 0—19, our forwards put up an excellent show. Our three-quarters, however, got very little chance.

The first inter-Company League match is against C Company on October 19th. Sorry to see that the S.T.C. lost their first match against Brighton, but we feel that they will improve rapidly, and we wish them every success this season.

DODO.

Continued from page 261.

After touching on the Association's pressing need of financial support, he advanced some valuable suggestions whereby this assistance might be rendered, and, at the same time, social benefits afforded to the Branch members. Smoking concerts, dances, re-unions, and dinners were among the prospective means of raising funds which he suggested, and these were all enthusiastically received.

Capt. Bulman concluded by expressing the hope that all musicians, vocalists, comedians, etc., among those present, would assist by volunteering their services when opportunities occurred.

Capt. A. W. Roberts, M.C., the local secretary of the Association, then proposed that an Entertainments Committee be elected forthwith, and this proposal met with general approval.

Capt. A. L. Harris, M.C., was elected President, and readily consented to accept the post. The remaining members of the Committee (which is as far as possible representative of the various Companies) are:

Sergt Kendall, Corpl Leath, and Sigmn Seabridge, of C Company.

L/Corpl Barlow and Sigmn Haines (reporting members), and Sigmn Willis, of D Company.

Sigmn Francis, of E Company.

Sigmn Madron, of F Company.

Sergt Simmonds and Sigmn Morphew, of G Compy.

After the election of the Committee (who were adjured to "get a move on"), the proceedings were closed. It was pleasing to note that not one of the nominees for the Committee pleaded that he was "too busy" to accept, thus testifying to the general enthusiasm prevailing in the Maresfield Branch.

E. S. J. H. & R. F. B.

Correspondence.

October 17th, 1922.

Dear Sir—

Herewith receipts as requested, with very many thanks.

Both —— and myself are quite settled down and are very grateful for your invaluable assistance in securing us this job. We only hope that we shall be able to keep up the prestige of the "Signals."

Personally I feel that, apart from your great kindness in getting me here, I must thank you very much for the kind way in which you received me. So many Associations, when finding men situations, treat an unfortunate chap as though he were a criminal for *daring* to be unemployed, and the help given is oft-times given with very bad grace. I am perfectly sure that the spirit of comradeship with which you give help bodes good for the future of the Signals Association.

Enclosed please find P.O. for 11s. (2s. for myself and —— for membership fees, and 7s. for myself for one year's subscription for THE WIRE.)

With more thanks,

Yours very faithfully,

—— ex-L/Sergt. R.C. of S.

Crowborough Notes.

A Company.

Yes, there seems to be no excuse really why we have not appeared in THE WIRE lately. I've been hunting for excuses ever since the Editor jogged our memories in his little reference last month. Of course, we ought to have something to say. There's hardly time to do more than just peep into your columns this month; but next month—yes, we promise to do more, and are engaging many scribes at vast expense for the purpose—but it *is* so hard to get them now they are all on the Square—always. The square? Oh, yes, we'll tell you all about that later.

There have been many changes in the Staff lately. Major C. H. Walsh, D.S.O., M.C., R.C.S., commands, with Lieut Carstairs (Royal Scots) as adjutant. Major R. H. Macdonald is in charge of instruction, with Capt Newson (Lancashire Fusiliers) and Lieuts Chubb, Younie (of the Corps), and Hobson (Royal Berkshire Regiment) as instructors. C.Q.M.S. Smithson, on promotion, hands over as senior drill instructor, which appointment is now held temporarily by Sergt Webster. Capt McConville (The King's Regt.), with R.Q.M.S. Manton and C.Q.M.S. Weeks, control "Q." R.S.M. Waterhouse, with Sergeants Tilford and Harrison, are still here in the orderly room. Of such changes, I will tell you later.

At the moment of writing, Number Two platoon is at Lydd completing a musketry course, and Number One—the finished article (now, don't get excited; the Colonel hasn't seen you yet)—are brushing up ready for a pass off the square.

Number Four has the "babies" at present, and the following appeared for the first time to-day on the Square:—

2312619 Sigmn B. A. Argent.
23083 Sigmn E. Critchley.
2315374 Sigmn R. Foulkes.
4382326 Sigmn H. H. Gatenby
2314947 Sigmn H. C. Lea.
2314202 Sigmn G. W. A. Rennie.
2314450 Sigmn J. Knowles.
2312800 Sigmn W. D. Lupton.
431454 Sigmn A. J. Shiels.
2314646 Sigmn P. F. Sparks.
3704211 Sigmn C. Thomson.
2315378 Sigmn W. A. Walker.
2315074 Sigmn E. G. Wadsworth.
4605978 Sigmn T. H. Jessop.
4382924 Sigmn E. H. Jones.
2315162 Sigmn L. G. Wheeler.
2558570 Sigmn C. F. Moffitt.
4382344 Sigmn F. J. Thomas.
1046546 Sigmn A. Wilson.

They didn't exactly fall in to the drum this morning, like the cadre on parade (must set a high standard, you know!) but they look a lot of triers. May success go with them.

Sports.

We are at present indulging in much speculation—I'll bet this, and I'll wager that, and the individual backing against the Company, in most of its branches of sport, backs the wrong horse.

Soccer is, however, a matter of ups and downs. One day there is a wave of optimism, and the next a backwash of pessimism. Optimists were few for the match against Don Company, but had the verdict by two goals to one. C Company defied a unanimous feeling of certainty over the match by defeating us, in a game full of misfortunes and miskicks, despite the gallant efforts of Sergt Shenton and Corpl Withers. The juniors could show only a creditable draw.

Against "Eddy" our forwards had a day out, and won to the tune of 4—0. Once again the juniors drew. Come along, what about it?

To summarise to date, the seniors have played 5; won 3; lost 1; drawn 1; with 10 goals for, and 3 goals against. The juniors have played 4; won 1; lost 2; drawn 1; with 3 goals for and 3 against.

Rugger and hockey are only just in the stage of trials, and although much is expected, nothing will be predicted.

Boxing.—It was a sad day for the Company when we were compelled to relinquish our hold on the boxing trophy, having won it twice in succession. However, good luck to the winners; and roll up your sleeves, "Eddy," for there's a strong boxing committee here now, and we mean to dig it out of its temporary resting place. (The cup, I mean).

Cross Country.—Now, this we *do* seem quite keen about, and one meets men everywhere rushing about roads and hillsides. Under the leadership of our "Jimmy holders," Sergt Gaffney and Corpl Dowie, a good pack will result.

Well, that's all we have to tell you this month. If we *have* got sufficient educational ability there's more to come, but really we haven't quite defeated 3rd class yet. You know, Number Three platoon, Lord Kitchener was *not* "The greatest British detective that ever lived since Sherlock Holmes. Died an admiral." Still, Number Four make it easier for you to bear, as one of their aspirants tells me "Lord Kitchener by his tact and foresight arranged the Indian Mutiny." Well, tact always was necessary in Signals, and he *was* in them once, wasn't he?

No, I'm sorry, Number Two; you are wrong. Gibraltar is not "the furthest point on the earth's surface from London." And you want to learn up the rank badges a bit—"a second lieutenant wears one star (not a 'pip,' please); a lieutenant wears two stars; and a captain wears an M.C."



When you've forgotten your complaint.

Boy Service in the Army.

Twenty-one Years for a Pension.

It has been officially decided that in future soldiers who enlisted as boys and whose service therefore before attaining the age of eighteen does not reckon as qualifying service for pension purposes, may, if efficient and if recommended by their commanding officer, be allowed to continue in the Service beyond twenty-one years from the date of enlistment for such period as may be necessary to complete twenty-one years' service from the date of reaching the age of eighteen. This permission may be granted irrespective of whether supernumeraries exist in the corps or not.

A Phantom Army.

I have been variously described as thoughtless, sieve-headed, and scatter-brained, so I suppose it was the comfortable armchair and cosy fire that caused me to close the book and take on a pre-occupied air.

I placed it (the book, not the air) on a corner of the table, and settled back two points into the armchair. The wind howled along under the verandah, and those people who were foolish enough to be outside hurried along with their necks well down and shoulders up. Horrible day! We were verging on winter, although it would be exceedingly difficult to say where summer had ended. Autumn, I think, is now obsolete.

A soldier's life is one of care-free joyousness until the winter comes, and then, being unable to find the lace-holes of his boots in the dark before early morning parades, he becomes morbid-minded and views his world through glasses not so much rose-tinted as blood-stained.

I recalled to mind instances of soldiers who had even expressed a desire to be back in civilian life. They do not realise the great changes and improvements that have been effected in the army since the European war. I admitted to myself that there was still room for a great deal of improvement.

Ruminating thus, I did not observe that the wind had died down and that everything had become tranquil. I stepped off an imaginary pavement, and came sharply back to wakefulness to find a sergeant standing timidly just over the threshold.

"Beg pardon, but are you Signalman 'Awkins?" he asked. I smiled engagingly at him to put him at his ease, and pleaded guilty.

"Well, the O.C. sends his compliments, and says, will you be so good as to come across to the office."

This was a pleasant surprise indeed. It was not often that I received an invitation couched in these terms. I venture to assert that never before have I been summoned to the office in this courteous manner. I wondered if some of the improvements I had formulated in my mind were being adopted.

"Righto, McDuff, we will trot along, then," I said.

"My name is Snoop, if you don't mind," volunteered the sergeant. He looked it too. The Company office was not very far, and on our arrival he stood aside to let me pass in. Unfortunately, I tripped over the marbles in the wire "Welcome" mat and crashed heavily, curiously enough without hurting myself.

"Ups a daisy, then," said a coffin-lid voice, which I recognised as the sergeant-major's. Two clerks flew across to assist me, but I rose unaided and waved them away. They retired crestfallen to their noughts and crosses.

"Where's the sergeant-major?" I demanded, deliberately looking into space over his left shoulder.

"'Ere I am, 'Arry," he said, edging up. "Will you please step this way?" I couldn't fathom this extraordinary behaviour on the part of these people, but I determined to play up to it. I accordingly stepped where he led, and found myself face to face with the O.C. himself. I decided to anticipate any familiarity, in order to assure myself that a new style had really been adopted.

"What, the old Porky," I cried, "any chips?"

"Huh! huh! huh!" said the O.C. encouragingly. "Where's this chap's naughty sheet?" "We don't call 'em crime sheets now, 'Arry," explained the sergeant-major.

"Why the deuce do you want a naughty sheet for me?" I demanded angrily. The O.C. looked hurt. "You tell him, major," he said.

"S'like this, 'Arry, the O.C. ain't 'ad nothin' to do all day, and 'es read the Beasts of Tarzan and writ two letters 'ome in one envelope, and now if you'll just listen to 'im for a minute 'es going to explain why——"

"But, my dear man," I interrupted, "I can't be bothered to listen to him jawing at me. I'm half way through 'Over the Counter' by Lena Cross, myself, and he can have it afterwards."

"Look here, Hawkins," said the O.C., "be a good chap and listen to me! We've simply got to keep the old flag flying, and this is one of the things that help. The yellow form you see here contains particulars of a little—shall we say, misdemeanour—on your part."

I rapidly reviewed a few little—shall we say, misdemeanours during the past few days. Lump of mud through the Colonel's window? No, not that: I had nipped too quickly. Sugar in the Adjutant's petrol tank? Tut, tut! how could they suspect me of that? I gave it up eventually, rejecting as unworthy of consideration such minor activities as tintacks in bikes, strings across narrow paths, and busted windows.

"We held a little parade this morning," continued the O.C., "and I have been advised that you were conspicuous by your absence."

"Oh, that!" I replied contemptuously. "Was it a marching order parade?"

"Was it a marching order parade, sarmajor?"

"Oh, yes, sir; drill order optional."

"Were you there yourself?" I asked. They should not browbeat me.

"Was I there, sarmajor?"

The sergeant-major hastily consulted his Army Book 136. "'Fraid you wasn't there," he replied sadly.

They were conscious of having lost a point.

"Well, what have you to say?" said the O.C. in evident desperation.

"Not much, old bean," I replied. "Sergeant Givitt and I had a little difference over a game of tip-it last night, and as we don't speak, I thought it best not to come on parade. I don't approve of 'em, anyway," I added as an afterthought.

The O.C. appeared immensely relieved and heaved a sigh that scattered all his papers.

"Oh, well, of course, under the circumstances. Huh! Tut, tut! Have a cigarette." I took four and sauntered out of the office, leaving the O.C. and the sergeant-major looking very sheepish. The torn fragments of Army Form B 252 floated out after me.

"What cheer, Hawkins," hailed a voice. I looked round to see the Adjutant trotting past on his pony.

Truly, the army had suffered a vast change. Was it an improvement? I decided to apply the "acid" test, the same being none other than a visit to the Quartermaster's stores.

In accordance with the time-honoured custom (I don't think) I planted a hefty kick on the door of the stores. "Come right in," said a voice, quite unlike a Quartermaster's. "What can we do for——I mean do for you?" The Quartermaster corrected himself hastily. The change had not yet taken such deep root in this department, but that there was a change was evident. The place was well lighted, and all the stores were stacked neatly away in places that were obviously intended for them. Most remarkable!

"Sit down," said the Quartermaster, waving me to a chair. What a contrast to his waving a chair *at* me!

"Got anything to give away?" I asked hesitatingly.

"Jim!" roared the Quarter-bloke, "trot the goods out. Chap here wants some kit."

Jim became a bundle of springs in a moment, and hauled to the centre of the room as varied an assortment of kit as ever saddened the heart of a new recruit.

"Could I have a pair of socks?" I asked.

"Sure thing, boy. Jim! look in the book under S and see what we have in the sock line."

Three pairs of socks were wrapped up and placed beside me in less time than it takes to tell.

"Boots? Yes; give it six fours? No. What ho, she bumps! In the B's, Jim, that's the stuff. Six pairs. Braces? Well, I guess so. In the B's again, Jimmie. Two pairs of braces. Four by two? Give him seven yards, boy, and a gallon of oil. That's in the O's. Got it?" The smiling Quartermaster and his equally cheerful assistant buzzed around, and very soon a huge pile of kit began to arise beside me.

"Any danger of getting a barrow to move this lot, Quarter?" I asked.

"Oh, we'll send it all along in a minute or so. Sign for it? Not at all, we trust you. Sure you wouldn't like anything else? Pull through, haversack, shirt, pants, breeches, serge, puttees. Nothing else?"

"One moment," I interposed. "What about a pair of slacks?"

"Trousers? In the T's, Jim. Most decidedly. Where's that guy Jim? T, yes—in the T's for sure."

The Quartermaster appeared to be receding, and I couldn't see Jim at all. A voice as though afar was yelling "Tee, tee!" Ah, yes, what was it? Tea?

"Do you want any d—— tea or not?"

I awoke with an unpleasant jerk, in time to see Charles stamp out of the room and slam the door. It was only a dream then, after all. I might have known. Fancy the Quartermaster not wanting me to sign for anything!

BARLEUX.

The Adventures of Dot and Dash—No. 1.





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3rd Divisional Signals, Bulford.

If I attempted to describe fully the happenings in the 3rd Divl. Signals during the past month, I should certainly occupy far more than our share of space in THE WIRE.

Since the new war scare commenced, one has seen the Company headquarters office aglow with lights until a very late hour, long after staff parade. Thank heaven things are cooling down now again, and the Company office staff are again able to leave at a more reasonable hour.

The formation of No. 3 Medium Artillery Brigade Signal Sub-Section, under Lieut D. C. Owen, R.F.A., for immediate service overseas, was perhaps the outstanding feature of the rush.

The following n.c.o.s and men left our Company to join them: Sergt Hudson, D.C.M. (section sergeant), Signalmen McAdie, Ward, Chester and Berry, with Driver Read and Driver Frost (a recent arrival from Maresfield).

The above were joined by eight n.c.o.s and men from the 2nd Signal Troop at Tidworth, Hants, and ten men from C Company, S.T.C., as line operators.

The Section moved off in the early hours of the morning of Sept. 30th, to embark on s.s. "Corsican" at Southampton, and we wish them all very good luck.

The large Indian draft from this Company had left prior to the situation in the Near East becoming really serious, but one is inclined to think they must have taken the first turning to the left, as our O.C. said when he made his final inspection and said goodbye on the day previous to their departure from Bulford.

A small draft of Sergt Sands, Sigmn Wright, and Driver Ashley, for Constantinople, left in a great hurry (without much leave) on the 27th of last month.

Current local news has taken a back seat this month. We still keep our three Sections, although as the changes in the personnel are so rapid, a high standard of "esprit de corps" is difficult to maintain.

We have to congratulate C.S.M. Boulsbee on the birth of a son, and also Sergt Sands on the birth of a daughter.

The football season has commenced in earnest, and the league match results are as follows up to the time of writing:—3rd Divl. Signals v. 3rd Pack Battery R.G.A., lost 3—1; 3rd Pack Battery v. 3rd Divl. Signals, draw 3—3; 3rd Divl. Signals v. 10th M.T. Coy. R.A.S.C., draw 1—1.

Bulford Garrison Cup (1st round), 3rd Divl. Signals v. 15th Pack Battery R.G.A., lost 4—2.

More news next month.

P. J.

4th Divisional Signal Company.

Reed Hall, Colchester,
Oct. 12th, 1922.

General.

Capt R. E. Barker (late of the Dublin District Signal Company) joined us on October 3rd, 1922. Following him came "Baden," at one time famous in "Eddy."

The members of the Warrant Officers' and N.C.O.s Mess held the first of a series of whist drives and dances on Sept. 29th, 1922.

Forty guests were present, and all agreed that they had spent a very enjoyable evening. Sergt Kneebone ably carried out the duties of M.C. for the whist, and Sergt Ford-Stratford, those duties for the dancing.

On September 27th, seven other ranks left us for Constantinople, including the renowned "Blazer" and "Ginger Garrington."

Our juniors are at present up to their eyes in training (assorted), and Sergt McDonald (who, by the way, dodged the draft) is an "also ran."

"Joe," of D.R. fame, still continues to "triumph." He has soared to the dizzy height of L/Corporal. This appointment necessitated his giving up his fire brigade duties, but he has taken over the duties of orderly corporal. Long may he reign!

Just one more to be inflicted on the troops!

N.Y.D.

Medical Officer to Sigmn Fagend: "Do you like your job?"
Sigmn Fagend: "Yes, sir."
M.O.: "You wouldn't be off it?"
F.E.: "No, sir."
M.O.: "Do you like soldiering?"
F.E.: "Yes, sir."
M.O.: "Let me see; you were in hospital recently. What was your complaint?"
F.E.: "N.Y.D., sir."
M.O.: "That is rather a serious thing, isn't it?"
F.E.: "Yes, sir."
M.O.: "What part does it affect you in mostly?"
F.E.: "In my chest and lungs, sir."
M.O. (walking away): "Hopeless!"

Football.

There is nothing much to record. We lost our first match on Saturday last.

Hockey.

We now possess a very fine hockey ground close to the camp. Fixtures have been arranged which will carry us far into the season. Sergt Kneebone still awaits that fixture from "Eddy." R. C. B.

Annual Dinner of the Co'chester Branch, R.E.O.C.A.

The sixth annual dinner of the above Branch was held at the Plough Hotel, and proved a great success.

Col. F. A. K. White, C.M.G., D.S.O., R.E., presided, supported by Major W. R. Norton, R.E., Major Purey Cust, R.F.A. (hon. sec. R.A.O.C.A.), and Capt. F. J. Griffith, R.E. Seventy-one members and visitors were present.

The menu, as given below, was considered very appropriate for the occasion:—

SOUP.
Oxtail á la S.M.E.

JOINTS.
Roast Beef. Pontoon Sauce.
Boiled Leg of Mutton. Riding School Sauce.

VEGETABLES.
Pomme de Terre. Au Naturel et Roti.
Cauliflower. Avre Chevaux-de-frise Sauce.

SWEETS.
Sapper Pudding. Tool Cart Sauce.
Fruit a la Boxup.

Cheese it. Avre Bourre.
Biscoche and Pay Day, etc.

During the post-prandial proceedings, the Chairman submitted the loyal toasts. Army Schoolmaster H. Murdoch gave in felicitous terms the toast of the "R.E. Old Comrades," and said his father was connected with the corps for a great number of years as financial clerk in the C.R.E.'s office. He coupled with the toast the name of Mr. A. T. Walstow, who, in an eloquent speech said he regretted the unavoidable absence of Major G. E. Sampson, D.S.O., R.C.S.

Owing to lack of accommodation the Association could not invite those out of employment to join them, but after the expenses of the evening had been paid, the whole of the balance was spent in sending parcels of groceries to those members of the Branch who were out of work, and to those out of the town the sum of five shillings was sent instead.

F. of W.Q.M.S. McKinley, R.E., in proposing "Kindred Associations," said the R.A. was generally understood to be a kindred corps, and the R.E. could therefore claim relationship with them, as well as the Royal Corps of Signals, who had recently separated themselves from the parent corps. The question might be asked, how they could claim relationship to the Norfolk Regiment O.C.A. The "Norfolks," however, were called the "Holy Boys," and were not the R.E.'s righteous also? (laughter and "Hear, hear.")

Major Purey-Cust, R.A., responded to the toast on behalf of the R.A.O.C.A., L/Corpl R. C. Barrett (hon. sec) for the R.C.S.O.C.A., and Mr. Rippier (hon. sec.) for the Norfolks.

Mr. W. E. Wakefield proposed the toast of "The Chairman, Presidents and Vice-Presidents," and referred to the assistance given by Col. White and other officers of the Branch generally.

Col. F. A. K. White, R.E., in an appropriate response, said it gave him great pleasure to do anything in his power for the R.E.O.C.A.

Major Norton and Capt Griffiths also responded, and a happy gathering terminated with the singing of the National Anthem.

An enjoyable programme was contributed by Mr. Copeland (pianist), Mr. R. O'Connor (songs, "The Night that McFarty's Pig ran away," and "Teaching Mc Fadden to dance"), Corpl Felgate, R.E. (violinist), Mr. F. Bird (vocal and humorous items), and Mr. Akers and Mr. Murdoch (vocalists).

56th (1st London) Divisional Signals.

51 Calthrop Street,
Grays Inn Road, W.C.1.,
October 18th.

Dances at our new headquarters, 51 Calthrop Street, are now in full swing. They are being held fortnightly, and will do quite well if they are patronised as the first two have been. The attendances were very good, although some little inconveniences have arisen, due to the alterations in progress.

Regarding the alterations themselves, the H.Q. would hardly be recognised by its former occupants, but the rooms being erected in the basement make the space at the disposal of our caterer somewhat small. By the way, these rooms, when without doors, made excellent "sitting out" alcoves for dance nights.

This Wednesday (the 18th) marks the first of our weekly practice dances, free to members. It is hoped to see them well supported, and they should prove a boon to those who *wish* to dance but do not yet feel confident on the floor.

There will be a dance held on Armistice night by the Sergeants' Mess. This will be a gala affair, so roll up in your hundreds, Ford cars, or trams, and enjoy yourselves.

The football team has done what I said it would, and although I refused to give the "cricket" score against us, 14—1 *for* us is too good to be missed. We could have done with them in the "sweep."

We have not yet touched our best form in the billiards tournament, the first match being a draw, and the second resulting in a 4—2 defeat; but perhaps our players will take inspiration from the football team, and soon "Reece" the top of the table.

Next month I hope to give the records of the unit, by Companies and individuals, of shooting and drills, with a view to stimulating rivalry for next year. The silver cup for Companies' competition (given by "The Robber") has been pledged to meet the rise in the price of note cases (I *do* use a lot up), but probably some other public-spirited nobleman will come forward!

THE ROBBER.

42nd (East Lancs.) Divl. Signals, T.A.

MANCHESTER.

Our present strength is 8 officers and 190 other ranks.

On Saturday, Sept. 30th, we made our debut in the social side of our corps. On that date our first regimental dance took place, and was a huge success. The Entertainment Committee are to be congratulated on their initial effort.

All our officers were present, with their wives and friends. The blue and scarlet of the officers' uniform, mingled with the dresses of the ladies, presented a kaleidoscopic effect.

The chalk with which the floor was strewn appeared to cause an irritation in the throats of several dancers. Fortunately for the sufferers, one of the honest Quartermasters had in store a wonderful and effective remedy, known by old sweats as "neck oil." In some cases one application of the oil had the desired effect; in others the irritation was more stubborn and required further applications.

A novel and very pleasing feature of the evening was gained by switching off the lights and using lamps (electric, daylight signalling) from the balcony to throw light on to the dancers. The effect of this was greatly appreciated by everyone except one of the operators of the lamps. It is thought that he saw someone very dear to him dancing with a partner strange to him, as his light jealously followed them through the dance. Be a sport, Mr. Operator, and keep your light traversing!

Judging from the lengthy committee meeting for arranging these social gatherings, the next dance promised will be a greater success. Could not the programmes for these social gatherings be ready for sale at a much earlier date?

Several of our boys competed in an open shooting event of the Lancashire Fusilier Brigade on the Holcombe range. Is it necessary to state that the Royal Corps came out on top? Each man is now the proud possessor of a black silver-mounted walking stick.

Would it not be possible to give each man the crown "downstairs" to set off the walking stick? One or two of the men suffering from "Duck's disease" could use the stick as a crutch.

R.S.M. Hogben has just returned from a well-earned leave, having had to shoulder the majority of the Orderly Room and other work since the formation of this unit. Now that the P.S. is brought to establishment, we trust our R.S.M. will be able to "stand easy."

Our football team lost their first game to the Manchester Trams on the 7th inst. by 3—1. Was it because the white and blue stripes are vertical instead of horizontal, or was it the new boots? Buck up, boys; we have a few blank spaces in our mess which the shield would help to adorn.

(Signed) 3.25.

52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals.

Glasgow.

The football season being now in full swing, the unit have got together a good strong-going team to prove their prowess on the football field. We have won four out of the six games we have played in the League contest, and have suffered two defeats. We have collected eighteen goals and lost ten.

We have played the last three games under a heavy handicap by several players requiring treatment and rest owing to injuries, but we hope to have the full team out in the very near future, especially as we meet the R.N.V.R. in the second round of the Scottish Junior F.A. cup—and our men are very keen to give *them* their exodus out of the competition in the same way as they did their opponents in the first round.

The winter training season has commenced with a series of lectures with reference to the operation and maintenance of W/T sets. The benefit of these lectures will be felt next year when we go to camp, and the name which we won for ourselves this year will be as the stars to the moon compared with that which we will receive at our next camp.

A few very pleasant hours were spent in the W.O. and Sergeants' Mess on Friday, October 13th. Many splendid items were supplied by our S.G.B. friends. One of the most amusing episodes of the evening was the presentation of the "Pokey Die medal" to R.S.M. Coates, who (replying to the presentation) said he was proud to have the honour of being the first member of the mess to win this coveted distinction. Many challenges were received during the evening, and it is hoped to arrange a night when the championship will be fiercely contested.

LOWDIV.

49th (West Riding) Divisional Signals.

Gibraltar Barracks,
Leeds, October 18th.

All our time lately has been taken up in wireless lectures. We had a special parade on Saturday, 14th inst., for the unveiling of the Leeds War Memorial.

The C.O., 8 officers, and 94 other ranks attended, including an old comrade (ex-C.S.M. G. Lapping), who, of course, counts himself as one of the unit.

The entertainment season having again set in with the advent of "winter time," our W.O.s and Sergeants' Mess, having first elected the necessary committee, has made a splendid start on what promises to be a highly successful session.

On October 7th we had an excellent concert, followed by a whist drive on the 14th, and a Sunday evening concert on the 15th.

An "inter-Sergeants' Mess" billiard tournament is in process of formation in the city, and bids fair to be as successful as its forerunner of last season. There are a number of units in Leeds, and nothing is more useful in fostering a friendly spirit between the various n.c.o.s than fixtures such as these.

Our Old Comrades Association, which is arranging its fixtures for the season as usual with us, is a strong and flourishing body, ably scribed for by our old friend, ex-C.S.M. G. J. Lapping ("Fayther"), late of Bedford A Depot, who will be well known to many who scan these notes. The fortunes of the canteen members are being looked after by a joint committee of all ranks, and this should be in all respects a full season at Gibraltar Barracks.

We have also a football team entered in the third division of the Leeds Amateur League; but it is "regretted" that, if they do not improve their form, they look like being relegated to the *fourth* division next year. Never mind, there are some likely lads amongst them, and the season is still comparatively as young as the team; and we hope to be able to include in our next notes the report of a win.

F. B.

43rd (The Wessex) Divl. Signals, T.A.

Exeter.

How often one hears this question asked among Y.O.'s, "What does the Orderly Officer do," etc., etc.? and I remarked to a certain Y.O. recently: "Could you sort of write up your doings when you did the job at camp? I fancy it would be rather interesting to let the world know through the medium of THE WIRE what the Wessex do." So here you are, Mr. Editor. This is what I found on my table a few days ago, and it is just in time for this month's issue.

OLD SPARK

"Orderly Officer for the Day."

A REMINISCENCE.

Morning of the First Day—"Paradise Lost."

Time 06.05 hours. Scene: a tent in the officers' lines at annual training camp, Saltford, August, 1922. My batman noiselessly enters the tent and addresses me thus: "Morning, sir. It's after six o'clock. I've brought ee a cup o' tea (?)" I murmur appropriate and grunted thanks, and turn over to sleep again. Ten minutes later, the tenseness of the situation dawns on me. I am "Orderly Dog" for the day; first parade is at 06.30, and it cannot get on without *me;* and furthermore, it will take me at least ten minutes to doff my "heavered" disguise. I leap from my flea bag, and after a feverish struggle, suitably garnished with expletives, I emerge, the perfect little soldier (perhaps!) and trip lightly over the dewy mead to take first parade.

After the usual conventionalities of greeting, and a brief exchange of merry backchat on the topics of the day, we all disperse to our duties: myself to the horse-



lines, the sanitary men to their interrupted slumbers. Once at the horse lines the fun begins—and continues something like this: "Morning, Sergeant-Major, and how is the racing stud this morning? All slept well? Good! only fifteen cases of kicks and bites, including drivers. Splendid! Er—excuse me, Driver Blanks, but could you persuade your trusty steed to remove his off fore from my foot? Thanks, very much."

Then to the drinking troughs. For twenty minutes or so with tears in my eyes (and mud in my mouth) I watch the horses drinking, drinking, drinking—*water*. Ugh! But they seem to like it—the nature of the beast, I suppose. At last the "Feed Away" peals blithely from the S.M.'s lips (how I wished the order applied to me!) and off we go to breakfast. At least, when I say "we," I exaggerate—I mean, all but *me!* I wait till the mess tent and its occupants seem to be filling up, and then I enter with my faithful Orderly Buffstick by my side, and timidly enquire, "Any complaints?" There are none. How thankful I am!

At long last I am "in the straight" for breakfast myself. But, alas! duty compels me to curtail my replenishing of the inner man. The whistle toots for second parade almost as soon as I enter the Officers' Mess, and away I flit with a boiled egg in one hand and Company Orders in the other.

After second parade I take a tender farewell of my Section, who march off laden with all kinds of signalling apparatus to a neighbouring field, for a morning's flag-walloping, etc. And as I proceed to welcome my Orderly Sergeant and ask him if he has breakfasted well, I see a figure bearing down on me from the orderly room tent. My heart gives a flutter of excitement. Is it, can it be, the Prince of Wales? No! on approaching I see it is the Adjutant, in his rôle of Guardian Angel to inefficient O.Os. He wants to know why, etc., I have not reported to the orderly tent. I whisper, "I'm sorry, sir; it passed right out of my mind." "Passed right out of your what?" he screams savagely.

However, "per ardua ad astra," as the classics have it, and off I go to inspect the sump-pits, and harass the sanitary men for their seeming negligence. The morning is spent in an inspection of the camp, with myself and my O.S. busy spearing loose scraps of paper with our sticks, and chasing the elusive sanitary men from the canteen to the mess tent piano, and back again.

At 12.25 another jolly stable parade, followed by the men's dinner. Again "no complaints," thank goodness! The afternoon is an even slacker time than the morning, with only stable parades and such like trifles at intervals of half-an-hour. In fact, I am seriously thinking of producing another appendix to Camp Standing Orders on the subject of "ways and means of employing O.Os. during their periods of spare time."

Evening of the First Day.

The *pièce de resistance* (I like these French tags: so reminiscent, aren't they) occurs at 19.00 hours, if you know *when* that is. I refer to the Mounting of the Guard. When the guard are adequately established in their tent with sufficient literature, games, smoking materials, etc., I hie me to mess—late, of course—and suffer severe chiding at the hands of the mess president, who enquires why I am hurrying, and apologises for the inconvenient hour of mess. After mess, while others play, duty—the ever insistent—calls me off to Tattoo and Staff Parade; and even then I am not completely free. I wait and watch the hands of my luminous wrist watch go round till the time arrives when I feel sure the guard must be sound asleep, and out I sally to wake them up and give them their last bottle. But when they are all safely tucked up again, and five or more kicking draught horses have been persuaded to refrain from making life unpleasant for the horse line picket, I wend my sorrowful way back to my tent.

My day as "Orderly Dog" is over!

Epilogue—"Paradise Regained."

At 05.05 *next morning*, dimly from the wilderness of sleep, I hear my fellow officer in the next tent being roused by his batman. *He* is my successor as O.D. for the day, and with a smile on my lips I roll over and gather my blankets more closely about me, realising that for me, at any rate, "Paradise is regained."

Gibraltar Signal Section.

September has for us been a month in which nothing of note has happened. No doubt our more fortunate comrades in England have been enjoying football, but it has been too hot here for such games, and we are only just getting our gear and ourselves ready for the great attack.

We are still anxiously awaiting the arrival of our draft from U.K., and trusting that Maresfield will oblige with a few athletes to augment our various enthusiasts.

We were pleased to see many old friends on the "Huntsend" when she called here on her way to the "Shiny East," and hope to have the pleasure of meeting any others who call at the Rock for a few hours.

We can promise any S.B.O.s who come here quite a busy time. A recent check on the Exchange showed some 3000 calls in 24 hours, with about 250 lines working (How's that for Corpl Fleming?)

We hope to have more news next month: and that our friends in all parts of the world will not forget us is the earnest wish of

SCORPION.

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With Signals in Cairo.

Sports.

A Corps Committee has been formed with the object of co-ordinating the resources of the two Companies. Sub-committees, consisting of non-players, are being formed, each sub-committee dealing with one branch of sport only. Lieut P. H. Owens has been selected as president of the football sub-committee.

On Saturday, the 7th inst., the Corps were able to see the first match of the season, in which we met the R.A.S.C. in the first division.

It was a very fine game throughout, and the interest was sustained the whole time. Of course, the Corps were well represented, both in the grand stand and on the touch line. It was very thirsty work cheering our stalwarts on to victory, but luckily the E.S.R., on whose fine grass we played, supported the good work by opening the "bar."

The team lined up in the bright sunshine. The whistle blew, and away went the blue and whites straight into the enemy's half, where Moores, Pitt, Edwards and Devey proceeded to bombard their goal from short range. Play was pretty even for the next fifteen or twenty minutes, then Chumley got the ball, swung it across to the left wing, and Devey and Pitt, evading the opposing backs, the ball went up the touch line under the control of Devey. Dodging the right back, he put in a hot one which the R.A.S.C. keeper, who was very good, saved, but failed to clear, and in the subsequent scramble the ball was pushed round the post. Although the goal was scored in a scramble, it was well deserved, and the credit may be divided between Devey and Pitt, our left-wingers.

After the goal had been scored, the R.A.S.C. pressed hotly, but Stirling and Whitehead, secure in their backing by Tubbs (our fine goal-keeper), resisted their efforts successfully. Tubbs made some fine saves, and half-time came with the score 1—0 in favour of the Signals.

When the whistle blew for resumption we pressed again, and excitement was tense, but the R.A.S.C. backs, who were playing a fine game, kept our forward line in check.

Then the R.A.S.C. commenced pressing, and Tubbs, who on one or two occasions ran out some 20 yards or so to save, stopped some hot ones. Then followed some exciting times in front of the opposing goal, and after a sudden sweep of our forward line, Moores shot and hit the crossbar. The ball rebounded into play, and somebody else let drive with an absolute scorcher which beat the goalie all the way.

Pandemonium reigned for some moments, then when the atmosphere cleared a little we were all dumbfounded to see the ball being placed for a goal kick: the referee had given offside!

I discover now that the whistle went before the first shot, which rebounded from the cross-bar, was attempted, but was unheard owing to the noise. When play was resumed, Devey unfortunately injured his leg, and had to leave the field for a time. Play was very even, and the R.A.S.C. pressed again, but we held them, and finally, after a match which every one considers one of the best ever played on this ground, we ran out deserving winners by one goal to nil.

To mention any player by name in remarking on the play would be invidious, for all of them played a remarkable game, and thoroughly justified their selection by the committee, who are to be congratulated.

Our next match will be against the 5th Dragoon Guards, and we are very optimistic.

B Section.

The withdrawal of the majority of the Kantara Section to Abbassia has been completed, leaving Capt Parkes and a few other ranks to carry on pending arrival of reliefs from the Palestine Administration.

They have gone into musketry training, and are, we believe, living in hopes of beating the first party.

Musketry.

The first party of the Company have successfully completed Table "C." Unkind people have been comparing the party with profiteers on Scottish moors. The top scores were: Sergt Whelan, 121; Sergt Storey,



The above (with one exception) is the team which represented the Corps during the recent Swimming Championship Finals at Alexandria.

120; Sigmn Thompson, 114; Corpl Shorten, 103; Sigmn Austin, 103. The Alexandria top scorer was Sigmn Cahill with 110.

General.

We have at short notice despatched to Constantinople an artillery brigade sub-section under Lieut D. A. Brown, assisted by L/Sergts Robertson and Deyermond, and about twenty of the lads.

P.T. is the latest form of early morning torture. Star performers are much in evidence—O'Grady plays an important part in the morning's activities. We politely suggest that Archie be handicapped in the "horses and jockeys" performance.

We successfully saw Sergt "Jim" Dillon off to Port Said en route for India as a prospective transfer to the I.U.L. We wish him the best of luck and hope he wont forget us.

Congratulations to L/Sergt Goodman on promotion to A/Sergt.

By the time this is in print our first draft to England will have been introduced to the Signal Training Centre at Maresfield (lucky chaps).

44th (H.C.) Divisional Signals.

Nos. 1 and 3 Companies, Stamford Brook.

We are gradually nearing the end of the training year, and the lads are looking forward to winning fat bounties.

It is most gratifying to record the magnificent results of recent football matches, which were played on dates as follows:

Dauntless League: Sept. 23rd, 44th H.C. Divl Signals v. Acton Liberal, won 6—4; Sept. 30th v. Acton St. Dunstans, won 6—2; Oct. 7th v. Hanwell Church, won 6—0; Oct. 14th v. St. Mellitus, won 5—1.

All the "chippies" of the unit have been mobilised to turn out a supply of cribbage boards capable of employing "our boy to man them," as this method of recording results is considered most effective.

The first dance under the newly constructed Entertainments Committee was held on the 14th inst., and was fairly well patronised; and had there been more time in which to advertise no doubt the dance would have been far more successful. We have formed our own jazz band, and the members are putting in heaps of practice to make it go. Young "Freddie," in his enthusiasm, has already succeeded in busting one side of the big bass drum, and by the time the next number of the magazine is due it may be possible to announce that he has converted the drum into a tyre for his youngster's Ford car. L/Corpl Daniels, who is running the band, has good support from the other instrumentalists, and we wish them every success.

There seems to be some truth in what rumour would have us believe: that wireless really does induce the growth of hair on tiles lacking the adornment. A certain member of the P.S. has buckled on his sword and gone forth to a well known health resort (?) to seek fresh herbage for his (b)ald pate. Judging by an observation made on a quick visit of his back to the old land, most certain is he of getting (and for nixes) the desired bunch, and well might have any 'erb exclaimed, "Oh, what-a-tiler!"

Never mind, old pal, "ginger for pluck," and you've nuff of one and lacking in tuther.

Another "old gent," named after an old river (not Styx), is anxiously awaiting your return, as he thinks of taking a few tips, with your permission, and then throwing up Anzora. Anyhow, don't lay down the sword till you've conquered your quest and returned with a footpath running right down the centre.

Certain members of the unit would like to know if it will be cheaper for a footballer with a flowing mane to buy a hair net or have it bobbed? also, if baccy pipes are likely to undergo a change in style, how much will it cost "old Dan" to fill up his metal pipe with the fragrant weed. Selah?

HIGH TENSION.

D Divisional Signals.

Rawalpindi, Sept. 20th.

As my last notes were lost in the post, I must introduce ourselves once again.

Having read the recent appeal to all Signal units overseas for funds, and the wish to enlarge the scope of the Corps magazine, this Company will in the future, I am sure, back it up.

The Company left Kohat on March 26th this year, after some very good and hard work by this unit during the past three-and-a-half years on the North-Western Frontier, and overcoming the majority of hardships which one meets up here. We were relieved by G Signals, who are having a gay life up there, I am told. With discs and contacts, and earths in galore, they have their hands full in these days of war.

We arrived in Rawalpindi, and soon settled down in Cambridge Barracks, but alas! after two months of peace we moved up to Lower Topa, in the Murree Hills, for the hot weather, and training started "puk-ka" with visual, P.T. technical instruction, and several khud climbs to make things interesting.

During our stay at Topa we held several dances, a fancy dress ball, and an excellent concert, which was (thanks to Lieut T. A. R. Scott and Sigmn Burgoyne for their witty jokes and humorous songs) thoroughly enjoyed. We are looking forward to several more when we arrive in the flats once again.

We welcome Lieut Toyne, who joined the unit recently from the 54th Sikhs, and we hope he will be quite at home among us.

C.S.M. Allen and L/Sergt Sherman have arrived from the Depot, and I am sure you will quite agree that we have some of the "old 'uns" from Maresfield with us at last.

Sport.

We heartily congratulate Lieut Courtenay-Thompson and Sigmn Cotterell on their performance in the Army championships.

Football.

The Company entered for the Murree Tournament, and were very unlucky in being drawn against the 2nd Lancashire Fusiliers in the first round. After an excellent match we were defeated by 5—1.

Hockey.

After getting by hook or by crook into the third round of the Murree Hockey tournament, we put up a very poor show against the S.W.B.s, and again suffered defeat by 6—1.

Cricket.

The Company have a very useful team, and I may say that we have some "star turns" with the willow and the ball. They are Major Empson, Lieut Scott, Lieut Toyne, and L/Corpl Gray, who never miss gathering a very useful score in each innings. I hope it will be our luck to win several of the tournaments which are held round this district.

GOSSIP.

E Divisional Signals.

Peshawar, N.W. Frontier Province,
September 27th, 1922.

With October comes the end of another summer. No one feels sad about it, although this year we have had little to grouse at. The heat has not been excessive, and with a run out in the morning before "sun up," and a game of football or hockey in the cool of the evening, we have managed to keep fit, and are rather proud of the fact that of the British units in Peshawar, E Divl. Signals leads with the least percentage of sickness.

The R.F.A., 22nd Pack Artillery, and 4th Infantry Brigade Signal Sections have completed their training, and are now with their Brigade at Nowshera. The R.F.A. Signal Section was the first to leave, being followed a week or so afterwards by the Pack Artillery and Infantry Sections, which stayed behind to help out the mere handful of us here at headquarters with the duties which, unfortunately, are pretty heavy these days.

Now that the summer is finished, training should proceed unhampered, and schemes will soon be the order of the day. However, with the coming of the cold season, sports and athletic training will go on at all times when other training permits.

A start was made in this direction by Lieut Winckley, M.C. (who recently joined us from D Divl. Signals) organising a cross-country run in preparation for our team race against the R.A.F., which it is hoped will take place in the near future.

The course chosen was about three miles. A field of twenty set off, led by Sigmn Winstanley, who set and maintained a smart pace. Half way round Winstanley led, closely followed by our C.O. (Capt H. D. Orr), Lieut Winckley and Sigmn S. Smith, and these positions remained unaltered to the finish. The rest staggered in in varying stages of exhaustion, but one and all were determined to finish and did so.

The result of the trial was very gratifying. It is practically impossible to keep in anything like the degree of fitness required for a run of this kind during the summer in this country, and for the whole of the field to finish speaks well for our runners of the future.

Sigmn Winstanley is being troubled with an injury that he sustained when running in the mile at the District Assault-at-Arms. It is hoped this will not cause him to cease running altogether.

Cricket.

In the Hot Weather League, the West Yorks, on Thursday and Friday, Sept. 24th and 25th, lost to us by 135 runs.

The early morning session was abandoned on examination of the ground, which proved too wet from a heavy dew to play on. Thus it was arranged to commence at 16.00 on Thursday and Friday respectively, providing the weather did not intervene, as it does in England.

Opening the match, our innings produced 170 runs. The chief scorer was Capt Parsons with 69.

On Friday, against brilliant bowling by Capt Parsons (who performed the "hat trick") and Lieut Matthews (who obtained three wickets in the first over), our opponents completely collapsed, their last wicket falling for a total of 35 runs. Home readers, please note: *not* on a wet wicket!

On October 5th we are opposed to the M.T. and S. & T. in the final match of the Hot Weather League, and although we both stand level on points, we entertain high hopes of finishing "top dog." Next month's notes will tell you how we got on, and we hope it will not be necessary to offer our *usual* excuses for not winning.

Boxing.

L/Corpls Murray, Payne and Sigmn Rice, Munday and S. Smith, were our representatives in the recent tournament at Cherat, and they gave a good account of themselves. Two of them reached the finals.

Sigmn Rice won the light weights, but Sigmn Smith unfortunately lost on points in the feathers. The remaining three showed great promise and gameness, but they failed owing to their lack of experience in ringcraft.

Sigmn Rice and Munday entered for the All India Championship, and went to Mussoorie for this purpose. Rice lost on points in the first bout, and Munday received a "k.o." Better luck in the future.

Hockey.

To write an account of our show in the Murree Hockey Tournaments is rather a difficult problem, for the simple reason that although we had a real good team of individual players, all extraordinarily fit the whole time, as a team the less said the better.

It was very disappointing to us all to put up such a feeble show in the final of the Signals Tournament. In my opinion we were simply all over our opponents, and did everything that was necessary but score goals. However, G Signals went 16 annas the whole game, and deserved to win if only for that.

The refereeing was very good indeed, though it was a great handicap to the military sides who, in ordinary station hockey, are allowed to play a mixture of hockey and football—consequently, when we came up against good referees, our play naturally suffered.

The A.S.C.B. out here are trying to standardise refereeing all over India, and it will be a fine thing when it functions; but things like this take such a long time to get going out here.

Mess Notes.

With the advent of the cold weather we are looking forward to more of both work and merriment, and shall soon commence the usual weekly "hops" (not in glasses).

Recently the officers were entertained by the w.o.s and n.c.o.s to a billiard tournament, which resulted in five wins out of six for the officers. Needless to say, we did not put our best team out.

During the play the Mess "Blue Nile" Jazz Band obliged with selections from their extensive repertoire, the noise of which was sufficient to put even Inman off his stroke.

With the trooping season we lose several old members of the unit. The following are the first draft for

despatch, due for embarkation on the s.s. "Somali": Sergts Birch and R. Pipkin, Corpl Brady, L/Corpls Culium, G. H. Smith, and Pickford, Sigmn Adams, Copley, Houghting and H. Ward.

A certain individual, after scoring a bull, a magpie, and then missing the target three times, was heard to remark: "Sergeant, they are not putting the target in the same place each time, for if they were I should get a bull each time I fire, as I am aiming at the same place."

Would it not have been better if he had shifted his ground sheet?

Young n.c.o. to a sergeant (after a man has fallen from a verandah, distance about 30 feet): "Say, Sergeant, is it an unusual occurrence for a man to fall from a verandah?—and how shall I enter it on my Guard Report?".

Heard in Peshawar:

Officer (to Signalman): "Were you drunk last night?"
Signalman: "Shure, sorr, don't axe me. Oi was carried up the shtairs spacheless."

Signalman (firing rapid practice, 15 rounds per minute): "Sergeant, what's the number of my target?"

Sergeant: "Never mind the number of your target, my boy. Keep your heels flat on the ground, and get a move on, or that 60 seconds will be up in a minute."

At a game of snooker between two mess members: One member: "If I hit this ball and miss it, how many do I give away?"

G Divisional Signals.

No. 2 Company, Parachinar.

We hear that L/Corpl Wall, our able and hard-working correspondent at headquarters at Kohat, is probably leaving us shortly on transfer to C Divl. Signals, Quetta, where we wish him the best of luck. So if this is the only correspondence from G for this month, you must excuse our shortcomings, Mr. Editor, and we will try and do better next month.

The happenings here during the first two weeks of this month I know nothing about, for my time then was spent with our hockey team at Murree in an endeavour to lift the Murree Hockey Cup.

Our efforts received a severe check in the second round. In the first round we were drawn against the 17th Pack Battery, R.G.A., and although a heavy shower (which lasted for an hour prior to the bully-off) made play difficult, we passed into the second round by the convincing score of 4—0.

The game confirmed the impression that we were a well balanced team, but five days later we changed our opinion when we played the 27th Brigade R.F.A. The first ten minutes found our opponents one up. We then held them well for a quarter of an hour, and no one expected what was to come, though half-time found us down by 2—1.

In the second half the Gunners set to work to make sure of victory, and with their centre-forward playing his finest game (and our team right off their game, excepting the inside and outside left), they managed to score another three times, finally running out winners by 5—1.

On our return to Parachinar many changes had taken place. The Company Commander had left us on transfer to the S. & T. at Quetta, and Lieut Wilson had taken over the reins of the detachment. It will perhaps be pleasant news for him that things here seemed to improve from the day he came.

Little affairs (which may have seemed small in a way) were arranged, which helped to make things brighter. The arranging of a weekly whist drive on Saturday evenings was a splendid idea, and although we could only muster 32 men this has been the means of passing one pleasant evening each week. Ae we are under orders to return to Kohat (the summer now being over), the last drive took place last night. At the finish, Capt Malden (our new O.C.) came down to present the prizes to the successful competitors, and after thanking those who had helped these drives along, we said good-bye to whist drives until some future date.

On the 18th of this month a pleasing little ceremony took place, when the Colonel-Commandant of the 5th Brigade presented Sergt Howard with his M.S.M., gained during the Afghan show in 1919. At the same time Sergt Potter received the Long Service Territorial Medal. To both of these n.c.o.s we offer our best congratulations.

Of course, the people who play hockey and football will want to have something said about their achievements, and for a detachment team they have certainly done well.

Our last three football matches have resulted as follows: Versus the R.A.F., a draw, 1—1; v. 28th Squadron R.A.F., won 3—1; and v. B Company Border Regiment, draw 2—2.

Only two hockey matches have been played, the first giving us a win by 3—0 v. the 108th Pack Bty. R.G.A., in which our popular Hinchley scored all three goals. The second game, against the 28th Squadron R.A.F., found us victors again by 2—1.

This will be the last epistle from Parachinar, for to-morrow the detachment, less B Brigade Section, leave for headquarters, a march of 150 miles that has to be done in eight days.

B Section remain and go down with the 5th Brigade, their job being to maintain communication during the march down. This same Section is also under orders to play its part in a little show to take place on the frontier somewhere about December.

They are all a Section should be, and everyone hopes they will emerge from the stunt with flying colours. That they may come back as they go, and be guarded from any danger that may be their portion, is the earnest wish of the writer. From this our friends in England will gather the life of a Signal Company in India is not all "beer and skittles."

This closes the news for the month, and as this is the first effort by the writer in this sort of work, he hopes people will make allowances for any shortcomings.

We ought to mention that we have now formed a Branch of the Signals Association in this Company, and we have already got twenty members, which is not bad considering the few B.O.R.s we have up here. We hope some of No. 1 Company will join when we get down to Kohat, and so make the Branch representative of the whole show.

As well as wishing good luck to B Section on the forthcoming show, we also hope C Section will make an equally good name for themselves when they get with their own Brigade, the 7th, and we wish them the best of luck too.

Maresfield's Modern "Mitre."

Not a hundred yards from the main gate at Maresfield there is a certain shop that is a well known rendezvous for certain members of the Signal Training Centre. Its patrons are many and of various ranks, but it is remarkable how often, on entering its hospitable portals, one observes "the same old faces." It is, of course, open to all and sundry, but its chief frequenters seem to be drawn from the "nobody's darlings" of the Camp—in other words, the regimentally employed. They may be seen there at any hour when duty and the police at the gate permit.

I must first enlighten the reader as to the identity of this establishment. It is by the unromantic referred to as "Tester's," and officially as "Maresfield Post Office." Like village post offices, however, it does not confine its activities solely to the sale of stamps and the disbursement of old age pensions. The traveller may here obtain refreshment, and it is to this latter activity that it owes its popularity amongst its patrons from the Camp.

Here, like Dr. Johnson, Boswell, David Garrick, Beauclerk, and Goldsmith in their meetings at the "Mitre," assemble on every possible occasion the regular habitues of Maresfield's modern "Mitre." Most of these customers are, unlike Johnson and his illustrious companions, very humble scribes, though in one respect they do perhaps resemble Goldsmith, i.e., as regards the state of their finances.

Mine host of the post office is an obliging man, whose good humour may only be disturbed by requesting a trunk telephone call two minutes before time. However, he will, if not pleased to make you "one of the family," at least be glad to make you a customer.

Most of the Companies have a representative at these frequent gatherings, where, over tea and coffee in lieu of the "punch" of the original "Mitre," the day's events are argued and discussed.

One of the members at these meetings will invariably tell of the trouble entailed by civilian employees, another of the inconvenience of having an office staff always at football matches, another of the laxity of "higher authority," and so forth. The meeting's humorist will call for his customary "plate of tea and cup of bread and butter."

The reader must not imagine that all the subjects touched upon are frivolous. Far from it! Suggestions for the improvement of King's Regulations and schemes for the abolition of guards, are discussed and formulated.

But the clock ticks on, the cups become empty, and one by one they disperse to their duties or their recreations, according to the time of day; but it is certain that you will find the "same old faces" round the tables if you call again the next day.

E. S. J. H.

SPORTS NEWS.

Football.

Amateur Cup—1st Qualifying Round.

SIGNALS v. LEWES.

The Royal Corps of Signals went right through last season without a defeat on their own ground, but at one period on Saturday, September 30th, at Maresfield, things looked none too rosy. In fact, at half time Lewes led, and thoroughly deserved to, by 3—1; and every member of the Lewes team is to be congratulated on his sterling play.

Kicking down the slope they gave the soldiers plenty to think about, but after the interval the very fast pace told on them. It was not long ere the Signals had equalised, and then Shenton, who had been shooting with very bad direction, netted the winning goal. There was a fair sized crowd, but many fewer soldier spectators than one would have expected.

Some five minutes from the start, from a corner, Hall opened the Signallers' account with a header. Two minutes later Lewes got down on the right, and the ball was sent straight across to Trash on the left. He returned a well placed drop centre, and in the exciting tussle which ensued in the goalmouth, Lefebve scored with a good shot.

Again Lewes got down, and Lefebve, receiving from Hayler, put the county town ahead. Brook, the Lewes left back, several times broke up attacks. The visiting forwards again got away and Hayler put on to Butchers. After beating an opponent, Butchers sent over a good centre, and, taking it as it dropped, Hayler guided it into the far corner of the net.

This was followed by a fine clearance by Ford of a shot by Shenton from about ten yards out, and twice later Shenton hit the cross-bar.

In the second half the soldiers gave the Lewes defence a warm time, and eventually Withers scored a great goal. Almost immediately the same player got down with a rush, and after passing the backs, secured a somewhat easy equaliser.

A breakaway by Lewes looked hopeful, but the ball was sent back, and Shenton with a lightning shot put his side ahead. The referee received a hard drive from Sales on the head, and the game had to be temporarily stopped while he recovered.

In the closing stages Hayler with a golden opportunity for Lewes shot over. A cleanly contested and sporting game ended: Royal Corps of Signals, 4; Lewes, 3.

SIGNALS—Sergt Hopkins; Sigmn Greaves, L/Corpl Shillingford; Sigmn Duffy, Corpl Hall, L/Corpl Wooldridge; Lieut Spencer, Sigmn Hammond, Sgt Shenton, Corpl Withers, Sergt Carter.

LEWES—H. A. Ford; A. Nichols, J. Brook; C. Pender, A. Sales, W. Robbins; E. Butchers, F. Duffy, W. Hayler, L. Lefebve, E. T. Trash.

Referee—Mr. Barlow, Crowborough.

LULU.

2nd Qualifying Round.

SIGNALS v. HORSHAM.

The above interesting match took place at Maresfield on October 14th before a good attendance.

Horsham, winning the toss, kicked up the incline, the Signals facing a glaring sun. At once the homesters got away, and Stoddart forced a corner, another following, and Carter placing for Shenton to head over when well placed. Later Duffy sent in a terrific drive, which Loft saved. The Horsham goalie played magnificently and time and again was applauded.

Occasionally Horsham broke away, but finished poorly, with bad shooting. Withers, on the Signals' left, got away and spoilt a good effort by shooting wide. Then a nice run on the visitors' right saw Grant place into the Signals' goal, Shillingford kicking clear. Duffy spoilt a likely movement by shooting wide, and later Shenton headed over when only a yard out.

From a splendid centre by Withers, Shenton sent in a terrific drive which Loft cleared from a host of Signals' forwards. Accepting a nice centre from Fillery, Richardson shot, but Nash, the home goalie, saved well. At the other end Loft saved a hot one from Stoddart. At length, following a run on the Signals' left, Withers lobbed the ball into the Horsham goal for Shenton to give the Signals the lead with a high shot.

Immediately Horsham got clean away, Grant put in a nice centre, and from the mêlée Richardson equalised. Nash was knocked out in the raid, but quickly recovered.

The Signals now went all out, Hollness headed inches wide, and a few moments later Carter hit the side net. The home halves were playing a fine game.

After the interval Carter raced away and, cutting into goal, put the Signals ahead with a low fast drive.

Horsham attacked, but the home backs, who were playing a sound game, cleared easily. At the other end Loft saved at a second attempt a high dropping shot from Stoddart. Then Shenton, getting possession, brought Loft to his knees with a rasper. Horsham made tracks, and Richardson shot over the bar from close range, and getting possession again, he shot hard, Shillingford intercepting. In a movement by the Signals Carter headed into the centre, and Shenton trapping smartly increased the Signals' lead with a hard drive.

Welch foiled a Horsham attack, and Carter, who was playing a fine game, broke away on the right and sent over a lovely centre, Withers taking the pass in his stride, and heading the Signals' fourth goal.

In a raid by the visitors Fillery scored with a low drive which gave Nash no chance. Result: Signals, 4; Horsham, 2.

SIGNALS—L/Sergt Nash; Sigmn Welch, L/Corpl Shillingford; Corpl Hall, Sigmn Duffy, L/Corpl Wooldridge; Sergt Carter, Sigmn Hollness, Sergt Shenton, Lieut Stoddart (captain), Corpl Withers.

HORSHAM—E. A. Loft; N. Burdfield, E. S. Hobbs; S. Elles, P. Morrin, L. Lillywhite; F. Grant, S. Rogers, A. Richardson, C. Kempshall, L. Fillery.

Referee—Mr. Long, Shoreham.

LULU.

Sussex County League.

SIGNALS v. HOVE.

At Maresfield on Saturday, Oct. 7th, before a moderate attendance, a high wind rendered ball control rather difficult. The Signals fielded a strong team, a last minute change bringing Welch in to fill the right back position vice Barby.

Hove elected to kick up the incline against the wind. The Signals at once invaded the visitors' quarters, Carter getting down on the right and shooting over the bar. He was pulled up for offside after a further promising movement.

The visitors now took a hand, Vallet shooting wide, and a dangerous situation after a further raid only being relieved by Welch kicking clear. Fast and keen was the play. The Signals' left got away, and Withers sent across into the goalmouth. Shenton trapped smartly and shot over the bar from five yards' range. A minute later Carter took Shenton's good pass but shot wide

The Signals now dominated, and Carter, getting down, swung the ball into the goal. Shenton got possession, and, tricking two opponents, scored with a low, fast drive which gave Parsons no chance.

The visitors made determined efforts, and, after a run on their right, Nash brought off a good save from Reynolds. Pressure was maintained, but the Signals' backs and halves broke all the Hove efforts. A minute later Parsons had a busy time stopping shots from Shenton, and Baines followed up by sending a pile-driver over the bar from short range. Signals had only the one at half-time.

The visitors pressed hard, and Vallet, getting down on the right, shot wide. The Signals got away, and Stoddart going through, finished up by shooting wide. Vallet again got away and sent over a brilliant centre which landed on the Signals' crossbar and glanced off into play. Welch eventually cleared from the critical mêlée which followed, and when the Signals got away a clever bit of short passing allowed Shenton to put the Signals further ahead.

The visitors failed in their strenuous efforts to reply by faulty finishing and ragged shooting. Shenton, getting clean through, hooked the ball past Parsons into the net for his "hat trick." Result: Signals, 3; Hove, 0.

SIGNALS—L/Sergt Nash; Sigmn Welch, L/Corpl Shillingford; Corpl Hall, Sigmn Duffy, L/Corpl Wooldridge; Sergt Carter, Sigmn Baines, Sergt Shenton, Lieut Stoddart (captain), Corpl Withers.

HOVE—Parsons; Austin, Buttress; Reynolds, Beer, Gunner; Vallet, Waller, Walker, Bates, Jupp.

Referee—Mr. H. A. Ayling, Southwick.

LULU.

Notes.

We have indeed opened the season well, and as anticipated in my notes of last month, we have reeled off three matches and had a decisive win in each case.

Lewes and Horsham have appeared at Maresfield in Amateur cup ties, and each have gone down fighting hard. Lewes were defeated by 4—3, and Horsham by 4—2; and we are now awaiting the draw for the third round.

Our splendid home record is being zealously maintained, and when a team can say they have never had a home defeat since April 23rd in the 1920-21 season, it's certainly a record to be proud of. We hope the present form of the team will be maintained.

We opened our County League campaign at Maresfield on Oct. 7th, when Hove were defeated by 3—0. The other teams in the League have not done so well, and here we should profit. We hope to win the League this year—it's certainly about time!

Shenton is playing well at present, and in the first three matches has notched six goals—averaging two per match. We hope he will keep it up.

The newcomers to the senior team, Lieut Stoddart and Sigmn Welch, have been playing splendid football, and if their present form is maintained they should have no difficulty in keeping their places.

The Army Cup draw has not come off yet, so I am not in a position to say anything about it. We hope to win it this year (who said "Some hopes"?)

The County League table up to and including Oct. 14th is as follows:—

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Goals For	Agst	Pts.
Worthing	4	2	1	1	8	4	5
Chichester	3	2	0	1	5	3	4
Hastings & St. Lds.	3	2	0	1	6	7	4
Southwick	2	1	1	0	4	3	3
Vernon Athletic	2	1	1	0	5	4	3
Royal Corps Signals	1	1	0	0	3	0	2
Eastbourne R.E.	2	1	0	1	4	3	2
Shoreham	2	1	0	1	5	2	2
Lewes	3	1	0	2	4	5	2
Newhaven	4	0	1	3	3	12	1
Hove	2	0	0	2	1	5	0

LULU.

Rugby.

BRIGHTON v. SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE (MARESFIELD).

The Brighton team met the Signal Training Centre XV. from Maresfield Park in Preston Park on Saturday, October 7th. The visitors had with them the international player, Lieut. Q. E. M. A. King.

Brighton started well, and soon reached the Signals' 25 yards' line, but were sent by King's fine kicking to touch. However, by neat passing, the home three-quarters got away, and Farndon scored a try far out. Sansom's place kick fell short.

Fast open play ensued, Green, Griffiths and Bentley putting in sound work, and Phillips and Cobley for the visitors. King started several rounds of passing, but the home defence was sound and the forwards made good ground with open footwork. Brighton had the larger share of the play. King, however, just missed dropping a goal from long range, and an attack in which the majority of the home backs took part, ended in a second try by Griffiths. Farndon failed in his effort to add the extra points.

Siedle was unfortunately "knocked out" in the movement, and took no further part in the game. Half-time arrived with Brighton six points up.

On the re-start King was very prominent, both in strong runs and long kicks, and within a few minutes he landed a splendid dropped goal from far out. The margin was now only two points, and in the course of keen and fast play both sides made strong efforts to score. The defence, however, held out to the end.

King was the most prominent man on the field, and made several fine attempts with drop kicks to put his side on top, but might have done better perhaps if he had tried to go through for tries.

The Brighton team shewed much improvement on their previous Saturday's display, and played a fine open and fast game, and did well to keep their opponents out in the second half, when they were handicapped by being one short. Score: Brighton, 2 tries: 6 points; Signals, 1 drop goal: 4 points.

BRIGHTON—Sansom; Longcroft, Griffiths, Farndon, Siedle; Gibson, Green; Bentley, Gracie, Mandeville, Thompson, Densham, Sayers, East, Lea.

SIGNALS—Phillips; King, White, Jenneson, Hayler; Rogers, Cobley; Berry, Shaw, Stone, Bailey, Woodford, Goodman, White, Crockford.

Referee—Captain E. D. W. Levien.

Boxing.

Inter-Company Novices' Contests.

A Maresfield Tournament.

A successful three-day boxing competition held by the 1st Training Battalion, Royal Corps of Signals, drew to a close on September 14th, when the finals were fought out. Throughout the tournament, there had been some splendid fighting and the audience shewed its appreciation by hearty cheering both for the winners and losers. The points gained by Companies at the conclusion of the boxing were counted as half-marks towards the Mackworth trophy. The officials and full results were as follow: Referees and Judges: Major R. H. Macdonald, O.B.E., Capt R. H. Neale, Lieut R. H. A. Dugmore, Lieut E. Stoddart, Lieut F. Carstairs, and Lieut H. A. Spencer; M.C.: Sergt-Major Waterhouse (A Co.); Timekeeper: Sergt Kelly (A Co.); Ring arrangements: Staff-Sergt Hayden (Army Physical Training Staff). The prizes were as follow:—Winning team, silver cup; runners-up, medals; individual winners and runners-up, medals. A marked feature of the tournament was the special contests between men among whom were a few of the Corps champions at their respective weights. Some good clean hard hitting was witnessed and was appreciated. The points gained by each Company were:—

E Co.	A Co.	G Co.	D Co.	C Co.	F. Co.
46	42	41	24	23	19

First Night.

FLY WEIGHTS.

Sigmn Pascoe (C Co.) beat Sigmn Wilson (E Co.)

Sigmn Cotterell (F Co.) beat Sigmn Barter (A Co.)

Byes: Sigmn Denyer (G Co.), Sigmn Clarke (C Co.)

BANTAMS.

Driver Ledsham (E Co.) beat Sigmn Dunk (G Co.)

Sigmn Harrington (D Co.) beat L/Corpl Dickman (A Co.)

Sigmn R. T. Jones (C Co.) beat Sigmn Goss (A Co.)

Sigmn Richards (G Co.) a bye.

FEATHERS.

Driver Vedigrain (E Co.) beat Sigmn Doncaster (E.)

Byes: Sigmn Toller (C Co.); Driver Joy (E); Sigmn Wilton (F); Sigmn Powell (A); Sigmn George (G); Sigmn Williams (D); Sigmn Wilson (A).

LIGHT WEIGHTS.

Sigmn Scott (F Co.) beat Sigmn Irving (D Co.)

Driver With (E Co.) beat Sigmn Gordon (D Co.)

Byes: Sigmn Collins (C Co.); Driver Spearing (E Co.); Sigmn Fairburn (G Co.); Sigmn Walker (A Co.); Sigmn Davies (G Co.); Sigmn Milligan (F Co.)

WELTERS.

Sigmn Stevens (A Co.) beat Sigmn Kelly (G Co.)

Sigmn Standley (D Co.) beat Sigmn Geary (E Co.)

Sigmn Judge (F Co.) beat Sigmn Ellis (C Co.)

Sigmn Pugh (A Co.) beat Sigmn Hibbs (F Co.)

Byes: Sigmn Saunders (C Co.); Sigmn Jennison (G Co.); Sigmn Spencer (D Co.); Sigmn Williams (E Co.)

MIDDLE WEIGHTS.

Sigmn Searle (E Co.) beat Sigmn Davis (F Co.)

Byes: Sigmn Souter (A Co.); Sigmn Southerden (D Co.); Sigmn Beech (E Co.); Sigmn Bowles (G Co.); Sigmn Keywood (D Co.); Sigmn Turner (G Co.); Sigmn Hutchison (A Co.)

Second Night.

MIDDLES.

Sigmn Southerden (D Co.) v. Sigmn Beech (A Co.). Sigmn Southerden knocked out Beech in the first round.

Sigmn Bowles (G Co.) v. Sigmn Keywood (D Co.). Sigmn Bowles knocked out Keywood in the third round.

Sigmn Turner (G Co.) v. Sigmn Hutheson (D Co.). Sigmn Hutheson knocked out Turner in the first round.

LIGHT HEAVY.

Sigmn McCormack (D Co.) v. Sigmn Bartrop (A Co.) Sigmn. McCormack did not appear; Bartrop was therefore, awarded the fight.

Sigmn Karson (A Co.) a bye.

FEATHERS.

Driver Vedigrain (E Co.) v. Sigmn Lodge (G Co.). Driver Vedigrain knocked out Lodge in the first round.

Driver Joy (E Co.) a bye.

LIGHT WEIGHTS.

Sigmn Scott (F Co.) v. Driver With (E Co.). Driver With beat Scott on points.

WELTER WEIGHTS.

Sigmn Stevens (G Co.) v. Sigmn Standley (D Co.). Standley retired in the first round (injured hand), and Stevens was awarded the fight.

Sigmn Judge (F Co.) v. Sigmn Pugh (A Co.). Sigmn Pugh won on points in the third round.

MIDDLE WEIGHTS.

Sigmn Searle (E Co.) v. Sigmn Souter (A Co.). Sigmn Searle won on points in the third round.

SEMI-FINALS, FLY WEIGHTS.

Sigmn Pascoe (C Co.) v. Sigmn Denyer (G Co.). Sigmn Pascoe beat Denyer on points.

Sigmn Cotterell (F Co.) v. Sigmn Clarke (D Co.). Sigmn Cotterell beat Clarke on points.

SEMI-FINALS, BANTAMS.

Driver Ledsham (F Co.) v. Sigmn Harrington (D Co.) Driver Ledsham knocked out Harrington in the first round.

Sigmn R. T. Jones (C Co.) v. Sigmn Richards (G Co.). Jones retired in the third round, and Richards was awarded the fight.

SEMI-FINALS, FEATHERS.

Sigmn George (G Co.) v. Sigmn Williams (D Co.). Sigmn Williams won on points after an extra round.

Driver Vedigrain (E Co.) v. Driver Joy (E Co.). Driver Joy won on points.

SEMI-FINALS, WELTERS.

Sigmn Jennison (G Co.) v. Sigmn Williams (E Co.). Sigmn Williams won on points.

Sigmn Stevens (A Co.) v. Sigmn Pugh (A Co.). Sigmn Pugh won easily on points.

SEMI-FINALS, MIDDLE WEIGHTS.

Sigmn Bowles (G Co.) v. Sigmn Hutheson (A Co.). Sigmn Hutheson won on points.

Sigmn Searle (E Co.) v. Sigmn Southerden (D Co.). Sigmn Southerden retired in the third round, and Searle was awarded the fight.

SEMI-FINALS, LIGHT WEIGHTS.

Sigmn Walker (A Co.) v. Sigmn Davies (G Co.). Sigmn Davies won on points after an extra round.

Driver With (E Co.) v. Sigmn Collins (C Co.). With retired (injured hand) in the first round, and Collins was awarded the fight.

FINAL, LIGHT HEAVY WEIGHT.

Sigmn Bartrop (A Co.) v. Sigmn Karson (A Co.). 1st round, both exchanged heavy blows, Karson landing a heavy punch to Bartrop's eye; round ended even. 2nd round, again a lively round, Bartrop having the best of the argument by a smart left. 3rd round, Bartrop severely punished Karson and won easily on points.

FINAL, FLY WEIGHTS.

Sigmn Pascoe (C Co.) v. Sigmn Cotterell (F Co.). 1st round, mainly sparring, Cotterell getting in several times with good lefts. 2nd round, Pascoe missed several times with heavy swings, Cotterell retaliating with sound left jabs. 3rd round, Cotterell took this round and won easily on points.

FINAL, BANTAMS.

Driver Ledsham (E Co.) v. Sigmn Richards (G Co.). Certificate received from medical officer forbidding Richards to fight. Driver Ledsham, therefore, was awarded the contest

FINAL, FEATHERS.

Driver Joy (E Co.) v. Sigmn Williams (D Co.). 1st round, Joy ladled out strong punishment and Williams was compelled to clinch several times. Joy easily carried the round. 2nd round, Williams swung wildly and Joy got home heavily throughout. 3rd round, both fought well. Williams was outclassed, and Joy won easily on points.

Third Night.

FINAL, LIGHT WEIGHTS.

Sigmn Collins (C Co.) v. Sigmn Davies (G Co.). Collins getting in a heavy uppercut knocked out Davies in the first round.

FINAL, WELTERS.

Sigmn Pugh (A Co.) v. Sigmn Williams (E Co.). 1st round, both ran frequently into clinches and exchanged heavy body blows. Round ended fairly even. 2nd round, Pugh floored with a right cross but rose immediately and both swapped punches. Even round. 3rd round: round finished even. Extra round ordered, and Pugh was given the verdict on points.

FINAL, MIDDLES.

Sigmn Searle (E Co.) v. Sigmn Hutchison (A Co.). 1st round, consisted mostly of sparring, both getting in telling blows to the body. Round ended fairly even. 2nd round, Searle got in some heavy punches and drew blood with a heavy right to Hutchison's mouth. Searle's round. 3rd round, Searle went ahead in this round and got the decision on points.

SPECIALLY ARRANGED CONTESTS.

Sigmn Hancock (G Co.) v. Sigmn Groom (G Co.). After a splendid fight Groom was given the verdict on points.

Sigmn Langley (C Co.) v. L/Corpl Richardson (G Co.). Richardson was awarded the verdict on points.

Corpl Hall (School of Signals) v. Sigmn Morphew (G Co.). Corpl Hall won on points in the third round.

Corpl Wheeler (C Co.) v. Sigmn McCafferty (D Co.). Corpl Wheeler beat McCafferty on points.

Sigmn Turner (School of Signals) v. Boy Collins (C Co.). Collins was much too clever for Turner and won easily on points.

Sigmn Rigg (C Co.) v. Sigmn Dibbs (F Co.). 1st round, both fought well and Dibbs drew blood with a heavy right to Rigg's mouth. Round even. 2nd round, Dibbs floored three times with heavy right, Rigg taking easily the round. 3rd round, Rigg again dealt out heavy punishment and took this round. 4th round, Dibbs took some heavy punishment and Rigg was declared the winner.

Sigmn Jones (G Co.) v. Sigmn Hughes (C Co.). Hughes disqualified in first round for hitting low. Hughes apologised and a fresh fight commenced. Hughes knocked out Jones in the third round.

Driver Fields (E Co.) v. Driver Davies (E Co.). Driver Fields beat Davies on points.

Driver Smith (E Co.) v. Driver Emblem (G Co.). 1st round, Emblem got in close and sent in stiff blows to body and face. Smith retaliated and both mixed matters. Emblem's round. 2nd round, a very even round, both getting in stiff body blows. Round ended fairly even. 3rd round, Emblem got in several heavy blows to the face and went ahead to gain this round somewhat easily. 4th round, both men mixed matters and Emblem gained the verdict on points.

Presentation of Prizes.

After the final bout was completed Col. O. C. Mordaunt entered the ring and gave a short speech. He apologised on behalf of the Commandant who had promised to present the prizes, but was not able to be present. Col. Mordaunt congratulated the winners on their fine display and also the losers on their pluck in taking such punishment as had been meted out to them. In particular, he congratulated Sigmn Dibbs, who had a terrible hammering, and although floored continually, stuck it till the bout was completed. He also congratulated Lieut Spencer and his staff on the splendid way the tournament had been carried out and the way the contests had been arranged. The winning team (E Co.) then entered the ring and were presented with a silver cup, and certificates to the winners of the final contests, and the runners-up were presented with medals.

Signals v. Royal Navy, Portsmouth.

A splendid boxing tournament was held at Maresfield on Saturday, October 5th, when a team competition between the Signals and the Royal Navy took place before a large and enthusiastic audience.

The fighting throughout was fast and clean, and a credit to both Services. The Signals sent into the ring a strong team and the Navy also sent over some real "hot stuff."

The fights throughout were fiercely contested, and at the close of the contests the Navy ran out winners by one point. All through it was a hot fight for points, and the keenness is proved by the point verdict.

The Signals this season have met the Navy three times and the senior Service have secured a victory on each occasion, the total points now being: Royal Navy, 39 points; Signals, 20.

The officials were as follows: Referee: Commander Gibson, R.N.; Judges: Capt North, A.P.T.S., and Lieut Carstairs, Royal Scots; M.C., C.S.D. Waterhouse, R.C.S.; Timekeeper: Sergt Kelly, R.C.S.; i/c. Ring Arrangements: S/Sergt Hayden (Army School Physical Training); i/c Scoring: Lieut Giblin, R.F.A.

Points were awarded as follow: Win, 2; lose 1; draw 1½.

Team Competition.

FEATHER WEIGHT.

Officers' Steward Ingram (R.N.) beat Boy Viney (R.C.S.) (winner R.C.S. championships, 1922), on points.

MIDDLE WEIGHT.

L/Corpl Wheeler, R.C.S. (runner-up, R.C.S. championships, 1922) beat Leading Seaman Freeland, R.N., on points.

BANTAMS.

Leading Seaman Patton, R.N. (ex-Imperial Services Fly Weight Champion) beat Sigmn Hughes, C Co. (runner-up, Eastern Command Championships, 1922), on points.

FEATHER WEIGHT.

Stoker Cockerell, R.N. (R.N. and R.M. Bantam Champion) beat Sigmn Collins, R.C.S. (winner novices' competition, 1922), in the first round.

LIGHT WEIGHT.

Sigmn Dibbs, R.C.S. (runner-up R.C.S. Championships, 1922), beat Leading Seaman Muggeridge, R.N., who was disqualified for holding in the second round.

WELTER WEIGHT.

Sigmn Rigg, R.C.S., beat Stoker Gore, R.N., in the first minute.

MIDDLE WEIGHT.

Leading Seaman Jones, R.N., beat Driver Emblem, R.C.S. (winner R.C.S. Championships, 1922), on points.

LIGHT HEAVY.

A.B. Ives, R.N., beat Driver Smith, R.C.S. This bout produced the sensation of the evening. In the opening round both men got home heavily, and were pulled up by the referee for an infringement of the rules. The word to "box on" followed, and Smith appeared to lower his guard to shake hands with his opponent. Immediately his guard came down Ives sent in a heavy left, which caught Smith on the point and dropped him like a log. The audience roared their disapproval in no uncertain manner. The referee, after a consultation with the judges, awarded Ives the fight. The blow was a perfectly legitimate one, and Smith was caught napping, an error which cost him the fight. It was most unfortunate, as the result of the team competition was decided by this fight, as prior to it the Signals led by one point.

Boy Collins, C Co. (runner-up Eastern Com. Championships, 1922) v. Sigmn Cotterell, F. Co. (winner R.C.S. Novices' Competition, 1922). Collins was much too good for Cotterell, who was severely punished. Collins ran out an easy winner on points.

Sigmn Groom (G Co.) v. Boy Langley (C Co.). A real good fight with some real hard hitting. Groom received the verdict of a good fight on points.

Sigmn Williams (E Co.) v. Sigmn Mitchell (D Co.). Mitchell beat Williams on points.

1st Training Battalion S.T.C. v. R.A.F. (Gosport).

This team match, held at Chichester on Sept. 25th, resulted in a win for the Corps by 8 points to nil. The meeting was held in aid of "British Legion" charities, and was attended by a large crowd.

LIGHT HEAVY WEIGHT.—Driver Smith (E Co.) v. A. C. Bishop, R.A.F. (winner of Wakefield cup, R.A.F. championships, 1920). Smith forced the fighting throughout, and had the better of his opponent in the frequent in-fighting in the first four rounds. In the fifth round Smith floored Bishop with a heavy left for a count of nine; Bishop pluckily rose, but received another left which floored him again for the full count.

MIDDLE WEIGHT.—Driver Emblem (G Co.) v. A. C. Hayter, R.A.F. (rep. R.A.F. championship, 1921-22). Our popular middle-weight was the victor in this fine fight. He was up against a very strong, plucky man, who refused to be knocked out, and kept his feet to the end. Emblem was in the pink of condition, and has got back to his old form.

WELTER WEIGHT.—Sigmn Rigg (C Co.) v. A. C. Hide (R.A.F.). This fight lasted about a minute, and the minute was full of thrills. Hide, in the first set-off, swung a right to Rigg's head which put him down for a count of seven, and on rising he was again knocked down for a count of eight. On rising, Rigg brought all his cunning and ringcraft into use, brought his opponent's arms low by a couple of blows to the stomach, and then with a splendid blow to the point knocked him out for about a minute. Rigg, we think, is like port wine: he improves with age.

FLY WEIGHT.—Boy Collins (C Co.) v. A. C. Ogle (rep. R.A.F. championships). The "Boy," who was not too fit after three weeks' leave in the Emerald Isle, fought very determinedly, and with some very good right hooks to the jaw twice knocked his opponent through the ropes. Ogle was knocked into helplessness in the second round, and the fight was stopped, the verdict going to Collins. There would be a great future in front of Collins in the boxing world if *only* he would train consistently.

Unfortunately, two of the R.A.F. representatives could not turn up owing to the "war," so Signals stepped into the breach by putting up two fights between men of "the Corps." These two fights—Sigmn Groom (G Co.) v. Sigmn Hancock (G Co.), and Sigmn Dibb (F Co.) v. Sigmn Williams (E Co.)—were well fought and were much appreciated by the crowd.

Many good boxers are leaving the Centre now for various parts of the world. The Boxing Committee wish them all the best of luck, and hope they will continue to box with the same old S.T.C. spirit of "fight and win."

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THE WIRE

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All communications on Signals Association business should be addressed to The Secretary, Signals Association, Stamford Brook Lodge, Ravenscourt Park, W.6.

and if reply is required a stamped and addressed envelope should be enclosed.

Benevolent Fund Notes.

The President gratefully acknowledges receipt of the following:—

Bankers' Orders from—
- Major L. G. Phillips, M.C.
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- Captain R. E. Vyvyan, M.C.
- Lieut J. W. Bailey, M.C.
- Lieut W. H. Brann.
- Lieut E. Levett.
- Lieut H. A. Spencer, M.C.
- Lieut J. G. Wheeler.

Subscriptions from—
- Colonel F. A. Iles, D.S.O.
- D Company, S.T.C.
- E Company, S.T.C.
- E.C. Signal Company.

Donations from—
- Major T. H. L. Spaight, D.S.O.
- Proceeds of a dance on Armistice night at Maresfield Park.

Also generous gifts of clothing from the following:—
- Major C. L. Day.
- Major J. R. Pinsent, D.S.O.
- Major G. G. Rawson, O.B.E., M.C.

A. H. FRENCH, Lieut.-Col.,
President, Signals Association Benevolent Fund.

Horse Guards, Whitehall, S.W. 1.
15th November, 1922.

Editorial Notes.

A Merry Xmas and a Prosperous New Year to all Readers at Home and Abroad!

* * *

CORPS XMAS GREETING CARDS are still available, and are on sale from this office at 5/- per doz. or £1 17s. 6d. per hundred (envelopes included in both cases) post free.

* * *

This year, as last, we are publishing bound volumes of THE WIRE at 8/6 per copy, post free. The binding is identical with that of last year's (blue cloth, blocked in gold). Readers desirous of securing a copy should send their order with remittance without delay, as only a limited number is available.

* * *

With this number, the Corps Casualty List has been recommenced. In order that the information contained therein may be as complete as possible, will officers commanding units ensure a regular supply of all Part II. Orders as they are published.

* * *

We have much pleasure in welcoming a further contribution from the pen of Corpl Patrick, of A Co., S.T.C. His sketches are always topical and, judging from the comments received, are much appreciated by readers.

* * *

Congratulations to the Corps cross-country team on their excellent "kick off" for the present season. Under the able captaincy of Lieut F. R. Courtenay-Thompson, the team should go far. We hope to see the Army championship to their credit this season.

* * *

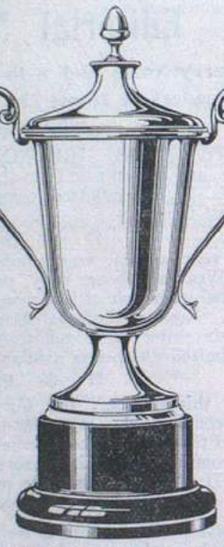
Major R. E. Priestley, M.C., the writer of "The Signal Service (France)" has just been elected to a Fellowship of Clare College, Cambridge. The number of Fellows of Cambridge Colleges who served in the Great War is now eleven.

NOTICE.

Owing to the Christmas Holidays, and consequent delay in receiving Unit Notes, the JANUARY Number will be published on 18th January, 1923. All copy should reach the Editor by 2nd January.

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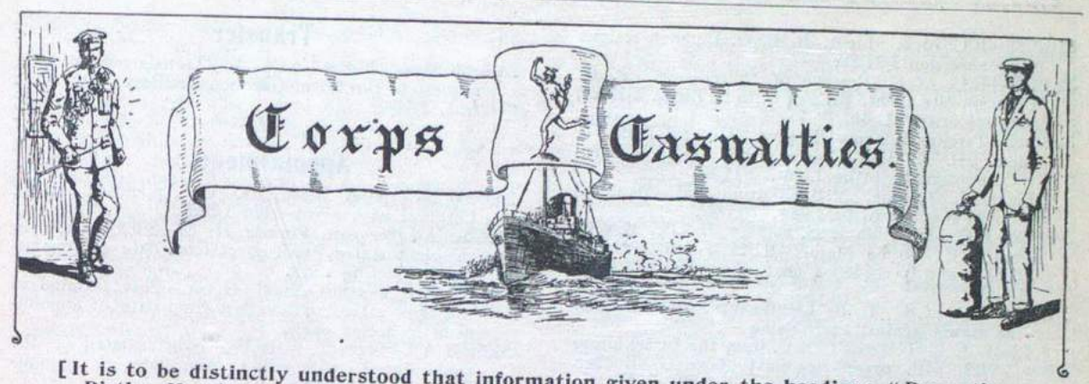
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[It is to be distinctly understood that information given under the headings, "Promotions, Births, Marriages, and Deaths," etc., is altogether unofficial, and is on no account to be quoted in official correspondence.]

Extracts from "The London Gazette."

13/10/22—Temp. Lieut. L. W. Haines, R.E., from Constantinople, relinquishes his commission on completion of service 13/9/22, and granted rank of Captain.

13/10/22—Lieut. S. Yates, 42nd (East Lancs.) Divisional Signals, resigns his commission 14/10/22, and granted rank of 2/Lieut.

13/10/22—Major H. G. Gilchrist, D.S.O., M.C., 52nd (Lowland) Divl. Signals, resigns his commission 14/10/22, and retains rank of Major.

13/10/22—2/Lieut. A. Shore, Harwich (F) Signal Section, Territorial Army, resigns his commission 14/10/22.

20/10/22—Brevet/Lieut.-Col. H. C. Hawtrey, C.M.G., D.S.O., R.E. (now Lieut.-Col., R.C. of S.) relinquishes the temporary rank of Lieut.-Col. on ceasing to be employed as Deputy Director Army Signals, 5/2/18.

20/10/22.—E. Stacey, W. J. May, 55th (West Lancs.) Divl Signals,confirmed in rank of Captain, 21/10/22.

20/10/22—Lieut. J. C. Cuthbert, M.C., late Territorial Army Reserve, to be Lieut. R.A. Reserve of Officers 12/7/22. with seniority 15/5/19.

24/10/22—Lieut. C. Wheeler, Duke of Wellington's Rgt., to be Adjutant 4th Divl. Signals 4/5/22.

24/10/22—Major and Brevet/Lieut.-Col. R. M. Powell, D.S.O., from R.G.A., to be Major R.C. of S. 25/10/22, with seniority 15/5/19.

24/10/22—The undermentioned to be Lieuts. R.C. of S. 25/10/22, with seniority as stated against each name:—

Lieut. D. H. Cunynghame, from Royal Scots Fusiliers, 29/10/15.
Lieut. R. W. Newman, M.C., from Gloster Regt., 22/3/16.
Lieut. C. A. Murray, from Royal Irish Fusiliers, 4/8/16.
Lieut. F. S. Straight, M.C., from Oxford and Bucks L.I., 10/12/16.
Lieut. T. B. Gravely, from Hampshire Regt. 1/1/17.
Lieut. W. H. Andrew, M.C., from D.C.L.I., 1/7/17, with precedence next above A. J. Harris, O.B.E.
Lieut. R. Lishman, D.C.M., from Rifle Brigade, 24/10/17.
Lieut. C. H. Beattie, M.C., from R.F.A., 26/2/18.
Lieut. G. W. O'Dell, from R.G.A., 19/4/18.
Lieut. R. Sutton-Pratt, from R.G.A., 23/5/18.
Lieut. H. Bartlett, from R.F.A., 18/3/19.

24/10/22—Lieut. H. D. Beadon, M.C., Green Howards, seconded for duty with the Indian Signal Service, 10/1/22.

24/10/22—Lieut. J. E. S. Walford, Worcester Regt., seconded for duty with the Indian Signal Service, 10/1/22.

24/10/22—Lieut. H. Golden, Royal Sussex Regt., seconded for duty with the Indian Signal Service, 22/1/18.

24/10/22—Royal West Kent Regt. Lieut. A. J. Wilson, M.C., seconded for duty with the Indian Signal Service 10/1/22.

24/10/22—D.L.I. Lieut. R. Jee, M.C., seconded for duty with the Indian Signal Service 10/1/22.

24/10/22—55th (West Lancs.) Divl. Signals. Captain (prov.) L. C. F. Bellamy, M.C., resigns his commission 25/10/22, and granted rank of Lieut.

27/10/22—Lieut. F. T. A. Power, M.C., transferred to Welch Regt. from Royal Dublin Fusiliers and to be Lieut. 28/10/22, with seniority 20/12/16, and to remain seconded.

27/10/22—R.H. and R.F.A. Lieut. A. E. F. Batchelor, seconded for duty with the Indian Signal Service 5/2/22.

27/10/22—Wilts. Regt. Lieut (temp) J. R. Illingworth relinquishes his commission on completion of service 7/10/22, and retains rank of Lieut.

27/10/22—School of Signals Instruction. Lieut. F. R. Courtenay-Thompson, R.C. of S., *vice* Lieut. D. C. Methuen, R.A. (attached R.C. of S.) 25/9/22.

27/10/22—Memo. Capt. H. C. Hawtrey, R.E. (now Lieut.-Col., C.M.G., D.S.O., R.C. of S.) to be an Asst. Director of Signals (on regimental pay and allowances, without acting on temporary higher rank) from 18/8/14 to 27/1/16.

27/10/22—R.C. of S., R.A. Reserve of Officers. Capt. L. W. Hayes, late R.E., to be Captain 3/10/22, with seniority 2/12/19.

27/10/22—R.C. of S. 52nd (Lowland) Divl. Signals. Major H. G. Gilchrist, D.S.O., M.C., resigns his commission 14/10/22, and granted rank of Lieut.-Col. (substituted for notice in *Gazettee* of 13/10/22.

31/10/22—Lieut. C. D. Hinds, R.G.A., seconded for duty with R.C. of S. at Maresfield 2/10/22.

31/10/22—R.G.A.—Supy./Lieut. A. G. Kekewich is restored to establishment 5/10/22.

31/10/22—Memo. Lieut A. R. Cave, on ceasing to be employed with the Indian Signal Service, is placed on half-pay list on reduction of establishment 7/9/22.

31/10/22—R.C. of S. Lieut. R. P. G. Denman resigns his commission 1/11/22.
31/10/22—R.C. of S. Reserve of Officers. R. P. G. Denman, late Lieut. R.C. of S.,to be Lieut. 1/11/22, with seniority 4/11/16.
31/10/22—Territorial Army Reserve. General List.
Lieut. D. C. M. Johnson, from 2nd (Western) Corps Signals, to be Lieut. 1/11/22.
Lieut. J. Jardine, M.B.E., from 2nd (Western) Corps Signals, to be Lieut. 1/11/22.
3/11/22—R.C. of S. Major H. E. Day, D.S.O., M.V.O. from R.E., to be Major 4/11/22, with seniority 2/11/16, and precedence next above P. R. Bald, D.S.O.
3/11/22—R.C. of S. To be Lieutenants, with seniority as stated against each name:—
Lieut. J. L. Totterdell, M.C.,from the Inniskillings 1/7/17, with precedence next above G. Rooker.
Lieut. L. C. Bell, M.C., from The Black Watch, 5/12/17.
Lieut. A. B. Bushby, from R.E., 26/2/18 with precedence next above D. L. Carnegie.
10/11/22—5th Dragoon Guards. Capt. L. I. Levinson, M.C. (seconded R.C. of S.) retires, receiving a gratuity 23/9/22, and granted seniority in the Regular Army Reserve of Officers 26/5/19 (substituted for the notification in *Gazette* of 30/6/22.
10/11/22—Essex Regt. Lieut. C. L. Wilson, M.C., ceases to be seconded to the Indian Signal Service, 12/12/21.
10/11/22—Memo. Lieut. E. A. McCulloch, M.C., Indian Signal Service, retires on retired pay 16/9/22.
10/11/22—R.A. Reserve of Officers. R.C. of S. Capt. F. Seymour, late R.E., to be Captain 11/7/22, with seniority 12/5/20.
10/11/22—52nd (Lowland) Divl. Signals. Major J. S. Muirhead, D.S.O., M.C., to command the unit with pay and allowances of his rank 1/11/22.
10/11/22—236th R.F.A. Brigade Signal Section. Lieut. A. E. Turpin, late R.F.A., to be Lieut. 10/11/22.

Enlistments.

The undermentioned were finally approved by O.C. A Company, S.T.C., on dates shown.

2312619 Sigmn Argent, B. A. 2/10/22.
2312800 Sigmn Lupton, W. D. 4/10/22.
2314008 Sigmn Rennie, G. W. A. 4/10/22.
2314947 Sigmn Lee, M. C. 6/10/22.
2314646 Sigmn Sparkes, P. F. 6/10/22.
2314450 Sigmn Knowles, J. 6/10/22.
3704211 Sigmn Thomson, C. 6/10/22.
2315074 Sigmn Wadsworth, E. G. 9/10/22.
2315373 Sigmn Walker, W. A. 9/10/22.
2315162 Sigmn Wheeler, L. G. 9/10/22.
4605978 Sigmn Jessop, T. H. 9/10/22.
2314814 Boy Ketteridge, N. 9/10/22.
2315374 Sigmn Foulkes, R. 11/10/22.
2558570 Sigmn Moffitt, C. F. 11/10/22.
2315375 Sigmn Halford, J. E. 12/10/22.
2315376 Sigmn Raiman, A. J. 12/10/22.
2315383 Sigmn King, H. S. 18/10/22.
2315384 Sigmn Rennie, W. L. 16/10/22.
2315378 Sigmn Stonehouse, R. 13/10/22.
2315382 Sigmn Wright, E. 13/10/22.
2315381 Sigmn Brooker, J. W. 13/10/22.
2315380 Sigmn Gadd, J. 13/10/22.
2315377 Sigmn Heyhurst, H. 12/10/22.
1032954 Sigmn Mackett, A. J. 11/10/22.
2315379 Sigmn Roberts, B. 13/10/22.
739407 Sigmn Smith, C. H. 13/10/22.

Transfer

2310768 Sigmn Bidwell, C. A.—Transferred at own request to the Royal Garrison Artillery, with effect from 1/11/22.

Appointments.

2306665 L/Corporal Leath, G. V.—Appointed Acting Corporal with effect from 1/8/22.
2306295 A/L/Sergeant Francis, H. E.—Substantiated in the rank stated, with effect from date of appointment to acting rank.
2308255 A/L/Sergeant Morel, G. A.—Substantiated in the rank stated, with effect from date of appointment to acting rank.
2307278 A/L/Sergeant Warr,W.—Substantiated in the rank stated, with effect from date of appointment to acting rank.
2306518 Ratterton, C. F.—Appointed L/Corporal on the Corps Roster with effect from 1/4/22.
315038 Stokes, G.—Appointed L/Corporal on the Corps Roster with effect from 1/4/22.
1855586 A/L/Corporal Connolly, J.—Appointed Lance Corporal with effect from date of appointment to A/L/Corporal.
7811747 A/L/Corporal Doughty, J.—Appointed Lance Corporal from date of appointment to A/L/Corporal.
2306899 A/C.Q.M.S. Johnson.—Appointed A/Warrant Officer (Class II) and assumes the duty of Company Sergeant Major with effect from 22/8/22.
2306236 Corporal Sherwood.—Appointed L/Sergeant with effect from 10/6/22.
2306774 Signalman Goble.—Appointed L/Corporal with effect from 1/4/22.
2311602 Signalman Ross, P. H.—Appointed L/Corporal with effect from 1/4/22.
2308165 Signalman Williams, W. C. J.—Appointed L/Corporal with effect from 1/4/22.
2308815 Signalman Washford.—Appointed L/Corporal with effect from 1/4/22.
2306764 Signalman Badman.—Appointed L/Corporal with effect from 1/4/22.
2309187 Signalman King, P.—Appointed L/Corporal with effect from 6/6/22.
2306594 L/Sergeant Gaffney, W. H.—Appointed A/Sergeant with effect from 27/6/22.
315023 Signalman Clarke, E. W.—Appointed L/Corpl with effect from 1/4/22.
2309447 Signalman West, W. A.—Appointed L/Corpl with effect from 7/7/22.
2306484 Signalman Rouseau, L.—Appointed L/Corpl with effect from 7/7/22.
2308417 Signalman Pronger, W.—Appointed L/Corpl (unpaid) with effect from 17/10/22.
5609676 Signalman Hughes, J. J.—Appointed L/Corpl (unpaid) with effect from 17/10/22.
2312452 Boy Viney, E. B.—Appointed L/Corpl Boy with effect from 17/10/22.
2312509 Boy King, L. J.—Appointed L/Corpl Boy with effect from 17/10/22.
2309315 Boy Honeybone, H. T.—Appointed L/Corpl Boy with effect from 17/10/22.
2307642 Driver Coleman, C.—Appointed L/Corporal with effect from 1/4/22.
2312730 Signalman, Price, J.—Appointed L/Corporal with effect from 1/4/22.
2314360 Signalman Wilmot, H.—Appointed L/Corporal with effect from 30/6/22.
2311305 Signalman Jewel, R.—Appointed L/Corporal with effect from 9/9/22.

2310514 Sigmn Wheeler, E.—Appointed L/Corporal with effect from 9/9/22.
2313867 Signalman Challenger.—Appointed L/Corporal with effect from 9/9/22.
2310436 L/Corporal Cook, W.—Appointed A/Corporal (unpaid) with effect from 11/10/22.
2306391 Signalman Spreckley, J.—Appointed A/L/Corpl (unpaid) with effect from 11/10/22.
2311015 Signalman Wornham, C. J.—Appointed A/L/Corporal (unpaid) with effect from 11/10/22.
2312019 Signalman Anslow, A. V.—Appointed A/L/Corporal (unpaid) with effect from 11/10/22.
4257492 Signalman LeCocq, E. T.—Appointed A/L/Corporal (unpaid) with effect from 11/10/22.
2312475 Signalman Hardy, R. D. H.—Appointed A/L/Corporal (unpaid) with effect from 11/10/22.
2306919 Corporal Mears, L. E. C.—Appointed L/Sergt with effect from 30/7/22.
2311816 L/Sergeant Bull, J. R.—Appointed A/Sergeant with effect from 23/8/22.
2311827 L/Corporal Meaney, R.—Appointed A/Corporal with effect from 12/8/22.
2310436 L/Corporal Cook, W.—Appointed A/Corporal with effect from 8/10/22.
1850498 L/Corpl Madeley, A. C.—Appointed A/Corpl with effect from 12/8/22.
2307116 L/Corporal Pye, T. F.—Appointed A/Corporal with effect from 12/8/22.
2309113 L/Corpl Head, L. G.—Appointed A/Corpl with effect from 12/8/22.
2311591 Oakes, F. W.—Appointed A/Corporal with effect from 12/8/22.
2306766 L/Corpl Minion, R. F.—Appointed A/Corpl with effect from 12/8/22.
2308352 L/Corpl O'Connor, D. J.—Appointed A/Corpl with effect from 12/8/22.
6189527 L/Corpl Appleton, A. H.—Appointed A/Corpl with effect from 12/8/22.
7810627 Signalman Tilston, P.—Appointed L/Corporal (unpaid) with effect from 4/11/22.
2308526 Signalman Clements, G.—Appointed L/Corpl (unpaid) with effect from 4/11/22.
2310875 Sigmn Cabbett, W.—Appointed L/Corporal (unpaid) with effect from 4/11/22.
2306140 Corporal Bellew, H.—Appointed L/Sergeant with effect from 30/7/22.
2306267 L/Corpl Cayley, W. C. B.—Appointed A/Corpl with effect from 12/8/22.
6453038 L/Corporal Rose, S. A.—Appointed A/Corporal with effect from 12/8/22.
2306393 L/Corpl Huggett, E. S.—Appointed A/Corpl with effect from 12/8/22.
2308715 Signalman Ring, H.—Appointed L/Corporal (unpaid) with effect from 26/10/22.
2308397 Signalman Waldron, D.—Appointed L/Corporal (unpaid) with effect from 26/10/22.
2310050 Signalman Jones, A. E.—Appointed A/L/Corpl (unpaid) with effect from 2/10/22.
1855586 L/Corpl Connelly, J.—Appointed A/Corpl with effect from 12/8/22.
2309118 Signalman Simpson, J. F.—Appointed L/Corpl with effect from 1/4/22.
5562278 L/Corpl Henner, C. H.—Appointed A/Corpl with effect from 12/8/22.
2309206 L/Corporal Holder, J.—Appointed A/Corporal with effect from 12/8/22.
2307911 L/Corpl Diamond, G. E.—Appointed A/Corpl with effect from 12/8/22.
2313002 Corporal McPhee, R. D.—Appointed L/Sergt with effect from 30/7/22.
2307341 Corporal Bolland, F.—Appointed L/Sergeant with effect from 30/7/22.
2307993 Corporal Betteridge, F.—Appointed L/Sergeant with effect from 30/7/22.
2311392 L/Corporal Martin, C.—Appointed A/Corporal with effect from 12/8/22.
2309267 Boy Small, A. A.—Posted to the ranks as Signalman with effect from 23/10/22.
6134549 Boy Barnicott, A.—Posted to the ranks as Signalman with effect from 26/10/22.
2311145 L/Corporal Deasy, M.—Appointed A/Corporal with effect from 12/8/22.
4027251 L/Corporal Wheeler, C.—Appointed A/Corporal with effect from 12/8/22.
212003 L/Corporal McMahon, E.—Appointed A/Corpl with effect from 12/8/22.
212003 A/Corporal McMahon, E.—Substantiated in the appointment of L/Corporal 4/3/22.
2307821 Corporal Fleming, A. E.—Appointed L/Sergt with effect from 30/7/22.
2308008 L/Corporal Hodges, R.—Appointed A/Corporal with effect from 12/8/22.
2308904 L/Corpl Coomber, E. C.—Appointed A/Corpl with effect from 12/8/22.
2306514 L/Corporal Brunton, C.—Appointed A/Corporal with effect from 12/8/22.
2306207 Sergeant Hall, S. J.—Appointed Company Sergeant Major (W.O. Class II) with effect from 18/10/22.
2311536 L/Corporal Jeremy, H.—Appointed A/Corporal with effect from 1/4/22.
2312729 L/Corporal Carter, G.—Appointed A/Corporal with effect from 12/8/22.
2308775 L/Corporal Gunn, C. W.—Appointed A/Corpl with effect from 12/8/22.
2306467 L/Corpl Tomlinson, H.—Appointed A/Corporal with effect from 12/8/22.
2308516 L/Corporal Snow, R.—Appointed A/Corporal with effect from 12/8/22.
1853282 L/Corporal Cannon, A.—Appointed A/Corporal with effect from 12/10/22.
2306276 Corporal Frost, H.—Appointed L/Sergeant with effect from 30/7/22.
4525257 Corporal Hughes, L. G.—Appointed L/Sergeant with effect from 30/7/22.
2306455 Corporal Gowing, E.—Appointed L/Sergeant with effect from 13/10/22.
2312307 Boy Reat, M. (C Co. S.T.C.),—Posted to the ranks as Signalman with effect from 18/9/22.
2306196 Sergt Clark, W.—Appointed Acting Warrant Officer Class II, (appointed Acting Company Sergt Major) with effect from 2/9/22.
2310680 Boy Adams, R. W. J.—Posted to the ranks as Signalman 1/11/22.
2308535 Boy Couperthwaite, W.—Posted to the ranks as Signalman 4/11/22.
2308405 Boy Raymond, C. J.—Posted to the ranks as Signalman 5/11/22.
2308503 Boy Edge, T. L.—Posted to the ranks as Signalman 6/11/22.
2306394 L/Sergeant Linder, J.—Appointed A/Sergeant with effect and seniority from 19/5/22.
2310710 Signalman Morris, L. G.—Appointed L/Corpl (unpaid) with effect from 11/10/22.
2307806 L/Sergeant Goodridge, C. W.—Appointed A/Sergeant with effect from 12/6/22.
2309754 L/Corporal Simmonds, F.—Appointed A/Corpl with effect from 5/8/22.
2306477 L/Corporal Butcher, C. E.—Appointed A/Corpl with effect from 12/8/22.
2310437 L/Corporal Jordan, W.—Appointed Corporal with effect from 12/8/22.

Extension of Service.

2311417 Sigmn Burgess, E. J. extended his engagement to a total of six years with the Colours and six years Reserve (Authority: Officer i/c records S1/87/37/134 dated 1/11/22).

2312250 Sigmn Price, A. T. extended his engagement to complete six years with the Colours and six years Reserve (Authority: Officer i/c Records S1/87/29/106 dated 23/11/22).

2306358 Sergt Harrison, T. re-engaged to complete 21 years service with the Colours (Authority: Officer i/c R.C. of S. Records S1/97/2/88 dated 13/10/22).

2306512 A/L/Corpl Wood, J. W. extended his service to complete a further six years with the Colours and six years Reserve (Authority: Records Letter 87/456).

1850454 Sigmn Wells, H. C. re-engaged to complete 12 years with the Colours (Authority: Officer i/c R.C. of S. Records Letter dated 8/11/22.

2309256 Corpl Traynor A. extended to complete 12 years with the Colours (Authority: Signals Records S1/87/9/27 dated 22/9/22).

2310011 Sigmn Brett, T. R. extended engagement to 12 years. Six years with the Colours and six years with Reserve (Authority: Signals Records S1/87/9/27 dated 22/9/22).

2308818 Sigmn Critchley, R. extended engagement to 12 years. Six years with the Colours and six years with Reserve (Authority: Signals Records S1/87/15/63 dated 4/10/22).

2306048 S.M. Winton, A. E. extended present enlistment to continue beyond 21 years exclusive of Boys Service (Authority: Signals Records S1/23/6/97 dated 17/10/22).

2308730 Sigmn McLachlan, D. extended present enlistment to 12 years. Six years with the Colours and six years with Reserve (Authority: Signals Records Letter dated 17/10/22).

7733403 A/Sergt Clark, J. permitted to extend his service to complete 12 years with the Colours. Date of approval 6/10/22.

Discharges.

[NOTE.—The sub-paragraph of King's Regulations (para. 392) is indicated by Roman numerals in parentheses in each case.]

2314490 Sigmn Katz, J. 10/10/22 at own request on payment of £60 (XIV.)
2314825 Boy Green, A. H. 17/10/22 (XXV.)
2306711 Sigmn Cawley, G. 10/10/22 (XXI.)
2314345 Sigmn Cornwell, M. J. 10/10/22 (XIV.)
2314934 Sigmn Wood, G. 10/10/22 (XIV.)
2202493 Sigmn Parsons, W. H. 6/10/22 (XVI.)
2315345 Sigmn Crewe, E. 27/9/22 (IIIc.)
746652 Driver Harman, C. O. 27/9/22 (IIIc.)
2315151 Driver Norman, R. L. 27/9/22 (IIIc.)
2314902 Sigmn Cooper, A. W. 27/9/22 (IIIc.)
2315094 Sigmn Herbert, E. 27/9/22 (IIIc.)
2308311 Driver Henderson, J. 4/10/22 (XXV), and A.O. 181 of 1922.
2315060 Sigmn Adams, R. 27/9/22 (IIIa.)
2314972 Sigmn Styler, N. 27/9/22 (IIIa.)
3704130 Sigmn Brockbank, H. 27/9/22 (IIIa.)
2315035 Sigmn Webster, W. H. 27/9/22 (IIIa.)
2315089 Sigmn Heakin, W. R. 11/10/22 (VII.)
2310850 Sigmn Jefferies, R. C. 10/10/22 (XXV.)
2308623 Sigmn Hosken, S. C. 5/10/22 (XXV.)
2315259 Sigmn Booth, J. G. 20/10/22 (IIIc.)
2558148 Sigmn McDonald, W. 20/10/22 (IIIc.)
3235022 Sigmn Robertson, D. 20/10/22 (IIIc.)
2306070 C.S.M. Rickard, S. G. 29/10/22 (XXI)
2307695 Driver Morteshed, F. 15/10/22 (XXV.)
2308810 Sigmn Stewart, C. 4/8/22 (XXI.)
2311773 Sigmn Widdows, H. 4/8/22 (XXV.)
6134105 Sigmn Gliddon, C. W. 26/10/22 (XXV.)
2314385 Sigmn Goble, E. A. 24/10/22 (XVI.)
2312043 Driver Carpenter, A. J. 24/10/22 (XVI.)
2306321 L/Sergt Fahey, G. 5/10/22 (XVI.)
1857143 Sergt Jacks, W. H. to Section "B" Army Reserve 23/10/22.
2203204 Sigmn Goss, W. C. 19/10/22 (IIIc.)
2312719 Boy Lambert, C. E. 13/11/22 (XXV.)
2313063 Sigmn Bryan, S. H. 3/11/22 (XXI.)
2308808 A/Corpl Poole, S. 27/11/22 (XXV.)
2311218 Sigmn Swain, C. H. 27/11/22 (XXV.)
2310221 Sigmn Botting, H. 27/11/22 (XXV.)
1850244 Sigmn Vousden, J. H. 27/11/22 (XXV.)
1854669 Sigmn Mitchell, R. W. 30/11/22/ (XXV.)
2312223 Sigmn Quinn, L. 20/11/22 (XVI.)
2314146 Sigmn Grout, S. 6/11/22 (XIV.)

Drafts.

2314073 Sigmn Buchanan, A. to Port of Embarkation, Liverpool, 17/10/22, for Sierra Leone.

The undermentioned proceeded to Liverpool for embarkation for Sierra Leone 17/10/22.

2312286 Sigmn Clapham, R.
2308720 Sigmn Byrne, P. W.
1805582 Sigmn Laroum, H.

Certificates of Education.

The undermentioned have been awarded Educational Certificates as shown in parentheses;—

2314422 Sigmn Barber, E. (3rd), 12/9/22.
2314663 Sigmn Charnock, R. V. (3rd), 12/9/22.
2314479 Sigmn Chapman, W. H. (3rd), 12/9/22.
2314724 Sigmn Cole, E. (3rd), 12/9/22.
2306788 Sigmn Offord, E. H. (1st), 10/2/20.
2306706 L/Corpl Hall, P., (1st), 24/7/17.
2313556 Sigmn Brown, F. A., (3rd), 8/9/22.
2310751 Sigmn Leaning, (2nd), Kantara, June, 1922.
2314398 Sigmn Beedle, (2nd), 28/9/22.
2314008 Sigmn Candelin, F. C. (3rd), 29/9/22.
2314250 Sigmn Fox, R. H. (3rd), 29/9/22.
2314085 Sigmn Bannier, W. (3rd), 29/9/22.
2314716 Sigmn Ford, F. D. (3rd), 29/9/22.
2314789 Sigmn Carroll, E., (3rd), 29/9/22.
2314582 Sigmn Groves, A. C., (3rd), 29/9/22
2314330 Sigmn Owens, J. D., (3rd), 29/9/22.
6745482 Sigmn Zoller, F. J., (3rd), 29/9/22.
2314744 Sigmn Byrne, J. A., (3rd), 29/9/22.
2314809 Sigmn Millgate, T. W., (3rd), 29/9/22.
6549541 Sigmn Stone, C., (3rd), 29/9/22.
2314886 Sigmn Wright, J., (3rd), 29/9/22.
2314750 Sigmn White, T. C., (3rd), 29/9/22.
2304247 Sigmn Smith, J. W., (3rd), 8/9/22
2314647 Sigmn Fields, R. F., (3rd), 12/9/22.
2314819 Sigmn Jeffrey, W. N. D., (3rd), 12/9/22.

2314529 Sigmn Jones, F. D., (3rd), 12/9/22.
2314821 Sigmn Frey, W. A., (3rd), 12/9/22
2314702 Sigmn Jenkins, R. H., (3rd), 12/9/22.
2314478 Sigmn Scott, H. J., (3rd), 12/9/22.
2312212 Sigmn Thoroughgood, A. R. (3rd), 12/9/22.
2314428 Sigmn Ripley, L. G., (3rd), 12/9/22.
2314673 Sigmn Sabine, W. T., (3rd), 12/9/22.
2314680 Sigmn Thomas, E., (3rd), 12/9/22.
2314764 Sigmn Palgrave, R. F., (3rd), 12/9/22.
2314304 Sigmn Goodhouse, W. G., (3rd), 12/9/22.
2307298 L/Sergt Carter, F., (2nd), 28/9/22.
2306512 L/Corpl Wood, J. W., (3rd), at Gibraltar, July, 1922.
2312880 Sigmn Ball, V., (3rd), at Gibraltar, July, 1922.
2309064 Sigmn Curtis, A. L., (2nd), at Gibraltar, 20/10/22.
2310491 Sigmn Hymers, G., (2nd), at Gibraltar, 20/10/22.
732680 Sigmn Savage, D. P., (2nd), at Gibraltar, 20/10/22.
2312735 Sigmn Wood, W. J., (2nd), at Gibraltar, 20/10/22.
2312486 Sigmn Hitchen, E., (2nd), at Gibraltar, 20/10/22.
2312715 Sigmn Poulton, G., (2nd), at Gibraltar, 20/10/22.
2309047 Sigmn Warren, W., (2nd), at Gibraltar, 20/10/22.
2311535 L/Corpl Bellringer, H. (2nd), at Constantinople 2/3/22.
2310961 Sigmn Smith, G. F., (2nd), at Constantinople, 2/3/22.
1860303 Sigmn Stevenson, W., (2nd), at Constantinople 2/3/22.
2309798 Sigmn Little, V., (2nd), at Constantinople, 2/3/22.
2311020 Sigmn Gorst, D. C., (2nd), at Constantinople, 2/3/22.
2307085 Sigmn Hussey, S., (2nd), at Constantinople, 2/3/22.
2309941 Corpl Woodhead, T., (2nd), at Constantinople, 2/3/22.
2309085 Sigmn Bolton, H., (2nd), at Constantinople, 2/3/22.
2310882 Sigmn Neary, J., (2nd), at Constantinople, 2/3/22.
2310540 Sigmn Dixon, E. A., (2nd), at Constantinople, 2/3/22.
2308443 Sigmn McMahon, H., (2nd), at Constantinople, 2/3/22.
2306841 Sigmn Goodenough, J., (2nd), at Constantinople, 2/3/22.
6526503 Sigmn Doughty, A. E., (2nd), at Constantinople, 27/9/22.
1850264 Corpl Graham, T., (1st), at Jubbulpore, India, 21/6/22.
2312446 Boy Ellison, E., (3rd), at Maresfield, 29/6/21.
2315291 Boy Frampton, E. H., (3rd), at Maresfield, 20/10/22.
2314576 Boy Smith, H. F. S., (3rd), at Maresfield, 20/10/22.
2308404 Boy Cowling, C., (3rd), at Maresfield, 13/10/22.
2314718 Boy Steel, A. K., (3rd), at Maresfield, 13/10/22.
2315204 Boy Hale, J. K., (3rd), at Maresfield, 13/10/22.
2314577 Boy Turrell, R. B., (3rd), at Maresfield, 13/10/22.
2315356 Boy Higgins, T. V., (3rd), at Maresfield, 13/10/22.
2314696 Boy Pengelly, F. G., (3rd), at Maresfield, 13/10/22.
4178083 Sigmn Jones, F. J., (3rd), at Maresfield, 13/10/22.
2314976 Sigmn Reesby, F. G., (3rd), at Maresfield, 13/10/22.
2312338 L/Corpl Green, P. C., (3rd), at Maresfield, 13/10/22.
2308776 Sigmn Preston, J. T., (3rd), at Maresfield, 13/10/22.
2314687 Sigmn Taylor, C. H., (3rd), at Maresfield, 13/10/22.
2314395 Boy Weeks, A. E., (3rd), at Maresfield, 13/10/22.
5488286 Boy Williams, A., (3rd),at Maresfield, 13/10/22.
2315199 Boy Few, G. F. W., (3rd), at Maresfield, 13/10/22.
2315033 Boy Harrison, J. H. (3rd), at Maresfield, 13/10/22.
2314572 Boy Whiting, C. W. (3rd), at Maresfield, 13/10/22.
4181334 Sigmn Burchinshaw, J., (3rd), at Maresfield, 13/10/22.
2315149 Sigmn Tudor, E. M., (3rd), at Maresfield, 13/10/22.
3437561 Sigmn Cogswell, W., (3rd), at Maresfield, 13/10/22.
2314076 Sigmn Jagger, F. V., (3rd), at Maresfield, 13/10/22.
739952 Sigmn Deamon, V. E., (3rd), at Maresfield, 13/10/22.
2312301 L/Corpl May, W., (3rd), at Maresfield, 13/10/22.

Births.

2310996 Sigmn White, E.—Daughter, Mildred Megan Bowen, at Chatham, 6/9/22.
2308931 L/Sergt Leckie, A. P.—Son, William, at Cologne, 22/8/22.
2311800 Sigmn Rainey, A. F.—Son, Wilhelm, at Cologne, 11/11/21.
2307798 Driver Chambers, W.—Daughter, Violet Joan, at Basingstoke, 2/10/22.
2307341 Corpl Bolland, F.—Son, Frank Richard, at Colchester, 17/9/22.
2311401 Sigmn Nicholls, G. E.—Daughter, at Wood Green, London, 8/10/22.
2306007 L/Sergt Stevenson, W.—Daughter, Barbara, at Cairo, 10/8/22.

Marriages.

2315360 Sigmn Harris, G. H.—To Kate Hughes at Coventry, by Rev. Kenneth Swallow, 20/9/19.
1813909 Sigmn Souter, W.—To Florence Mary Roberts of Upper Norwood, at Register Office, Croydon, 1/10/18.
2314084 Sigmn Allcock, A.—To Winifred Barlow, at Carlton, Notts, by the Rev. A. E. Wynne, 3/9/22.
2311588 Sigmn Chandler, A. S.—To Bertha Stangl, at Cologne, 4/10/22.
2308787 Sigmn Hambly, H. W.—To Dorothy Amalie Maria Luise von Gaivain, at Cologne, 7/10/22.
2308606 Sigmn Skinner, R. J.—To Gladys Mary Kate Martin, at Plymouth, 18/9/22
6189977 Sigmn Gilchrist, W.—To Agnes Fairlie Anderson, at Paisley, 28/7/22.
2308620 Sigmn Brimacombe, W. J.—To Carmela Josephine Phillippa Bensaia, at Cairo, 28/10/22.

Deaths.

2307918 Sigmn Brown, E.—Wife, Jessica May, at Brighton, 5/3/22.
1851102 Q.M.S. Ramsey, N.—Son, Frank Peter, at Gillingham, 30/10/22.

Postings.

The undermentioned are posted from C Company, Signal Training Centre, to 3rd Medium Artillery Brigade Signals, Bulford, with effect from 27/9/22.

2314463 Sigmn Andrews, F. C.
2314498 Sigmn Crundenell, R. E.
3548030 Sigmn Lawrence, W.
2314293 Sigmn O'Flaherty, J.
2314437 Sigmn West, G. R.
2314030 Sigmn Chandler, D. G.
3949271 Sigmn Jones, R. T.
2312803 Sigmn Nicholls, E.
2314218 Sigmn Sherrin, F. J.
2314419 Sigmn Wornham, L.

The undermentioned are posted to the ranks as Signalmen with effect from dates shewn.

2310691 Boy Semmence, W., 29/9/22.
2310963 Boy Searle, L., 1/10/22.

The undermentioned are posted from C Company, Signal Training Centre, to 1st Medium Artillery Brigade Signals, Aldershot, with effect from 30/9/22.

2306059 Sergt Winton, R. H.
2306858 Sigmn Grainger, A.
2306793 Sigmn Hotchkiss, W.
2308426 Sigmn Monaghan, B. J.
2311325 Sigmn Southwell, F.
2306554 Sigmn Ellis, J. H.
2314808 Sigmn Honey, A.
2308406 Sigmn Lacey, L. H.
2306731 Sigmn Sebright, R.
2314243 Sigmn Wright, F.

The undermentioned are posted from C Company, Signal Training Centre, to Constantinople Signal Company, Turkey, with effect from 28/9/22.

2306276 Corpl Frost, H.
2306455 Corpl Gowing, E.

The undermentioned are posted from C Company, Signal Training Centre, to 2nd Medium Artillery Brigade Signals, Aldershot, with effect from 30/9/22.

2306289 Sergt Waters, R. W.
2314010 Sigmn Brooks, G. W.
2314694 Sigmn Grant, M.
2306628 Sigmn Kay, W.
2306627 Sigmn Walker, E. S.
2314015 Sigmn Booth, G. F.
2314497 Sigmn Couch, S. F.
2314322 Sigmn Harrison, E. J.
2308429 Sigmn Russell, J. J.

2309312 Sigmn Thomas, E. posted from C Company, Signal Training Centre, to 1st Divisional Signal Company, Aldershot, with effect from 26/9/22.

2313781 Sigmn Wall, A. E., posted from C Company, Signal Training Centre, to Dublin District Signal Company, with effect from 3/10/22.

The undermentioned are posted from A Company, Signal Training Centre, to 2nd Signal Troop, Tidworth, with effect from 3/10/22.

2315228 Sigmn Belcham, A.
529344 Driver Duff, J.
9735 Sigmn Hunt, R. R.
2315227 Sigmn Wood, J.
1404826 Driver Browne, G. A.
7144949 Driver Hill, H. T.
6632 Driver Kendall, A. G.

2308626 Sigmn Clements, G. L., posted from A Company, Signal Training Centre, to Air Defence Brigade Signal Section, Northern Command, and attached to A Corps Signals, with effect from 10/10/22.

The undermentioned are posted from A Company, Signal Training Centre, to 1st Divisional Signals, Aldershot, with effect from 8/10/22.

2312073 Sigmn Earle, F.
2309669 Sigmn Tucker, F.
2312464 Sigmn Godwin, W.
2310970 Sigmn Walters, G.

4435409 Sigmn Reece, D. H., from Rhine Signal Company to 4th Divisional Signal Company, Colchester, 10/10/22.

2311591 A/L/Corpl Oakes, F. from Rhine Signal Company, to School of Education, Shorncliffe, 5/10/22.

2306041 Sigmn Shippey, W. H. from Rhine Signal Company, to Signal Training Centre, Maresfield, 20/10/22.

2306075 A/C.Q.M.S. Smithson, C. H., from A Company, Signal Training Centre, to 1st Signal Troop, Aldershot, with effect from 20/10/22.

2301882 Sigmn Neary, J. from B.C.O. Signal Company, Constantinople, to A Company, Signal Training Centre, with effect from 16/10/22.

1850264 Corpl Graham, R. from Indian Unattached List, to C Company, Signal Training Centre, with effect from 8/10/22.

The undermentioned are posted from Constantinople Signal Company, to A Company, Signal Training Centre, with effect from 19/10/22.

7487084 L/Corpl West, W. F.
7075519 Sigmn Carr, J.
2310577 Driver McGill, J.
4436532 Sigmn Sort, S.
1858529 Sigmn Byrne, J.
2309242 Sigmn Geary, H.
2312583 Sigmn Reeves, E.

The undermentioned are posted from E Company, Signal Training Centre, to 2nd Signal Troop, Tidworth, with effect from 30/10/22.

2315240 Driver Colley, G. H.
2315238 Driver Lamb, T.
2315055 Driver Jackson, N.

2309074 Sigmn Brennan,R. posted from Dublin District Signal Company, to 1st Divisional Signals, Aldershot, with effect from 5/10/22.

2308919 Sigmn Pope, W.O.C., posted from F Company, Signal Training Centre, to 1st Divisional Signals, Aldershot, wth effect from 16/10/22.

The undermentioned are posted from F Company, Signal Training Centre, to 2nd Signal Troop, Tidworth, with effect from 30/10/22.

2312360 Sigmn Bevan, A. G.
2314916 Sigmn Stubbs, G.
2315030 Sigmn Preston, H.

732811 Sigmn Worth, P. J. posted from F Company, Signal Training Centre, to Thames and Medway Fortress Signal Section, Chatham, with effect from 30/10/22.

Signals Association.

RATES OF SUBSCRIPTIONS :—

Officers—Life	£5	0	0
,, Annual		5	0
Other Ranks—Life	£1	10	0
,, ,, Annual		2	0

All communications should be addressed to :—

The Secretary, Signals Association,
Stamford Brook Lodge,
Ravenscourt Park,
London, W.6

Maresfield Branch.

There has been no meeting of the above Branch of the Signals Association since October, but it has been decided by the Entertainments Sub-Committee to hold a smoking concert in No. 6 Canteen on 21st November. A report of this will appear in due course, and it is confidently anticipated that those attending will be more than satisfied with the programme which has been arranged.

The number of members in the Training Centre has increased remarkably since the October meeting, and it is interesting to note that the whole personnel of a certain Company has been enrolled. This is an example which it is hoped will be followed by every other Company in the Centre.

There are still a few n.c.o's who are non-members, and who intend to remain such, having as an excuse that they have only a few more months' Colour service to complete. For the benefit of these, and others of the unenlightened, it is pointed out that this is no bar whatever to membership. As a matter of fact it is a distinct advantage.

Non-members wishing to join, therefore, should lose no time in getting into touch with their Company representatives, of whom a complete list is given in the report published in last month's WIRE.

R. F. B.

The 2nd Munsters in France.

A short history of the Battalion's work in France, complete with maps and illustrations, is now ready, and can be obtained upon application (with remittance) from Messrs. Gale and Polden, Ltd., Wellington Works, Aldershot :—Whole bound cloth, 5/6; Edition de luxe, (bound leather back and corners, cloth sides), 12/6.

Other correspondence to Lieut.-Col. H. S. Jervis, "Munster," Tilford, Surrey.

Correspondence.

To the Editor of THE WIRE.

Dear Sir,

The efforts to secure a good "march past" for the Royal Corps of Signals appear to be singularly unfortunate. May I venture to suggest that a little quiet, calm deliberation disentangles every knot?

I suggest in the first place that a small committee, comprising those who have recognised musical qualifications, be formed (quite irrespective of military rank), and that these gentlemen foregather with a view to deciding and defining exactly what style of march-past is required.

Having agreed upon its outline, they might publish their requirements in THE WIRE, and ask for contributions to be sent to them within a given time limit.

On receipt of such, the committee would again foregather and hear all the suggested tunes played over on a piano. Whether they selected one of the tunes or rejected them all, they would publish their decision in THE WIRE for all to see.

A recent musical (?) meeting at Maresfield rather strongly illustrated the necessity of some organisation such as I am suggesting, since many of the critics had little or no knowledge of music, and others were hopelessly divided in opinion as to whether a cavalry or infantry march-past was required. Finally it was decided by a *minimum* of the voters that a tune which the soldiers could whistle or sing whilst *on the march* (?) was required. Thus it finally appeared that a popular "march," and not a "march-past," was required by Maresfield.

I am, sir, yours faithfully,

PISCIS MUSICALIS.

[EDITOR'S NOTE :—We would remind our correspondent that the ultimate decision as regards an official march tune for the Royal Corps of Signals rests with the War Office; though, no doubt, those dealing with this difficult problem would be glad of well-thought-out proposals, which should be submitted through the usual official channels.]

The Editor's "Magazine Orderlies"



D. W. GARNETT



P. FISHER

(THE PRINTERS)

Wish every member of the Royal Corps of Signals "Health, Happiness and Speedy Promotion."

Maresfield Notes.

Headquarters.

We have to report the departure of Lieut. B. B. Kennett, R.G.A., who left Maresfield for the East on 16th September. He was a member of the S.T.C. rugby and running teams, and will be very much missed. Now, you foreigners! don't say we never send any athletes.

Signalman S. Clay left this office after a long course of kitten rearing and horticulture, and proceeded to Bulford on 20th October. We trust he will get all that's coming to him. Good luck, Tommy. Any birds yet?

Signalman E. S. J. Haines "pulled his freight" for Aldershot on 3rd November, and will be very much missed, especially by "G" Branch. Someone else has clicked, however, and we shall look forward to seeing some Aldershot topics very shortly.

Congratulations to L/Corpls Ring and Waldron on their well-earned promotion to that dizzy height. Harry says that the next time he is on sick lines picquet, he is going to indent for a rowing boat. I believe it *was* rather damp one night last week.

Still more congratulations! What a lucky office ours is! Sigmn G. Bass has our congrats (and envy) on sharing a £500 prize given by one of the periodicals. It is understood that he is now nearly repaid for the gallons of oil expended at midnight.

The Battalion Dances are a great success now. These are held every Monday evening in the Gymnasium, which has been re-fitted throughout, including a splendid floor. As a dance hall, the Gym bids fair to rival the best in Sussex. It will repay someone to take the jazz orchestra in hand, but at the time of writing I hear that great steps are even now being taken by a certain "live wire."

The junior n.c.o's of the S.T.C. roused themselves in no uncertain fashion on Thursday, 2nd November. A whist drive and dance was held in the Gymnasium, and the whole thing was a stunning success. A sergeant's wife was heard to remark: "This'll show 'em what the corporals can do!" The spectacle of Jimmy H—f—d dancing (?) was too funny for words; and didn't his partner enjoy herself!

A welcome "renaissance" of the Signals Association Maresfield Branch is taking place, and we are looking forward with interest and confidence to the results of October's "gingering-up" meeting. All ranks of the Signals should be members of the Association. Who can truthfully say he will miss two bob a year? I know scores of chaps who would put that on the "lucky old spade" and see it go down time and time again, without batting an eyelid. Put your two bobs on the Association. They will never let you down!

R. F. B.

A Company.

Crowborough, Nov. 10th.

General.

We are in the throes of rat-catching, and the results are worthy of the Pied Piper of Hamelin. The local rat-catcher and his pack of nondescript dogs, a ferret or two, a gun, and—the military police, are putting up an astonishing bag: 163 to date.

The Chaplain-General paid us a visit on the 28th October,and gave a rather remarkable lecture which was generally appreciated. Indeed, his finale was the subject for heated debates, especially amongst the intellectual (?) Company staff whose consciences have been sorely troubled since.

This is truly a cosmopolitan Company. If the "exempted" would care to hear of outposts of Empire where it should be the aim of every young soldier to go, one could but recommend them to their suntanned comrades from overseas who continue to arrive daily, en route to home service or "civvies" (the latter a horrible fate). Some sixty or seventy have so far reported, mainly from Egypt, but their sojourn is brief, for they are promptly despatched to their homes on furlough or leave pending discharge.

C.Q.M.S. George has appeared in relief of C.Q.M.S. Weeks, who is also finishing his army life. Whilst sympathising with the newcomer on the amount of work, we heartily welcome him.

Our artist threatens to send something each month. This time he submits "Jimmy" trying to spoil the corps badge by putting on clothes. It makes one wonder if Mercury, the Messenger of the Gods, does not stir in his grave (do Gods have graves?) when he hears he is known as "Jimmy" (plain "Jimmy") by the present-day exponents of his profession. We have now, too, got him set to lilt and rhyme, but more of this anon. Next month, look out for "Crowborough Landmarks."

The Square.

The following are the latest arrivcals, reported on the square for training on Monday, October 30th:—

2315381 Sigmn Brooker, J. W.
2315391 Sigmn Carnell, O. H.
2315392 Sigmn Carnell, S.
2315387 Sigmn Chick, A. L.
2315388 Sigmn Denning, C. W.
2554590 Sigmn Furby, G. A.
2315380 Sigmn Gadd, J.
6908474 Sigmn Geater, T. B.
7871354 Sigmn Gill, F.
2315377 Sigmn Heyhurst, H.
2315375 Sigmn Holford, J. E.
2315383 Sigmn King, H. T.
2315393 Sigmn Knell, E.
2315385 Sigmn Lawton, T.
1032954 Sigmn Mackett, A. J.
2315390 Sigmn Perry, R. S.
2315376 Sigmn Raiman, A. J.
2315384 Sigmn Rennie, W. J.
2315379 Sigmn Roberts, B.

Good luck go with them.

Amusements.

The chief matter for report is a concert held on the 9th instant, at which the Crowborough Camp Comedy Company gave us a very excellent, though possibly somewhat lengthy, evening. I will not detail the programme, but the chief items are worthy of reference.

Some delightful singing by Miss K. Serjeaunt, who kindly came from Crowborough to assist, was much appreciated. A humorous song ("The postman") by Sigmn W. Smith was popular, and showed the singer to be full of the idea to bring a laugh. Lieut Wiseman played several selections on his Hawaiian guitar, of which he is a complete master; he was much encored. Lieut Chubb was quite refreshing in "My trombone"; whilst Sigmn Neilson-Houlberg scored a definite hit in "The song of a solitary sentry," written by Mr. Chubb, which we give below.

The Song of a Solitary Sentry.

I'm just a simple sentry marching up and down my beat,
And as I'm not an acrobat, I walk upon my feet.
Although I'm but a poor recruit who finds life very hard,
I feel so dashed important when I'm told to go on guard.
The sergeant (such a horrid man) has told me what to do
When men approach my post an hour or more after Tattoo.
Now if that were the only order that was given me,
How very nice and simple, then, a soldier's life would be.
I don't suppose you'll ever guess how my poor brain has striven
To take in all the complicated orders I've been given:
I've tried to learn them all by heart, although they're rather long,
And so I'll now repeat them, just to see if I go wrong.

"Salute the Colonel once by day and also once by night.
Pay proper compliments to men according to their height.
Walk up and down my sentry's beat with firm and martial tread.
Turn out all lights, and tuck the sergeant-major up in bed.
In case of fire, or strange events, at once ring up the police.
And if a man is snoring, hit him hard and make him cease."
I know ther're lots of other things to which I have to see,
But I'm hanged if I remember what the devil they can be.

The officer should soon be here—I'm certain that he will—
And as I can't repeat my words, he'll give me extra drill.
Oh, life is very hard on me! I *hate* the beastly square;
They make me drill the whole day long, it really isn't fair.
I rise before the break of day to wash and do my shaving,
Although inside my tummy I can feel an awful craving.
They've got a beastly drummer-boy, who beats his wretched drum
And makes me hustle round the square until my legs are numb.
I slope my arms and stand at ease four thousand times a day,
And now I do fatigues until it's time to draw my pay.
They say that every big black cloud has got a silver lining,
And for the day when I pass off the square I now am pining.
But 'ere I cease this little song, I first would have you know
I'm not a Bolshevist, nor any kind of thing so low.
I'm not downhearted really: I can laugh and joke and sing,
And I think it's rather fine to be a soldier of the King.

CHAVENDER.

Sigmn Cannell (appropriately dressed as Mercury, à la badge) was given the role of singing "Jimmy—a marching song," assisted by a full chorus. Sigmn Cannell had come out of hospital in the morning, and it was a sporting effort on his part to sing. He possesses possibly the best voice in the Comedy Company: a pleasing baritone, with careful enunciation.

I draw attention to the song as it is full of merit, having a cheerful swing and excellent words. It has "gone down" here, judging by the attempts to master the words in the hall, and the numbers singing the chorus on the way home and enlivening the bathhouses early this morning. The music and words are by Lieut Chubb, and I understand the song is to be published shortly. Whether or not it is officially accepted as at least one marching song for the Corps, its catching tune and excellent sentiments cannot fail to please.

Lieut Chubb, Sigmn Neilson-Houlberg, and Sigmn Buxton (who, by the way, recites quite well) gave an amusing concerted number, "We take off our 'ats." The trio were rash enough to take off their 'ats for various reasons to "Tim" Kelly, the maintainer of law and order in the camp——the trio disappeared (and even the light went out!) and finally as an encore repeated:—

"We take off our 'ats to the Hofficers,
'nd why do we do it?—because
If our 'air isn't cropped,
For the Guard-room we're copped:
So we thank you for your kind applause."

Our thanks are due to Mrs. Chubb, who worked tirelessly at stage effects and dresses with excellent results; to Lieut Wiseman for stage management; and to Signalmen Cummings and Wilde, who were indispensable throughout. The running of the Comedy Company, and the writing of music and words, has been admirably by Lieut Chubb.

Sports.

At soccer our efforts appear to have deteriorated. 'Tis true the juniors had one success (5-0) against the School of Signals; but the seniors unfortunately failed by 1-3 against G Company. Seven of the team were absent, so at least we have slight consolation.

Rugby.

As anticipated in our notes of last month, we commenced the rugby season very creditably, meeting E Company at Maresfield and returning victors. This is our first and only league encounter to date.

Cross-Country Running.

Trial runs have been the main feature so far, and the real thing should reveal some promising talent. It is extremely difficult to retain a decent pack, having regard to the persistent drain upon our "running" resources by transfers. However we are optimistic in matters of sport, and cross country is no exception to the general rule.

Hockey.

We had better forget without regret our first hockey league match. We suffered an inglorious defeat to the extent of half the number of hours in the day. That sounds better than quoting the definite result in figures. Like as in our senior soccer match against G, we fielded without our "good men and true"—hence the terrible defeat.

Boxing.

Under the able leadership of Lieut Carstairs, boxing here promises to be of a high standard. One cannot mention secrets, but if you have a few minutes to spare, hie yourself to the ring and witness the talent. Our release of the boxing trophy is but temporary, and the specially prepared shelf presents an extremely lonely appearance without it.

Definitions.

The Square.—"Our daily round."

Extra Drill.—"Our common task" (and the S.D.I. will "furnish all we need to ask").

The S.D.I.—An n.c.o. so senior that you tremble if you think he has "seen yer."

Stew.—See "Rat Week."

Provost-Sergeant.—"A man of greatness."

Rat Week.—See "Stew."

C.B.—See "Beaver."

Pay Parade.—"A fatigu(e)ing job."

Beaver.—"A man who uses an army razor."

And so we bid you good-bye for yet another month, and wish all (at home and abroad), in the old old way, "a really happy Christmas and a bright New Year."

C Company.

Struth! No, the old Company has not gone into liquidation, neither is it dead nor dying; in fact, a brief glance at a certain little table which appeared in Commandant's Orders a few pay-days ago shows that the key wallopers' association has considerably smartened up the parade.

Together with the remnants of that cheerful band of crabs who held the Crowborough front so well, the band, and the extremely promising young stuff we have since had posted to us, we now feel inclined—and perhaps with justification—to walk about the Camp with a 48 inch chest, a pocketful of autographed cards, and a feeling towards all aliens of "Yes, I'm C Company: anything to say against it?"

We are not the same happy little band that we were. By that, I don't mean to convey the impression that we are not happy *now*. Far from it! The amount of grousing which goes on in the Company is simply delightful, for anyone who possesses the slightest knowledge of the mental construction of a "swaddy" knows that the more prolific the moans and groans, the less substantial is the reason. What I mean is that, to an ex-member, the old Company is hardly recognisable. Departures, arrivals and promotions very quickly alter the aspect of a Company.

We now see the Quarter-bloke, C.Q.M.S. McGregor, trotting about with three stripes, a grenade and a crown, and if it's any time before eight in the morning on week days, or midday on sheet-changing days, more often that not, a horrible big liver. But drift into his stores in the evening, armed with a packet of biscuits or a bone for his "dear Dandy Boy," and more cigarettes than you really want yourself (?), and you see a different man. "On parade, on parade; off it—" is his motto, and one with which he has made himself universally liked and respected.

"Fairy" Tremain, who now answers to the name of Sergt before 6 p.m., and a whistle afterwards, has evidently come to the conclusion that his Field-Marshal's baton is not secreted in the "line" side of his haverbag, and has in consequence transferred his affections to the wireless portion. We credited him with better taste, but we wish him every success in his new venture.



It will be a great surprise to many to know that Darky Winton left for Constantinople about a month ago, together with Jimmy Gowing and L/Corpl Brett. More land marks off the roll!

We are extremely sorry to hear that Sergt Kendall had been admitted to hospital for what appears to be a long job. He takes with him our sincere wishes for as speedy a recovery as possible. We miss his cheery face, to say nothing of his ducks' eggs.

The Boys—yes, we still have them, and, in common with all other afflictions, they seem to increase day by day. We now have three huts of them: enough to send a battalion of sergt-majors on their last long trail. But for all that, it would not be the same Company without them. It is their liberally-given support which has helped our teams to a very great extent in their various matches. If they would only honour St. Martin's Farm ground with their presence a bit more frequently, we rather fancy that our first team would benefit by it. What about it, the Boys? you can play the Bedfords during the evenings.

Sport.

Now that's right down our street. Sport in the Company now is at as high a pitch as it has ever been, and that is saying a bit.

At football our First Eleven were unlucky to lose their first match, but they made amends afterwards and the table now shows:—Played 5; won 3; lost 2; position 2nd. Now then, "Watty," hold it.

The juniors ramped off as they did last year, and had it not been for various changes in the team, they would have carried on with the ramping. They have done exceedingly well, however, their record being:—Played 5; won 3; drawn 1; lost 1; position 1st.

Our next item of importance is undoubtedly boxing. Uuder the leadership of Corpl Wheeler, the team showed that key-punching is apparently excellent training for head-punching. It seemed so at the recent inter-Company meeting.

Boy Collins walked into the ring, interviewed his opponent for a few seconds, and walked out again, plus a cup. Corpls Wheeler and Hughes, Signalmen Rigg, Collins, Pascoe and Langley, and Boys Viney, Williams, Walker and Simpson followed one another into the ring in their turn, with the result that we now see in the office window one boxing cup and one shield.

En passant, a word on the boxing competition in which the Signals met and defeated the T.B.R.E. The first four of the Signals to enter the ring belong to C Company, and they were followed by Lieut Giblin and Corpl Wheeler. Six Company representatives in a corps team is a very creditable record.

L/Corpl Boy Viney, the first in the ring, met the younger brother of Sergt Warr of C Company, and outpointed him in what was one of the cleanest and best contests of the evening.

Boy Collins lived up to his reputation. He sailed into his opponent at once, and after less than a minute of probably the hardest hammering he has ever received, the latter retired.

Boy Simpson put up an exceedingly good fight, but his opponent received the verdict on points. Had the latter, however, persisted in pushing his face against Simpson's left many more times, we rather fancy that he would have been saved the trouble of entering the ring again after the contest.

L/Corpl Hughes seemed to have matters pretty well as he pleased, and it was no surprise to anyone to see him floor his man in the second round.

Our next representative, Lieut Giblin, treated the spectators to a very lively contest. Both he and his opponent gave and received a good deal of punishment, and although Lieut Giblin lost on points, the margin must have been very narrow.

It was left to Corpl Wheeler to wind up the account for the Company. This he did in great style. After receiving a couple of taps on his smelling apparatus from his opponent's head, he sailed in with such gusto, that the Engineer's seconds threw in the towel half way through the second round.

As far as rugby is concerned, our special reporter and dear old friend, "The Mormon," is at present ornamenting the pages of an A.B.4, so we will leave that to his tender mercies.

Overheard in the Quartermaster's Stores during a "swot" hour:—

"How would you overcome the difficulties of navigation on the Great Lakes?"

"Short circuit the Niagara Falls and turn off the wind."

THE PARSON.

Rugby.

At last we have our rugger team well under way, despite the fact that a goodly proportion of it is drawn from the boys. We have, however, some promising players coming along, and others are advised to keep their eyes down.

Our first game, against the School, proved a great defeat for us, their three-quarters being almost impregnable. Jimmy managed to get through after many great efforts, but failed to convert. Some time after he again scored. The game was fast and clean throughout, and we look forward to meeting the School any old time they please. Result: School 36 points; C Company 6.

We next met the "Ghurks" and incidentally a reversal also, although we should have evened the result a bit more. Being strong in the scrum, Eddie wore our boys down; nevertheless we put up a good show, the result (E 9 points, C 3) showing that we are improving.

Our third game brought us up against the "Sparks," and the teams being more evenly matched, a ding-dong struggle ensued. At half time we were three points down, but not for long. Chicko, on the right, receiving a good pass from Rigg, dashed through. Our Jim converted in fine style. "G" then managed to touch down, not for long. Chicko, on the right, receiving going well, Chicko getting through, and James converting. Things seemed to slacken, when "Watty" seizing an opportunity, passed to Chicko, who slipped through and touched down. Time came just after, and we had scored our first victory. Result; C 13 points; G 8.

G. V. L.

D Company.

Herewith the doings of "Don" during the past month. On Thursday, October 26th our officers' wives gave a tea to the wives of the n.c.o's and men of the Company in the Signalman's Club, and quite a pleasant afternoon was spent. "Hubbies" were not admitted, and it was very amusing to see them hanging around after dark waiting to take their respective spouses home. One senior n.c.o. (married) was heard to liken the Club during the tea to a Mill's grenade with the pin out; and another man remarked that it was like stacking damp hay, putting all the wives in a closed-in space like that. Personally, we do not understand what they mean!

Life has its little humours, hasn't it? The Fire Alarm has just sounded, and the Depot behaved like madmen for a short space. Our Company was detailed to man the fire engine (in other words, the fire screen wagon), and being dashing young fellows, they dashed so fast round rather an awkward corner that a wheel came off. Anyhow it turned out that it was only a practice affair, and the forage barn still exists. We had quite an interesting lecture at the scene of the fire on "fire fighting" by the Fire Superintendent. We were rather amused at the vagaries of the pump. The

one in question thought that the fire was behind. Many applications have been received from men in the Company for the position of "fire stamper" in the event of a pukkah blaze. His duties are to stand on top of a hut nearest the burning one and swot sparks. No further applications can be considered.

Signals Association.

So far we have done very well in this direction. At present we have 130 members. As our strength is about 260, we are not so good as we should be. Quite a number of our fellows have gone away on draft, though. Sigmn Jackson, of the Company office, is open to receive names and subscriptions at any time. Capt. Roberts explained the aims, etc., of the Association on a recent Saturday morning parade, and quite a number of men enrolled straight away. By next month we hope to be able to report the result of our first smoking concert.

Association Football.

We are still going along fairly well in this direction. We played "Eddie," and after a very keen clean game we drew at 1-1. We are now down to play the Corps team—sorry, I mean F Company. We can promise them a good run for their money. We must congratulate our team on the fine sportsmanship they show in all their games. Stick it, lads!

Rugby Football.

The only league game we have played so far was against F Company, and we managed to beat them handsomely (I forget the exact score).

Hockey.

Here we have beaten F by 4-2 in the league, and got a hiding from "Eddie." In the latter match we were without the services of several regular players, including Major Pinsent. We are not in the least disconcerted, though.

Cross-Country Running.

We are waiting for our opportunity to prove our worth in the above sport. Headed by the famous Cotterell, we have a team to be proud of.

'Wire" Sales.

Our WIRE sales still top the list, but G Company are running us close. Come along, you other Companies; give us a run!

General.

We must apologise to our friends in Singapore for not having any notes in the August issue. The reason was that our reporter-in-chief was on leave, and had failed to get someone else to report our doings. It is very nice to feel that our notes are appreciated, and missed when they fail to appear. We promise not to offend again. With best wishes from—

DON.

E Company.

It is regretted that our notes have been missing lately. We will endeavour to be more regular in future.

Rugby.

We have to date played three league matches, winning two of them and losing one.

Ack were our first opponents. In this game neither side was able to score till near the end of the game. Eddy were first to get over the line, but were unable to convert. Ack soon retaliated with a try between the posts, which was easily converted. Final score: "A" 5 points; "E" 3.

Our next match against "C," was keenly contested and ended in a win for us by 9-3.

When we played G the match ended in a victory for us by 24 points to 3. Our late corps soccer goal-keeper kicked two very fine goals against the wind from the touch line.

We will sustain a great loss this month when C.Q.M.S. Shaw leaves us for Egypt. He has taken infinite pains in coaching the Company side for the past three seasons, and we take this opportunity of thanking him for all he has done for the team.

Hockey.

We suffered our first defeat in the Company hockey league since the league was instituted in the winter of 1919, when we met the School of Signals. The extent of the damage was 6 goals to nil, which, considering the very strong side the School can turn out this year, and the fact that we have only four of last year's side, was not as bad as it looks. Our team is improving, and in our second match—against Don—we won fairly easily by 8 goals to 3.

If Colchester were not quite so far away, we should be very pleased to take a dozen or so off the team Sergt Kneebone is coaching.

Association.

In our first league matches against C, our seniors won after a good game by 4-2, but the juniors went down by 6-1. Against Ack our seniors lost by 4-0, and the juniors drew 0-0. In the match against Don, the seniors, after a keenly contested game, drew with them at 1-1. In the junior department, Eddy improved on their previous performances and registered their first win by 4-1.

Cross-Country Running.

The season has started and promises to be a good one for the Company. Seven of last year's battalion runners are still with us, and there is also promising new blood. In the one trial battalion run that has been held to date, seven of Eddy finished in the first twenty-one. Any other Company hankering after the shield will have to go all out to remove it from what is becoming its permanent home.

Driver W. A. Richardson has been doing very well, and has the makings of an excellent runner.

EDDY.

G Company.

General.

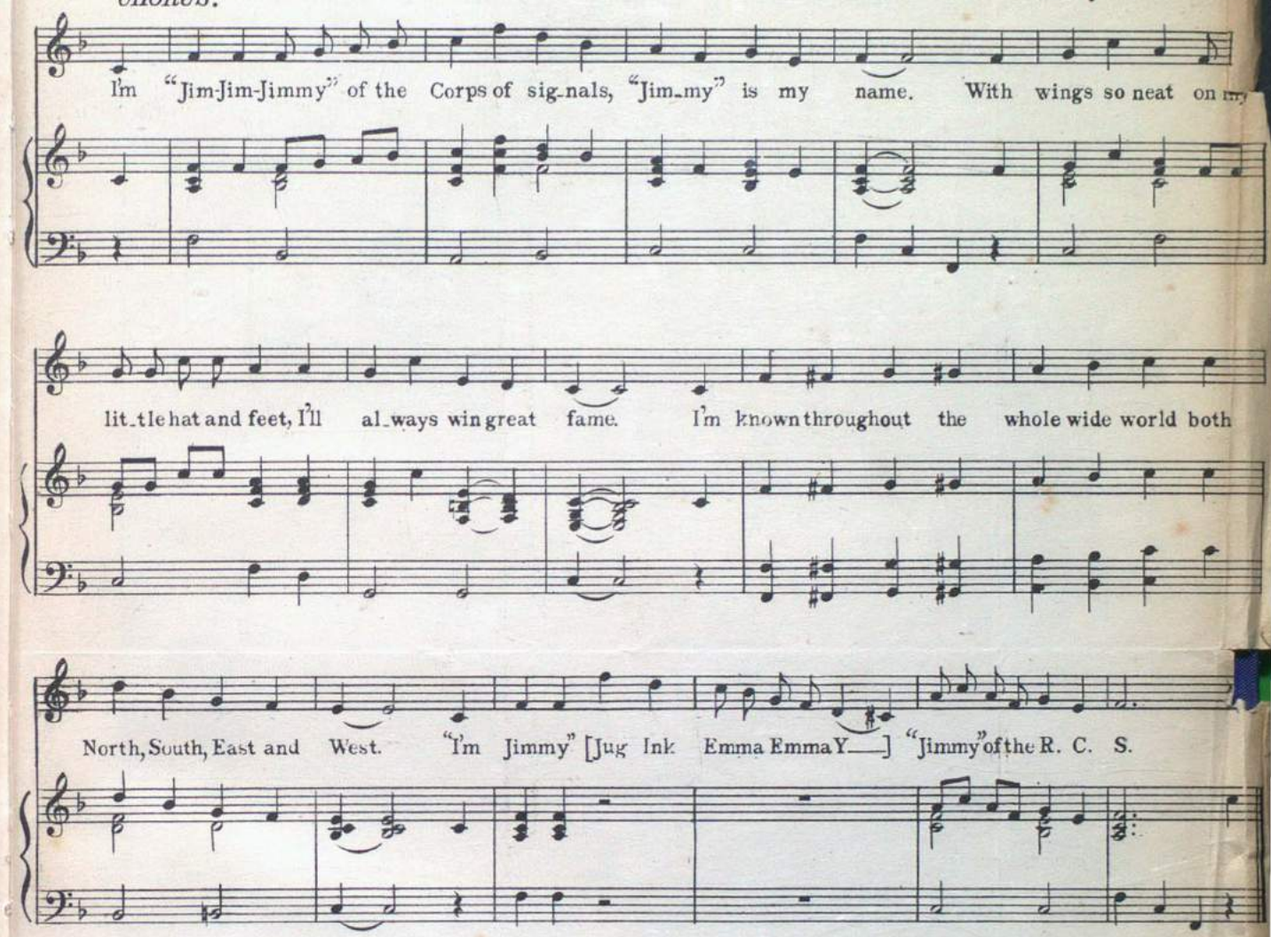
We are determined to have a look-in in this issue of the WIRE. Our only excuse for no notes in the past two issues is a misunderstanding about the date the notes are due to reach the editor. However, from now onwards, we hope to contribute regularly.

Drafts are continually leaving us for overseas, and many of the Club members are now scattered over the Empire; but wherever they may be, we wish them the best of luck, and feel quite certain that they will keep up the traditions of the Club.

On Tuesday, October 18th, the Battalion attended a lecture by Captains Bulman and Roberts on the objects and achievements of the Signals Association,

JIMMY.

CHORUS. Words and Music by P. A. CHU.

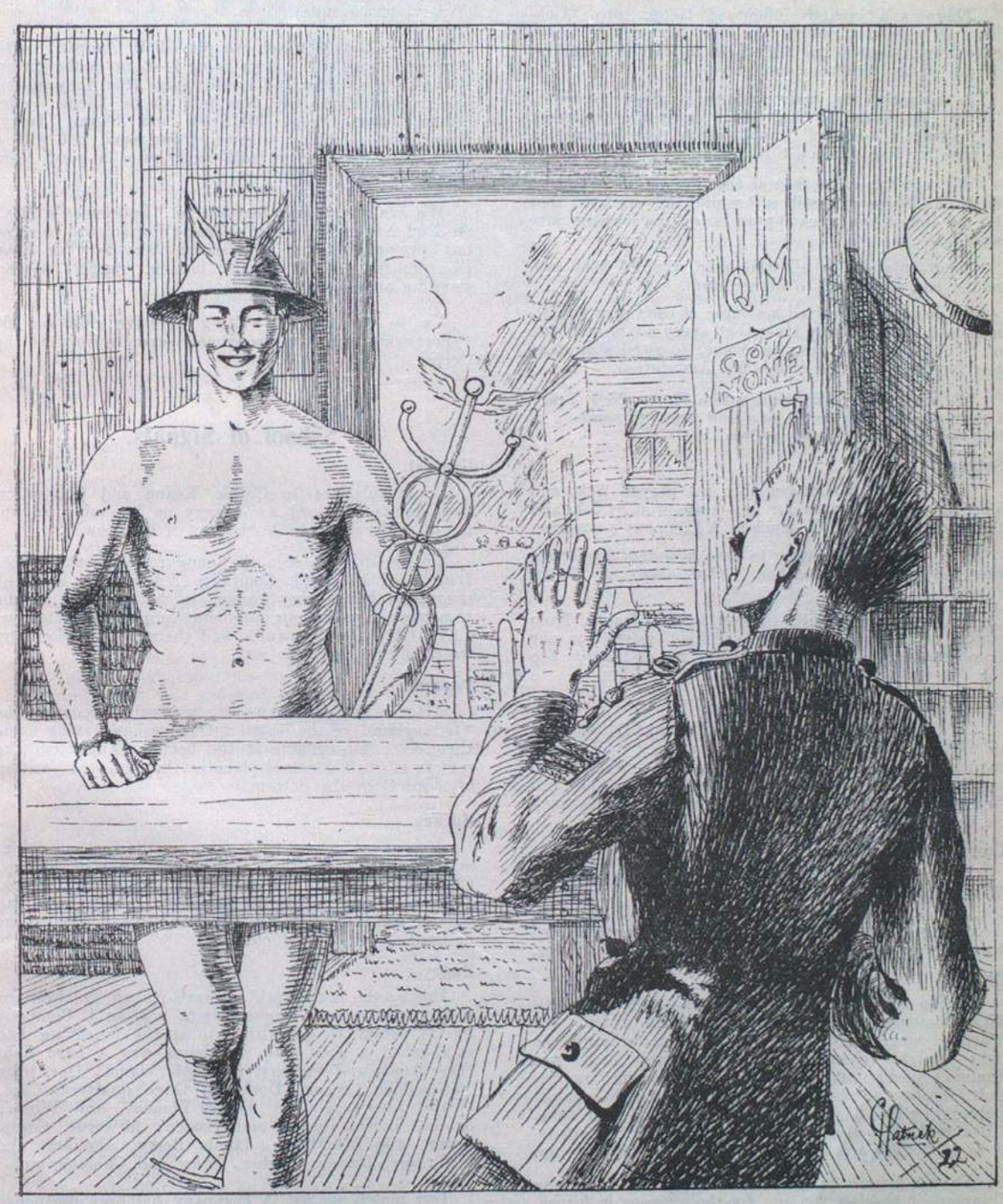


I am the mascot of the Corps, by ev'ry one respected.
To make me famous is your job, and therefore is expected.
Wherever the British flag is flown and Britons hold their sway,
You may be certain I'll be there and ready, come what may.
I'm Jim, etc.

I represent a Royal Corps of sportsmen good and true,
In Rugger, Soccer, Hockey, Boxing and Athletics too.
I'm always out to do my best for the Corps and to play the game,
And that is why in time of war I put my foes to shame.
I'm Jim, etc.

In time of war and battle strife, when Britons do their duty,
And brave men gladly give their life for England, Home, and Beauty.—
The duty of all Signalmen above all else they do,
Is "Never mind your grub or wounds until you know you're through!"
I'm Jim, etc.

The "Quarter-Bloke's" Nightmare.



Jimmy :—"I've been 'finally approved.' Don't I get *clothed* now ?"

as a result of which the whole of the Company are now members of this worthy Association, and all new arrivals are persuaded to join.

There is a greater inflow of troops into "Uckborough" of late, due to the new bus service which runs from Croydon *via* Maresfield to "Uckborough" at a fare of 4d from the camp gates.

In response to many enquiries from overseas, "Erby" is pleased to state that the first consignment of "rissoles-a-la-creosol" should reach their destination in time for breakfast on Christmas day.

We regret to state that at the time of writing Lieut R. H. A. Dugmore is still in hospital, but we trust that by the time these notes appear he will be with us once again.

Congratulations to all who have recently been promoted and appointed to higher rank.

We have just received a sample of the Corps Christmas card, and sincerely trust that every n.c.o. and man of G Company will purchase some, to swell still more the funds of the Old Comrades Association.

"A Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year" is our sincere wish to all past and present members of G Company and to all readers.

Soccer.

On Wednesday, October 18th we played Ack, and after an excellent game our first team won by 3-1, and the second team by 1-0—much to A Company's surprise.

It is very disappointing to note how few supporters turn up at soccer matches. What about it, G, in future?

We have now an inter-platoon football league, from which we have found some excellent talent for our Company team. Up to the present No. 2 Platoon top the list of this league.

Rugger.

On October 27th, we played F Company, but sad to say we did not shine, being beaten by 12 points to nil. Some of our best players were on draft leave, notably amongst them being Theed, Sunderland and Francis, whilst Lieut Bailey also was unable to play on this day.

Cross-Country Running.

There was an inter-Company cross-country run on Wednesday, October 25th. We turned out a team of ten, and are pleased to record that they all came in. According to form shown we should have an excellent team this season under the able captaincy of Reg. Geer.

Boxing.

At the open championships on the 25th, 26th and 27th October, G Company gained third place. We heartily congratulate Sigmn Groom on winning the light weight championship cup. Hard luck was Jimmie's portion at this boxing tournament, as was Bob Morphew's, who put up an excellent fight against Driver Pugh of E Company. Better luck next time, "Beaver." We also congratulate all other representatives of G Company on the splendid show they put up.

We can guarantee that G Company will give any Company in the Depot a run for their money in future, as there is to be a great boxing revival amongst the "Wireless 'Erbs."

Hockey.

We played our first hockey match on October 24th with C Company, and were defeated by 7-1. Nuff said (Watty, please note).

On the 31st October, we played F Company with a different result, the score being 1—1, no doubt giving F Company a better and harder game than they anticipated. Excellent play was put up by Lieut Wade, Sigmn Trust, Sergt Mathews and Sigmn Terry. Experience is lacking in some of our team, but with a little more practice we will weld quite a good team together.

We are all looking forward to "Sportsmen's Day" on 22nd November, when we go to Portsmouth to show our prowess against the senior Service. We have entrants for all the events, boxing, rugger, soccer, shooting and hockey.

Up to the time of writing we have close on 150 "sportsmen" who are ready and eager to support the Corps.

B. J.

School of Signals.

General.

Congratulations to Corpls Keane and Collyer on their promotion, and to Johnny on becoming an immortal. What would Nobby say if he knew?

This month has seen the inauguration of the School Branch of the Old Comrades Association, and the organisers have every reason to be gratified at the response. Already our numbers compare very favourably with other Companies, and there is no reason why we should not lead the way.

Football.

After a good start, we are gradually becoming the "Gillingham" of the league. Our juniors having made themselves impregnable at the bottom of the list, the seniors must feel out of place in their present position of third from the bottom.

Hockey.

Any gloom caused by looking at the football tables is immediately dispelled when one thinks of hockey. Our present record is a possible 4 points, with a goal average of 18 for and nil against. If this form can only be maintained, there will be no question as to the destination of that shield.

Rugby.

During the last month we have played and won our first inter-Company league match, beating C Company by 34 points to 6. Although at the finish we had established a good lead, the game was a hard fight throughout and enjoyed by both teams. Our team was:—Back, Sigmn Dobbing; three quarters, Capt. Neale, Lieuts. Nalder, Patten-Thomas, and White; halves, Lieuts Rogers and Pearce; forwards, Capts. Carter and MacMillan, Lieuts Berry, Akehurst and McGregor, Drivers Barber, Drew and Chamberlain.

Our match against A Company has been postponed until the 16th November.

DODO.

1st Divisional Signals, Aldershot.

We welcome the arrival from Crowborough of Bt/Major E. de W. H. Bradley, D.S.O., M.C., as O.C., vice Capt G. H. Kent, K.O.Y.L.I., who has now taken over command of A Corps Signals.

Another welcome arrival is that of Capt H. G. Henderson (Duke of Wellington's Regiment), from the School of Signals, Maresfield, who is now O. i/c Training.

Lieut A. C. Skinner and 23 other ranks, forming the 1st Brigade Signal Section, followed the 2nd Div. Signals to Constantinople on September 21st.

A draft of men shortly due for "demob" have arrived from Egypt, and are now on well-deserved leave. They include several well-known S.T.C. footballers, but their early retirement to civilian life will prevent their becoming acquisitions to our Company team.

Since our last notes appeared, the Company has completed its annual musketry course, and in spite of the commencement of the furlough season, training is now in full swing.

After a very bad start, the Company soccer team is beginning to register victories. On November 4th, the Wellington Works (Gale and Polden) were met and defeated on their own ground to the tune of 6—0. In this match, the forward line showed their best form this season and well deserved their success.

The second victory was gained at the expense of A Corps Signals, the result being 2—1, due to the continued improvement of the forwards and to the splendid goal-keeping of Hose, who unfortunately will shortly be going to Iraq.

The hockey team have already played two matches, and although twice beaten, they have been by no means disgraced. Our opponents in the first match were the Corps of Military Accountants, a very strong side. We lost by the only goal scored. The second match was against the Duke of Wellington's Regiment, who just managed to beat us by the odd goal in five. We confidently expect that success *will* follow as in the case of the soccer team.

We offer hearty congratulations to the following on their respective appointments:—L/Corpls W. Kent, S. Brown, and W. Lombard, on being appointed A/Corpls; Sigmn Price, Wilmot, Wheeler, Jewell, and Challenger, and Driver Coleman, on being appointed L/Corpls.

As these will be the last notes to appear before the festive season is here, I offer, on behalf of the 1st Divisional Signal Company, best wishes to all ranks of the Royal Corps of Signals for a very happy Christmas.

Preparations are already well under way here for St. Stephen's Day, and I can assure all who will be in McGrigor Barracks on Christmas day that it will be their own fault if it is not a merry one.

The writer of these notes has been transplanted from Headquarters S.T.C., and regrets that "Maresfield Topics" must be discontinued. He hopes, however, that "Aldershot Anecdotes" will prove worthy successors.

E. S. J H

"Aldershot Anecdotes."

No. 1.—Being the Origin of these Anecdotes.

1. Now it came to pass that in the month of November, when the leaves of the trees do fall, and Reveille bloweth when it is yet dark, cometh a document unto H.Q., H.T.C.; and the document was a Posting Order.

2. And that posting order did order thy humble servant unto a far place, even Al-shot.

3. And these are the trials and troubles that did befall thy servant on his journey.

4. On the day on which I set forth, gat I up early in the morning while the frost was yet on the grass, and girded my loins for the journey.

5. And being decently appareled, with bandolier spurs, and whip in my hand, refreshed I myself with the cup that makes glad the heart of men for the last time for many moons at the Postofis.

6. And when, refreshed and ready for what might come, I received the route that gave one, thy humble scribe, authority to proceed, set I forth.

7. And behold a man accosted me at the going forth of the camp, and he was a shofer of the tribe Fordus, and he sayeth unto me:

8. "Wouldst thou that I may thee transport unto the stayshun in my chariot that now awaits thee?"

9. And he being a man with a tongue that was of honey, I did, even as he had said.

10. And when the chariot had come unto the stayshun, asked I him for my reckoning, and he sayeth, four pieces of silver; whereat I was much amazed, insomuch that I did resolve (on demob) to become of the tribe of shofers myself.

11. Now when thy servant reached the great city, which is Lund, I tarried there not, for though the damsels therein be good to look upon, and the streets thereof paved with gold, I did make my way unto Wartloo.

12. And when in the evening of the same day, cometh thy servant unto Al-shot, I did ask of a redkap where I might find the tribe of the Firstdivsigs, and he sayeth Mcgrigorbaraks.

13. And I did say unto myself, did not the Rosbankers of that name fail, yea verily, they "bust." Therefore said I, it is an evil omen.

14. And lo, when I with heavy heart did come unto Mcgrigorbaraks, my evil forebodings were put to flight even as the dew before the sun.

15. For it came to pass, that they of the tribe of Firstdivsigs were many who had tarried in the past at Mayresfield, so that they greeted me as a brother that was lost and now is found.

16. Therefore, said I, this is a pleasant place.

17. And of the history of the Firstdivsigs wilt thou therefore learn, now that I no longer sojourn in the land of Mayresfield.

E. S. J. H.

2nd & 3rd Anti-Aircraft Defence Brigades Signal Companies.

We beg to announce our birth: We are really a re-incarnation of the 3rd Corps Signals, themselves a re-incarnation of the pre-war London Army Troops, R.E. (T.).

Our birthplace was the old headquarters at Elverton Street, Westminster, out of which we are (still !) hoping to move at an early date to a really good headquarters.

We claim to be of some interest to Signals generally, as we are the first of our kind and differ considerably in our methods of functioning from other Signals.

Recruits are wanted (*a*) for the Construction Sections, particularly for the trades of blacksmiths, linesmen and carpenters; (*b*) for the Operative Sections. The latter require instrument repairers, internal fitters, and a large number of men quick in the uptake, who need not possess or obtain more than a rudimentary technical knowledge. The work is interesting and new. There is as yet no Red Book.

There are two vacancies for subalterns only.

In conclusion, we are the beginning of a larger movement, and promotion should be assured to all keen and efficient men.

The nucleus already joined are all old L.A.T.R.E. men, and we want to see more of them. All the officers are from the 3rd Corps Signals, the commanding officer being Lieut.-Col. M. W. Emley, O.B.E., T.D., who was A.D. Signals (Anti-Aircraft) for Great Britain during the later stages of the war; and Capt. R. G. Williams, M.V.O., is still with us as adjutant.

The lighter side of the Territorial Army is not neglected, and an entertainment committee is being formed to attend to it.

ACK ACK ESSES.

Bulford Breezes – No. 1.

1. The absence of a trumpeter in the Section demanded immediate action.

2. For is it not said, "A soldier's duty is to be ready when called?"

3. And if the calling be late, or not at all, prestige is lost.

4. Wherefore did the members of the Headquarters Section confer, for said they, "It is up to us."

5. Many schemes were suggested, including tin whistles, hooters, cuckoo clocks, and the like, but were finally rejected as unsuitable, being out of date.

6. And the faces of the members were indeed woeful to behold.

7. Until one morning the slumbers of the chief member were rudely disturbed by the loud crowing of a cock.

8. Immediately a scheme presented itself. Thought he, "The troops need early calling: here is the very thing."

9. For is it not a cock's duty to crow each morning at sufficient time to salute the morning sun?

10. Therefore did he again confer with his brother members, and it was decided to form a club, having a committee whose first duties were to collect subscriptions from the troops and purchase some likely hens, and a cock.

11. Owing no doubt to the members preferring the cock to have something to crow about, and the fact that cocks do not lay eggs.

12. And the club was formed and called "Headquarters Hens" as a mark of appreciation of the founder

13. The chief member, being a speedy man and full of intellect, soon had the club on a business basis.

14. Hens were purchased, together with a full-blooded cock, and soon the welkin rang with many happy clucks.

15. The birds took to their new friends as only birds can take to anything wearing khaki.

16. Meanwhile the cock strutted about, crowing at everything and everybody; he was indeed "Cock of the walk."

17. Justifying their existence, the hens soon commenced laying, whereat did the members grin and say unto themselves, "I told you so."

18. Besides, new laid eggs are very toothful in a place such as this.

19. And it was decided to evenly distribute the results of the hens' toil amongst the members who had paid their subscriptions and were entitled.

20. In the excitement of gain the cock was forgotten, likewise the original intention of the club.

21. But this is of no matter.

22. For the festive season approacheth, and his days are numbered.

TOMMY.

4th Divisional Signal Company.

Reed Hall, Colchester, Nov. 8th.

General.

We are at present mixed up with much mud and water: a second Maresfield, to be correct.

Lieut C. G. Wheeler, Duke of Wellington's Regt., has rejoined from leave, looking fit and well.

Seven other ranks left us for Ceylon on November 11th, viz:—Signalmen F. H. Wells, C. G. F. Barratt, E. Howden, S. T. Norman, G. Foster, E. Elphick, and C. Hackett. We did not want to lose them, but they had to go.

On November 3rd, nineteen O.R's joined us from Egypt and Palestine, amongst them being "Harvey" of cricket fame.

It is observed that "Barleux" still continues to shine forth with his inspirations. Did not that "pound of tripe" weight his mind?

Why no wit from "Erik" this last month, and when is he going to communicate with this unit?

Dancing with this unit is on the decline, perhaps accounted for by our being so far away from the remainder of civilization.

Signals Association.

The Colchester and District Branch of the Signals Association is now an established fact.

On October 25th, a general Company meeting was held for the purpose of electing a Branch Committee.

The following were elected to serve:—President, Bt/Major G. E. Sampson, D.S.O., R.C. of S. Vice-Presidents, Capt R. E. Barker, R.C. of S., Lieut C. A. Bridgland, D.F.C., Lieut R. L. Hansard, R.F.A., and Lieut A. B. Bushby, R.C. of S.; Treasurer, Lieut C. G. Wheeler, D. of W. Regt.; Secretary, L/Corpl R. C. Barrett; Committee, C.S.M. H. Williams, L/Cpl S. T. Couzens, and Sigmn A. Pryke.

There are now 39 members on the Branch books. Buck up, Maresfield; we shall beat you yet!

On November 7th, the Colchester Branch of the Signals Association amalgamated with the Colchester Branch of the R.E.O.C.A., and held a very successful whist drive and dance in the recreation room of this unit.

The total number of tickets sold on this occasion was 120. Bigger results are expected next time. The prizes for the whist were very kindly presented by local tradesmen.

C.Q.M.S. R. E. Parker ably carried out the duties of M.C. for the whist, and L/Corpl R. C. Barrett, those for the dancing

Sports.

Football is still going strong. Several professed players have arrived. We now await results. We are feeling very sore over a recent defeat by the R.A.M.C.

Sigmn Reece has arrived from the Rhine Signals since the publication of our last notes. Below are given some reports of his activities in Germany. His challenge is worthy of note. Would anyone care to accept? The actual dates of these events are not known, but they can be taken as correct.

"The competitions held at the Scala Theatre on Friday evening proved highly amusing and successful.

The brothers Saxon offered 200 marks to the competitor making the best attempt to lift the 400 lb. sack of sand, which figures in their performance. Several competitors essayed the feat, but only one proved successful. This was Sigmn Reece, of the Rhine Signals. This competitor laid upon his back and then managed to get the sack on his chest. Bracing his muscles, he raised the sack fully two feet off the stage. His performance was greeted with tremendous applause."

Wrestling at Mainz.—On another occasion he was successful in beating the Japanese champion "Tamura Humari," there being 4,000 spectators present when the bout was commenced.

Wrestling Challenge.—Sigmn Reece is willing to challenge all comers at ju-jitsu style. Opponents may be of any weight or size. American exponents preferred. Communications may be addressed through the agency of Pedlar Palmer, the ex-bantam weight champion of the world, or through the secretary, Judeans' Athletic Club, St. Georges, London, E.

R. C. B.

Ulster Signal Company.

"The Compliments of the Season" to the editor and readers from all Ulsterites.

Many changes have taken place in the upper circles of *the* unit of Signals in Ulster since last going to press.

Capt A. G. S. Smith, R.C. of S. (T.A.), has arrived from Dublin District Signal Company, and taken up duties at Newtownards as Second-in-Command.

Lieut E. G. Pullan, M.C., Worcester Regiment, having been ordered to the S.T.C. for a course of the corps-renowned curative and healing atmosphere of Maresfield-in-the-Downs, left us on the 17th instant, Lieut R. J. F. Pearce, R.C. of S., taking over the command of No. 2 Section.

C.Q.M.S. A. C. Hopkins, who assumed the duties of C.S.M. on the departure of C.S.M. Sinclair, also leaves the unit on the termination of 21 years' service on Monday, December 4th. A *free* (?) night will be organised by the Garrison Sergeants' Mess on Thursday next in his honour.

Corpl Tolley is back with the headquarters staff, and every effort will be made by his colleagues to retain his services on the pay department, also as president of the Garrison Corporals' Mess.

Corpl W. A. Griffiths obliges with a few choice patters with accompaniments on the office musical box, since he has assumed the roll of typist.

Mr. McCormack, civilian Wireless Officer, has taken over wireless duties in Ulster, and has settled down comfortably on finding himself once more among many of those who knew him as O. i/c W/T. 6th Division. By the way he plays good hockey, and he is a stalwart in the Ards' attack, bewildering his opponents with a magic stick; his position is outside left.

Sport.

The Company football team at Newtownards have yet to lose their first match. It is rumoured they may lift the cup. For those keenly interested in the history of cups, perhaps a few words on this particular one would prove meat for their enthusiasm.

First, it must be understood it is not a big cup; it does not hold much, either; but during my few years of service afloat and ashore, I have heard many stiff arguments over its ownership.

Many thousand hands have handled it since it was wrenched from the bosom of Mother Earth and treated in a manner rough and coarse until it was as putty in the hands of the glazier, fashioned and dressed to the order of a moneyed body of people;—the pride of its maker;—a beautifully moulded receptacle.

Who can tell of the bartering and scheming, the carefully worked out plans, to gain the coveted trophy, embossed with the initials of that select sect to which most moneyed men belong? A cup that knows the ardent kisses of many who have felt the mad ecstacy of delight at the winning, after long hours of waiting in that list of eager spirits who line up every day at 10.00 hours: their goal, the cup with its inscription, "N.A. and A.F.I."

C. G. V. W.

Dublin District Signal Company.

Dublin, Nov. 21st, 1922.

Our Notes.

It is regretted that no notes were sent last month, owing chiefly to lack of suitable news.

Departures.

Since our last notes we have lost Capt. R. E. Barker to the 4th Div. Signals (Capt. C. P. Prescot assuming command of the Company once more); A/C.Q.M.S. Newman to the 4th Div. Signals; and several O.R's on expiration of service. We wish them all good luck.

Sergeants' Mess.

A very successful games tournament was held in the Mess, there being nine events. The prizes were shared with the honorary members and our friends the "Heavies"; who by the way are dark horses and want watching, especially in the 13 up.

Billiards are going strong, and we are looking out for some hot stuff: one Morrisey. When he gets his 16½oz. and his "Dromcondras," it is a case of "look in."

Sport.

Football and hockey are the chief items at present in the Company. The footer team are just beginning to feel their feet, and have several fine wins to their credit, the latest being that over the crack Company team of the Border Regt. by 2—1.

The hockeyites, under the able management of Lieut. C. H. Beattie (who is, by the way, a dabster with the stick as well as the bat), are doing very well indeed, and with a little more practice together should prove a formidable side. One day I hope they will be taking on the crack D.D. team.

Whilst on the subject of sport, we would like to offer our congratulations to the Depot football team on their success so far this season, and hope they will bring home some of those long-looked-for trophies.

Xmas Number.

As this will be the last number of the year, we send our Best Wishes for Xmas and the New Year, to all ranks of the Corps both at home and abroad.

IRE.

Wireless Signal Company, Egypt.

Red Barracks, Abbassia,
November 8th.

General.

Now that musketry training has finished, we are settling down to real hard "graft" and winter hours. We find ourselves very short-handed, and are anxiously scanning the daily shipping reports in our "local rag," *The Gippo Gazette*, in the hope of seeing some news of the big draft which we should have been promised.

We hear that W.W.W. has found fresh fields to conquer, and several people have asked if his correct address should not be "The Hot House."

Are those people who joined A details, S.T.C., Crowborough, thinking of making a fresh start in army life? Simmo is much asked after, chiefly by E.O's for books.

The remainder of the men due home are unfortunately considered indispensable, and will remain here to hold the "outposts of the Empire" until properly relieved.

Waterloo Day is being celebrated by a massed band performance in the Abbassia Garrison Soldiers' Club ground. The effects are being produced by one of the local R.H.A. Batteries.

Armistice Day is being celebrated on Saturday, 11th inst., with the usual two-minute silence and a memorial service. On the same day a memorial is being unveiled in Cairo, and representatives of all units (including our own) are to place evergreen wreaths upon it in memory of our glorious dead.

Riding Course.

The first detail on riding course with the R.H.A. did exceedingly well, passing in all subjects. The second detail has been retained for an extra week in order that they may continue their popular morning circus performance, and are sanguine enough to expect to pass out at the end of it. They are not *very much* annoyed at having to rise at 04.45 hours instead of with the rest at 06.30 hours.

Dance.

Our second dance, which was held on 28th October, proved as great a success as the last one. Hundreds rushed for the door, but only about 400 actually went in. The queue at the bar was even longer than that at the gate. The floor was grand, the music brilliant, and the dancers went home brim full.

The committee are again to be congratulated on their work and the excellent arrangements, which proved even better than those of the first dance.

Visit to Abu Zabul.

A party of n.c.o's and men of the Company spent an interesting and instructive afternoon at H.M. Wireless Station, Abu Zabul, Cairo. They returned considerably elated, and we are hoping that as a result of their visit, the manipulation of the polygon "big set" will be considerably improved.

Camera Club.

The Camera Club can now boast of thirty enthusiastic members, and a "dark room" in which films can be developed during the day if fogs are not objected to.

During the month the Club has made two excursions. The first, to the Barrage, was patronised by twelve members, and proved a great success. Many good photographs were obtained of those beautiful green gardens which remind one so much of "Blighty." The Barrage is a dam built across the Nile about 15 miles below Cairo, where the river begins to split up into its famous delta.

The second photographic expedition was made on Sunday, November 5th, to Mataria. Here the Club visited and procured photographs of the Heliopolis Obelisk (an antiquity when Moses visited it), the Virgins' Tree and Well, and the beautiful church which has been erected near by. Both excursions were so successful that it is intended to make these outings a regular feature of the Club's programme.

Education.

With the winter hours, education is again introduced into the daily routine. We are constantly being pestered by youths who are being initiated into the mysteries of mathemetics with the question as to what "X" is.

One bright youth, when asked how many times 2 went into 4, answered "one and two over." Another youth, when adding 5 band boys, 2 oranges, and 2 pigs, obtained the answer "9," but was unable to say whether his answer was in pints or bottles.

However, under the able instruction of S.M. Winton, we are hoping that the pestering will decrease inversely as a square of the instruction.

Christmas.

The presents of Christmas cakes on show in the Canteen brings home to us the fact that Christmas is approaching fast.

Subscriptions are already being made to the dinner fund, and it is anticipated that we shall be able to celebrate Christmas better than we did last year, when we were greatly upset by the local disturbances. We all hope that a more peaceful day will ensue this year.

Promotions.

We have to congratulate three of our celebrities (?) L/Corporals Ratcliff, Murray, and Aslett—on their promotion to the rank of corporal on the Corps roster, and we hope it won't be long before we are called upon to congratulate them again.

Arrival.

Sergt Stevenson, M.C., is to be congratulated on the increase in his family, being now the proud father of another daughter.

REGGIE

With Signals in Constantinople.

We welcome the arrival of the following during October:—

2nd Divisional Signal Company, under Major Firth.

1st M.A.B. Signal Sub-Section, under Lieut. Steward.

2nd M.A.B. Signal Sub-Section, under Lieut. Odell.

3rd M.A.B. Signal Sub-Section, under Lieut Woodbridge.

One Section under Lieut Brown (from Egypt); also Lieuts Scott and Sharp.

All the above were disembarked at Chanak. These reinforcements took a load off our backs, as we were so shorthanded that many were working 16 hours a day. The work done was very much appreciated by the Staff, who asked the C.S.O. to convey their thanks to Constantinople Signal Company.

The horses of the above Company arrived about a fortnight later. Owing to a serious outbreak of influenza, about sixteen died or were destroyed. Being in quarantine they were landed at Constantinople instead of Chanak, and have not yet rejoined their unit.

During the recent crisis we have had Signal detachments scattered all over Thrace as follows:—

Chorlu—Land lines only, under Corpl Cox.

Uzun Keupri—Land lines and W/T., Under Sergt. Payne and Corpl Jeremy.

Keshan—Land lines and W/T., under Corpls Glossop and Inman.

Dedeagatch (Western Thrace)—W/T. only, under Sergt Sinder.

Rodosto—A Brigade Signal Section, under Lieut Cunynghame.

We are in process of trying to form a Corps H.A. Section and a Signal Construction Company.

With Wireless in Anatolia.

The following account, written by Sergt Bevan, R.C. of S., will be interesting to most Wireless readers:—

My W/T set consisted of a 100-watt unit complete with 30 ft. masts, two double limbers, eight mules, and four drivers. The W/T personnel was one n.c.o., two operators, and one engine driver.

The station left Pavlo by rail at 10.45 hours on September 20th. As there was no platform at the point of disembarkation, special planking for that purpose had to be taken.

From this point we marched for five-and-a-half hours until dusk. We then camped in a valley near Dennisli for the night.

The first part of the journey was chiefly over a track where there was just enough room for limbers to pass, the sides of the limbers touching the hedges the whole time.

The next day we moved off at 08.00 hours, and marched until 17.30 hours. From Dennisli the road is covered with hollows and rocks. All bridges had to be avoided, and in doing this the limbers had to travel down and up very steep gradients.

On erecting the station, which took about twelve minutes, it was discovered that the earth mats were missing. This was overcome by joining a number of patches of water in parallel, which produced a very good radiation (.8 amps.).

Everything was quiet on this front, until September 23rd, when a "priority" was received saying that a number of Kemalists had occupied a village on our line of retreat. All outposts were warned, and we had to stand by to dismantle. To facilitate quickness in this matter, all iron pegs were replaced by stout wooden ones (produced locally, and which could be left behind). The aerial halyard was also tied with a slip knot which could be released in a second.

Each member of the detachment had his own special detailed orders for erection and dismantling.

The mule drivers had their harness always ready for saddling up, and each limber had its own special load. The two front limbers carried the heaviest: one of these was the engine and the mast sections, the other, accumulators and kits.

On October 4th, it was decided to move the outpost to the highest point of the military road at Kirli-Keui, as there was a better chance of the wireless detachment being able to retire should the Kemalists advance. Our chances of getting away from Kara Yakobi would have been hopeless.

We left Kara Yakobi at 14.30 hours and erected at 17.30. As the position was a very bad one, the site was changed next morning.

On October 7th, at about 10.00 hours, a galloper entered the camp, with the enemy not far behind. The order to saddle up and pack up was given immediately. The station was packed up and the limbers ready to move in fourteen minutes: a portion of the aerial had to be cut, as it became entangled in the bushes.

The O.C. Troops, who had met the O.C. Advanced Guard of the Kemalist army, stated that they were friendly and were the only enemy detachment who had crossed the frontier. The station was re-erected, but jambing was considerable, and the two messages on hand were sent four times over, in the hope that the armoured train or H.M.S. "Shark" would pick them up.

After the fourth transmission, a galloper entered the camp with a report that the military road (which could be seen for some miles) was dense with advancing troops. Orders were again received to pack up.

Our position was now changed to 500 yards east of Kirli Keui, and well behind cover, on the highest point of the military road. From this position a number of messages were sent regarding the strength of the enemy forces, etc.

On October 9th, the station was running short of valves. To carry on, these had to be used for transmission and reception as well. Two valves were salvaged by tapping them. These valves enabled us to carry on until an aeroplane dropped a supply. The

plane dropped them very skilfully, and there were no breakages. The A.B.C. engine developed trouble in one cylinder. The charging was done on one cylinder, and the machine took the load well.

At 18.30 hours on October 9th, the alarm was again given, as detachments of the enemy were observed marching on each side of us. The station was packed up and on the move in fifteen minutes. After waiting an hour on the main road, orders wree given to return to camp, off-saddle, and erect. The advancing parties of the enemy were discovered to be strong outposts for the main army in the valley.

The erection in the dark was very difficult on account of the aerial becoming entangled in bushes, and one man was sick. The erection on this occasion took 45 minutes.

The continual alarms, erections, dismantling, and travelling caused a number of joints to become unsoldered. As we had no soldering kit, our only means of making connections was by binding wires together.

On the 11th October, the height of our aerials was increased by having one end tied to a tree, and the other to a mast made up from the two sets of 30 ft. mast sections. Twelve sections were used altogether, the only alteration in stays being at the top. These were arranged by using the second lot of top stays (red), with extensions made of D. iii. quadrupled for strength.

Towards the evening of this day, Kemalist troops started to advance on our post. We sent out a C.Q. message saying we were moving, but considerable jambing occurred. The station was packed up in nine minutes. Most of the gear was packed well considering the time; and the mast sections were packed better during the retreat.

At different stages of the retreat, pace had to be increased on account of the Kemalists following behind. Half way to Dennisli one limber, going down a steep gradient, turned completely over, and the connecting ring to the front limber snapped off. The trouble was quickly overcome, some of the Hussars helping. The limber was salvaged by tying up with mule chains. During the later stage of the journey, the second back limber broke in the same way, the same means being employed to get the limber back.

From the experience of the past month I consider it necessary (when a W/T station is a very important factor, as this was) that a station should carry a spare H/T unit and transmitter, a small soldering kit, and two spare aerials; also a drum of D.iii for lashings, extensions, etc.

[NOTE: With reference to the above, a very complimentary letter was received by the C.S.O. from the O.C. 3rd Hussars on the work done by Sergt Bevan and his detachment under most trying and difficult conditions.]

No doubt several of our friends in other parts of the world will be interested to know that we have got an R.A.O.B., G.L.E. Lodge in this town. This was brought here by the Irish Guards, and amongst our new initiates we have to include several signalmen and our sergeant-major. Let us hope that before long we shall have many more. With all good luck a new Lodge will be opened out here for the benefit of the British civilians who will be left here when the army leaves.

As regards these notes, all I can say is "S.T.B."

And in the beginning Mustapha, he that is named Kemal the Pasha, did arise and say—

"Verily, verily, I will assemble mine hosts and will cause them to go into the land of Thrace."

And the peoples that do dwell in the city which is built upon the seven hills did erect arches of triumph and display flags, and say "Shall not these victorious hosts march through the town of Constantinople, for are they not the conquerors?"

But a voice was heard from the quarters which are termed General Head, saying, "He that doth congregate and demonstrate in numbers, shall not he be committing an offence against mine orders?"

"For in the book of rules it is written, 'I, General Harington, do hereby forbid all and sundry to demonstrate in this city unless it be that ye do first consult with me.'"

"Wherefore do ye these things and make ready for the processioning of soldiers."

And it came to pass that the arches were destroyed by the labourings of men, and the flags were removed.

And the soldiers were sent to the station of the railway which is built at Sirkedji, in boats of all sizes, and they did then go to their destination which was in Thrace.

On Thursday, October 26th, a tombstone was erected on the grave of the late Sapper A. Conway, who was drowned two days after he joined this unit. The stone, a plain marble one, had been subscribed for by the officers, n.c.o's and men of the Company some time ago, but owing to the unsettled state out here it was found impossible to erect it earlier.

A party from the Company, including Major Nixon and C.S.M. Churchill, took the stone over to the Crimean Cemetery, where it was erected and dedicated by one of the Chaplains to the Forces.

The stone is inscribed, "Sacred to the memory of No. 623911 Sapper Conway, A., R.E., who was drowned in the Sweet Waters of Europe on 17th May, 1920. From the Officers, N.C.Os and Men, Constantinople Signal Company. R.I.P."

The following answers were given to some questions set in a preliminary examination for the 3rd Class Certificate held out here:—

On his journey to Mount Zion, Christian had a fight with a poligon.

Shakespeare wrote tragedies, comedies and errors.

Richard II. is said to have been murdered by some historians.

Stirling is noted for its fine silver.

Julius Cæsar was renowned for his fine strength. He threw a bridge across the Rhine.

A straight line is one which, being continually produced, shall never end.

Parallel straight lines are those which come together closer further off, but do not meet.

A centiletre is an insect with a hundred legs.

Carbon dioxide is formed by the action of hydraulic acid on marble.

Football.

CONSTANTINOPLE SIGNAL CO. v. R.A.P.C.

This match was played on the Taxim Stadium, and was quite a good game, though Signals could undoubtedly have played better as regards combination. About the best performances of the day were given by Sigmn Newman (left half), Sigmn Bagley (outside left), and Sergt Squirrell (centre forward). This game seemed likely to finish in a goalless draw, but thanks to one of the Pay Corps handling the ball in the forbidden area, a penalty was awarded us. Corpl Goodall took the kick, and by a good drive succeeded in scoring the only goal of the game. Result: Signals 1; R.A.P.C. nil.

SIGNALS v. PORTSMOUTH CO. R.M.L.I.

This game was played on the Armenian Cemetery ground, the kick-off being timed for 16.00 hours. The Marines looked like winning by the way they started, getting a goal in the first two or three minutes. This score stood until a few minutes before half-time, when Newman got the ball and managed to equalise. Through the whole of the first half play was fairly even, but the Marines put up rather a bad show in the second. Sigmn Hession at centre-half was the outstanding figure of our team, his head being always much in evidence. Bagley, at outside-left, was well marked, his renown as an army player having preceded him. Sigmn Webb (late of the Depot) played with a kick like a mule and showed his usual style. Result: Signals 4; R.M.L.I. 1.

ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS v. GENERAL STAFF, G.H.Q., B.F.T.

This was a charity match, played on the Taxim Stadium. A charge for admission was made, the proceeds going to Lady Rumbold's fund for the benefit of starving refugees in Thrace and Anatolia.

Besides being interesting from the charity point, this game had a second attraction in the fact that General Staff and Signals are old rivals—we having met three times, winning one, drawing one, and losing one

The play was started by Miss Rumbold, daughter of the British High Commissioner, kicking off towards the Signals goal. Hession at centre-half secured the ball, and placed it well down the field, Webb (inside-left) securing. After a good display of dribbling, he passed to Bagley, who ran down the line and put across a good centre of which we failed to take advantage.

After a few more minutes play, though, we again got through and scored the first goal, Sergt Squirrell's foot being responsible.

On the kick-off our opponents gave a good display, which looked like resulting in a goal for them. This effort was checked by Sergt Bartlett, who placed the ball well up the centre of the field. Our forwards again secured the leather and sailed merrily along, Sigmn Webb scoring with a fast drive, a goal which was undoubtedly the finest of the match. Half-time: Signals 2; G.H.Q. 0.

On resuming, G.H.Q. kicked off and then remained quiet for about ten minutes. Exchanges now were fairly fast, mainly in Signals favour, but the opposing inside right, securing the ball, drove hard for our goal. This was cleared, but this opponent had another try, our custodian having left his charge open. His splendid attempt, which looked like a certain goal, was stopped by the judicious use of Sergt Bartlett's head: a piece of work which was loudly cheered. Shortly after, Goodall got a pass from the centre, and (being 220 yards champion) was not long in reaching the other end of the field, where, steadying himself inside the penalty area, he scored our third goal with a beautiful low shot. This put the "stopper" on G.H.Q., who cannot now boast of an unbeaten record this season. The C.S.O. was very generous in his approval of the match and the object of it. Result: Signals 3; G.S., G.H.Q., B.F.T. 0.

Boxing.

The open championships of the British Forces in Turkey were held at Constantinople on November 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th. Very little notice was given, and entries being unlimited, it was apparent from the outset that the Corps, being unable to release many of their star pugilists from duties at isolated stations in Thrace and Chanak, would have no chance of winning the unit championship.

In spite of this, however, our eight entrants put up a very creditable show. Sigmn Shepherd, after working his way to the final of the feather-weights, was beaten after a very close fight by Pte Scott of the Loyals. On the occasion of their last encounter Shepherd was the victor, and might well have repeated his success this time had he given a little more attention to defence and concentrated less on knocking out his opponent.

Perhaps the best, and quite certainly the most evenly contested event of the whole competition was that between Sigmn Chambers and Pte McElhinny, I.G. Both men are boxers of a very high class, and each is the possessor of a considerable punch. After three rounds the judges were unable to give a decision, and in an extra one-minute round the Guardsman made rather better use of his opportunities and was given the verdict. As McElhinny was the eventual winner of the welters, Chambers was certainly unfortunate in not being runner-up, as he certainly provided quite the stoutest opposition.

Our remaining six representatives did not have the best of luck. Corpl Waghorn and Sigmn Southwell (better known at Maresfield as Boy Southwell, fly-weight, late of C Company) were both just over the limit, and had to go to bantams and middles respectively, with the result that both were beaten by heavier opponents, though Waghorn succeeded in reaching the semi-final before succumbing.

Signalmen Packman and Stoddart went under to more experienced opponents, but Stoddart in particular has plenty of time to improve, and should do well in future shows.

Sigmn Doyle (also well known at Maresfield) looked a winner all the way until he stopped a very lucky swing; and Sigmn Bailey, too, should have won his fight easily, but over-eagerness earned the referees' disapproval.

C Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop.

Sialkot, 26th October, 1922.

We have had a heavy blow to cricket in losing Lieut Simpson (retired) and Sigmn Blogg (who has gone on a course to the Army Signal School, where we wish him luck). Our energies in the sporting line are devoted to hockey and football, we having recently defeated the R.A.M.C. and Headquarters Squadron, 3rd Dragoon Guards.

The Troop turned out very creditably on October 9th for the Commander-in-Chief's inspection, and he expressed his entire satisfaction with the whole parade and the healthy appearance of the men. The cold weather will soon be here, and we are expecting plenty of work.

We are now preparing for a rattling good Christmas, and a majority of the Troop are going on the "tack" in expectation of a good long pull at Christmastide.

C CAVSIGS.



British Ranks of C Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop.

On the return of our C.O. from leave, Capt and Mrs. Bruce Humfrey were presented with a handsome case of fish eaters: a token of good-will from the Troop on the occasion of their wedding, which they very greatly appreciated.

The sergeants will shortly be opening a new Mess, and intend to kick off with a good smoking concert. We wish them success. We have had another great loss to the Troop, L/Sergt Leigh leaving us for Blighty. He was one of our ablest footballers, and all will miss him. One of our old n.c.o's has rejoined us in Sergt Draper ("Tiny"), and he has not been long in settling down again.

Education is going strong, and there are great hopes of a good number of 2nd class certificates being obtained in the near future. We are pleased to say that we shall shortly be having an increased establishment in the way of a Wireless Section, which will no doubt assist us in many ways.

A Corps Signals.

Karachi, November 7th.

A brief resumé of the doings of A Corps Signals—No. 1 Line) and No. 2 (Wireless) Companies—since January last, may be of interest to a good many readers of THE WIRE.

The outstanding event of the year, was the visit to Karachi of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales on March 17th. Both Companies took part in the arrival and departure ceremonies, and acquitted themselves very creditably.

The ordinary routine training received a rude interruption in July by the move of the Corps from the Rest Camp to Gaza lines (a war-time creation of buildings); the British ranks being accommodated in tents, with a proportion of the Indian personnel in the barracks. The horse and mule lines remained at the Rest Camp, about 3 miles distant, as also did the married families and the remainder of the Indian personnel.

Later orders conveyed the information that the Corps would return to the Rest Camp, and the move appears now to be imminent (Nov.) All ranks will be heartily glad to settle down in more or less permanent quarters, although what we really wish and hope for is to be given lines adapted to the needs of a "Corps Signals."

The fulfilment of such hopes depends to a large extent on the decisions to be made shortly by His Excellency Lord Inchcape. Our hopes may yet be wrecked on the "Inchcape rock."

With regard to the sporting side of affairs, the following achievements will prove that A Corps Signals is assisting to achieve fame for the Indian Signal Service generally.

January—Runners-up in the District hockey final of the Army (India) Hockey Competition. Bronze medals awarded.

January—District Assault at Arms—2nd team home in 4 mile cross-country race. First, open tent-pegging. First in relay race, 1 mile. 2nd in V.C. race. 1st and 2nd in officers' pony jumping.

May—Karachi Auxiliary Force Sports Meeting (in aid of ex-Soldiers' Association)—First, relay race, 1 mile. First, putting the shot. First, 1 mile flat race. First, half-mile flat race.

November—R.A.F. Annual Athletic Sports—All the events open to the Karachi Garrison were won as follows:—

First and second, 300 yards. First, 1 mile flat race.

First, relay race, one mile.

Recently, at the Sind point-to-point races, Lieut. H. E. Talbot's "Glaxo" won the Commissioner-in-Sind's cup over a 3-mile course; whilst at the monthly meetings of the Karachi Race Club, several races have been won by the same horse, and also by Lieut. J. Butcher's "Beauty." It is hoped to win one or more races at the Karachi Autumn Meeting with "Glaxo" and Capt. Copeland's "Iron Cross."

Owing to the unsettled state of the accommodation of the Corps, the social side has suffered somewhat. In March a very successful invitation dance was given by the British other ranks in a local hall, and the committee were rewarded by a huge attendance of guests.

The Sergeants' Mess have met the Sergeants' Mess of the 2nd Bn. York and Lancaster Regt. in tennis and billiard matches, which have resulted in some keen and enjoyable contests.

A concert party is now being formed, which, if hopes are realised, will enliven a few evenings this cold season.

The Corps hockey team is engaged in the Yousaff Ali cup, commencing Nov. 9th, and the result of their efforts will be communicated later. The Corps hockey and soccer teams are also engaged in the Army (India) hockey and soccer competitions for 1922-23.

MOLLY.

E Divisional Signals.

Peshawar, India, October.

The fourteenth of the month saw the departure of our first batch of four-year men to the United Kingdom. They re-enter civil life with the best wishes of all here for their future success.

When the long-anticipated moment arrived, and they were entrained and only waiting for the guard's whistle to commence their long journey home, many (I feel sure) felt the parting from friends of long standing very keenly; but the world is very small after all, and no doubt we shall at some time or other meet again to discuss old acquaintances and past events, and then perhaps, regret that the many happy hours we spent together are gone beyond recall.

Sergt. Strode, the unit "rough," returned from Blighty leave two days after the draft set off. Now, perhaps, the riding school will come into use again The horses are looking well after six months' comparative rest, so those who are "lucky" enough to be chosen for the course can look forward to putting a leg across "something spirited." (Getting across something spirited, overnight, is not advised).

With the departure of Lieut. M. C. Howard, under the Surplus Indian Army Officers Scheme, our hockey team loses a brilliant inside right. He leaves with the best wishes of all for his future success in his new sphere.

As we predicted in our last month's notes, we won the Hot Weather League challenge cup in fine style by beating the M.T. S. and T., on September 25th, by a margin of 115 runs. The chief feature of the match was the fine batting of Capt. Matthews (88), Capt. Parsons (69), Lieut. Daw (A Cavalry Brigade Signal Troop) (27), and Mr. G. R. Edie, I.T.D. (18), at the fall of whose wicket our innings was declared closed for 215 runs. Not bad for four wickets, say you, and that against our strongest opponents in the league.

The M.T. S. and T. failed to make a stand against the bowling of Captains Matthews and Parsons, Lieut. Daw, and Corpl Joiner, their innings producing only 100 runs.

Over the scene of revelry that followed the winning of this, our first cup, it is as well perhaps to draw a veil. However, a good deal can be drawn from the many doubts which existed next morning as to whether one was wearing his own topi.

With the close of the hot weather cricket, and incidentally the hot weather, a new branch of sport opened out to us: that of cross-country running. Previously we have only gone in for running on occasions, but now we are taking it up in earnest.

Our first effort was against the R.A.F. over a course of four miles of some of the worst ground in the district. Unfortunately, owing perhaps to our total ignorance of the course, we lost by 18 points. The first four of ours home were Sigmn Winstanley, Lieut. Wickley, Capt. Orr, and Corpl Brandon. A really fine show for the first time out!

Against teams of the R.A.F., Tank Corps, and West Yorks, for a cup, our team acquitted itself even better, losing by only four points to the R.A.F., with the Tanks and Yorks third and fourth. With training, I hope very soon to recount numerous victories. Apart from Capt. Orr, Lieut. Winckley, and Sigmn Winstanley, many are showing great promise, and I am looking forward to great things from them.

In the forthcoming visit of the Chief Signal Officer it is proposed to hold unit sports. Even now, before the thing is definitely arranged, training has commenced, and the unit in general has set out with a will to get as fit as possible. I hope to report the discovery of several new sprinters and distance runners in the near future.

Cross-country running has ousted hockey from its position this month, but football has lost none of its popularity. Our football fixture list to date reads as follows:—

Oct. 20th, v. A.M.T. Column, won 1—0.
Oct. 22nd, v. H.Q. West Yorks, lost 4—1.
Oct. 24th, v. Tank Corps, lost 3—2.
Oct. 31st, v. 23rd (M) Bty. R.G.A., drew 3—3.

The match arranged with the 23rd (M) Battery R.G.A. for the 20th inst. had to be cancelled, in consequence of the funeral of one of their men who was fatally wounded by a "loose wallah."

F. C.

F Divisional Signals.

Jubbulpore, October 27th.

General.

Section training is now about to commence, and everyone is busy preparing for an initial parade. Section commanders are racking their brains to put everything in order, and supervising generally. Divl. Signals on a lower peace establishment somewhat cuts things short.

The 30th Brigade Signal Section has left us for training at Belgaum. We hope they will do well and have a pleasant sojourn down south.

Concern has been shown regarding the delayed troopship sailings due to the recent war cloud over Turkey. However sailings have now re-commenced, and a party of five for Blighty, under Corpl Daly, have left for the concentration camp at Deolali. We trust they will fare well and not find the labour market at home too severe.

We note a large draft have arrived at the Depot, some of whom we shall certainly want to join us in due course to replace our time-expired hands and help to keep up our reputation at football and other games.

The Sergeants' Mess billiards challenge was recently taken up by the Signal Depot, who were defeated by a small margin. Some very good games were witnessed, especially the one between Sergts Gamester (Depot crack) and Saville (expert of F), the former winning by 19. In the game between Sergt Daw (of the Depot) and Nobby Clarke, an exciting finish was forthcoming, in which the latter won by one point.

The unit was inspected by the C.S.O. Southern Command on 10th October. After the parade the C.S.O. expressed himself pleased with the turn out.

The vaulting class is materialising, and we have a party of eight who are now making good progress. I am afraid many of those who tried this form of recreation—and who didn't?—are a little sore-legged through their exertions.

We welcome Lieut G. Young, who has joined us from the 104th Wellesley Rifles, Jhansi.

Death.

We deeply regret to record the death of Sergt S. Gilbert (Surrey), which took place at Jhansi on 3rd October, from hepatic abscess. The deceased was a highly respected and popular non-commissioned officer. He had been doing duty with the R.F.A. Brigade Signal Section at Jhansi, and had been in hospital only a few days when the sad news of his death came as a shock to all.

"Surrey" came from the East Surrey Regiment on the formation of the India Signal Service in 1911, and had to his credit a total service of over 19 years, most of which was spent in India. His demise is very sad, and his loss will be mourned by the many friends and all ranks who knew him.

Football.

We have emerged from the first round of the Wallace cup by defeating B Co. Manchester Regt. by two goals to nil. In the second round we have met the Signal Depot twice. The first game—a goalless draw—was not a good display of football, but in the second match a little more liveliness was shown, resulting in two goals each. Sigmn Fellows scored for us on both occasions. Failing light prevented further play, so we have to meet yet once more to settle this round.

Hockey.

By defeating the Gunners we have entered the third round of the Jubbulpore cup. In this match the result at the beginning seemed very doubtful for us, as the Gunners had a strong team out and were very confident of winning. When the half-time whistle was sounded we were one down, but knew we would have a good chance to reverse things in the second half.

Our expectations were justified, for before the final whistle sounded we had piled up three goals (C.S.M. Hepburn 2, Major Drayson 1). Our defence had kept out our opponents by the fine efforts of Lieut Jones; Sigmn Turner, Sigmn Fellows, C.Q.M.S. Smithies, and L/Corpl Gilmour. Thus we won 3—1.

In the Indian Ranks hockey shield we defeated the Indian Station Hospital by 6—1, and thus qualified to enter the second round, to be played this evening. In this match Major Drayson played for the Indian Ranks and was in fine form, securing all the six goals for F Divisional Signals.

Cricket.

We have played two cricket matches since my last notes. In the first match, with the H.Q. Company Manchester Regiment from the Ridge, the visitors batted first and made some fine scores, totalling 226, and making it difficult for us to catch them up when we went in. Capt Brittons knocked up 105 after being missed from an easy catch at the commencement.

For our side Sigmn Ball put up 63, but the "telegraph" showed only 113 for our ten wickets—such a state of affairs being due to the good bowling and fielding of our opponents, who dismissed our best bats for small figures.

In the match with the Gymkhana Club some very good batting was seen, but even so the result was a drawn game. We batted first. Major Drayson and Captain Pavey went in at the beginning, and had to their credit 99 and 134 respectively when they returned to the pavilion, both being caught. At 294 for five wickets we declared, and put in our opponents. By dusk, when stumps had to be drawn, they had made 280 for five wickets, making a drawn game as already stated.

56th (1st London) Divisional Signals.

Calthrop Street, W.C. 1.

Since the last notes were written, we have made a move in the Divisional football championship (knock-out competition). Having beaten the 11th Company London Battalion, we proceeded to treat the 3rd Royal Fusiliers in like fashion, and have every hope of continuing the sequence of victories until we have won the championship, which would be a fitting introduction to the deeds we mean to perform now that we are in occupation of decent headquarters.

There certainly seems more life in the unit, especially as the season is a close one now. We broke records with the Sergeants' Armistice night dance, and the Wednesday night practices are going very well. In fact, to be a little Irish, "the roseate hues of early dawn" brighten our evenings.

Coming events are unit dances on 2nd and 16th December, and a Sergeants' Mess dinner on the 9th.

There will be a New Year dance given by the Sergeants, so any reader of these notes who is spending his leave in London can do no better that come along, being assured of a hearty welcome.

The following are the past year's highest scores in musketry:—

C.Q.M.S. Carson, 78, and L/Corpl Heywood 69, (No. 3 Company).

Sergt Weight 76, and Corpl Stillwell 69 (No. 1 Co.).

Sigmn H. H. Dimmick 72, and Sigmn Green 58 (No. 2 Company).

The highest number of drills were put in by:—

Sigmn Peddlesden 101, and Sigmn Homer 93 (No. 2 Company).

L/Corpl Sanders 101, and Sigmn Straw 90 (No. 3 Company).

Sigmn Quaife 68, and Dvr. Wenfield 63 (No. 1 Co.).

This gives No. 3 Company the lead in shooting, and No. 2 in drills. It is hoped that every man in the unit will take note of these, and endeavour to put both himself and his Company at the top next year. As soon as possible inter-Company competitions will be organised, so get a good start now.

The thanks of the unit are given to our M.O. (Dr. C. Gould, M.R.C.S., F.R.C.P.) for his kindness in presenting us with a handsome Union Jack, which was flown for the first time on Armistice day, and duly "half-masted" by our R.S.M.

In tendering these thanks, we could wish that our M.O. were a *member* of the Corps, as he has always found time to render us good service, often at some inconvenience to himself.

It is hoped that the winter series of lectures will be well attended. "The Robber" intends to start some. Suitable lecturers have been chosen, and the first series is as follows:—

A Home in Palestine.—C.S.M. D——y.

The "A.B.C." of Lockhart's.—Sergt L——d.

The Liquidation of Cash.—The Bar-keeper.

The Blood of Dragons.—Sergt W——t.

Cooking.—Last Camp's Cooks.

The Rhine Army paid us a visit in the person of Sergt Adcock, and we send our best wishes to those who know us, or some of us.

THE ROBBER.

2nd Cavalry Divisional Signals

(Middlesex Yeomanry)

November 16th.

"Lest We Forget."

The month of December is one that is very closely associated with this unit, as it was in December that the unit was re-formed in 1830. On December 10th in that year an official letter was addressed to the Lord-Lieutenant of Middlesex by H.M. Secretary of State for Home Affairs, authorising the raising of a body of Yeomanry Cavalry. From that time down to the present the Middlesex Yeomanry (under different names) have had an unbroken and distinguished career.

It was as long ago as May 2nd, 1797, that the regiment was originally raised. On that date H.M. Secretary of State for War wrote an official letter giving sanction to the raising of a Corps to be known as the Uxbridge Yeomanry Cavalry. They afterwards became known as the Middlesex Yeomanry, and are to-day officially styled "The 2nd Divisional Cavalry Signals (Middlesex Yeomanry)."

December, 1872.

Here, again, December marked an epoch in the history of this unit. Originally raised in 1797 as cavalry, and re-formed in 1830 as cavalry, the uniform adopted was that of the Light Dragoon type. In December, 1872, it was decided to make a change in uniform, as the Light Dragoons no longer existed on the establishment of the regular army, and the then commanding officer decided to adopt the Hussar type of uniform, keeping the green colour originally worn. It appears, therefore, that the claim to the title of "Hussars" dates from December, 1872.

December, 1904.

It was in the month of December, 1904, that the honour, "South Africa, 1901," was officially awarded to the Middlesex Yeomanry: an honour which the unit have every right to be proud of, and which was won at the cost of many lives.

The Middlesex Yeomanry contributed several Companies—I believe, no less than seven—for the South African war. The first contingent landed in Africa in March, 1900, and the last contingent did not leave Africa until July, 1902.

It will be seen from the foregoing that the month of December is an important one in the history of the regiment; and I venture to think that not many of the newly-formed Signal units in the T.A. can boast so long a descent as the 2nd Cavalry Divisional Signals (Middlesex Yeomanry), or one that is fraught with so much interest.

We must not, however, lose sight of the present in the glamour of the past, and no account of the regiment would be complete without mention of the first regimental dance held on Friday, November 10th, at the Georgian Restaurant, Harrods Ltd.

We were unlucky in one respect only (and that was a matter over which the committee had no control), namely, the weather. I think Friday afternoon and evening were consistently the worst in respect of weather that we suffered last month. This had the inevitable effect of keeping away some members who had a long way to travel.

However miserable it was outside, there was nothing to indicate lack of hilarity inside the Georgian Restaurant. The rooms and accommodation were excellent in every way, particularly the ladies' smoking room (there are those among us who will know full well what this means).

The Phyllis Court Club Band were quite beyond praise; they played excellently and most willingly. The only fault that could be found was that they played too long for some of the more decrepit members of the Sergeants' Mess, who couldn't stand up to the pace. The thanks of all are due to Capt Brodrick, to whose foresight and energy we owe the engaging of this band.

The arrangements for the evening were in the hands of an energetic committee, to whom we are indebted for the performance of the more or less thankless jobs that always accompany the organising of any social function.

On November 23rd the first of the Squadron dances will be held at the Headquarters of the Westminster Dragoons in Elverton Street, Westminster. This will be followed by a series of dances throughout the season, due notice of which will appear in THE WIRE.

It is also rumoured that No. 2 Squadron are proposing to run a whist drive at headquarters in the near future. What with dances at home and abroad, whist drives, and the regimental prize distribution which is to take place on December 8th, it looks as though some of us will speedily wear out our beautiful blue clothes. However (as Peter Doody said, or rather sang, in "The Arcadians"), "A short life and a gay one."

It must not be thought that this unit does nothing but think about social events and entertainments. On the contrary, much grey matter has been expended lately on perfectly wonderful programmes of work, covering all classes of training the regiment have to undertake, and occupying four evenings out of the six each week. Mondays are devoted almost entirely to riding school and instruction on matters pertaining to equitation. Wednesdays are the technical evenings, when wireless, flag wagging, lamp and buzzer instruction are dealt in and out, varied by lectures on rifle mechanism, elementary electricity, and so forth. Thursdays are devoted to miniature range firing and recruit drill. Fridays are set apart for men to come and practise what they learn on Wednesdays and Thursdays; and in addition it is proposed to hold a special lecture in the elements and underlying principles of wireless telegraphy and telephony, for the benefit of those who are interested in a subject that may ultimately become of first importance to all members of the unit.

In order conscientiously to carry out the work laid down, it will entail certainly for some n.c.o's attendance at headquarters on four nights a week—a very heavy toll out of the six provided by a beneficent Providence for recreation. In fact, the situation may be well summed up in the following mis-quotation from the late W. S. Gilbert:—

"When there's winter training really to be done,
to be done,
A Yeoman's life is not a lazy one, a lazy one."

ACK EMMA.

42nd (East Lancs.) Divl. Signals, T.A.

Our strength is now 8 officers and 199 other ranks.

On the 28th ult. our football team was drawn against the 7th Lancs. Fusiliers in the first round for the Divisional cup presented by Major-General Shoubridge, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., G.O.C. 42nd East Lancs. Division. The game resulted in a win for us by 2 goals to 1. L/Corpl Walker and Sigmn Sherratt were the scorers. The outstanding players in the match were Sherratt and Cawley. We hope the remaining players will not be disappointed at the absence of their names in print, but we hope to be able to pay the compliment to all at some time during the season. Think of the foreign lands to which our little magazine circulates, and of the honour of being mentioned in a paper on which "the sun never sets."

Congratulations to the undermentioned on their respective promotions and appointments:—

L/Sergt W. Worsley, Corpl H. R. Stephens, and Corpl Barnett, promoted Sergts.

Signalmen E. Helps, C. A. Meredew, Tibbett, S. Malone, S. Thomas, and Dvr G. Richardson, appointed L/Corpls.

To the newly-appointed we would say that having reached the first step on the ladder, future promotions rest entirely with them, so don't forget the refresher course each Tuesday evening during the winter months.

The dance promoted by our Company, held on October 28th, proved to be a great success both socially and financially. Now the colder weather is with us, the hall requires some form of heating, if these social gatherings are to continue to be successful. Many complaints are to hand of the draughty and chilly atmosphere of the hall.

On Armistice day, about 50 members of the Company took part in the ceremonial parade and memorial service held in Albert Square. In the evening, a carnival was held at our headquarters and the result was that all that could be desired. As at the last dance, the complaints were many as to the chilly atmosphere of the place.

In the grand march, the Qrmr "directing traffic" appeared to be hopelessly at sea. On the dancers advancing in twos, the splitting-up process of two to the right and two to the left was got through fairly satisfactorily; but when the advance in fours took place, greater exertions were required, and the Qrmr had to perform various acrobatic feats in his endeavour to divert the fours right and left consecutively.

Then, to his great discomfiture, he beheld them advancing in eights. At times he got them jumbled up like a flock of sheep, and naturally he blamed the dancers. Eventually they were disposed of, and he was heard to say, "Heaven only knows what I should have done had they advanced in sixteens."

Such is the result of the M.C. asking assistance of one who cannot "trip the light fantastic toe." But 'twas Armistice Night!

3.28.

44th (H.C.) Divisional Signals.

Nos. 1 and 3 Companies, Stamford Brook.

We have started the new training year, and most of our time is being taken up in wireless lectures.

The football team have added yet further to their success in the Dauntless League, as follows:—

Oct. 28th, v. Brentford St. Georges, won 4—3.

Nov. 4th, v. Acton St. Dunstans, draw 1—1.

A very highly successful social evening, held on 9th November, was well attended by the members of the unit and their friends. Our jazz band was in attendance and was much appreciated by the company. The programme included dancing, a miniature whist drive, and a concert; and altogether an enjoyable evening was spent by all.

On Armistice day a fancy dress carnival was held, and judging by the hilarity of the participants, it must have been a matter of regret when the time came to pack up. From start to finish the carnival provided ceaseless enjoyment for all.

Mrs. A. S. Angwin very kindly presented the prizes awarded for the four best fancy dresses for both ladies and gentlemen.

The unit jazz band supplied the music for the carnival, and I should like to congratulate the members on the excellent manner in which they contributed towards making the carnival a great success.

HIGH TENSION.

46th (North Midland) Divisional Signals

H.Q., Phoenix Street, Derby, 16th Nov., 1922.

There has been very little excitement here during the past month. We continue to lose one or two on their joining the army, but we are having other likely youngsters coming along to fill up the gaps.

Capt Bemrose, O.B.E., is giving some most interesting wireless lectures, which prove very instructive. Should these bear fruit—and there is every reason to be sure they will—we shall have a good number of really efficient operators for next year's camp.

The social side is not forgotten. We had an excellent smoker on the 8th inst, which was well attended. Unfortunately we were disappointed by two artistes, but all enjoyed the programme provided.

Our football team is like "Tishy": no doubt it will "come off" some day. What is lacking in science, however, is made up for in enthusiasm. We played Turnditch in the first round of the Derbyshire shield, but we came back from that remote village pointless.

The old veteran, S.M. Jack Hayburn, turned out to try and help us to victory, but our luck was out: all we got was a number of hard knocks and a whacking.

I must not forget the domestic side of our life. This has been most interesting of late.

First, the steward of our Institute got married. Next S.M. "Dick" Hart, D.C.M., was presented with a son, but I am very sorry to say it did not survive. Then Major Ball was made the happy father of a daughter, followed by S.M. "Jack" Hayburn with a son. Not to be beaten, S.M. Jones got married; and following that the Quarter-bloke was presented with a daughter. Now news is just to hand that Sergt "Georgie" Cook, D.C.M., is the proud father of a bonny girl.

The best generally comes last, for it is with the greatest pleasure that we announce the engagement of our popular commanding officer, Major L. J. Worthington, to Miss Phyllis Mary Sadler.

How's this lot for "duty nobly done?" Other units are heartily invited to beat us.

MEREBIMUR.

55th (West Lancs.) Divisional Signals.

No. 1 (Liverpool) Company.

At the time of writing the 1921-1922 Territorial year has just ended, and in a few days we will have completed all the work incidental to its close, including the paying out of bounties.

As is usual, I propose to briefly review the past year. I remember the remark made by C.S.M. Hearn, at this time last year: "Having got over camp, and opened out our winter offensive, we have started recruiting again, but prefer 'quality' to 'quantity.'" This remark is equally true to-day.

All "went well" with us until the reduction of the Territorial Army recommendations by Sir E. Geddes (of "axe" fame) were made known. Then the 2nd (Western) Corps Signal Company, as we were at that time, "went west." Of that unit about fifty transferred to the present Company of the Divisional Signals. We are now more than 80 strong, and at the present rate of recruiting we will be up to the establishment very shortly.

The church parade on Armistice Sunday last year was an unqualified success, being in fact (although we say it ourselves) the finest in Liverpool. This is also true of the annual ball held in St. George's Hall last March. The camp at Ramsey, I.O.M., was a great success, and enabled the three Companies to meet and know one another, which is for the good of us all.

So much for last year! What of this year?

Again C.S.M. Hearn's remark of last year applies. We have openings for a few educated men, principally those interested in wireless, but time is on our side, and we can afford to pick our men. The whole of the winter season is before us for training purposes. It is up to all of us to do our best.

Both the whist drives run by the Sergts' Mess have been very successful, the accommodation available being, apparently, the only limit to the number of our friends who wish to spend a pleasant evening with us.

The only whist drive held by the Junior N.C.O's and Men's Mess resulted in a profit of 30/-; but we had room for many more, so next time roll up and bring all your friends.

"What's your handicap?" This is the latest question. A billiard handicap for the n.c.o's and men of the Company has been arranged, and good prizes are offered.

The Junior N.C.O's and Men's Mess billiard team has not been so successful this year as last, but there are signs that they are coming back to their form, so the other teams had better look to their laurels.

SOBRIQUET.

52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals.

Glasgow, Nov. 13th.

Sergeants' Mess.

The quarterly meeting duly went through and everything passed off in a satisfactory manner, a vote of thanks being given to the committee for the work they had so thoroughly performed.

Since the mess has been run on properly constituted lines, affairs have gone swimmingly, and the serving members can therefore plume themselves on their efficiency and adaptability.

We must not forget to add that the treasurer's report was highly satisfactory, the more so as he stated that the mess is now on a sound financial basis.

The mess smoker will be held on the 8th December, at headquarters, and anyone purchasing a ticket will be admitted. The mess whist club is now being formed, and the first games were held last Thursday.

Sports.

In football, we have got into the third round of the Scottish junior cup. A boxing club is also being started, and the men are interesting themselves in preparing for the annual boxing competition, under the directions of Sergt-Instructor Terry.

Entertainments.

The annual Company dinners will take place next Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, in order of Company numbers. A full crowd is expected, and we are all looking forward to a very pleasant time.

Furniture and Fittings.

We are very pleased to note that the long-lost clock of the sergeants' mess has now been replaced in its usual position, minus its brass plate.

Wireless.

Communication has been established with Aldershot and even transmitted to the 55th Division at Liverpool. A series of lectures, under Capt Robertson, is being given weekly to the officers, and the n.c.o's are having lectures, at both of which classes some useful information may be gleaned by the interested.

Men's Club.

This has now been started, and the members have been furnished with a billiard table together with all accessories, so that they should now be in a much more comfortable position than hitherto.

LOWDIV.

PUBLICATIONS :—

"**History of the Signal Service (France),**" by Major R. E. Priestley. A beautifully bound volume, filled from cover to cover with useful and interesting information. Price to Members, 10/6; to non-Members, 12/6 (post free).

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SPORTS NEWS.

Boxing.

Inter-Company Team Challenge Cup Tournament.

Novice Wins the Big Event.

A three-day boxing tournament was completed at Maresfield on Friday, Nov. 10th, when the final contests took place. A new challenge cup, presented by Major Pinsent to the best Company team, led to some keen boxing for possession of it.

All the Corps champions stationed at Maresfield took part, and the biggest surprise was the defeat of Driver Emblem (the Corps middle-weight champion) by L/Corpl Wheeler—a mere novice in experience, who has come on so rapidly that he is making his presence felt at Maresfield.

The officials were :—Referees and Judges, Captain R. H. Macdonald, M.C.,Captain J. B. Nicholls, Captain R. H. Neale, Captain A. W. Roberts, M.C., Lieut F. Stoddart, Lieut F. Carstairs, Lieut J. W. Bailey, M.C., Lieut E. Levett, Lieut H. A. Spencer, M.C., and Sergt-Major Waterhouse, R.C. of S. Timekeeper, Sergt Kelly, R.C. of S. Scoring, Lieut Giblin, R.F.A. Ring arrangements, Staff-Sergt Hayden (Army School Physical Training).

First Night.

FLY WEIGHTS.

Boy Collins (C Co.), beat Sigmn Taylor (School Signals).
Sigmn Turner (School), beat Boy Simpson (C Co.).
Byes—Sigmn Denyer (C Co.), Driver Vaney (E Co.).

BANTAMS.

Sigmn Pascoe (C Co.) beat Sigmn Cooker (A Co.)
Byes—Sigmn Hughes (C Co.), Driver Ledsham (E Co.), Sigmn Dunk (G Co.).

FEATHERS.

Sigmn Miles (E Co.), beat Sigmn Gordon (D Co.).
Boy Williams (C Co.), beat Sigmn Butler (D Co.).
L/Corpl Viney (C Co.), w.o.
Driver Fields (E Co.), beat Sigmn Smith, T. J. (A Co.).
Sigmn Miles (E Co.), beat Driver Royle (A Co.).

LIGHT WEIGHTS.

Sigmn Lee (D Co.), beat Sigmn Hancock (G Co.).
Sigmn Groom (G Co.), beat Driver Withy (E Co.).
Byes—Sigmn Langley (C Co.); Sigmn Abbott (D Co.); Driver Rhodes (E Co.); Sigmn Collins (C Co.); Driver Smith, W. (E Co.).

WELTER WEIGHTS.

Sigmn Rigg (C Co.), beat L/Corpl Williams (E Co.).
Driver Pugh (E Co.), beat Private Down (R.A.S.C.).
Sigmn Haines (A Co.), beat Sigmn Boyle (D Co.).
Byes—Sigmn Morphew (G Co.); Sigmn Sutherden (D Co.); Boy Walker (C Co.); Sigmn Kelly (G Co.); Sigmn Dibbs (F Co.).

MIDDLES.

Sigmn Emblem (G Co.), beat Sigmn Searle (E Co.).
L/Corpl Wheeler (C Co.), beat Sigmn Heaps (A Co.).
Byes—Sigmn Carpenter (C Co.); Driver Beech (F Co.).

LIGHT HEAVY.

Driver Smith (E Co.), w.o.

Second Night.

LIGHT WEIGHTS.

Sigmn Collins (C Co.), bye.
Sigmn Lee (D Co.), v. Sigmn Langley (C Co.). Lee retired in the 3rd round. Langley awarded verdict.
Sigmn Abbott (D Co.) v. Driver Rhodes (E Co.). Abbott knocked out Rhodes in the second round.

WELTERS.

Sigmn Kelly (G Co.) v. Sigmn Dibbs (F Co.) Kelly retired in second round owing to injured hand.
Sigmn Rigg, (C Co.) v. Sigmn Morphew (G Co.). A good fight, both being level at the end of the 3rd round. An extra round was ordered and Morphew easily outpointed Rigg, thus receiving the verdict on points.

MIDDLES.

Sigmn Carpenter (C Co.) v. Driver Beech (E Co.). Carpenter knocked out Beech in the first round.
Driver Emblem (G Co.) v. L/Corpl Wheeler (C Co.). Wheeler beat Emblem on points.

SEMI-FINALS, FLY WEIGHTS.

Boy Collins (C Co.) v. Sigmn Denyer (G Co.). Collins awarded fight.
Sigmn Turner (School) v. Driver Vaney (E Co.). Vaney carried the fight to his man throughout, and received a points verdict.

SEMI-FINALS, BANTAMS.

Sigmn Pascoe (C Co.) v. Sigmn Hughes (C Co.). Pascoe retired in second round; Hughes awarded fight.
Driver Ledsham (E Co) v. Sigmn Dunk (G Co.). Ledsham knocked out Dunk in first round.
Sigmn Miles (E Co.) v. Boy Williams (C Co.). Miles knocked out Williams in the second round.
L/Corpl Viney (C Co.) v. Driver Fields (E Co.). Viney won easily on points.

LIGHT HEAVY.

Drver Smith (E Co.), w.o.

Third Night.

SEMI-FINAL, LIGHT WEIGHTS.

Sigmn Langley (C Co.) v. Sigmn Abbott (D Co.). Round 1: Both exchanged heavy punches, and Langley was slightly ahead when the bell rang. Round 2: Langley swung erraticly, and Abbott kept his left going and scored heavily (Abbott's round). Round 3: Again a very even round, and points being level an extra round was ordered. Round 4: Abbott repeatedly sent in smashing rights, and secured the verdict on points.

Sigmn Collins (C Co.) v. Sigmn Groom (G Co.). Round 1: Groom, being the more experienced man, led slightly on points. Round 2: Pace slackened considerably, and round ended even. Round 3: Groom scored freely with sharp left jabs, and won easily on points.

FINAL, LIGHT WEIGHTS.

Sigmn Abbott (D Co.) v. Sigmn Groom (G Co.). Round 1: Both mixed it, Groom getting in close with straight lefts. Round 2: Abbott chased his man and got in a hot left which drew blood; both mixed it, and round ended even. Round 3: Groom scored freely in this round, and secured the verdict on points.

FINAL, FLY WEIGHT.

Boy Collins (C Co.) v. Driver Vaney (E Co.). Collins knocked out Vaney in the first round.

FINAL, BANTAM WEIGHTS.

Sigmn Hughes (C Co.) v. Driver Ledsham (E Co.). Ledsham retired in the first round, and Hughes was declared winner.

FINAL, FEATHERS.

Sigmn Miles (E Co.) v. L/Corpl Viney (C Co.). Viney led throughout and received the verdict on points.

FINAL, MIDDLE WEIGHTS.

L/Corpl Wheeler (C Co.) v. Sigmn Carpenter (C Co.). Round 1: Both sent in smashing body blows, and Wheeler got home with a heavy jab to the point (Wheeler's round). Round 2: Carpenter down three times in this round, and the referee stopped the fight in favour of Wheeler.

SEMI-FINALS, WELTER WEIGHTS.

Boy Walker (C Co.) v. Sigmn Dibbs (F Co.). Round 1: Fast exchanges and heavy blows—round ended even. Round 2: Some very heavy punching, Dibbs drawing blood (Dibbs' round). Round 3: Walker drew blood early from Dibbs, but the latter, keeping a well-timed left going, received the verdict on points.

Sigmn Morphew (G Co.) v. Driver Pugh (E Co.). Round 1: A poor exhibition, the referee pulling the men up and telling them to "fight." Round 2: A decided improvement; the round ended even. Round 3: Pugh drew ahead and beat Morphew on points.

FINAL, WELTER.

Sigmn Dibbs (F Co.) v. Driver Pugh (E Co.). Dibbs beat Pugh on points after a gruelling fight.

Special contest (6 two-minute rounds)—Driver Smith (E Co., winner of R.C. of S. championships, 1922) v. P.C. Tom Butler (Sussex Police). Round 1: Both men went in close, and Smith out-pointed Butler, scoring at every blow. Round 2: An even round, both men fighting hard. Round 3: Butler blowing badly, Smith went in close and scored freely; Butler sent in several sharp lefts (Smith's round). Round 4: Smith again went in close and scored heavily to the body (Smith's round). Round 5: Smith again took the round, Butler blowing hard. Round 6: After this round the fight was declared a draw—much to the amusement of all present.

Presentation of Prizes.

At the conclusion of the tournament, Colonel W. P. E. Newbigging, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., Colonel Commandant of the Signal Training Centre, entered the ring and made a short speech.

He stated that, apart from congratulating all concerned on the way the tournament had been carried out, he was a trifle disappointed that each Company in the Training Centre had not sent a full team to fight for the splendid trophy kindly presented by Major Pinsent.

The next time the trophy was fought for, which would be in a few months' time, he hoped to see a full team of 12 men entered. It did not matter whether the men were utter novices or not, so long as they came forward to fight for the honour of their Company.

The trophy was open to all the Corps, and he hoped to see teams sent from Signal units outside the Training Centre such as Aldershot, Bulford, Colchester, etc. He said they would be assured of a very warm reception in more senses than one (laughter).

He then called on the Chaplain-General to the Forces to present the prizes. The full points gained by each Company were read out as follows:—C Co., 58; E 38; G 29; D 18; A 13; F 11; School of Signals 4.

The Chaplain-General congratulated the men who fought that night on their display. He also stated that in his time he had been in a few garrison churches, but he had never been in one exactly the same as the one he was in that night (laughter).

The winning team (C Company) then entered the ring, and Capt Wheeler received the cup on behalf of his Company. The winners of the individual events and the runners-up in the competition, received miniature silver cups. Three cheers for the Chaplain-General were called for and heartily responded to.

LULU.

Football.

Notes.

I would like to congratulate all our Corps players on their display up to date. If present form is maintained we should have no difficulty in bringing back the Sussex senior cup to Maresfield.

Our toll of points, including cup matches, is certainly one to be proud of, and has given our pessimists a severe shock. The string of victories has effectively silenced many of them—it's about time, too!

Our record at the time of writing is as follows:—Played 8; won 7; lost 0; drawn 1. Goals for 22; against 10. Points 15.

In the County League we are lying in a very handy position, next to the top. We have three matches in hand of the leaders (Worthing), and on the same number of matches played we *may* gain a clear four points lead. Not so bad, is it?

Our splendid home record is being kept intact. Five teams have gone down here already, and a good many more will go the same way before the season is out. Our away record is passable:—Played 3; won 2; drawn 1. We have only dropped one point on foreign soil—no wonder our pessimistic friends are lying low!

The Army cup ties are now on, and we had the pleasure of a journey to Chatham to meet the Depot R.E. As a result the Engineers ceased to have any further interest in the competition. We won—but it was a near thing, though.

The County League table compiled up to and including November 11th, is as follows:—

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Goals For	Agst	Pts.
Worthing	7	4	2	1	17	9	9
Royal Corps Signals	4	3	0	1	11	4	7
Hastings & St. Lds.	4	3	1	0	8	7	6
Eastbourne R.E. ...	6	2	2	2	12	11	6
Newhaven	8	2	4	2	11	20	6
Vernon Athletic ...	4	2	1	1	9	8	5
Chichester	3	2	1	0	5	3	4
Shoreham	4	2	2	0	11	6	4
Southwick	4	1	2	1	7	8	3
Lewes	5	1	4	0	7	11	2
Hove	5	1	4	0	7	18	2

I give herewith the results and details of all matches played to date. They will, I am sure, be acceptable to readers who like to keep up their records.

Sept 20th—Lewes, at home (1st qualifying round Amateur Cup); won, 4—3; goals by Withers (2), Shenton, Hall.

Oct. 7th—Hove, at home (County League); won, 3—0; Shenton (3).

Oct. 14th—Horsham, at home (2nd qualifying round Amateur Cup); won, 4—2; Shenton (2), Withers, Carter.

Oct. 21st—Eastbourne R.E., away (County League); draw, 1—1; Shenton.

Oct. 28th—Southwick, away ((3rd qualifying round Amateur Cup); won, 1—0; Stoddart.

Nov. 4th—Southwick, at home (County League); won, 3—2; Withers (2), Stoddart.

Nov. 11th—Newhaven, at home (County League); won, 4—1; Shenton (4).

Nov. 15th—Depot R.E., away (1st round Army Cup); won, 2—1; Withers (2).

Congratulations are heartily extended to Shenton, Carter, and Wooldridge on gaining county honours this season. We hope to have a few more "caps" coming to Maresfield before the season finishes.

Just a word to the "bhoys" at Maresfield. We are not getting the support a successful team might expect at our home matches. Come now, you chaps; let's have you *all* attending home matches and backing up your corps! We would also like to see a few more supporters at our away matches, too. Buck up, lads! buck up!!

LULU.

Sussex County League.

EASTBOURNE R.E. v. SIGNALS.

The above County League fixture took place on Saturday, October 21st, on the Lynchmere ground, Eastbourne, before about 1,000 spectators.

The result was a fair division of points, for while the Signals had the best of the exchanges in the first half, the Old Comrades were equally aggressive in the second. The latter were not up to full strength, Wood being absent from left back, and T. Hart having been married that morning.

In the first half-minute, the Signals forced a corner and from the kick taken by Neal, Shenton headed a goal. This looked black for the R.E.'s, but they played up pluckily and within ten minutes they had hard luck in not equalising. Then time after time dangerous attacks by the Signals were broken up by Harmer and Reed.

Shenton, who was the Signals most brilliant forward, shot with accuracy. Duffy at centre half, and Neal at outside right, were also prominent. Creasey for the R.E.'s kept goal well, and at half-time the Signals' lead was still only 1—0.

Kicking down the slope on resuming, the R.E.'s pressed, and after ten minutes play French got in a shot which Nash saved, only for Craft to dash up and equalize.

Just afterwards French had hard luck with a cross shot, and later Learmouth just missed putting the homesters ahead with a first-timer from long range.

The Signals made gallant spurts, especially towards the close, but for the most part honours in this half were with the home team. Result:—R.E. Old Comrades 1; Royal Corps of Signals 1.

R.E. Old Comrades.—G. Creasey; A. Pettman and F. Harmer; S. Reed, J. Baldwin and C. H. Cook; J. Winsper, T. Learmouth, A. Craft, J. French and F. Binfield.

Signals.—L/Sergt Nash; Sigmn Welch and L/Corpl Shillingford; Corpl Hall, Sigmn Duffy and L/Corpl Wooldridge; Driver Neal, Sergt Carter, Sergt Shenton, Lieut Stoddart and Corpl Withers.

Referee.—Mr. H. G. Cottrell (Lewes).

LULU.

SIGNALS v. SOUTHWICK.

At Maresfield on Saturday, November 4th, before a good attendance, the Wickers put up a splendid fight and were very unlucky to lose—a mis-directed kick by one of their own men giving the Signals a couple of valuable County League points.

The Signals elected to defend the bottom goal, and Southwick therefore had the advantage of the incline. Chant kicked off and immediately the visitors forced a corner. This was well placed by Golds, and the high wind caused the ball to land in the net, but no one having touched it no point was allowed and a goal kick followed.

A run by Carter on the Signals' left ended by his shooting wide. Southwick pressed hotly and for a time had matters all their own way, Chant and Wilburn sending in hot drives which Nash cleared in fine style. The Signals' backs were having a very trying time, but succeeded in keeping their goal intact.

Wooldridge, who was playing a sterling game, broke up numerous attacks, and was undoubtedly the best man on the field. Play eventually went to the Southwick end, Sturmey saving well from Shenton and Stoddart. Mid-field play followed, but neither side could score, and at half-time the score sheet was blank.

On resuming, Southwick attacked strongly and had the home defence in some tight corners. A good run on the left saw Pratt send over a nice centre. A mêlée in the Signals' goal followed, and the ball rolled out to Golds, who beat Nash with a hot drive. The Signals were now in danger of losing their brilliant home record, and play for a time was very exciting.

The Signals now took a hand, and for a time the visitors were completely outplayed and forced on the defence. A sustained Signal attack saw Withers miss an open goal, but a minute later he made amends by beating Sturmey with a low fast drive.

The Signals again attacked, and another goal quickly followed, Stoddart beating Sturmey with a deceiving long range shot. Thus in two minutes the Signals were ahead.

Southwick now woke up, and Nash had plenty of work to do, bringing off many fine saves. Again the visitors pressed, and Shillingford handled in the penalty area. The inevitable penalty was awarded, and Walker easily beat Nash—and once again honours were level.

The Signals now went all out, and the visitors had a trying time in keeping the forwards at bay. Shenton sent in a rasper which Sturmey just managed to tip over the bar. A corner to the Signals followed, and Withers lobbed the ball into the Southwick goal. An exciting mêlée followed and Grigson (the visitors' left-back), in a desperate attempt to clear, kicked the ball hard. It struck the upright and rebounded into his own goal. This gave the Signals the lead which they held to the end.

Neal, the Signals' outside right, was badly hurt and had to retire, the Signals playing the last ten minutes with only ten men; but the visitors were held in check, thanks to the splendid home backs and halves. The game finished with the score:—Signals 3; Southwick 2.

LULU.

Army Cup—First Round.

DEPOT R.E. (CHATHAM) v. SIGNALS.

The Depot R.E. (Chatham) and the Royal Corps of Signals met in the first round of the Army cup competition, on the United Services ground, Chatham, on Wednesday afternoon, November 15th, before a good attendance.

The Signals were without the services of Corpl Hall and Lieut Stoddart (both ineligible to play in Army cup matches), and Capt McConville and Sigmn Wilkes came into the side.

Winning the toss did not give the Signals any advantage. The Engineers were at once prominent, with the Signals on the defence, and Nash saved a hot shot from Bell.

The Signals' right got going, but Neal unfortunately slipped when close in. Duffy broke up several dangerous attacks and returned the ball. A corner to the Signals followed. Neal lobbed the ball into the goal-mouth, but Stinchcombe, dashing up, cleared from a hot mêlée.

An Engineer attack looked dangerous, Shillingford relieving. Another attack saw Nash tip a hot shot from Cartlidge over the bar. A moment later Bell received, but shot over when well placed.

A determined Signals' attack saw Withers send in a hot cross shot which Wilson found too hot to hold, and it glanced off him into the net. Thus the Signals drew ahead after 20 minutes' play.

Exciting play followed, Nash bringing off some great saves. A corner followed, Bell shooting wide. The Engineers, keeping up the pressure, forced the Signals on the defensive, but Nash again came to the rescue, bringing off a brilliant full length save.

At the other end Wilson saved a terrific shot from Wilkes, and only cleared at a second attempt. Shenton dashed through and netted, but was ruled off-side.

A break-away by the Engineers saw Webb go through to beat Nash with a high shot. Half-time arrived with the score one all.

On resuming, the Signals got right away and forced a corner, Wilkes shooting wide when close in. A run on the Engineers' left saw Welch clear easily. Shenton received and beat all opposition, drew out the goal-keeper, and shot hard, but luckily for the Engineers the ball hit Wilson and rebounded into play.

The Engineers attacked desperately, and a corner to them proved fruitless. Several other attacks followed, but they finished very badly. The Signals' defence was playing a great game, but without the forwards seconding their efforts.

Withers got through for the Signals and shot high and hard. Wilson bungled badly, and the ball bounced over the line—and the Signals were again ahead.

Dangerous Engineer attacks were broken up, and the home team were held till the end, the Signals winning a clean, hard-fought game. Score:—Royal Corps of Signals 2; Depot Royal Engineers 1.

Depot Royal Engineers.—Sapper Wilson; Sapper Mason, and Sergt Hazelden; Sapper Bell, Sapper Cartlidge and L/Corpl Stinchcombe; Sapper Greenbury, Boy Castle, Sapper Webb, Sapper Langdon and Corpl Greehurst.

Royal Corps of Signals.—L/Sergt Nash; Sigmn Welch and Corpl Shillingford; Capt McConville, Sigmn Duffy, and L/Corpl Wooldridge; Driver Neal, Sigmn Baines, Sergt Shenton, Corpl Withers, and Sigmn Wilkes.

Referee, Bombardier Roberts, R.F.A., Linesmen, Messrs. A. W. Brown and A. Clarke (K.C.F.A.).

LULU.

Amateur Cup—3rd Qualifying Round.

SOUTHWICK v. SIGNALS.

These teams met at the Croft, Southwick, on Saturday, October 28th, to decide who should enter the fourth qualifying stage of the Amateur Cup competition. Southwick, having the luck of the draw, were very confident of going into the next stage, but they were badly disappointed, as the Signals carried off the honours.

A very cold easterly wind was blowing across the ground, and this undoubtedly kept the attendance down to quite a moderate crowd. At 3 p.m. the teams lined up as follows:—

Southwick:—Sturmey; Upton and Grigson; James, Clarke, and Ayling; Lisher, Wilburn, Woolgar, Chant, and Pratt.

Signals:—Sergt Nash; Sigmn Welch and Corpl Shillingford; Corpl Hall, Sigmn Duffy and L/Corpl Wooldridge; Driver Neal, Sergt Carter, Sergt Shenton, Lieut Stoddart, and Corpl Withers.

Referee—Mr. Jenner (Eastbourne).

Kicking off against a strong wind, Southwick attacked strongly in the opening stages of the game. The Signals quickly settled down and took a hand, Stoddart and Shenton doing clever work, but they were repeatedly driven back by the home defenders.

Southwick asserted themselves and a keen attack on the Signals stronghold followed, only to be driven back smartly by Welch and Shillingford. Another home attack followed, and the Signals goal was in danger when Southwick were awarded a free kick close in, but the Signals' supporters breathed again when Upton shot wide of the goal.

Signals now woke up and play went into the home half. A clever run by Carter was followed by a hard drive; the Southwick goalie intercepted but could not handle the ball; the ball rebounded off the upright into play; Stoddart rushed in and made no mistake in putting the Signals ahead—a rather lucky point, but on the run of the play up to this stage, fully deserved.

Southwick tried desperately to get on equal terms, but the Signals' defence was playing a grand game, and kept them at bay; and at half time the score stood:—Signals 1; Southwick 0.

Considering Southwick's display before the interval, and the fact that now they had the advantage of a strong wind with them, a win seemed quite possible—but they petered out early on.

Several determined raids by the homesters were broken up by the Signals halves, who were playing well and confidently. The home attack went to pieces, but with a little steadiness they might have at least forced a draw. Wild finishing nullified all their efforts. Once Pratt shot over when he could have practically walked the ball into the net, and Woolgar shot tamely when well placed.

The Signals rallied, but were driven back and forced on the defensive. In the closing stages Southwick attacked hotly, and it was only the splendid play of the Signals backs and the fine goalkeeping of Nash that kept them from scoring.

The final whistle sounded, and the Signals ran out winners, the half-time score being unaltered:—Signals 1; Southwick 0.

LULU.

R.C. of S. Cross-Country.

The Corps team promises to be better than ever this season. There have been two meetings since the opening run, and on each occasion the R.C. of S. team was successful.

The first inter-Company run produced a large entry, and 145 men finished. The results, however, were not published, as the race was in the nature of a trial run to bring out new blood.

Cotterell, unaccustomed to the slow pace, could not contain himself at the end, and in an effort to stretch his legs a bit he found himself at the finishing post before most of us had got properly going! We wish him every success this year.

The three most prominent runners at the moment, apart from "Our Joe," are Sigmn Beeton, Ayres and Bundy. Corpl Cayley, the vice-captain, Richardson, Sprunt, Miles and Dowie should also improve as the season goes on, and with one or two coming men the team should have a good chance of pulling off the great event of the season—the Army championship.

Sussex Junior 5 Mile Championship.

This was held at Maresfield Park on Nov. 11th. Five teams competed, including two from the Corps. The result was a good win for the R.C. of S. team:—

1st—R.C. of S. A Team	16 pts.
2nd—Brighton Railway A. C.	43 pts.
3rd—Brighton & County Harriers A Team	48 pts.
4th—R.C. of S. B Team	58 pts.
5th—Brighton & County Harriers B Team	93 pts.

Sigmn Ayres was first home.

Triangular Match.

On Wednesday, Nov. 15th, teams from the R.C. of S., R.M.C. Sandhurst, and the 4th Bn. Sussex Regt. met at Maresfield Park over a six miles course.

The R.C. of S. won easily, getting their first six men home. Sandhurst were second, and the Sussex Regt. did not complete the course. The first four places were obtained by Sigmn Cotterell, Beeton, Ayres and Bundy, the last three running an extremely good race with excellent judgment.

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